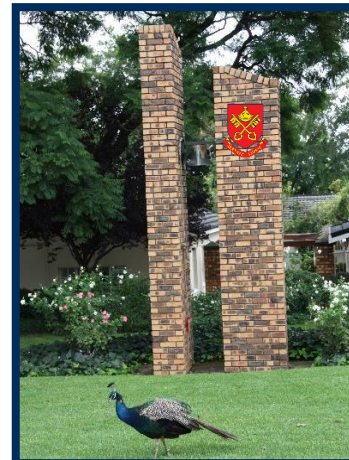




SENIOR PREP

Keyhole: 905

14 February 2019



**ST PETER'S
BOYS PREP SCHOOL**

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

In my first Newsletter article of 2019, I reflected on some positive aspects at the beginning of the year. One of those I listed was the appointment by the Heads of an additional two black teachers. I referred to these as "highly competent".

I recognise that it would have been unlikely for me to have used a similar descriptor in referring to new white teachers. As such, the words could be viewed as reinforcing the concept that black teachers are unlikely to be of the same quality as white teachers. My remark is therefore likely to have caused offence and for this I apologise unreservedly.

I am deeply grateful to those people who have the courage to point out such blunders to me. It's the only way to overcome my own unconscious bias.

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

CHANGE TO START DATE FOR TRINITY TERM

Election Day has been set as Wednesday, 8 May 2019.

As a result of this, it has been decided that the **TRINITY TERM WILL BEGIN ON THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2019.**

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS

As part of our Positive Education approach, St Peter's Boys Prep follows the Bounce Back programme which was formulated by Dr Toni Noble and Helen McGrath.

This is based on research and is a classroom resiliency programme. Fundamental to the concept of resilience is the capacity to bounce back, 'overcome odds' and demonstrate personal strengths to cope when you encounter hardship or adversity. The Bounce Back programme is a multidimensional approach that involves ways to build environments that develop resilience, as well as teaching the personal coping skills of resilience. The programme is taught in Life Orientation lessons from Grade 1 to Grade 7, but all our teachers use the principles of the programme in their teaching and counselling of boys.

The basic principles and core values of the programme are:

Integrity:	being honest, fair, responsible and loyal
Support:	supporting and caring for other people and showing compassion
Co-operation:	co-operating with others
Acceptance:	understanding and accepting differences between oneself and others, and including others socially.
Respect:	respect yourself and respecting the rights of others
Friendliness:	being friendly and socially responsible and including others
Perseverance:	going beyond what comes easily to you

The chart below is up in all our classrooms and I encourage you to use the terminology at home with your boys when they are facing challenges or are upset about something.

B	Bad times don't last forever. Stay optimistic
O	Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.
U	Unhelpful thinking makes you feel upset.
N	Nobody is perfect – not you and not others.
C	Concentrate on the good parts, no matter how small and use laughter.
E	Everyone experiences sadness, hurt, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you. It's a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.
B	Blame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you, how much was due to others, and how much was due to bad luck or circumstances.
A	Accept the things you can't change, but try to change what you can first.
C	Catastrophising exaggerates worries. Don't always believe the worst possible picture.
K	Keep things in perspective. A distressing situation is usually only part of your life.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Catherine Steenhoff



VISION: *Growing servant leaders within our St Peter's family
to uplift our community for their big futures.*

In order to create a more sustainable and meaningful impact within our community, St Peter's Boys Prep and Girls Prep have chosen Sefikeng Primary as our partner school. We will concentrate all our time, effort and resources on their Foundation Phase. Each St Peter's child and our staff will have an opportunity to make a contribution in some way. We would like to invite you to volunteer too, as we make a difference together!

Recent statistics released show that 8 out of 10 pupils in Grade 4 cannot read at an appropriate level and without this fundamental skill, little learning can take place. St Peter's has developed a partnership with *Read for Africa* and this phonics-based programme has enabled us to effectively teach Literacy Skills. We are also able to make regular assessments to track and measure progress.

The St Peter's interns have become a fundamental support for the programme. We do, however, also rely hugely on parent volunteers to give of their time or money to support the programme. The volunteers assist with small reading groups and create fun lessons. The more volunteers, the smaller the groups and the more effective the learning.

Why should you get involved?

