



26 June 2015

Contents

Message from the Headmaster	2
News	3
New Website	3
National Mathematics Olympiad	3
Secrets of Exam Success	4
Inter-House Dance Competition	4
Can Drive	4
PA Annual Quiz Night	5
Music	5
Biathle.....	6
Girls Soccer Mayoral Cup Tournament.....	6
Co-Curricular News	6
Art Task Team.....	6
Equestrian.....	7
Donations to Animals in Distress	7
Netball	7
Championships	7
Netball Derby Days	8
Rugby	9



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[Old Petrians \(Alumni\)](#)

Message from the Headmaster

Dear St Peter's family,

ACADEMIC PREPARATION, GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS

I would like to tackle two incongruous topics, one dealing with the good things that our students and teachers are preparing either side of the mid-term break, and a second topic relating to a lovely story I heard about generosity. Shortly after our Trinity **mid-term break** which takes place from 27 June to 5 July, our senior students will start their **examinations**. We have a staggered start for Grade 8, 9 and 10, guided by the belief that it is more beneficial to have our teachers and **students in class for longer**, rather than an extended exam season spent out of class. With no disrespect intended by the following analogy, I'm reminded of a story that an American Math teacher I once worked with shared in such cases:

"My Grandpa had a farm and he used to say we will never get our hogs ready for the market by weighing them on a scale every day; we rather spend our time feedin 'em".

Our mid-term break is also a point each term when we run a series of **Parent Consultation Evenings**. Please take note of these dates, which appear on the **Term Calendar** and make an effort to attend.

In a social media piece based on a book entitled "Success Habits of Wealthy Individuals" Thomas Corley gives some fairly vague USA statistics that include in point 7 that "83% of the wealthy attend/attended back to school night for their kids vs. 13% of the poor". Although I don't like the crass focus on wealth as a primary goal in life, I appreciate **the link between parents showing up at school events and the relative success of their children**. Chances are if you are regular reader of our *Keyhole*, I am speaking to the converted.

My story about generosity links a little with our strong commitment as a school to have all our students completing a **number of hours of authentic Community Service**. It relates to a man called **Thomas Guy** who lived and died in London in the **1700s**. He was a prosperous book seller who had a reputation for being mean because, although his business seemed to prosper, among other things he wore old, worn out clothes and kept his own company much of the time. People thought he was a miser who didn't care for people – but they were wrong. Thomas Guy did not hoard his money. He gave thousands of Pounds to people he hardly knew – to men whose businesses had failed, to the poor and to people starting out in life. He gave more than a quarter of a million pounds (almost **R600 million at today's value**) to build a hospital, and to this very day the famous **Guy's Hospital** stands in London as a reminder of the generosity of Thomas Guy, the man people called the mean bookseller.

The lesson of course is that we must not judge by appearance. **People and situations are not always as they appear to be**. It takes self-discipline and good faith to believe the best about someone else, rather than doubting their positive intent. Always get the facts about a person or situation before you reach harsh conclusions.

This is true of course in schools like St Peter's as with anywhere in life. We must encourage direct communication whenever possible. Once direct communication has taken place with those who must speak to one another, if there are any issues you feel should be addressed to me, please reach out and I will do my best to help you.

Humbly



Murray Thomas
Headmaster

News

New Website

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new St Peter's Schools website! Please go to www.stpeters.co.za and take a look around.

This is the core marketing website and communicates the welcome and feel of the school, as well as information and news articles which are of interest to both prospective and current parents and students. This website is a window into our College and with the support of many contributors, aims to show the world what a busy, vibrant world of opportunity we offer children.



The most dynamic page will be the [Social Wall](#) where social media feeds display. We encourage students, parents and staff to upload photos and news snippets to our Facebook page ([St Peter's College](#)). Official news articles will be posted to the News areas on the website by staff, me and selected students. As we are all aware, social media is instantly public and as a proud St Peter's community, we obviously want to communicate positive aspects of our wonderful College. This avenue is not for expressing gripes or negativity – please always contact me or the relevant staff member at the College if you have concerns or need an issue addressed.

- Functionality is being added over the next few months - including the activation of the 'Parent Portal'. This secure login facility will allow you as a parent access to internal College information/forms/policies, to update your personal details and, eventually, your child's marks.

