



Edition: 30

5 October 2017

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Girls SP School

FROM THE HEADMASTER

OLD GIRLS TEA

We were delighted to host our annual old girls' tea this past Saturday. Shrieks of nostalgic joy filled the air as the girls met up with their old friends and (old?) prep school teachers. A huge thank you to Mrs Cara Eggett for organising this wonderful event:



THE SOUND OF CHILDREN

On Monday night, our Cadet Choir performed at the Linder Auditorium in a Concert called *The Sound of Children*. They had the most incredible opportunity of singing with a live orchestra and four other schools. Our girls did themselves proud as always, especially as our very own Ipad Band accompanied them!



PARENT INTERVIEWS

Parent Interviews are currently underway in the Senior Prep. The objective of these meetings is to ensure you have an accurate understanding of your daughter's general progress at school. You will receive a comprehensive report at the end of the year, as usual. If you are unable to attend these meetings, your daughter's class teacher (Gr 3 – 5) or mentor (Gr 6 & 7) will send you an email with the relevant updates.

CLASS SELECTION

A few parents are also already starting to make requests for friends and class selection for 2018. I thought it would, therefore, be relevant to remind everyone of our class selection process and in so doing ask parents not to approach teachers with special requests for your daughter to go to a particular teacher or be placed with a pre-selected group of friends.

Classes are split into two or three (depending on the grade) equal academic ability groups.

We then look at friendship groupings and who should, or should not, be placed together. In the JP, it has been common practice over the years to allow the girls to choose five friends and to guarantee that at least two of these friends will be in the same class, next year.

A similar process is followed in the Senior Prep. However, whilst every effort will continue to be made to accommodate friendship groupings, we must also be aware of the inherent dangers of cliques. Not only are they sometimes detrimental in terms of focus in class, but they also have the potential of alienating other girls. If we claim to teach life skills at school then we need to teach our girls, as early as possible, how to interact with different girls every year. Opportunities for establishing new relationships must be seen as a positive mechanism for growth and maturity.

Teacher match or suitability is also considered. Occasionally, a girl may be better suited to a particular teacher in terms of teaching style and personality. However, it needs to be said that every teacher at St Peter's is phenomenal and there is no doubt that your daughter will flourish, no matter with which teacher she is placed.

In the JP, the class teachers in consultation with Mrs Kissack take all decisions around class placement. In the SP, the class teacher and Mrs Cara Eggett (Head of Pastoral Care) do these in consultation with Mrs Pam van Gass.

Classes for 2018 will be announced in the last week of this year. We will then ask for parents to support the school's decision and to guide and encourage your child to understand that the decision was made with very good reason, rather than a 'knee-jerk' insistence that your daughter needs to be moved. If we acceded to every request of this nature, the end result would be chaos. However, if parents support the school, your daughter will very quickly realise that she needs to make an effort to adapt to her new surroundings. If your daughter thinks that mom or dad can 'fix' the problem, then they will continue to protest and not make any effort to adapt.

I sincerely hope this clarifies the process for you. If you have any questions or concerns in terms of this process please feel free to chat to your daughter's teacher or me.

Have a good weekend!

Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb
(Headmaster)

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

With the upcoming Inter-house Sports Day on Saturday, 14 October, we have been holding Inter-house Standards, where the girls all participate in three events to earn points for their house. These points are then added to the points earned on Sports Day to determine the overall winner. Further to this, we will hold the Field Events on Thursday, 12 October from 13:30-14:30. Girls selected to represent their house in High Jump (Grade 6/7) and Long Jump (Grade 3-7) will receive letters in this regard. Allowances will be made for those girls who have Inter-school tennis matches on Thursday afternoon.

Please remember to consult the Sporting Week Ahead that is available on School Communicator.

Liz Ashmore (*Director of Sport*) LAshmore@stpeters.co.za

CHAPEL COLLECTION THIS TERM

Our Chapel collection this term will be going towards a St Peter's College initiative.

Every year the Grade 11 pupils at St Peter's College are assigned with the task of raising funds in order to build a classroom for less privileged children. This year the Grade 11s will be building an administration block and school hall at Kwasa College, near Springs, through the leadership of the *Make A Change* Committee, which is run by the Grade 11 pupils. 'We really appreciate the support we have received from the St Peter's Prep families. Whether one has donated money or actual building materials, you are helping us now and into the future to *Make A Change*.'

Kamohelo Kotsi (*Chaplain Assistant*)

GRADE 6 HOUSE PLAYS

The parents of our Grade 6 girls are invited to watch their daughters perform House plays on Thursday, 12 October from 18:30 until 20:00.

Eight short plays, based on a fairy tale, will be presented. The girls were tasked to choose a play and then produce the script according to the needs of their group. Teachers supervise the groups, but do not produce the play. The girls have worked through the various stages of Blooms Taxonomy, namely: **remember, understand, apply, analyse, evaluate** and then **create** their own version of the play.

