



**ST PETER'S
BOYS PREP SCHOOL**
**SERVING THE FAITH
FOR 70 YEARS**

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

DATE 30 January 2020

JUNIOR PREP

Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

The issue of traffic congestion has kept us all occupied. That being said, it seems to have improved considerably this week. At school, we will continue to work on solutions. Top of the list is Rob Macaulay's drop-off point outside the school while I am attempting to have the timing on the traffic lights altered.

When you read this, I will be on camp with the Grade 7 girls. I am departing with as much anxiety as a parent.

Do we have sufficient safety protocols in place?

Have we conducted enough drills?

Have we anticipated every likely eventuality?

The Parktown Boys high school incident has left us all severely rattled.

In the past, St Peter's has had our fair share of incidents: bus breakdowns, broken arms, scorpion stings and the like. Fortunately, our preparations beforehand have always paid off and the staff have behaved admirably going above and beyond to care for the children.

I shudder to think of the potential for disaster in my past. As a young teacher, I reveled in introducing 12 and 13-year olds to "the bush". We would secure a camp site on a Big Five property in the Timbavati, Klasserie or Sabi Sands and set up a tented camp for ten children and three or four adults. During the day, we'd take the children on walks, armed with 12-gauge shotguns and sometimes .458s.

At night the children would each have an hour of guard duty around the fire. They would wake us if lions approached.

By the grace of God, we brought all the children home safely. Today, many of them either have their own bushveld retreats or are involved in some way in the conservation of nature. One, who retired at 39, takes me on trips to remote areas in Botswana and Zambia.

It's a difficult business balancing safety against providing children with the opportunity to enjoy new experiences and face new challenges.

I don't know how much longer school camps will continue. I suspect that it will be the teachers who decline to accept the responsibility before parents judge the risks to be too great.

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 HEADMASTER

This year marks the 70th anniversary of St Peter's Boys Prep School and we have a number of exciting events lined up for the various sectors of our community. You may have noticed the changes to the "Keyhole Banner" and we will be using

this platform as a means to share our celebrations with the community as the year unfolds. Please be on the lookout for the following celebratory events:

- We will begin the formal celebration with a Service of Thanksgiving for the boys and invited guests on Thursday, 27 February at 09:00. The Bishop of Johannesburg, Bishop Steve Moreo, will preside and we are hoping to share a time of great praise, thanksgiving and hope in this very special formal service. Because of the projected size of the congregation, we will use the JP Boys building for the service. There will be a section open for parents who wish to join us, but space may be limited. A celebratory tea for the adults will follow in Dodson Hall.
- We have ordered special “happy socks” that have been designed by one of our pupils, Thurston Salt. The first batch of these are due to arrive before the end of the month so watch out for the notification that they are on sale in the School Shop. Boys will be allowed to wear these socks with their PE kit and white takkies on any day that has a 7 in the date for this year. No, this does not mean for the whole of July, which has a 7 as the month ☺.
- Please also keep your eyes open for notifications regarding other memorabilia that will be on sale throughout the year.
- On Friday, 19 June, we will hold a special Evensong for the Old Boys Association. This will be followed by a gala dinner in Dodson Hall. Old Boys, please contact Hilary Nothard (hnothard@stpeters.co.za) for further details.
- Saturday, 20 June will be a special family day for the whole community, including our sisters in the Girls Prep and little siblings in the Pre-Prep. While we are still to finalise details, we are expecting a day of family interaction, football, slides and a communal lunch. Please save this date.
- Our final formal celebration will be at the Sunset Carols event in November. This is always a wonderful community event and we hope to add a celebratory dimension to close our special year.

I look forward to a special year during which we build on our rich heritage of family and community.

Have a great week.

Rob Macaulay



FROM THE JUNIOR PREP FIRST SIX WEEKS

As mentioned in the Information Evenings, the first six weeks of school is an important time. Teachers show the boys that school is a safe place, that they are important and respected members of the St Peter's community and that they can all look forward to an engaging, challenging and fun year of learning.

We use the Responsive Classroom methodology at St Peter's and four general goals are followed during this time:

1. Create a climate of warmth, inclusion and safety: In order for children to learn, they must get to know each other and develop a sense of belonging and significance in the classroom. The boys learn reasonable boundaries for behaviour and teachers watch carefully to ensure all boys feel safe and included.
2. Teach classroom routines and behaviour expectations: Children need a sense of order and routine to their day in order to be available to learn. Teachers discuss all lessons and events at the start of each day during Morning Meetings so the boys are fully aware of what lies ahead. The boys are expected to take care of themselves, each other, their classroom and their school.
3. Help children care for their classroom and school environment: The boys are encouraged to develop a sense of ownership of their classroom and school environment. Collaboratively the class develop guidelines about classroom routines and expectations and they learn how to care for their school environment, uniform and equipment.
4. Establish expectations for academic work: Teachers generate excitement and enthusiasm for the curriculum which will be covered. Active participation, focused effort, engaging conversations, co-operation and collaboration are taught. Attention is paid to the process as well as the product and high expectations are held.

