



Dear Parents,

**FROM THE HEADMASTER**

Having just returned from a lovely Heritage Day weekend, I would like to take some time celebrating our South African nation and all the good that exists. While I acknowledge that we are in a state of crisis regarding unemployment and that as a South African I need to apologise to all our brothers and sisters who have been victims of violence through both xenophobic and gender-based attacks, I would like to put forward that the average South African with whom we come into daily contact is a very special person.

You may ask why I have suddenly come up with this newsletter. It has been inspired by both our time at the SAHISA (Heads of School) Conference that I was fortunate enough to attend last week and a recent visit to South Africa by my son who now lives and works in London. Our SAHISA Conference, which took place in the Drakensberg and had the overarching theme “Echoes from the Mountains”, was designed to encourage the Heads of South African Independent Schools to lead the schools from a point of departure of optimism and hope. Speakers had been invited with the aim of showing that by finding our intrinsic strength and hope, we can positively influence the lives of all around us. There were stories of hope and resilience from “real” South Africans as well as an inspiring presentation of some of our most pressing issues through cartoons by Jonathan Shapiro, or ZAPIRO as we know him.

One of the talks that had me proudly South African was by Dr Imtiaaz Sooliman, Founder of the *Gift of the Givers* organisation, entitled “Bringing Hope in Situations of Severe Crisis.” To see how South Africans of all Faiths and from all population groups have pulled together to offer first responder relief in disaster situations throughout the world and to build sustainable hospitals in some of the worst war-torn areas of the globe, inspired great hope that we can all live a harmonious and extremely successful life in South Africa. Some small facts that illustrate this is the manufacture and distribution of container hospitals in areas such as Bosnia, that are still operational today. All aspects of these hospitals, which have even been used for operations as complicated as open heart surgery, have been designed and built in South Africa. Inter-Faith relationships between Dr Sooliman and the Roman Catholic “Caritas” movement as well as the US Military have resulted in our South African relief teams being first and best equipped in many disaster zones around the world. When things appear impossible to our First World contemporaries, as Dr Sooliman put it, we adopt the stance of “...’n boer maak ’n plan...” and come through with solutions.

A second, and far less dramatic situation that illustrates our wonderful South African spirit occurred in our local Pick ‘n Pay store when I was shopping for our braai with my son. We had been sent out to buy coleslaw and when we got to the fridge, there was none on the shelf. I asked one of the store packers if there was any available. Not only did he answer that a delivery had possibly just come through, but he RAN off into the back and returned pulling the full consignment of fresh vegetables that had been delivered, went through each carton one-by-one and with great aplomb pulled a coleslaw packet out for us. This was done with such good humour and such efficiency that it left us in a state of awe. My son’s comment; “That would never have happened in London.”

And so, whether it be in big issues such as saving lives or in small issues such as finding coleslaw, may I wish you a week ahead in which you are both hopeful and proud to be South Africans.

**Rob Macaulay**

**FROM THE JUNIOR PREP  
ROAD ETIQUETTE & POLITENESS**



Road Etiquette & Politeness is the foundation of any driving-'culture'! A set of Road Etiquette & Politeness rules must be established, broadly and consistently communicated and ingrained into the behaviour of all drivers, in order to create a strong base of better road safety! In a USA based research project only 34% of road users think that other drivers are "polite and caring" drivers!

#### THE BASIC RULE (!)

- **TREAT OTHERS LIKE YOU WANT TO BE TREATED!**
- Be caring, polite, well-mannered and relaxed!
- If we can establish a culture of driving WITH EACH OTHER, rather than AGAINST each other, we will quickly improve the road safety!
- Respect the driver in front of you – don't bully them and keep a safe distance.
- Respect the guards at the school gate and accept that their responsibility is to keep your child safe within the school property.

#### Indicator / Signalling

- Always use your indicator and signal where you want to go! This protects you and others.
- When you see somebody indicating, allow them to move and do not block them.

#### Thank-you

- Raise your right hand to say 'thank-you'. This goes a long way!

#### Pedestrian crossings

- In the vehicle, you are in the stronger position – hence be caring, considerate and polite to pedestrians and obey the yield signs at zebra crossings.
- Don't forget: as soon as you step out of your car, you are also a pedestrian (as is your child)!

