



**ST PETER'S
BOYS PREP SCHOOL**

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE HEADMASTER

The Trinity Term is one in which we enjoy many diverse events and, as the holidays draw closer, it is valuable to reflect on how much the community has done together. We have enjoyed soccer days, Winter Warmers and Choir performances together. In addition, the rugby and soccer seasons tend to encourage greater parent involvement than some of the other sports. Community is integral to our St Peter's ethos and through your participation in fun events, as well as "giving back," through the "Books, Balls and Biscuits" initiative I hope that you have felt as blessed to be part of the St Peter's family as I have.

Notwithstanding the above, the winter term is also one in which the darker mornings, colder days and increased evening functions do require that the boys (not to mention the staff and parents) need to show particular resilience. This resilience builds character. I would like to share the following story, which I have used in Chapel, with you:

Those of us who have walked along a pier in the harbour will have noted the thick sisal ropes that are used to moor ships to the dock. Sisal is a particularly tough fibre that comes from a fleshy plant grown in arid regions. The story goes, that a group of agriculturalists performed an experiment in which they grew sisal in what they thought would be optimal conditions. Instead of hard, rocky soil they planted the plants in well fertilised topsoil and ensured that they were amply watered. The microclimate where the experiment took place was far more temperate than the sisal's natural environment. Just as they had hypothesised, the experimental plants grew bigger and fleshier than those in the natural environment. However, when they opened the leaves to extract the actual sisal fibres, these were totally absent. While everything looked better on the outside, the actual substance and strength for which the crop had been cultivated, had not developed. By making the plant's life too easy, they had foregone the struggle that actually created the fibre for which the plant was grown.

This certainly holds a message for us. As parents and teachers, there is always room to celebrate some hardship, failure, picking up, dusting off and striving through adversity for the boys. I celebrate the pupils who have been prepared to spend hours at play practice, choir rehearsals, chess matches, quizzes and sporting fixtures, while never losing sight of their academic expectations. These boys have maintained a positive attitude and have every reason to celebrate their growth in character. Thank you, also, to the parents and teachers who have supported throughout. I think we have a fine batch of sisal this term.

Enjoy the weekend

Rob Macaulay

THE SCHOOL SHOP

The School Shop will open the day before school starts for the Advent Term on Monday, 3 September 09:00 to 15:00.

However, it is recommended that you come in to update the summer uniform before we break up next week.

Nadia Thompson (School Shop Assistant)

REMINDER: STUDENT - LED CONFERENCES

Monday, 30 July

13:30 to 18:00

Grade 7 Dodson Hall

Monday, 30 July and Tuesday, 31 July

13:30 to 18:00

Grade 4, 5 and 6 in classrooms with teachers by appointment

Grade 3 is not student-led and is a consultation between parents and teachers by appointment

Grade 4 and 5 IsiZulu and Afrikaans in Dodson Hall on Monday, Tuesday by appointment

Grade 6 Natural Science, Afrikaans and IsiZulu in Dodson Hall on Monday and in Napier Quad on Tuesday

Catherine Steenhoff (Deputy Head and Director of Academics)

DIVERSITY – Mandela Day

St Peter's celebrated Mandela Day on 18 July 2018. The day underlined the two month theme of *"service above self"*. It is a day to be charitable and selfless. The school, parents and pupils embarked on a book drive for our community partnership schools and local communities. The Junior Prep have extended the idea by spending a day reading, playing and sharing experiences with the "Book, Ball and Biscuit Day" at Diepsloot Combined School.

Luke Hancock and **Kwande Bam** addressed the boys on the chapel lawn in front of the Mandela Tree and here follows some excerpts from their talk:

Nelson Mandela is one of the most globally respected individuals. He earned such great respect because he was a servant leader who fought against apartheid at great sacrifice. He is a person we can all learn from and we should all try to be a bit like him every day by helping our peers, parents and teachers and not only thinking of ourselves. He was a humble man and the freedom he afforded us is more than money can buy. We should mould our lives on his qualities and values: integrity, humility, perseverance, determination and love.

"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." - Nelson Mandela

Vijay Maharaj (Director: Diversity)



Mums helping to sort the thousands of books received

THANK YOU to our St Peter's family for your most generous contribution of books and volunteering for Mandela Day. It is only together that we make a difference in our country!
The Mandela Day Team



BOOKS, BALLS AND BISCUITS

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.

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



GRADE 7 SOCIAL

St Peter's Gr7 Boys

INVITE YOU TO 'GLOW CRAZY' WITH THEM
AT THEIR WINTER SOCIAL!

Sat 28 JULY 2018, 18:00—21:00
DODSON HALL, ST PETER'S PREP
(use Wroxham Rd entrance)

ENTRANCE **R100** (CASH/SNAPSCAN at the
door) and bring extra for the **FUN ACTIVITIES!**

**WEAR SOMETHING WHITE , BRING EXTRA CASH FOR GLOW
ACCESSORIES, FOOD/DRINKS & EXCITING NEW GLOW PAINT BAR!**

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Please check Calendar section of Communicator St Peter's for forthcoming week's activities.
PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWS SUBMISSIONS IS 08:00 ON WEDNESDAYS

REMINDER: CHARITY EVENT

A vibrant, circular illustration of a park scene with children playing on a swing set, slide, and merry-go-round, surrounded by trees, a rainbow, and a sun. The text is centered within the circle.

 **GUIDE-DOGS
ASSOCIATION**
South Africa

Family Fun Day

29 July 2018
10h00 – 16h00

Entrance fee
Adults – R50
Pensioners &
Children under 12 – R20

Venue
Gladys Evans Training Centre,
126 Wroxham Road, Paulshof

Regret GDA Dogs and Puppies only

For more information please contact: **Mmabatho Koena**, Tel: 011 705 3512
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