



Edition: 24

19 July 2018

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

FROM THE HEADMASTER

IMPACT PARENTS HAVE ON LEARNING

I believe all parents experience a moment in time when their child has imitated them to a T! Perhaps in a mannerism or an unconscious reply. It is a startling realisation that we are being observed by our children every moment of the day!

It is the role of every parent to be a sounding board for their children. Children have to be able to off-load and vent if need be – girls more so than boys, particularly as they get older.

The first test in terms of modelling a learning opportunity is how we react to what they say. Do we, as per my newsletter last week, want to jump into action and solve the problem for them, or do we want to encourage them to take ownership of their challenge and develop a strategy in terms of how to solve it?

My advice to parents in this regard, is to respond with the question, 'so how do we take this further?' Discuss various options and come up with a plan of action. Step one should always involve an action for the child. Perhaps they need to do or say something to solve a friendship dispute or perhaps they need to go and speak to a teacher? Only once the child's action has not brought about the required change should a parent offer to become involved in a particular way. This strategy empowers your daughter and builds confidence in her ability to solve problems. The more we (parents and teachers) do to solve their issues, the more learnt helpless and reliant on us, they become.

One certainty in life for our daughters (and indeed for ourselves) is that 'curved balls' will come their way. Surely, we are duty bound to give them the appropriate skills to deal with these challenges?

I would be so bold to say that venting on public Whatsapp groups and conversations with other parents, often overheard by the girls, not only gives them a questionable example on how to deal with life challenges, but also creates an excuse for the girls not to be accountable or responsible for their own issues.

'You can't prepare the path for your child, but you can prepare your child for the path.'

The second test comes about when they ask us questions. Advice in this situation is not to answer every question they ask – but rather to ask them for their thoughts on what the answer could be or perhaps even ask them to find the answer. This is far easier said than done because as parents and teachers, it is in our DNA to want to help, support and make children's lives as easy as humanly possible – but this is not necessarily in their best interest.

The concept of learning starts with a process of equilibrium or prior knowledge – what we already know. Any new knowledge or learning opportunity should cause a disequilibrium or an uncomfortable feeling of not knowing, perhaps even confusion? This is where we need to allow or empower our girls to agonize a little and work on solving the problem. Once the disequilibrium has been accommodated, a new equilibrium is established. But the strength of this new equilibrium is purely dependent on the manner in which they 'learnt' the information. Were they given

the opportunity to discover, debate, apply or were they just told. This is where Mr B (our Grade 6 Master Maths Teacher) gets his girls to teach their teddy bears for homework. This process of re-teaching reinforces the new information and this results in a strong new equilibrium.

'It is not what you do for your children but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.' It is so critical that as parents and teachers, we work together for the ultimate benefit of our girls. If you have any concerns, queries or questions about the way we do things at St Peter's, please make an appointment with my PA to discuss the matter, with me, in more detail.

I wish you a wonderful weekend. Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb (*Headmaster*)

FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD: ACADEMICS

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

In addition to the new report, student-led conferences on offer next week will add to the reflection of the year's experiences and learning to date.

Grade 3

Parents are invited to chat to their class teacher about their daughter's progress on the afternoon of either Monday, 23 July, Tuesday, 24 July or Wednesday, 25 July. Booking forms will be placed on the classroom door. These appointments are scheduled for 10 minutes so if you require more time, please mail your daughter's class teacher. This is an opportunity for a personal conference, but is entirely optional.

Grade 4 and 5

These meetings are scheduled in a similar vein to the Grade 3's. However, in these classes the girls are involved in student-led conferences and are involved in the reflection of the goals they set at the beginning of the year and the consideration of their own progress. We regret that we are unable to provide online booking forms this time around.

Grade 6 and 7

Mentors will email parents to arrange interview times. These student-led conferences will involve you, your daughters and the staff mentor. The girls will be expected to discuss their progress and how they are managing their learning, including information provided in the First Semester Report. Girls will comment on questions, which will guide their reflection and thoughts. These meeting times are optional, for the girls and parents, should it be deemed that the report provided sufficient feedback.

Tuesday, 31 July

All specialist teachers are available to meet parents between 14:00 and 17:00 in the hall. The teachers involved in this afternoon oversee Grade 6 and 7 English, Maths, Science/ STEM, Exploration and Learning and First Additional Languages. Grade 3, 4 and 5 Afrikaans and isiZulu teachers will also be present. (These are considered specialist subjects.) No set appointments are made here. If you would like to see any other teachers, please contact them directly to make an appointment.