#### Parking/Stopping

- Park mindful of others, use only one parking slot, don't bump your door in your neighbour's car.
- Should there be an incident in the car park please report this to head of security Lance Camphor.
- Do not block others.
- Obey No-parking / drop off signs.
- Somerset Field has been made available for early morning drop off and afternoon collection to try to improve traffic flow due to the lack of pointsmen.

#### Going against one-way lanes

- In parking lots, we often observe drivers going against one-way lanes. This is not only rude but can also result in damages to your car and your health. Be mindful of the simple concept of one-way lanes.

- In the lower car park use the road in front of the tree to either keep left (JP drop off) or right (SP Drop off) so allow for two lanes to be created for traffic flow at this point.

#### Littering

- Don't litter and don't throw trash or cigarettes out of your car – regardless if you are driving or parking.
- Dispose of your trash properly in trash bins, provided in various areas on the school property.

#### Crossing multiple lanes

- If you want to exit, move to the exit lane on time, and never cross more than one lane at once – particularly when entering or exiting the school grounds.
- On entering the school property please be aware of those trying to cross busy intersections to access the property.

#### Jumping the queue

- One of the most annoying misbehaviours we see on our streets!
- There is NO justification to jump a queue – everyone must wait for his/her turn!

#### Discipline at traffic lights

- If you want to turn right after the traffic light, queue in the right lane.
- Do not cut over lanes right after the traffic light switches to green.
- Be aware of those trying to cross against limited flashing arrows at the traffic lights.

### THANK YOU

A special thanks must be extended to the Social Cohesion team for the most amazing evening of sharing and friendship. Last week's Heritage Table was not well attended, but those who were there enjoyed every minute. The team went to a great deal of effort and the plates of food we shared were delicious.





### **GRADE 2/6 BUDDIES PROGRAMME**

On **Tuesday, 01 October** our Grade 2 boys will be placed in their Houses and receive their House T-shirt. They will also meet their House Master and Grade 6 buddy. This is an exciting moment for our boys and the pride in their House is instant. Grade 2 parents are welcome to join us from 7:30-8:00 on this morning. Should you be attending please park on Somerset Field. Every Tuesday morning, for the next eight weeks, the boys will be involved in a programme with their Grade 6 buddies to ensure a strong relationship is built. Boys may wear their house T-shirts to school on that day.

### **CARDBOARD CHALLENGE**

Please could parents start collecting cardboard for **Friday, 04 October**? We will need boxes of any size, especially cereal, cardboard tubes, toilet rolls and egg boxes.

The boys thoroughly enjoy this day and learn about collaboration, design and innovation in a hands on manner.

### **SPORTS DAY**

The JP Sports Day takes place on **Friday, 04 October** on Newlands Field. Boys must wear their sports kit to school on Friday and may come to school barefoot.

Grade 2 parents will be running a tuckshop from outside Keys Pavilion for this event. Please do support them.

The format has changed slightly this year and each Grade will have their own event:

**12:00 - Grade 0 classes**

**13:00 - Grade 1 classes**

**14:00 - Grade 2 classes**

The teachers will keep the boys in class and bring them to the field in time for the start of their programme. A detailed letter from our Sports Department has been attached to this newsletter.

### **COFFEE MORNING**

**Title: Chatters – the 8 Chats that Matter by Sally Thorpe**

**Date: Thursday, 03 October Time: 7:30-8:30 Venue: JP Boys Hall**

“As parents our challenge is to try to raise well-rounded children who are aware of their values, communicate well, are goal focused, empathetic, kind individuals who can cope in today’s digital world with a healthy competitive spirit and zest

for life! On top of this we have to teach them to self-regulate, set boundaries, challenge themselves and stay true to who they really are! Whew, no wonder we are spinning.

There is a list as long as my arm on **WHAT** we need to do, but not many **HOW TO** suggestions. In our research we found that the **HOW** is a lot simpler than we think – it's dinner time!! In my talk I will not only share what the research says about family mealtimes, but I will introduce you to "**Chatters – the 8 Chats that Matter.**" This is a unique, fun, engaging and interactive concept, that will get the family chatting and connecting again, around the dinner table. I will also highlight additional, ongoing positive spin-offs of having **Chatters** as part of your family!" (Sally Thorpe)

### **GOLDEN MOMENT**

A Grade 0 class were making constrictor snakes. One of the boys told his teacher that he was making an *instructor* snake!

