1 April 2016

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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 Annual Water Polo Tournament: https://www.facebook.com/OldPetriansWaterPoloTourno/

Annual Sports and Cultural Festival https://www.facebook.com/StPetersSportsandCulturalFest/

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

<u>www.stoogle.co.za</u> Please check out this amazing website! It has lots of valuable information for students, parents and teachers about all things related to students. There is also information about universities, open days, APS scoring system, career choice etc.

Message from the Acting Headmaster

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

I recently attended a SAHISA Conference and had the pleasure of listening to a presentation by Alison Scott, the Principal of Bellavista, on **GRIT - The Key to Success**.

Grit is defined as "perseverance and passion for long-term goals". Using evidence from biographical collections of famous leaders in history, researchers and scientists have reached similar conclusions about high- achieving individuals. Those individuals who were deemed more successful and influential than their contemporary counterparts typically possessed traits above and beyond that of normal ability. While ability was still critical, these individuals also possessed zeal and persistence of motive and effort.

<u>Duckworth</u> and colleagues (2007) believe this dual-component of grit to be a crucial differentiator from similar constructs. Grit is conceptualised as a stable trait that does not require immediate positive feedback. Individuals who possess grit, are able to maintain their determination and motivation over long periods despite experiences with failure and adversity. Their passion and commitment towards the long-term objective, is the overriding factor that provides the stamina required to "stay the course" amid challenges and setbacks. Essentially, the grittier person is focused on winning the **marathon**, not the **sprint**.

Alison mentioned that GRIT is the firmness of mind or spirit, unyielding courage in the face of hardship or danger, it is:

- Firmness of character
- Perseverance
- Passion

There are many studies which have been conducted on famous people who are pertinent examples of those who have demonstrated this characteristic:

- Thomas Edison was told that he was "...too stupid to learn anything."
- Albert Einstein had learning difficulties.
- Steven Spielberg was rejected by UCLA on numerous occasions.

GRIT is living life like a marathon and not a sprint. Alison says that we need to make our students aware of the value of deliberate practise, in other words; "I can get better if I try harder." It is not just our abilities and talent that brings us success, but rather, whether we approach everything we do with a growth mindset.

Stanford University Psychologist, Carol Dweck, has found that praising intelligence and ability in our children does not foster self-esteem nor does it lead to accomplishments and that it, in fact, may actually jeopardise success. She says we should rather praise the deliberate practise that leads to success.

Tal Ben-Shahar, an American and Israeli teacher and writer in the areas of positive psychology and leadership, lists the setting of future goals as a key characteristic of successful individuals. He states that, as parents, we should not be looking to eliminate hardship from our children's lives, but we should rather teach them to learn to "deal" with the hardships they encounter.

There is a superb presentation on YouTube by American Psychologist Angela Duckworth on the concept of GRIT which you can access on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H14bBuluw88

One of the key aspects of **GRIT** is Resilience. I looked up the definition of 'resilience' on Wikipedia and it stated the following: **Resilience** is the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats or significant sources of stress

This description really resonated with me when I reflected on the life and contribution made to St Peter's College by **Ms Hayley Robinson**. Hayley's funeral which was held at St Stephen's Parish, was a fitting tribute to a lady who personified everything that St Peter's College stood for. Both our staff and students paid wonderful tributes to a lady who fought a debilitating disease, always with a smile.

ALWAYS
LOOK
ON THE
Cright
SIDE
OF LIFE

She was an inspiration to us all.

I leave you with the words of the song that she asked to be played at her funeral, 'The Fight Song' by Rachel Platten:

This is my fight song
Take back my life song
Prove I'm alright song
My power's turned on
Starting right now I'll be strong
I'll play my fight song
And I don't really care if nobody else believes
Cause I've still got a lot of fight left in me

RIP "Dude"

Kind regards

Mr Rui Morais Acting Headmaster

St Peter's College Open Day 2016

On Saturday, 12 March the College was proud to host its bi-annual Open Day. Parents and students from a variety of schools attended to have a look at the College and the facilities on offer. A few matrics and Grade 11s addressed the parents about the academics and co-curricular activities the College has to offer, and the values in which our College prides itself. The visiting students were treated to popcorn and the parents were invited to tea in the MADD Centre foyer after the informative speeches.

