



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER



7 APRIL 2017

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Useful links

Our 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 and Staff,

As Term 1 draws to a close, I look fondly on what has been another busy but rewarding term at St Peter's College. A number of initiatives have been launched and implemented in support of our continued pursuit of excellence in the academic, cultural and sporting spheres, without ever losing sight of our Anglican roots.

The strive for excellence at St Peter's College and the introduction and implementation of initiatives would not have come to fruition without the support and input from our committed council, academic staff, central support services, parents and students.

As we look forward to the Easter break, we find ourselves living in a country facing an uncertain future and we don't know what we may wake up to politically from one day to the next. However, the one thing we do know, is that South Africa is an amazing place with amazing potential and we all need reminding of that from time to time. Coming to work every day at St Peter's College reminds me of that.

I leave you with a beautifully written message by Professor Jonathan Jansen as a tribute to the struggle hero Ahmed Kathrada who passed away recently:

"Show Me Another Country" – Jonathan Jansen

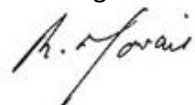
"Show me another country where the Anglican Archbishop prays at a Muslim funeral; where a white man chairs the proceedings to remember a leader from a black liberation movement; where a sitting president of a developing country is told to step down in a letter from the deceased stalwart of his own party; where the widow of the black man being buried is a white woman who gave her life to the struggle for freedom; and where Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu and other faiths come together in a broad swathe of South African humanity to remember a man who fought for all of us.

Where on and off the stage no one racial or ethnic or religious group dominated the event. For a moment, just a moment, it felt good to hope again..."

As St Peter's College embraces continued growth and change in the pursuit of excellence in a flourishing educational space, I thank you for your ongoing support as we look "Bravely into the Future".

In Futurum Fortiter

Kind regards



Mr Rui Morais
Headmaster

Compliance Update

The latter part of 2016 saw the College involved in a NOSA Health & Safety Audit. The College obtained a 3 Star Grading.

Since then much work has gone into addressing the points of concern raised in the audit. The Operations team together with members of the Health and Safety Committee, have rectified a number of site and NOSA requirements this term.

Further, a training plan has been designed to ensure that suitably qualified staff members are on hand to assist in the event of an emergency. The training includes Incident Reporters, First Aiders and Fire Marshals. Congratulations to all those members of the Health and Safety committee who have obtained their qualifications.

One of the areas of focus this year is on the College's environmental responsibilities. In keeping with this goal, the College has registered with WESSA (Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa) as an Eco School. This initiative is driven by the Eco-Pets Committee, a team of dedicated and passionate students under the guidance of Mr Marangoni.

The results of the recently conducted Ergonomics Survey provide a clear indication of the areas that need to be addressed in the future. The College remains unwavering in its commitment to creating a safe and healthy environment for all.

Mrs Arun Jennings

Compliance Manager

Academic News

Grade 9 Science Expo 2017

The 2017 Science Expo Project was a unique and fun way of getting students to do exciting science! This was because the Grade 9s could innovate whatever they wanted to create. This project allowed each student to broadcast their interesting ideas to the school in their own exclusive way. There were many amazing ideas and a few failures, but these failures allowed the students to learn from their mistakes.

The Expo theme of 'Recycle Innovation and Creativity' was useful because it taught all of the students how real entrepreneurs go about developing their own products. The students had nine weeks to complete their projects and many of the sub-topics such as Brainstorming, Descriptions, Drawings, Abstracts etc. The project lent itself to a technical side as well as a Physical Science side, however, the main emphasis was the Sciences.

In the end, all was a success, even if the minor number of projects that didn't go so well, everybody learnt something.

Well done to the people who are going to Regionals!

Justin Amm, Carl Vemer and Jonty Webb – Grade 9CKO



Philosophy for Children

Eighteen College staff members attended a **Philosophy for Children** Course on 24 and 25 March 2017. The research that informed the direction of the course was based on Matthew Lipman's vision to encourage young children to use the art of reasoning, as well as to develop the ability to talk and listen to each other. It became apparent that Philosophy is appropriate to students in all phases of formal education.

What was of interest to us as a College was that studies of interaction in the classroom over the last fifty years have consistently shown that teacher-talk dominates the classroom. Two ways to overcome this interaction, is by the teacher practising and encouraging responsive listening as well as establishing a community of enquiry. The teachers on the Philosophy Course had exposure to a number of routines where they saw responsive listening and community of enquiry in action.

This led to much excitement amongst the teachers and I have no doubt that on Monday morning the teachers were using many of these routines in the classrooms. I believe that it is exposure like this at a Philosophy course that enrich the teaching at St Peter's College and places us at the forefront of change in education.



