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ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of the Girls JP

FROM THE HEADMASTER

In the week of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday, I thought it would be relevant to share some insight from Father Richard. Every time I hear Father Richard speak to our girls, I am reminded of how incredibly lucky we all are at St Peter's to have him and Mr Kotsi in our lives! They represent, so admirably, the spiritual foundation of everything we do:

From Father Richard:

The countdown to Shrove Tuesday, or pancake Tuesday as most of us know it, has ended and this signals the beginning of the journey towards Easter. I'm still recovering from Christmas and trying to implement all those New Year's resolutions I decided on. I'm not ready for Easter, but I have to be because time zooms on.

Often our Christian journey mirrors the same sentiments. We really do want to be better Christians, go to church more often and yes, we do strive to be better people, but time just runs away with us and we are left with only good intentions!

This time, before Easter is exactly that. It is about us deciding on one attribute, which we want to change, regarding our relationship with God, and taking the next 40 to make that change. It's about perseverance and never giving up. It's about struggling, conquering and, most importantly, being victorious.

This is the first time since 1945 that Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day. Certain churches have requested that, on such years, Valentine's Day be celebrated the day before - as Ash Wednesday should take precedence. For me, it is not an either/or situation, but the true message of St Valentine reminds us that Ash Wednesday is about relationships, that which we have with God and those that we have with each other. It is about our unconditional love for our creator and those important people in our lives.

So toughen up; commit to 40 days of lent, change and journey with God as he continues to hold you and your loved ones in His gentle arms.

Have a good weekend!

Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb
(Headmaster)

FROM THE JP HEAD

DO YOU WANT TO FAST FOR LENT?

We celebrated Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday this week. The girls were encouraged to give up something . . . perhaps sugar or a fizzy drink. Here are some other ideas I really liked:

In the words of St Francis

- *Fast from hurting words and say kind words*
- *Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude*
- *Fast from anger and be filled with patience*
- *Fast from pessimism and be filled with patience*
- *Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity*
- *Fast from pressures and be prayerful*
- *Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy*
- *Fast from grudges and reconcile*
- *Fast from words and be silent so you can learn*
- *Fast from worries and trust in God*

WAITING CLASS

Waiting Class has been designed to assist parents who have daughters in the JP and SP and for those parents who have difficulties with traffic and other unexpected crises. It has come to our attention that at times there is confusion about Waiting Class procedures. In order to make sure that the girls are safe, we have the following strategies in place:

- **Grade 0** wait in their classroom until 13:15 every day. They are then brought up to the Waiting Class area.
- **Grade 1** stays in class until 13:25. They then move to the Waiting area by 13:30
- **Grade 2** is taken to Waiting Class at 13:45 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.
- **Choir** girls, not collected at 14:30, can be collected at the Afterschool Programme.
- On a Wednesday and Friday, Grade 2 girls will go to Waiting Class at 13:15.
- **Extra Murals** start at 13:15.
- All girls who are not collected by 14:00, can be collected at the Afterschool Programme.
- Girls may only go home with a friend, if they have permission and a note to the teacher.

We hope this helps with clarification.

COFFEE MORNING

Today, we hosted Lara Ragpot who spoke on 'Screen Time.' Next week we will have an introductory talk on 'Time2Read' for Grade 0 parents and new parents. It will be held at the Boys JP.

INTERN CAMP

The Isematholeni Intern Programme will join the UJ Education Department at a Two-Day Camp in the Magaliesberg.

Have a wonderful and love filled week ahead!

Heather Kissack

PUZZLE LIBRARY

The Puzzle Library will open from this Friday in the Media Centre 07:00 – 07:45. This is available to Grade 0 – 2 girls wishing to take home two puzzles or games for the week and return them the following week. If you would like to participate please complete the Puzzle Library Form attached and return to reception. We also require some mom and dad volunteers to be available a few times a term from 7:00-8:00 on a Friday, on a rotation basis (to put out puzzles and count pieces on return).

Yvonne Wattam (Parent)

BOOK WEEK

The St Peter's JP Girls will be celebrating Book Week during the week of 26 February - 2 March 2018. **Book Week** is about celebrating reading, writing, authors and their work. We are excited to be celebrating Book Week, this year, with a South African author from Durban, Dianne Stewart.

Our theme this year is '*Dianne Stewart Explored!*'

An Award winning author, Dianne Stewart, has published several books, some internationally. She has a B.A. (Hons) degree in African Languages, a M.A. degree in South African Literature and a M.A. in Creative Writing. In January 2018, she held a workshop on 'Memoir Writing' at the University of Cape Town Summer School.

Activities that will take place during the book week are:

Hooked on Books:

The *Hooked on Books* show is dramatised book-trailers from 11 pre-selected contemporary children's books, which change on a yearly basis. It will take place on the 23 February in the Royce Hall, the Friday before Book Week. A charge of R17 will be charged on each girl's sundries accounts for HOB show.

Author of study:

Dianne Stewart is the author of study for all of the grades this year. Each grade level will select a book written by her and do activities in their classroom. Dianne will be at the Girls School on Monday, 26 February and we will be selling her books that day. She will be autographing the books from 12:30. You can also buy your own copy from a bookshop and bring it in to be autographed. There will be a charge of R20 for the author visit.

DEAR Time:

'*Drop everything and Read*' is an activity that happens in the classroom during a set time. It is about making time to read, where everyone *drops everything that they are doing* and reads for 10 minutes.

Dress-up day:

Dress-up day will take place on Thursday, 28 February. The theme is ***My favourite book character or author.***

Book Sale:

The **Travelling Bookshop** will host a book sale from Monday, 26 – Wednesday, 28 of February. The book sale will take place at the Newlands Pavilion. Book prices range from R70 upwards. Please send your child with an amount of R100 or more. Alternatively, you can take your daughter to purchase a book after school during this time.

Inspiration:

We will celebrate all the learning together with a presentation of the activities that took place in classrooms on Thursday, 2 March - to declare the end of Book Week 2018.

Mrs Zanele Mbatha (Girls JP Librarian)

MY STORY: SAVE THE DATE

"The scarcest resource is not oil, metals, clean air, capital, labour, or technology. It is our willingness to listen to each other and learn from each other and to seek the truth rather than seek to be right." (Donella Meadows)

'My Story' is our St Peter's community 'safe space.' We believe that inviting St Peter's parents and staff to share their experiences helps us to break down the barriers that stand between us and sets us on a path towards a stronger, more cohesive community. Please join us on this exciting journey:

Date: Wednesday, 28 February

Time: 18:30 – 20:00

Venue: Girls Junior Prep Hall

MUSIC STAFF SHOWCASE

Music Staff Showcase

A very special musical performance
By the St Peter's Music Staff
Bring your picnic basket and drinks

*f*molto **Date: 7 March 2018**
Time: 18:30
Venue: St Peter's Boys Prep, Dodson Hall

Children are most welcome!


ST PETER'S
PREP SCHOOLS

Please make bookings using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/NRKf1LcTygRfS1TR2>

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 Girls SP Reception.**

**Many thanks
Grade 7 Girls Fundraising Committee**



OUR VALUE: 'HONOUR'

The Fifth Commandment says, '*Honour your father and your mother*'. Do we, as adults, always do the honourable thing? Below are some questions for thought.

- Are our lives righteous examples for our children to follow?
- Are we always honest with our children?
- Do we frequently express our love and appreciation to our children?
- Do we listen to our children with genuine interest?
- Are we supportive of their interests and activities?
- Are we fair and consistent with discipline?
- Are we firm in setting reasonable limits?
- Do we show trust and confidence in our children?
- Do we give children opportunities to make their own decisions and choices?
- Do we encourage children to fulfill their own dreams, goals, and ambitions?



FOR THOSE WHO STILL NEED THE APP: COMMUNICATOR ST PETER'S**HOW TO GET IT: THIS IS THE FIRST STEP AND CANNOT BE SKIPPED**

There is a link below to a **Google Form** – which you are required to complete, please. These details are needed in order to set up the once-off verification step.

LINK: <http://goo.gl/forms/kvMdLCEq0G>

PLEASE ALLOW **1 WORKING DAY** ONCE YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE GOOGLE FORM BEFORE YOU DOWNLOAD THE COMMUNICATOR, TO ENABLE YOUR DETAILS TO BE VERIFIED.

Please go into your PlayStore/AppStore and download **Communicator St Peter's**.

- After download, you will be prompted to fill in your email address and make up a password (or request a password and then you will be prompted to make one up).
- An email will be sent to you asking you to verify your email address. Once you have clicked on this you will be able to continue with the download, filling in your email address and password. Remember the password as it will be needed when you authenticate your other devices as well.
- Choose **St Peter's Schools**
- Personalise from which school you wish to receive notifications and tick at least one of the following; Girls Junior Prep General, Girl Senior Prep General, Boys Junior Prep General, Boys Senior Prep General, or College General.
- Personalise other channels from which you would like to receive information e.g. Grades, Sports, Music, etc.

Jean Macleod

(Marketer) jmacleod@stpeters.co.za

WEEK AHEAD

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

BIRTHDAY CHAPEL

On Tuesday, the following Birthday girls will receive their birthday cards and a blessing in Chapel at 8:00. We hope to see the parents there.

B Moalosi
E Porter

SJ Spence
M van Aswegen

C Kruiskamp
E Kruiskamp