



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

At the recently held Headmaster's Assembly I had the opportunity to address the students on the significance and the importance of Human Right's Day. It is a sad reality that most of our youth do not understand the importance of celebrating Human Rights and the sacrifices made by so many of our youth on that fateful day on 21 March 1960.

Human Rights Day

Remember the past and celebrate the future on Human Rights Day

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human Rights Day

Human Rights 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 sign of healing the wounds of the day, former President Mandela signed the acceptance of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa into law here 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. Today, the South African constitution protects individual rights, like the right to move freely without a pass book, with its inclusion of the Bill of Rights (only a supermajority of Parliament can influence any changes to the bill), and citizens are entitled to basic human dignity and more in the country's current democracy.

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.

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 non-racial 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,

h. Morais

Mr Rui Morais Headmaster

Dramatic Arts News

Grade 9 Drama Workshop

On the 19 of March, the St Peter's College Grade 9 drama students attended a workshop where the young actors had the opportunity to learn and experience new things. As per usual we were split up into our separate classes, and the groups were further broken down to ensure each student received as much attention as possible. One thing that I believe the workshop showed me is that if you break-down acting, into smaller pieces, focus on the details, you can very quickly identify what can be done to change good acting into great acting.

In terms of the workshop itself, allow me to give an overview of what took place.

We began by doing some physical warm-ups, much like what is done in sport, and we then moved onto some mental warmups. These exercises helped us with improving our impromptu acting skills, which is vital in many forms of acting. After the exercises, we then participated in different activities, such as an improved version of *charades*. Basically, how it worked, is that we had to tell a story about a character that we made up in our minds. We were given information about where the character is from, his occupation, and an object he uses. We had to deliver all this information, without the use of our voices. We had to deliver this information simply through body language. We added on to this and played a few other dramatically themed games (such as character *rock, paper, scissors*).

Some things I believed the students learned was that body language really can change a performance – how much it affects a play, and in what way it does so.

Overall, I would have to say that if you are reading this and you want to improve your own drama marks, or you know a friend who would want to do so, I would recommend that you do try and bring up this drama workshop in the conversation. *David Plumb*



Senior Drama Club – Puppetry workshops

These puppetry workshops have been very different from the drama workshops we have been exposed to in the past, which usually focus on performing aspects such as physical theatre or acting. Therefore, some of us were very anxious when we heard we were doing puppetry because we did not know what to expect. However, after the very first session, it opened us up to the idea that different can be great, and we have thoroughly enjoyed it so far.

Those of us who have been attending the three-week course feel privileged because it has been such amazing learning experience, being exposed to the many different puppets and how they work, and physically making the actual puppets that we will eventually use in a skit or performance. We have made two types of puppets so far and the process of making our newspaper creations has been all laughs and no judgments.

Puppetry is a stress reliever! Nyasha Ndisengei



Firehouse Review



The Grade 8 and 9 students were treated to a performance of "Firehouse" – a fast-paced play that examines the political 'fires' that have burned recently in South Africa. Sarah Gareth reviewed the show.

An aura of excitement filled the MADDitorium as the lights glowed and smoke was released.

Firehouse is about a about a group of firemen, bravely fighting the real fires in their everyday lives, and a metaphor for South Africans fighting the political fires in our country. Personally, I enjoyed how the performers used only one set and used it creatively to reflect numerous locations. Another amazing thing was the lighting, which reflected the mood of the play. I enjoyed the part when there was a fire and the lights would shine into the

smoke, creating the effect off a fire. All in all, I loved the show and would highly recommend it. *Sarah Garrett*



World Challenge News

Challenge for Parents

There have been many requests from parents regarding a World Challenge for adults. If you know

of someone or perhaps you are interested in participating in a World Challenge and experiencing what your child experiences, please would you send an email to Ms Sonja Theron at <u>therons@stpeterscollege.co.za</u>.



Should there be sufficient interest shown, a meeting for all interested parties will be scheduled in the next school term. To gain more understanding of what happens on tour, please view the video by clicking on this link <u>https://youtu.be/ZQ3Yhvi3fwQ</u>. The video was made on the 2015 World Challenge Tour to Northern India. *Ms Sonja Theron - World Challenge*

House Build 2018

Grade 11s Community Project



The House Build Committee for 2018 has been formed and they have laid their plans for the drive. They decided on the name **ITHEMBA**, meaning "hope". Their slogan is "Uniting the hands of Hope". Forms have been distributed to students, in order for them to help raise funds, by selling proverbial bricks to help build houses in disadvantaged communities. The following students were elected by the committee to take the lead:

- Treasurer: Darren Piarray
- Secretary: Robert Walker
- Vice Chairperson: Kailin Naidoo
- Chairperson: Kosmas Joannou

Congratulations to the committee and their executive members. We look forward to a successful year. *Suzette Meyer - Housebuild*

Traffic News

Fourways Traffic is the worst in South Africa

A group of St Peter's parents are being proactive in tackling the traffic in the Fourways Area. They have approached the DA Councillor, JMPD and LRA to discuss the infrastructure, motorists' behaviour on the roads and points men required to ensure the Fourways Area traffic flows adequately. To send an email to Mayor Herman Mashaba, to ensure he is aware of the circumstances on our roads, 10 000 signatures are required – please consider signing the petition below and sharing this with other concerned road users in our area. We are hoping to make a difference! https://www.petitions24.com/signatures/fourways traffic is the worst in sa sign this petition to make-it-stop/start/0

Thank you for your support! Mrs Michele Horwood ST PETER'S COLLEGE

Matric Dance Fundraiser



INVITATION

St Peter's College invites you to



THE HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME

THE GREATEST MUSIC FROM THE GREATEST MOVIES!



Date:	12 th April 2018
Time:	show starts at 20h00 doors open at 18h30 – come early, chill out and choose from the
	many options available to have a meal before the show starts
Ticket price:	R185 per person
Address:	The Barnyard Theatre Rivonia, Rivonia Crossing 2, Witkoppen Rd & Rivonia Rd, Sunninghill
RSVP:	Bookings to be made by 4 April 2018 and payment to be made no later than 6 April 2018.
	Payments to be made directly into the School Account with reference BT and your child's
	surname e.g. BTMULLER. E-mail proof of payment to Anchen Muller on email address
	mullera@stpeterscollege.co.za

Join us for a memorable evening of good music and fun. Bring along your friends and family and fill a table of 8 or 10 people

Welcome to bring your own food or buy or pre-order food from the venue * Cash bar available * No beverages may be brought in from outside of the venue

