



**ST PETER'S
COLLEGE**

1998 - 2018

20
YEARS

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

23 November 2018
CONTENTS

Message from the Headmaster	1
Academic news	3
<i>UJ Finance and Investment Olympiad</i>	3
<i>SAIPA National Accounting Olympiad</i>	4
ITHEMBA House Build 2018	4
NOSA Audit	5
St Peter's College Partner Events	6
<i>St Peter's Foundation Sunset Carols 2018</i>	6
<i>St Stephen's Anglican Church</i>	6

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,

The Relevance of Education

The current state of education in South Africa is a worry to many a parent. A 2016 [Mail & Guardian article](#) states that 80% of schools in South Africa could be “dysfunctional”. Other newer statistics further suggest that South African students lack basic skills and knowledge compared to their peers around the world and that the education standards in South Africa are, in general, very poor. **However, there is a big divide in the school system between Independent and State schools.**

The challenges facing education globally are similar in most countries. An interesting fact is that more money and smaller classes has not led to an improvement in the quality of education on offer. However, access to quality education is unfortunately still only available to the select few.

Before we delve into the challenges facing education, it is imperative that we firstly understand the youth of the modern 21st Century.

They are referred to as “**The Net Generation**”:

1. They are accustomed to instant gratification.
2. They are always “**turned on**”, they are always connected – everywhere except in a school environment.
3. The web is used as a tool of self-expression.

4. Spend less time outdoors and more time connected or **“turned on”**, on average 7 hours per day.
5. Less fear and respect for authority.
6. **Learn more from their peers than from adults.**
7. Will only listen to adults who “coach” them and do not talk “down” to them.
8. They are motivated primarily by extrinsic rewards.

Research shows that 21st-century skills—problem solving, innovation, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity— influence success and are as necessary in our global economy as strong content skills. Also important are life and career skills such as flexibility, initiative, productivity, and responsibility; social and cross-cultural skills; and the new basic skills—IT and information skills. Education systems integrate 21st-century skills throughout the curriculum, recognizing that they cannot be learned in isolation from core content.

What are the characteristics you expect to find in a Lawyer, Engineer, Doctor, Chef, Accountant, Builder, Architect, etc. Almost without exception the responses have focused on communication skills, problem solving, people skills, and attitude. Competency in their specialist area was either taken for granted or ranked low in the list of competencies expected.

Employers increasingly expect and are seeking some evidence, a way of knowing that the graduates and their future employers will have:

1. **The necessary (minimum) skills and knowledge:** Provided in the form of an academic transcript.
2. **The right attitude:** These refer to the soft skills such as team work, communication skills, problem solving, etc. and it includes the measurable component of the work ethic.
3. **Self-Knowledge (Capabilities, motivation, professional conduct, confidence:** This refers to the students’ ongoing commitment to learning, enquiry, critical questioning, creativity, perseverance, etc.

Employability Skills must take priority for both students and employers:

1. This concept is not new but usually seen as a secondary “add on” or by-product of the education process.
2. Increasingly reflect the face of change in business, industry and the professions.
3. **Preparing for a rapidly changing future cannot be based on what is rapidly obsolete knowledge.**
4. Traditional content and knowledge-based education **MUST** change but is not changing quickly enough.
5. Change is inhibited by:
 - 5.1. Entrenched pedagogy and vested interest,
 - 5.2. Lack of political will,
 - 5.3. Lack of confidence in the new paradigm
 - 5.4. Uncertainty as to the implication with respect to international competitiveness,
 - 5.5. Old world teachers and the lack of available retraining,
 - 5.6. Old world designed curriculum and
 - 5.7. Inflexible facilities and a lack of resources to change.
6. Requires a new approach to teaching and learning.

The following are the **Employability Skills** being used to shape the curriculum:

1. Communication
2. Teamwork
3. Problem solving
4. Initiative and enterprise
5. Planning and organisation
6. Self-management
7. Learning
8. Technology.

The Present:

We need to be providing our children with the “**Skills 4 Life**” which are “**Fit 4 Purpose**”.