The prefects each lead a group of students and parents around the school, showing them the classrooms, sports fields and MADD centre. During this time our visitors were given the opportunity to ask teachers, prefects and St Peter's College students questions relating to the College's academics and co-curricular activities. While on a tour through the MADD Centre, the Beauty Shop and Barber Shop performed their acapella ensembles and the drama and dance students performed their pieces to the parents and students visiting. There were also a few Grade 7s who wrote their scholarships exams in the OFB block under the supervision of the prefects and teachers.

The Open Day was a huge success and we hope to see these students and their parents joining the St Peter's family in the next couple of years.

Sithuthukile Madonsela

Grade 11





Ex St Petrian, making a pertinent impression as a Photojournalist

Kevin Sutherland matriculated at St Peter's College in 2006. I remember him saying, while discussing the Bang Bang Club and photographic Journalism in Visual Art, that "I will one day work with Greg Marinovich as a Photojournalist".

Kevin stayed absolutely true to his word and in 2007 he saw his dream materialise as a photojournalist for the Sunday Times Newspaper. Kevin's passion for documenting the reality of the South African context as well as the African context has seen him travel to many remote and contentious locations. His daily job also means that he finds himself in the midst of conflict in this earnest desire to bring the truth in the form of pictures to the world. Kevin has already received much success as a photographer, but we were exceptionally proud to see his photo documenting the recent Zandspruit Protests (pictured below) was recognised by the New York Times as the 'Photo of the Day' (17 March 2016).



A South African police officer fired rubber bullets at people in Zandspruit, a settlement west of Johannesburg, after protests and looting there. Credit: Kevin Sutherland/European Pressphoto Agency

Furthermore, and perhaps a motive for us to be even more proud of Kevin was this image from the cover of the Star Newspaper on 2 February 2016. The caption reads "Ten months ago, Sunday Times photographers James Oatway and Kevin Sutherland put down their cameras to pick up Emmanuel Sithole, and race him to the hospital after he had been stabbed in the streets of Alex during a violent outbreak of xenaphobia. Sithole died en route...

Picture: Antoine de Ras

Mrs Avril Swanepoel HOD: Creative Arts



Parents' Association News

Golf Day Thank Yous

On Wednesday, 16 March the PA held its annual Golf Day at Bryanston Country Club. By all accounts it seems that this has been our most successful Golf Day to date. We have many to thank for helping in making this a fun and worthwhile event.

- The PA thanks **Bryanston Country Club** for their assistance in ensuring that our event ran smoothly and professionally. Every staff member was helpful and extremely efficient and this added to the success of the day.
- An event like this does not just happen, and I would like to thank the Golf Committee, namely Gizelle Schiavini,
 Warren Telfer, Chloe Hill and Nicole du Plooy for their assistance and unwavering support. Thanks also go to
 Janet Ferrett, Sam van der Walt and Lorraine for assisting on the day.
- Thank you to all the **parents** who bought four balls and for encouraging **friends and colleagues** to do the same. The generosity of many people who donated items for raffle and auction as well as all the four ball prizes is greatly appreciated.
- Thank you to Troy Barwell, who as MC, kept us entertained and cajoled players into fundraising fun with the auctions etc.

I would like to thank the following **companies** who assisted through sponsorship and prizes:

- Hatfield VW hole sponsorship and prize
- Waterford Land Rover hole sponsorship and prizes
- Mark White Nissan hole sponsorship and prizes
- Kia Fourways hole sponsorship and prizes
- Barloworld Isuzu hole sponsorship
- Domino's Pizza tastings and vouchers
- Top Vending Nespresso machine
- Avis Point to Point prizes
- Hair on 52 prizes
- Dave King iSmart Massagers prizes

- Philips prizes
- Gecko Media prizes
- Peppina prizes
- Chubb prizes
- Broadlink prizes
- The Entertainer
- Sharon Lage prizes
- Chris Jonker auction prize
- Warren Telfer auction prize
- Hendrik du Plooy auction prize
- Lolita Gambale

To all the **parents** who generously delivered prizes, we really could not have done so well without your support. Lastly, I would like to thank all the people who bought raffle tickets and participated in the auctions. Without their generosity and enthusiasm our golf day would not have been so successful.