Of course content and pictures are dynamic and constantly updated. Please enjoy your browsing and I appreciate any feedback you have. Please email me on marketing@stpeterscollege.co.za.

Theresa Monoyoudis

Marketing Manager

National Mathematics Olympiad

We are delighted to announce that **Ella Shi**, St Peter's Grade 9, has achieved entry into the prestigious third and **final round of the South African Junior Mathematics Olympiad**. Congratulations Ella. This Olympiad is the biggest in SA and more than 50,000 pupils took part in 2015. The final round will be written on 29 July 2015.

Click here for the full list of participants <http://www.samf.ac.za/examquestions/FinalroundParticipants2015-qualifiers.pdf>

Wilson Sokana

Mathematics Teacher

Secrets of Exam Success

We recommend this powerful mini-course for those boys and girls who missed it or couldn't make time for it in May-June.

Secrets of Exam Success is being reprised Monday and Tuesday 29/30 June, 8h30 to 13h00 with David Hesketh, MSc (Neuroscience/Education) of BrainFocus Centre.

Information and Registration can be found at <http://www.brainfocus.co.za/content/live-seminar>

Inter-House Dance Competition

This year was the first time we were able to use our stunning MADDitorium as a setting for the 2015 Inter-House Dance Competition!

The theme was MULTIVERSITY which showcased various forms of dance including hip hop, ballet, tap, contemporary, krumping and Irish. At St Peter's the ethos is that pupils are given an opportunity and they must make the best of it. Last night was certainly proof that we seized the opportunity. All the dances were self-choreographed and pupils ran the entire event from lighting through to backstage.

On the night, the MADDitorium echoed with the screams and shouts from the different houses and the dancers performed to a full house. The St Peter's spirit was deafening and this year the level of dance talent was fantastic! One of the judges commented that the standard of dancing has increased dramatically and, judging by the level of talent displayed by the Grade 8s, St Peter's dancing has an exciting future. We are also excited to host the Inter-High Dance Completion in September this year.

For the first time ever, a nail biting dance off was called between the two solo finalists: Maxine Ross and Tino Mungadzi. They had to demonstrate to the judges just how multi-versatile they are. It was really close with Maxine winning for Lourie House in the end.



The final results were:

- **Best solo:** Maxine Ross (Lourie)
- **Best improvisation:** Maxine Ross (Lourie)
- **Best duo:** Tino Mungadzi and Deven Archary (Bishops)
- **Best group:** North Movers (Lourie)
- **Overall winning House –** LOURIE

Special thanks to Mr Botha, the judges and to our guest performers, Mr Rakgoale and Mr Kgetse, who helped make the evening an incredible success.

Dani Knight Grade 10

Can Drive

As winter descends upon us, more and more homeless people are flocking to places like churches and community centres seeking food, warmth and shelter.

The 2015 student body executives have this year been invited to join a committee called Phoenix which consists of other student body executives from top schools around Johannesburg.

We have pledged to work hard towards community service on a larger scale and also to impact our various schools and the way we work. This season we have come up with an initiative called the 'Can Drive' – we are appealing to the students of Johannesburg to bring in cans of food (human food) which will be donated to a church at a later stage. We aim to collect as many cans as possible on order to make a big difference and feed as many people as we can.

On this basis, we request that the parents of St Peter's College send canned foods to school with their children. In order to make this initiative a little more appealing we have created a **house competition**. Students are required to give their cans to their housemasters or leave them in their office. The housemasters are Miss Braatvedt for Oriole, Mr Tudhope for Lourie and Mr Kgetse for Bishop. We have until Thursday, 9 July 2015 to collect as many cans as possible.

We are asking you to please support this drive and bring in your cans because one can, can make a huge difference.

Thank you for your support.

Nicola MacLeod: Head Girl on behalf of the Student Body Executives 2015

PA Annual Quiz Night

We are so excited to announce that bookings are open for our Annual Quiz Night!

You are welcome to book a table for family and friends to join you at this exciting event! We will once again have teams of 8 at a table. The professional Quiz Master can't wait to test our brainpower and give out some prizes.

BOOK NOW as space is limited.