We need to start thinking of education as a global and not a national phenomenon, thus educate our children for the global world.

We are not meeting the needs of the workplace:

- **Entrepreneurship** – Schools are the worst propagators of this type of education.
- **SA Model** – Education has to provide immediate results in a poor society for people who don't have the time to be in a formal education scenario – what is wrong with educating people to flip burgers at McDonald's?

Universities and schools are not relevant to the 21st Century. Universities need to break down the barriers between themselves and corporations. The need to find out what are the trends in industry? What are the needs of our economy? Once again ask the question – How relevant is the education that we are providing? Corporations need to be part of the curriculum development and the educational process.

There has historically been too much emphasis placed on the academic side – not what corporations are looking for – they look for the personal **QUALITIES** of the individual rather than their academic ability. Educational institutions, both schools and universities, should be starting with the employer and asking them what they want. They need to make corporations part of the process – **ROI (Return On Investment)**.

In conclusion I quote **Nelson Mandela**: “*Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farm workers can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another.*”

“**In Futurum Fortiter**”

Regards,



Mr Rui Morais
Headmaster

Academic news

UJ Finance and Investment Olympiad

The UJ Finance and Investment Olympiad was developed to introduce students in Grade 10,11 and 12 to the world of finance and investment management and to increase awareness and contribute to a much-needed skill set. This was the second year our students participated in this Olympiad. Of a total number of 6813 entrant's country wide, 2302 students qualified for the second round. Congratulations to the following students for participating and advancing to the second round of the Olympiad. The students were recognised during assembly and were awarded certificates from the University of Johannesburg.

- Tumisa Mametsa
- Tadiwanashe Zororo
- Zanele Ngubane
- Thapelo Shika
- Kumbirai Dziruni

Ms Suzette Meyer
Accounting teacher

SAIPA National Accounting Olympiad

The National Accounting Olympiad is organised in conjunction with SAIPA (South African Institute for Professional Accountants). Traditionally the Olympiad was for Grade 12 students only, but a new section for Grade 11 students was added in 2017. This Olympiad has grown from 120 schools in 2010 to 483 schools in 2018. A total of 6800 students participated in the 2018 Olympiad, including 10 students from St Peter's College.

The following students took part in Round One:

- Luke Leatherbarrow
- Caitlin Goodman
- Darren Piaray
- Zanele Ngubane
- Ella Shi
- Kosmas Joannou
- Tumisa Mametsa
- Jayden Ramnath
- Thapelo Shika

Four of our students qualified for Round Two:

- Luke Leatherbarrow
- Darren Piaray
- Tanya Paul
- Caitlin Goodman

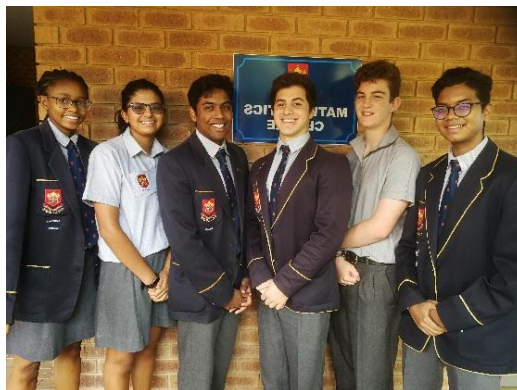
Two of our students attained positions in the Top 10 in the Gauteng Province. We commend them on this outstanding achievement:

- Luke Leatherbarrow (joined 8th place)
- Darren Piaray (joined 9th place)

Congratulations to all the students.

Ms Suzette Meyer

Accounting teacher



ITHEMBA House Build 2018

The theme of the 2018 Grade 11 House Build committee was UNITE. The objective was not only to unite as a committee, as a Grade, but collectively as a School – hence “Uniting the Hands of Hope” was the slogan they adopted for their ITHEMBA drive.

The Grade 11 students would like to thank every student and family that have contributed to our fundraising project for 2018. The school raised over R150 000 and the Grade 8 MWI class was congratulated on 100% contribution. They received a meal from McDonalds as a sign of appreciation.

