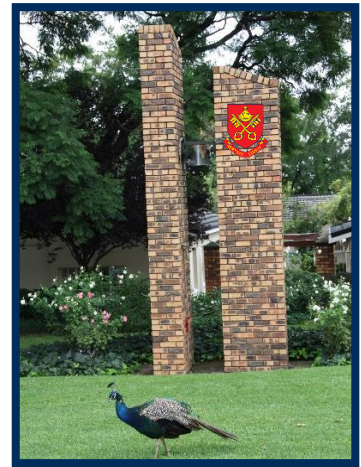




SENIOR PREP Keyhole: 899 22 November 2018



ST PETER'S BOYS PREP SCHOOL

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Our senior boys have been writing end of year examinations this week. I am sometimes asked why a school that advocates a Growth Mind-set and does not publish marks until Grade 6 would still keep year end examinations in place. As with all parts of our curriculum, exam time is seen as a learning and growth opportunity for the boys. Despite the increasing body of research that shows that our personalised and flexible learning policies are extremely effective for learning in the majority of contexts, we are also aware of the fact that we are preparing the boys for high school and, ultimately, a Grade 12 examination that does not seem likely to change in basic structure during their experience of school. General feedback from high schools that we feed is that our boys excel in their Grade 8 year due to our current flexible approach, but we need to prepare them to face the challenge of more formal assessment as well.

Summative assessment and more specifically, examinations are given progressively more weight as a factor of promotion as one moves through formal schooling and the undergraduate university system. Interestingly, at PhD and Master's Degree level, the focus reverts back to our "FLP" model. Thus, we use the Grade 6 and 7 exam time to teach the boys how to prepare for, and write, formal assessments. My request is that parents view this learning experience in the same light that we do and that, while we place expectations on the boys, these are focussed on effort and method rather than on the achievement of an "A, B or C" aggregate. It is through examinations and Cycle tests that the boys are able to put their various Thinking and Study Skills tools into practice and to assess the methodology that works best for each of them. The actual weighting of the specific assessment is small and therefore we like to look at these opportunities as training rather than testing.

The joy of all learning in prep school years, whether it be academic or attainment in sport and culture, is that it reflects a journey that is strongly aligned to personal maturation rather than a destination that defines who the child is. It is within this principle that we undertake end of year examinations since we believe that the boys are mature enough to benefit from this specific learning intervention by Grade 6.

Have a great week.

Rob Macaulay

OLD BOYS NEWS

Pretoria Boys High

More news just in:

Thomas Calenborne has been made a prefect for 2019.

CHRISTMAS BOXES – DEADLINE 28 NOVEMBER

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 **Wednesday, 28 November**.

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

Blessings

Father Richard

SCHOOL SHOP

Family Organisers

The popular Family Organisers - 2019 are now in stock for R130. They also make great Christmas presents.

Sale:

We have limited sizes of GM Cricket Shoes marked down from R480 to R400.

Nadia Thompson (School Shop)

+27 11 367 6647

SECOND HAND SHOP

The Second Hand Shop will be open 08:00 to 12:00 on Monday, 14 January

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>

We look forward to hearing from you

St Peter's Prep Schools PA

SUNSET CAROLS – SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER

<https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/stpeters-sunset-carols-2018>



Our choirs are working so hard to make sure the music at Sunset Carols is even more spectacular than last year – get your tickets so that you don't miss out on this magical evening!

bit.ly/SunsetCarols for ticket sales.



 Thank you for these amazing photos.
www.hugatreephotography.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