



Edition: 5

14 February 2019

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

FROM THE RECTOR

In my first Newsletter article of 2019, I reflected on some positive aspects at the beginning of the year. One of those I listed was the appointment by the Heads of an additional two Black teachers. I referred to these as 'highly competent'.

I recognise that it would have been unlikely for me to have used a similar descriptor in referring to new White teachers. As such, the words could be viewed as reinforcing the concept that Black teachers are unlikely to be of the same quality as White teachers. My remark is therefore likely to have caused offence and for this, I apologise unreservedly.

I am deeply grateful to those people who have the courage to point out such blunders to me. It's the only way to overcome my own unconscious bias.

Questions for the Rector:

If anyone wishes any further information on any topic, please feel free to contact me at school or at groyce@stpeters.co.za or dradloff@stpeters.co.za

FROM THE HEADMASTER

Last week, Rob shared the tragic news of two teachers that were struck by lightning earlier this year:

'Our broader school community has been shocked by the deaths of two coaches as a result of lightning strikes over the past two weeks. Our hearts go out to the schools concerned and to the families of the deceased. These tragic incidents have highlighted, once again, that despite our frustrations when we have to pull boys off the fields while the sun appears to be shining, we must adhere strictly to our protocols.'

To this end, I'd like to remind parents of the lightning procedure. When an alert is received, we clear the fields and the girls are taken to the nearest point of safety. They are to remain at these points either until the all clear (a double five-second siren) is heard or until further instructions are issued over the school PA system. Parents are warned that they are as vulnerable to lightning strikes as their children and are therefore advised to take similar measures. We do, at times, have parents who choose to ignore the warning and who collect their children from the pavilions at their own risk. Please be aware, that should you choose to do this, the coaches have been asked to warn you of the danger, but cannot be held responsible should you or your child be injured due to lightning.

An overview of the lightning protocol appears below.

LIGHTNING WARNINGS

A reminder to all of the meanings of the sirens:

- **ONE LONG BURST** – the school is under lightning conditions. Everyone on campus to take cover at the nearest shelter.
- **TWO SHORT BURSTS** – lightning threat has cleared, normal activity may resume.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Parents are reminded that if the red strobe light is flashing when you enter the school it means we are under lightning conditions.

Drop off

On these occasions, our recommendation is:

- Keep your child in your car, until you hear the all clear signal or an announcement over our PA system.
- The school will, obviously, take the situation into account as to why your child may be late for class.

Pick up

The procedure in the afternoons is:

- The children are taken from their activity to the closest point of shelter. Pavilions, classrooms, etc
- We will try, as far as possible, to get the children to the same point on every occasion, however, this point may vary depending on the location of the activity and the nearest point of shelter.
- Parents may personally collect their child from the teacher/s on duty and take them at their own risk. (**Please note:** No staff member will send a child unaccompanied to any car park or collection point)

We must remember that as adults, it is of the utmost importance that we also heed the lightning warnings and respect the procedures by getting under cover ourselves!

I wish you a wonderful weekend. Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb
(Headmaster)



CHANGE TO START DATE FOR TRINITY TERM

Election Day has been set as Wednesday, 8 May 2019.

As a result of this, it has been decided that the **TRINITY TERM WILL BEGIN ON THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2019.**

D.Webb

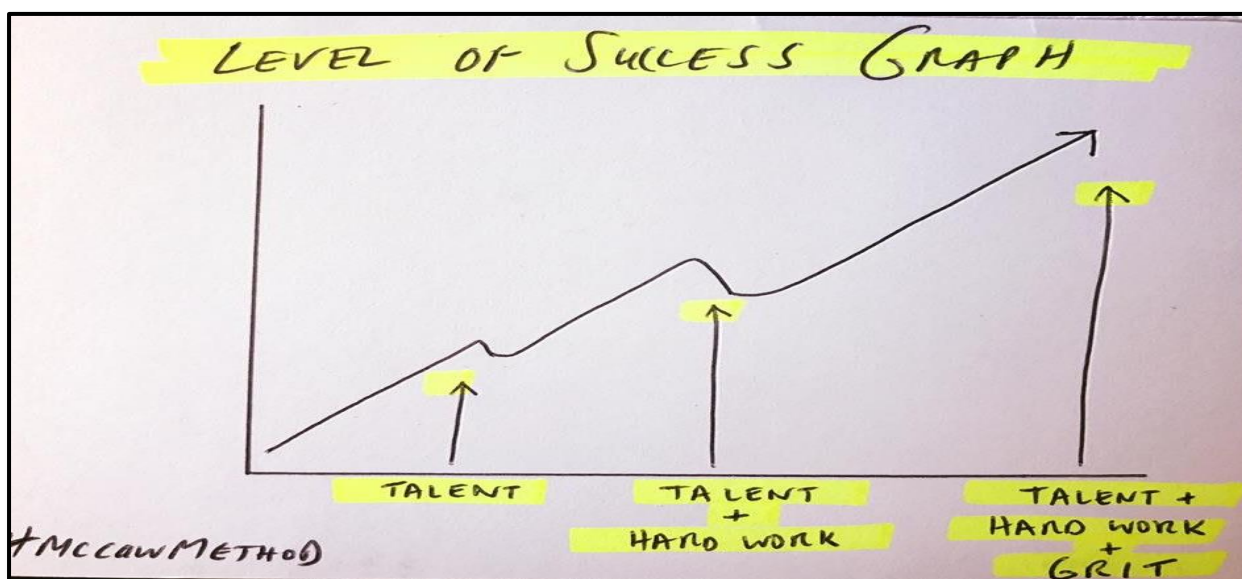
SEFIKENG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our partner school, Sefikeng Primary, is seeking an IRBA registered auditor to audit their 2018 financial statements. They have not asked for it for free, but have asked for a quote. Please contact me should you be able to help: msloane@stpeters.co.za

