



Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

We learnt with sadness this week that Anthony Parnell, the fourth Headmaster of St Peter's, passed away on Tuesday. Anthony led the Boys Prep School from January 1981 to July 1995. He was truly a renaissance man: a gifted sportsman, amateur dramatist and singer. He taught English to the Standard 6s (Gr8). In those days, the Prep was based on the English model with classes from Gr 0 to 8. He was the first Head in South Africa to establish an on-site academic support centre with remedial and occupational therapists. He was a tough Head and a stern disciplinarian who had very high expectations of the boys. The Staff Variety Show, too, was his inspiration.

Many Old Boys will remember him with affection. Anthony is survived by his wife, Fiona, and his children Giles and Julia.

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

RESPONSIBILITY

Our sixth value is responsibility – one our boys need to achieve to thrive in the competitive world of adulthood.

According to Webster's dictionary, being responsible "implies holding a special duty or trust." Someone who is responsible is dependable, trustworthy, and accountable. Having responsible children means teaching them so that they become competent and confident to know what's right and then to do what is right.

ARE RESPONSIBLE CHILDREN BORN?

Absolutely not. Children develop a sense of responsibility through a variety of parent provided experiences. It's only human that as adults we try to please others. The "pleasing others" behaviour pattern actually begins early in life. Parents can start teaching responsibility by letting their children know that responsible behaviour pleases them. Children learn by watching others. If children see adults acting in a certain way, they think the behaviour is normal and often behave in the same way. Children, for example, who grow up watching adults take advantage of other people are likely to imitate the same behaviour. A child who grows up watching parents who respect the law is likely to become a person who also respects the law.

HOW TO TEACH RESPONSIBILITY?

Three tips to help teach your child RESPONSIBILITY:

1. **Help your children learn to do things for themselves.** When children have a feeling of independence, they have more confidence to try new things and expand their capabilities.
2. **Allow your children to take care of themselves** as much as possible. Let them choose which friends they would like to invite for special occasions, when to do their homework [within reason], and make other basic decisions about their own lives.
3. **Teach your children to respect others.** The best way to teach respect for others is by example. If you respect other people, regardless of who they are or where they come from, your children will follow in your footsteps.

How to send THE RIGHT MESSAGE:

We send messages about responsibility every day. Here are some tips on the kinds of messages to send:

- **Praise efforts to become responsible.** This is the most important thing you can do. It focuses your child's

attention on the right issues.

- **Praise improvement.** This emphasises that your child is on the right track, providing motivation for responsible behaviour in the future.
- **Don't help too much.** If you give your children too much help, they can't take CREDIT for what goes right. They may begin to believe that you don't think they can be responsible.

How to help my child take responsibility for being motivated at school:

- **Talk about school regularly.** You can't talk too much about how important school is. Not only does talking show your children that school is important, it also gives them a chance to express themselves.
- **Ask what interests them,** about problems they may be FACING, what they are learning in class, and school-related happenings.
- **Display your children's achievements.** Ask your children to pick two or three of their best school papers each week—such as drawings, math homework, or writing assignments—and post them on the refrigerator, in the bedroom, or in the bathroom. You can make a scrapbook of schoolwork that makes your child feel especially proud. Be sure to look together through the scrapbook so you can both remember these accomplishments.
- **Point out your children's progress.** As your child learns and improves in school, compare recent papers to papers from the past. Show your child that he or she is making progress and has reason to feel proud. It's especially important to keep children encouraged at times when they may be frustrated. Remembering a past success can be a very important motivator for the future.

FAREWELL

It is always sad to lose members of our JP Boys community. On Wednesday in Chapel we said farewell to two of our boys and their families. Harold Wright (Grade 2V) and his family are settling in Canada and I am sure they will have many exciting adventures in their new country.

Jago Elphinstone (Grade 1R) and his family are returning to the UK. I am sure they will be very happy in their new home and school, as well as spending time with friends and family.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you to the parents who attended consultations yesterday. I know you would have found the feedback most beneficial. The first term is one filled with transition, adjustments and new beginnings. I am delighted by how well most of our boys have settled, especially the Grade 0's.

Please do not forget that staff are always available to keep you updated on your son's progress or to offer advice. It is best to book a time slot as often conversations can be tricky when little ears are listening or other parents are around.

BOOK WEEK

Friday, 06 April: This is dress up day and the boys can dress as any book character. Guidelines include a nursery rhyme or fairy tale character for Grade 0; a Julia Donaldson or Dr Seuss character for Grade 1 or a Dr Seuss character for Grade 2. Parents are requested not to spend money on the outfits, but rather use items found around your home.

Readers Warehouse will be selling books in the JP Hall from 7:30-14:30 on Friday.

Monday, 09 April: Greg Royce will present to the boys on Animals, Weird and Wonderful – as part of the Escape to Anywhere theme.

Tuesday, 10 April: Our boys will complete art activities as illustrators of a story book.

