



# 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 and Staff,

St Peter's College has experienced unprecedented growth and development during the course of 2017 into 2018. Our student numbers have grown, and I am happy to announce that we are at full capacity in the junior classes, Grades 8, 9 and 10.

There were many projects scheduled for 2017, the main priority being the building of the Administrative Block, which will replace the current temporary facility aptly named "Lego Land". This new facility will house the entire administrative function of the College, together with a staff-room, as well as, a facility for the new school shop. Please note, the move from the current admin block to the new facility is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 06 March the day we return from half-term. Hence, the administrative function of the college will be closed for business on that day to facilitate the logistics around the move.

We are in the process of installing floodlights on our basketball courts, thanks to a generous donation from one of our parents. This wonderful donation will be a wonderful addition to the basketball programme, it will further enhance our already excellent sports facilities and will give further impetus to what has become one of the most popular activities at St Peter's College. We are also looking at refurbishing our Resource Centre in 2018, as part of our vision to upgrade a different academic block each year.

Our IT infrastructure has also been extensively upgraded to accommodate the implementation of the vision for Technology integration. As we strive to become leaders in this area, 2018 is the year we migrate from Google to Microsoft, and it is the 3rd year since laptops have been used by the Grade 8, 9 and 10s, as part of the IT phasing in process. Under the auspices of our IT Steer Committee, our Deputy Head of Academics Mrs Shelly Matthews, as well as, our Director of Learning Technologies, Mr Steven Tudhope, we are striving to be at the cutting edge in this critical area.

We are celebrating our 20th Anniversary in 2018, and as we head into this milestone in the history of this wonderful institution, I believe that the key elements which were present when St Peter's College started – such as the emphasis on family, independent thinking, academic excellence, all-round participation and on community are still at the forefront of our minds.

We need to measure ourselves against the core values of the College of Respect, Relationships, Responsibility and Resilience. In an age which is increasingly technological, where information is changing at an alarming rate and where instant reward is the order of the day, it is critical to centre true education around these values.

"In Futurum Fortiter"

Regards,

h. Morais

Mr Rui Morais Headmaster

# **Academic News**

#### Additional Cycle Test Slot - 20 March 2018

Grade 8	No Cycle Test - Technology Training	
Grade 9	Geography	
Grade 10	Mathematics	
Grade 11	Geography	
Grade 12	Study leave - March Examinations	
Mrs Shelly Matthews		

Deputy Headmistress: Academics

# **Resource Centre**

# Taking a glance at the Resource Centre

I would like to invite everyone to come and look at the wonderful books we have, to read. This is an open invitation to both students and teachers. Our Resource Centre is a colourful and peaceful environment to read and study. We have all genres that you may be interested in. You can also recommend books that you would like to read. We also have e-books that you can read in the comfort of your home. You can find these at <u>http://stpeterscollege.lib.overdrive.com</u>.

Use your email address as your username. We also offer photocopying and printing services. Computers are available for students to do research and type their work. I am available to teach research and referencing skills to learners. *Mrs Rachel Shika* 

Librarian



# Staff News

# Security Guards

Meet our friendly security team who serve us day and night with heart ensuring our students, staff, parents and visitors safety. Should you have any inquiries or comments, please email Mr Lance Camphor at <u>lcamphor@stpeters.co.za</u>



Mr Edward Maboho



Mr Ntsikelelo Matanga



Mr Aubrey Mkhawana



Mr Thabo Lebone



Mr Mncedisi Dube



Mr Samuel Mahlaule



Mr Joseph Phoshoko

#### Valentine's social

2018's Valentine's Day social was no less of a success than any other, with a large crowd of excited Grade 8s and 9s showing up in groups of friends. The combination of loud music and dimmed lights proved to be a crowd pleaser. I have gathered some information about the behind-the-scenes of this eventful night:

To raise funds for the social, Mrs. Muller and the Matric Dance Committee sold tickets to pupils at R50 per ticket. Cool drinks and chips were available for purchase. Chip n' Dip is also available for students to purchase snacks.

A lot of heart and dedication goes to preparing for the social Mrs. Muller notifies the pupils, parents and teachers whilst the Matric Dance Committee oversee setting up the scene.

