



Dear Parents,

#### **TEACH LOVE FIRST**

We are all part of a changing world and our efforts to be inclusive and tolerant with open mindedness, can at times be thwarted by our own upbringing, privilege, lack of opportunity and the values we have been raised with. We all have bias and blind spots and we need to try to understand these to better equip our children for a better, safer and more inclusive world. The article below talks to an essential quality that we all need to adopt; that of role model: showing respectful behaviours and attitudes with words and actions that will teach your child to better navigate his world.

#### **6 Ways You Can Teach Your Child Tolerance by Andy Smithson**

- 1. Teach them love first:** Be an example of loving others despite *and because of* their differences. Seek to help others, even if they are different than you.
- 2. Know your own values and biases:** No one is without biases or values of their own. It is important to evaluate our own personal beliefs, values, and differences we struggle to tolerate. Seek to understand those things more completely.
- 3. Expose children to differences. Teach them to respect others:** The best way to increase understanding is to jump in. Libraries and bookstores can take a parent and child all over the world and back to their home in an afternoon. It's important to allow our children to explore the world and all its varieties of people, cultures, and views. This can allow a child to see your appreciation and respect for others while still allowing you to express your own views, values, and culture. It is important to note that it is not necessary to agree with or adopt all the differences we come to understand, but that we can always respect others for holding those values.
- 4. Challenge stereotypes:** We do not live in a perfectly tolerant world, and there are many stereotypes and prejudices that are held and perpetuated in the media, as well as in our interactions with others. It is important not to participate in jokes or other practices that foster stereotypes and degrade others. If we encounter such intolerance, parents can assertively tell their children, 'That's not true. Why don't we learn a little more about that to better understand what is true?'
- 5. Challenge yourself:** It's easy to see things through our own personal lens. When others challenge our views or culture, it is easy to become defensive, which shuts us off to learning. It's important to challenge personal defensiveness, and seek to see other points of view. Ask questions and listen before responding. Try to see things from the other person's point of view. When children see this, they adopt this quality themselves.
- 6. Foster your child's self-esteem:** When children feel good about themselves, they don't feel threatened by the differences of others. Children who are secure about themselves are more comfortable exploring and debating opposing views.

#### **JUNIOR PREP GALA**

On **Saturday, 24 November** our Grade 0-2 boys will be demonstrating the progress they have made in the swimming pool this year. The emphasis is on participation and enjoyment.

As it will be very hot on Saturday morning please ensure that your sons have sunscreen on prior to arriving at the swimming pool area.

The annual Grade 2 Farewell will take place after the gala.

#### **GRADE 2 MUSIC DEMOS**

Grade 2 boys will be entertaining their parents on either the recorder, violin or percussion on Tuesday morning during their weekly music lessons. A detailed letter has been sent to Grade 2 parents.

#### **JUNIOR PREP THANKSGIVING SERVICE (Grade 1 & 2)**

At our Chapel Service on **Wednesday, 28 November**, we will be giving thanks for the year that has passed. It is our opportunity to thank our staff, our boys and their parents. We are able to express our gratitude under the guidance of the Grade 2 classes. All Grade 1 and 2 parents are invited to join us at this service, after which tea will be served.

### **GRADE 2 TO 3 ORIENTATION – Wednesday, 28 November 9:30**

Our Grade 2 parents will be introduced to the Middle School and meet some of the staff for their Grade 3 year. An overview of expectations for the year will be provided, as well as an explanation of the changes in the boys' Sporting Programme. After the talk your son's Grade 6 buddy will be taking you on a tour of the Senior Primary Department. Should you wish, you may take your son home with you after the tour.

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP:**

#### **Christmas Party**

The money raised at the Senior Prep Market Day is used to give our Diepsloot Combined School Grade 1 pupils a Christmas party. Grade 7 boys run with this event and the children look forward to the treats they receive.

#### **Sefikeng 2019**

After much thought and debate we have decided, as a school, to focus on one project from 2019. This means we are ending our relationship with Diepsloot Combined School with regards to our weekly sessions.

From 2019 St Peter's Prep will be supporting Sefikeng at Leeukop Prison. I would like to thank Jo du Toit and Belinda Gilbert who have undertaken to manage this project for the Boys School. I am appealing to parents to please volunteer on a Wednesday morning from 8:30-9:30 and make a difference in this community.

### **STATIONERY COLLECTION**

At the end of each year we ask parents to consider donating stationery their sons have not used to the school. The stationery is sorted and packed for our partner school in 2019. If you are able to assist with this process, please do come in on **Tuesday, 04 December** between **7:30** and **9:00**.

Should you not want to donate your son's stationery please let your Grade 1 and 2 class teacher know by **Friday, 30 November**, via email or a note. Thank you.

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### **CHRISTMAS BOXES – DEADLINE 28 NOVEMBER**

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 **Wednesday, 28 November**.

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

Blessings

**Father Richard**

### **EASTER TERM CALENDAR**

We have enclosed our First Term 2019 calendar with this newsletter. Please take note of all dates.

### **GOLDEN MOMENT**

The Grade 0 teachers asked their boys what they would like to learn in Grade 1 next year. One little boy replied: "To be a pilot!"

I look forward to seeing you at the Gala.

Warm regards,  
**Kenda Melvill-Smith**

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

<b>Saturday 24 November</b>	
9:30	Grade 0 Gala
10:15	Grade 1 & 2 Gala
11:30	Grade 2 Farewell Party
<b>Monday 26 November</b>	
<b>Tuesday 27 November</b>	
7:15	Grade 2 boys to practise with Cadet Choir in Dodson Hall Grade 2 Music demos
<b>Wednesday 28 November</b>	
8:00	Thanksgiving Chapel Service (no birthday cards this week)
9:00	Tea in JP Hall
9:30	Grade 2 to 3 Orientation
10:30	Tour of Senior Prep Department
<b>Thursday 29 November</b>	
SPEET Week commences	
DCS Grade 1 Christmas Party	
<b>School closes at 13:00 (Supervised Waiting Class until 14:00)</b>	
<b>Friday 30 November</b>	

### **SCHOOL SHOP**

#### **Family Organisers**

The popular Family Organisers - 2019 are now in stock for R130. They also make great Christmas presents.

#### **Reminder:**

There are only two weeks left before the end of term. Grade 2 boys will need new Grade 3 uniform items; parents please note.

**Nadia Thompson** (School Shop)

+27 11 367 6647

### **SECOND HAND SHOP**

The Second Hand Shop will be open 08:00 to 12:00 on Monday, 14 January.

### **PA NEWS**

#### **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>

We look forward to hearing from you.

**St Peter's Prep Schools PA**

**SUNSET CAROLS – SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER**

**<https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/stpeters-sunset-carols-2018>**



**SUNSET CAROLS 2018**

Our choirs are working so hard to make sure the music at Sunset Carols is even more spectacular than last year – get your tickets so that you don't miss out on this magical evening!

[bit.ly/SunsetCarols](https://bit.ly/SunsetCarols) for ticket sales.

 hugatree Thank you for these amazing photos.  
[www.hugatreephotography.co.za](http://www.hugatreephotography.co.za)