We look forward to watching each one of our children grow, develop and flourish during the year ahead.

HOT DOG DAY

Hot Dog Day remains a firm favourite in the JP. The first Hot Dog Day is on **Friday, 31 January**. Boys must bring R25 to school in their money pouch – please ensure the correct amount is sent as giving change is complicated. For R25 each boy will receive a hot dog, juice and packet of crisps.

TRAFFIC

Due to the small uptake of walking boys and girls from one JP building to the other, this service will be cancelled after **Friday, 31 January**.

I do want to thank parents for their patience in the car parks. It does seem to have eased slightly, but some days are definitely better than others. As a school we are continuing to look at viable solutions to assist in this matter.

JP BOYS PHOTOGRAPHS

Grade 0-2 boys will have their individual and class photographs taken on **Wednesday, 05 February**.

Please could all boys wear their summer uniform for this day (including Grade 0N and Grade 1's who normally wear their Sports kit on a Wednesday). One of our **5 G's** is **Grooming** and we expect all boys to look smart that day. They **must** be wearing strops, and neat hair, with no gel, is vitally important.

TIME2READ COFFEE MORNING

Date: Thursday, 06 February Time: 7:30-8:30 Venue: JP Boys Hall

All new parents, and those who want a refresher, are encouraged to attend the above Coffee Morning. Time2Read is the phonics and reading programme that forms the basis of our English training at St Peter's. An understanding of this programme will assist you to help your child when he is reading or completing written work.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

On **Wednesday, 05 February** our parents and interns will be attending their first "Read for Africa" session at Sefikeng for 2020. Should you wish to be part of this amazing initiative, please do join us from 8:00-10:00. The bus leaves from the Chapel area at 8:00 each week, you can either use this service or follow in your car; otherwise you can meet at Sefikeng.

GOLDEN MOMENT

A Grade 0 mom shared this with me at our stunning family picnic on Friday:

Her son wanted something from her and she said no, to which he responded "my teacher says it is her and my parents' job to keep me safe and happy, right now you are only keeping me safe!"

I am away at Strat Planning next week, in my absence please direct any queries to your son's class teacher.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 03 February	
Tuesday 04 February	
Wednesday 05 February	
8:00	Chapel (birthdays 03-09 February)
8:00	Sefikeng community partnership
JP Boys photographs – all boys to wear summer uniform	
13:00	Grade 2 CHAPS (Middle Room)
Thursday 06 February	
7:30	Coffee Morning – Time2Read: JP Boys Hall
Friday 07 February	

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS - APPLICATION FORM 2020

Please follow the link for both Boys JP and SP to sign up for instrumental lessons:

<https://forms.gle/1dzfGw9K85KAgUmn8>

NEW SCHOOL SHOP HOURS


We have noticed more parents dropping off earlier due to the traffic and have therefore decided to open the School Shop at 06:30 every morning.

THE SECOND HAND SHOP

The Second Hand Shop is looking for volunteers to assist for one hour a week. The Shop is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 07:00 to 08:00. No admin required!

Please contact Carol Sithole - 072 226 8599

We are growing!




ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS
BIGFutures
Teacher Interns
Funded by the St Peter's Foundation


Introducing our 11 new Teacher Interns for 2020:

Pre-Prep


Roosting Roosters:
MBALI RADEBE
YEAR OF STUDY: 1st




Puddle Ducks:
DIDI NKOMO
YEAR OF STUDY: 1st



Moo Cows:
NOMVUYO MAGABELA
YEAR OF STUDY: 1st




Happy Horses:
TSHEGOFATSO PELE
YEAR OF STUDY: 1st




DID YOU KNOW: Our interns are trainee teachers, working alongside our class teachers while they study their **4 year teaching degrees**.

Girls JP


Gr 1 Montagu:
CORNIE MOTLUNG
YEAR OF STUDY: 1st




Gr 0 Buck:
AMAZE MADALANE
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd



Gr 2 Glass:
PATRICIA NKWANYANA
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd




Gr 1 van Ginkel:
KELEBOGILE RAMASHIA
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd




They are **mentored** by our wonderful class teachers and receive the best practical on-the-job training possible.


Gr 2 Smit:
EUNICE MATLARE
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd



Gr 2 Scott:
RAYMOND BAMBO
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd



Gr 1 Jameson:
LINA SONJICA
YEAR OF STUDY: 2nd



Boys JP