



Edition: 399

18 February 2016

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of the Senior Prep

FROM THE HEADMASTER

It's so good to be back at school! I had a wonderful opportunity this week to report back to staff on some of my learnings from New York and to show the Senior Prep girls a few pictures from my trip.

One of my greatest realisations from the conference is the significant need for us as parents and teachers to understand that there is still work to be done in empowering girls to be the future leaders of our world.

Two inspirational presenters in this regard were Gloria Steinem and Arianna Huffington.

GLORIA STEINEM

Gloria Steinem is a writer, lecturer, political activist and feminist organiser. She travels the globe as an organiser and lecturer, and is a frequent media spokeswoman on issues of equality. She is particularly interested in the shared origins of sex and race caste systems; gender roles and child abuse as roots of violence; non-violent conflict resolution; the cultures of indigenous peoples; and organising across boundaries for peace and justice. In 1972, Steinem co-founded Ms Magazine and remained one of its editors for fifteen years.

Steinem spoke to us about the revolutionary power of educating girls around the world. She reminded us that human beings are linked, not ranked, and that we need to see each other as shared passengers on the voyage of life. The bad news is that gender issues still exist and there is work to be done. Violence against women is rampant and fundamental inequality persists.

Research is telling us that self confidence in women has dropped over the years and we need to continue to fight for equality in education because feminism is critical to any democracy. There are, in fact, cultures that don't have words for 'he' and 'she' in their language, because a person is a person. However, we do need to raise the issues so that laws and practice can change.

Steinem's greatest wish is that we listen more than we talk.

ARIANNA HUFFINGTON

Arianna Huffington is the co-founder, president and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post Media Group and author of fifteen books. In May 2005, she launched The Huffington Post, a news and blog site that quickly became one of the most widely-read, linked to, and frequently-cited media brands on the Internet. In 2012, the site won a Pulitzer Prize for national reporting. She has been included in Time Magazine's list of the world's 100 most influential people and the Forbes Most Powerful Women list. Originally from Greece, she moved to England when she was 16 and graduated from Cambridge University with an MA in Economics. At 21, she became president of the famed debating society, the Cambridge Union. She serves on numerous boards, including The Centre for Public

Integrity and The Committee to Protect Journalists. Her book, *Thrive: The Third Metric to Redefining Success and Creating a Life of Well-Being, Wisdom, and Wonder* debuted at #1 on the New York Times Bestseller list. Her 15th book, *The Sleep Revolution: Transforming Your Life One Night at a Time*, on the science, history and mystery of sleep, will be published on April 5, 2016.

Huffington spoke to us about Girls Education and a Brave World of Possibilities.

She started her talk by defining the very clear distinction between burnout and success and that burnout and stress are not prerequisites for success! She referred to women as the silent victims of a stressful workplace and argued that, unless women make time to pause, there is a good chance they will suffer from burnout.

She spoke a great deal about the need for women to disconnect from technology, as none of us are designed to be available 24 hours a day! Women need to disconnect from technology and reconnect with themselves. She believes that addiction to social media is distorting reality and advocated the need for us all to get into a habit of leaving our phones elsewhere and never to take them into the bedroom - even if that means buying an alarm clock!

On the issue of success, Huffington talked about four issues:

- 1) Failure - she said girls must learn to fail because failures are the stepping stones to success!
- 2) Sleep - knowing all the research around sleep and the fact that the brain works best when it's resting, she strongly believes that girls need more sleep and that schools should actually start later. She compared a lack of sleep to a load of washing in a washing machine that hasn't completed its cycle.
- 3) Hard work - girls need to work hard but also need to be valued unconditionally.
- 4) Modeling behaviour - girls always observe more of what we do than what we say.

Arianna Huffington certainly is a role model to girls around the world!

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Darrel Webb
(Headmaster)

THE USE OF GOOGLE APPS IN THE CLASSROOM

St Peter's is a GAFE (Google Applications for Education) registered school. This means that the school has a free St Peter's domain hosted by Google, but controlled by the St Peter's IT department. Each student and teacher has a Gmail address - the students' email addresses are by convention surnameinitial@stpeters.co.za and teachers are initialsurname@stpeters.co.za. The girls have chosen their own passwords, which are the same as their school logon passwords. Each Gmail address is associated with an unlimited, free cloud storage area called Google Drive. These email addresses are accessible from anywhere with internet access, using a computer, iPad/tablet or phone.

One of the Google Apps (only available to Education users) is Google Classroom. It integrates all Google Apps for Education, including Google Drive, Google Docs, Gmail and Google Calendar. Google Classroom saves time and paper, and makes it easy for students to access assignments, communicate, and stay organised. It also gives students access to videos, webpages and memos posted by their various teachers, which will help them in

completing their assignments. Students are able to see what work has or hasn't been completed, get feedback and grades in the classroom.

The greatest feature of Google Classroom is that it allows teachers and students to provide direct, real-time questions and collaborate with other students no matter where they are. All the students need is a device that has access to the internet.

