



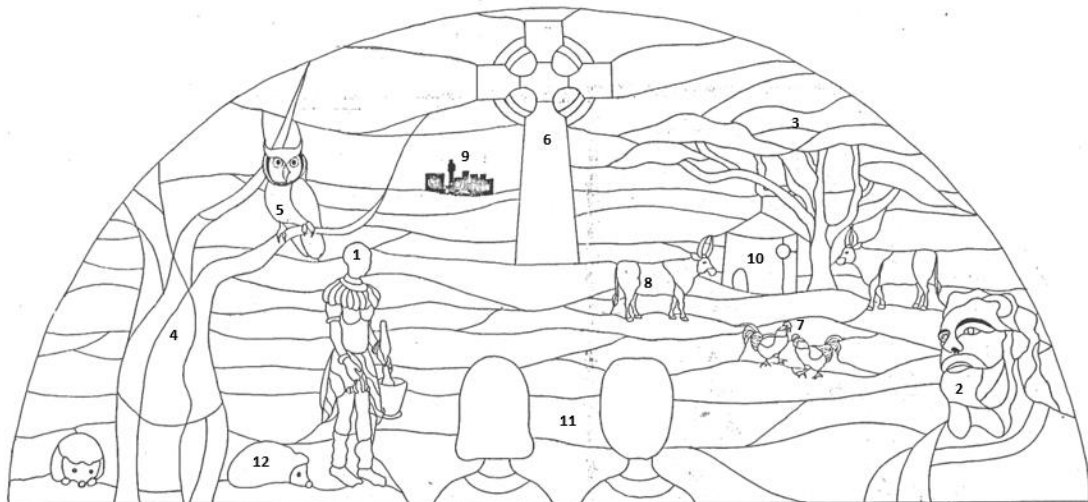
Edition: 19

7 June 2018

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

FROM THE RECTOR

NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOW IN THE CHAPEL



KEY:

(Conceived by Greg Royce and designed by Katy Mthethwa, Media and Thinking Skills Specialist, 2018. Executed by Leonie Meyer). The window portrays the context in which the school is placed. It evokes the mission of the school to prepare children for life in Africa and the world, within the loving care of God's presence.

1. Manche Masemola, African Martyr from Limpopo, killed by her family while a teenager in February 1928 for her belief in Christianity.
2. St Peter, for whom the school is named.

3. Baobab tree, symbolising endurance of the Christian faith and the hope that the school will prevail.
4. Acacia tree, symbolising the strength of the faith of Christians under the protection of God.
5. Eagle owl, symbolising the wisdom of African philosophy and the rich learning environment of the school based on the cognitive education programme.
6. Celtic cross, symbolising the St Peter's special brand of Christianity, its closeness to nature and its recognition of the status of women.
7. Potchefstroom koekoeks, indigenous African chickens.
8. Nguni cattle, symbolising the domestic animals that sustain humankind in Africa and a reminder of the school's beginnings with 10 boys, 2 girls and a cow.
9. City, symbolising urban life for which children are prepared.
10. Hut, symbolising rural life, the early, humble beginnings of the school and the humility we seek in St Peter's pupils.
11. St Peter's boy and girl looking into the world for which they are being prepared.
12. Hedgehog, symbolising the independence of St Peter's' and willingness to protect its ethos.

Greg Royce (*Rector*)

FROM THE HEADMASTER

I have recently been asked to update my welcome 'blurb' for our school website – which is long overdue!

I thought I'd share my first draft with you, as current parents, perhaps to reinforce the fact that you have made one of the best decisions in your life in choosing to send your daughter to St Peter's. If you'd like to contribute to the section entitled 'Comments from current parents', please send a few lines to Jean Macleod at jmacleod@stpeters.co.za. Thank you so much!

WELCOME TO ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

I feel very privileged to be the second Head of St Peter's Girls Prep School. My association with the school started in 2006, as a parent, when my daughter joined the school as one of the founding pupils. My son also joined the St Peter's family a few years later.

