



Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

Towards Road Safety

We're all concerned about the safety of our community on the roads. In our immediate environment (Witkoppen Road below the school and the intersection of Witkoppen and Main), the situation has been exacerbated. At peak periods, taxis drive into oncoming traffic while both taxis and motorists fail to adhere to the traffic signals at the latter intersection.

A former parent and the founder of **eblockwatch**, André Snyman, has come forward to assist us. **eblockwatch** collects and distributes information about crime. It also assists its members. Membership is free (eblockwatch.co.za). André is working with the Safety & Security MMC of the City of Johannesburg to curb these offenders. We have been impressed with the willingness of Joburg Safety & Security to assist and their quick response time. Those who use the route will have noticed the presence of the JMPD last week at the intersection.



THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS UP!

A campaign to halt this unlawful behaviour will continue for a while, so we all need to take care that we don't contravene the rules of the road! We are grateful that the City of Johannesburg has responded to our needs, given the mammoth task it faces.

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

10 THINGS TO DO WITH TIRED CHILDREN (by Nicole Avery)

Obviously tired children need more sleep, but there are times in a family's life and stages in the year when this just doesn't quite happen. We are experiencing a bit of this in our schools and homes at the moment.

In South Africa, the Christmas season also sees the end of the school year for children. Children are starting to show signs of "end of the year" tiredness, particularly Junior Prep children. So whilst we endeavour to bundle our children off to bed as early as possible each night and encourage them to sleep later, they still seem to be quite tired.

Tiredness in young children can often lead to crankiness, whining and fighting, so managing activities in the afternoons, evenings and on the weekends requires some forethought and planning.

Below are some activities which could assist your children to cope with the end of year tiredness and improve the atmosphere in your home over the last few weeks of school.

1. Cubby House

Helping the child to gather the required materials to build an inside cubby house or tent is a favourite. They will then grab their pillows, soft toys and a blanket and lie inside and play quietly.

2. Read a Story

Thankfully most children love books, so this activity can be either reading on their own or you sitting with them and reading a favourite story.

3. Audio Books

On a Saturday morning let your children stay in their pj's and choose a story CD to put on. They can then lay on the couch listening quietly for up to an hour.

I can highly recommend **The Enchanted Wood (Faraway Tree)** and The Folk of the Faraway Tree read by Kate Winslet. Winslet reads with great enthusiasm and gives all the characters unique voices.

4.Bath

This trick works particularly well for younger children on days when they are hot and tired and you have been out and about. To help them relax and calm themselves, you can swap your daily routine around and let them bath in the middle of the day. This refreshes them and they will happily play in the bath for over half an hour.

5.Colouring In

All my children find this activity relaxing. Sometimes when they are tired and seem to be just wandering around the house and unable to focus on an activity, grab some pencils and some colouring sheets, sit down and start colouring yourself, before you know it your children will be joining you!

6.Jigsaw Puzzle

This activity also works for all children. Often one child will start working on a large puzzle and the others will then gradually begin to join in, working quietly together.

7.Verbal Games

Let your children lie on the cool floor when they are tired. It can be fun to lie down with them and play verbal games like "I spy," 20 questions or the shopping game.

8.Cloud Games

This activity is obviously dependent upon clouds being available, but sometimes when the children are tired, it is good for them to hop outside and get some fresh air. Lying on the grass or on the trampoline and looking up at the sky to make shapes out of the clouds, is a relaxing way for them to pass the time.

9.Lego

All children enjoy playing with Lego. They can make their creations as complicated or as simple as they wish, but it is an activity that they do quietly, either by themselves or with their siblings.

10.Pull Back

This is really something for parents to do and that is to realise that children are tired and pull back appropriately on activities, so that they don't reach the complete meltdown stage. This may mean doing nothing at times – things like staying home Saturday mornings to just let the young ones rest or limiting the number of Christmas catch ups and year end functions we do.

PLAYGROUND ANTICS

The playground at any school is the developmental space for both positive and negative social interaction. It is a time where our young boys can show initiative and grow resilience under the watchful eye of adults. Our playgrounds are extremely well supervised on a daily basis, often staff will watch how a situation unfolds before intervening, if needed. At the same time incidents are not always noticed; on these occasions our boys have been told to tell the staff on duty or their own class teachers, with whom they often feel more comfortable, after break.

Football has become extremely competitive at break and a sense of sportsmanship is not always demonstrated. At the same time we have a number of boys who take such magnificent dives (as seen on TV) they could win Oscars. We try hard to judge when an incident is for "real" and then deal with the circumstances. A few parents have asked that teachers/coaches referee these games at break. This is not a plan of action I will support because I do believe our children need to develop some self-regulation. One of the best parts of any game is establishing the rules, observing them, having control of outcomes as a team and finding workable solutions to problems; all of which are preparing our boys for their futures.

GRADE 0 NATIVITY

I know Grade 0 parents will join me in congratulating the Grade 0 boys and staff on a delightful Nativity. The boys excelled on the night, under the guidance of Sandra van Wyk. The story was uniquely South African and held a strong message of gratitude. The Festive Season has officially begun.

DVD/USB orders – please remember to return the order form by tomorrow, should you wish to order.

