

ST PETER'S



COLLEGE

1998 - 2023

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Term 3 Newsletter

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Useful links:

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College Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Stpeterscoll/>
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Old Petrians' Alumni Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldpetrians/>

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Message from the Headmaster



Dear St Peter's College Community,

Today, I stand before you with a heart full of gratitude and a sense of deep connection to this remarkable community. The words I share with you have been brewing within me for a long time, etched in the very core of my being. If, at times, they don't flow as easily as they should, understand that they come from a place that is profound and deeply rooted.

In the summer of 1996, an artist embarked on a journey of creation. With an easel, a palette, and a vision, the artist painted a masterpiece that would come to be known as "**St Peter's College.**" Picture the scene: tubes of oil paints neatly arranged, a stool for comfort and the canvas slowly transforming as layers of Navy Blue, Old Gold and Red were meticulously applied. The artist, satisfied with the end result, cleaned brushes, packed paints, and hung up a smock, leaving behind a masterpiece now revered as one of the greatest Independent Schools in South Africa.

Today, we have the privilege to marvel at this masterpiece up close, a daily blessing for some of us. It is a testament to the dedication, dreams and hard work of those who have contributed to St Peter's College over the past 25 years.

Reflecting on my 21-year journey at St Peter's College, I am astounded by the rapid growth and progress we've made. Our school has evolved into an outstanding institution and I acknowledge the vision and passion of our founding fathers. Their foresight laid the foundation for the exceptional educational environment we find ourselves in today.

As true Petrians, we uphold our Anglican identity and remain committed to our core values of **Respect, Relationships, Responsibility, and Resilience**. Our mission statement guides us in providing a balanced, caring, varied, and modern environment, ensuring that individual potential is achieved through exposure to excellence in academics, sports, creativity, culture, community, and entrepreneurship.

In the ever-changing landscape of education, we face challenges and constant change. Financial constraints demand efficiency and we have responded by striving to maintain our provision and breadth of choice for all students. The vision of



our Council and Executive is clear: to create an education system meeting the demands of the 21st century, placing the importance and value of all young people at its heart.

Our success is a result of the dedication of our teaching staff, the myriad of opportunities offered to our students and the hard work behind the scenes by our administrative, technical, and support teams. I am continually amazed by the dedication, commitment and professionalism of our team.

St Peter's College is more than a school; it is a community rooted in equality, where every voice is powerful. Our buildings embody our hopes and dreams, etched in bricks, stone and mortar. As we emerge from our Silver Jubilee, our spirit burns brightly, transcending all challenges.

As we bid farewell to esteemed members of the St Peter's College Council, including our Chairman of Council, Mr. Des Mahony, we welcome new appointments for 2024: Mrs. Parmi Natesan, the first female head of the council and Mr. Richard Irvine bring fresh perspectives and enthusiasm. We also say goodbye to Mrs. Projeni Pather, Mrs Stacy Mogale and Mrs Pamella Marlowe, who have played crucial roles in our Marketing, Legal and Parent Association portfolios respectively. We also welcome Professor Ian Jandrell, who will lead the Academic Subcommittee. My heartfelt thanks to our board of governors for their unwavering support.

A special mention goes to Mrs. Shelly Matthews, our Deputy Headmistress: Academics, who has left an indelible mark on our school over the past 20 years. As she takes on a new role as the Principal of Reddam House Waterfall, we bid her farewell with pride and gratitude for her incredible service. Shelly's legacy will endure in the academic excellence she has nurtured. Her tireless efforts, innovative ideas and nurturing approach have empowered students and teachers alike, leading us to new heights academically.

To the parents, your support, cooperation and interest in your children's education are invaluable. The triangle of support between the student, the school, and parents is essential for St Peter's success. To those who embody the St Peter's ethos, you are the heart and soul of St Peter's College.

