



SENIOR PREP

Edition: 876

5 April 2018

## Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

### FROM THE HEADMASTER

As we draw to the end of the Easter term it is fitting that the boys have the opportunity to reflect on their performance, celebrating achievements and planning how to overcome any challenges that they may face as the year continues after the April holiday. It is for this reason that parents have been invited to spend time with their sons and teachers in our pupil-led conferences.

The aim of the pupil-led conference is to allow the boys to report on their own progress under the joint guidance of the teacher and their parents. This process allows the boys to own their learning programme and not only promotes encouragement for their efforts, but also holds them accountable when there has been an area in their performance that can be improved upon. Thus, the pupil is encouraged to self-assess and to commit to new goals. Parents are asked to listen to the assessments and to add their own insight into both planning and goal setting. Parents may, on their part, undertake to put certain actions in place that will enhance their son's learning. The teachers' perspective brings a third dimension to the planning. Assessments take place throughout the term. This "continuous assessment" provides the data or temperature gauge for the discussions. Teachers are able to suggest actions if remediation is necessary in any area, as well as to acknowledge the effort that the pupil has made.

Throughout the process the principle of "growth mind-set" is applied and parents are encouraged to apply what Carol Dweck calls "The power of yet..." (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-swZaKN2lc>) We conduct our conversations on the basis that the pupil is on a journey towards mastery of concepts and that, where they are still struggling to achieve their goals, we apply the principle of "not there yet..." Thus, the pupil-led conference assumes that formative assessment is taking place and the three legs of our educational potjie-pot will stand together and provide the environment for maximum personalised and self-directed learning to take place.



I hope that your pupil-led conferences are enjoyable and combine all the necessary ingredients to maximise your son's learning as the year progresses.

This will be our final newsletter for the term and I take the opportunity to thank everyone: teachers, parents and boys for their excellent effort. Enjoy the holiday and we look forward to a successful Trinity Term commencing 3 May. Remember, we will be in winter uniform.

Best wishes

**Rob Macaulay**

## FROM THE RECTOR

We learnt with sadness this week that Anthony Parnell, the fourth Headmaster of St Peter's, passed away on Tuesday. Anthony led the Boys Prep School from January 1981 to July 1995. He was truly a renaissance man: a gifted sportsman, amateur dramatist and singer. He taught English to the Standard 6s (Gr8). In those days, the Prep was based on the English model with classes from Gr 0 to 8. He was the first Head in South Africa to establish an on-site academic support centre with remedial and occupational therapists. He was a tough Head and a stern disciplinarian who had very high expectations of the boys. The Staff Variety Show, too, was his inspiration.

Many Old Boys will remember him with affection. Anthony is survived by his wife, Fiona, and his children Giles and Julia.

### 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](mailto:groyce@stpeters.co.za) or [dradloff@stpeters.co.za](mailto:dradloff@stpeters.co.za)

Greg Royce

## DIVERSITY: Human Rights Day

**Kwande Bam** (Grade 7) addressed the boys in chapel on Human Rights Day.

He outlined the events that occurred on March 21, 1960 when 69 sympathisers were shot dead by police during an anti-pass laws protest outside a police station in the southern Gauteng township of Sharpeville and four in Langa.

He emphasised the need for us to respect the rights of others, couple rights with responsibilities and promote human dignity. Rights and responsibilities dovetail into the St Peter's values.

Kwande also used the opportunity during Water Week to reinforce the right to water but exercising the equal responsibility of using water sparingly and preserving the planet.

**Vijay Maharaj** (Director- Diversity)

## SCHOOL SHOP

The School Shop will be open on Wednesday, 2 May 07:00 to 16:00, the day before the start of the Trinity Term.

It is recommended that you try to use the few days left of this term, before we break up, to come in and get winter uniform items.

## REMINDER: PIZZA FRIDAY TOMORROW, FRIDAY 6 APRIL



## Grade 7 Girls Flower Fundraiser

**R250 per Bunch**

**Please support by ordering your bunch  
of beautiful flowers by Tuesday  
afternoon via email [nicky@ntce.co.za](mailto:nicky@ntce.co.za).**

**Collection of flowers on Friday from  
12:00 at**

**ALL Receptions where relevant,  
i.e.: Girls SP and JP, Boys SP and JP.**

**Many thanx  
Grade 7 Girls Fundraising Committee**



### FORTHCOMING WEEK

Please check Calendar section of Communicator St Peter's for forthcoming week's activities.

**Break Up Day –  
Wednesday, 11 April**

**Trinity Term Commences –  
Thursday, 3 May**