Nativity photographs: if you missed the sale of photographs, Eprints have loaded them onto their website where you can still view and order copies. www.eprints.co.za, click on "All eprints school photographs." Select the St Peter's gallery. You will be asked for a passcode, please type in "StPGr0!" When you click on the photo you like, a price list will come up. For any further queries in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact Eprints on 011 646 4387 or info@eprints.co.za

SWIMMING

Due to the high temperatures we are experiencing at present, please could your boys bring their swimming costumes to school on all Sports days. Often it is too warm for our boys to be on the sports field:

Grade 0: Tuesday

Grade 1: Monday and Thursday

Grade 2: Tuesday and Thursday

GALA

On **Saturday, 24 November** our JP informal galas will take place at the Boys School swimming pool. Once again this event allows for participation and enjoyment. Allowance is made for boys who are struggling to learn to swim or feel anxious in water.

A detailed letter will be sent home on Monday next week. Grade 0 boys will take part in Water Works from 9:30-10:00. The Grade 1 and 2 boys will be swimming lengths starting at 10:15.

After the gala we host our Grade 2 farewell function as they will move on to the Middle School in 2019.

CHAPEL: Wednesday, 21 November

The Chapel Service on 28 November is our Thanksgiving Service and **no** birthday cards will be handed out at that service. At the service on **Wednesday, 21 November** we will hand out birthday cards from **19-30 November**. Please do join us if your son's birthday falls within this period.

JP BOYS CHOIR

In preparation for the Sunset Carols on Saturday, 01 December, our JP Choir boys will practise with the Cadet choir on **Tuesdays, 20 and 27 November in Dodson Hall at 7:15**. You can either drop your sons off at Dodson Hall or I will take them there. Many thanks.

Sandra van Wyk: Music

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP IN 2019?

St Peter's is proud to have a thriving Parents Association and parent body who are always willing to assist in organising and participating in the various PA and school events.

Should you wish to volunteer for a school or PA initiative next year please click on the link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/qxKDr35N8hpGNuRp1>

The first names will be submitted on Monday, 19 November, so please remember to sign up. However, please note that this list is not closed, so please complete the form at your convenience.

We look forward to hearing from you.

St Peter's Prep Schools PA

Our Grade 2 boys have spent part of this week preparing for their visit to Summerfield Retirement Village tomorrow. Enjoy your weekend.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 19 November	
Tuesday 20 November	
7:15	Grade 2 boys to practise with Cadet Choir in Dodson Hall
Wednesday 21 November	
8:00	Chapel (birthdays 19-30 November)
13:00-13:30	Grade 2 Choir
Thursday 22 November	
13:00-13:30	Grade 1 Choir
Friday 23 November	
Saturday 24 November	
9:30	Grade 0 Water Works
10:15	Grade 1 & 2 Gala
11:30	Grade 2 Leavers Party

MORNING BUSES – UPDATED INFORMATION AND ROUTE CHANGE

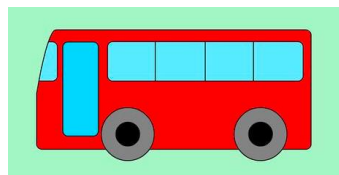
Until the end of the year, pupils may use the bus service on a pay per ride basis.

The Bus Route in the Lonehill area has changed.

Take note of the details below:

First pick up is from Fourways Gardens in the Spar parking lot on Uranium Rd.

Time: 6:20 to leave at 6:30. The bus will continue to the Lonehill Fire station, arrive 6:35 to leave at 6:40.



The Kyalami Bus runs from the Kyalami Downs Shopping Centre, next to the KFC. Time: 6:25 to leave at 6:30.

If you would like to make use of one of these bus routes, please complete the Bus Consent and Indemnity Form, which can be found on the Communicator and return this to the school: Reception@stpeters.co.za.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

Christmas is time to celebrate! We remember, however, that it is also a time of giving and it creates the opportunity for us to give to someone who is less fortunate than we are.

Please include:

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, face cloth, soap
- Small toy (Maximum value R60 as the children will open their boxes in front of other children who have received a box and we don't want any disappointment)
- Packet of sweets
- Crayons and blank book



If there is space, please fill the box up with: Tinned fish, tinned beef, tinned fruit, baked beans, sugar, tea bags, long life milk, jam, biscuits.

Please be so kind as to wrap the box in Christmas wrapping paper or newspaper.

Please help us to build on last year's success by returning your boxes by the **Wednesday, 21 November**.

Collection points for: Senior Prep Girls and Boys: Chapel
 Junior Prep Girls and Boys: JP reception areas

Blessings

Father Richard

OLD BOYS NEWS**St John's College**

Michael Bernhardt - House Prefect for Hill House and Academic Colours.

Murray Dittmar - House Prefect in Nash House and Academic Colours.

Tad Sithole – As well 1st Team Basketball Captain, he is also a House Prefect in Nash House.

Michaelhouse

Kombo Magara - Concert Master for the Orchestra 2019.

SUNSET CAROLS – SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER

Ticket Sales for Sunset Carols are now open!

Go to bit.ly/SunsetCarols to purchase yours.

PRICES ARE:

Adults (18+)	R130
Child (3-18)	R70
Under 3	Free
Tables	R230 per person (min 8, max 12 per table)

Choir participants FREE (armbands will be given out beforehand)

For enquiries please email tickets@stpeters.co.za