Congratulations to our Senior Golf Team who took first place. We were all very proud of the deserving and well-mannered boys that represented our school.

Mrs Tania Else Golf Day Sub Committee

telse@telkomsa.net 082 782 0804 (C)







The Winners Thank you Golf Committee

Light of Change (LOC) Campaign

One of the qualities that make St Peter's College such a great school to be a part of, is the culture of giving that is greatly encouraged. From the annual House Build to smaller projects like, 'The Baby Project' and the LOC Campaign, a Grade 10 initiative.

By bringing 20 ordinary plastic bags, one can contribute to the making of a Repurpose Schoolbag for an underprivileged child- that's what the LOC Campaign is all about. The 2016 LOC Committee was very pleased to see the outstanding support the school has been giving us. We look forward to seeing even more support from across the grades as we get into the 2nd term.

Currently we have 8ASW, 10SLO and 11MWI in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively, for bringing the most plastic bags. As the LOC Committee we believe that the most important thing is not about who brings in the most plastic bags. It is about whether every individual has done their personal best in helping to grow someone else's future.

Tadiwanashe Zororo Grade 10



1 April 2016

Academic News

Top Mathematicians at St Peter's College

The South African Maths Olympiad (SAMO) is the biggest Olympiad in the country. More than 8, 000 learners participated in the Olympiad. Learners who attain 50% or higher in the first round qualify for the second round which is written in May.

It is well known that mathematics competitions generate a lot of enthusiasm and curiosity for the subject. This aspect of mathematics competitions is becoming more and more important. The school subject called 'Mathematics' has recently moved more and more to what could be called mechanical calculations or numeracy. It is therefore very important that we continue to emphasise that Mathematics is about thinking and the discovery, and validation, of problem solving methods.

Well done to the following College students who achieved more than 70% in the first around of mathematics Olympiad:



Tsai-Yu Shih 90% (Grade 9), Kerryn Hayter 80% (Grade 8), Jonathan Webb 80% (Grade 8), Cheng Shen 80% (Grade 11), Vladimir Telkiev 90% (Grade 11) Top 100 Mathematician in Gauteng 2015), Yi Shi 70% (Grade 10) Top 100 Mathematician in South Africa 2015 and bronze holder winner 2015, Joshua Jandrell 80% (Grade 9), Thapelo Shika 75% (Grade 9) and Luke Hewson 75% (Grade 10).

Mr Wilson Sokana Mathematics Teacher

Tour de Math

On 25 February, a team of eight enthusiasts embarked on a victorious night to St John's College, where we were paired up with various schools to complete a maths paper. We were all intimidated by some of the questions at first, but in our pairs we completed the paper without much struggle.

When we received the results, we were overjoyed to hear that Tyler Fourie and Matthew Garrett had taken second place out of 400 students, and one of our other pairs came in fourth place. A huge well done to all the participants.

Shreyan Maharaj Grade 9



Sports and Cultural News

Climbing

The Boulder League finals were held at the Barn in Pretoria on 12 March. Three climbing venues entered: The Barn, Wonder Wall and City Rock. Each venue sent the top 5 of each category to compete in the finals. Three College students were selected to represent Gauteng in the SA Nationals which will take place later this year in Cape Town.

They are

- · Lauren Mukheibir,
- Chris Mukheibir and
- Tristan Young.

All the best for Nationals!



Tristan Young doing a lateral move across the wall. Tristan Young came in 2nd overall in the U15 boys category.



Lauren Mukheibir moving to her next grip - came in 4th overall in the Girls U15 category.

Dance

Street Finals: Dance Competition 2016

On Friday 11 March, St Peter's College hosted the finals of the **Street Dance Competitions**, after three initial comps. The competition looked at the dancer's ability to dance to music that they had never heard before and enjoy themselves in the process. The spirit that was demonstrated in the hall that afternoon was incredible!

Just some acknowledgments:

- To the Cultural Committee of 2016, well done on all the efforts made to ensure that this event was successful and one that will be memorable for a very long time.
- Thank you to the prefects, Savannah Collison and Michelle Smorfitt; the leaders of the committee who motivated everyone involved to do the best in our respective duties, and have fun whilst doing so.
- The teachers involved in organising and affiliating the afternoon, thank you! Last, but most definitely not least, 'Dance Daddy' (Mr Botha), you're awesome! Thank you for being you, and doing what you do!

The participating schools were: Curro Aurora, Crawford Sandton, Redhill and Queens High. It was such a lovely experience to watch how the rhythm of music flowed through the dancers with such breeze. It really was amazing to see the joy that came through in the movements of the dancers, as well as the expressions on their faces. When you're someone with two left feet like me, you really admire those who are brilliant dancers!

I enjoyed watching the competition so much, because it just emphasised that dance really is about expression and passion.

The cheering and enthusiasm from the College was out of this world, and demonstrated unity and pride for the College! This was lovely to see, and I believe it gave our dancers a boost in confidence, because at the end of the afternoon, we WON! Well done, to the talented dancers for showcasing your brilliance! Hopefully even more people will join the next dancing event, because "If you can move, you can dance."

Pelo Mpuru Grade 11

41 of our dancers made it through to this event. Results were as follows:

u/14 Girls Tamryn Govender 4th place

Katiso Mochela 1 place and Gold medal (third time in succession). By doing this Katiso beat a member of the South African Dance Team three times in succession!

u/14 Boys Obirimpong Osei-Bonsu 8th place

Letlhogonolo Montshiwage 7th place

Kanya Mahanjana 6th place

Thabiso Ndlovu 4th place

Sicelo Mgaga 2nd place and Silver medal

u/16 Girls Samantha Meiring 6th place

Dimpho Mahlagare 3rd place and Bronze medal

Zinhle Mthembu 2nd place and Silver medal (second time in succession)

u/16 Boys Michele Brachini 7th place

Lungelo Masisi 6th place

Open Boys Christopher Mukheibir 7th place

Katlego Senabe 4th place

Our Open Girls need a special mention, in the semi-final round of 14 dancers, 9 were from St Peter's College! Open Girls Lehlogonolo Maripane 7th place

Savannah Collison 6th place

Katlego Mojapelo 5th place

Maxine Ross celebrating her 18th birthday attained 3rd and Bronze medal

Kerry Gregory 2nd place and Silver medal

Thandolwethu Msiza 1st place and Gold medal

This meant that when final points were calculated, the competing schools were announced as:

5th Overall - Curro Aurora

4th Overall - Crawford Sandton

3rd Overall - Redhill School

2nd Overall - Queens High School

1st and therefore inaugural Champions of Gauteng - St Peter's College

Watch out for our next two events in Term Two: the Inter-House Dance and Movement Competition and the Friendly Triangular with St Stithians Boys and Girls College on 2 June. Dance events are always free at St Peter's when hosted by the Dance Department.

Drama - Grade 9 Showcase

Auditions. Practices. Performance. All the components needed to put on an amazing showcase. The Grade 9 Drama Evening was the event all Grade 9 drama students were working hard for, not only because it counted 50% of our term's assessment, but also because we needed to prove that we can strive to achieve more than what was set for us.

In the beginning of the year we were asked to prepare 1 minute monologues for our teachers. Though we thought that was stressful, it was only just the beginning. Once we were assigned to groups we could begin our practices, the practices that kept us at school late at night. During these practices we got to discover ourselves. We got to know each other and learn more about each other.

The practices made me realise that drama isn't only about acting, learning lines, directing etc. It's about discovering yourself and expressing yourself in every role you play. Through all the disagreements and arguments, the countless hours we spent practicing, and having last minute meetings, it was all worthwhile to produce an amazing showcase.

Ratanang Rapudi

Grade 9

Equestrian

Three riders from our Equestrian Team competed at the Easter Fest over the Easter weekend and placed as follows:

- Erin Dos Santos: 2nd in 1m30cm A2 Championship
- Imogen Imbert: 5th in the 90 cm Championship
- Chiara Reddy: 8th in the 90 cm Championship

We are proud of our girls for these lovely achievements!

Results from Eaton Farm at the Equestrian Qualifier Two

Sarah Kickhofel 17 (out of 43) in 80 cm Accummulator

8 (out of 47) in 80 cm Competition 15 (out of 34) in 80 cm Equitation

Imogen Imbert: Prelim Dressage 2: 11th

Prelim Dressage 3: 4th
Tied 5th in 80 cm Equitation
2nd 80 cm Competition

Andrew Thomas: 1st in 80 cm Working Hunter,

1st in Working Riding Level 3 13th in Equitation 80 cm 15th in 80 cm Accummulator 9th in Dressage Novice Test 2

8th in Novice Test 3

Chiara Reddy: 5th in 90cm Accummulator

Erin Dos Santos: 1st in 120 cm Competition

1st in 120 cm Accummulator 1st in 90 cm Competition 2nd in 90 cm Accummulator

Amy Shakleton: 4th in 90 cm Competition

10th in 90 cm Accummulator 5th in 80 cm Equitation

Kayla van der Burgh: 2nd in 80 cm Equitation

15th in 80 cm Accummulator 17th in 80 cm Competition

Olivia Wagner: 8th in 70cm Competition

Amy Crossley: 5th in 120 cm Accummulator

Caitlin Goodman: Clear round in 90 cm Accummulator

Ms Joan Delport MIC: Equestrian



Hockey - Boys

The First Team Boys played at the St Dunstan's Easter Festival this past weekend. Their results were:

St Peter's College vs Falcon College (Zimbabwe) SPC Lost 2-0

St Peter's College vs Hellenic Academy (Zimbabwe) SPC Lost 4-2

St Peter's College vs Watershed College (Zimbabwe) Drew 1-1

St Peter's College vs Heronbridge. Drew 2-2

St Peter's College vs Hillcrest (Zimbabwe) SPC won 3-2

St Peter's College vs Cornwall College. SPC lost 8-0.

Well done to the boys and thanks to the parents who came to support the players over the weekend.

We played Redhill School on Wednesday 30 March. Results were as follows:

Under 14s Drew 2-2

First Team Lost 2-0

Mr Ryan Hammond MIC: Boys Hockey

Hockey - Girls

U14 Festival at Cornwall Hill:

The U14 girls hockey team participated in a festival at Cornwall Hill College from 17-19 March. They played games against the following schools: Lichtenberg, Cornwall Hill A side, St Mary's DSG A side and Ben Vorster.

Unfortunately they lost all their games. However, this was the first time they had played together with only one practice under their belts. They improved immensely over the festival and there is much potential in the side!

St Dunstan's Easter Festival

The 1st Team Girls participated in the St Dunstan's Easter Festival. They played against some very tough opponents and did very well despite what they results say.

vs Thomas Moore College 2-1 (loss)

vs St Dominics 1-1 (draw)

vs St Dunstan's 5-0 (loss)

vs HeronBridge 2-0 (win)

vs Hans Moore 3-2 (loss)

vs Hellenic Academy (Zimbabwe) 3-1 (loss)

Many of the goals scored were a combined team effort. The goal scorers were: Emma La Trobe, Emma Hill, Emma O'Brien, Jessica Penney (2), Emma Golightly and Joslyn Lategan.

Ms Andrea Balzer MIC: Girls Hockey

Netball

Affies Netball Tournament 2016

From 21 to 23 March the U14, U15, U16 and U17 netball girls took part in the annual netball tournament at Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskool in Pretoria

There were 14 Afrikaans schools participating with St Peter's being the only English-speaking school to attend. All the participating netball girls were privileged to have Yvonne Willering, who played for the Silver Ferns (New Zealand national netball team) give the girls mini 'clinics' in between the matches.

