



Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

You may recall from a previous article that the current Head of Eton, Simon Henderson, spent the year at St Peter's as a gap student as I commenced my tenure as Headmaster of the Boys Prep.

At ISASA's request, we approached him to deliver a keynote address at the ISASA and Independent Schools Heads' Conference which took place over the half-term last week.

We welcomed Simon and his wife Ali, a former advisor to Tony Blaire and Gordon Brown, at a dinner at St Peter's prior to the conference. It was fascinating to hear his

anecdotes about the school and the boys, some of which involved the reigning monarch. Much later in the evening, he startled us when he jumped up to make an impromptu speech. He expressed his gratitude to St Peter's for making him feel so welcome and went on to emphasise the impact that many staff had had on him. He coyly admitted that one of his passwords for the Eton IT network contained the letters 'FNIMH' – *Furber Nothard Is My Hero*. Furber is a recently-retired Boarder Housemaster who pops in from time to time as a substitute teacher. The boys have always loved him.



In his scholarly address to the 500+ delegates at the conference, Simon spoke passionately about the need for a social and emotional connection as technology and artificial intelligence played an increasingly dominant role in teaching and learning.



He went on to say that it was crucial that all children feel accepted at school, welcomed and valued as individuals. Of all the schools at which he had taught or visited, St Peter's had been by far the most welcoming. He had felt a true sense of acceptance and belonging. His St Peter's experience, Simon said, had persuaded him to pursue a career in teaching. It was this ethos that he was attempting to bring to Eton.

Our little prep school featured disproportionately in the conference. The ISASA National Director, a St Peter's Old Boy, opened the proceedings. This was followed by the annual report by the ISASA Chairman, David Hunter, also a St Peter's Old Boy. Simon Henderson's address followed that of the Minister of Education. The speakers were all presented with the gift of an original painting by James Delaney, another St Peter's Old Boy.

The culture of making every child and staff member feel included and valued is a facet at which we work constantly. We see it as the core of our Anglican ethos. We are reminded of our successes and failures in this aspect each time an Old Boy or Girl returns to visit the school. We only ever want to be *"ahead of the game and behind every child"*.

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

THE REAL REASON CHILDREN FIDGET

There is a great deal of discussion around why children are struggling to focus and learn in our current environment. The number of children with Sensory Integration difficulties is also on the increase. This TED Talk clip is a worthwhile watch as to why children are fidgeting and what can be done to assist them both at school and at home. Please do take some time to review it this weekend.

<https://youtu.be/PXLaoDucF0k>

POSITIVE EDUCATION

Claire Fietze and I will be attending a workshop at St Andrew's, Grahamstown, on Thursday and Friday. This workshop, presented by Simon Murray, is on using positive psychology to develop an ethos of positive education within a school.

JUNIOR PREP STAFFING FOR 2019

Next week is both our Evensong and Orientation Morning for new 2019 parents and boys. As is common at the start of a new year, there are changes to our staff for next year:

Grade 0:

Nichola Harmuth, Tracey Sparks, Claire Fietze and Bonolo Molefe (who is completing her Internship this year and who I am delighted to have as a permanent member of our staff).

Grade 1:

Genevieve Ritchie, Tiffany Koch and Charmaine Basel.

Grade 2:

Belinda Smit, Lee-Ann Pickering and Jaya Govender.

The Middle Room:

Tracy Backman (details to follow, but this classroom will offer academic support to boys in Grade 1 and 2 who need skills reinforced).

Specialist Staff:

JP Sport: Callan Cronin and Stephen Malema. Music: Sandra van Wyk. Afrikaans and Library: Annette Strouthos. IsiZulu: Lindiwe Radebe.

GRADE 1 EISTEDDFOD

Our Grade 1 boys have been working on their poems in preparation for the Eisteddfod this afternoon. Just by taking the step to enter shows both courage and determination. I am sad not to be at school for this event, but know every boy will try his best.

Good luck, boys, enjoy yourselves and encourage each other!

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Towards the end of the year life gets busy, but please do not forget to volunteer to assist at Diepsloot Combined School. If you have not been to the school, think about giving a few hours one Tuesday morning to make a difference.

A team from St Peter's will be presenting at the "Read for Africa" conference on Saturday. The focus is on how schools can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

GOLDEN MOMENT

A Grade 2 class were discussing speeches with their teacher who remarked that one boy's poster was beautiful. The boy replied: "Yes, just like you!"

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 29 October
18:30 New 2019 Parents Evensong & Cocktail Party
Tuesday 30 October
8:30 DCS
11:30-12:00 Grade 2 boys "Hot Lunch" experience
Wednesday 31 October
7:15 Grade 2S boys to attend Senior Prep Chapel Service
8:00 Chapel (birthdays 29 October-04 November)
13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir
Thursday 01 November
13:00-13:30 Grade 1 Choir
Friday 02 November

MORNING BUSES

We currently have two routes available, please see the information below. A minimum of 16 students per term are required for the service to run. The service will start **on Friday, 26 October 2018** and run until **Thursday, 6 December 2018**.

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. A form is also attached to the newsletter email. Reception@stpeters.co.za.

Please see additional details below:

1. **Leaping Frog – based on a minimum of 16 pax for the term**

Pick up Point	Time
Leaping Frog Shopping Centre	06:30 to leave at 6:40 - R1 690 per term (approx R25 per trip). For the remainder of this term: R750
*option for other parents subject to minimum of 16 pax	Cash rider / booklet pre bought = R35 per trip
School ETA	07:00 – 07:05

2. **Kyalami Shopping Centre – based on a minimum of 16 pax for the term**


Pick up Point	Time
Kyalami Shopping Centre	06:25 to leave at 6:30 - R1 890 per term (approx R28 per trip). For the remainder of this term: R850
*option for other parents subject to minimum of 16 pax	Cash rider / booklet pre bought = R45 per trip
School ETA	07:00 – 07:05



PA NEWS - MAKRO



Did you know you can join the Makro Rebate programme to support the St Peters Prep PA and Foundation?

Link your Makro card by completing this form  and a small percentage from your purchases at Makro (Woodmead store only), go towards an annual rebate

Points are pointless. CASH IS KING

Download the app, register, and earn BIG with mRewards today!

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Also, why not download the Makro app and earn mRewards for yourself as well

For those parents already participating, your continued support when shopping at Makro Woodmead, is sincerely appreciated.

THANK YOU!

If you have any questions or would like help with joining, please contact Anne annedp@live.com

 Look out for details of a competition taking place during November 2018