Melanie Aspeling (*HOD Drama and Grade 5 Class Teacher*)

MY STORY - REFLECTIONS ON TRANSFORMATION AT ST PETER'S

We end this year's My Story series by reflecting on the Transformation journey at St Peter's Prep Schools. We will look back at what has been achieved and look to the road ahead, identifying current challenges and discussing initiatives for 2018. We would welcome your input and hope that you are able to join us:

Date: Tuesday, 10 October
Time: 18:30 – 20:30
Venue: Girls Junior Prep Hall

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

MARIA SHILALUKI

Maria was born in Limpopo and she is 27 years old. Her mother raised her. Maria's father died when she was eight years old, after which her uncle assisted financially, wherever possible. She has a sister and four brothers.

Maria was schooled in Limpopo and attended the University of Limpopo for her tertiary education. Maria also employed her entrepreneurial prowess to overcome financial constraints successfully. From 2009 - 2011 she ran a homework support group in the community and this venture helped to fund her studies.

'Being involved in the Intern programme has exceeded my expectations. I have gained invaluable knowledge and experience. I have improved my IT skills considerably and have mastered the complicated workings of all the printers/laminators, etc. Financially it has also been a great help and I can honestly say that I just love every minute being a part of this fantastic programme'.



St Peter's 2017 Golf Day Roundup

On behalf of St Peter's Prep Schools and the Parents Association we would like to thank all those who played as well as our sponsors who made the day possible.

Also thanks to the many volunteers who gave of their time to make the day a success.

Congratulations to the Hendrik du Plooy, Paul Wilmans, Gavin O'Brien and Mark Boyd fourball for taking 1st place.

**AND THE RAFFLE
WINNER IS... ..**

Georgie Lennox

Congratulations on winning –
we hope you enjoy the weekend
in Cape Town





- R250 per plaque
- Order forms available on the Communicator or at Reception
- Sample plaque can be viewed at reception
- Plaques will be installed on brick seating alongside Newlands field, amphitheatre, tennis courts or swimming pool (as specified on your order form)
- Orders can be placed any time but plaques will be installed twice annually
- Email completed forms to Katinka Cross kcross@mweb.co.za or hand in at reception



Sample plaque

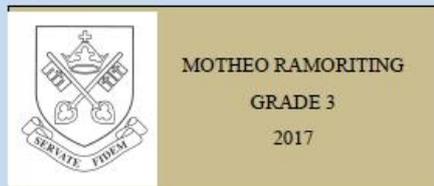
Order by
15 November
for January
installation

St Peter's Girls Prep Leavers' Plaques

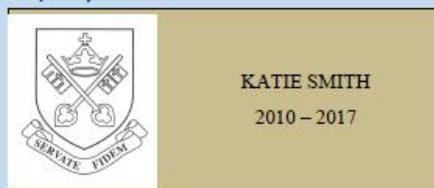
An initiative of the St Peters PA

Three Options:

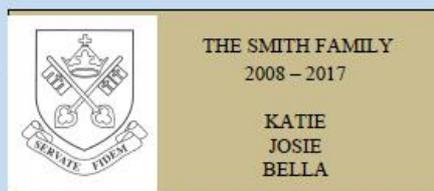
Current pupil:



Leaver's plaque:



Family plaque:



SCHOOL SHOP

FAMILY ORGANISER

The popular Family Organisers are back in stock at the School Shop. This could make a great Christmas gift - it costs R140.

SECONDHAND

Owing to lack of space in our stock room, we are unable to take in secondhand uniform items until further notice. We start receiving all our year-end orders at this time of the year and unfortunately, we do not have sufficient storage space.

Nadia Thompson
(School Shop)

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Tuesday	10/10/2017	07:30:00	08:30:00	Grade 5 and 6 Class Moms Meeting		Girls Boardroom
Tuesday	10/10/2017	10:30:00	12:10:00	Grade 7 Study Skills		Royce Hall
Wednesday	11/10/2017	13:00:00	16:30:00	ABRSM Theory Exams (Music)		Dinning Hall
Wednesday	11/10/2017			REMINDER: CHAPEL COLLECTION FOR TOMORROW		
Thursday	12/10/2017	09:30:00	10:00:00	Grade 4RA Sandwich Making		
Thursday	12/10/2017	13:30:00	16:30:00	Tennis Matches		Home/Away
Thursday	12/10/2017	18:30:00	20:00:00	Grade 6 House Plays		Royce Hall
Friday	13/10/2017	07:30:00	08:00:00	Matric 2017 Chapel Service		Chapel
Friday	13/10/2017	13:30:00	16:30:00	Athletics Meeting		Home/Away
Saturday	14/10/2017	08:00:00	10:00:00	Girls SP Inter-house Sports Day		Newlands
Saturday	14/10/2017	10:30:00	10:30:00	Choir Tour departs for Nelspruit		Chapel Parking

THIS WEEK



Raindrops keep falling on my head . . .

Girls from Grade 4IdB wanted to pool their pocket money today, in order to buy David Sentse (the Girls School Security Guard) an umbrella, after noticing that he didn't have one.

Fortunately, we were able to donate one from the school.

Well done, on your generous thinking, girls!