Mrs Shelly Matthews
Deputy Head: Academics

Student Affairs

Dale Carnegie 2017

The **Dale Carnegie Generation Next programme** is a course designed for young people to develop personal skills such as self-confidence and how to work with people effectively. The course began on 11 February, with a total of three sessions and a graduation ceremony.

We learnt many useful skills that will help us in our daily lives like how to introduce ourselves powerfully and leave a lasting impression, the different ways to start an interesting conversation with someone you just met and the most engaging exercise was how to memorise many things in a short space of time. The "memory peg" methods which we learnt worked wonders! We also made many new friends. The overall course was very enjoyable and we all went home knowing that we learnt something beneficial.



The Generation Next course develops one in the following areas: Self Confidence, Leadership, Stress Management, People Skills and Communication Skills. These areas are vital in order to become a successful person. The Dale Carnegie course develops your confidence in all these aspects and allows you to lead a better life and make effective decisions. The course personally impacts everyone in a different way and definitely does benefit them. If one does complete this course, it will not just benefit them personally but they will be held in high esteem if applying for a job.

Our thanks go to Ms Eudeshi Naidu our facilitator who has been a great inspiration and teacher. We would also like to thank Mrs Howard and St Peter's College for facilitating and organising the course.

Keshin Bheema and Ruby Shih (Grade 10)

Sandwiches of Change (SOC)



On 30 March, the newly branded SOC held our first sandwich drive. Using the spreads provided by the Grade 8s and the loaves of bread brought by the rest of the school we made nearly 100 loaves of delicious sandwiches with the help of more than 50 people from various grades during lunch break. The sandwiches were distributed to the Soweto and Refilwe communities.

The SOC committee would like to thank everyone who donated spreads

and loaves and to all who came to make the sandwiches. Without your generous donations this would not be possible. A big thank you goes to Mrs van der Wel for leading and supporting the SOC committee.

Ruby Shih and Keshin Bheema (Grade 10)

External Achievements

Congratulations to **Nolwazi Sibanda** (Grade 10) who has been awarded her South African Cheerleading National Colours by SAMCA (South African Majorrette and Cheerleading Association). She will be off to the USA in April to represent South Africa in the World Cheerleading Championships in Disney World Sport Resort in Orlando, Florida. And equally admirable is that SASCOC has awarded Nolwazi with her Protea Colours. Well done Nolwazi.

SPC's Got Talent! Grade 9 Drama Evening

On Friday, 31 March, the College held its much anticipated Grade 9 Drama evening. With some of the Grade 10 drama students stepping up to direct and with the help from a few external facilitators, they created pieces with the theme of 'Update/Remake'. The talent ranged from learning lines for ten minute plays, to being flipped in the air for physical theatre.

The pieces showed a high level of talent and maturity. The audience was blown away by each and every piece. The Best Overall Piece, 'Cindy' was directed by the Best Director, Kerri Tucker. This play was exceptional in the way it interpreted the theme, included witty dialogue, superb acting and was highly entertaining.

Getting up on stage and thinking of pieces to create is not as simple as it sounds. It is a long, sometimes frustrating, yet highly rewarding process. It takes great courage and dedication to be a part of something like this. Each student involved spent their Thursday evenings at school rehearsing, this enabled them to build friendships, respect and most definitely courage and pride. A huge congratulations goes out to all those involved - performers, directors, backstage and technical crew members - you all did an astounding job.

Furthermore, a huge thanks goes to Mrs Miles, Mr Doneda (Head of Drama), our wonderful MC's Annayah Karaha and Tinotenda Ndudzo, the Drama Production Company, the parents and most importantly, the very talented Grade 9s and 10s, without whom this evening would never have been the great success that it was.

Sarah King (Grade 11)

AWARDS

Best Costumes and Props

Shared between 'Dear Future Husband'

(musical theatre directed by Mekela Bastos, Nolitha Magombo and Ntando Mabuya)

and 'The Creation of Destruction'

(physical theatre directed by Sage Palombo, Kayla Torlage, Bukola Tshabalala and Sabrina McGhie)

Best Technical

'Romeo and Juliet...The What If'

(play directed by Tatum McCraw)

Most Promising Solo Performance

Zwivhuya Nengovhela for his monologue,

'The Great Depression'

Best Solo Performance

Shared between Dhiya Singh for her monologue,

'Celeste Bennington',

and Syjil Ranjuthan for her monologue 'Try'

Best Ensemble

The cast of 'The Creation of Destruction'

(physical theatre piece directed by Sage Palombo, Kayla Torlage, Bukola Tshabalala and Sabrina McGhie)



Send in the clowns!



