



FROM THE HEADMASTER

In my prize giving speech at the end of last year I used the analogy of how a grove of trees, while appearing apart on the surface, were actually completely intertwined and joined through the root system below the ground. This intertwining of roots, not only helps to aerate the soil, but also creates stability for each tree through the underground mutuality of foundation. As we prepare to welcome our children back to school over the next three weeks, I cannot help but reflect on how true this analogy has proven to be during the lockdown.

I begin with the teachers, who have had to change their game significantly to one that required far more time in front of the camera and behind the laptop screen as they taught not only the children but, in many cases, the parents as well. This will only become more demanding as they balance the need to be fully involved with the majority of children who do return to school, with that of maintaining the high level of online teaching that those who choose to remain at home during this time of uncertainty have become accustomed to.

I think of our parents, many of whom have had to run their businesses from home, or have had to adapt to little or no income from traditional streams. They have had to practise entrepreneurial pioneering while, at the same time, supporting their children as they adapted to the online environment. They have had to be beacons of hope and seas of tranquility during a time of stress and uncertainty so that their most precious possessions, their children, could be comforted and nurtured through the storm.

And then, the children themselves. I cannot believe the way in which they have adapted to a completely new and, in some cases, even terrifying world. The commitment that they have shown in the completion and submission of work, together with the positivity shown in contact sessions has been outstanding. Our Grade 7 pupils, who have returned to a very different school environment have adapted and grown enormously over the past two weeks. True St Peter's grit and positive spirit have prevailed.

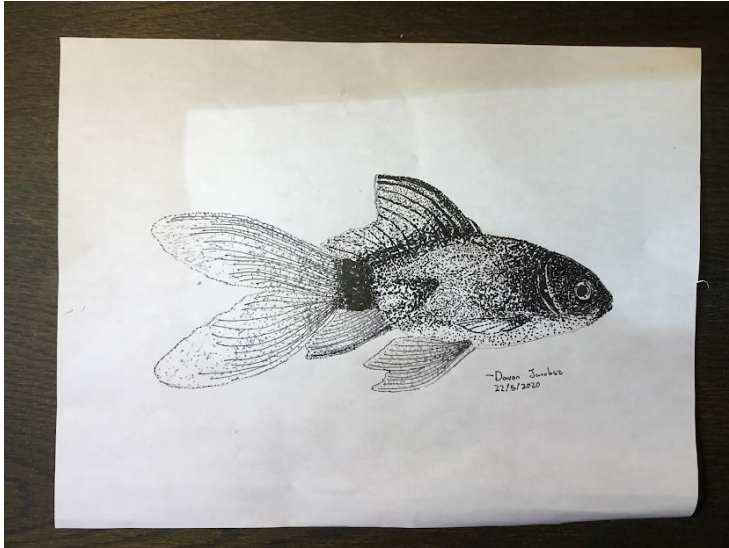
The roots have held and we have come through the first onslaught with both compassion and strength. I have no doubt that we still have challenges to face, whether they be from new spikes in the virus or from the many trials that await so many in our community with the recovery from both financial and emotional turmoil. It is, however, time for a vote of thanks. While we have trees in our forest that are battered; while we have trees with broken branches and while we are aware of and condemn the injustices and human rights abuses that we hear about in our own country and internationally at this time, the St Peter's community continues to hold firm as a beacon of light. To date, 36% of our parents have offered to donate the tranche of savings that were recently announced to the Covid-19 relief fund which has been set up to help those who have been worst hit by the lockdown. Letters of encouragement and support for our teachers have been coming in thick and fast and, despite being exhausted, the teachers continue to love and nurture the development of every little boy in their care.

Thank you, St Peter's for being the incredible forest of support and encouragement that you are.

Enjoy the long weekend

Rob Macaulay

SOME WORK TO SHARE



This fish created using an iPad and the art app Adobe Draw - all made out of dots!

By Davon Jacobsz
(Gr 7)

Inperking maak my liggaam swak
maar ten minste doen ek my gunsteling vak.
Ek hou niks van sosiale distansiëring,
maar ek kan laat slaap
en ek is nooit laat.
Inperking het baie sleg en goeie dinge,
maar ek kan nie wag vir my vriende.

By Ethan Wilcocks
(Gr 7)

Gedurende lockdown

Ek het met my frisbee gespeel
En my boetie se Paasfees eiers gesteel
My grootouers het ek gemis
Hulle bly in Kaapstad by die kus
As ek nou uitgaan moet ek my masker dra
Anders beland ek in die moeilikheid met my ma!

By Joe Manicom
(Gr 7)

By Reza Mudaly
(Gr 5)

There I was, a tomb in front of me. My heart beating out of my chest. As I slowly untied the rope I second-guessed myself. Was I doing the right thing? Unsettling an ancient tomb that's probably over 10 000 years old. Was I not going to harm anyone? So it's decided. I'll go in and wish for the utmost best. The thought of what was to come made the hair stand at the back of my neck. As I crept through the door, cold shivers ran down my spine. A loud radio static chirped in my walkie talkie, but I didn't care. I could taste the bitter darkness of the endless hallway. Tears trickled to my toes and I trembled as I touched the terrifying tomb. All I could focus on was the smell of rotten fish and the sight of... a thin leaf of gold smeared on a coffin! I've done it! Suddenly I heard a bang. I was a bundle of nerves and jumped like a cat on hot bricks. The opening was obstructed and there was no way out. My blood ran cold. All I could think of was my wife and kids. I could not believe it! How could this happen!

FOOD DRIVE: Feeding Diepsloot

A huge **Thank You** to all our families, we have raised just over R30 000 and collected numerous food items.

THE NGO has fed 25 000 families in Diesploit to date, and the focus is changing to soup kitchens and feeding child-headed households, the need in Diepsloot is dire and we hope to continue with our assistance, we are helping and making a small difference.



Packing Food Parcels



Soup Kitchen



Waiting for Food

To Help:

- Any non-perishable food item: cans of food and staples, collection point Chapel Car Park
- Cash donations: please deposit into: St Peter's Foundation; Standard Bank; Acc: 422 057 533 (Section A18 tax certificates can be issued).

Please remember any **second hand clothes** welcome too!

Monica Sloane and Father Richard

HAPPY YOUTH DAY ST PETER'S FAMILY



Enjoy the long weekend!

