



SENIOR PREP

Edition: 829

19 January 2017

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School



FROM THE HEADMASTER

It was wonderful to welcome the teachers and boys back during the first Chapel service of the year on Wednesday. It has been a long break and some parents have confided that they were more than ready to say goodbye to the boys this morning. Nonetheless we are all well rested. The beginning of a new year is a time filled with enthusiasm and the responses and singing in the Chapel proved this.

We held staff development sessions on Monday and Tuesday and, amongst other presentations, we were privileged to hear talks by Gary Kirsten. Many of the parents also enjoyed a presentation on "Parenting and Sport" by Gary on Monday night and the attendance, by over 200 people for this talk, highlights how important this topic is for us all.

An overriding theme across all our talks was how important it is for teachers, parents and employers to value the person rather than looking purely at performance. This does not in any way mean that we lessen our expectation of someone, but rather that we take up a role as coach and mentor rather than adjudicator and judge. In this way longer term goals, which are far more meaningful than instant results, need to be nurtured. From the sporting perspective Gary emphasized the need for the boys to have fun. I used his cricketing analogy in my Chapel address. While it is important to "block out" and protect your wicket at higher levels of the game, it is in the having a good swing at a ball and giving it your best that the real enjoyment of batting takes place. This is how Prep Boys should approach all aspects of life. There is plenty of time to learn how to absorb pressure later. I told the boys that 2017 should be the year of taking on challenges with this attitude. Give it your best and have fun. Boys will make mistakes, they will get answers wrong, they may fail at their first attempt and that is what we, as the teachers and parents, are there for; to pick them up, dust them off and send them out again to face their school day with enthusiasm and confidence.

As I welcome you back to school for 2017, may you feel the same excitement and positive expectations that we are encouraging and that, we hope, will fill every one of our boys' school year.

Best wishes

Rob Macaulay

IN MEMORY OF GERRY HOEKSMAS

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to one of the Boys Prep School library volunteers. Gerry Hoeksma, our Library Gran, passed away last week. She volunteered four days a week for more than 10 years - her grandson Ricardo was a pupil here, and although she "retired" from the library she came back a few months later and asked if she could continue as she was not enjoying her "retirement"! She was always willing to step in, and has covered most of the SP classreaders, along with repairing and recovering Chapel hymnals on numerous occasions.

She spent Thursdays at her church, teaching adults to read - she absolutely adored her group and was so proud of all their accomplishments, especially when they were asked to read a bible verse in front of the congregation and they read flawlessly.

Gerry was a kind and generous soul and a good friend to St Peter's staff and boys alike. We will miss her smile and personality in the library and around campus. We extend our condolences to her family - Richard, Toni and Ricardo and her family in Cape Town.

Gerry's memorial service will be held tomorrow, Friday, 20 January at 10:30 at Bryanston NG Church, corner of Main and Grosvenor Rds with tea at the Bryanston Country Club afterwards.

Sandy Stephens (Librarian)

ST PETER'S SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR

If you already have the Communicator, this is a reminder to **RE-PERSONALISE** the **CHANNELS** that pertain to your children for 2017 (Grades and Sports Age groups would have changed).

If you do not have the School Communicator - this is what you must do:

N.B. BEFORE YOU CAN DO ANY DOWNLOADING OF THE APP – THE **GOOGLE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED**

There is a link below to a **Google Form** – which you are required to complete. These details are needed in order to set up the once-off verification step. Access to our Communicator will only be available to those using an email address which is listed on our parent database, and each user will be required to provide a password.

LINK:

<http://goo.gl/forms/kvMdLCEq0G>

Please allow **24 hours once this step has been completed before downloading the Communicator.**

FOR DESKTOP

The link to use for the download is:

www.school-communicator.com/download.php

FOR MOBILE DEVICES

Please go into your PlayStore/AppStore and download **Communicator St Peter's**.

Follow the prompts to download including requesting or making a password and then once you are in please **PERSONALISE** the **CHANNELS** pertaining to your children. Please ensure that you tick **BOYS SENIOR PREP GENERAL** as one of your channels.