As we move "**In Futurum Fortiter**" – into the future with strength – let us continue standing on the shoulders of giants, drawing inspiration from the past to create a brighter future. May the spirit of St Peter's College continue to burn brightly, transcending all challenges.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and may the journey ahead be filled with continued growth, learning, and success.
"In Futurum Fortiter."

Rui Morais
Headmaster

Sports News

Tennis

At St Peter's College, our tennis programme has witnessed remarkable growth and success, marking a truly exciting chapter in the institution's sporting history. The thriving tennis community comprises both boys' and girls' teams, each making impressive strides in their respective leagues.

For over a decade, we had a single boys' team and the past year has seen an unprecedented surge in interest, paving the way for the potential establishment of a second boys' team. This expansion is a testament to the growing enthusiasm and talent within the school. Notably, our boys' team has consistently excelled in their competitions, clinching the overall winners' title in Term One. Under the leadership of Bailey Rousseau and Kishan Khimjee, the team has demonstrated resilience and skill, setting the stage for even greater achievements.

Equally noteworthy is the success of our girls' teams, comprising two formidable squads. Starting in League A2, the girls showcased exceptional prowess, earning a promotion to League A1, a mere step away from the prestigious Premier League. Competing against formidable schools such as Kingsmead, Parktown, St Andrew's, Holy Rosary, and Crawford Sandton, our girls have displayed unwavering determination in every fixture. Leading the charge in the First Term was Diya Naicker, followed by Emma Cassidy taking the helm in Term Three.

Both the boys' and girls' tennis teams from St Peter's College recently showcased their skills at the highly competitive 5-day Sun City Tournament. Competing against teams from various schools, the tournament provided a valuable platform for our players to refine their strategies and build lasting memories on and off the court. The experience, marked by spirited competition and camaraderie, underscores the dedication of both players and coaching staff, including Benjamin. This tournament serves not only as a pursuit of victory but also as a means of fostering sportsmanship, teamwork and personal growth. As the teams return, we celebrate their achievements and anticipate the positive impact this experience will have on the continued success of St Peter's College tennis.



Equestrian

What an amazing year it has been. Many tears of joy and victory as well as those cried out of frustration or heartache!

Our team exhibited their skills and passion for the sport at the four SANESA Qualifiers at Eaton Farm and Kyalami Equestrian Park, as well as outside shows. Despite spooks due to scary plastic bags, tractors raking arenas and feeling their rider's nerves, our horse and rider teams performed remarkably well. Our riders placed exceptionally well in Show Jumping, Equitation, Dressage, Working Rider, Caprilli, Handy Hunter and Vaulting. Holly Page, Annabeth du Toit, Milla Martinaglia, Grace Anderson, Michelle du Preez, Olivia Morris, Triana Govender, Gabriel Morris, Jamie Frayne and Tamara-Lee Hogerzeil made us proud by placing first in the various disciplines in which they competed.

Holly Page, Milla Martinaglia, Jamie Frayne, Carmen Owen, Annabeth du Toit, Triana Govender, Tamara-Lee Hogerzeil, Gabriel Morris and Maxine Lambrecht qualified for Nationals. Unfortunately, Maxine was unable to compete at National level, due to her horse becoming lame – a great disappointment for any dedicated rider! Tamara-Lee gave new meaning to the art of keeping the horse between the rider and the ground in Vaulting!

Earlier in the year, our captain, Ella Page, lost her horse after a tragic accident. Ella is commended for her commitment and compassion. Despite the loss of her teammate, Ella continued carrying out her duties as captain and supported the riders by attending the rest of the Qualifiers. She enthusiastically walked between arenas, taking pictures and offering encouragement.

I salute the team for the hours of training, preparation and hard work. There is a saying amongst Equestrians that, "horses keep you humble"... such true words. You can be a remarkable rider, have a magnificent horse...but you never know what will happen on the day. Just like humans, horses can also have a bad day, the weather changes or an insignificant movement or sound sets the horse off.

I salute the parents for patiently getting our riders to training and shows and for their support and for always loading and transporting our four-legged teammates. For sharing in and dealing with all the emotions!