St Peter's Girls Prep has a very definite purpose, which is based on the foundation of the Anglican Church and our explicit teaching of responsibility, resilience, collaboration, compassion, respect and honour. We strive to teach our girls the skills required to not only cope, but thrive in high school as well as in life after school. Our focus is divided into three main areas: character development, skills for life and core academic skills.

Lessons learnt in Chapel, weekly Life Orientation lessons, small mentor groups and a personalised learning approach to everything we do at St Peter's Girls Prep affords us the opportunity to partner with parents to develop character traits that will enable our girls to contribute to society in a meaningful way.

Our Student-Led Academic meetings with the girls and their parents on academic progress, places the responsibility with the girls to learn, set goals and make the most of their time at school. This initiative has empowered our girls to develop their own strategies to manage the areas of school life they have found challenging and put strategies, plans and approaches in place to make progress.

If passion, does indeed lead to greatness, our girls need the motivation and enthusiasm necessary to give 100% to everything they do, from Gr 0 through to Grade 7, be it on the sports field, cultural activities or in their numerous academic pursuits. Our girls need to learn to take responsible risks and to understand what it means to be resilient.

Therefore, at St Peter's Girls Prep, you will find girls climbing trees, swinging on swings, playing on jungle gyms and taking off their shoes. Girls run if they are late and they aren't afraid to be children. Children need the freedom to be children!

At St Peter's Girls Prep, we teach critical skills for life. We intentionally teach what it means to be a leader. We believe that as a girls school we need to prepare our girls to take up their rightful place in society, as equals to their male counterparts!

Music is a vital aspect of education at St Peter's and we have a vibrant and successful department. A large number of our girls learn to play a musical instrument and this forms the basis of our various ensembles and orchestra. There are five St Peter's Girls Prep choirs! A Grade 2 choir, the Middle School Cadet Choir and in the senior years, the Chapel and Chamber Choirs and The Legacy singing group.

The importance of physical fitness, which translates into the life lessons that sport embodies, is vital at St Peter's. Knowing the importance of sport, we encourage all the girls to swim, play netball and hockey and compete on the athletics track. Only tennis and cross-country are regarded as optional sports.

Other critical life skills taught at St Peter's include: Art, Drama, Chess, Robotics, Coding, IT integration, Entrepreneurial skills and Public Speaking.

The core skills in the curriculum, of: Mathematics, English, isiZulu, Afrikaans, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and Exploration and Learning, an inquiry-based subject, are taught to prepare our girls to excel in high school. As one of the recognised international Thinking Schools, the approach at St Peter's is grounded in questioning, reflection and the development of a growth mindset. Many Thinking Skills strategies are introduced and integrated into the curriculum at many levels: Responsive Classroom, Ron Ritchard's Thinking Routines, David Hyerle's Thinking Maps and Carol Dweck's philosophy on a Growth Mindset. The Thinking Skills Drive Team ensures that relevant and up-to-date thinking approaches and philosophies are implemented. The future demands the ability to think creatively and critically in order to solve problems.

Martin Luther King, Jr said: 'The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.'

Yet, despite the fact that we have beautiful, modern educational facilities with a view over the distant Magaliesberg mountain range, none of this would be possible without an exceptionally dedicated and passionate teaching staff, which we most certainly have at St Peter's Girls Prep School!

However, if you don't believe me, I have asked our current parents for a few comments about our school:

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????? ?????

Comments from parents will be inserted here.

*If you'd like your daughter to be a part of this St Peter's family, please click on the **Book a Tour** button on this website. This generates an email to our Marketer, Jean Macleod and she will respond and arrange a tour of the school for you.*

Darrel Webb

Headmaster: St Peter's Girls Prep School

Have a wonderful weekend! Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb

(Headmaster)

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

HOCKEY

The transition from netball to hockey has happened swiftly. The girls were put through their paces, participating in three rounds of trials. This was a vigorous exercise for all the girls to go through as assessments were made on skill set and match play. Each girl participated in at least six trial matches and were thus each given a fair opportunity to showcase their skills. A big thank you to all the coaches who were very professional and thorough throughout the trial process!