Date: Friday, 31 July 2015

Time: 19:00

Venue: Tak Hiemstra Pavilion, St Peter's College

Cost : R120 per person and includes dinner. Bring your own drinks.

Please make payment into the PA's account to secure your booking:

St Peter's College PA, Standard Bank, Rivonia (branch code 001255), Account No.: 4200 951 44

Reference: Quiz, your name and number of guests.

Enquiries/RSVPs: Gizelle Schiavini at mindzone@telkomsa.net or on 083 419 7000.

Tania Else: PA Chairperson

Music



The St Peter's College Music Department congratulates **Talia Rosengarten** on receiving an exceptional **82%** for her **Grade 7 Trinity College Saxophone Examination**. Talia performed this highly challenging repertoire with an impressive technical skill and superior interpretive maturity. She received outstanding feedback from the international examiner and has done St Peter's College proud!

On Sunday, 21 June 2015, **Liam Ramsden** and **Ronewa Netshiswinzhe** competed at a district competition at Cornwall College held by the **Pipeband Association of Southern Africa** They played in the Drum Pad event and placed 2nd and 3rd respectively. Well done gentlemen! Seen here in the photo with David Oosthuizen, tutor and member of Sandton Scottish Pipeband.



Biathle

Congratulations to **Chesnay Havenga** who has been selected to represent the Gauteng Provincial Biathle team at the South African Biathle Championship to be held in East London on 27 June 2015.

Girls Soccer Mayoral Cup Tournament

Congratulations to the following St Peter's College girls who have been selected to represent Rand Central at the Mayoral Cup Tournament: Katlego Mojapelo, Kelly Morgan and Jade Thokoane

The Tournament takes place over Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 June 2015.

Co-Curricular News

Art Task Team

Imaginations were ignited, the inner child revealed and the possibility of creativity enlivened while at the recent Art Task Team expedition to the **'Art of the Brick' Exhibition at The Zone in Rosebank**.

The art enthusiasts were fortunate to engage with this popular and much praised world class exhibit on 24 June 2015. The exhibition was amazingly sculptural despite the medium of all artworks on display; the modest and simple LEGO brick.



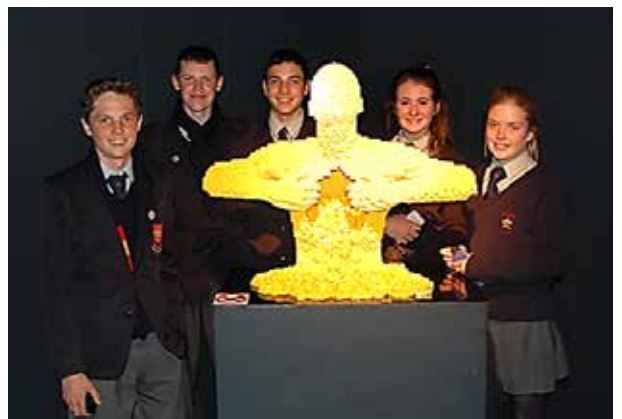
"Dreams are built one brick at a time" (Nathan Sawaya)

The artist, **Nathan Sawaya**, presented a variety of artworks revealing complex concepts concerning the **Human Condition and Expression**. Furthermore, it was most gratifying for art students to observe how the artist interpreted various historically strategic artworks such as the 'Winged Victory of Samothrace', Michelangelo's 'David', Munch's 'Scream' and Vermeer's 'Girl with a Pearl Earring'.

The highlight of the occasion was, undoubtedly, the brief opportunity granted to our students to dig deep into the LEGO tables and create something masterful!

Avril Swanepoel

HOD: Creative Arts



Equestrian

The SPC Equestrian Team competed in the **Inter-Schools' Qualifier Four** at Eaton Farm on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 June. Our team exhibited skills and passion and achieved outstanding results. We are holding thumbs for the Final Result!

