



Dear Parents,

**FROM THE HEADMASTER**

As you are aware a very important part of being a St Peter's community is how we pull together to support each other, often in times of need. These acts of goodwill extend beyond our own community and form a very important part of the Community Partnership Programmes that we undertake and are funded by our Foundation. Besides the formal interventions, examples of how "soft" interaction can also be of benefit to all concerned will make up the content of this week's article.

You are all aware of our flagship internship programme and the wonderful partnership between teachers and interns within your boys' classrooms, but may be unaware of the further extension programmes associated with this initiative. These extension programmes are geared towards the growth of our interns' experiential knowledge beyond pure didactics and pedagogics. Recently, the Rector and I were privileged enough to take a group of our interns camping in the Pilanesberg. We set out at 12:00 on a Friday afternoon and, after an initial game drive that rewarded us with a number of animals including elephant and rhino, we arrived in Bakgatla camp to set up our tents and prepare the evening meal. Pitching tents and setting up an operational campsite may have been an experience for our interns, but Greg and I also had new experiences and were treated to a meal, cooked by the interns and our wonderful driver, Arthur, that was an absolute delight. This set the tone for a weekend where we were able to share our bush knowledge with the interns and they were able to delight us with traditional cooking that had us reaching for seconds at every mealtime. We also spent what can only be called true quality time sharing stories amongst the group.



A second example of the community work, sponsored by the Foundation, is our partnership with Sefikeng Primary School. This partnership includes reading programmes and teacher support, but also involved our community in a campus upgrade programme earlier in the year.

A team from the school recently finished the project with a staffroom upgrade for the teachers. To finish it off, St Peter's staff clubbed together to buy new glasses, mugs and crockery for the Sefikeng staffroom. We often concentrate on the "cared-for" (as in the pupils) of the school and neglect the welfare of the "carers" or teachers. Thank you for all the donations and hard work that made this staffroom "remake" possible.



As we always say to leavers, “Once a St Peter’s boy, always a St Peter’s boy...” Recently, one of our past pupils, Miguel Morais, entered into a battle with cancer. Being a true St Peter’s boy, he has not lain down and allowed himself to become a victim. Miguel has launched his own “Movember” campaign to raise both awareness and funds for the fight against men’s cancers. If you see a number of our male staff with funny growths above their top lips during this month, don’t be surprised! If you would like to donate: <https://za.movember.com/mospace/14147748>

**Rob Macaulay**

### **FROM THE JUNIOR PREP SCHOOL – IT’S THEIR PLACE**

Parents provide many canvases on which their children can express, explore and discover themselves. Home is one; sporting and cultural arenas are others; school is a biggie, and I’m sure you can think of many more canvases in your child’s life.

Let’s take a look at the school canvas. Have you ever thought of school as a place that belongs to your child? It is a space where they are able to exist without you, where they can try out and practice what you have taught them. It is a space you have chosen for them that is filled with other people, both pint-size and adult-size, who will also add their own colours to your child’s painting palette. School is filled with new experiences that will colour their world.

While we love to be in control of most aspects of our lives, and those of our children, there are times when we need to let go and trust that we have chosen the perfect place for our child to be, right now. It is their place and we need to let them own it, with all the experiences that come with it, both positive and negative, all of which are teachable moments in some way, shape or form.

Artists get to choose their own colours; their own media – water colours, oils, pastels, charcoal and more; their own subject matter and their own feelings, based on their interactions with life. To empower our children to paint their own canvas, we must allow them to experience life for themselves, not always on our turf or on our terms.

We absolutely set the value system for our children and they will usually see the world through our eyes (certainly in the early years), but they need exposure to others in a variety of environments for a value system and a point of view to have any meaning for them at all.

Children need to be part of their own learning process. They need to co-create it and experience it, to own it. So, while you might be paying the school fees, the school experience belongs to your child. It’s not about you. It’s largely about their journey and the unique canvas they are creating. It’s their world. It’s their place. Honour and support it.

**NIKKI BUSH:** Creative parenting expert, inspirational speaker and co-author of *Future-proof Your Child* (Penguin, 2008) and *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions* (Metz Press, 2009).

