



SENIOR PREP

Keyhole: 896 1 November 2018



ST PETER'S BOYS PREP SCHOOL

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

Help: Prefabricated Building

Thank you to all those parents who responded so positively to our earlier requests for assistance with solar energy and earthworks.

We are now looking to erect a modular building consisting of 1, 2 or 3 prefabricated rooms approximately 150 m² in extent.

If any parents are able to assist with a quote, please contact Darrel Webb, Girls Prep School Headmaster, at pgouveia@stpeters.co.za.

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

Please see below Part 2 of 3 parts from Andrew Bench below.

Have a great weekend.

Rob Macaulay

SOME OF MY FONDEST MEMORIES OF WONDERFUL TIMES SPENT AT ST PETER'S PREP BOYS SCHOOL OVER THE LAST 30 YEARS – PART 2

I often wonder how many parents among our St Peter's community can honestly say they jump out of bed each morning, excited and looking forward to their day at the office? Well, I've been fortunate and blessed to be one of those who can tick this box and I have enjoyed every minute. Teaching at St Peter's over the last 30 years has allowed me to grow as a person and to try, in my own small way, to make a meaningful contribution to the school community, but more importantly to teach, mentor and grow the boys entrusted to my care. I arrived at St Peter's 30 years ago, being one of the youngest staff members. I now have the distinction of being one of the oldest and hopefully a dash wiser, as the new lions take over the pride and continue to take this great school to another level.



Example of what we are looking for

Similar to the boys, many of my fondest memories are of camps, tours and excursions, especially those that included the parents. I really enjoyed involving parents in these trips and many are still friends today. Fishing trips, adventure travel and my love of the bush brought me into contact with the most generous of parents – people who were willing to share their farms, toys, contacts, expertise and often financial success with the boys and myself. I won't mention them by name in this article, as their involvement was always to share with the community. Even today, whenever we meet, we still reminisce about the "good old days" and immediately set about organising a reunion. Our Zimbabwe and Zambezi trips to Kariba and the Zambezi River will forever remain my firm favourites, especially as a few hundred boys and parents chose to take a chance and do their annual vacation on one of "Bench's Tours". I will forever cherish these special memories.

One unique, never to be repeated, experience required a group of Grade 7 boys to complete a tough route march in the Steelport mountains on the Johnson's farm. It was the middle of winter and with only a compass, radio and a water bottle included to accompany their gutsy determination, the boys set out to complete the route we had plotted. Things were going well as planning the finest detail was always a priority – suddenly the command post radio signaled a problem. "10 this is 20 and we're stuck in the mud!" Obviously we were embarrassed, but the boys were undeterred and called for their 1000ft flare that lit up the entire valley and yes, there they were – taking a short cut to outsmart the parents and staff, they had waded into a marsh and were up to their waists in mud. The light seemed to give them renewed courage to scamper back to our make-shift camp, built especially for the trip. Finally, they arrived back at the base, covered in mud, exhausted, but energised by the mean achievement of having completed the route. To be honest, I'm not sure who was more relieved, them or me! The best part, not one complaint from the boys and only compliments and words of thanks from parents! Professionalism as a teacher was expected and respected and today these Old Boys, scattered around the globe, still talk about this life-changing experience. One of the boys on this trip was Hedley Twidle, who after matriculating at Michaelhouse, went on to Oxford, graduating as their top English student. His weekly essays and comprehensions, coupled with a lengthy research project he presented every Monday morning, were faultless, with not a drop of red ink, except for ticks. Hedley, or should I say Dr Twidle, is presently an author and lecturer at the University of Cape Town.

Our famous Mpumalanga trip, where we experienced most of the Lowveld's popular attractions, was undoubtedly the highlight of the Grade 6 year for well over twelve years. Highlights of our annual Grade 7 Cape Vidal coastal and Kwa Zulu excursion were snorkeling the Vidal Reef and experiencing Zulu culture at its best at the premier resort of Shakaland. The only stipulation for all the annual camps was that they should be educational and recreational experiences that were relevant, cost effective, involved activities that couldn't be done at school and were loads of fun.

Zimbabwe trips operated for many years and hundreds of St Peter's boys and their parents enjoyed the houseboats, tiger fishing and the best game-viewing in the world from our fleet of ski boats. On a tour up to the Vic Falls and Mosi-oa-Tunya region, one of our whitewater rafts, that had jettisoned its crew at "the Devil's Toilet Bowl", did a reverse flip, that saw six original crew back in the raft – something that to that date, has never happened again.