The Cameo Cast: Outside



Some of the Gr10 directors

Best Cameo

The cast of 'Outside In'

(Justin Amm, Ezra Vergotine, Isabelle Pienaar and Josh van der Merwe)

Most Promising Performance

Carl Vemer as Adam in

'Totally Awkward'

Best Performance

Shared between Jessica Goulding as Juliet and Brayden

Green as Romeo in 'Romeo and Juliet...The What If'

Most Innovative Performance

'Romeo and Juliet...The What If'

directed by Tatum McCraw

Best Overall Piece

'Cindy' a play directed by Kerri Tucker

Best Director

Kerri Tucker

Co-Curricular Cultural News**Art Task Team Gallery Outing****An afternoon at the Gallery**

On Wednesday, 29 March the **Art Task Team** visited the **Circa and Everard Read Galleries in Rosebank**. The galleries exhibited the contentious works of Brett Murray. Brett Murray normally produces thought provoking political work and is well-known around South Africa for his work. The exhibition was entitled 'Again, Again', and comments on the political issues South Africa is facing. 'Again, Again' is made up of a series of metal cut outs and bronze sculptures that portray the satirical figures in different ways. Murray chose the title for his exhibition to emphasise how the problems with our government keep repeating themselves. Murray conveyed the message of the tension that we face in our current society by creating the panels that read *"I must not make political art"*. Previously Murray was shunned upon for making his artwork 'The Spear'.

The Art Task Team began the afternoon feeling excited to see the new works of Brett Murray and left the exhibition feeling inspired, but with a different outlook on the world around us. The artwork was inspirational and interesting. I know that I feel motivated by Brett Murray and his work, and his ability to not give up on his work after all the controversy from his previous art works.

Shanna Young (Grade 10)

Don't You Love That Militant Vibe?

On 29 March 2017, the Art Task Team visited the Circa and Everard Read Galleries in Rosebank. The team were privileged and amazed to view the work of well-known SA Art, Brett Murray, whose controversial work largely centres around South African politics. This was an eye-opener especially for the youth of South Africa. The students could sense his comments on the depressing state that our beautiful country is in, politically, and how this is portrayed through artistic expression. Each piece of art left you thinking which means that Murray achieved his goal. Everyone walked away with one solid conclusion; we need to make a change as South African citizens, we need to take a stand. It was an important lesson for the young artists to learn; that art can sometimes speak more than words and their art can make a difference. Everyone learnt that they can stand up for what they believe in in their own unique way. This wasn't any ordinary art excursion, it was relevant and a truly enlightening experience.

Amy Hannigan (Grade 11)



Jazz Band

The Jazz Band started off 2017 with a bang. The beginning of this year saw returning members, as well as many fresh faces.

With a now grown Jazz Band, including, clarinets, trumpets, saxophones, percussion, drums, piano and many more, the musicians are able to challenge themselves as well as build experience in an ensemble.

This term the Jazz Band focused on new pieces such as 'Feelin' Good', 'Hit the Road Jack' and 'Mas Que Nada.' All the pieces that we learn and perform give each performer various parts and allowed them to show off their musical ability. There was one performance this term – The Summer Soiree, where the Jazz Band performed 'Mas Que Nada'.



Rehearsals for Jazz Band will resume at the beginning of Term 2 and are held on Tuesdays from 15:30 – 16:30.

Next term we hope to push ourselves even more, and are looking forward to some exciting performances. Jazz Band is a great way to build relationships with many other students, especially in different grades and it allows for a connection to be formed through the love of music.

Talia Rosengarten (Grade 12)

Jazz Band Captain 2017

Rock Band

So far 2017 has been a good year for Rock Band, or "Nails on a Chalkboard" as we call ourselves. Our performance of "Where is my mind?" at the soiree and at the Headmaster's Assembly was a great success and confidence builder for all the members of the band. Hopefully this success will continue with the new band, as we all gel together well and enjoy performing together. The whole band is excited about our newest project, being writing our own original song together.

Anthony Van Kerckhoven (Grade 10)

Tour de Math 22 March 2017

On 22 March, 12 students travelled to Reddam Bedfordview enthusiastic for the 3rd leg of Tour de Math this year. This was also the first time this year that we had students who weren't in Grade 10 join us, being two Grade 8s. The evening started with our tradition of going to McDonald's for a treat to kickstart our brains before writing the paper.

We arrived at Reddam Bedfordview and shortly afterward were instructed to go inside and to find our groups. The high-thinking, problem solving paper started off with easier questions and progressed to more challenging, difficult questions.

