

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

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Useful links: 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,

Thank you so much to our parents and students that attended our 20th Anniversary celebrations on Saturday, 16 June. It was a very special event and it gave us the opportunity to reflect and celebrate what we have achieved over the past 20 years. This celebration provided us the opportunity to welcome back to the College many of our former founding members, parents and alumni, as well as, providing them a chance to meet each other, former teachers and other staff members. It also enabled them to notice the changes & developments in the college campus over the past 20 years.

It was indeed a privilege to welcome a number of special guests to the celebration:

The Right Reverend Dr. Steve Moreo Bishop of the Diocese of Johannesburg, Reverend Trevor Prince from St Stephen's, Mr Lebogang Montjane the Executive Director of the Independent School's Association of South Africa, the CEO of the Anglican Board of Education, Mr Roger Cameron, Mrs Heather Power wife of our first Chairman of Council the late Mr Humphrey Power, former Chairmen of Council, Mr Tak Hiemstra, Mr David and Mrs Jean Butcher, Mr Mike and Mrs Gill Ilsley, current Chairman of Council Mr Nathaniel and Mrs Judith Ramuthaga. Founding Headmaster Mr Ronnie and Mrs Pat Todd, former Headmaster Mr Graham Howarth, Chairman of the PA Mr Des and Mrs Karin Mahony, Rector of the St Peter's Preparatory Schools Mr Greg Royce, guest speaker former Head Girl Ms Khanya Memela, members of council and the PA, former and current parents, our Alumni, staff and students – we were honoured by your presence on the day.

The bonds between staff and students at the College have remained strong even post student's matriculation. Alumni reach back to help and learn; they stay in touch with news, use staff as mentors, and even return to St Peter's College as mentors themselves. I use this opportunity to perhaps mention three St Peter's College "Blue Bloods" who have the unique distinction of having attended St Peter's Prep and St Peter's College as students, returned to the College as teacher interns and are now proud members of our academic faculty; **Steven Tudhope, Mathew Kirkland and Victor Hiemstra.** St Peter's College and her alumni are rich resources for one another. Whatever your passion or field of expertise, we look forward to welcoming you back to our campus. Two decades ago, the College was a small & struggling organisation, but now the College has an alumni base that is widely-spread throughout the globe searching for growth, learning, knowledge and their performances make a difference everywhere. Many of them are still showcasing their excellence as evidenced by the numerous success posts shared on our Old Petrian's Facebook page.

I believe that the College has now become one of the great institutions in South Africa. It has all the important fundamentals to reach greater heights; an expansive campus, experienced staff, dedicated students, financial resources, conducive environment for all-round growth as well as over 2000 alumni. Many of the alumni hold key positions of influence in society. I would like to acknowledge their efforts for their involvement in the development of our society, honouring the years spent at the College.

Last but not the least; I would like to thank all of you for your keen participation as well as the support you always extended to St Peter's College.

"In Futurum Fortiter"

Regards,

Mr Rui Morais Headmaster

St Peter's College 20th Anniversary Celebration

Twenty years later and the College continues to grow from strength to strength within its academic, sporting and cultural aspects. Despite being a fairly new institution of learning, St Peter's College has

grown from initially consisting of 90 students, to presently schooling over 600 students and well over 100 staff members.

This past weekend always tooch are passets and students of St Pater's Callege.

This past weekend alumni, teachers, parents and students of St Peter's College celebrated the 20th Anniversary year of our existence, and what a celebration it was! The College's 20th birthday – which appropriately took place on Youth Day – did not only celebrate the monumental milestone of two decades of existence, but also the brave young men and women who took to the streets of Soweto on the fatal day of June 16 more than 40 years ago. This past Saturday also saw the blessing of the College's new Administration Building and the last rugby, netball and hockey Derby

Day of 2018 against Cornwall Hill.

The day began with the Youth Day Eucharist service led by Bishop Dr Steve Moreo, which included a word of welcome from the Chairman of Council, Mr Nathaniel Ramuthaga, the formal address by Mr Morais and guest speaker, Ms. Nokukhanya Mamela, an alumnus of – St Peter's College and Head girl of 2013. The service concluded with the planting of the trees by our two longest serving staff members; Mr Lovemore Ngobene and Mr Dario Doneda, the speech on the symbolism of the St Peter's Rose by Vuyo Tshwele and Matthew Garrett and the formal blessing of the Administration Block.

Celebrations continued with performances by the Jazz Band, Barbershop, Beauty Shop and Orchestra in the Dippenaar Hall and dance students on the De Klerk field. The College also hosted its final Derby Day of the year against Cornwall Hill, which saw both parents and students showing their utmost love and pride for the College as they enthusiastically supported our rugby, netball and hockey teams.

This past Saturday truly was a celebration of St Peter's College's growth and success over the past 20 years. Old friendships were rekindled, new traditions were established and old rivalries buried. Through the continuous support and compassion shown by teachers, parents and students, the College continues to walk bravely into the future - 20 years and counting!

Ms Sithuthukile Madonsela Grade 12 Student



World Challenge 2019

"I don't know. I am not in charge." These are my two favourite sentences when on World Challenge. Why? Well plain and simply because I am not in charge. The Challengers are responsible for making all the necessary arrangements, working with a budget and most importantly making sure that everyone has somewhere to stay, something to eat balancing the budget at the end of every day.



Let's not forget arranging the Rest and Relaxation at the end of it all. Did you get the opportunity as a learner to make all the arrangements for a 2week tour, tell the teacher where to go, where to sleep and what time to be ready for whatever was planned for the day?

