



Dear Parents,

FROM THE RECTOR

You will be aware of the movie *Beyond the River* currently on circuit. Hailed by some critics as “the most spectacular cinematic experience of our time!”. The film follows the story of two men from vastly different backgrounds, as they train to compete together in the Dusi Canoe Marathon.

The movie was produced for HEARTLINES, the award-winning, multi-media NGO, who since its release have been running a campaign called “What’s Your Story?” to get South Africans sharing their stories and overcoming differences and divides, much like we have been doing at St Peter’s.

The film is dedicated to JB Warsop, a very special St Peter’s pupil, who was tragically killed in a car accident during his time at the Prep. **The JB Warsop Award** presented termly to a St Peter’s pupil, is dedicated to the memory of his extraordinary spirit.

Do join us for a special screening of *Beyond the River* for St Peter’s parents and staff on Thursday, 8 June 2017, 20:00 at Ster Kinekor, Cedar Square. The cost is R65 per person and tickets can be booked through Susan Wolfenden (mystory@stpeters.co.za). Please RSVP by 31 May.

Questions for the Rector:

If anyone wishes any further information on any topic, please feel free to contact me at school or at (dradloff@stpeters.co.za)

Greg Royce

MY STORY – THURSDAY, 8 JUNE

We invite parents and staff to the cinema to watch *Beyond The River*. This is a truly South African story that taps directly into “My Story”. It is about going “beyond” and really getting to know another person.

To view the Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7eQnJf8VII>

DATE: Thursday, 8 June

TIME: 20:00

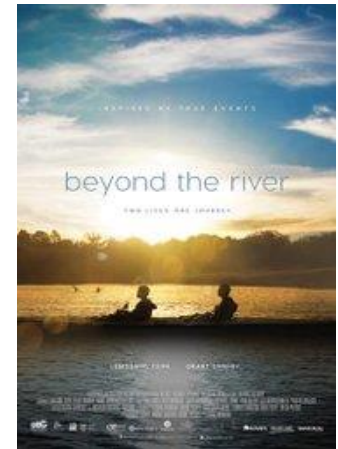
VENUE: Ster Kinekor Cedar Square

COST: R65 per adult

Please email Susan on mystory@stpeters.co.za if you would like to attend and she will give you EFT banking details. **Please RSVP by 31 May.** We have made a block booking and tickets are limited. We would love for you to join us.

Regards

Transformation Committee



FROM THE HEADMASTER

Congratulations to Dave Hala and Cara Eggett for their organisation of the St Peter’s Prep Schools’ Pastoral Care Conference last week. We had over 95 delegates from around the country who enjoyed presentations and discussions within the theme of preparing our children for a world of uncertainty. It was interesting to note that the concept of self-management, not only to deal with the academic and social demands of modern life, but also to be productive citizens came up in a number of different discussions. Good habits are formed through the deliberate practise of good behaviours. So how do we instil good habits in our children in an often hedonistic and consumer-based world?

Barry Detert told the boys about the All Black rugby team during Chapel this morning. Reading from James Kerr’s book “Legacy” he told how, after a 42-7 win over Wales at Dunedin in 2010, the senior players from the team stood up, picked

up brooms and swept the change rooms once the post-match get-together had finished. The book quotes Andrew Mehrkens as saying "...it is a matter of personal discipline... a matter of not expecting somebody else to do your job for you." Barry's message was that if the All Blacks, as the best rugby team in the world, can maintain their humility and recognise that no one is above cleaning his own mess, surely we should all be prepared to do the same. This good habit can be created through parental expectation and practice. So where best to consciously address the development of this vital skill?

Once again the answer was suggested by at least two of the Key Speakers at the Conference. Research indicates that a powerful component in this type of education is the traditional family dinner. If the children are expected to help set the table, clear dishes and help with the washing up, then the idea of stewardship is enhanced. Furthermore, by sitting together as a family, without any devices at the table, quality discussions and daily debriefing sessions take place. This is regarded as one of the top four stress relievers and will result in happier, more grounded children who feel valued and facilitates the sharing of strategies to face any challenges they may have.

Isn't it amazing that, despite all the advances of modern teaching methodologies, it is often the simplest and traditional practices that have the greatest effect?

I hope you have a wonderful family dinner this evening.

Rob Macaulay

FROM THE JUNIOR PREP

THE ROLE OF A SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST IN SCHOOLS

Philippa Ellis, Lara Ramos and Tracey O'Brien, are our resident Speech Therapists in the Boys Junior Prep. Philippa has worked at St Peter's for 13 years, Lara 6 years and Tracey 5 years.

Many people wonder what the role of a Speech and Language Therapist is in a mainstream school environment. Speech Therapists treat a variety of difficulties which school age children may experience. Each area of difficulty is characterised by specific features that may be identified by the parent or by the classroom teacher.

