



## ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

### FROM THE HEADMASTER

I am of the opinion that the quest for constant improvement can only be achieved if an organisation is prepared to critically reflect on processes, procedures, events and behaviours. To this end, after functions and activities held at the school, we ask staff for feedback - regarding what could be improved and what went well and why. This ensures that we maintain the good and rectify the bad.

We also rely on constructive feedback from parents. Not only from our termly class reps meetings, but also through one-on-one formal and informal meetings and conversations with parents.

More recently, I asked for feedback from our Grade 7 girls. We had the most enlightening conversation around discipline procedures, dress code and timetables. It was certainly a wake-up call for me to host similar meetings with our lower grades as well. After all, our girls 'live their school' every day and their input is crucial to our constant improvement philosophy.

Finally, our Quality Assurance process has also given us plenty of feedback from all parties to consider and potentially put measures in place to address the issues raised.

The objective of this newsletter is to share one process that we have reflected upon recently, namely, the Girls Prep School camps.

School camps evoke a diverse spread of emotions for girls, for parents, for teachers and for Heads of schools. For a number of girls the time away from home causes significant anxiety and fear, for others it is an event they look forward to all year. Parents' emotions are usually, but not always, aligned to those of their daughters. 😊

Some teachers absolutely love tours and others find the responsibility of looking after 75 children 24 hours of a day, quite daunting. Heads of schools, being ultimately accountable for pupils and teachers in an "outside" environment are always very relieved when everyone is home safe and sound.

My feeling on school camps is that they provide an opportunity for our girls to interact with each other and their teachers away from the usual school day. It is often a test of grit and determination spending time away from home. Girls participate in activities that they wouldn't usually experience at home or at school, the most beneficial of which, are related to outdoor physical activities and interaction with nature.

Reflection on our school camp process has not only involved the above conversations, it has also been around the need to step up the expectations of the girls from one year to the next around a particular theme. And finally we have also reflected on the ever-increasing costs of these camps.

Currently, our Grade 3s have a one-day outing, our Grade 4s go for one night, our Grade 5s and 6s go for two nights and our Grade 7s go on their Keys Leadership camp for four nights. In some cases, we use camp facilitators and on other camps we use independent facilitators and often they decide on a variety of activities, some of which could be done at school.

Going forward, starting this year, we are going to tweak our process slightly.

Firstly, the over-arching theme of all our camps will be to enhance their leadership skills. The teachers, in consultation with the facilitators, will design the programmes. Girls will participate in group, nature-based activities and have the opportunity to collaborate in their teams. In some cases, we have reduced the number of nights away in order to reduce anxiety. This too, will reduce costs.

Our Grade 3s will continue to go away for a day, leaving early and returning after dark. The date and venue is still to be decided.

Our Grade 4s will progress to a one-night camp, returning in the morning of the second day. Date and venue also to be decided.

Our Grade 5s will also be going away for only one night. They will be travelling to Hadedda Creek by the Vaal from 12 to 13 September.

Our Gr 6s will be going away for two nights. They will be going to Sediba Kwele in Beestekraal, North West from 11 to 13 September.

Our Grade 7s will continue with their Keys Leadership camp for four nights. They will also still have their Leaver's Camp at the end of the Advent Term.

One piece of advice, for girls who are anxious about school camps in our Advent term, is to set up 'sleep-outs' for your daughters, even if it's with family members to start with. It amazes me how many girls are literally sleeping away from home for the very first time, on their Grade 4 school camp. No wonder they are anxious 😊

At the end of the year, we will review our camp process again. To this end, I would also appreciate feedback from parents.

Next week, I'll share a few tweaks and changes to our Creative Arts process which involves small changes to our Middle School MADD (Music, Art, Dance and Drama) process as well as to our Grade 6 House Plays.

Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb  
(Headmaster)

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## NEW GIRLS

Welcome to two new girls in the Senior Prep this term:

**Katelynn Jutzen** starts with us in Grade 4TK

**Ashley Hemphill** in Grade 5NM

We hope you have a long and happy stay at St Peter's Girls Prep.