The tournament was a great opportunity for the netball girls to improve their netball skills and experience playing against other excellent netball teams across the country.



www.stpeters.co.za

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Congratulations to Thandolwethu Msiza (Ollie) and Monika Cupedo for receiving the award for the best player in their age groups. Thank you to Ms Van Schalkwyk, Mr Botha and the netball coaches for organising the event.

Sithuthukile Madonsela

Grade 10

Results

Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskool Toernooi:

U14's placed 14th overall U15's placed 14th overall U16's placed 14th overall U17's placed 6th overall

St Dunstan's Easter Festival

We sent our 2nd Team to represent us at this Festival. vs Heron Bridge 15-19 lost

vs Petit High School 34-4 won

vs Hand Moore 13-32 lost vs Unity College 35-2 won

vs St Dunstan's 31-7 lost

St Stithians Easter Festival

Our 1st Team represented us at this Festival.

vs Heron Bridge 35-22 won

vs Redhill 20-26 won

vs Krugersdorp 30-18 won

vs Northcliff 27-22 won

vs St Stithians 21-20 lost

vs St Mary's Kloof 24-26 lost

vs St Mary's DSG 43-14 won

Warm up fun at Saints Festival



Well done to the following College girls who made District Team! We wish you all the best to the next leg of trials.

Monika Cupedo Courtney Sandham Chesnay Havenga Kirsten Blane Zantia Bainbridge Liyabona Caza Mbali Dhlomo April Donnelly

Ms Christelle van Schalkwyk

MIC: Netball

Rugby

St Dunstan's Festival Results

Vs Hellenic Academy 27, SPC 14

Vs Ashton International College 8, SPC 0

Vs Watershed 24, SPC 15

Well done to the following College boys who have been selected to represent the North Area Rugby Sides:

U16 U18 U19

Sifiso Mbatsha Beraca Bope Ross Bruce

Craig Buck

Jayden Hardman

Mr Charl Bloomberg

MIC: Rugby

Sailing

Lloyd Beyers has competed successfully over the last couple years in sailing the dart 18 catamaran. So much so his skipper Ben and Lloyd managed to secure 2nd place in the World championships held 2 years ago and 2nd place in Nationals last year. This year, Nationals was held over the Easter weekend and Lloyd and his skipper Ben Mienie managed to secure a 1st place. Well done Lloyd!

HIP HOP CLINIC – APRIL HOLIDAYS

Calling all dance lovers! We will be holding a hip hop/freestyle dance clinic towards the end of the April holidays. Come along and learn some awesome choreography inspired by current leaders in the dance world, learn some new dance styles and have loads of fun! All you need to bring is lots of energy and enthusiasm – and maybe a friend or two!

When: Friday, 29 April (10:00 – 13:00) and Saturday 30 April (09:00 – 12:00)

Where: Dance Studio - MADD Centre

Cost and Booking: R500 per person. Please contact Mr Kirkland on kirklandm@stpeterscollege.co.za to reserve your place and payment details. Please do so before end of term, Friday 8 April.

Bring: Comfy dance clothes and appropriate shoes, water bottles, some snacks to keep your energy up!

Rope in a friend to come along and dance with you! Please let Mr Kirkland know by end of term to book your place. You do not have to be part of the Dance League to join in – this is open to everyone who wants to come along!

International Ivy League University Presentations USA



Brown University www.brown.edu



University of Pennsylvania



Yale University admissions.yale.edu

Students, parents and counselors are cordially invited to a program about undergraduate education at

Brown University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Yale University

Panetha Theodosia Nychis Ott, Director of Admission, International Recruitment at Brown University Elisabeth O'Connell, Senior Associate Dean for International Admissions at the University of Pennsylvania

Keith Light, Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Yale College

Topics will include: academic programs, admissions policies, financial aid,

campus activities and international student life.

Sunday May 29th, 2016 4:00pm

Crawford College Sandton

The Hall
11 Benmore Road
Sandton

RSVP

https://key.admissions.upenn.edu/register/johannesburg2016

Please note that this information session is intended only for students seeking information on the undergraduate division of these universities. For more information, including the graduate programs at each institution, please consult the respective university website.