



# THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

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Useful links: Website: <u>http://www.stpeters.co.za/college</u> College Facebook Page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Stpeterscoll/</u> Old Petrian's Alumni Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldpetrians/</u>

## Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents & Students,

## Human Rights Day (Public Holiday)

It is important that we as a College remember and reflect on the past and celebrate the future on Human Right's Day.

ST PETER'S COLLEGE

Human Right's Day **(21 March)** was officially declared a public holiday in 1994 following the inauguration of former president Nelson Mandela. This national day-off is both a stark reminder of the tragic **Sharpeville** massacre and a celebration of South Africa's unique constitution, which gives equal rights to all.

#### THE SHARPEVILLE MASSACRE

On Monday, 21 March 1960, police opened fire, without order, on a crowd that had gathered at the Sharpeville station to protest pass laws, stipulations that required Africans to carry pass books (**Dompas**) and produce them to law enforcement officials on request; 69 unarmed people were killed and another 180 were injured. While little is known about what really sparked this tragic event, when the **Pan Africanist Congress** – under the leadership of **Robert Sobukwe** – appealed to all African men to take a stand against such a humiliating law, leave their pass books at home, go to their nearest police station and demand to be incarcerated for not carrying the demeaning document. The police then, upon seeing the masses of people marching, opened fire on the crowd in a state of fear.

In a sign of healing the wounds of the day, former **President Nelson Mandela** signed the acceptance of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa into law in Sharpeville back in 1996. This was an effort to say, the new Constitution is going to attend to the human rights and part ways with the past. We observe 21 March on a national calendar to reflect on what human rights mean to us as a nation. Today, the South African constitution protects individual rights, like the right to move freely without a pass book, with its inclusion in the Bill of Rights, and citizens are entitled to basic human dignity and more in the country's current democracy.

However, we find it difficult that over twenty years into democracy we have had police mow down people at:

- Marikana
- Bekkersdal
- Qwaqwa

This shows that we may be speaking human rights, but we have yet to come to appreciate what that entails. It is interesting that advanced countries like Australia only introduced Human Rights legislation in 1998 much later than the new kid on the block among the nations of the world, the Republic of South Africa. The question is what is it that we can show for that? The rights of people are still being trampled in this country as we go into the national elections in 2019:

- Inadequate access to education is an instance of our poor record of human rights Education is a right and must be accessible at the doorsteps of our all children.
- #Feesmust fall campaign
- Unemployment is rife especially among the youth
- We still have staggering numbers of homeless people of South African origin let alone the foreigners. The sprawling shacks all over the country attest to this. A home is a human right as it gives one dignity.
- Poor quality of health services in the public sector

In reflection, since the Sharpeville massacre where people were so dehumanised, the 24 years of democracy and the 22 years since the signing of the Constitution of the Republic into law as Act no 108 of 1996 in Sharpeville, can we say we have met all human rights listed in the Constitution? I leave you with the words that Nelson Mandela, South Africa's first democratically elected president, said on Human Rights Day in 1996:

"It is a day which, more than many others, captures the essence of the struggle of the South African people and the soul of our nonracial democracy. It is the day on which we remember and sing praises to those who perished in the name of democracy and human dignity. It is also a day on which we reflect and assess the progress we are making in enshrining basic human rights and values."

## "In Futurum Fortiter"

Regards,

p. Morais

Mr Rui Morais Headmaster

## **Public Speaking**

## **Junior Debating**

On Saturday, 2 March 2019, the St Peter's College Junior Debating team represented the College at the SACEE debating tournament. It was held at Trinity House in Randpark Ridge with 30 to 40 schools taking part. Our team debated against three different schools in three rounds. We were all beginners and had a chance to experience a real debate. We held our own in these rounds and have hopefully made it through to rounds 4-6 which will take place on Saturday, 6 April 2019.

If you are outspoken and have a natural flair for public speaking, perhaps consider joining our junior debating team. Amy Martin Grade 0 student

Grade 9 student

## **Senior Public Speaking**

The St Peter's College Public Speakers hit the ground running this term and competed in the 58 Annual Public Speaking Festival.

The festival kicked off on 11 February and our last team competed on 12 March. The Senior Prepared teams' speeches





were inspired mems and they tackled topics ranging from colonisation and mental illness to dealing with losing your glasses.

The Garde 11 Prepared Team analysed the Birdbox Meme and earned an "A+" symbol. The reminder of the senior teams achieved "B" and "B+" symbols.

The St Peter's College Public Speakers have had a successful term and we are looking forward to the Term Two season.

Mrs Camille Koukoutsis MIC: Public Speaking

## **CANSA Shavathon**

On Friday, 15 March, there was a buzz of excitement in the air. All 640 of us came dressed in civvies and participated in the annual CANSA Shavathon. We could not wait for our turn as each Grade was allocated time to give towards this incredible cause.



Pink, blue, orange, yellow, any colour you can imagine, we sprayed, cut and shaved our hair for the cause.

All the money and hair donated will go towards the fight against cancer.

Each grade crowded around to support teachers and students who were shaving or cutting their hair. By the time the last bell of the day rang, we left school haircut, brightly coloured locks or just trying our best to dodge people who were trying to rub your bald head for good luck.

Kumbirai Dzurini Grade 11 student

Contact us on (011) 807-5315

## Shavathon

The CANSA Shavathon, a colourful event, brought teachers and students together for a single cause, cancer awareness.



The school was filled with many sprayed and shaven heads. Anyone who donated to CANSA was given the choice to either spray, shave or donate 25cm of long hair (for making wigs). Those who could not have their hair shaven had an opportunity to spray their hair with colourful hairsprays. Overall, successful, unifying and joyful event. *Anton Popov* 

Grade 11 student

#### **Squash News**

## Groton students visit St Peter's College

On Wednesday, 6 March 2019, the St Peter's College squash team had the amazing experience of spending the day with



students from Groton, a school from Massachusetts, USA. The students were on tour in South Africa and St Peter's College was privileged to be part of their tour.

The day started with a meet and greet, and we were all assigned a 'buddy.' We spent the whole

day with the Groton students and they got to experience a St Petrian's day. It was fascinating to compare the differences in the schooling system between us and them. Groton students were completely blown away by some of our subjects, like Engineering, Graphics and Design (EGD) and Information Technology (IT). Due to St Peter's only having a boys' team, and Groton having both boys and a girl's teams, Egoli Squash were invited to join us. After school we made our way to the squash courts and we started off with some basic exercises. We soon realised that their level of squash was somewhat higher than ours and we tried to learn as much as we can from their skill sets.

Although we lost most of our matches, we managed to make the Groton players sweat and work for their wins. The most exciting match for the day was the Groton girls' number one vs Egoli's selected number one. Groton came out on top for this match after a thrilling five set match!

After many hours of school and squash it was time to socialise. We all went back to the school and had a traditional South African braai. The Groton students loved the food, and so did we. It was so amazing to spend time with the squash players from Groton and it will be one of the highlights of my squash career at St Peter's College. *Kirsten Hope Grade 12 student* 

#### Squash match - SPC vs Groton

The top 7 squash players from St Peter's College had the privilege to play a top school from America on Wednesday 6



March 2019, at the Wendywood Squash Courts. Groton, a top private school in Massachusetts, brought two squash teams with them, a girl's side and a boy's side. We had an intense training session which resulted in the integration of our different training regimes. Thereafter, we were joined by Egoli Squash to play a round-robin

tournament. Egoli Squash is a development side for underprivileged children in Gauteng. The Groton girls side came up victorious.

This experience was extremely eye-opening and enjoyable for all of us. The St Peter's squash family are very thankful that we were given this chance to learn from some of the best in the world of school squash and to even make a few new friends that we can brag to our friends about. Overall this prestigious event has launched St Peter's College squash to greater heights and countless lessons have been learnt.

Ezra Vergotine

Grade 11 student

## **Music News**

St Peter's College MADD Centre presents **The Chanticleer Singers**, directed by Richard Cock, performing a programme covering all things natural.

The programme includes "All Creatures Now are Merry Minded" by John Bennet, "Christ Hath a Garden" by Eleanor Daley and "Lullabye of Birdland" by George Shearing, in addition to works by Elgar, Morley, Stanford and Lauridsen. Featuring soloist Nicholas Nicolaidis in his final appearance with the Chanticleer Singers before emigrating.

## Click on here to purchase your ticket:



PLEASE NOTE:

- Limited seats available first come first serve!
- Payment options on the system are: VISA/MASTER Credit or debit card, SID EFT and Zapper
- Coffee and tea served from 15:00 in the MADD Centre foyer.
- Audience take their seats from 15:40.

Mr Vaughn van Zyl Manager: MADD Centre

## World Challenge 2020

During Heads Assembly this week the 2020 World Challenge destination was launched.

Although we usually launch the next destination once we return from Nepal, I decided to change this slightly, so as, to allow extra time for saving towards the 2020 destination. Please speak to your child regarding this very worthwhile trip, where your child will learn many life skills regarding planning the tour, responsibility of the budget, arranging accommodation and transport, leadership roles and the, all important, R & R afterwards. Yes, your child can achieve all this and so much more.



DEPARTURE:August 2020DURATION:21 DaysWHO:Grade 9 – Grade 12 (in 2020)

Please take the time to attend the presentation hosted by Tamin Connolly from World Challenge SA on **Thursday, 4 April at 18:00, in CC1, Ms Theron's classroom**. Feel free to bring your child along as a brief introduction will be given, costs discussed and time for a Q & A afterwards. All the information will be shared to all present on the evening, including I.

Look forward to meeting you. *Ms Sonja Theron MIC: World Challenge* 

## **DSSL Inter-High Dance Competition**

The DSSL Inter-high Dance Competition, where the best competes to be awarded the prestigious award of being the best



in the district. The St Peter's College dancers competed in this competition on Saturday, 9 March 2019.

The college achieved outstanding results where 90% of our dancers managed to make it to semi-finals. Out of 11 participants our very own dance captain Sicelo Mgaga achieved position number four in the open boy's category.

We are proud to announce that Katiso Mochela achieved position number one in the open girl's category, this being her 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive win ever since she started partaking in the DSSL competitions in grade 8.

The students had great support from the school which boosted their confidence during the heat. St Peter's managed to finish at number three overall which is quite an improvement from last year where St Peter's finished at

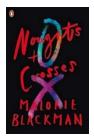
number five.

The drive and passion the dancer put into their work has paid off and we are expecting to see greater results next year. The Gold is ours because if you can move, you can dance and what sets us apart from every other school is our determination and passion. Sicelo Mgaga

Grade 12 student

## ST PETER'S COLLEGE SCHOOL SHOP NEWS

## Textbooks Grade 8s



- Grade 8's should have collected their Noughts & Crosses book by now. Please check that your child has this book.
- Please check that your child has the Accounting Book these will only be used in Term 3, so
  please keep them safe. Several students have not yet collected these books.

#### Grade 9

Several students have not yet collected their Q & A books.

## Grade 11

AP English students need to collect "Waiting for Godot".

## Grade 12



Only a few Matriculants have collected The Examination Aid Papers with Solutions papers for Maths & Maths Literacy. These are essential for exam revision.

## Supporter's Clothing

Show your support at your children's sports matches and wear the official St Peter's Supporter's outfit.

Men's and Ladies golf shirts all R200 each. Men's and Ladies Jackets R400 (XS-L) and R450 (XL – 2XL) each.





## **ANITA SPORTS BRAS**



## **AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL SHOP – R795 EACH**

## Locks – Grade 8s

Parents should have received an invoice for the lock(s) that were issued to the students during the Grade 8 orientation week. Please pay for these if you have not yet done so.

## **Statements from School Shop**

Statements have been sent out to those who for some reason have a debit balance. Please check the statement and contact Mrs Wheeler on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday if you have any queries or concerns regarding the statement or by email at <u>wheelerc@stpeterscollege.co.za</u>.

## **EFT Payments**

Please note that the School Shop account number is different to the School Fees Account. Please always use the following account for payments to the School Shop for uniform, textbooks or stationery: St Peter's College PA Standard Bank Rivonia, Branch Code 001255 A/C # 420095144 All EFT payment confirmations must be emailed to Nerina Deeb at <u>deebn@stpeterscollege.co.za</u>.

## School Shop Hours

Normal Shop Hours Mon, Tue and Thu 07:00 to 15:00 Wed and Fri 07:00 to 13:00



Why is it so important to wear a sports bra?

In addition to comfortable shoes and fashionable activewear, you should always wear a well-fitting sports bra.

Exercising sets the breasts in motion, however, nature did not design our chest for these extreme movements.

To avoid back, shoulder and neck pain and over stretching of the sensitive connective tissue, you should always wear a special sports bra during exercise.

During sports such as, hockey, netball and other high impact sports, your breasts are under extreme strain: your bust moves up and down about nine centimetres per step.

These undesired bust movements are reduced by up to 78% through wearing a well fitting sports bra.

We have the ideal sports bras in modern designs for any activity, perfectly tailored to the needs of the female body

## **Tennis News**

## **Boys' Tennis Inter-high**

On Saturday, 9 March, the Tennis Boys participated in the Boys' Inter-high at St Stithians



The Top 5 boys played at this great event. Matthew Harris, Adriano Costa, Jonty Webb, Keagan Rousseau and Michael du Plooy flexed their muscles on the court and played exceptionally well.

In the first round robin they beat Hyde Park, Fourways and Edenvale. They drew with Redhill and lost to St Stithians.

This achievement placed them second in their group which meant that they were playing for positions 5 - 8. They then got exposed to more challenging competition where they have

beaten Northcliff and narrowly lost against Helpmekaar.

This placed them 6<sup>th</sup> out of 24 schools which is the best result St Peter's College has ever had. Thank you to Ms Mangena for accompanying the boys on this exciting day. The pizza was a great reward! Mrs Cornel Malan MIC: Tennis

Tennis Star

Mikayla Gounden (Grade 11) is selected as the 6<sup>th</sup> seeded player for Gauteng Central. The team played inter-provincials from Saturday, 16 March 2019 to Tuesday, 19 March 2019. Gauteng Central is the Inter-provincial winners for 2019. Mikayla won all her singles, doubles and mixed doubles. We are exceptionally proud of Mikayla!

Mrs Cornel Malan MIC: Tennis

## **Notice from Home Affairs**

Please be informed that Randburg office of Department of Home Affairs will be open for smart cards and reissue of identity documents applications on the following Saturdays from 8am to 1pm. It will highly be appreciated if you could assist in informing the residents including the surrounding schools.

16 March 2019

23 March 2019

30 March 2019

Students applying for the first time should come with one parent if married or the mother if not married. They must carry the learner's birth certificate and the parent's original ID or smartcard.

Thanking you in advance. *Randburg Home Affairs*