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### **EISTEDDFOD**

On Wednesday we hosted our annual Grade 1 Eisteddfod – this year we had both poetry and music presentations. I want to congratulate every boy who participated; it takes courage to stand in front of an audience and perform. The boys were superb and really did keep us entertained.

Thank you to our adjudicator, John Cade, who has a long standing relationship with St Peter’s. His words of encouragement were so appreciated! Thanks to the teachers and parents who assisted and supported our little boys.

### GRADE 0 NATIVITY

Once we start talking Grade 0 Nativity I know the end of year is here. Our Grade 0 boys, under the guidance of Ms Melani Fouché and the Grade 0 teachers, have been hard at work to ensure a super evening of entertainment is ahead. This year's production will take place in Dodson Hall, (Grade 0 parents please take note of the detailed letter sent with this newsletter).

**Wednesday, 13 November at 11:00** is our dress rehearsal for Grade 1 and 2 boys as well as care-givers and extended family. Grade 0 boys may go home with their guests after the production.

**Thursday, 14 November at 18:30** is the performance for immediate family members.

Eprints School photography will be selling photographs on Thursday evening 14 November. These photographs will be available for purchase **before** the production. The price is as follows: R40 per photograph or a package of buy 3 for R100. Please note that payment can only be made in cash or via the snapscan payment app. For more information on this app, please go to [www.getsnapscan.com](http://www.getsnapscan.com)

A DVD or USB of the Nativity will be filmed. An order form will be sent home next week.

### GRADE 2 BOYS VISIT TO SUMMERFIELD: 15 November

On **Friday, 15 November** our Grade 2 boys will visit Summerfield Retirement Village. They will be entertaining the residents with songs filled with Christmas cheer. Each boy must please bring a small pot plant to school that morning to give to the elderly. They are working on a message to attach to their gift.

The people of the village so enjoy this visit and talk about it for weeks afterwards.

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE – Wednesday, 27 November

During Chapel on Wednesday, 27 November we will host our annual Thanksgiving Service. Boys from Grade 0-2 attend this service and Grade 2 parents are invited to join us – as this is the end of their time in the Junior Prep Department. This service allows us to show gratitude for all that has taken place in 2019.

*Birthday cards will **not** be handed out at this service, please keep consulting the calendar for dates in both November and December.*

### SPORT

**Grade 2 Mini Cricket:** Grade 2 parents please see a detailed letter attached regarding the match on Friday, 15 November against St John's at St Peters.

**Swimming:** Please do not forget that swimming is compulsory at St Peter's as we believe it needs to be a life skill for people living in South Africa. Our Grade 0 swimming demo and Grade 1 and 2 Galas are around the corner, a detailed letter will be sent home next week.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

Parents who have not ordered school photographs this year have another chance before school closes.

The deadline for **free delivery to school** and also for orders to be delivered before school closes for Christmas, is **14 November 2019**. Both ORDERS and PAYMENT, must be received by this date.

Click this link: <https://andreaslatterphotography.shootproof.com/category/80914>

Find the folder you need (either Individual/Class photos 2018 OR 2019) Password is **SPB2019** for 2019 (SPB2018 for last year's photos etc)

Name: Andrea Slatter Photography Bank: Nedbank Current Account

Branch: 197305 Benmore Gardens Acc No: 1973024039 Ref: Order Number

Andrea Slatter: <http://www.andreaslatterphotography.co.za>

### GOLDEN MOMENT

A Grade 1 boy said to his teacher "You're pretty – pretty horrible. Just joking!!"

Enjoy the weekend.