Looking forward to another successful year to come! Canter on, 2024!



Football

In recent years, the football scene at St Peter's College has undergone a remarkable transformation with both the girls' and boys' teams making waves and leaving an indelible mark on the school's sport. The evolution of football at St Peter's College is a testament to the passion, dedication and skill of the players as well as the commitment of the coaching staff and the school's administration. What was once a modest programme has grown into a powerhouse with both the girls' and boys' teams consistently showcasing their prowess on the field.

One of the most significant developments has been the rise of girls' football at the college. The college has always invested in providing equal opportunities for female athletes, resulting in a surge of interest and participation. The girls' football team has not only grown in numbers but has also demonstrated exceptional skill and determination.

Both the boys' and girls' teams have participated in various regional and national competitions, consistently making their mark and earning accolades. The coaching staff, comprised of seasoned professionals, have played a pivotal role in honing the skills of the players and instilling a sense of discipline and teamwork.

Beyond the Scoreboard:

Football at St Peter's is not just about winning games; it's about instilling values that extend beyond the football pitch. The sport has become a vehicle for character development, teaching students the importance of teamwork, perseverance and resilience—lessons that will, undoubtedly, serve them well beyond their school years.

The Statistics:

Exposure to good quality tournaments has always been at the forefront of our planning. These tournaments allowed our players to gauge their skills and gain valuable exposure against schools that we don't normally play. Our First Team Boys played in the following tournaments this year:

- Saints Fest – played 5 matches and won 3
- St David's Challenge Cup – lost in the round of 16
- St John's Football Fest – drew 2 and lost 2
- St Peter's Sports and Cultural Fest – lost in the round of 16
- Grey Bloemfontein Football Tournament – played 8 won 3

These tournaments proved to be challenging for our boys but with the quality of opposition, we believed that this could only bode well for their skill development. The First Team boys finished 5th in our league and will be looking to reclaim the top spot in the league next year.

Our First Team girls had a rocky start to the season but with a few additions to the team and some exposure to friendly matches, they started to gel as a unit. Our Girls' First Team were eventual winners of the CEPSSL League. This is an accolade that was hard-earned as the girls worked relentlessly despite not having all their players available in some matches. The girls played in the following tournaments:

- Saints Fest – Played 5 and won 3
- Southdown's Tournament – Played 6 and won 3

- St Peter's College Sports and Cultural Festival- Played 7 and won 5

Our U15 Boys' Team also had a rocky start to their season with many players still finding their way in the team. The team played pre-season tournaments at Brebner High School and St David's Marist Inanda where they learnt valuable lessons in terms of playing style and fitness. This exposure bode well for the team as they finished 2nd in the CEPSSL league; an accolade that seemed distant from the team midway through the season.

Our U14 team proved that with tenacity and dedication anything is possible. Under the astute leadership of St Peter's old boy, Mfumo Baloyi, this team went on to finish in the top 4 in the prestigious Parktown Boys' Football tournament and ended up finishing 2nd in the CEPSSL League. This is certainly a team to be on the lookout for.

Looking Forward:

As St Peter's College continues to invest in its football programme, the future looks exceptionally bright. The school remains committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for all aspiring footballers, fostering a community where both girls and boys can thrive and reach their full potential.

In conclusion, the remarkable growth of football at St Peter's College stands as a testament to the school's dedication to sporting excellence and the positive impact it has had on the lives of its students. With each match played and every goal scored, the legacy of St Peter's football continues to evolve, inspiring future generations of athletes to kick for glory.



Special Events

This term had also blessed us with special events such as the prize-giving and valediction service. They were all emotional rollercoasters and ones for the books. The college could not be prouder of our students who are, unapologetically, moving bravely into the future and supporting their peers. The importance of our core values – resilience, respect, responsibility and relationships - had become abundantly clear at these events as journeys moved to their bittersweet close.



'Tis the Season!

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ST PETER'S COLLEGE WISHES
YOU A

Merry
Christmas

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR