



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER



10 FEBRUARY 2017

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Useful links

Our website: <http://www.stpeters.co.za/college>

College Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Stpeterscoll/>

Old Petrian's Alumni Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldpetrians/>

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

DON'T BE A DUCK, BE AN EAGLE: You have two alternatives. You can blend in with the mould or you can rise above the rest.

The subsequent account is one which you may have heard before, and which formed part of my Valedictory speech to last year's matriculants, but it bears repeating. **Harvey Mackay**, a well-known writer and motivational speaker, recounts the brilliant story about a cab driver, who demonstrated this feature.

Harvey was waiting in line for a ride at the airport. When a cab pulled up, the original thing Harvey noticed was how the taxi was polished to a brilliant shine. Stylishly dressed with a white shirt, black tie, and newly pressed black slacks, the taxi driver jumped out and rounded the automobile to ajar the rear passenger door for Harvey.

He gave Harvey a plastic-coated card and said, **"I'm Wally, your driver. While I am loading your baggage within the trunk I would like you to read my mission statement."** Greatly surprised, Harvey read the card. It read: Wally's Mission Statement: **'Get my customers to their destination within the quickest, safest, and cheapest way possible inside a friendly environment.'**

This blew Harvey away ... particularly as soon as he noticed that the interior of the cab matched the outer surface. Perfectly clean! As he slid behind the wheel, Wally asked, "Would you like a cup of **coffee**? I have a thermos of regular and one of decaf." Harvey said jokingly, "No, I'd prefer a **soft drink**." Wally smiled and said, "No problem. I have a cooler up front with regular and diet Coke, water and orange juice." Caught in shock, Harvey said, "I'll take a diet Coke." Handing him his soda, Wally said, "If you'd like something to read, I have **The Wall Street Journal, Time, Sports Illustrated and USA Today**."

As they ended up pulling away, Wally gave Harvey an additional laminated card. **"These are the stations I get and the music they play, if you'd like to listen to the radio"**. Next, as if that weren't plenty, Wally explained to Harvey that he had the air conditioning turned on and inquired if the temperature was comfy for him. Afterward he advised Harvey on the best way to his destination at that moment in time of day. He additionally let him know that he would be content to speak and divulge him about some of the sights or else, if Harvey favored, to leave him in his particular thoughts.

"Tell me, Wally," Harvey inquired the driver, "Have you always served customers like this?"

Wally smiled from the rear-view mirror. "No, not at all times. In truth, it's only been in the previous two years. My former five years of driving, I spent nearly all of my time cranky, resembling all the rest of the cabbies. Subsequently I noticed on the radio one day that if you get out of bed in the morning expecting to have an awful day, you'll not often disappoint yourself.

He said, **'Stop complaining! Differentiate yourself from your competition. Don't be a duck. Be an eagle. Ducks quack and complain. Eagles rise over the crowd.'**

"That struck me precisely between the eyes," said Wally. "That was certainly talking regarding me. I was constantly quacking and irritable, subsequently I decided to vary my way of behaving and become an eagle. I looked around at the other cabs and their drivers. The cabs were dirty; the drivers were unfriendly; and the prospects were unhappy. Accordingly I decided to create several variations. I put in a few at a time. When my visitors responded in a good way, I did more."

"I take it that has paid off for you," Harvey said. "It by all means has," Wally replied. "My first year as an eagle, I doubled my takings from the previous year. This time I'll most likely quadruple it. You ended up lucky to get me today. I don't wait at cabstands anymore. My clients set up me for appointments on my cellular phone or leave a message on my answering machine. If I cannot gather them up myself, I search out a dependable cabbie colleague to do it, and I receive a piece of the action." Wally was unparalleled.

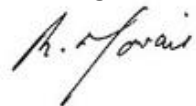
He was running a limo agency out of a Yellow Cab. Harvey probably told that story to greater than 50 taxi drivers over the years, and only two took the suggestion and ran with it. Every time he goes to their cities, he provides them a call. The rest of the drivers quacked akin to ducks and shared with him every one of the factors they couldn't complete any of what he suggested. Wally the cab driver made an uncommon choice. He decided to halt quacking akin to a duck and began soaring reminiscent of an eagle.

How about you? How do you make it?

Isaiah 40:28-31:
*Do you not know?
Hast though not heard?
That the everlasting God, The Lord
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
Fainteth not, neither is weary,
He giveth power to the faint
and to them that have no strength he increaseth might.
But they that wait upon the Lord,
Shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up with wings as eagles;
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.*

In Futurum Fortiter

Kind regards



*Mr Rui Morais
Headmaster*

White Blazer Awards

The White Blazer is the highest achievement at St Peter's College. It is awarded in recognition of achieving Full Colours in Sport, Cultural and Academic and completion of the St Peter's College Community Service requirements.

Well done to **Jamie Edwards** and **Teagan Leroni** who were presented with their White Blazers at the 2016 Academic Prize-Giving ceremony on 31 January 2017.



Teagan Leroni, Mrs Matthews and Jamie Edwards

2016 saw the awarding of **four White Blazers**:

1. **Caitlin Crow** (Grade 12 - 2016) - Honours in Academics and Swimming, Full Colours in Biathle and St Petrian Newspaper, as well as having met the Community Service requirements of St Peter's.
2. **Daniel Martin** (Grade 12 - 2016) - Full Colours in Academics, Chess, Drama, Oratory and St Petrian Newspaper, as well as having met the Community Service requirements of St Peter's.
3. **Jamie Edwards** (Grade 11- 2016) - Honours in Swimming, Full Colours in Academics, Athletics, Dance, Drama and Netball, as well as having met the Community Service requirements of St Peter's.
4. **Teagan Leroni** (Grade 11 - 2016) - Full Colours in Academics, Drama and Squash, as well as having met the Community Service requirements of St Peter's.

Student News

College Blood Drive



On 31 January we had our fourth Blood Drive at St Peter's College. The students who were willing to donate were eager, despite seeing the needle while standing in the queue. All thanks goes to the peer promoters as well as the teachers who run the drive.

Thankfully, the amount of students who meet the age and weight requirements has grown each term. The line has got longer and everyone comes to the conclusion that giving blood is actually not life threatening but that people's lives depend on the blood that they are giving.

Every student who chose to donate realised how easy it is to make a positive difference and each one gained pride in knowing that they had the power to save someone's life - and the cookies were a definite bonus. The few minutes spent in the chair and the 350ml of blood is one life saved, making each donor a

hero.

On a day like the Blood Drive, it is refreshing to see how students can unite when someone needs a hand to hold or some comforting words. I am proud of my school and of all the people that made the selfless decision to donate blood, it was a very brave choice and the needle was worth it. I cannot wait for the next Blood Drive to see how the already large number of courageous students will continue to grow.

Amy Hannigan (Grade?)



CANSA Shavathon



This year St Peter's College will be hosting a CANSA Shavathon event on Thursday, 23 February. We will be spraying or shaving the hair of students and staff.

Next week, we will be sending home consent forms to have your child's hair sprayed or shaved. The cost of a spray or shave is R50. In order to streamline the day with regard to administration, this amount will be debited from your child's school account (only on receipt of a consent form).

All students that are participating in the Shavathon are welcome to wear civvies on the day. The colour chosen for the civvies day is pink or red. We also invite all our parents to come and join in the fun or even make an additional donation towards this very worthy cause.

We hope that our students and staff enjoy this 'crazy' day, so that we can make it an annual event.

Mr Claudio Marangoni
Shavethon Co-ordinator

Grade 12 Mentor/Mentee Leaders-In-Action Programme

The Matrics of 2017 are once again making history at St Peter's College. We are the first group to be part of a mentor/mentee leaders-in-action programme with the Grade 8s of this year. Being a new student in a new school can be extremely nerve-wrecking, which is why this new system will be really great for the Grade 8s. This year all the matrics will be allocated a mentee, where we are tasked to be their helping hands. We underwent a training course 25 and 26 January with Lead 4 Life, to learn skills to help us be the best leaders to our Grade 8s. 'Lead 4 Life' is a specialist leadership development provider of innovative products and services to a global multi-generational audience – including the South African Schools and Youth market.