Tea and coffee will be available outside the hall.

Pam van Gass
(*Deputy Head: Academics*)

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

HOCKEY FESTIVALS

The Grade 6s and 7s enjoyed their festivals over the past weekend! Despite the very cold temperatures, the girls persevered and played some good hockey.

MIDLANDS TOUR

We wish our girls the very best of luck on their tour to the Midlands. It is going to be an awesome experience with lots of hockey being played. We are sure that they will learn from and thoroughly enjoy the experience.

Chris Tomsek
(Acting Director of Sport)

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Girls are requested to wear full school uniform (i.e. No 1s) to all Chapel events and Prize Givings, when they form part of the congregation.

'Civvies' is acceptable wear, for girls attending functions in other areas of the school.

Girls performing at school functions are notified in advance, of the required dress code (this information is also in the calendar).

We hope this clarifies any confusion around uniforms!

CHAPLAIN – BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP (REMINDER)

Our first Bereavement Support Group session took place a while ago. This group is for children who have lost a parent. What a privilege it is to be a part of so many lives within our St Peter's community and make a difference in such meaningful ways.

Our next Support Group meeting will be on **Tuesday, 24 July at 07:30**, in the Council Chamber.

Please encourage those who were not quite ready last time around, to join. Wendy Wentzel, our resident psychologist, and I run these get-togethers.

Blessings

Fr Richard Wossler
(St Peter's Prep Chaplain)

Grade 7 Girls Flower Fundraiser

R250 per Bunch

Please support by ordering your bunch of beautiful flowers by Tuesday afternoon via email nicky@ntce.co.za.

Collection of flowers on Friday from 12:00 at

ALL Receptions where relevant, i.e.: Girls SP and JP, Boys SP and JP.

Many thanx
Grade 7 Girls Fundraising Committee

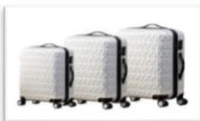


PA NEWS

St Peter's Prep Schools presents

Winter Warmers 2018 Lucky Draw

Thank you to our Sponsors & Well Done to the winners



Meerlust Wine Hamper
Private House Products [R1,500]

Talon Tough Tools - each including an Electric Hedge Trimmer [R1,200] and Chain Saw [R900]

Vogue Cantilever Umbrella [R2,000]

Always Ahead Colour, Cut/Blow & Treatment [R2,000]

3 Piece Diamond Luggage Set [R3,000]

Simply Gardens - Seedlings and Landscaping Consult [R5,000]

2 nights for 2 at Fire and Ice Hotel, CT [R5 000]

The Guy Family

2 nights for 2 at The Cavern [R5 000]

2 nights for 2 at Makalali Private Game Reserve [R13 000]



tourvest
destination management

Tanya Watson
Wendy Ralph

Constance Mukarati & Natasha Lockley

Nasipi Ngwendu
Cecil Thokoane

Penny Moerane
Donna Clay

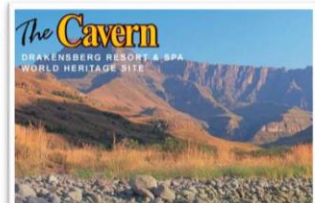
Patrick Earlam

Yvonne Wattam

Nicolas Tsaperas

THE PRIVATE HOUSE COMPANY

unitron. Hearing matters





The St Peter's Prep Golf Day
Friday, 5 October 2018
Kyalami Country Club

BOOKINGS OPEN
16 July

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

- R1000 per player - includes welcome drink on arrival, halfway house, mulligans and casual dinner
- Shotgun start at 12:00
- Prize giving and casual dinner in the bar
- An exciting RAFFLE DRAW – raffle to be announced shortly (no fundraising auction)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES available!

DON'T MISS OUT!
 To book your spot, or for any additional information email
golfday@stpeters.co.za

MANDELA DAY 2018

This is a reminder that St Peter's Prep are collecting donated books until tomorrow, Friday.

Collection points are all Reception areas.

We need help in sorting out the books collected on 20 July 2018, from 08:00 – 12:00. This would be a good way to spend your 67 minute for Mandela Day! Please email Monica on msloane@stpeters.co.za, if you are interested in assisting.