Though our trial process has been thorough, I can't help but feel that no matter how many trial matches we ran as a sports department, we were always bound by human error or judgment. As I ponder and reflect upon the process, I realise two very important aspects:

The first being that without any question of doubt, the girls and the coaches gave a 100% commitment and effort towards the process. Each individual, whether coach or player, put their experience and skill to the test to produce the very best possible product and result that they are able to deliver.

The second aspect, and most importantly, was the emotional stress endured by both player and coach. The player's stress coming from wanting to achieve intrinsic self-motivation, through praise and recognition, as well as extrinsic motivation to please mom, dad and grandparents. While this is all happening behind the scenes, very little thought is given to the coach and the mental stress, which they have to endure too. The coaches assessed 325 girls with over 75 mini-trial matches being played over the course of the week across all the grades. This is no mean feat by any stretch of the imagination. It is only when a fellow coach came to me and said 'ahhh this girl has such a big heart, we need to promote her' - visibly upset at the player's exclusion, did I realise the very strong bond and connection that exists between coaches and players, and the significant emotional turmoil that plays its part in the human element.

The point I'm trying to make, is that trials are more than just a process of team selection. The human element is a very real one, as we all develop at different rates and at different stages in our lives. We need to celebrate our individual uniqueness and talents that we have been given, rather than mull over what could've been. All these emotions need to be nurtured and channelled in the best interest of all players so that they may continue to grow and prosper!

HELPING THEM COPE

What can parents do to help their child survive being passed over for a team selection?

1. Explain that everyone gets a turn to shine. 'Sometimes it is someone else's turn, and next time it could be yours,' says Debbie Mandel, the author of *Turn on Your Inner Light: Fitness for Body, Mind and Soul* (Busy Bee Group, 2003).
2. Ask in advance, what coaches will be looking for in a player and the commitment you and your child need to make if she makes the team, explains Stacy DeBroff, author of *Sign Me Up! The Parents' Complete Guide to Sports, Activities, Music Classes, Dance Lessons and Extracurriculars* (Free Press, 2003). Knowing what the coach expects ahead of time can alert the parents to whether or not this sport in this situation would be a good fit for the child.
3. Prepare your child for the possibility of not making the team before try-outs begin. 'The parents should convey to their sons and daughters to prepare to make the team, to work hard to do so and most importantly, feel good about themselves no matter the outcome,' Maher says.
4. If your child truly enjoys the sport, do everything possible to keep them interested and involved. 'If a child doesn't make a team, he is often discouraged and drops the sport,' DeBroff says. 'Stories abound of middle-of-the road athletes who went on to excel.' Michael Jordan is an excellent example of a young athlete who

was cut by his school team, but who didn't give up and tried out the next year. Look for alternative leagues, or sign them up for sports camps to improve their skills.

5. Allow them to feel the hurt of not making the team. Busch says that she and her husband let her children take the lead on how they want to deal with the disappointment. 'If they needed to go off to their rooms for a while to deal with it, that was fine,' she says. 'If they wanted to talk about it, we were there to listen and help put it in perspective.'
6. Keep it in perspective. Oftentimes children are upset because they feel they let down their parents. 'It is flattering to a parent when a coach wants your child to try out for a select team,' Heinzmann says. Children pick up on parents' excitement, so reinforce to your child that you aren't disappointed *in* her, but disappointed *for* her.

Chris Tomsek (*Acting Director of Sport*)



ANTI-HIJACKING AND CRIME AWARENESS PRESENTATION FOR ST PETER'S PARENTS

Date: Tuesday, 19 June

Time: 18:30 to 20:00 (tea and coffee will be served from 18:00)

Venue: Dodson Hall, Boys Senior Prep



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

When you lose someone or something very precious to you, the grief can be intense. Pain, sad memories, and unanswered questions can haunt you. Losing a parent for a child is without doubt one of the most difficult experiences a child has to deal with. They may even feel that they'll never be the same - that they'll never laugh or be whole again. There is no way to grieve and to get over it, something small can trigger memories at any time and we need the support of others and the opportunity to speak about it.