All in all, this social was a great success and we all wait anxiously to see what changes will be present in the future. *Urish Naidu (Grade 9)* 



#### **Camp News**

As the morning of the 24 January dawned, the Grade 9s were waiting to board the bus to Mountain Sanctuary Park. Some students were not looking forward to this camp, because of the prospect of sleeping in tents. After a two-and a half-hour bus ride, we arrived. We were given a quick talk, about how the next few days, before being split into campsite groups, which were the groups we would be in a campsite with and do all the activities with.

The activities included: Orienteering (where we were given maps and a compass and had to find our way to points in the bush), Octopus (we each had to hold a string and pull, to carry a plate across a circle, without spilling water that was on the plate), some puzzles that we solved as a group, pipeline (using a limited number of pipes to roll a golf ball to a certain point and an absolutely gorgeous hike through the bush. I think almost everybody's favourite activity was kloofing, the activity in which we went down into the river gorge and made our way down the river. We also slid down a natural rock slide, jumped from tall rocks into pools and had a fantastic experience.

After being sorted into our campsites, we pitched our tents. On the first afternoon, my campsite did orienteering and the Octopus. That night, we cooked out own food and it was delicious. The next morning after a feast of a breakfast, my campsite went Kloofing and then we did some brainteasers. After lunch, another campsite joined with ours and we played games as a group. We had dinner, that we cooked again, then we got a chance to relax. On the second night, there was a huge wind, but at least it wasn't like the huge storm we had on night one.

The next morning, we went on a gorgeous hike through the mountains, before packing our tents up and eating a quick lunch. We then packed our bags onto the bus and left for home.

Thank you to our Grade Head, Mrs Müller and the following staff who joined us on camp; Ms Van Schalkwyk, Mrs Maher, Mrs van der Wel, Dr Da Silva and Mr Hienstra.

Sarah Garrett (Grade 9)



#### THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER

ST PETER'S COLLEGE

#### "The Colour Purple" Drama Outing



Senior Drama students were treated to a once-in-a-lifetime experience on 21 February, when they attended a production of "The Color Purple". The all-South-African cast astounded us with their musical theatre skills, leaving very few dry eyes in the house. Grade 11 Drama student, Sage Palombo, shared some of her thoughts after the performance...

"Completely speechless. 'The Colour Purple', a production like no other I'd seen before. The meaning behind of the songs sung brought tears to my eyes. My tears were not for the sad moments, but for the characters' development and happy endings to each hardship.

Exquisite voices with beautiful stories. I fell in love with each character as soon as they stepped onto the stage. The moments of comic relief brought humour to the serious themes, which in my opinion created deeper understandings. The stage and set were stunning: bare yet so creative, it told the story as much as the characters.

As a woman, this play was so empowering to watch, and I felt privileged to have witnessed such home-grown talent. The play has taught me that standing up for yourself will create a life worth living, and that self-acceptance and love is hugely important in this age of insecurity and doubt.

It also showed me that no matter where your loved ones are in the world, you carry them in your heart, and that's what makes you strong."

Sage Palombo (G11MKI)



# **Art News**

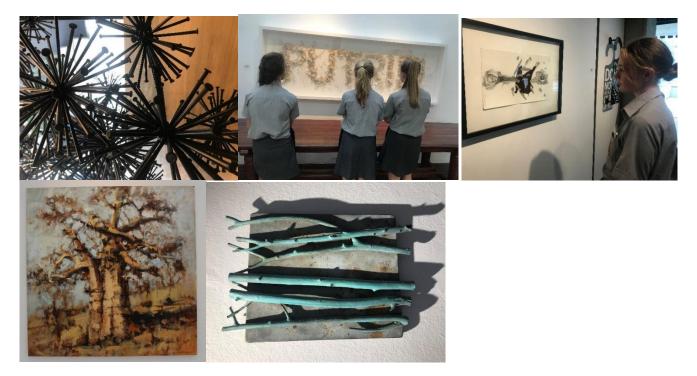
# **Art Task Team Outing**

On 14 February the Art Task Team students took a trip to the Everard Read and Circa art museums. The museums, located in Rosebank on opposite sides of the road, displayed various artists 'works. The Circa featured Paolo Bini Colourscape artworks. He created these bright and colourful paintings to highlight the experience of travel and discovery and unveil our natural surroundings. The paintings were a hot spot for the students to take photos. Their contrast of bright colours made them fun and interesting to look at and figure out their meaning and how they were made. The gallery also featured Johan Stegmann's detailed etchings on paper that held their own deeper meanings than what was just drawn on their surfaces and Chonat Getz's simplistic horse sculpture.

