



Edition: 27

19 September 2019

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

THE TEACHING OF MATHS AT ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP

The school was abuzz with excitement on Tuesday morning as moms and dads joined their daughters' Maths lessons. Our teaching approach at St Peter's, as briefly summarised below, was explained and then demonstrated in the classrooms.

St Peter's Girls School has a deliberate approach to Maths learning based on international research and our own experiences. We assist each child at their current level of mathematical development and support them in growing their skills with the aim of mastery of concepts. Use of concrete apparatus to aid understanding is encouraged at all grades. Problem solving forms the basis of all teaching and girls are required to show multiple solutions and investigate open-ended challenges in which more than one solution is possible. Algorithms or methods which are learnt off-by-heart show minimal understanding as the concept isn't retained in the long-term, so these aren't introduced to the girls before full understanding is evident. Problems are relevant and, wherever possible Maths is integrated across subjects. At present, our Grade 6 classes, as part of Exploration and Learning in the *Game of Life*, are exploring tax brackets of salaries, daily expenses, insurance and car payments as well as the need to save. All our girls are encouraged to attempt to solve the challenge by themselves, or with their peers first, before asking for help. Revisiting of material is essential and in the upper grades - girls are encouraged to 'teach their teddies' for homework!

We follow the progress and achievements of our past pupils when they move to high school and we are very proud of the feedback we receive from the girls themselves, their parents and teachers.

I am very happy to discuss our approach should anyone require further input. Pamphlets from the Maths Morning are available at both receptions, should you still require one.

The best feedback always comes from the girls themselves and a few comments about Maths learning are:

- *I really think that Maths is fun, there are so many ways that you can do Maths and so many ways you can learn it. Maths makes me think and it helps you with so many other things – Camryn Owen (Grade 4)*
- *Maths is interesting because there are different sums that you solve so it makes you think hard - Chloe Takawira (Grade 4)*
- *I think that the way we're taught Maths is unique. We're all on different levels but at the same time we're all moving together. I really enjoy that - Zethu Simelane (Grade 7)*
- *If you don't understand something, it gets explained to you in a new way until you find a method that is right for you. - Mia du Plessis (Grade 7)*
- *Every time we get close to our goals, the bar is set just a little higher so that we are pushed to produce our absolute best work and have a strong work ethic. – Ruby Logan (Grade 7)*



Grade 3s in action!



Grade 4 Maths



Grade 7 girls



Pam van Gass
(Deputy Head: Academics)

FROM THE SPORTS DESK



GENERAL

- Athletics season always attracts two types of people - those who love it and those who are not a fan. In the past, athletics has been compulsory, regardless of how girls felt about it. This approach has a negative effect on the athletes as the coaching becomes diluted due to the large number of girls participating. In order to try to avoid this situation, we have decided to offer athletics as well as soccer jointly this term. They will be held in the same time slot, so the girls will have to choose which sport they would like to do. Please note that if girls would like to challenge to make the athletics team, they must attend the athletics practices. Due the long weekend, this change will only take effect from Monday, 30 September.

ATHLETICS - TIC Tumi Makola (kmakola@stpeters.co.za)

- Top 20 times for each event will be published on the athletics board and will be updated on a weekly basis. This allows those girls to see the times/distances/heights required to make the athletics team. If girls not in the top 20 would like to know their times/distances/heights, they are welcome to come to the Sports Department to get them.
- Hurdles - only Grade 6 and 7 girls compete in this event
- A reminder - that we will have challenges every Monday morning from 06:30 - 07:15. If girls have another commitment during that time, we will arrange for another time to do the challenge. Please note that the challenges will be for the following week's meeting.

GIRLS SOCCER – TIC Tshego Mashabela (tmashabela@stpeters.co.za)

- All soccer practices will take place on Feathers Field (Boys Prep)
- Girls are please to meet at Keys Pavilion and walk down to the field with the staff members.
- Please note that there will be no Inter-school matches as the other schools are not playing soccer.
- Please ensure that the girls have appropriate footwear for soccer.