The Mandela Day Team.



HOT DOG DAY!

Hot Dog Day is tomorrow! Girls please bring R25.

If any parents are keen to volunteer to help, please meet at 09:30 at Keys Pavilion on Friday, 20 July.

Cartridge collection, as usual, on Hot Dog Day. Collection points in all Receptions.

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Please check Calendar section of Communicator St Peter's for the forthcoming week's activities.

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS 11:00 ON WEDNESDAYS.

GRADE 7 SOCIAL: PRE-SALES!

Please note that tickets for the social will be on sale in the Boys and Girls SP carparks on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (25, 26 and 27 July). R100 entrance.

Ticket booklets will also be on sale, for food/drinks/activities in denominations of R100, R150 and R200.

Get yours early and avoid the lines! Cash and SnapScan available. **NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE!**

St Peter's Gr7 Boys

INVITE YOU TO 'GLOW CRAZY' WITH THEM
AT THEIR WINTER SOCIAL!

Sat 28 JULY 2018, 18:00—21:00
DODSON HALL, ST PETER'S PREP
(use Wroxham Rd entrance)

ENTRANCE R100 (CASH/SNAPSCAN at the
door) and bring extra for the FUN ACTIVITIES!

➔ WEAR SOMETHING WHITE , BRING EXTRA CASH FOR GLOW
ACCESSORIES, FOOD/DRINKS & EXCITING NEW GLOW PAINT BARI

MANDELA DAY POETRY**Inferno**

How easy is it, to blow out a candle
 Take a big breath and the flame flickers out
 The wax hardens, the smoke floats away
 And there's nothing but darkness and doubt

But the light always sticks like a shape in your eyes
 And you can rub and blink but the memory stays
 Though the candle is gone you can never forget
 Because a flame can burn in so many ways

A spark is contagious, it catches and burns
 Igniting the torch that each person holds
 It flares and it grows like a flicker of hope
 A burning fire of red and gold

A fire is a rainbow reds golds and blues
 Like our nation of people, it's different and proud
 It's a spectrum of unity that cannot be silenced
 It's cries for our freedom we're burning and loud

But it wasn't like that in the years before now
 Darkness took over and swallowed the light
 And each spark that fought back was quickly snuffed out
 Leaving the people without any fight

Although, sometimes, a spark can be overlooked
 Can be locked in a cage where there's nothing to burn
 Where people will think it's spirit will fade
 And fire will blow out when the wind hound turn

Yet the spark flickered on and never gave up
 And when it was released it would not be held back
 Its fire lit others and the rebellion grew
 But the fire used unity not violence to attack

The army was huge and wouldn't stop lighting
 Recruiting more people who were wrongly abused
 A joining of people who wanted their freedom
 A nation tired of being mistreated and used

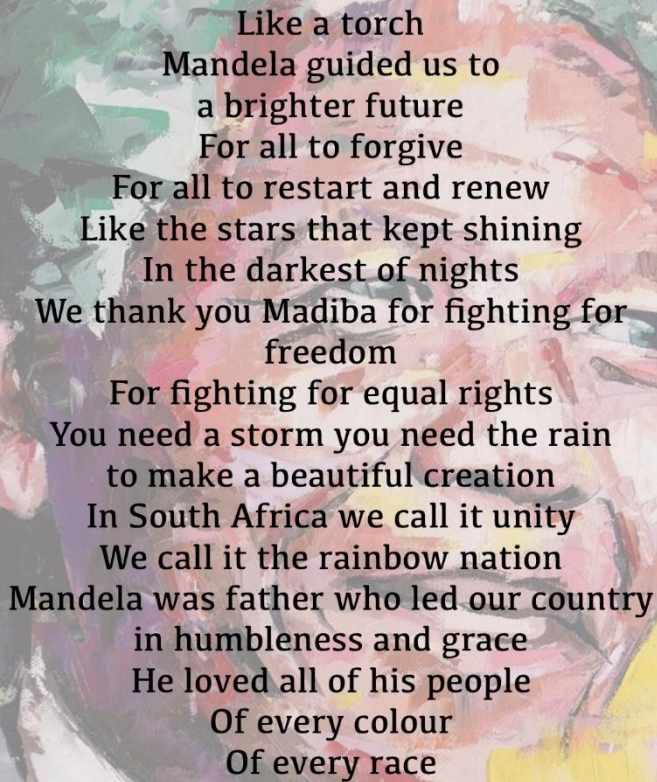
Each person was different in colour and race
 In belief and religion, in gender and age
 In sexuality, personality, features and flaws
 Yet they all worked together to escape from their cage