Opposite the Circa in the Everard Read Main Gallery the St Peter's College students wondered through every inch of the museum looking at all the artworks. Many students' favourites were Walter Voigt's Kruger Sacred Spaces, where he used oil on canvas to draw simple lines and shapes to create his landscapes. He took shots of the Kruger's riverbeds, baobab trees, wild animals and all the exquisite scenery to make his paintings come alive. He is a South African artist born in Johannesburg and he grew up around the nature he loves to paint so much. Visiting the art galleries was an amazing experience and it gave all the students perspective and creative ideas for their own artworks.

The galleries are a place to go visit whether you know a lot about art or just want to go appreciate it! I can't wait to go back for another visit!

Sabrina Jansen (Grade 10)



# **Eco-Pets News**

**Shavathon** 



The 2018 CANSA Shavathon/Sprayathon will be taking place at St Peter's College on Thursday 1 March. We encourage you to support this worthy cause. A donation of R50.00 is required to have one's hair spray painted or shaved. Should you and your child wish to support CANSA, but not wish to be sprayed or shaved they will receive a button for their donation. Students may come to school dressed in civvies if they are going to be participating in the event. Please complete the consent form that was e-mailed if you would like your child to

participate in this worthwhile event. You are also welcoming to participate in the festivities of the day. We look forward to your support for this very worthy cause. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me (marangonic@stpeterscollege.co.za).

*Mr Claudio Marangoni HOD Life Sciences Environment Portfolio* 

# Recycling

A reminder that we are collecting the following items for recycling:

- Printer cartridges
- Plastic bottle caps
- Bread tags
- Coffee pods

Please bring these to SCU1 (in the Science Block) for collection. If you require any further information regarding any of these collections, please contact Claudio Marangoni (<u>marangonic@stpeterscollege.co.za</u>).

# **Eco-Pets introduce "Footprint Fasting for Lent"**



During this Lenten period, the Eco-Pets would like to encourage you to participate in a Footprint Fast. This will not only be a worthy challenge but will have a positive impact on our planet for future generations. Please take up the challenges presented in the attached Footprint Fast. If you have additional suggestions that can be added to the list, please e-mail <u>marangonic@stpeterscollege.co.za</u>.

Most people give up silly things like chocolate, sweets and other luxurious non-important foods for Lent. This year why not try something different during this Lenten period: reduce your Ecological Footprint (the impact you have on our fragile

planet) by limiting the use of certain resources, or "fasting" from these resources. This "fasting" process will hopefully lead to a more sustainable lifestyle. We have broken these resources into different weeks and provided ideas that you can do reduce your footprint.

# Week 1: Water

Water has been in the headlines recently, especially regarding "Day Zero" in Cape Town. There has also been the news regarding the water crisis in the Eastern Cape metropolitan cities as well. Even though we have had some good rains recently, we must still be sensitive to the fact that we live in a water scarce country and that water is a luxurious, yet valuable gift. We must all do our share to look after this scarce resource. Below are some ideas that we can do to reduce our Water Footprint:

- Place buckets in showers;
- Reduce shower time to once a day and about 1 minute;
- Use grey water for toilets and gardens;
- Close taps properly;
- Do not waste water by leaving taps running whilst you brush your teeth, shave, wash your face and hands;
- Report or repair any leak that you see;
- Wash clothing only when it is needed;
- Drink more water (reduce juices, cold drinks, tea, coffee);
- Remove alien vegetation.

# Week 2: Food

What we eat has a large impact on our planet. We should be aware of the source, production and disposal of the food we buy and eat. Below are some ideas that we can do to reduce our Food Footprint.

- Participate in Meat-Free-Mondays or reduce your consumption of meat products (watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\_mmGzAzoGI to understand how it works);
- Eat local and seasonal fruits and vegetables (those that have not been imported);
- Prepare a sufficient amount of food so that there is limited wastage;
- Compost any food waste;
- Buy less prepared, processed and packaged food;
- Grow your own vegetable garden.

