



Dear Parents,

**“READING IS MY SECRET POWER”**

Our boys are in for an exciting Book Week next week – with many reading adventures and discoveries to be made. A book that has become a family friendly film, *The BFG* by Roald Dahl, is full of lessons for our children to learn. I have written about the top four below and you will notice that they are all linked to our St Peter’s values.

**1. Fears are often baseless**

Jesus was clear in telling us not to fear (Matthew 10:31). For adults, this may apply to our irrational fear of the future or of finances, but for children it may relate to their fear of the dark or fear of school. Everyone in the movie was fearful of something: Sophie was afraid of the BFG, who was afraid of the other giants, who were afraid of rain. And all of the fears were unfounded.

**2. Appearances can be deceitful**

Sophie just *knew* that the BFG was going to eat her. Why? Because he was big and looked intimidating. Her first impressions, though, were wrong. In fact, he was as friendly as a loving grandfather. I won't ever forget the first time my oldest son, then 2, met a friend of mine of a different race who had a non-traditional hairstyle. My son was scared, but soon came to befriend the man when he saw how nice he was. The BFG is a good reminder that first impressions often are wrong.

**3. Bullying is ugly**

It is good, I think, for children to watch a character with which they empathize be bullied — as long as the scene isn't too over the top. The other giants in Giant Country were at least three times bigger than the BFG — and incredibly mean. In one scene they bullied him by tossing him around like a football, and in another scene they came into his house and ransacked pretty much everything in sight. In each instance, we felt empathy for the BFG, who appeared helpless. Modern-day bullies rarely get to see what it's like on the other side. In *The BFG*, they do.

**4. The weak need to be defended**

The BFG cared for Sophie, and later in the film, the British military protected the BFG and the country's children against the giants — literally moving the bullies to a desert. Too often in our fallen world, the tallest child or the biggest adult is the one known for mistreating, harassing and picking on those who are smaller. But consider this: Why did God make some people exceptionally intimidating in appearance? Surely it was to guard and protect those who are weaker, right? And no matter how small our kids are, someone always will be smaller, and needing compassion. That's a good lesson for our children — on the big screen *and* in the real world.

***Please do not forget to send in any second hand hard books you may no longer need – suitable for children under the age of four.***

**BOOK WEEK**

**BOOKS ON SALE –08, 09 & 10 APRIL**

There is a Book Fair next week in the Boys JP Library.

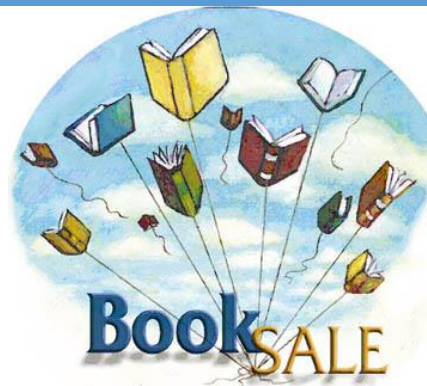
Books will be on sale:

Monday, 8 April: 09:00 to 14:00

Tuesday, 9 April: 07:00 to 14:00

Wednesday, 10 April: 07:00 to 14:00

Methods of Payment: Cash, Credit Cards, Snapscan



### CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to extend our congratulations to Bonolo Molefe who graduates at UNISA today. Bonolo has successfully completed her Foundation Phase teaching degree, after a four year internship at St Peter's. She is about to complete her first term as a Grade 0 teacher. I am so incredibly proud of all she has achieved and the confident, happy boy she has grown this term!

### PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you parents for your attendance at our JP Parent Consultations. I am sure you all left your interviews proud of your sons' achievements during the course of Term 1, 2019. I am delighted by the progress I have noticed throughout the term.

### TERM 2 (TRINITY TERM) CALENDAR

The calendar has been attached to this week's newsletter.

### GRADE 1 & 2 SPORT

The winter term Sports programme includes rugby, soccer and tennis. When we return to school next term, the Grade 1 and 2 boys will head straight into rugby season (tag rugby) for their group sport lessons and will be doing tennis in their individual PE lessons. A detailed letter will be sent out next week, explaining the transition to tag rugby and tennis with regard to dress code, sports day etc. Please use the April holidays to buy and fit gum guards for your sons as this is a necessity for rugby practices. Even though the boys will be doing tag rugby and there will be no physical contact, it is important that gum guards are worn for safety. Thank you.

**Callan Cronin:** Head JP Sports

**REMINDER: TOMORROW, FRIDAY 05 APRIL  
HOT DOG DAY AND CARTRIDGE COLLECTION – R25**



**R25**

### ST PETER'S PREP PARENT PORTAL

We are pleased to announce the opening of our Parent Portal which will allow parents to check upcoming events, extra-curricular information and view school reports from home, office or anywhere. Communications between parents and teachers can and will also take place via the portal. The realtime link this Portal provides, is a must have facility in today's busy world.

We will be keeping all our current communication channels, until we are comfortable that the Portal provides a better service. One important feature is the Portal Calendar. Export and import functions are available for all popular third party calendars with the ability to set up and view multiple calendars.

