



SENIOR PREP Keyhole: 898 15 November 2018

ST PETER'S BOYS PREP SCHOOL

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE



Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

Towards Road Safety

We're all concerned about the safety of our community on the roads. In our immediate environment (Witkoppen Road below the school and the intersection of Witkoppen and Main), the situation has been exacerbated. At peak periods, taxis drive into oncoming traffic while both taxis and motorists fail to adhere to the traffic signals at the latter intersection.

A former parent and the founder of **eblockwatch**, André Snyman, has come forward to assist us. **eblockwatch** collects and distributes information about crime. It also assists its members. Membership is free (eblockwatch.co.za). André is working with the Safety & Security MMC of the City of Johannesburg to curb these offenders. We have been impressed with the willingness of Joburg Safety & Security to assist and their quick response time. Those who use the route will have noticed the presence of the JMPD last week at the intersection.

A campaign to halt this unlawful behaviour will continue for a while, so we all need to take care that we don't contravene the rules of the road! We are grateful that the City of Johannesburg has responded to our needs, given the mammoth task it faces.

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

The Housemaster body has put in an article on 'Exam Stress' and some good advice for both parents and boys on how to handle it.

Have a good week.

Rob Macaulay

FROM THE HOUSEMASTERS – EXAM STRESS

"Exam season" is upon us. It is the first time many of the Grade 6s will be writing exams and it is still a relatively new concept that the Grade 7 boys are still figuring out.

Exams are an important part of academics, but that being said, it is often a time of stress and anxiety that one would rather do without. The word 'examination' alone tends to send shivers down our spines and brings about a



THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS UP!

negative connotation of our past bad experiences or memories that we as parents have possibly had. It also brings about expectations and the possibility of failure. It is a stressful time, both for parents and boys.

Why do we write exams?

- To test understanding of concepts and ideas, and not necessarily the memorisation of facts.
- To teach time management. Exam season requires set timeframes to ensure comprehensive study of each subject, which in time to come, will help in the careers that the boys will one day choose.
- To teach stress management. Life is tough and learning to overcome anxiety and deliver quality work in a timely fashion is an essential life skill.
- It is an opportunity to shine for some boys. Some boys find this particular skill easier than other assessment techniques.
- It prepares them for when they write exams in high school and in later life.

How can you as parents handle this stressful time of the year?

We all understand that each boy is unique and each boy has his own strengths and talents. Valuing your child only on the basis of academics is not the right thing to do. Academics is just one part of life and should not overshadow more important growth such as the development of character.

- Don't place unnecessary pressure on your son to attain certain marks. They may feel they've failed if they don't achieve your expectations.
- Remain calm. It's normal for parents to become **anxious** and worried for their child in the lead up to exams. Don't project your anxiety onto them.
- Help them revise by giving them the space and time to do so. Some boys may need your assistance with timetabling, study notes and even testing them.
- Studying is not always fun or easy, so praise your boys when they are working hard. Encourage rather than threaten, as boys don't need more stress during this time. If they do get stressed, try to respond to their emotions by listening and reassuring them.

On a final note, reinforce your son's self-esteem and self-confidence. React to success and failure even-handedly and take note that both are equally important. Making a mistake or failing is still progress as long as we learn from it and show grit.

Good luck to the Grade 6 and 7 boys!

Craig Jooste (Housemaster: Dodson)

MORNING BUSES – UPDATED INFORMATION AND ROUTE CHANGE

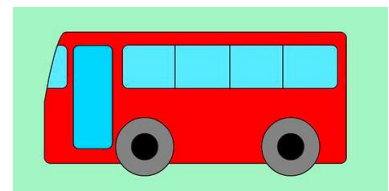
Until the end of the year, pupils may use the bus service on a pay per ride basis.

The Bus Route in the Lonehill area has changed.

Take note of the details below:

First pick up is from Fourways Gardens in the Spar parking lot on Uranium Rd.

Time: 6:20 to leave at 6:30. The bus will continue to the Lonehill Fire station, arrive 6:35 to leave at 6:40.



The Kyalami Bus runs from the Kyalami Downs Shopping Centre, next to the KFC. Time: 6:25 to leave at 6:30.

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: Reception@stpeters.co.za.

OLD BOYS NEWS

St John's College

Michael Bernhardt - House Prefect for Hill House and Academic Colours.

Murray Dittmar - House Prefect in Nash House and Academic Colours.

Tad Sithole – As well 1st Team Basketball Captain, he is also a House Prefect in Nash House.

Michaelhouse

Kombo Magara - Concert Master for the Orchestra 2019.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

Christmas is time to celebrate! We remember, however, that it is also a time of giving and it creates the opportunity for us to give to someone who is less fortunate than we are.

Please include:

- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Face Cloth, Soap
- Small toy (Maximum value R60 as the children will open their boxes in front of other children who have received a box and we don't want any disappointment)
- Packet of Sweets
- Crayons and blank book



If there is space, please fill the box up with: Tinned fish, tinned Beef, tinned fruit, baked beans, sugar, tea bags, long life milk, jam, biscuits.

Please be so kind as to wrap the box in Christmas wrapping paper or newspaper.

Please help us to build on last year's success by returning your boxes by the **Wednesday, 21 November**.

Collection points for: Senior Prep Girls and Boys: Chapel
 Junior Prep Girls and Boys: JP reception areas

Blessings

Father Richard

PA NEWS

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP IN 2019?

St Peter's is proud to have a thriving Parents Association and parent body who are always willing to assist in organising and participating in the various PA and school events.

Should you wish to volunteer for a school or PA initiative next year please click on the link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/qxKDr35N8hpGNuRp1>

The first names will be submitted on Monday, 19 November, so please remember to sign up. However, please note that this list is not closed, so please complete the form at your convenience.

We look forward to hearing from you

St Peter's Prep Schools PA

SUNSET CAROLS – SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER

**Ticket
Sales
for
Sunset
Carols
are
now
open!**

Go to bit.ly/SunsetCarols to purchase yours.

PRICES ARE:

Adults (18+)	R130
Child (3-18)	R70
Under 3	Free
Tables	R230 per person (min 8, max 12 per table)

Choir participants FREE
(armbands will be given out
beforehand)

For enquiries please email

tickets@stpeters.co.za

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