But they needed a leader to show them the way
 To give them the freedom they needed so badly
 They needed the person who started the blaze
 They needed Mandela to give them the key

Together they rose to achieve their goals
 Alongside each other, hand in hand
 They never stopped fighting, would never give up
 To take back their home, to take back their land

How hard is it, to blow out a fire
 Take a big breath and you just fan the flames
 Millions of people united as one
 A rainbow inferno that cannot be tamed

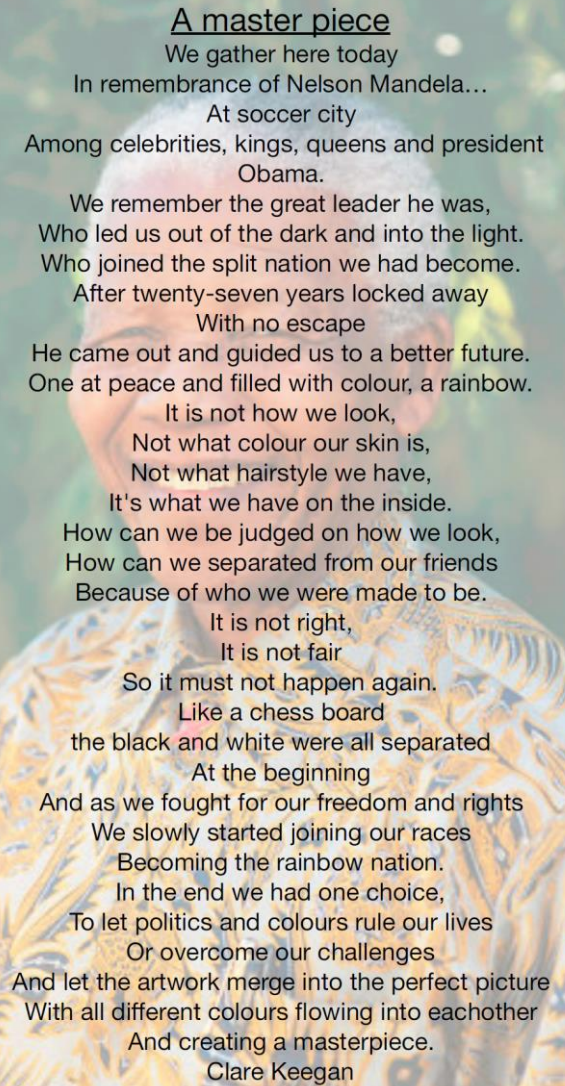
-Tyler Wratten



Like a torch
Mandela guided us to
a brighter future
For all to forgive
For all to restart and renew
Like the stars that kept shining
In the darkest of nights
We thank you Madiba for fighting for
freedom
For fighting for equal rights
You need a storm you need the rain
to make a beautiful creation
In South Africa we call it unity
We call it the rainbow nation
Mandela was father who led our country
in humbleness and grace
He loved all of his people
Of every colour
Of every race

Grade 7 RN

Megan Eagle



A master piece
We gather here today
In remembrance of Nelson Mandela...
At soccer city
Among celebrities, kings, queens and president
Obama.
We remember the great leader he was,
Who led us out of the dark and into the light.
Who joined the split nation we had become.
After twenty-seven years locked away
With no escape
He came out and guided us to a better future.
One at peace and filled with colour, a rainbow.
It is not how we look,
Not what colour our skin is,
Not what hairstyle we have,
It's what we have on the inside.
How can we be judged on how we look,
How can we separated from our friends
Because of who we were made to be.
It is not right,
It is not fair
So it must not happen again.
Like a chess board
the black and white were all separated
At the beginning
And as we fought for our freedom and rights
We slowly started joining our races
Becoming the rainbow nation.
In the end we had one choice,
To let politics and colours rule our lives
Or overcome our challenges
And let the artwork merge into the perfect picture
With all different colours flowing into eachother
And creating a masterpiece.
Clare Keegan



Girls SP 'Mandela Day'
service, held on
Wednesday, 18 July.