The course was over two days; Wednesday and Thursday. Day One was dedicated to learning how to be a good mentor - with tips on what to do and not do, how to treat our mentees and how to establish a mentor-mentee relationship. We were split into groups where we had conversations about the type of mentor we want to be, and how we can achieve these goals. The day was very long and we heard many things that we already knew but despite that, the seminar was very profitable. A highlight of the day was initiating conversation with people outside of our social groups and even though we've been with each other for a good four years it was slightly awkward, but still very fun.

Day Two was less speaking and more activity. The day was dedicated to learning how to be a good leader. We spent most of the day outside participating in leadership skills development games, where we made use of good communication and patience. We were in the same groups as in Day One. The games that we played were very similar to that of the ones we played at our Grade 11 leadership camp. It was fun. The highlight of the day was the game we played in the hall where we learnt how to tell the truth and take the truth. It was difficult because some people's feelings did get hurt but it was so beneficial because we learnt the reality of being sensitive. Being able to be honest to our mentees is what will make us good mentors.

The two days we spent learning various skills was mentally and physically draining but I have no doubt that what we gained from the programme will be beneficial to us and our Grade 8s in the long run.

Pelo Mpuru (Grade 12)



Mentor/Mentee Muffin Morning

Our 'Muffin Morning' was a great way to meet our fellow Grade 8 students. The Grade 12s had been preparing for this occasion throughout our initial weeks of school, with presentations and workshops. We can all remember our first year in Grade 8 at St Peter's College: the nerves, the excitement, the anxieties of new beginnings and new faces. So when we were "matched" with our mentees it was wonderful to just relax on the grass, chat about ourselves and get to know one another. Everyone agreed it is a strengthening exercise to close the gap between the grades and to be role models of the St Peter's College core values. We, as the Matrics, are looking forward to sharing more memories with our mentees.

Simone Lategan (Grade 12)



Grade 8 Camp – Klein Kariba



On the 25th of January we set off to camp at Klein-Kariba in Limpopo, this was our first trip as Grade 8s, and with excitement buzzing all around us, we had high hopes that it would bring us closer as a Grade.

A large variety of students boarded the bus to Klein Kariba. Some were nervous, but most were excited. For certain students it was the first time ever at camp. However, most had been on a camp before and for a few of us it was the second time at Klein Kariba.

When we arrived, we were instantly greeted by the friendly counsellors. We proceeded to play some short and enjoyable games to get to know one another. After that, we were treated to a delicious meal in the dining room.

After lunch, we were split into three groups and we took part in three activities, namely, an Obstacle course, Olympics and River rafting.



On the last night, we built egg nests using only sticks and twigs, before the counsellors dropped a large boulder on it! A couple of eggs survived this harrowing ordeal. We lost many great eggs that night.

From entering the College we were taught and reminded that we as Grade 8s, are a family. On arrival at St Peter's, we all had our own cliques and were quite yet accustomed to 'being a family', but after camp, we are certain that we all view each other in a new light.

Our camp experience was definitely one to remember.



Thank you to Mrs Müller, Ms Van Schalkwyk, Mr Levinson, Mrs Robertson, Mrs Maher and Mr Hiemstra who accompanied us on camp.

Sarah Garrett and Thando Ntlabati (Grade 8)

Grade 9 Camp – happy snaps



An Exchange Student's Swiss Experience

August last year I left to start the best year of my life thus far.

I spent a year in Switzerland on a cultural exchange to learn how life is lived as a Swiss citizen. It was the most beneficial experience and I am beyond grateful to have had the opportunity to grow, mature and learn to become so independent in the way that I did.

I spent my exchange living in the capital, Bern. I was fortunate enough to have received what they referred to as a "GA" - General Abonnement- which allowed me to use all Swiss public transport for free as well as the transport that extended into the first city of each neighboring country (Italy, France, Germany and Austria).

Because of this GA I was able to experience and travel more than just Switzerland. In my first three months there I learnt German and by my sixth month, Swiss German making me one of the first exchange students to learn both languages (and yes, there is a very big difference).

The school system was rather different as it started at 08:00 and only ended at 18:00. Ten hours of school may sound like a lot but with 15 minute breaks in between each lesson and then not being given as much homework or projects, it wasn't that bad.

