



Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

Late last year when Simon Henderson, a former gap student at St Peter's, was appointed to Eton, reputedly the youngest headmaster in the famous school's 574 year history, *The Telegraph* led with an article entitled, "What does it take to be a Superhead?"

Penned by Susan Hamlyn, Director of the Good Schools Guide and consequently an authority on such matters, the piece bemoaned the waning popularity of qualities associated traditionally with school Heads. These included *gravitas*, humanity and vision. "We recall a recent head of one of our 'top' schools – an excellent, thoughtful and compassionate man and a true educationalist – being excoriated by parents because he was rarely seen on the touch-line cheering on the school teams".

The article went on to say that parents today want 'visible' heads, who meet them at the door, who are aware of all the achievements of their children, who know every parent and child by name, irrespective of the size of the school, and know when their child's budgie died.

Parents of independent schools in SA are no different in their expectations. The job of a Head in SA, I would argue, is probably a good deal more difficult than that of our colleagues in similar schools in the UK, Europe and the US. With the economy as it is, budgets are tighter and finding good staff is immensely aggravated by the teacher shortage and the fact that the majority of talented candidates opt for far more lucrative careers in commerce. Labour legislation is acknowledged to be amongst the most complex in the world requiring an exhaustive focus on HR processes before an appointment can be made.

For a school to run effectively, the Head must meet weekly with the school executive, the academic council and the many individuals managing departments, including the chaplain, finance, operations, HR, marketing, IT, section heads of the school, sport and community partnership. One needs also to keep an eye on transformation initiatives, skills development and health & safety. These meetings can easily occupy full working days. Concerned parents and individual staff need to be accommodated, as do performance management discussions, legal issues and functions of the school council, including campus development, remuneration and finance committees.

Good Heads perfect the art of responding to emails, while examining small, injured birds brought in by distraught children!

But, what happens when more responsibilities are added to the role? Keeping abreast of developments in education means attending Conferences. Some Heads are elected to office within the Independent Schools Association requiring attendance at meetings, others are involved in curriculum development groups, sit on advisory bodies or are invited to speak to different forums or are involved in quality control evaluation of independent schools.

The primary focus of any school is the development of each individual child. Having a Rector at St Peter's to deal with the complex compliance, legal and other issues, allows the Heads to do just this.

Questions for the Rector:

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

Greg Royce

FROM THE HEADMASTER

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that **David Hala** will be leaving St Peter's Boys Prep at the end of the year to take up the position of Headmaster at Kyalami Prep in 2018. David and his team of Housemasters have developed a pastoral care programme that is proving to be extremely effective in ensuring that the boys in the school feel loved and cared for on a daily basis. His termly bullying survey has provided the data necessary to allow us to focus on areas of concern and the incidences of bullying in the school have been effectively reduced to a very low level as a result. The team's philosophy includes the purposeful teaching of coping behaviours to both perpetrators and victims in such a way as to equip them for future life, particularly in high school. Thus, while I am pleased to congratulate Dave on his appointment and to acknowledge the work that he has done in setting up our programme, I will be sad to lose his caring and professional input into our school.

It was an absolute privilege to be part of a capacity audience for the production "My Father's Coat" on Tuesday evening. I cannot recommend the talk highly enough and encourage all who missed it to make a point of booking for this highly moving story if possible. The point that I have taken away is that, just as our CoRT thinking tool "OPV" (Other People's View) suggests, it is essential that we either "wear the coat" or "walk in the shoes of" others before we presume to pass judgement on them. The opportunity to do this in the case of the divergent group of South African leaders who feature in the story, not only opened my eyes to their humanity, but also made me proud that our South African nation has been able to show the resilience, to still be surging forward positively, despite all the challenges that face us. I will certainly try to adopt a far greater sense of OPV in my dealing with others, both professionally and in my private capacity, into the future. Thank you to Monica Sloane and the Parents Association for arranging such a stimulating evening.

I am sure that I will be meeting many of you as you support your sons on the side of the various hockey venues in the weeks to come. Please remind the boys that their stick, gum guard and shin pads are all equally important items of equipment without which they will not be allowed to play. Pack these items together so that we can avoid the disappointment of having to sit off the field despite having a brand new hockey stick!

Have a wonderful week.

Rob Macaulay

WELCOMES

We welcome **Keon Pearse** (Grade 4) and his family to the St Peter's family this term!

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

LUNGILE KHANYILE

I'm 25 years old and was born and raised in Johannesburg by my parents who worked as domestics. I attended Bryandale Primary, but the fees were too much so I was forced to leave. I was privileged to go to one of the best high schools, **Fourways High School**, on a Sports Scholarship, which is part of the reason why teaching became my passion.

The opportunity to join the St Peter's *Isematholeni* Intern Programme has been a blessing and has changed my life, giving me the chance to study and fulfil my passion for teaching and children. My vision is, that one day, I too, will help change lives. I want to instil the same hope, wisdom and hard work in others as St Peter's is doing for me.

