

ST PETER'S BOYS PREP SCHOOL

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Boys Prep School

FROM THE RECTOR

Help with Old Boys admin

We are hoping to find volunteers who can assist with building up the Old Boys database. This would involve contacting Old Boys, updating email addresses and so on. If you are interested and have a little time, please contact Hilary Nothard on <u>hnothard@stpeters.co.za</u>. She will be able to furnish further details.

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

Last week was MADD week at school, during which the boys participated in a variety of cultural activities, ranging from Inter-House Drama productions to honing their culinary talents cooking anything from samosas to waffles. I thoroughly enjoyed adjudicating the Grade 7 plays and was impressed by both the creativity and quality of the performances on stage. The value of a holistic education that prepares boys for a wide scope of what they will encounter, both in high school and in later life, cannot be underestimated. We try to offer these experiences within our philosophy of full participation by every boy and this has resulted in St Peter's boys feeling as confident dancing on stage as they do in academics or on the sports field.

Part of the MADD week was our Book Day and this year the scavenger hunt exposed the boys to some of the rich history that we enjoy at this school. St Peter's Boys Prep turns 70 next year and there is a wealth of stories that have been told or experienced during the school's life. There is an annex off our Learning Commons (Library) that houses the archives and our archivist, Jenny Hugo, has also created PowerPoint slide tours of each decade since our inception in 1950. Please feel free to arrange to meet Mrs Hugo or just to enjoy the displays if you would like to explore our history further. I have taken one section from the scavenger hunt called "Ringing the Bells" to share with you in this newsletter.

There are three very special bells that can be found on our campus:

 The Letty Bell. This bell can be found as the centrepiece of the Letty Bell Lawn. It is still used to signal the changeover between lessons and is rung every half hour of the school day by a Grade 7 pupil. I was recently sent the following insight to the life of Ian Letty by one of our parents:

Ian Letty was the brother of a good friend of mine, Lindsay. I asked her to fill in some of the gaps for me as I knew her big brother had died young (Lindsay was only three at the time) but I wasn't sure of the circumstances behind his death.

She sent me the following and I just thought it would be interesting to share this with you. The Letty family built the Bell as a place of remembrance for them. When I told Lindsay that the boys still call it 'The Letty Bell' she was overcome with emotion.

"Ian had leukaemia although was not sick for very long, maybe a few months, but he went downhill very fast in the last few weeks. He died when he was 6 and my parents tell me that he was always really brave despite being in a lot of pain and having to have loads of injections and needles and stuff. He didn't ever really know how sick he was and he was a really happy kid. He was at school just the week before he died and behaving like any other 6 year old boy ©.



I love that bell, it's the place we go to remember him, even though his ashes are in a garden of remembrance in Bryanston it's the bell that is the really special place for all of us."

2. The Founder's Bell: This bell has been relocated to the deck of Dodson Hall. There is a plaque next to the bell with the following inscription:



3. Quinn's Bell. This bell was donated in memory of Quinn Wagner who passed away on 22 June 2000. It can be found at the entrance to our JP Building. I wonder how many boys and their parents have taken a moment to look at this beautiful bell on their way into school?



I look forward to sharing more of our school history with you as we look forward to our 70th birthday celebrations next year.

Have a great week Rob Macaulay

NOTE: For an informative article and lots of lovely pictures from MADD week: <u>https://www.stpeters.co.za/news/entry/we-were-all-madd-last-week-at-st-peters-boys-prep</u>

DOG POOP

Should you use the campus to walk your dogs, please remember to pick up the poop.

Thank you



SENIOR PREP

WINTER WARMERS



https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/winter-warmers-2019

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Please check on the Communicator St Peter's for the 2019 Trinity Term Calendar. PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWS SUBMISSIONS IS 08:00 ON WEDNESDAYS