You can watch the video, Classroom 101, link below.

https://youtu.be/K26iyyQMp_g

We, at the Girls School, have been implementing the use of Google Classroom since the road closure FLP during the first term of 2015. It is a process. The Grade 4 girls have just been trained on the use of Gmail. They have embraced it enthusiastically. The Grade 5s are presently being introduced to cloud storage using Google Drive. The current Gr 6 and 7 girls are using Google Classroom extensively in a variety of subjects including English, Maths and Social Sciences. The evolution is ongoing. We envisage more and more of our tasks being distributed and completed electronically in the future.

Lee Pace
(IT Integrator)

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

The St Stithians Easter Festival listed on the calendar will involve 6 tennis girls, and the **Grade 5, 6 and 7 A** netball teams. It will run from 17-19 March. Please keep a note in your diary.

All girls must please wear a hat for all sports lessons, and bring their own water bottle.

See the School Communicator under the Resources tab for sports notifications.

Liz Ashmore
(Director of Sport)
LAshmore@stpeters.co.za

BEES ON CAMPUS

We are experiencing an increase in bees around the school at the moment and request that the girls bring only water to drink at school.

For the next few weeks only water (no juice) will be available for our hot lunch girls too. Thank you for supporting us in this regard.

Rachel Amm
(Head of Middle School)

LIBRARY

These girls participated in the following quizzes:

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ AT BEAULIEU:

Mikaela Penberthy
Kelly Nankervis

Mvuko Nesengani
Georgie Schaefer

Our team came 4th out of 8 teams.

KIDS' LIT QUIZ AT ST JOHN'S

Inia Natarajan
Sarah Garrett
Lulu Williams
Didi Dawkins
Megan Parker
Akrithi Bhimma

Josie Orpen
Erin Daniels
Paige Schmidt
Ella Thorburn
Saige Turner

Team A came 11th out of 37 teams. It was a very close contest and in many cases our teams were beaten by merely ½ a point. The wonderful collaboration and teamwork shown by our teams, is worthy of special mention.

Jenny Hugo
(Librarian)

PA NEWS

CHANGE OF DATE OF PA AGM

The PA AGM will be held on **TUESDAY, 15 MARCH** at 18:30, in the Mvukuzane Pavilion, and **NOT** the date indicated on the calendar.

ST PETER'S MILE – TICKET SALES START THIS WEEK!

The Mile Swim will take place on **Sunday, 28 February**, at both the Boys and Girls School pools from **07:30 to 12:30**.

DATES:	18 & 19 Feb and 25 & 26 Feb in the car parks before school.		
TIME:	07:00 to 07:30		
VENUES:	Boys Jnr Prep car parks; Chapel car park; Snr Prep Girls car park; Girls Jnr Prep car park		
COST:	St Peter's Mile Swim	R50	Iron Man Challenge R40

A FUN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY - don't miss out! There is no race and no time restriction in which to complete the swim. Food and drinks will be on sale.

LADIES LUNCH: Saturday, 12 March 12:00 – 18:00

Tickets will be on sale on 26 February. Booking procedures as follows:

- Bookings will open on Friday, 26 February at 07:00.
- Send your booking request to ladieslunch@stpeters.co.za from 07:00 on Friday, 26 February.
- Only mails received after 07:00 will be considered.
- You must book a full table for 10 people i.e. no individual bookings.
- Where possible, kindly give the names of all people at the table to avoid duplications. If you have not yet finalised the table, put TBC.
- More than one person per table is welcome to send in booking requests, to ensure you get a table, but bookings are limited to ONE table per person.
- Tables will be allocated, as emails are received, on a first come first served basis.
- You will be notified by email by Monday, 29 February, as to whether you have been allocated a table.
- Payment will be required within 24 hours to secure the booking. Otherwise the table will be reallocated to the next person on the list.
- Cost of the ticket (which includes a three course meal and a show) is R350 per head,
- A cash bar will be available and drinks booklets will be on sale beforehand as well as on the day.

The Ladies Lunch Committee is looking for jam/ pickle jars. If you have any, kindly send them in to school – there will be a collection box in Reception for them. Thank you!

Dads, we are calling on you for waiter and barmen assistance. If you would like to help on the day (11:30 – 18:00), kindly email us on ladieslunch@stpeters.co.za



Bright on White
Ladies Lunch 2016
12 March, 12pm
R350 per lady

Don't delay, because
the tickets will be
going... going...
gone

We KAHN'T tell you
who the entertainment is,
but miss it and you will
MORBEE than
disappointed

Tickets on sale at 7 am on 26 Feb - First come first served.
Get your tables together now because you KAHN'T afford to miss this one

ladieslunch@stpeters.co.za



ST PETER'S MILE SWIM

ALL FAMILY MEMBERS OF ST PETER'S BOYS & GIRLS SCHOOLS
ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THE
ST PETER'S MILE SWIM WHICH WILL BE HELD ON
28 FEBRUARY 2016

TICKET SALES: 18 & 19 FEB. AND 25 & 26 FEB IN THE CAR PARKS BEFORE
SCHOOL. YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER ON THE DAY (R50 PER SWIMMER)