D.Webb

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## FROM THE SPORTS DESK

### Food for thought . . .

*Love to Test Yourself against the Best*

*Very often in prep school sport, players will talk themselves out of performing well. They tend to focus on what could go wrong and focus more on their opponents and forget their own strengths and qualities. At St Peter's we are trying to change that mind set and getting the girls not to waste energy on the things they can't control. This can be done by:*

- *They need to respect their opponents but never fear them. They must learn to love the challenges that come their way.*
- *The don't fear failure or defeat because they don't view it as a negative. They see it as an opportunity to learn and grow.*
- *They must love to test themselves against strong opposition. In doing so they will in turn get stronger.*

(Allistair McCaw – *Becoming a Great Team Player*)

### HOCKEY – TIC Andrew Steyn ([asteyn@stpeters.co.za](mailto:asteyn@stpeters.co.za))

#### Hockey Festivals

- Grade 6 B/C Hockey Festival @ St Mary's
- Grade 7 B/C Hockey Festival @ St Stithians

Please ensure that all girls are at their respective venues by 07:30. The festival schedules will be posted on the Communicator.

### Equipment needed for hockey . . .

Please note that the girls are required to have the equipment listed below. Gum guards and shin pads are compulsory to ensure that the girls don't pick-up serious injuries!

- Hockey stick
- Shin pads – 'NO SHIN PADS, NO PLAY'
- Gum guard – 'NO GUM GUARD, NO PLAY'
- Appropriate shoes

### Team Structures

Due to the fact that the schools we play against do not have enough teams for all our girls to get a game every week, we will be running Mixed Ability Squads for our lower teams. Girls will be rotated, on a weekly basis, to give them as much game time as possible.

### Hockey Skills Development Session

St Peter's College Hockey Centre invites all Grade 3-7 girls, wanting to improve their hockey skills, to attend Skills Development Sessions on a Monday evening at the College Astro. Please see Communicator St Peter's/Resources/Girls Sport for more details.

## TENNIS

### Optional tennis

The optional tennis practices will continue as per the extra-mural timetable. All tennis players are to meet at the GIRLS' TENNIS COURTS for their sessions. Please ensure that your daughter has the correct shoes and hat when attending the practice sessions!

**GIRLS CRICKET**

DJ Coaching is a company focused on developing cricket players technically, mentally and physically. They also concentrate on developing the holistic *player for life*. Since 2003, DJ Coaching and has produced many top cricketers. DJ Coaching is now coaching at St Peter's Boys Prep. Any girls interested in playing cricket, please feel free to contact them for more details. See flyer, attached with the newsletter, for more details.

**STRAPPING**

Charne Cronin or Meaghan Badenhorst are available to do sports strapping between 13:00 and 14:00 at the sports office. If you would like your daughter to have any strapping done, there are two options available:

1. Girls are to provide their own strapping
2. Girls may pay R100 to cover the cost of the tape

Andrew Steyn  
(Director of Sport)

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**MUSIC DEPARTMENT****JUNIOR CHOIR FESTIVAL – THURSDAY, 18 JULY**

The St Peter's School of Music invites you to this year's Junior Choir Festival.

This event will be held on Thursday, 18 July at 18:30 in the Royce Hall. All the Junior Choirs will perform - this includes the Junior Prep Choir (Grade 2s) and the Cadet Choir (Grade 3s and 4s).

This year's festival will be split over two venues, to cater for more people. You will only need to buy tickets for one venue:

- Girls Prep School Parents: Royce Hall
- Boys Prep School Parents: Dodson Hall
- If you have a child at both schools, please select the venue which best suits you. We will have staff watching over the children whilst parents collect them after the event.

All choirs, boys and girls will perform at both venues (staff will walk the children between the two schools during the interval). The Girls Choirs will end in Royce Hall and the Boys Choirs will end in the Dodson Hall.