# Week 3: Waste

Everything that we consume has an impact on the environment. They have an impact from the point of extraction from the earth, to their production and distribution, to their consumption and eventually their disposal. Below are some ideas that we can do to reduce our Waste Footprint:

- Buy fewer products that are packaged in plastics and polystyrene (especially bottled water and hot drinks in polystyrene cups);
- Take your own bags to stores (even when buying at a boutique store);
- Dispose of all waste appropriately (recycle what can be recycled, compost wet waste and fill eco-bricks with non-recyclable waste);
- Rely on reusable containers (glass jars, lunch boxes, thermos cups and water bottles);
- Do not ask for, or use, plastic straws at restaurants;
- Avoid take-aways;
- Reuse products and items until they are finished (ask yourself if you really need a new item when the old one is still fine);
- Use both sides of paper;
- Practice the points mentioned in Food as these also reduce our Waste Footprint.

# Week 4: Energy

Everything that we do requires energy. Unfortunately, our energy sources are either coal-based or oil-based. The burning of these fossil fuels has negatively impacted on our environment. We should be trying to reduce the amount of energy that we consume. Below are some ideas that we can do to reduce our Energy Footprint:

- Use less electricity by reducing the amount of time on electrical appliances (including cell phones and tablets);
- Only use cleaning appliances when they are full, and turn down the heat on these;
- Unplug all electrical items from the wall when they are not in use (even on standby);
- Turn off lights in rooms that are unoccupied, or if there is bright sunshine;

- Avoid overheating or overcooling rooms; rather take layers of clothing off or add layers to keep rooms at a more manageable temperature;
- Reduce the amount of time you travel in a car alone; try driving at off-peak times (less idling) and try carpooling (fewer vehicles on the road);
- If you must fly, offset your travel carbon footprint by planting a tree (or donating a tree to be planted);
- Participate in Earth Hour (24 March 2018 from 20:30 21:30);
- Practice the points mentioned in Food and Waste as these also reduce our Energy Footprint.

# Week 5: Appreciate Nature

As we approach the time of rejoicing for Easter, let us spend some time appreciating nature and rejoicing for the good we have done for nature this Lent (and will hopefully continue doing in the future). Below are some ideas that we can do to appreciate the reasons for reducing our Footprint:

- Take off earphones and take the time to listen to the birds and insects;
- Watch a sunrise and/or sunset;
- Appreciate the wonderful array of autumn colours;
- Smell a flower;
- Take a walk in a park;
- Watch a David Attenborough documentary;
- Plan a trip to a Botanical Garden or Nature Reserve for your Easter Holiday;
- Hug a tree and thank it for the carbon dioxide it removes from the atmosphere and the oxygen it provides us.

# **Sports News**

# Old Petrian's Water Polo and Cricket Tournaments St Peter's College hosts the most prestigious Girls Water Polo Tournament in SA

St Peter's College is proudly hosting our 14th annual 'Old Petrian's Water Polo Tournament' from Thursday, 1 March to Sunday, 4 March 2018. This is the largest and most prestigious girls' water polo tournament in the country. 364 girls between the ages of 16 and 18 from 28 schools around South Africa and Zimbabwe will be participating with a huge following of supporters behind them.

We would like to thank the parents and sponsors who have so generously contributed funds, goodie bag gifts and other items to the Tournament.

Many thanks for supporting our girls. Go College!

# **Old Pets T20 Cricket Tournament**

Over the upcoming half-term 1-4 March 2018, St Peter's 1<sup>st</sup> Team Cricket will be participating in our annual **Old Petrian's T20 Cricket Tournament**. 12 teams will be participating in this year's tournament. We are looking to defend the title that we won last year. We have a stronger team this year and we are certain that we can forge ahead the tough competition we will be facing.

Please come along to enjoy the action and support our girls over the four days. There will be refreshments and an exhilarating vibe. If you cannot be there in person, you can follow the progress on the Facebook page and get live commentary on MyComLink which attracts over 60000-page views per tournament.

Like our Facebook page and follow the action <u>https://www.facebook.com/OldPetriansWaterPoloTourno/</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/oldpetrianscrickettournament/</u>

Fixtures and live commentary: www.mycomlink.co.za

*Duncan Hill (1<sup>st</sup> Team Cricket Captain) and Zantia Bainbridge (Water Polo 1<sup>st</sup> Team Captain)* 

# Central Gauteng Tennis

On a misty weekend at the end of January, five tennis girls camped out at the courts of Ellis Park. Mikayla Gounden, Justeene Hallowes, Jessica Harris, Laura Lyle and Tanya Paul started off by sweeping the courts at Ellis Park after Saturday's morning rain. These young ladies, all under the age of 17 participated in Central Gauteng Tennis U-19 trial, competing against older girls. They competition was over two days, challenging tennis ability and endurance. Congratulations to Mikayla Gounden who was selected to be part of the Central Gauteng under 19 B team!