Articulation: Children develop and acquire the speech sounds in a specific order and at specific ages. By school going age (6 years), children should have speech patterns which are characteristic of an adult's speech. Some children, however, may be delayed in acquiring specific speech sounds or may have difficulty producing certain sounds correctly. The most common errors in children of this age include:

Lips s/th eg snake/thnake

th/f eg thumb/fum

r/w eg rabbit/wabbit

Language Difficulties: Certain children experience difficulty understanding language or expressing themselves adequately, they may have difficulty retrieving vocabulary or they may use immature grammar, which will affect their ability to tell you what they did at school, describe an event that has taken place or label an object correctly.

Auditory Processing Difficulties: Auditory processing is the ability to attend to, discriminate, interpret, recall and manipulate AUDITORY information. It is essential for the development of written language skills, including reading and spelling. Many school age children have difficulty retaining auditory information or processing complex commands that are given by the teacher every day. It is important to emphasise that auditory processing difficulties are not characterised by or related to hearing, as children with the difficulty often present with normal hearing acuity.

Phonological awareness refers to the understanding of the way sounds are used to make up words. The acquisition of these skills is imperative for Literacy. Often children who experience difficulty spelling or reading will require consolidation of their Phonological Awareness skills, which is done by a Speech Therapist.

Philippa Ellis (Speech and Language Therapist)

CONGRATULATIONS

Little Josh Morris is a proud big brother to his baby sister, Paige. Congratulations to Shirley and Nic, may she bring you much joy in the years ahead.

CONDOLENCES

Unfortunately Maureen and Milton Phungo have lost their baby in utero. Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and particularly, Mulweli, at this sad time.

GOLDEN MOMENT

A Grade 0 teacher was discussing “Seasons” with her class and asked them what season we are in. One boy replied “Hot Dog Season!”

I hope you enjoy the Autumn Carnival tomorrow.

Warm regards,
Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 27 May Grade 0 2018 Screening 12:00-17:00 Autumn Carnival
Monday 29 May
Tuesday 30 May 8:30-10:30 DCS Lessons
Wednesday 31 May 8:00 Chapel (birthday cards 29 May-04 June) 12:00-12:20 Grade 2 Choir OR 13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir 18:00 Proactive Education Talk: Parents as Role Models (Royce Hall)
Thursday 01 June
Friday 02 June

DIVERSITY**Ascension Day – Thursday, 25 May**

Ascension Day is the 40th day of Easter. It occurs 39 days after Easter Sunday. It is a Christian holiday that commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven.



Ascension Day celebrations include processions symbolising Christ's entry into heaven. In England, eggs laid on Ascension Day are said to never go bad and will guarantee good luck for a household if placed in the roof. In Portugal, Ascension Day is associated with wishes for peace and prosperity.

Traditionally, in rural communities, people make bouquets from olive branches and sheaves of wheat with poppies and daisies. The olive and wheat are symbolic of abundant harvest; the poppy stands for peace and the daisy for money. Wheat is kept in the house throughout the coming year as a symbol of prosperity.

Annually, St Peter's hosts an Ascension Day Eucharist.

Ramadaan and Eid

Our Muslim pupils, friends and families will be observing Ramadaan, the month-long fast, starting 27 or 28 May (subject to the sighting of the moon). The annual fast is considered one of the five “pillars” of Islam. The fast is from sunrise to sunset; the evenings being spent enjoying family and community meals, engaging in prayer and spiritual reflection, and reading from the Holy Book, the *Quran*. Muslims are encouraged to read verses in the *Quran* and reflect on God's guidance. At the end of the month of Ramadaan, a 3-day holiday known as Eid al-Fitr is celebrated.

St Peter's wishes all Muslim families well over Ramadaan and extends its best wishes for the joyous celebration of Eid.

Vijay Maharaj (Director: Diversity)

INVITATION TO SCREENING OF MOVIE: SCREENAGERS, GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE - 1 JUNE 2017

'Screenagers' is an excellent movie that gives parents an insight into the dangers of screen time and helps them to manage the use of digital media.

You can use the following link to buy tickets and get information about the event:

<https://www.quicket.co.za/events/28205-educinema-club-launch-screenagers/#/>

Scott Hauptfleisch (Director of IT)

PROACTIVE EDUCATION TALK

Erica Strydom from the Proactive Education group will be addressing our parents on Wednesday, 31 May at 18:00, in the Royce Hall.

The topic 'Parents as role models' covers the following:

Carnival Stalls: stalls work on a ticket system, R5 per ticket. Ticket books available for R50 for 10 tickets. Stalls include Sponge a Teacher, Soccer Strikers, Nerf Challenge, The Hairy Tattoo, Lawn Darts, Potty Toss, Fountain of Chocolate and lots, lots more.

Lucky Draw: buy a ticket to be in the draw! Awesome prizes including weekend at The Cavern for a family of 4, bungee jump vouchers, 2 nights at the Fire&Ice Hotel in Cape Town, and a Bush Wacker. You can buy 1 ticket for R20 or 3 for R50.

SEE YOU ON SATURDAY!