TIME: 07:30 – 12:30. (WE REQUEST THAT THE MORE COMPETENT
SWIMMERS START EARLIER AND THE MORE SOCIAL SWIMMERS START AFTER
9:00, BUT YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN WHENEVER IS CONVENIENT)

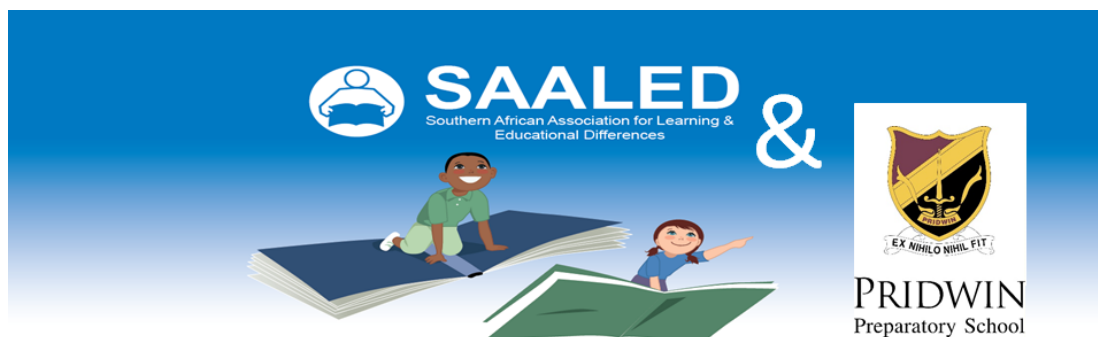
PLACE: SWIMMERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SWIM THE:
FULL MILE (64 LENGTHS) - IN THE GIRLS' POOL
HALF MILE (32 LENGTHS) - IN THE BOYS' POOL (IT HAS A SHALLOW
END AND IS MORE SUITABLE FOR YOUNG SWIMMERS)
THERE WILL BE A 10 LAP SWIM FOR SMALLER KIDS NOT ABLE TO
COMPLETE 32 LENGTHS, BUT THIS WILL NOT QUALIFY AS PART OF
THE IRON MAN CHALLENGE
FOR SAFETY REASONS, THERE WILL BE A LIMIT OF 4 - 6 SWIMMERS
PER LANE AT ANY ONE TIME.

ST PETER'S IRON MAN CHALLENGE

THE SWIM WILL BE THE FIRST LEG OF THE CHALLENGE. IF YOU WANT TO
COMPETE IN THE IRON MAN CHALLENGE, YOU MUST REGISTER
SEPARATELY BEFORE THE SWIM. (ADDITIONAL R40)
IF YOU DO NOT REGISTER YOU WILL NOT QUALIFY FOR A MEDAL!

* THE RUNNING & CYCLING EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE LATER IN THE YEAR
— DETAILS TO FOLLOW *

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT
NATALEE HOLMES (NATALEE.HOLMES@GMAIL.COM) OR
BERTHA MUCHINERIPI (BEEMUCH75@GMAIL.COM)



Invite parents and teachers to an evening talk with resilience expert,
DEBBIE SILVER (USA)

FALL DOWN 7 TIMES, GET UP 8



Debbie Silver, a former Louisiana teacher of the year, has 30 years experience as a teacher, staff development instructor, and university professor. She has given presentations around the world, helping audiences to interact with students on a deeper level. In this talk Debbie will focus on her newest book, *Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8: Teaching Kids to Succeed*.

She offers a "fresh approach to getting kids to work smarter and better", explains motivational theory and provides down-to-earth examples of concrete, applicable guidelines for helping students overcome setbacks and failure to foster lifelong success.

Date: 22 February 2016 @19h00,

Venue: Pridwin Preparatory School, St Andrew St, Melrose

Cost: R100 pay at the door

Contact: jean@pjsfood.co.za to confirm attendance

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Tuesday	23/02/2016	07:30:00	07:30:00	Term Recommences	
Tuesday	23/02/2016	14:00:00	15:00:00	Health & Safety meeting	Council Chamber
Tuesday	23/02/2016	14:30:00	16:00:00	Art Curriculum Meeting	Crawford, Sandton
Wednesday	24/02/2016	07:30:00	13:00:00	INDIVIDUAL & CLASS GROUP PHOTOS	Royce Hall
Wednesday	24/02/2016	10:30:00	12:30:00	Exco Meeting	Rector's Office
Wednesday	24/02/2016	17:30:00	19:30:00	St Stithians 50m Night Gala	
Wednesday	24/02/2016			REMINDER: COLLECTION FOR CHAPEL TOMORROW	
Thursday	25/02/2016	13:30:00	16:30:00	Tennis matches	
Friday	26/02/2016	13:30:00	16:30:00	Gala	
Sunday	28/02/2016	08:00:00	12:00:00	St Peter's Mile	Both School pools



Mr Webb admiring work and handing out 'Good Work' treats!