Our five Ingwelala trips, with fifty boys and parents on each, gave many of our deserving Natural Science pupils the experience of walking in a BIG 5 reserve and sleeping under the stars. The privilege of game drives, night drives and the best bush cuisine, was once again, only due to the generosity of parents who owned lodges down in that part of the world. I will never forget Ryan Kroger sharing his group's story of a mock charge by an elephant, where he and the game ranger ended up with elephant mucous on their hands! Today we know that the media would call this totally irresponsible behaviour on the part of parents and teachers. Yes, times have changed, but I sense for the better, thankfully.

I hope that you enjoyed sharing my opinion and experiences. Next week will see the final part of my article.

Andrew Bench

DIVERSITY - DIWALI

Hindus throughout the world will celebrate the fifth and final day of Diwali next Wednesday, 7 November 2018.

Diwali is called the “**festival of lights**”. It is a period spent with friends and family, mending relations, reuniting, forgiving one for one’s wrongdoings and renewing friendships.



It is also a time for deep reflection on past successes and failures, and to look forward to the new year with greater energy and inspiration.

During Diwali, Hindus exchange sweatmeats, fruit and sweets and wish each other well. The morning is spent in thanksgiving prayers and the evening is filled with fun, laughter, lighting of lamps and fireworks.

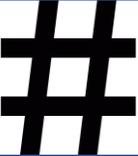
The lamps and fireworks signify the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, knowledge over ignorance **and** the invitation of light and joy into our lives.

St Peter’s wishes all Hindu friends, pupils and families Happy Diwali.

Vijay Maharaj (Director: Diversity)

FOLLOW US

Follow us on our social media platforms using the handles below:

	<p>TWITTER</p> <p>St Peter’s Boys Prep @peter_prep</p>
	<p>INSTAGRAM</p> <p>St Peter’s Prep Schools stpeters_preps</p>
	<p>FACEBOOK</p> <p>St Peters Boys Prep @StPetersBoysPrep</p> <p>St Peter’s Foundation @stpetersfoundation.co.za</p>
	<p>SUNSET CAROL’S HASHTAG</p> <p>#StPSunsetCarols</p>

MORNING BUSES

We currently have two routes available, please see the information below. A minimum of 16 students per term are required for the service to run. The service will start on Friday, 26 October 2018 and run until Thursday, 6 December 2018.

If you would like to make use of one of these bus routes, please complete the Bus Consent and Indemnity Form, which can be found on the Communicator and return this to the school. A form is also attached to the newsletter email.

Reception@stpeters.co.za.

Please see additional details below:

1. **Leaping Frog – based on a minimum of 16 pax for the term**

Pick up Point	Time
Leaping Frog Shopping Centre	06:30 to leave at 6:40 - R1 690 per term (approx R25 per trip). For the remainder of this term: R750
*option for other parents subject to minimum of 16 pax	Cash rider / booklet pre bought = R35 per trip
School ETA	07:00 – 07:05

2. **Kyalami Shopping Centre – based on a minimum of 16 pax for the term**

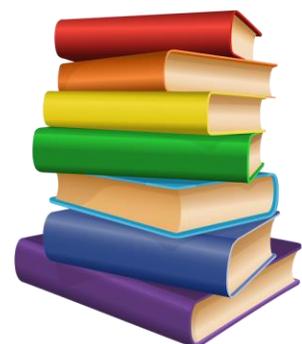
Pick up Point	Time
Kyalami Shopping Centre	06:25 to leave at 6:30 - R1 890 per term (approx R28 per trip). For the remainder of this term: R850
*option for other parents subject to minimum of 16 pax	Cash rider / booklet pre bought = R45 per trip
School ETA	07:00 – 07:05



The Book People
REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH BOOKS

BOOK SALE

Keys Pavilion
6 to 9 November 2018: 07:00 to 15:00



SUNSET CAROLS – SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER



BOOK YOUR TABLE

 A circular inset image on the left side of the text block shows an outdoor dining area. Several round tables are covered with white tablecloths and are set with white plates, glasses, and water bottles. In the background, there is a large black stage structure with a screen, suggesting an outdoor event or performance.

 A circular graphic containing the 'Sunset Carols 2018' logo, matching the design of the main poster.

With just a month to go before Sunset Carols it's time to plan your day.

How about taking a table this year?

These fabulous tables are set with cutlery, crockery and glasses, plus festive décor, so all you have to do is arrive – no more carrying heavy chairs and tables all the way from the car!

The tables seat 10, so get your friends together and be ready to book one from 15 Nov on TIXSA.

The cost is R2300 for the table.

DITCH THE SCHLEPP AND GET THE BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE!

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