As always Book Week ensures that Term 1 ends on a high note!

HOT DOG DAY: Friday 06 April

This Friday the boys will receive a slice of pizza, crisps and a juice valued at R25-00 for "Hot Dog Day."



LOST PROPERTY

Tables will be on display in the foyer for all unmarked lost property. Please do check for your child's items on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday next week. A number of boys have misplaced hats, these are very clearly marked. Please could I ask that parents check for items of school clothing that do not belong to their son and return these by the end of term. This is an easy error when all boys wear the same uniform.

COFFEE WITH THE HEAD

On a Friday in May I would like to invite parents from each Grade to have a cup of coffee with me. This will provide an informal arena to chat about your particular grade with me and other parents. Please take note of the dates and times:

Grade 0: Friday, 04 May 11:30-12:30

Grade 1: Friday, 11 May 11:30-12:30

Grade 2: Friday, 18 May 11:30-12:30

TERM 2 CALENDAR & SPORT

The JP Boys calendar of events will be sent via email early next week. Please do keep a copy on your refrigerator or in your diary.

The Grade 1 and 2 boys start with Touch Rugby on their return to school. Parents are reminded that these boys will need gum guards – please do fit them at home as teachers do not have the time to ensure the gum guards are suitable.

Tennis will also continue throughout the second term for all boys from Grade 0-2.

END OF TERM: Wednesday, 11 April

The first term will end on Wednesday, 11 April. As the Chapel is not yet complete the Blessing scheduled for 9:30 on Wednesday has been postponed until later in the year.

Please take note of the finishing times for Wednesday

Grade 0 - 10:00

Grade 1 - 10:15

Grade 2 - 10:30

There will be a supervised Waiting Class until **11:00**; there is **no** Aftercare that afternoon.

Please take note that the second term will commence on **Thursday, 03 May at 7:30**. Boys must wear winter uniform. Due to the public holiday on Tuesday, 01 May, Staff Training will take place on Wednesday, 02 May this year.

GOLDEN MOMENT

As you can imagine our Prayers this term have focused on the Six Values that we have picked to ensure character development is instilled in our boys. One teacher got a message from a mom on Tuesday saying that since she got home her son had told her she had not been very respectful, twice! She asked him if he had been learning about respect at school. He proceeded to give her an earful on the values and what he has learnt, including the fact that the last value was introduced today! All I can think is some of these boys DO LISTEN!

With just a few days until our April holidays, I would like to thank you for a happy term and wish you a restful and relaxed holiday period – before the winter term begins.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 9 April Lost Property display 8:00 Presentation "Animals, weird and wonderful"
Tuesday 10 April Lost Property display 8:00-9:00 Grade 2 music demonstrations End of Book Week
Wednesday 11 April Lost Property display No Chapel Closing: Grade 0: 10:00; Grade 1: 10:15 and Grade 2: 10:30
SECOND TERM (TRINITY TERM) Thursday 03 May 7:30 Boys return to school in winter uniform
Friday 04 May 11:30-12:30 Grade 0 coffee with the Head

SCHOOL SHOP

The School Shop will be open on **Wednesday, 02 May** from **7:00-16:00**, the day before the start of Trinity Term. It is recommended that you try to use the few days left this term, before we break up, to come in and get winter uniform items.

DIVERSITY: Human Rights Day

Kwande Bam (Grade 7) addressed the boys in chapel on Human Rights Day.

He outlined the events that occurred on March 21, 1960 when 69 sympathisers were shot dead by police during an anti-pass laws protest outside a police station in the southern Gauteng township of Sharpeville and four in Langa.

He emphasised the need for us to respect the rights of others, couple rights with responsibilities and promote human dignity. Rights and responsibilities dovetail into the St Peter's values.

Kwande also used the opportunity during Water Week to reinforce the right to water but exercising the equal responsibility of using water sparingly and preserving the planet.

Vijay Maharaj (Director- Diversity)

HOLIDAY CLUB

Come join us for fun in the sun at **Adventure Club** this holiday!

Date: Thursday 12 April 2018 – Wednesday 18 April 2018

Venue: Mrs van der Merwe's classroom and Boys Junior Prep

Time: 8am – 12pm

Cost: R200 per child per day, siblings of all ages welcome

Bring: Packed lunch, bicycles, sun hat, swimming costume and towel if warm.

We will be doing:

- Bicycle track activities
- Obstacle courses
- Bear Grylls challenges
- iPads + Promethean Table Fun Time
- Golf, cricket, soccer, rugby, swimming and climbing wall fun
- Nature walks
- Minute-To-Win-It games

RSVP: By Monday 9 April to secure your place. Limited numbers. Register soon.

Dom van der Merwe 082 431 0748 or Gen Ritchie 083 304 8884

dvandermerwe@stpeters.co.za and gritchie@stpeters.co.za

Name: D van der Merwe

Bank: FNB Cheque Account

Account number: 62364829667

Branch: 250655

REPLY SLIP

Please cut 