This is what Challengers are required to do. This takes place under non-intrusive guidance. It has happened that on one tour a Gr11 boy had to tell myself and the World Challenge guide that we are to please stay within the meal budget, it did take him 3days to pluck up the courage, but he did it, learning a valuable skill that day. Each learner/challenger has the opportunity to take charge of at least one day and all decisions on that day.

World Challenge is going to NEPAL during the 2019 August holidays and I would love for your child to learn the life skills that they acquire whilst on this tour. Should you require further information please would you contact me

therons@stpeterscollege.co.za or Suzette meyers@stpeterscollege.co.za and we are more than happy to send you more information.

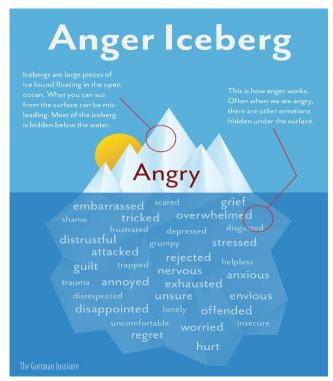
Ms. Sonja Theron MIC: World Challenge





ST PETER'S COLLEGE

Message from the Wellness Department



Conflict management with Teenagers

Conflict management skills: Why you need them

During your child's teenage years, you might clash more often than you did in the past. For example, you might disagree about things like what your child wears, what he does with his time, or whether he follows your cultural traditions.

Some conflict is normal and healthy, as your child becomes an independent and responsible young adult. It is important to remember that you and your child are individuals with different opinions and views, so you can expect to disagree sometimes. However, too much conflict is not healthy and conflict management strategies and skills become necessary tools to use. Effectively dealing with conflict with your teenager can help to reduce family stress levels, helps strengthen relationships and provides useful social skills.

It's worth picking your battles. Conflict can often be about small things. So even if you dislike your child's hair style, think about whether it's really worth arguing about. You might want to save your energy for important things like safety.

Getting ready to deal with conflict: tips

- Try to think back to your feelings and experiences as a young person. This can help you relate to your child.
- Remember that teenage brain development means your child might not be able to see the risks and consequences of a situation. Your child might not be able to see things from your perspective either.
- Try to be flexible about little issues. This might mean your child is more willing to listen and discuss bigger issues.
- Go easy on yourself and don't expect to be perfect you're human too. If you overreact or lose your self-control a bit, apologize and start again when you can.
- Avoid dealing with conflict when you and your child are feeling upset or angry. Wait until you feel calm instead.
- Prepare what you're going to say and think about the words you want to use.
- Try to make sure that not every conversation with your child is about difficult issues. Spend some time enjoying each other's company if you can.

Talking through conflict: tips

- Stay calm, stop what you're doing, make eye contact, listen, and treat your child with respect.
- Let your child have her say. Be open to hearing your child's point of view. When she has finished, you can talk.
- Be open about your feelings. This can help your child understand why you want him to do or not do something. For example, 'I feel worried about your safety when I don't know where you are', or 'I feel that it's important for our family to celebrate some of our cultural traditions'.
- Explain your view simply and briefly, making it clear that your main concern is for your child's wellbeing, now and in the future. For example, 'I need to make sure you're safe if you're out at night. It helps if you tell me where you're going and who you're with'.
- If you can, be prepared to negotiate with your child and compromise. When you compromise, you demonstrate problem-solving skills. For example, your child might want to paint her bedroom black, and you hate the idea. A compromise might be painting one wall black or two walls in a dark colour.
- If you have to say 'no', try to do it in a calm, understanding and respectful way. For example, 'I understand that you want a tattoo. But you're 13 and you've got a lot of time to think about it. So right now, the answer is no'.

Dealing with conflict aftermath: tips

- Despite your best efforts, it might take a while for you and your child to calm down after a conflict. Your child might feel disappointed if you've said 'no' to something. These tips can help you both feel better and move forward.
- Help your child to calm down by showing your understanding, letting him express his disappointment or giving him space if he needs it.
- Self-Care: talking to a professional or someone you trust can help you feel better about the situation.

Mrs Laila Jeebodh-Desai Educational Psychologist

Inter-High Dance Crew Rehearsal Schedule

Contemporary Dancers

5 August to 18 August 2018, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 09:00 to 12:00 in the Dance Studio. **Street Dancers**

5 August to 18 August 2018, every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 13:00 to 16:00 in the Dance Studio.

Combined rehearsals

21 August to 24 August 09:00 to 12:00 in the Dance Studio.

Mr Izak Botha Director of Cultural

Winter Soireé

One thing is for sure, the talent at St Peter's College never ceases to amaze.

The SPC Music Department did a sterling job with their annual Winter Soireé, from organisation to performance, every act was a show-stopper.



Talent varies from singing to drumline and from choir to orchestra, but it doesn't stop there!

Acts featured on the night were: Barbershop, orchestra, jazz band, vocalists, rock band, choir, beauty shop and drumline, amongst other soloists.

The orchestra, one of the College's largest ensembles, performed two popular songs: our very own, local, Doo Be Doo by Freshly Ground and the climatic and dramatic Palladio by Karl Jenkins.

There is really a lot of work that goes into each soireé and it is a huge task that every performer has to undergo.

Being in the orchestra myself, I know that the setting of the MADDitorium late at night, surrounded by friends and waiting in anticipation to perform can be daunting, but it is also exciting and is an experience that everybody involved

enjoys.

On behalf of the music students and all the performers, we would like to thank Mr Lottering and Ms King for working so hard to make the evening a success, from practising with the ensembles to setting up the timetable, it was an amazing job. Well done and we all look forward to the next soireé that the music department has to offer.

Mr Urish Naidu Grade 9 Students