- Experience the unadulterated joy of assisting a child to move from being almost illiterate to being able to recognise letters and eventually words.
- Meet and be a part of a special group of like-minded parents, grandparents and friends trying to make a difference, one child at a time!

What you need to know...

- ABSOLUTELY no teaching experience or knowledge is needed! If you can identify your letters, handle a pen and whiteboard you are fully equipped. Training will be provided.
- We visit Sefikeng every Wednesday morning 08:30 to 09:30, it takes 15 minutes to get there (traffic dependent) and is 100% safe. 'Car shares' are very easily arranged.
- Your commitment is driven solely by you - one session a term, once a month or every week.

How do you get involved?

- **Contact Leigh Lidgley (llidgley@stpeters.co.za) or Jaya Govender (jgovender@stpeters.co.za) to volunteer your time.**

If you are unable to volunteer your time, please consider donating R250 towards this very worthy cause.

- EFT - St Peter's Foundation, Standard Bank, Account No: 422 057 533, Reference CP/surname.
- Or follow this link to pay online: <https://www.stpeters.co.za/prep-foundation/donations>

Please help us make a difference in the lives of others!

SEFIKENG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our partner school, Sefikeng Primary, is seeking an IRBA registered auditor to audit their 2018 financial statements. They have not asked for it for free, but have asked for a quote. Please contact me should you be able to help:

msloane@stpeters.co.za

Monica Sloane (Foundation Manager)

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING FEEDBACK

We always value open conversation. Please send us an email with any feedback from the Information Evenings on what you felt worked really well or suggestions for any improvements that can be made for next year. Please also indicate which grade you are referring to.

Please email: dfraser@stpeters.co.za

Diane Fraser (Marketer)

REMINDER: SECURITY SYSTEM FOR 2019

If you have not given in your **vehicle registration details** yet, please follow the link below.
If you have more than one child please only complete the form once:

<https://goo.gl/forms/qk0VZnK5SMmJjxO53>

MORNING BUS SERVICE TO ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS

We are all striving to reduce the traffic congestion in and around the school car parks and Witkoppen intersections. The morning bus service is a convenient and safe alternative to getting your children to St Peter's in the morning traffic.

There are two routes:

1. **Fourways Gardens** in the Spar parking lot on Uranium. Time: 06:20 to leave at 06:30. The bus will continue to the **Lonehill Fire station**, arrive 06:35 to leave at 06:40.
2. **Kyalami** bus runs from **the Kyalami Downs Shopping Centre**, next to the KFC. Time: 06:25 to leave at 06:30.



Bus Consent and Indemnity Form can be found on the Communicator. Please send to: reception@stpeters.co.za.
For more information please contact Tim at tim@sagolfing.com

INNOVATION & DESIGN – EXCITING NEW WEBSITE

Please view the new Innovation & Design website: <https://sites.google.com/stpeters.co.za/iandd/home>

It should give you insight into what the boys are learning and making as well as photos as they progress with their projects.

The centre also needs recyclable material from home please. We are looking for the following items:

- plastic tubs (yogurt, ice-cream)
- plastic soft drink bottles
- plastic signboards
- wood (pine, masonite, chipboard)
- pvc conduit piping
- straws
- cardboard (cereal, packaging, etc.)
- toys/gadgets with electronics inside (working or not working)
- corks
- electric wire
- empty toilet rolls
- plastic bottle caps
- metal (tin poles, wire, sheets, tile protectors)
- old tools

Sean Creamer (HOD Innovation and Design)

**FORTHCOMING WEEK**

**Please check on the Communicator St Peter's for the 2019 Easter Term Calendar.
You can save and load everything relevant to your sons into your electronic Calendar.**

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWS SUBMISSIONS IS 08:00 ON WEDNESDAYS

ST PETER'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY – 2 MARCH

**ST PETER'S
COLLEGE**www.stpeters.co.za**OPEN DAY
2019****Respect | Responsibility | Resilience | Relationships****SAT 2 MARCH | 08:30 - 12:00****COLLEGE LANE, OFF MAXWELL DRIVE, SUNNINGHILL, SANDTON, 2128****FOR MORE INFORMATION:****PLEASE CONTACT OUR MARKETING TEAM AT****ADMISSIONS@STPETERSCOLLEGE.CO.ZA / 011 807 5315.**