Thank you to all those donors and the St Peter's community who are making this a reality!



ST PETER'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Parents and students are invited to attend the St Peter's College Open Day happening on Saturday morning, 30 September 2017. Kindly RSVP online by clicking [here](#).

Please contact Theresa Monoyoudis on marketing@stpeterscollege.co.za or on 087 00 00 319 should you have any questions.



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

OPEN DAY
30 SEPTEMBER
2017

St Peter's College is an established, independent, co-educational Anglican high school espousing Christian values in a balanced, caring environment. Our students thrive in the St Peter's world of opportunity that inspires and equips them with the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to achieve their personal success.



Real Education Real Students Real Results

CLASS OF 2016
100%
PASS

OPEN DAY

SATURDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

08:30 Arrive and register

09:00 Headmaster's address, followed by school tour and refreshments

Venue St Peter's College,
College Lane off
Maxwell Drive,
Sunninghill, Sandton

RSVP ESSENTIAL
marketing@stpeterscollege.co.za
or 011 807 5315





APPLY NOW FOR 2019/2020 Download the Enrolment Application form from St Peter's College website

College Lane off Maxwell Drive, Sunninghill (next to Eskom Megawatt Park), Sandton
Telephone 011 807 5315 | www.stpeters.co.za



THINKING SKILLS MORNING – A REMINDER TO RSVP BY FRIDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

PARENTS – WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A THINKING SCHOOL?

YOU ARE INVITED TO A THINKING SKILLS OPEN MORNING WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER

07:00 – 07:30 TEA IN BOYS JP HALL
07:30 – 08:00 THINKING SKILLS PRESENTATION
08:00 – 09:00 PUPIL-LED THINKING SKILLS ACTIVITIES

RSVP TO: dfraser@stpeters.co.za by Friday, 15 September

ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS ARE ACCREDITED THINKING SCHOOLS


FORTHCOMING WEEK**Sunflower Day - Tomorrow - Boys are welcome to wear a tope**

Friday	15/09/2017	08:00:00	13:00:00	Grade 3 Individual and Class Photos
Friday	15/09/2017	14:00:00	17:00:00	Water polo
Saturday	16/09/2017	08:00:00	12:00:00	Hockey vs WHPS and Pridwin
Monday	18/09/2017	15:00:00		Choir Tour Returns
Monday	18/09/2017	16:00:00	19:00:00	Chess A Team vs Jan Celliers
Monday	18/09/2017	16:00:00	19:00:00	Chess B Team vs St Mary's
Tuesday	19/09/2017	18:30:00	20:30:00	PA Meeting
Wednesday	20/09/2017	07:30:00	09:00:00	Parents Thinking Skills Morning. Student-Led
Wednesday	20/09/2017	12:00:00	13:00:00	Week 26 of Additional Learning Programme
Wednesday	20/09/2017	14:00:00	17:00:00	Hockey vs St Stithians
Thursday	21/09/2017	07:30:00	08:00:00	General Assembly
Thursday	21/09/2017			Grade 3KMS Sandwich Making
Friday	22/09/2017	10:00:00		HOT DOG AND CIVVIES DAY (R35)
Friday	22/09/2017	14:00:00	17:00:00	Water polo
Saturday	23/09/2017	12:00:00	16:00:00	1st St Benedict's Tennis Festival
Sunday	24/09/2017			HERITAGE DAY
Sunday	24/09/2017	08:00:00	12:00:00	1st St Benedict's Tennis Festival
Monday	25/09/2017			PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Tuesday	26/09/2017			BISHOP'S HOLIDAY
Wednesday	27/09/2017	07:30:00		BACK to SCHOOL

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

PA NEWS

The St Peter's Golf Day
29 September 2017
 Kyalami Country Club

**ONLY 5
 FOURBALLS LEFT!**

The Essentials...

- 12:00 shotgun start
- Gin bar on arrival
- Prize giving and casual dinner in the bar
- Draw for the raffle valued at R40 000
 (no fundraising auction this year)

Bookings open 20 July 2017
 email golfday@stpeters.co.za for further info
 and to request a booking form



The Rugby Sevens event in Cape Town is a SELL OUT so buy your raffle ticket now!!!!

RAFFLE St Peter's Golf Day **RAFFLE**
HSBC CAPE TOWN RUGBY SEVENS 2017

THE PRIZE
 Tickets to both days of the Cape Town
 Rugby Sevens 2017,
 return flights and 3 nights accommodation
 at the 5* Radisson Blu Hotel from
 8 - 10 December for **FOUR** people

TICKET PRICE R200
 Limited to 500 tickets only
 Email golffaffle@stpeters.co.za
 to purchase tickets

WORLD RUGBY™
HSBC SEVENS SERIES

The raffle draw will take place at the
 Golf Day Prize Giving function on the evening of 29 September 2017.
 The prize winner does not have to be present at the raffle draw in order to win the prize.