Activation of the Portal will be emailed out grade by grade. Parents who have children in multiple grades, must please only activate their account once. This will take place from the end of March until the end of May, starting with the Grade 7s.

We will be placing the First Semester reports, 28 June 2019, onto the Portal, so it is important that you set up your account and ensure you remember your password. The following helpdesk will be set up to assist parents who have difficulty:

[Portalhelp@stpeters.co.za](mailto:Portalhelp@stpeters.co.za)

A user manual can be found on the Communicator.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Caron du Plessis, who will be managing the Portal.

[cduplessis@stpeters.co.za](mailto:cduplessis@stpeters.co.za)



**END OF TERM: THURSDAY, 11 APRIL**

The last day of term will be one we can spend in our pyjamas, watching the BFG. Please take note of closing times:

**Grade 0: 10:00**

**Grade 1: 10:15**

**Grade 2: 10:30**

There will be a supervised waiting class until **11:00** (when the Senior Prep boys finish). There will also be Aftercare for any child who requires it until **14:30**. Should your child attend Aftercare on Thursday, please send a packed lunch as the school kitchen will be closed. Please email Trish Attlee if your child will be attending Aftercare that afternoon: [tattlee@stpeters.co.za](mailto:tattlee@stpeters.co.za)

**START OF SECOND TERM: THURSDAY, 09 MAY**

School will commence on **Thursday, 09 May** at 7:30. This is due to the Elections that take place on Wednesday, 08 May.

**GOLDEN MOMENT**

A Grade 0 class were discussing food and how it is polite to chew with your mouth closed. One boy said and it's also to prevent you from spraying food over everyone!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our Staff Variety Show this weekend.

Warm regards,

**Kenda Melvill-Smith**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

<b>Friday 05 April</b> 19:00 Staff Variety Show
<b>Saturday 06 April</b> 19:00 Staff Variety Show
<b>Monday 08 April</b> BOOK WEEK commences Hooked on Books Book sales
<b>Tuesday 09 April</b> "The Secret Power of Animals" Book sales Grade 2 Music Demo morning
<b>Wednesday 10 April</b> 8:00 Community Partnership - Sefikeng 8:00 Chapel ( <b>birthdays 08-30 April</b> ) Author and Illustrator 9:30 Grade 2 theatre outing with Sefikeng (2 x packed lunches) <b>No Grade 2 Choir</b>
<b>Thursday 11 April</b> Pyjama Day - Movie: BFG <b>End of term:</b> <b>10:00 Grade 0</b> <b>10:15 Grade 1</b> <b>10:30 Grade 2</b> <b>11:00 Waiting class ends</b> <b>14:30 Aftercare ends</b>

**IDAI CYCLONE: MOZAMBIQUE****Collection: 08 – 12 April**

Days after tropical cyclone IDAI swept through Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, the visible effects are starting to unfold and the world can see the catastrophic disaster which has taken place. It has destroyed almost everything in its path, causing not only devastating floods, but leaving thousands of people missing, injured, deceased, homeless, helpless, and distraught.

More than 100 000 children in Mozambique have been adversely affected, not having eaten in days nor having access to clean water. Most children have either lost their parents or are still looking for them. These children are in desperate need of help.

**Paediatric Care Africa**, is co-ordinating a collection and St Peter's is acting as a drop-off point for people who would like to make any donations. Please drop off any of the following in the Chapel prayer room:

**Babies:** Clothing, baby equipment, non-disposable nappies, cream, soap, non-perishable food and milk for babies; bottled water, mosquito repellent, water purifying tablets

**Children's needs:** Clean re-usable or new shoes, clothing, blankets, sunhats, socks, jerseys.

Details on the organization can be found at: <https://www.pediatriccareafrika.org>

**Father Richard** (Chaplain)

**SECURITY QR CODE UPDATE**

If you **HAVE NOT** filled in a google form, please fill this in: <https://goo.gl/forms/NX1PEDAYmpKMctxR2>

For those who **HAVE** filled in the google form, please watch your inboxes next week.

For any other queries, please email: [stpeters@appcharlie.com](mailto:stpeters@appcharlie.com)

**Lance Camphor** (Head of Security)

**OLD BOYS NEWS****Michaelhouse**

**Kombo Magara** was awarded Honours for Music.

**CHARITY**

**Bob Martin**  
SINCE 1983  
Official Sponsor

Calling all Super Dogs!

**DOGS UNITE!**  
For Guide Dogs

The only dog walk of its kind- where your dog is the hero of the hour and every hero will be presented with a cape!

Date: 7 April 2019  
Venue: PWC Bike Park  
JHB  
(1A Libertas Street, off Sloan Street, Bryanston, Sandton, 2191)  
Time: 07h30-12h00  
Keep a look out on our website  
[www.guidedog.org.za](http://www.guidedog.org.za)

GUIDE-DOGS ASSOCIATION South Africa  
Make sure to buy your tickets at our webshop  
[www.guidedog.org.za](http://www.guidedog.org.za)