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,

**Kenda Melvill-Smith**

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### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

<b>Monday 30 September</b>	
<b>Tuesday 01 October</b>	
7:30	Grade 2 House T-shirt presentation
<b>Wednesday 02 October</b>	
8:00	Chapel (birthdays 30 September – 06 October)
NB:	No Sefikeng (Government school holidays)
13:00	Grade 2 CHAPS – Dodson Hall
<b>Thursday 03 October</b>	
7:30	Coffee Morning – Chatters! (JP Boys Hall)
13:00	Grade 1 CHAPS – JP Hall
<b>Friday 04 October</b>	
<b>Cardboard Challenge</b>	
12:00	Grade 0 Sports Day } Newlands Field
13:00	Grade 1 Sports Day } Newlands Field
14:00	Grade 2 Sports Day }
<b>Saturday 05 October</b>	
<b>World Teachers Day</b>	

### **DIVERSITY**

The recent spate of violence in South Africa against foreign nationals is against the spirit of Africa, and counter-productive to the decades of work done by African leaders and well-meaning organisations to unite the continent. South Africa prides itself on being a country that pursues an independent foreign policy, supports struggles for freedom and justice, and attempts to pursue a social agenda that addresses the needs of the poor. We hope that our leaders continue to create a brand that is rooted in a struggle for social justice that was championed by former President Nelson Mandela.

Beyond this backdrop is still a beautiful country and each South African should make every attempt to make this beloved country an inclusive one. There is so much to celebrate, especially during Heritage Month: music, dance, food, cultures, traditions, religions and the environment. It is more our similarities than our differences that make us an enviable diverse nation.

St Peter's continues to celebrate the various cultures and wishes Hindu and Jewish students, friends and families well during their fast and celebrations. Most Hindus are observing the month long fast that ends on 17 October. The Jewish community celebrate the New Year, Rosh Hashanah, from 29 September to 1 October and the Day of Atonement on 8 and 9 October.

Let us join hands and add more colour to the Rainbow Nation.

**Vijay Maharaj** (Campus Deputy Head)

**PA NEWS**

**PAVER PLAQUE ORDERS** - <https://goo.gl/forms/eZGieDiKQnfdyzWu2>

**Paver Plaques**

"May you never forget what is worth remembering."

This is a timeless reminder of your son's years at St Peter's Boys Prep. A brass plaque is engraved with your son's details and is placed in the Old Boys Quad outside Dodson Hall.

Should you wish to order, and see the various options, please click on the link and complete the Google order form.

<https://goo.gl/forms/eZGieDiKQnfdyzWu2>

**RAFFLE – ONLY ONE DAY LEFT BEFORE TICKET SALES CLOSE!**

Purchase your ticket using Tixsa on [St-Peter's-Prep-Raffle-2019](https://www.tixsa.com/raffle/st-peters-prep-2019)

**RAFFLE 2019**

**ONLY 1 DAY LEFT**  
Ticket sales close 12:00 on 27 Sept

Buy a raffle ticket for R200 to stand a chance to win **R30 000** towards your **SCHOOL FEES!**

*The fine print:*

- Tickets can be purchased on TIXSA
- A maximum of 600 tickets will be sold
- The draw takes place on 27-09-2019 at approx 19:00
- You don't have to attend the draw to win
- You can buy multiple tickets
- This is a PA fundraiser
- Ts & Cs apply

**GIRLS PREP – OPEN DAY – 5 OCTOBER**

If you have friends, family or neighbours who would be interested in attending this Open Day, please spread the word!

**ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL**  
105 Witkoppen Road | Paulshof

**OPEN DAY \***

We are expanding and have spaces in Grade 0 and 1 for 2020!  
(turning 6 or 7 years old)

- > Saturday, 5 October 2019
- > 09:00 to 12:00
- > Venue St Peter's Girls Junior Prep  
105 Witkoppen Road  
(Opposite Porsche)

\* Register for OPEN DAY  
[girlsopenday@stpeters.co.za](mailto:girlsopenday@stpeters.co.za)  
[www.stpeters.co.za](http://www.stpeters.co.za)