



Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

The Council approved strategic objectives which Exco set for the school at the beginning of 2019. These are set out below. In addition, the school focused on a number of other issues of a more operational nature including:

- Alleviating traffic flow on campus
- Risk analysis (and development of responses to a wide range of incidents e.g. drop in enrolment numbers, motor vehicle accident, crime incidents, malware attack on school IT systems, social media attack, amongst others)
- Provision of facilities to cope with growing participation in Basketball
- Improving Personalised Learning strategies across all classes

2019 Imperatives			
	Title	Action	Result
1.	Long term sustainability Whole school enrolment: to ensure that the school is full with strong waiting lists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve marketing • Social media • Internal marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed • New Girls Prep Marketer appointed • Grade 0s full • 77 new pupils accepted, Grades 1-7
2.	Enrolment: Pre-Primary school: establish a self-funding co-ed Pre-Primary (Grade 00 & 000)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established • Filled in 36 hours with 1 additional class to plan
3.	Transformation: Building trust in staff and community Seek funding for two additional interns Provide the staff with a voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular small group meetings between cross sections of all staff departments - twice per year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed • Positively and enthusiastically received - <i>Occurred monthly</i> • Continuing monthly in 2020 • Funding for five additional interns confirmed
4.	IT: School network systems, hardware and software "Fix" existing structures. Once fixed, innovate for better results (seek more efficient hard and software)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess and make necessary staff adjustments to achieve efficiency and to eliminate log-jams • Reconfigure reporting lines • Seek experts to advise on improved efficiency: record-keeping, information-management and sharing, process automation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT Director appointment internally (cost-save) • Improvement strategy commenced
5.	Campus Greening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of JG Afrika's plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Girls Prep wing designed to accommodate solar and Eskom power and City Water as well as harvested water • Two boreholes drilled • Waterless urinals installed • Aerators fitted to taps • Awaiting Eskom permission for solar installation at Boys JP

Questions for the Rector:

If anyone wishes any further information on any topic, please feel free to contact me at school or at groyce@stpeters.co.za or dradloff@stpeters.co.za.

Greg Royce

FROM THE JUNIOR PREP**TIPS ON HOW TO TEACH YOUR CHILD INDEPENDENT LEARNING**

A human baby is born with an innate curiosity and a seemingly insatiable need to learn. Toddlers and young children seem to find anything and everything interesting and they never run out of questions! Why is that? How does? Where is the? What is? They are also determined to 'do-it-by-me!' In fact, they insist on it!

Cindy Glass, Owner and Co-Founder of Step Up Education Centres says that as children grow and experience the world around them, they seem to lose this love of learning and worse, they begin to resist it. "Learning resistance as well as a need for dependence in learning is actually a learned behaviour! In fact, it is simply a defence mechanism that our children develop over time to protect themselves from negative learning experiences. Our children develop a fear of making mistakes as they experience negative reactions and feedback to their efforts in mastering new skills and concepts. Children develop a negative sense of self and convince themselves that they are flawed and incapable of achieving success independently and if at all," Cindy explains.

So how do you turn back the hands of time? Cindy offers 6 top tips for supporting your children in becoming independent learners:

The art of making effective mistakes: Perfection does not exist on this planet! Mistakes are simply opportunities to practice and learn. Children who are not afraid to learn are more likely to trust themselves when tackling new ideas.

Flexibility is a fundamental: Teach your children the art of resilience which is the ability to recover quickly from challenges and obstacles.

Develop a growth mindset: A growth mindset, will ensure that your children believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. Learning is hard work and there are no shortcuts.

Encourage and praise your children: Celebrate every success in independent learning, no matter how small it may seem. Little successes, acknowledged, will grow!

Age-appropriate expectations: A Grade 1 learner needs more support in learning than an older learner. Never expect a young learner to tackle tasks that are overwhelming. Little steps will lead to leaps. Build that confidence over time.

Accept help when needed: Seek remediation and learning support services if you notice that your children need a helping hand. Mastering the skills needed for effective learning to take place will go a long way in helping your children become more independent learners.

"It's important that we support our children in becoming independent learners in order to increase motivation and confidence. Children who learn independently feel a greater sense of accomplishment and are more likely to explore challenging topics with confidence. And finally, independent learning prepares our children for the world beyond school. They develop critical thinking and emotional intelligence skills which are essential for success in life," Cindy concludes.