To this end, St Peter's is starting a Bereavement Support Group for these children, from both the Girls and Boys School from Grade 0 to Grade 7. The group will meet once or twice a term or whenever they feel it necessary to meet. The purpose is to celebrate the life of the parent they have lost and to provide the opportunity to share in a safe environment with peers who have had common experiences.

These group sessions will be run by Wendy Wentzel, our resident Psychologist and myself. Our first group meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12 June from 07:30 to 08:30 in Wendy's office, located at the boys school ASU.

If your child has experienced the loss of a parent, please encourage him/her to attend these sessions. Together we can support and help your children to work through their loss and, slowly but surely, help them to feel whole again.

Please contact me on 082 332 9855, should you have any questions or queries.

Blessings

Fr Richard

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - 5 JUNE

World Environment Day appeared on our Eco calendar earlier this week. This day is the UN's most important day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the protection of our environment. Since it began in 1974, it has grown to become a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated in over 100 countries.

Each World Environment Day is organised around a theme that focuses attention on a particularly pressing environmental concern. The theme for 2018 is **beating plastic pollution** and the host country for 2018 is India.

At St Peter's we have decided to embrace the theme of 'beating plastic' by partnering with the **Owl Rescue Centre's Plastic Recycling Project**. All our plastic collected for the rest of the term will be placed in the special collection bags supplied by the Owl Rescue Centre. These are collected, and in turn, recycled and made into owl and bat boxes. In addition, the school has ordered some barn owl, spotted eagle owl and bat boxes. We will keep you up to date regarding the installation. Children wishing to make a difference, must place all their plastic in either the classroom recycling bins or the big wheelie bins that are labelled 'plastic'. We will sort it and make sure that it is passed onto the Owl Rescue Centre. The Owl Rescue Centre will take any form of plastic including their recent addition of plastic bags.

Cathy Linnell
(Eco Committee Chair)



Plastic Recycling Project

We all have a responsibility to keep our environment clean for the wildlife who calls it home. **Owl Rescue Centre** has decided to manufacture all our conservation products, including Owl Houses, Bat Houses, Bee Hives and more from recycled plastic, to make an even greater impact through our conservation efforts. Help us by collecting all your used plastic bottles. Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for updates on this project & drop-off spots in your area.

Non Profit Registration
2012/126036/08
Physical Address
(by appointment only)
Farm 448 Brakfontein
Hartebeespoort
North West Province
Contact Number
+27 82 719 5463
Email
info@owlrescuecentre.org.za

Join our Plastic Recycling Drive & help us to make a difference

Owl Rescue Centre

GRADE 7 PRODUCTION - TREASURE ISLAND

The Grade 7 girls', musical version of *Treasure Island* will be performed in the week leading up to Half-term. The performance dates are Wednesday, 20 and Thursday, 21 June.

Tickets will be available online (using TIXSA) from **Wednesday, 13 June** - at a cost of R60 for adults and R40 for children.

The electronic link to TIXSA (a ticket purchasing website – info under the PA section, below) will be available shortly and will be distributed to parents as soon as it becomes 'live'. For more information, please contact Mrs Lara Rishworth on Irishworth@stpeters.co.za.

Come along and see the dashing and creative abilities of the girls, as they 'swashbuckle' on the stage in Royce Hall!

Melanie Aspeling
(HOD: Drama)



ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS - BUS SERVICE INFORMATION

Due to much interest from last week's Bus Service Survey, we need to move to the next stage of gathering information so we can contact you to make arrangements for the morning Bus Service.