Monica Sloane
(Foundation Manager)

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Food for thought...



(Alistair McCaw – The McCaw Method)

SWIMMING

Galas – Please note that there is no inter-school gala next week as we are on Mid-term break.

Inter-House Gala – All girls are expected to participate in the Inter-house Gala on Tuesday next week. The times for the events are as follows:

Grade 3-4 from 15:00-17:00, all girls to be at the pool by 14:45. All Grade 7s to attend and assist where necessary.

Grade 5-7 from 18:00-20:00, all girls to be at the pool by 17:45.

N.B. Should we have to cancel the gala on Tuesday, 19 February because of bad weather, the gala will then held on Wednesday, 20 February at the same times.

Challenges – Due to the increase in the number of girls wanting to challenge on a Monday morning, we have decided to split the girls into two groups going forward. Trials for 50m and 25m will be held in the same session.

- Grade 6 and 7 on Monday from 06:30-07:15
- Grade 3, 4 and 5 on a Thursday from 06:30-07:15

A list of the top 20 times in each stroke will be displayed on the notice board. The top four times, for each stroke, qualify those girls for the A Team. If you or your daughter would like to know her times, she is welcome to come to the Sports Office to find out or we could communicate this via email.

TENNIS

Team tennis – Girls are able to challenge each other to get on to the school ladder, from which the school teams are selected. The team practice is held on a Tuesday morning from **06:30 - 07:15**.

Tennis fixtures - Please see *Sports Week Ahead* for next week's fixture.

WATER POLO

There will be water polo sessions every Wednesday morning in the Girl's pool from **06:30 - 07:15**. Hurricanes Water Polo Club runs these sessions. It is open to Grade 6 and 7s. Please see Communicator St Peter's/Resources/Girls Sport for more details.

HOCKEY

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

Andrew Steyn
(Director of Sport)

MORNING BUS SERVICE TO ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS

We are all striving to reduce the traffic congestion in and around the school car parks and Witkoppen intersections. The morning bus service is a convenient and safe alternative to getting your children to St Peter's in the morning traffic.

There are two routes:

1. **Fourways Gardens** in the Spar parking lot on Uranium. Time: 06:20 to leave at 06:30. The bus will continue to the **Lonehill Fire station**, arrive 06:35 to leave at 06:40.
2. **Kyalami** bus runs from the **Kyalami Downs Shopping Centre**, next to the KFC. Time: 06:25 to leave at 06:30.



Bus Consent and Indemnity Form can be found on the Communicator. Please send to: reception@stpeters.co.za. For more information please contact Tim at tim@sagolfing.com

SECURITY SYSTEM FOR 2019

REMINDER: please follow the link below to complete the relevant details, of your vehicle, for the new security system. (If you have more than one child, please only complete the form once):

<https://goo.gl/forms/qk0VZnK5SMmJjxO53>



VISION: *Growing servant leaders within our St Peter's family
to uplift our community for their big futures.*

In order to create a more sustainable and meaningful impact within our community, St Peter's Boys Prep and Girls Prep have chosen Sefikeng Primary as our partner school. We will concentrate all our time, effort and resources on their Foundation Phase. Each St Peter's child and our staff will have an opportunity to make a contribution in some way. We would like to invite you to volunteer too, as we make a difference together!

Recent statistics released show that 8 out of 10 pupils in Grade 4 cannot read at an appropriate level and without this fundamental skill, little learning can take place. St Peter's has developed a partnership with *Read for Africa* and this phonics-based programme has enabled us to effectively teach Literacy Skills. We are also able to make regular assessments to track and measure progress.

