



Dear Parents,

**FROM THE HEADMASTER**

As I take this opportunity to welcome you all back from the mid-term break I would like to share some thoughts regarding our ongoing campaign to ensure that our boys continue to grow in their character and grooming during this final half term of the year.

I received a phone call from an Old Boy, who is also a parent, on Tuesday morning. During the course of the call, he told me that there was a significant change in the greeting and wearing of uniform since he had attended the school. He shared that, in his day, if the boys did not greet or if their socks were down they were caned. I had the sense that there was a feeling that we have become soft in the modern era and that a return to the cane would be welcomed. Naturally, as all Headmasters do, I took his comments to heart and spent quite some time reflecting on what had been said and how to address this challenge.

Society today is very different to even 20 years ago and there is certainly an element of entitlement, consumerism and a belief that we are above the law. Individual rights are being stressed to the point that community responsibility is seen as an infringement on the right to be an individual. "Boosterism" (the belief that we must praise our children regardless of their performance, otherwise they will suffer from a sense of worthlessness and despair) has become a clear trend in parenting advice, of which there is a plethora of contradictory views on the internet. All of this means that we need to build children who are intrinsically motivated to hold themselves in an upright fashion, not for fear of consequences, but because they feel proud to be who they are. This can only be developed through training and overcoming challenges. Thus, we need to develop producers of positive external behaviour rather than consumers of norms.

I spoke to the boys in Chapel this morning, sharing my concern that we were not performing as well in the "Greeting" and "Grooming" fields as happened 20 years ago. I asked them to look at their shoes. I suggested that the state of their shoes, be it shining and bright, unpolished, "laceless," collapsed backs or even the totally incorrect footwear would give them a good indication of how they were outwardly demonstrating their pride in our school. I challenged them to make the first step of polishing their own shoes, of greeting at least five 'outside' adults during the day and of getting into the correct habits, not because they were afraid of being caned, but because they were proud of being part of St Peter's, their family and from their own sense of personal worth. I realise that the required behaviours can only be achieved through a concerted effort to reinforce and model requirements by all the responsible adults in our community. My appeal, therefore, is that we as parents, teachers and support staff become producers in the culture of intrinsic growth rather than pure consumers of school outputs. I am sure we will all rise to the challenge.

Have a great week.

**Rob Macaulay**

**FROM THE JUNIOR PREP**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Tiffany Dempster, broke many of our JP boys' hearts last weekend when she got married. I would like to congratulate Tiff and Ben on their marriage, and wish them many happy years together.

The Stylianou family must also be congratulated on the birth of a little girl, Giorgia. I know Alexandro, Luca and Michael will be amazing brothers to their little sister. We wish George and Monique much joy with their family.

**MIRFIELD HOUSE**

The Grade 2 boys in Mirfield House were awarded their blue house T-shirts on Thursday morning. They met Sean Porter, their Housemaster, and the 2018 Grade 7 leaders. The boys learnt that as part of Mirfield house they will always have "blue blood."

**GRADE 2 MINI CRICKET vs ST DAVID'S**

Our Grade 2 boys are playing mini cricket matches against St David's this afternoon. I am sure true sportsmanship and fun will be the winners today.

Next week, Friday, they take on the Ridge at home.

**GOLDEN MOMENT**

At the moment the plovers are laying eggs on the fields. As you all know they are extremely protective of their nests and can get quite aggressive when the boys get close. A Grade 1 boy told the teacher on break duty: "We need to be careful, the bomb divers (plovers) are out in force today!" Such an apt name for their behaviour.

Enjoy the weekend!

Warm regards,

**Kenda Melvill-Smith**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

<b>Monday 30 October</b>
13:30-14:00 Grade 1 Choir
18:00 New Parents Evensong
<b>Tuesday 31 October</b>
8:30 DCS lessons
<b>Wednesday 01 November</b>
8:00 Chapel Service (birthdays 30 October -05 November)
12:00-12:20 Grade 2 Choir <b>OR</b>
13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir
<b>Thursday 02 November</b>
8:00 Grade 2 Bavin House presentation
<b>Friday 03 November</b>
12:00 Grade 2 Mini Cricket vs The Ridge (at home)
<b>Saturday 04 November</b>
11:00 Grade 0 2018 Orientation Morning

**HOME CONNECT OFFER**

We have great news! St Peter's Prep Schools internet connection has been upgraded by an additional 1Gbps at no cost to the school. Home Connect has simply asked that we send a pamphlet home with the children, offering parents great pricing for home fibre connections. If you would like to take them up on their offering, the details will be on the pamphlet.