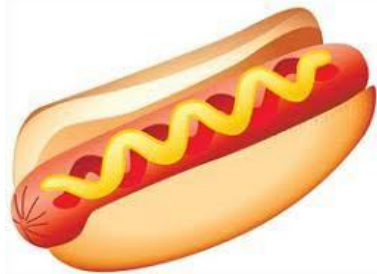
Warm regards,

**Kenda Melvill-Smith**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Monday 11 November</b>    |  |
| <b>Tuesday 12 November</b>   |  |
| <b>Wednesday 13 November</b> |  |
| 7:15                         | Grade 2G Senior Prep Chapel experience               |
| 8:00                         | Chapel (birthdays 11-17 November)                    |
| 8:00                         | Sefikeng – outreach programme                        |
| 11:00                        | Nativity Dress Rehearsal (Dodson Hall)               |
| 13:00                        | Grade 2 CHAPS (Dodson Hall)                          |
| <b>Thursday 14 November</b>  |  |
| 13:00                        | Grade 1 CHAPS (Middle Room)                          |
| 18:30                        | Nativity (Dodson Hall)                               |
| <b>Friday 15 November</b>    |  |
| 9:00                         | Grade 2 visit to Summerfield Retirement Village      |
| 13:00                        | Grade 2 Mini Cricket against St John’s at St Peter’s |

**HOT DOG DAY –  
FRIDAY, 8  
NOVEMBER  
AND INK  
CARTRIDGE  
COLLECTION**



**R25**

**CONGRATULATIONS SPRINGBOKS!  
CHAMPIONS OF THE WORLD!**



## SUNSET CAROLS - CHRISTMAS MARKET STALLS GALORE!



Here are just some of the fabulous stalls appearing at the  
**Sunset Carols Christmas Market**

on Sat 30 Nov from 15:00 to 19:00.

There is something for everyone and some perfect teachers' and Christmas gifts!



### 1 BAGS

**White Stone Trading** - backpacks  
**JackalBerry** - handcrafted leather & canvas bags and travel accessories  
**Miracle Cynthia Creations** - African picnic bags, clutch bags, beach bags and fashion accessories



### 2 CHILDREN

**Swirl SA** - silicon bags, purses, water bottles, school bags etc  
**Fantasyfinz** - mermaid tails  
**Learning Mates** - early reading, writing and learning tools  
**Think Trivia** - children's educational products  
**Bala Books** - child authored reading books  
**Edge Toys** - selection of education toys  
**Puzzle Time** - adult and children's puzzles



### 3 JEWELLERY

**Jewellery & more** - kids & dainty jewellery  
**M.E Lifestyle Jewelry** - sterling silver stretch bracelets and sterling silver pendants & chains



### 4 CONFECTIONERY

**Finchly Bespoke Bakes** - Christmas fruit cakes and confections  
**Chabs House of Cakes** - scones, biscuits, shortbread, gingerbread men etc



### 5 SHOES

**Pesso** - soft leather shoes, handmade in Europe.



### 6 HOMEWARE

**PoolPillow** - fabric UV and chlorine treated lilo's  
**Swim Dry** - microfiber towels  
**Handpainted Fabrics** - tablecloths, aprons, guest towels, hand towels, dishtowels etc  
**EcoNation Car Bin** - ShweShwe car bins



### 7 TOYS

**The Toy Company** - Lego compatible minifigures, base plates, Minifigure fridge magnets, Lego tape  
**Balloony Toons** - walking animal balloons, superhero cape & mask sets, african fairy dresses etc  
**Michelle's Toys** - children's toys  
**Squishies Galore** - squishies, wrap bracelets, magnetic shoe laces, tracking watches etc



### 8 MEN'S GIFTS

**Fenwicks Ales** - brewing-by-numbers craft ale kits and accessories



### 9 SKIN PRODUCTS

**Everything Sunshine** - make-up and skin products  
**EarthSALTS** - epsom salts sport soaks



### 10 CLOTHING

**Made by Leon & Ethnic Clothing** - specialised clothing  
**Bella Rosa** - specialized UPF50 hats and bespoke Ratbag baggies  
**Meraki** - kiddies funky waterway, ladies printed swimsuits, wetsuits, swim gowns etc  
**Pink Flamingo clothing** - small batches of locally manufactured dresses and tops  
**Saffron Rose** - exclusive clothing, handbags and much more

With over 70 stalls expected, the range of goodies will be truly spectacular! We will let you know who else to expect as soon as we confirm them.

BUT WAIT, THERE IS MORE...