The St Peter's interns have become a fundamental support for the programme. We do, however, also rely hugely on parent volunteers to give of their time or money to support the programme. The volunteers assist with small reading groups and create fun lessons. The more volunteers, the smaller the groups and the more effective the learning.

Why should you get involved?

- Experience the unadulterated joy of assisting a child to move from being almost illiterate to being able to recognise letters and eventually words.
- Meet and be a part of a special group of like-minded parents (grandparents and friends) trying to make a difference, one child at a time!

What you need to know...

- ABSOLUTELY no teaching experience or knowledge is needed! If you can identify your letters, handle a pen and whiteboard you are fully equipped. Training will be provided.
- We visit Sefikeng every Wednesday morning 08:30 to 09:30, it takes 15 minutes to get there (traffic dependent) and is 100% safe. 'Car shares' are very easily arranged.
- Your commitment is driven solely by you - one session a term, a month or every week.

How do you get involved?

- Contact Leigh Lidgley (llidgley@stpeters.co.za) or Jaya Govender (jgovender@stpeters.co.za) to volunteer your time.

If you are unable to volunteer your time, please consider donating R250 towards this very worthy cause.

- EFT - St Peter's Foundation, Standard Bank, Account No: 422 057 533, Reference CP/surname.
- Or follow this link to pay online: <https://www.stpeters.co.za/prep-foundation/donations>

Please help us make a difference in the lives of others!

BOOK WEEK: 18 - 21 FEBRUARY, THEME 'ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE'

BOOK WEEK involves many exciting activities, including:

- a *Hooked on Books* show at school
- a dress-up day
- visits from author, Elaine MacDonald
- Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) time
- fun class activities
- a wonderful book sale (see attachment)

WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY is DRESS-UP Day! The girls can dress, using the theme of '*Escape to Everywhere*', by dressing as e.g. *Escape to Narnia*, *Escape with a princess*, *Escape to Hogwarts*, and *Escape to Neverland* . . .

Leigh van Rooyen (*Librarian*)

VALENTINE'S SOCIAL



St Peter's Girls Prep is hosting their annual Valentine's Social on **Saturday, 16 February**. The Social is for **Grade 7 pupils only** and pupils from all Johannesburg Prep schools are invited, so please share the love and spread the word.

Avoid the queues on the night and buy your tickets ONLINE now!

<https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/stp-girls-social-2019>

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Monday to Thursday	18/02/2019	07:30:00	14:00:00	Book Week	
Monday	18/02/2019	14:00:00	17:00:00	Tennis Matches	Home / Away
Monday	18/02/2019	16:30:00	18:30:00	Inter-schools Chess Matches against St Peter's Boys	Dodson Hall
Tuesday	19/02/2019	09:30:00	10:00:00	Uplands College Presentation (Optional for Grade 5-7)	Royce Hall
Tuesday	19/02/2019	15:00:00	17:00:00	Inter-House Night Swimming Gala: Grade 3 & 4, optional extramurals	Girls Pool
Tuesday	19/02/2019	18:00:00	20:00:00	Inter-House Night Swimming Gala: Grade 5-7, optional extramurals	Girls Pool
Wednesday	20/02/2019	07:30:00	13:00:00	Book Week: Dress Up Day	
Wednesday	20/02/2019	15:00:00	17:00:00	Inter-House Night Swimming Gala Reserve Day: Grade 3 & 4	Girls Pool
Wednesday	20/02/2019	18:00:00	20:00:00	Inter-House Night Swimming Gala Reserve Day: Grade 5 -7	Girls Pool
Thursday	21/02/2019	07:30:00	09:00:00	Eucharist (Summer Uniform with Blazers)	Chapel
Thursday	21/02/2019	11:00:00	11:00:00	MID-TERM BREAK COMMENCES	
Thursday	21/02/2019	11:00:00	14:30:00	Aftercare available until 14:30	
Friday	22/02/2019			MID-TERM	
Saturday	23/02/2019			MID-TERM	
Sunday	24/02/2019			MID-TERM	
Monday	25/02/2019			MID-TERM	
Tuesday	26/02/2019	07:30:00	07:30:00	School re-opens	

THIS WEEK



The new girls met with Mr Webb



Mrs Bantam looking after her chicks



Thinking Schools South Africa (TSSA) conference held at St Peter's



Mr Webb congratulates this week's, 'birthday boys'!



Grade 6 girls read with the Sefikeng Grade 2 children





**ST PETER'S
COLLEGE**

www.stpeters.co.za

**OPEN DAY
2019**

Respect | Responsibility | Resilience | Relationships



SAT 2 MARCH | 08:30 - 12:00

COLLEGE LANE, OFF MAXWELL DRIVE, SUNNINGHILL, SANDTON, 2128

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

PLEASE CONTACT OUR MARKETING TEAM AT

ADMISSIONS@STPETERSCOLLEGE.CO.ZA / 011 807 5315.