Please click on the link to fill in your details:
<https://goo.gl/forms/q7ZzUWZTFqCkE3762>



CIVVIES DAY COLLECTION REMINDER

For our Civvies Day on Friday, 15 June and we are collecting clothes for the HLALISEKANI PLAYGROU, as mentioned in previous newsletters.

Clothes are being collected in the Vestry of our Chapel. This will continue until Friday, 15 June. All sizes of clothing will be received. St Mark's Anglican Church will distribute the adult clothing.

Your support for this initiative would be greatly appreciated.

Kamohelo Kotsi
(Chaplain Assistant)

PA NEWS



**ST PETER'S
PREP SCHOOLS**

St Peter's Prep Schools Soccer Day 2018

Get ready to celebrate the
Beautiful Game!

Saturday, 16 June
11:00 Registration
11:30 First kick-off

- For St Peter's Prep Schools boys & girls only.
- Siblings welcome (minimum age group is Grade 0).
- Only participating players to register.
- Submit one registration form per participating child.
- Sports departments will allocate players into teams.

**Remember to register by
Wednesday, 13 June**

Click on this LINK to register: <https://goo.gl/forms/QKJpQ9xaDPsGg5uY2>

COFFEE MACHINES REMINDER

Coffee machines are available in the pavilions for parents who would like to enjoy a cup. The cost of the coffee is NOW R15 A CUP. There is also complimentary tea and instant coffee available, in case you are not able to pay for the machine coffees.



Please note that this is based on an honesty system, and at the moment we are noticing that only 80% of the coffees are being paid for.

Due to an unfortunate spate of theft, as well as to not everyone paying for the coffee, we are moving to a completely cashless system.

Coffee will now be paid for via snapscan only. Simply scan the barcode and follow the instructions on the app. If you do not have the app, please use our complimentary Wi-Fi to download it and you can use immediately. Thank you for your support.

SECOND HAND SHOP

Opening times: Wednesday 07:00 – 08:00

The Second Hand Shop is proving to be a popular option for many parents.

We are looking for more volunteers to assist with the shop.

We would also like to start supplying second hand sporting equipment (cricket bats, hockey sticks, tennis racquets etc.)

Please contact Carol Sithole on carol.sithole1977@gmail.com or on 072 2268599 if you are able to help.



PA COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Several of the current serving members of the St Peter's Parents Association will be stepping down toward the end of this year as their terms come to an end.

As a result, we are looking for parents to volunteer to fill these vacancies. Being part of the PA is a fun and rewarding way of contributing towards the school to which we all belong. Please contact Malope or Robyn if you are interested in getting involved.

Malope Mabizela: malopem@icloud.com & Robyn Doak: robyn@designoval.co.za

ST PETER'S
PREP SCHOOLS

WE ARE GOING CASHLESS FOR ALL SCHOOL EVENTS!

- Allowing our children and families to be safer at events
- Creating less work for parent volunteers who manage the ticket sales and admin
- Convenient electronic purchasing of tickets, no more queues!
- Allowing for multiple payment methods, so you can decide how to pay
- One platform for all different events in the school calendar

tixsa
EXPERTS IN EVENTS
AND TICKETING

INFORMATION FOR SATURDAY!



Grade 3


Dads & Daughter's 'Orienteering and Coding' Morning

9/06/2018
09:00-12:00

Solving the Challenge, Together!

- Grade 3JA - 09:00-10:00
- Grade 3MH - 10:00-11:00
- Grade 3CI - 11:00-12:00

Please meet in your classroom
Tea/Coffee/Hot chocolate & Rusks will be available



Grade 4 & 5

Dads and Daughters Dinner!



Date: Saturday, 9 June
Time: 18:00 – 20:00
Venue: Royce Hall
Dress code: Smart casual

Cooldrinks will be on sale on the evening for R10.
You are also welcome to bring your own drinks.

This will be a night to remember!



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**



Girls showing Mr Webb their creations, using Simple Powered Machines – learning about gears as part of their Robotics curriculum.