**Dieter Glöss** (IT and Project Manager)

**GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER****SOLLY SITHOLE**

Solly Sithole is an intern in the Boys Junior Prep and is 24 years old. He was born in Randfontein, Johannesburg where he lived with both his parents. He has 13 siblings.

Solly matriculated in KZN in 2012 and then relocated back to Johannesburg. He secured employment at Sparrow Schools in Sophiatown, as a quality assurer.

Sadly, Solly's dad passed away in June this year, after a long illness. He has a great relationship with his mother and describes her as being 'extremely supportive.'

Solly says, "When I heard about the St Peter's Intern Programme, I told myself that this is the 'big break' that I've been waiting for - I've always wanted to be a teacher. Being a teacher will help me change lives and be a good role model to my own children. I am so grateful for this opportunity and my life will change forever."





### Advertising Opportunity in the Programme

The St Peter's Sunset Carols is a wonderful family event that attracts over 2000 people. Each year a Christmas Carols programme is distributed on the evening, filled with wonderful photos of our choirs. It is a perfect opportunity for your business to support the event by advertising in this glossy A4 Magazine. Please contact Monica Sloane ([msloane@stpeters.co.za](mailto:msloane@stpeters.co.za)) for further details.

### CHRISTMAS BOXES

We are sending a box home with your son for our Christmas box appeal. These boxes will be distributed to vulnerable children and families in Diepsloot.

Please encourage your children to get involved in the process of giving to others - the true meaning of Christmas. We are including the following suggestions, as sometimes this is the only treat these communities receive:

Please include:

- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Face Cloth, Soap
- Small toy (Maximum value R50 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 them in Christmas or newspaper.

Last year we collected over 800 boxes and would like to better this, this year! Please send the boxes back by **17 November**.

Collection points: Boys SP reception  
Boys JP reception  
Girls SP reception  
Girls JP reception

Please contact Monica on [msloane@stpeters.co.za](mailto:msloane@stpeters.co.za) for any further info.

**Father Richard** (Chaplain)



### PA NEWS

#### Volunteer Now for 2018!

The St Peter's Parents Association is planning the following events for 2018, and as always, we are looking for volunteers to participate in the organisation of these events. Please contact Robyn ([robyn@designoval.co.za](mailto:robyn@designoval.co.za)),

Malope ([malopem@icloud.com](mailto:malopem@icloud.com)) or Caron ([cduplessis@stpeters.co.za](mailto:cduplessis@stpeters.co.za)) if you are interested in getting involved.

The planned events are:

- **Ladies Lunch:** this takes place every second year, in the first term, alternating with the Staff Variety Show. It involves the moms of the school purchasing tickets for a fun afternoon, involving lunch, drinks and some form of entertainment – the format and choice of entertainment to be decided by the organisers.
- **Winter Warmers:** we have decided to bring back the very popular Winter Warmers concert in 2018, as a change from Movie Night and Autumn Carnival. The format and entertainment to be decided by the organisers, but this typically involves an outdoor music festival/act coupled with an Inflatable Carnival, entertainment for kids, food and drink vendors. Families come for a relaxed afternoon on the field in the winter sun, listening to great music, while the kids are busy with their own entertainment.
- **Family Soccer Festival:** as per the 2017 festival, this will involve an afternoon of friendly soccer matches between the kids while parents relax and enjoy the matches.
- **Golf Day:** the annual Golf Day, held at Kyalami Country Club, will take place in the third term of 2018



**NESPRESSO ZENIUS** 

## WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE.

Win a Nespresso Zenius Machine just by using your MySchool Card.

Winning is easy at St Peter's Prep, all you have to do is swipe your MySchool card between 1 - 30 November 2017, save your slip from the MySchool partner, write your name and contact number on the back and pop it into 1 of 4 branded competition boxes, allocated in each of the schools' receptions. Remember multiple entries are permitted. So every receipt is an entry. One MySchool member from the St Peter's Prep community will be selected as the winner, by way of a random draw from all the receipts collected from the competition boxes, at Sunset Carols on 2 December 2017.

If you do not have a MySchool card and would be interested in joining please contact Gabby Cowling ([gabby@brandalivegroup.com](mailto:gabby@brandalivegroup.com)) or Anne Du Preez ([annedp@live.com](mailto:annedp@live.com))



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