Running order for girls:

- The girls' choirs arrive at the Boys School, Dodson Hall by 18:15. (Parents then please proceed to the Royce Hall)
- Girls must be dressed in their winter uniform:
  - Gr 2 Girls: Red fleece and socks (no stockings)
  - Gr 3-4 Girls: No 1s (stockings)
- Concert begins at 18:30
- Girls' Choirs will end the concert in the Girls School, Royce Hall at 19:30

Tickets for this event will be available from TIXSA at R20 per person. Please follow the link below:

<https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/stpetersjuniorchoirfestivalroycehall/pre-sale>

We look forward to an amazing evening filled with beautiful music.

Marguerite Schmitt  
(Director of Music)

**OLD GIRLS NEWS**

Kristy Leonard has been selected for the SA U16 Hockey squad.

Ella Thorburn has been selected for the U16 High Performance Hockey squad.

Kristy Leonard in action!



**‘SPANS OF SPORT’ ROUND ROBIN HOLIDAY TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

**Venue** St Stithians Tennis Courts

**Date** 12 – 15 August

**Time** 08:30 – 13:00

Please contact Nadine on 083 306 2886 for more information.

**PA NEWS - EXCITING NEWS!**

Makro have launched a new programme and are inviting parents to join and earn rewards for our school whilst earning mRewards on their Makro purchases - *at any Makro store!*

This program replaces the existing Makro rebate programme, which was only linked to the Makro Woodmead store.

See below for more details but if you need any assistance with joining, please contact Anne on [annedp@live.com](mailto:annedp@live.com)

Please consider joining – it is quick and easy and you no longer need to have your Makro card when you use their mCard App. You are also able to track your mRewards on the mCard App.

**makro**

**makro IS LAUNCHING A NEW AND EXCITING EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN 2019.**

Our promise of saving customers time and money is made real with **m=Educ8**. And, our goal is to make a difference in helping people fulfill their potential and realise their aspirations.

**We are calling this programme: m=Educ8**

**How it works**

Each parent simply needs to download the Makro mCard app on their mobile phones, and then, in an instant, sign up to the **m=Educ8** programme. Once they sign up, parents are ready to earn rewards for their school, while also earning all their usual mRewards.

For every R1000 spent by the parents, the educational institution will earn R5 (earnings applicable from R1).

This means that in a school with say, 1 500 pupils, and a spend of R1 000 per parent per month (assuming only one of the parents spends per family), the school can earn a very healthy R90 000 per annum.

Ts and Cs apply.

**STEP 1**  
Scan to download  
Open the mCard app (Download it here if you don't already have it)

**STEP 2**  
Click the m=Educ8 banner on the home screen to link to your school.

**STEP 3**  
Select your school's region and then type in the first few letters of the school name in the search bar. Once you've found your school, link it.

**STEP 4**  
The Home screen will show you are linked. Start supporting your school with your Makro shopping. You can update your preferences in "MORE".

**STEP 5**  
You can delink from a school and/or change schools at any time.

**ST PETERS PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

- On the 31st of December of every year all the school/parent links will be removed and parents will need to sign up again in the new school year.
- Important note:** When linked to a school, users can still earn mRewards as normal
- Problems linking to your school?** Parents who already receive preferential prices will not be able to link to a school. If you're not sure if this applies to you, give us a call on 0860 300 999.
- Can't find your school?** They may not be signed up yet. Please encourage your school head to sign up to the programme by completing the authorization form on our website. <https://www.makro.co.za/makrostorefront/m-educ8>
- Terms and conditions apply. Visit [www.makro.co.za](http://www.makro.co.za)



ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS  
**ANNUAL GOLF DAY 2019**

**CALLING ALL GOLFERS**

**Kyalami Country Club**  
Friday, 27 September 2019

- R1000 per player – includes green fees, halfway house, 2 drinks, watering holes, casual dinner and mulligans
- Shotgun start at 12noon
- Prize giving
- Raffle (no fundraising auction)
- Fourball bookings now open!

For any further information please contact the committee at [golfday@stpeters.co.za](mailto:golfday@stpeters.co.za)

**SCHEHEREZADE – CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAST AND STAFF INVOLVED**