The safety and freedom are what I miss the most (other than the friends I made, of course). I was able to walk wherever I needed to go no matter the distance, area or time of day and whether I was with friends or alone made no difference.

Being there without my family meant I had to be self-sufficient both emotionally and financially so while I was there I took on several jobs.

Of course I missed my family and friends especially around Christmas time but not once did I feel the need to end my exchange and come home. I loved it there and hope that one day I will be able to go back.

As much as I enjoyed my time there, it is not to say my journey was a smooth one. There were moments where my strength was tested and I thought that I wouldn't be able to carry on but overcoming those moments is what made the exchange such a memorable experience. I wouldn't have changed those ups and downs for anything, as they shaped me into the person that I am now.

A year is a long time to be away from home but I wouldn't have been able to integrate into a new culture and way of life if I hadn't spent that amount of time there. It sounds like a long time for a 16 year old girl to leave her family for the first time, but it went by so incredibly fast. It's an opportunity that I would say, should you be lucky enough to have it come your way, grab it with both hands.

Tyla Coetsee (Grade 12)

Co-Curricular News

Music

On Sunday, 5 February, our very own musicians, from Grade 9 to 12, attended the **Johannesburg International Mozart Festival**, which celebrates the birthday of one of the greatest music innovators. With a wealth of outstanding local artists as well as international musicians, our students were in for a performance never to be forgotten.

The programme was well thought out and educated our students about the different roles that the families and instruments played in that setting. With some witty and serious works, the diverse programme was a hit amongst our students.

The highlight for our students, many who were experiencing a live orchestra for the very first time, was Pieter and the Horrible Hyena, also known as Peter and the Wolf. The Johannesburg Festival Orchestra with the help of the Johannesburg Youth Ballet Company pulled a flawless performance.

It was a great delight to see students thoroughly enjoying this production.

On that note, we do have a concert that showcases our local talent here at St Peter's College. The Grade 12 Music Students will be performing their pieces with a few ensembles at the **Summer Soiree**. So we do hope to see all of you on **Thursday, 9 March** in the MADDitorium.

We look forward to exposing our students to more performances.

Mr Antonio Lottering

HOD: Music

Newspaper Club

The St Petrian Newspaper is one of the co-curricular activities at the College. Any student can join and become involved in the College newspaper in a fun and safe environment. It is very exciting and rewarding, especially when you see your article published and your name in print.

Being involved has invaluable benefits such as great learning, meeting people, teamwork, self-control, improve writing and listening skills, paying attention to detail, collaboration, developing thinking skills, building academic vocabulary, reading, organisation and time management.

To join, meet the team every Wednesday at first break in Ms Wille's classroom.

Chesnay Havenga (Captain)



Basketball**Boys Results**

| DATE | VS | U14 | U15 | U16 | 1 st TEAM |
|---------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|
| 21/1/17 | St Stithians | L 25-18 | L 64-16 | L 35-20 | L 33-18 |
| 28/1/17 | St Alban's | W 19-09 | DNP | L 49-14 | L 48-18 |
| 4/2/17 | Pretoria Boys | W 33-09 | L 53-05 | | L 14-11 |

Girls Results

| DATE | VS | U14 | U15 | U16 | 1 st TEAM |
|--------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|----------------------|
| 1/2/17 | St Mary's | W 30-08 | W 20-14 | L16-02 | L25-10 |

Cricket

| DATE | AGE GROUP | VS | RESULT |
|------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 21/1 | 1st Team | Maragon | Maragon won by 32 runs |
| 28/1 | 1st Team | Dinamika | Dinamika won by 159 runs |
| 1/2 | 1st Team | Fourways | Fourways won by 3 wickets |
| 4/2 | 1st Team | HeronBridge | St Peter's won by 5 wickets |
| 21/1 | U15 | Maragon | St Peter's won by 9 Wickets |
| 28/1 | U15 | Dinamika | Match Cancelled |
| 1/2 | U15 | Fourways | St Peter's won by 38 runs |
| 4/2 | U15 | HeronBridge | St Peter's won by 6 wickets |
| 28/1 | U14 | Dinamika | Dinamika by 10 wickets |
| 1/2 | U14 | Fourways | Fourways by 9 wickets |
| 4/2 | U14 | HeronBridge | St Peter's by 33 runs |
| 8/2 | U14 | Edenglen | St Peter's won by |