Submitted to Parent24 by [Step Up Education Centres](#).

HALF TERM BREAK

The Junior Prep Boys school will close on **Wednesday, 26 February** at **13:00** for the first term half term break. We are hosting the St Peter's Boys School 70th Eucharist in the JP Building on Thursday, 27 February:

- There will be no school for Grade 0-3 boys on **Thursday, 27 February**.
- An Aftercare facility will be available for all Grade 0-3 children at the JP Girls Hall from 7:00-14:30. The Aftercare staff will manage this service and there will be no costs involved. Children who attend must please bring a packed lunch and extra water; they may wear civvies to school, but a hat and sunscreen are important.
- The Eucharist Service will start at 9:00 and should finish at 11:00. Any Grade 0-3 boy who attends this service must be accompanied by his parents.

- School will re-start on **Tuesday, 03 March at 7:30.**
- There will be **no** early finish on Wednesday, 26 February, waiting class will run until 14:15. Aftercare will, however, be in the Girls JP Hall to facilitate the set up of our building for the Eucharist Service.

MINI CRICKET – GRADE 2 MATCHES

Our Grade 2 boys will participate in their first mini-cricket matches on Friday afternoon. The emphasis is on participation, enjoyment of the game and sportsmanship. I know our little boys look forward to these games and their excitement is tangible.

Grade 2 parents will be running a tuckshop at Mvukuzane Pavilion, for your convenience.

“TEACH YOUR CHILD FINANCIAL PLANNING”

Hayley Parry’s Coffee Morning last Thursday offered excellent advice on how we can teach our children, age 3-8, financial lessons. We have had many requests for an evening talk and will look at hosting this event again one evening in March, so keep a look out for the date – once we have held the next talk slides will be added to the School Communicator.

HOT DOG & CIVVIES DAY – Friday, 21 February

Tomorrow our boys will come to school dressed in their everyday clothes. The total cost is R35-00, R10-00 of which will be used to support a charity. They will enjoy a Hot Dog, chips and juice too – which seems to be the highlight of each month.

TIKTOK

Our JP boys should not be engaging in APPS like **TikTok** which comes with age inappropriate behaviours. We are aware of a post doing the rounds on social media, where children are seen kicking the feet out from others, causing them to fall. The SP boys have been addressed with regard to this behaviour. In the JP, teachers are aware of the post and will monitor behaviour on school property. I will not address our boys, as a school at this stage, as I do not want to give them any ideas. Should the need arise, parents will be informed and we will address the situation appropriately.

HEARING SCREENING – 24 & 25 February

Parents are given the opportunity for their boys (Grade 0 and new boys) to have a hearing screening. This takes place next week and boys whose parents have given consent will be screened on these days. You will receive feedback from Sandton Hearing Clinic.

SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY

On **Tuesday, 25 February** our boys will celebrate Shrove Tuesday with pancake races, followed by enjoying a pancake. Our Chapel Service on **Wednesday, 26 February** will be an extra special service as we celebrate the school’s 70th birthday with the boys and acknowledge Ash Wednesday on the Christian calendar.

GOLDEN MOMENT

A young boy saw Rob Macaulay and I get out of his car after attending training together. He turned to his grandmother and said “That is the happiest married couple I know.” (Apologies to Michelle Macaulay!)

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,
Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 21 February HOT DOG & CIVVIES DAY R35 12:30 Grade 2 Mini Cricket vs The Ridge @ St Peter's
Monday 24 February Grade 0 & new boys Hearing Screening
Tuesday 25 February Shrove Tuesday Pancake Races Grade 0 & new boys Hearing Screening
Wednesday 26 February 8:00 Chapel 70 th Celebration & Ash Wednesday (birthdays 24 February – 01 March) 8:00 Sefikeng community partnership 13:00 Grade 2 CHAPS (Middle Room) 13:00 School closes Grade 0-3 Half Term Break (Aftercare in JP Girls Hall)
Thursday 27 February NO SCHOOL FOR GRADE 0-3 9:00-11:00 SP Eucharist in JP Building 9:00-14:30 Aftercare in JP Girls Hall
Tuesday 03 March 7:30 Boys return to school