In addition to the funds raised within the College, the ITHEMBA Committee members with help from their peers went on to secure funds from corporates. Our gratitude goes to Rangewave, Werksmans Attorneys, Page Automation, CCBSA (Coca Cola Beverage SA), Engel & Volkers, Debbie Searle Architects, Investec, and Mr Diepeveen for their generous contributions.

There are also other prospective donors we are still engaging with, we will report on the outcome in due time. The generosity of our community means that the Grade 11 students have raised enough money to build three homes for disadvantaged people in Lawley. The Grade 11 students in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, will be physically involved in the building process from 28 November 2018.

We look forward to our students taking part in this life-changing experience and the difference they will be making in the lives of the less-fortunate South Africans. At the beginning of their fundraising drive ITHEMBA committee indicated that they would like to touch lives, and they have succeeded in doing just that.

Ms Suzette Meyer

MIC: House Build Project



NOSA Audit

St Peter's College is delighted to announce it has been awarded **Five Star Status** after the NOSA grading audit that took place from 3-5 October 2018. The College is now on 91% - which is a 9% increase on last's year's audit. This is exceptional, given very few schools ever achieve a grading this high!



What is a NOSA Audit?

NOSA conducts audits on four continents to all sectors of industry, including education. By implementing and maintaining NOSA's Five Star System Standard, St Peter's College is able to manage risks and improve both sustainability and business performance related to health, safety and environmental management.

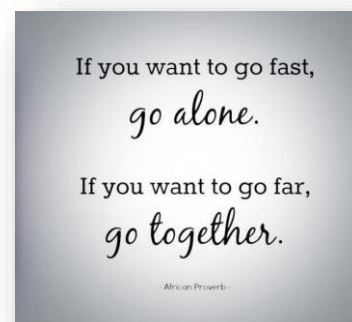
The NOSA Five-Star System is based on the principles of:

- Continual improvement
- Commitment and policy
- Planning
- Implementation and operational control
- Monitoring and system review

What were the findings of the audit?

Following the audit, the below key findings, trends and recommendations were presented as relates to SPC:

- Good closing-out of previous audit findings
- No disabling injuries recorded during the period under review
- College grounds and facilities neat, tidy and very well-maintained
- Good housekeeping practices applied in the classrooms and storerooms
- Fire-fighting equipment in good condition and well maintained
- Good waste management programme
- Good management and storage of laboratory chemicals
- Good management of transportation and school vehicles
- Hygiene survey conducted during the audit period under review



Achieving a grading this high is not the work of one, or a few, but many. At the heart of this achievement lies an exceptionally committed and dedicated Health, Safety & Environmental team who, despite their many daily demands, ensure there is no compromise on health, safety and responsible environmental management at St Peter's College. Their valued contributions have resulted in great success for the HSE team and the College as a whole.

We encourage all staff and students to also play their part in **keeping us at Five Star level**, by maintaining the College in excellent condition through individual and team effort.

#keepitat5

Ms Inonge Malumo

SPC Council Member: Compliance

St Peter's College Partner Events**St Peter's Foundation Sunset Carols 2018**

St Peter's Foundation is hosting the Christmas Carols at St Peter's Prep Schools on Saturday, 1 December 2018 at 18:00.



Go to bit.ly/SunsetCarols to purchase yours.

Ticket Sales for Sunset Carols are now open!

PRICES ARE:

Adults (18+)	R130
Child (3-18)	R70
Under 3	Free
Tables	R230 per person (min 8, max 12 per table)

CHOIR participants are FREE (armbands will be given out beforehand)

For all enquiries please email tickets@stpeters.co.za

St Stephen's Anglican Church

St Stephen's Anglican Church is hosting Drakensburg Boys Choir on Sunday, 2 December 2018 at 17:00. The event will be held at St Peter's College Dippenaar Hall. Tickets prices are: R150 for adults, R100 for children under 12 years. For inquiries, please call Georgette between 07:30 – 13:30 on weekdays.



DRAKENSBERG BOYS CHOIR

Noël

DRAKENSBERG BOYS CHOIR

SUNDAY 2 DECEMBER 2018 : 17h00