The riders placed as follows:

- Mikaila Fintelman: 2nd in Novice Equitation and 3rd in Working Hunter
- Kayla van der Bergh: Tied 3rd in the 60cm Equitation
- Chanel Thomas: 2nd in the 60 cm Competition and 1st in 60 cm Ideal Time
- Nolo Maripane: 7th in the 70 cm, 3rd in the 70 cm Ideal Time and 6th in Equitation
- Sarah Kickhofel: 3rd in the 70cm Equitation
- Imogen Imbert: 2nd in the 1m Competition, 4th in 90 cm Equitation and 5th in Novice Dressage
- Samantha Meiring: Placed in the 80cm Competition and 8th in Equitation
- Cameron Dawson: 2 Clear Rounds in the 1m Competition
- Andrew Thomas: 2nd in Jumping, 1st in Equitation, 2nd in Working Hunter, 3rd in Dressage, 9th in Working Hunter and 5th in Performance Riding
- Caitlin Goodman: 7th in Equitation
- Amy Crossley: 6th in Open Performance
- Amy Shackleton: 5th in 1m speed, 11th in 80cm speed



The Regional Competition will take place in August, during the holidays. We wish our riders all the best. We are super proud of you!

Donations to Animals in Distress

Animals in Distress sent a whole hearted thank you to the St Peter's College students and parents who so generously donated riding gear such as saddles, bridles and even cash to their worthy cause.

Joan Delpont

MIC: Equestrian

Netball

Championships

Three of our St Peter's netball teams made it through to playoffs on Wednesday. It was already cold when the first round of games began. All 3 teams comfortably won their quarterfinal matches and made it through to the semifinals. After an unscheduled delay caused by load shedding, all three teams played their semifinal games.

The **U15A team** unfortunately lost their semifinal which put them through to the 3rd and 4th playoff game, where they also sadly lost.

The **U16A team** played a nail biting match of epic proportions against Leeuwenhof where they lost by one goal in the dying moments of the game. In an equally tense match against St Mary's, Waverley, they came back from being down 7-0 to winning the game by 3 goals... making them the **bronze medalists**.

In the **2nd team** semifinal, St Peter's was 6-2 up against St Stithians when the game was restarted due to time keeping issues. It was a closely contended match where they lost by a narrow margin. They went on to win their 3rd and 4th playoff game against HeronBridge.

Despite the weather conditions, much fun was had by all; with the girls all showing great team spirit. Well done to all the girls who played for this fantastic event and for the excellent results.

Catelin Preece (Grade 10)

Netball Derby Days

Our biggest rivals yet were **Beaulieu College** and I think we can say, we managed to come out on top. On Wednesday the 17 June, our netball girls played a match against Beaulieu at home. It was a fairly tough game for all teams and the last match of the season for some of the girls. St Peter's performed exceptionally well, winning most of our games and only losing a few.



On Saturday, 20 June we also played a match at home against Cornwall Hill College. We hosted yet another memorable Derby Day. The support was amazing and the spirit was great. For the netball girls, the score was tighter than usual. The weather softened up on us, allowing for a fun and energetic game. Thank you to all those who helped make this day so successful.

Promesse Nkongolo (Grade 10)

Results

Competitor	U14	U15	U16	3 rd & 2 nd Teams	1 st Team
Beaulieu	A: 8 – 7 won B: 5 – 11 lost	A: 14 – 21 lost B: 1 – 21 lost C: 0 - 19 lost	A: 24 – 5 won B: 20 – 3 won C: 14 – 2 won	3 rd : 11 – 18 lost 2 nd : 20 – 28 lost	22 – 23 lost
Cornwall Hill	A: 11 – 14 lost B: 8 – 8 draw C: 2 – 12 lost	A: 17 – 17 draw B: 8 – 2 won C: 8 – 7 won	A: 17 – 18 lost B: 16 – 13 won	3 rd : 6 -27 lost 2 nd : 17 – 16 won	15 – 38 lost
Dainfern	A: 21 – 1 won B: 8 – 2 lost	A: 25 16 won B: 13 – 7 won	A: 26 – 3 won	3 rd : n/a 2 nd : 24 – 15 won	29 – 12 won

Rugby

Competitor	U14	U15	U16	2 nd Team	1 st Team
Hyde Park	n/a	15 – 13 won	B: 27 – 7 won	n/a	34 – 11 won
King David Linksfield	0 – 37 lost	0 – 53 lost	5 -17 lost	14 – 5 won	28 – 10 won
Cornwall Hill	0 – 36 lost	17 – 45 lost	12 – 3 win		18 – 35 lost