CHANGE TO THE EASTER TERM CALENDAR

The PA AGM will be held on Tuesday, 10 March and not on 18 March as originally communicated. To accommodate this change, My Story will move from Tuesday, 10 March to the following week, 17 March.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

I cannot believe that next week we begin our journey of Lent. These are the forty days before Easter where we prepare ourselves once again to experience the depths of God's love in the cross of Easter. On Wednesday we mark the beginning of this journey with Ash Wednesday and we encourage everyone to give something of themselves for this period in recognition of what God has given us. Some people give up something like chocolate or TV. Others give to someone in need. Some take on something and give of their time. Traditionally, people gave up all raising agents such as yeast and baking powder before they started their fast. This meant that the pantry had to be cleared out on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Instead of throwing these items away they were used on the Tuesday to celebrate with a feast and so Pancake Tuesday grew in popularity. This day is known as Shrove Tuesday.

Fr Richard Wossler (*Chaplain*)

FROM SISTER GAIL

Thank you to all those who have sent in their medical forms. There are still quite a few outstanding in many of the classes. Please could I ask you to ensure these are sent to school as soon as possible. They are available on the Communicator.

These forms contain vital information for the School Nurses to either medicate your child if needed or contact numbers for yourself or an alternate person to collect your child in case of illness or injury.

If any child has an allergy, please ensure you have notified the school. The medication required to treat that allergy must accompany the allergy emergency form when sent into school. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure this medication is replaced when expired. We have had a number of forms sent in requiring asthma pumps and celestamine and so on, and medication has not been provided.

Please note the School does not stock prescription medication.

Gail Brent (Resident Nursing Sister)

THANK YOU FROM CHOC

Thank you for setting your 10 toes free for a day and showing your support for childhood cancer.

The children who fight cancer truly are the bravest of the brave. However on 14 February these warriors did not stand alone, because they had an army of supporters behind them, willing to walk with them every step of the way. The money raised from St Peter's was **R9515**.

Denise-Ann Olivier (Fundraising Coordinator: Gauteng South)

CHOC Childhood Cancer Foundation SA "Keeping more than hope alive"



CUBS AND SCOUTS FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS – FRIDAY, 21 FEBRUARY

Robert Baden-Powell was born on 22 February 1857. In 1907, he established the Boy Scout Movement, which still exists today more than 100 years later. Millions of children, both boys and girls, have experienced the joys of Scouting over the last century and have benefited from the life lessons that it teaches.

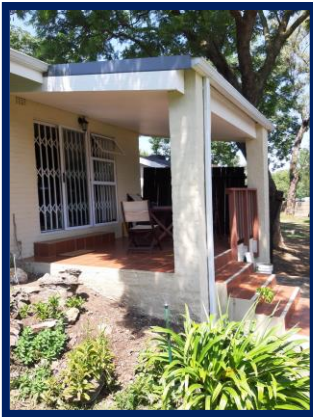
Each year, Cubs and Scouts from all over the world celebrate the anniversary of Baden-Powell's birthday and the Movement he started, on 22 February. It has also been customary for the children to wear their Cub or Scout uniform to school on the day as part of these celebrations.



ALL CUBS AND SCOUTS CAN COME TO SCHOOL ON FRIDAY, 21 FEBRUARY IN THEIR UNIFORM.

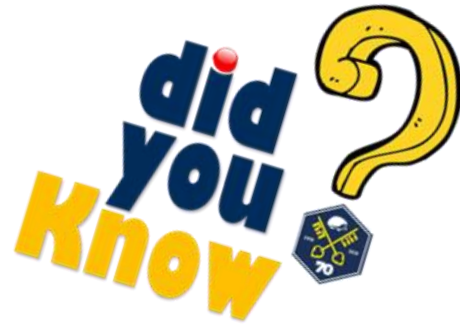


70TH CELEBRATIONS



In the early years, prior to the construction of the highway (Johannesburg Ring Road) on the southern boundary of the school, many boys would **cycle** to school from Bryanston through the Pine plantations, the remnants of which can still be seen. At least one boy would ride to school on his **horse** and would tether it outside, where my study is today, while he attended classes.

Greg Royce



70th SOCKS – ON SALE

Boys will be able to wear the socks on all days with a seven (except 27 February which is the 70th Eucharist). They will wear the socks together with their sports kit consisting of red practice shirt, blue shorts and takkies.