Swimming

| DATE | VS | RESULT |
|------|---|--|
| 2/2 | Crawford Lonehill Reddam Bedfordview WaterStone | 1 st St Peter's 2 nd Reddam 3 rd Crawford Lonehill 4 th WaterStone |
| 3/2 | Evening Gala @ Wahoo | 1 st St Peter's 966 2 nd St John's/St Dominic's 814 3 rd Redhill 783 4 th Helpmekaar 778 5 th St Dunstan's 615 Penryn 491 Hyde Park 340 |
| 4/2 | St Teresa's Gala | 1 st St Peter's 147 2 nd St Teresa's 129 3 rd St Dominic's 86 4 th DLSHCC 66 5 th St Katherine's/St Teresa's B 51 |

Tennis

These past two weeks were filled with excitement on the courts. Both the girls' and boys' teams played their first matches and were undefeated.

| DATE | TEAM | OPPONENT | WIN / LOSS |
|------------|----------|--------------------|------------|
| 31 January | Girls' A | Parktown | Win |
| 3 February | Boys' A | Trinity Rand Park | Win |
| 7 February | Girls' A | Assumption Convent | Win |

These tennis matches are worth watching and contributes to a lot of excitement from the spectators. I do want to invite you to one of the College's matches not only for support, but also to see how talented our Tennis Players are. With Mrs Webb's fantastic organisational skills, there is always a feast of food on display (and available to eat) at the courts.

Speaking of talent, last weekend the boys participated in the Gauteng Central Tennis trials. Jason Raw ended 15th and Alvaro Legoinha finished 10th out of a total of 48 under 19 boys. Matthew Harris came in 6th position for the under 15 side. Needless to say, the College is exceptionally proud of these remarkable achievements.



Matthew Harris, Jason Raw, Alvaro Legoinha, Jess Harris and Mikayla Gounden were all participants at the Gauteng Central Trials.

Mrs Cornel Malan

MIC: Tennis

Water Polo

| DATE | AGE GROUP | VS | RESULT |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Boys | | | |
| 26/01-29/01 | 1st Team | Grey Bloem Tour | |
| | 1st Team | Clifton | 13-0 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Affies | 6-2 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Stirling | 6-4 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Parktown | 6-2 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Crawford | 7-3 Win |
| | 1st Team | Kingswood | 11-2 Win |

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 27/01-29/01 | U14 | KES | 12-1 Loss |
| | U14 | St John's College | 10-2 Loss |
| | U14 | Invitational | 12-0 Win |
| | U14 | St Alban's College | 4-3 Win |
| | U14 | St Stithians | 17-0 Loss |
| | U14 | St John's College | 7-4 Loss |
| | U14 | KES | 5-0 Win |
| | Placed 9th | | |
| 31/01 | 1st Team | St John's College | 12-3 Loss |
| 04/02 | U14 | Pretoria Boys | 5-5 Draw |
| | U14 | Crawford Lonehill | 10-2 Loss |
| | U15 | Pretoria Boys | 9-3 Loss |
| | U15 | Crawford Lonehill | 15-2 Loss |
| | U16 | Pretoria Boys | 10-3 Loss |
| | U16 | Crawford Lonehill | |
| | 1st Team | Pretoria Boys | 10-4 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Crawford Lonehill | 7-4 Loss |
| 07/02 | U14 | St. Stithians | 23-0 Loss |
| | U14 | Jeppe | 17-0 Loss |
| | U14 | Crawford Lonehill | 8-1 Loss |
| | U15 | St. Stithians | 12-2 Loss |
| | U15 | Jeppe | 10-1 Loss |
| | U15 | Crawford Lonehill | 18-0 Loss |
| | 1st Team | Jeppe | 10-5 Loss |
| Girls | | | |
| 8/2 | U/15 | St Mary's | 18-0 Loss |
| | 1st Team | St Mary's | 7-4 Loss |