After the papers were marked by the organisers, we are called back into the hall for the prize-giving. So far this year, we have achieved a **top 3 place** as well as a lucky draw win at every leg and I honestly wouldn't mind keeping it that way.

In this leg our two Grade 8 students (David Plum and Yi Lou) as well as the pair they worked with from Northcliff High won 3rd place with a score of 175 of 200, losing narrowly to the 2nd place, only because they forgot their units in a question. We were also very fortunate to have Erin Lai Thom and me winning a *Casio K-L 60 Label Machine* in the lucky draw.

I would call it a successful evening and I'm sure the other eleven students would agree. If anyone is interested in joining Tour de Math (TDM), please speak to either me or Kailin Naidoo (Grade 10). It is open to all students from Grades 8-10.

Matthew Beekman (Grade 10)

Sports Co-Curricular News

Equestrian

- On 21 March, **Imogen Imbert** placed 2nd in the 1m Show Jumping at Canterbrooke. On 25 March Imogen placed 5th in the first leg of the Tri-Series.
- **Stella Sharp** placed 1st in the 90cm and rode her youngster and placed 7th in the 70cm.
- **Erin Dos Santos** placed 2nd and 4th in the 1.3 at the President's Cup.

Well done girls!

Mrs Joan Delport

MIC: Equestrian

Aquatics



Well done to all swimmers and water polo players who were awarded trophies at the Annual Aquatics Brunch on 1 April 2017

Swimming

It sure has been an exciting season on the aquatics front. We started off the swimming season with the St Teresa's gala, Our girls combined with the Girls Prep to swim as one school.... St Peter's School again walked away with the winning title!

St Peter's College almost went through the season undefeated. We won most of our galas by miles, culminating in 2nd place at the Inter-High Gala this year. I am not going to say anything mean about Northcliff Cliff – however, I will say that despite becoming very attached to that trophy which sat on my desk for a year, the way in which the team stood together and swam their hearts out, was absolutely enough for me. I am beyond proud of all your wonderful achievements. Many of our swimmers made SA times and Gauteng teams. We are truly blessed with the utmost talent and I know in 2018 we will come back fighting strong.



Ms Saranne Hudson

MIC: Swimming

Water Polo

The Term 1 Water Polo season was a busy one for St Peter's College. Our boys and girls had a very challenging season, competing against some of the strongest teams in the country. Our Junior Boys' and Girls' teams were thrown in the deep end with some of them playing water polo for the first time. Despite the challenge of learning how to play while competing against the best, they progressed and improved significantly. Our Junior Boys played their first fixture against Affies only a week after starting school. It was a tough match but the boys did not let this affect them and continued to work hard throughout the season.

We are very proud of the level of commitment that was shown across the board. All players committed to four afternoon trainings a week as well as three early morning trainings. This season's schedule has been very demanding with two fixtures per week and for some age groups, with three Tournaments throughout the season.

Our Senior Girls competed in our annual Old Petrian's Girls Tournament, performing extremely well by winning five out of their seven pool matches.

St Peter's College Water Polo is in its building phase, starting with initiatives to get our players to start playing at a younger age, as well as to continue training and playing throughout the winter months. In order to improve and better ourselves, we need to work when others are not.

We have had some outstanding individual achievements this past season:

- The following students were selected as part of the Gauteng Winter Training Squads in their respective age groups: Jessica Dunstan, Sarah Golightly, Sarah Moralee, Jessica Parsons, Emily Botha, Jessica Frame, Tyler Thokoane, Kosmas Joannou, Michele Brachini, Zantia Bainbridge, Taylin Blues, Tasmin Waite, David Baldachin.
- Jessica Frame and Zantia Bainbridge was selected for the U18 B Gauteng Team that competed at this year's Currie Cup in Stellenbosch.
- Taylin Blues and Tasmin Waite were selected for the U18A Gauteng Team that took gold at this Year's Currie Cup in Stellenbosch.
- Zantia Bainbridge was selected for two SA U17 Tours:
 - SA U17B Team that played at the CANA Cup in Zimbabwe.
 - SA U17A Team to play at the EU Nations Cup in Prague (Non-Travelling Reserve).
- Tasmin Waite was selected for two SA U17A Girls Tours:
 - SA U17A Team that played at the CANA Cup in Zimbabwe.
 - SA U17A Team to play at the EU Nations Cup in Prague.

The spirit within the Water Polo community was phenomenal this past season. Parents and players really pulled together to create an amazing atmosphere at all fixtures and water polo events. Our players have certainly developed a hunger to succeed and we look forward to see the fruit that their hard work will bear.

Mr Nardus Badenhorst

MIC: Water Polo

