

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE HEADMASTER

On my return from the IBSC Conference, I wrote that I would share some of the pertinent topics in boys' (and girls') education. This week I would like to look at the concept of creativity. A summary of the discussions would be that in the world that our children will experience as adults, much of the known content and many of the engineering and scientific tasks will be available and doable using artificial intelligence in some form. Thus, while the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) focus that has been at the forefront of education for a number of years, will still be needed as a foundation, the key will be the need to creatively apply this knowledge to service new societal needs. One example of this would be the creative application of a transport solution that has been adopted by Uber, which is the biggest taxi company in the world and doesn't own a single taxi.

In order for true creativity to develop, there is a need for children to play imaginary games, to sit and ponder what to do with a non-responsive object such as a cardboard box or stick and to allow their brains to produce, rather than consume, creative energy. This is becoming a little-experienced activity in our modern world where we are constantly under pressure to perform and achieve in order to be "competitive." Consider the scramble for high school places or university entrances that occurs every year. While one cannot deny that there is a definite pressure in this regard in 2017, we need to remember that we are preparing our children for life in 2027 or 2037. This is the conundrum facing schools and parents. There is no doubt, however, that we would be wrong to keep children so busy with "externally stimulated" activities that they never had a chance to nurture their innate creativity. The following little story may provide some content to mull over:

The very wealthy, hardworking owner of a large group of chain stores happened to be on his way to yet another meeting when he stopped to buy a cup of coffee at a fast food outlet next to the docks. He was a little disturbed to see an idle fisherman relaxing next to his old boat, in the middle of the day, staring out into the distance.

"Why are you not out catching fish?" he enquired of the fisherman. The fisherman replied:

"I have caught enough fish for today." The business man was horrified and said, somewhat crossly, "Well, why don't you go out and catch some more and with the extra money you make, you can sell this old boat and buy yourself a bigger, more modern one!" "Then what would I do?" asked the surprised fisherman. "Then you could catch more fish, make more money and own a whole fleet of fishing boats," said the impatient businessman.

"Ok, and when I have all these boats, what would I do then?" asked the fisherman seriously. "Well, then you could sit down, relax and enjoy life," replied the businessman. "But that's exactly what I'm doing now!" said the fisherman, gazing contentedly out to sea.

How much time is spent in your boy's day on pre-organised, interactive (online) or adult driven activity? Does he have time to activate his own creative, producer-driven abilities? Will he be a consumer or a producer in 2027?

Have a great week ahead.

Rob Macaulay

MANDELA DAY COLLECTION

A reminder that this collection ends tomorrow – Friday, 21 July. Please bring: books, clothes, sports kit. The skip is in the Chapel car park.

Go to St Peter's Boys Prep Facebook page for photos from the Mandela Day service and to see what the skip looks like tomorrow!

Thank you

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Isaac Njilo

Isaac began his time at St Peter's in July 1997 as a cleaner of a JSE quoted company to which St Peter's had outsourced this service. His intelligence and commitment was quickly recognised in his promotion to supervisor. The school became frustrated with the high turnover of cleaning staff seeking better paid employment. As a consequence, it took the step of setting Isaac up in his own cleaning company in December 2000 when Njilo's Cleaners was born.

Isaac immediately justified the faith which the school had in him. Service levels improved dramatically and have remained constant to this day. He is extremely sensitive to the needs of the school and is astoundingly obliging. His teams work long and hard hours, sometimes clearing up after functions in the halls or pavilions after midnight when they are required for morning use. He has extremely high standards and we are always proud of the condition of our facilities as a consequence of the commitment of his company. He has embraced greening principles and ensures that, as far as possible, all chemicals used are environmentally-friendly and pose no threat to the health of the community.

Over the years his business has expanded. He provides similar services to St Peter's College and Wahoo.

Isaac is married, lives in Soweto and has a daughter in the Girls Prep.

PA NEWS

SOCCER DAY

It was such a fun day last Saturday at the Family Soccer Day! Please click on the link to read an article and to see photos of the day:

http://www.stpeters.co.za/news/entry/st-peters-prep-schools-family-soccer-day-was-fun-for-all



SENIOR PREP

20 July 2017

GOLF DAY





SENIOR PREP

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Friday	21/07/2017	21/07/2017	18:30:00		Main School Production
Saturday	22/07/2017	22/07/2017			Football vs CBC
Monday	24/07/2017	24/07/2017			Flexible Learning Programme Week
Wednesday	26/07/2017	26/07/2017			Week 22 of Additional Learning Programme
Wednesday	26/07/2017	26/07/2017			Football vs Pridwin
Thursday	27/07/2017	27/07/2017	07:30:00		General Assembly
Thursday	27/07/2017	27/07/2017	18:30:00		Council Meeting
Thursday	27/07/2017	27/07/2017			Tennis Matches vs The Ridge
Friday	28/07/2017	28/07/2017	13:00:00	17:30:00	The ECD Isematholeni PDP with UJ
Saturday	29/07/2017	29/07/2017			Football vs WHPS
Saturday	29/07/2017	29/07/2017	08:30:00	16:00:00	The ECD Isematholeni PDP with UJ

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

BOOK YOUR TICKETS FOR THE SCHOOL PRODUCTION TONIGHT AND TOMORROW NIGHT ONLY!