TENNIS

- As you might have seen, the Girls Prep will be hosting an Open Day on Saturday, 5 October. As part of the day, we will be having a Family Tennis morning where girls will get an opportunity to play with/against their parents. We would love all our tennis-playing families to come down and enjoy a morning of tennis with us. The format and scheduling will be confirmed once we know how many families will be playing. The morning is open to all tennis girls from Grade 3 - 7. If you would like to register to take part, please click on the link and fill in the Google Form. Entries for the event will close on Friday, 27 September.
<https://forms.gle/hwqJKJKByHBLNML8A>
- Doubles Championship: we will be introducing a Tennis Doubles Championship this year. If your daughter would like to take part, she must write her and her partner's name on the sports notice board. Entries close on Friday, 27 September.

Andrew Steyn (*Director of Sport*)





FRIDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER
HOT DOG DAY AND
HERITAGE DAY DRESS UP

R35

Hot dog Day R25
Heritage Day R10
Ink Cartridge Collection

Dress in heritage costumes, colours of the SA flag or support the Bokke.

You are also encouraged to wear toques for Sunflower Day (available from Pick 'n Pay)



'THE SOUND OF CHILDREN' CHOIR FESTIVAL: TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER

The Cadet Choir (Gr 3-4) will be participating in 'The Sound of Children' Choir Festival on Tuesday, 1 October at the Linder Auditorium. On this prestigious occasion the Johannesburg Festival Orchestra, conducted by Richard Cock, will accompany the choir. This event is one of the highlights of our choir year and is enthusiastically anticipated by both participants and audiences.

Seats for the concert can be purchased through Computicket at R100 per adult and R50 per non-participating child.

More details and bus reply slips will be sent out shortly. Please join us for this fantastic musical evening.

Marguerite Schmitt (*Director of Music*)



Congratulations to the
Ndlovu Youth Choir

on their fantastic performances in the 'America's Got Talent' contest and for making it through to the finals! We look forward to welcoming them home – you have made us proud!

LIBRARY

Parents are requested to consider donating a book, to the Library, on the occasion of their daughter's birthday. This is something that has been done in the past, which results in the Library receiving a beautiful collection of books over the year. Your daughter's name will be inscribed inside the book, which will be a record of the fact that she donated it to the Library.

Once a month, a group of moms, meet in the library to cover any new books or textbooks for the school. The moms meet on the first Friday of every month. We are looking for more volunteers. If you would like to join the team, share a cup of coffee, have a good laugh and a bit fun while doing something for the school, please let Leigh van Rooyen know (ivanrooyen@stpeters.co.za).

Lost or damaged books will be replaced at the parents' expense. R170 for fiction, R250 for non-fiction.

Leigh van Rooyen (*Librarian*)

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

LEAVERS' PLAQUES

2019

★ R250 per plaque

★ Place orders by Friday 11 October 2019 for November installation

Please click on the link below for various options & to place your order
<https://forms.gle/5zBq6ooiFHQ75kur9>

★ A ST PETER'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION INITIATIVE ★

LINK: <https://forms.gle/5zBq6ooiFHQ75kur9>

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP OPEN DAY – SATURDAY, 5 OCTOBER

Reminder: The Girls Prep is holding an Open Day on Saturday, 5 October.

See flyer below. Please help us spread the word by mentioning this to friends and family, who you think may be interested in attending this event. Thank you! Registration email address: girlsopenday@stpeters.co.za

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL
105 Witkoppen Road | Paulshof

OPEN DAY*

We are expanding and have spaces in Grade 0 and 1 for 2020!
(turning 6 or 7 years old)

- > **Saturday, 5 October 2019**
- > **09:00 to 12:00**
- > **Venue St Peter's Girls Junior Prep**
105 Witkoppen Road
(Opposite Porsche)

*** Register for OPEN DAY**
girlsopenday@stpeters.co.za

www.stpeters.co.za

St Peter's Prep-Raffle-2019

RAFFLE 2019

**Buy a raffle ticket for R200 to
stand a chance to win**

R30 000

towards your school fees!

The fine print:

- The draw takes place on 27-09-2019 at approx 19:00
- You don't have to attend the draw to win
- A maximum of 600 tickets will be sold
- You can buy multiple tickets
- Ts & Cs apply



FORTHCOMING WEEK

Please check on the Communicator St Peter's for the 2019 Advent Term Calendar.

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEWS SUBMISSIONS IS 10:00 ON WEDNESDAYS