



Dear Parents,

A warm welcome back to school! I hope 2017 will be a year filled with excitement, fun and happiness. Our boys have learnt that our "magic word" for this year is 'yet.' I do not understand this yet..... I am not sure if I got this right yet.....

I have included some advice from Nikki Bush:

On the first day of school one looks into the expectant and excited eyes of the children as they begin a new learning adventure. Parents are filled with pride (and some apprehension) and cameras flash to capture the moment. Here are some rules to follow during the first few years in BIG SCHOOL!

- *Get involved with the school and get to know other parents.*
- *Support the rules of the school and try not to interfere.*
- *Stop hovering and let your child go, they need to own this journey.*
- *Be enthusiastic about every little bit of homework, so as to create a supportive environment for learning.*
- *Make sure your child learns to swim and ride a bike – not only is it good for them physically, but it enhances self-esteem too.*
- *Play dates are important.*

Treasure each and every year of your son's life. Some will be better than others, but each will have its own flavour, character, lessons to be learned, marks to be earned, skills to be acquired and achievements to celebrate.

nikki@brightideasoutfit.co.za

WELCOME

I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to our Grade 0, 2017 boys and their families. I pray that your years at St Peter's will be happy and create memories that last a lifetime. I would also like to welcome the following boys and their families to our school:

Grade 1: Nicholas Bodley, Tyce Cunningham-Moorat, Tshimologo Diale and Chukwuma Okafor.

Grade 1: Chad Abrahams, Aditya Mistry and James Strauss.

We also welcome Ryan Geier's baby brother, Kai, into the world. May he bring much happiness to his family.

STAFF NEWS

Grade 0:

Claire Fietze has moved to Grade 0. The Grade 0 team are Nichola Harmuth, Tracy Backman, Tracey Sparks and Claire Fietze.

Grade 1:

Tiffany Dempster has moved to Grade 1. The Grade 1 team are Genevieve Ritchie, Tiffany Dempster and Charmaine Basel.

Grade 2:

Cheryl Vermeulen has joined us from the Middle School. The Grade 2 team are Dominique van der Merwe, Belinda Smit and Cheryl Vermeulen.

Specialist staff: Craig Jooste and Eugene Petersen – Sport. Sandra van Wyk – Music. Annette Strouthos – Library and Afrikaans. Lindiwe Radebe – IsiZulu.

I wish all the Junior Prep staff a wonderful year as they continue to grow young minds.

EXTRA MURALS: GRADE 1 & 2

Grade 1 and 2 extra murals (this includes Sport and Clubs) have been integrated into the school day. As a result school closes at **14:00** on a **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday** and **13:00** on a Wednesday and Friday. Grade 2 Choir is on a Wednesday from 13:00 – 13:30 and will commence on **Wednesday, 25 January**.

The extra cost timetables will be handed out at the various Parent Information Evenings. If you have any queries please contact the coach directly (telephone numbers are on the back of the timetables). These activities are outsourced and the school office has no information on the day to day running of the activity.

JUDO

On the last Saturday of November both our Grade 0 and Grade 1 teams won the Interschool Judo League. We are extremely proud of every child in the team. The teams won their matches convincingly, were well behaved and demonstrated good manners and grit.

INFORMATION EVENINGS

Thank you to the Grade 1 parents for their attendance at last night's event. There was a true sense of community on the evening. I pray you will enjoy this 'magical year' with your child.

The Grade 0 Information Evening is on **Monday, 23 January** and Grade 2 on **Tuesday, 24 January** both at **18:30**. I look forward to meeting the parents at both events.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

The After School Programme has had a great start to 2017. The facility was grassed during December and is looking lovely. Should you wish your son to attend on an ad hoc basis, please do not forget to complete the register in the Junior Prep foyer. Any queries should be directed to Trish Attlee, our Administrator on tattlee@stpeters.co.za or 083 375 0342.

CHAPEL

Chapel will commence on **Wednesday, 25 January at 8:00**. Parents are welcome to attend Chapel Services, especially in the week of your son's birthday. These dates will be indicated in Forthcoming Events (at the end of the newsletter). Next week we will distribute birthday cards to all boys from 01-29 January.

