







JUNIOR PREP

Dear Parents,

# FROM THE RECTOR

## HELP WITH GREENING THE ST PETER'S CAMPUS - SOLAR ENERGY

We are hoping to find parents who can assist the school with the following:

- The provision of a grid-tied solar power system for the Boys Junior Prep.
- A supplier of LED globes.

Both of the above are components of an overall campus plan developed with an engineering and environmental consulting company, JG Afrika. Our contact is an Old Boy who is ensuring that we are enjoying discounted rates.

The project plan is holistic, covering energy and water consumption, as well as waste disposal. We hope to have solar power reduce our reliance on Eskom and to use potable water for drinking and cooking only. It is intended to use grey water and harvested rain water for toilets and irrigation. In addition to the manufacture of compost, we intend to install an Anaerobic Digester in order to consume kitchen waste and produce gas for the stoves.

Given the complexity of the greening project and the fact that technology in this regard is constantly evolving, the school has long-sought a partner with sufficient experience and up to date proficiency. JG Afrika will manage all aspects of this project in consultation with the school, including the selection of service providers and scrutiny of quotes to ensure continuity, reliability and cost-effectiveness.

If you are able to assist, or require any further information, please contact the Ops Manager, Cecilia Neto (cneto@stpeters.co.za) or the Business Manager, Moira Hodgson (mhodgson@stpeters.co.za).

## **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 **CLASS TEACHER REQUESTS**

I would like to share with parents, the school's philosophy and processes in allocating boys to their new classes for the following year. In so doing, I ask parents not to approach teachers with special requests for your son to go to a particular teacher or for your son to be placed with a pre-selected group of friends.

To start the process, classes are split into mixed academic ability groups. We then look at friendship groupings and who should, or should not, be placed together. In the Junior Prep it is common practice to allow the boys to choose a few friends and to guarantee that at least one of these friends will be in the same class, the following year.

Opportunities for establishing new relationships each year must be seen as a positive mechanism for growth and maturity. If we claim to teach resilience at school then we need to teach our boys, as early as possible, to interact with different boys every year. Teacher-match or suitability is also considered.

In the JP the class teachers, in consultation with myself, take all decisions around class placement.

Classes for 2019 will be announced in the last week of the year. We will then ask for parents to support the school's decision and to guide and encourage your child to understand that this was arrived at with every good reason, rather than a 'knee-jerk' insistence that your son needs to be moved. If we acceded to every request of this nature, the end result would be chaos. However, if parents support the school, your son will very quickly realise that he needs to make an effort to adapt to his new surroundings. If your son thinks that mom or dad can 'fix' the problem, then he will continue to protest and not make any effort to adapt.

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I sincerely hope this clarifies the process for you. If you have any questions or concerns in terms of this process, please feel free to chat to your son's teacher or me.

# SPORTS DAY & CAMP OUT

Wow, last weekend was a very busy one in the Junior Prep.

The Sports Day was very hot and we beat the lightning siren by minutes! Nevertheless it was great fun and every boy participated with enthusiasm.

Thank you to Stephen Malema and Devon Everitt for their excellent management of the day, our teachers and interns for their support and our Grade 2 parents for keeping us refreshed.

The Camp Out was a huge success, thanks to perfect weather, the rugby win and the camaraderie of our families! It will be a night our little boys will remember in years to come. Not having cars on the field lowered the stress levels and our children were free to play without a care.

Special thanks to Jacqui Wilson, Carolyn Linnell and the School Team for the preparation and planning that went into this event.

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

## **Grade 1 Bird Park Visit:**

Next week our Grade 1 boys will be visiting the Montecasino Bird Park with their Diepsloot Combined School friends. Please ensure your son has sunscreen on, brings an extra hat and doesn't forget the extra lunches on the day of his trip.

Wednesday, 10 October: Grade 1R + DCS 1½ classes
Thursday, 11 October: Grade 1K + DCS 1½ classes
Friday, 12 October: Grade 1B + DCS 1½ classes

#### Space Walk:

All Junior Prep boys will be taking a Space Walk in our hall next week. Experi-Buddy will be presenting this fun and interactive workshop. I know our boys will enjoy every minute and learn a great deal.

# **Sport – Swimming:**

Due to the cold weather and wind our boys did not start swimming this week. Please continue to send swimming costumes on your son's class swimming day. The Sports Coaches will make a call according to the weather on the day.

# **LOST PROPERTY**

There are a number of unmarked items of lost property on display in the foyer. Please do check if your son is missing anything.

# **GOLDEN MOMENT**

On Sports Day a Grade 0 boy was eagerly watching the tug-of-war. He said to his teacher: "I can't wait for the tug-of-fight to start!"

To our golfers, enjoy the PA Golf Day tomorrow.

Warm regards,
Kenda Melvill-Smith

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#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Monday 08 October		
Tuesday 09 October		
8.30	DCS lessons (Grade 0 class)	
Wednesday 10 October		

8:00 Chapel (birthdays from 08 – 14 October)

8:30 Grade 1R Bird Park visit

13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir

**Thursday 11 October** 

8:30 Grade 1K Bird Park visit 9:00 Space Walk (class rotation)

13:00-13:30 Grade 1 Choir

Friday 12 October

8:30 Grade 1B Bird Park visit 9:00 Space Walk (class rotation)

# **SWINE FLU**

We are aware of the current outbreak of flu causing a high number of absentees in the classes. Please be aware that Swine flu is part of the common flu viruses and is a non-notifiable condition.

## **Common Symptoms include:**

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain
- Body aches
- Cold shivers and hot sweats

Please keep your children at home should they be displaying any of the above symptoms and consult you GP for further treatment. *Gail Brent* (Resident Nursing Sister)

## **AERIAL PICTURES OF THE SCHOOL**

The last time we commissioned aerial photos of the Prep schools was in 2015. We thought it was time to have an updated view as there have been so many amazing upgrades in the last three years.



If anyone has a drone and could help us with this or if you know of a company that can help us, please contact either Diane Fraser (<u>dfraser@stpeters.co.za</u>) or Jean Macleod (<u>jmacleod@stpeters.co.za</u>). We would like to take the photos over a weekend in November. We are happy to pay for this service.

Thank you

Diane Fraser (Marketer)

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# SUNSET CAROLS BROCHURE - CALL FOR ADVERTISING



The St Peter's Intern Programme invites you to advertise in the 2018 Sunset Carols Brochure.

St Peter's will be celebrating its **sixth Sunset Carols** event on Saturday, **1 December 2018.** This event attracts over 2 500 adults and children and has become the School's annual flagship event. It is preceded by a bustling Christmas Market.

If you are interested in advertising, or would like more information, please contact Monica on msloane@stpeters.co.za

# LAST CHANCE TO ENTER THE RAFFLE FOR THIS FABULOUS PRIZE!



Buy your tickets online through this link:

https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/st-peter-s-prep-schools-raffle-2018/pre-sale