The weekend thereafter, it was the boys' turn to show their ability on the court. Matthew Harris who is also under 16, had to compete in the under 19 age group. He did exceptionally well and just fell short of inclusion in the Central Gauteng Tennis team.

We are exceptionally proud of our tennis players. They have shown endurance and resilience while they were stretched to their maximum capacity!

Mrs Cornel Malan

MIC: Tennis



# Swimming

The swimmers have almost completed a short, but intense league swimming season, and Inter-High is around the corner! Besides competing in the first division A-league, we also hosted a very successful invitational night gala at the start of the month and we competed in several invitational galas.

It's been a pleasure to have so many swimmers join us for morning practices. We've seen many of swimmers grow in confidence and speed over the past month. Preparations for Inter-High have been intense, and we are excited (and a little nervous) about swimming at Delville on Wednesday, 28 February against the top Johannesburg schools. *Mrs Sue Maher* 

MIC: Swimming



# Swimming Gala Results 2018

Date	Fixture	Result
Thurs 01 Feb	League Gala at Reddam Bedfordview	Won by Helpmekaar. (St Peters's 2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Fri 02 Feb	St Peter's Night Gala	St Peters won!
Sat 03 Feb	St Teresa's 50m Gala at Wits	St Peters won! (Prep & College)
Tues 06 Feb	Goue Liga at Helpmekaar	Rained Out
Thurs 08 Feb	League Gala at Pecanwood	St Peters won!
Thurs 15 Feb	League Gala at Curro Aurora	St Peters won!

# **Parent's Association News**

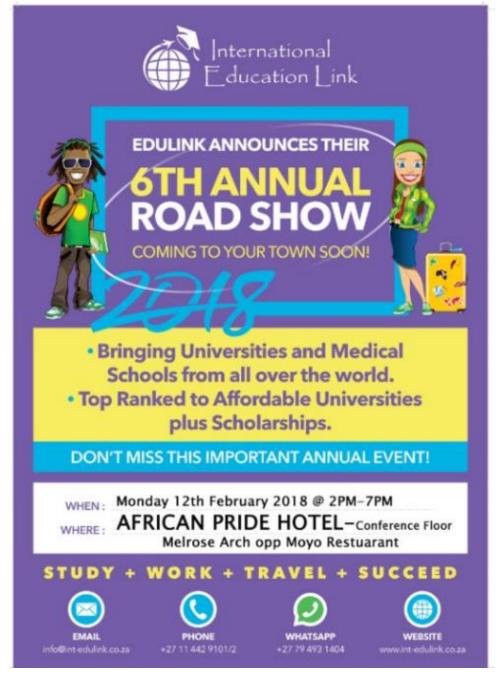
# PA Golf Day – 14 March 2018

Book your four-ball now to avoid disappointment!



# **US & UK Universities Information Session**

Edu link 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Roadshow



#### Crimson

# US & UK Universities Information Session

Johannesburg parents, are you interested in learning about undergraduate studies in the US or UK for your children?

Since 2015, Crimson Education has supported students from across the globe to secure 37 offers to Oxford and Cambridge, 99 offers to Ivy League Universities and more than 330 offers to the top 50 schools in the US.

# WHEN

Wed. 28 February 2018 6:00 pm arrival 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

#### WHERE

# Inanda Club Sandton

A welcome drink and healthy finger supper will be provided

## RSVP

Click Here! Eventbrite

or visit bit.ly/CrimsonInanda

# Come along to the US & UK University Information Session to get answers to five big questions:

- 01 How are US & UK universities different?
- 02 What are the benefits?
- 03 How does one apply?
- 04 How much does it cost?
- 05 How can Crimsons global team support South African applicants?

#### Other points include

- The benefits of studying overseas employability, experience, independence, networking and more
- The common reasons South African students apply overseas
- How to balance the application process and final year studies
- Information for parents including university support and safety
- How Crimson Education works, the team you could be working with and where to find more information.
- The types of students that get accepted into Ivy League schools and/or Oxford/Cambridge
- Common mistakes South African students make when applying to overseas universities
- Strategies for applying and how to maintain local universities as alternatives
- Timeline for applications

#### WWW.CRIMSONEDUCATION.ORG