Diane Fraser (Marketer)
(dfraser@stpeters.co.za)

OLD BOYS NEWS**St Alban's College**

Justin Leonard – Head of MacRobert House

Robert Kleyn – Speaker of Paliament Head

Michaelhouse

Photograph on right: Grade 8 2017

Keagan Chasenski earned 5 A symbols for Matric

**St John's College**

Miguel Morais has been selected as the 1st team Water Polo Captain at St John's College for 2017.

At the Inter Provincial Tournament held at King's Park in Durban in December, Miguel played for the Gauteng School's U19A team which won a bronze medal. At the tournament he was also selected for the SA School's U19A Water Polo team.

**TERM DATES FOR 2017****Term 1**

Start: Wednesday, 18 January
 Close: Wednesday, 12 April
 Half Term: Thursday, 23 February return to school Tuesday, 28 February
 Public Holidays: Monday, 20 March (Bishop's Holiday)
 Tuesday, 21 March (Human Rights Day)

Term 2

Start: Wednesday, 3 May
 Close: Friday, 4 August
 Half Term: Friday, 23 June return to school Monday, 3 July
 Public Holidays: Friday, 16 June (Youth Day)

Term 3

Start: Tuesday, 5 September
 Close: Thursday, 7 December
 Half Term: Thursday, 19 October return to school Tuesday, 24 October
 Public Holidays: Sunday, 24 September (Heritage Day)
 Monday, 25 September (Public Holiday)

Term 1, 2018

Start: Wednesday, 17 January

CARTRIDGE COLLECTION ON HOT DOG DAY - R25 FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY

Please remember to bring in your ink cartridges. There will be a collection point (big green and white cardboard boxes) throughout the day for empty ink cartridges in the Chapel car park. There are permanent collection points at both the Girls Senior and Junior Prep, and Boys Junior Prep reception areas.

Thank you for your continuing support this year!

CIVVIES DAY ON HOT DOG DAY

For the privilege of wearing civvies, please could each child bring in a bag/tin of pet food for charity.

Monica Sloane (Foundation Manager and Community Partnership)

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Friday	20/01/2017	20/01/2017	08:00:00	10:00:00	Grade 7 SPIG Orientation Morning
Friday	20/01/2017	20/01/2017	13:00:00	15:00:00	Choir Rehearsals
Saturday	21/01/2017	21/01/2017	08:30:00		Cricket/Basketball Practice
Saturday	21/01/2017	21/01/2017	14:00:00	17:00:00	Server Training
Monday	23/01/2017	23/01/2017	18:30:00		Grade 6 Parent Information Evening and Class Social
Tuesday	24/01/2014	24/01/2014	08:00:00	10:00:00	Grade 5 Introduction to Study Skills
Tuesday	24/01/2014	24/01/2014	14:00:00		Uplands College Presentation to Grade 6s
Tuesday	24/01/2014	24/01/2014	18:30:00		Grade 4 Parent Information Evening and Class Social
Wednesday	25/01/2017	25/01/2017			Week 1 of Additional Learning Programme
Wednesday	25/01/2017	25/01/2017	08:00:00	10:00:00	Grade 6 Study Skills Course
Wednesday	25/01/2017	25/01/2017	18:30:00		Grade 5 Parent Information Evening and Class Social
Thursday	26/01/2017	26/01/2017	07:30:00		Headmaster Assembly (Grade 6 and 7)
Thursday	26/01/2017	26/01/2017	07:30:00		House Meetings for Grade 3 - 5
Friday	27/01/2017	27/01/2017			HOT DOG AND CIVVIES DAY (R25)
Friday	27/01/2017	27/01/2017	14:00:00		Final Swimming Trials (U9, U10, U11)
Saturday	28/01/2017	28/01/2017	08:30:00		Cricket vs WHPS
Saturday	28/01/2017	28/01/2017	08:30:00		Basketball Matches vs St Stithians

PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY SPORTS NOTICE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION AND NEWS ON SPORTS
FIXTURES AND VENUES

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS IS WEDNESDAY, 17:00



R25