COFFEE MORNING

Last year Heather Kissack and I presented a workshop "Learning Through Play" to the local nursery schools. Our Grade 0 teachers asked us to share this with Grade 0 parents. This will be our first Coffee Morning of 2017:

Date: Thursday, 26 January
Time: 7:30 – 8:30
Venue: Girls Junior Prep School Hall
Topic: Learning Through Play

OUTREACH

At the Information Evenings you will receive a sign-up form to assist and/or donate to our programme at Diepsloot Combined School. Please do become involved in this worthwhile programme, even the smallest contribution can make a difference.

HOT DOG DAY

Friday, 27 January is our first Hot Dog Day of the year. The cost is R25-00 per boy, parents please send the correct amount in your son's clearly marked wallet. Boys can also wear civvies on this day in exchange for a bag/tin of cat or dog food, which will be distributed to the local SPCA whose situation is desperate after the December holidays.

JUNIOR PREP PICNIC

The annual Junior Prep Picnic will take place on **Friday, 27 January** on Newlands Field from **17:00**. Braais will be provided should you wish to braai. This is a lovely evening for all Junior Prep parents to get together and socialise. More information will be provided next week.

GOLDEN MOMENT

When the Grade 0 boys started school on Wednesday, our Headmaster, Mr Macaulay, visited the classes to introduce himself to the boys. Later on at home a Grade 0 boy told his mom that the "mayor" came to visit his class!

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 23 January	
8:00	Sun Smart presentation for all JP boys Grade 2 Club rotation commences
18:30	Grade 0 Information Evening and Class Social
Tuesday 24 January	
	Grade 1 Club rotation commences
18:30	Grade 2 Information Evening and Class Social
Wednesday 25 January	
8:00	Chapel Service (birthdays 01-29 January)
13:00	Grade 2 Choir commences
Thursday 26 January	
7:30-8:30	Coffee Morning "Learning Through Play" Girls JP Hall
Friday 27 January	
HOT DOG & CIVVY DAY (R25 & bag/tin cat or dog food)	
17:00	Junior Prep Picnic: Grade 0-2 (Newlands Field)

ST PETER'S SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR

If you already have the Communicator, this is a reminder to RE-PERSONALISE the CHANNELS that pertain to your children for 2017 (Grades and Sports Age groups would have changed).

If you do not have the School Communicator - this is what you must do:

N.B. BEFORE YOU CAN DO ANY DOWNLOADING OF THE APP – THE GOOGLE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED

There is a link below to a **Google Form** – which you are required to complete. These details are needed in order to set up the once-off verification step. Access to our Communicator will only be available to those using an email address which is listed on our parent database, and each user will be required to provide a password.

LINK:

<http://goo.gl/forms/kvMdLCEq0G>

Please allow **24 hours** once this step has been completed before downloading the Communicator.

FOR DESKTOP

The link to use for the download is:

www.school-communicator.com/download.php

FOR MOBILE DEVICES

Please go into your PlayStore/AppStore and download **Communicator St Peter's**.

Follow the prompts to download including requesting or making a password and then once you are in please PERSONALISE the CHANNELS pertaining to your children. Please ensure that you tick BOYS JUNIOR PREP GENERAL as one of your channels.

Diane Fraser (Marketer)

(dfraser@stpeters.co.za)

**CARTRIDGE COLLECTION ON HOT DOG DAY - R25
FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY**

Please remember to bring in your ink cartridges. There will be a collection point (big green and white cardboard boxes) throughout the day for empty ink cartridges in the Chapel car park. There are permanent collection points at both the Girls Senior and Junior Prep, and Boys Junior Prep reception areas.

Thank you for your continuing support this year!

CIVVIES DAY ON HOT DOG DAY

For the privilege of wearing civvies, please could each child bring in a bag/tin of pet food for charity.

Monica Sloane (Foundation Manager and Community Partnership)



R25

