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ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of the Girls JP

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 JP HEAD

MANDELA DAY: BOOK, BALL AND BISCUIT DRIVE – MONDAY, 25 JULY

Thank you to all our parents who are participating in this first special day of giving and sharing. This initiative is sure to be a huge success. A special thank you to Carolyn Linnell and her team for the enormous amount of work that has gone in to co-ordinating this amazing day.

We are delighted to announce that we have enough *Books, Balls and Biscuits* to give to every child at Sefikeng (Grade 0 – Grade 8) a bag. Thank you to for your generosity. We will be ensuring that the appropriate books go to the appropriate grades. Please send in your bags as soon as possible, so that we can sort them and get them ready to take to Sefikeng next week. Please advise your daughter that she may not get the exact book she received when she bought the bag.

On the day, please bring a picnic blanket with you, to sit on when you do the reading.

Here are some important logistics:

Please send in your bag of goodies by Friday (or Monday at the latest)

On Wednesday, if you plan to go on the bus, please meet at the Girls JP Reception at the times stipulated below.

A map is bellow for those of you who will drive there. Banners will be placed strategically to help you find your way.

The bus schedule will be as follows:

08:00 time slot

07:30 - Depart from St Peter's

08:00 to 08:30 - Reading and playing

08:30 – Depart from Sefikeng

09:00 time slot

08:30 - Depart from St Peter's

09:00 to 09:30 - Reading and playing

09:30 – Depart from Sefikeng

10:00 time slot

10:00 - Depart from St Peter's

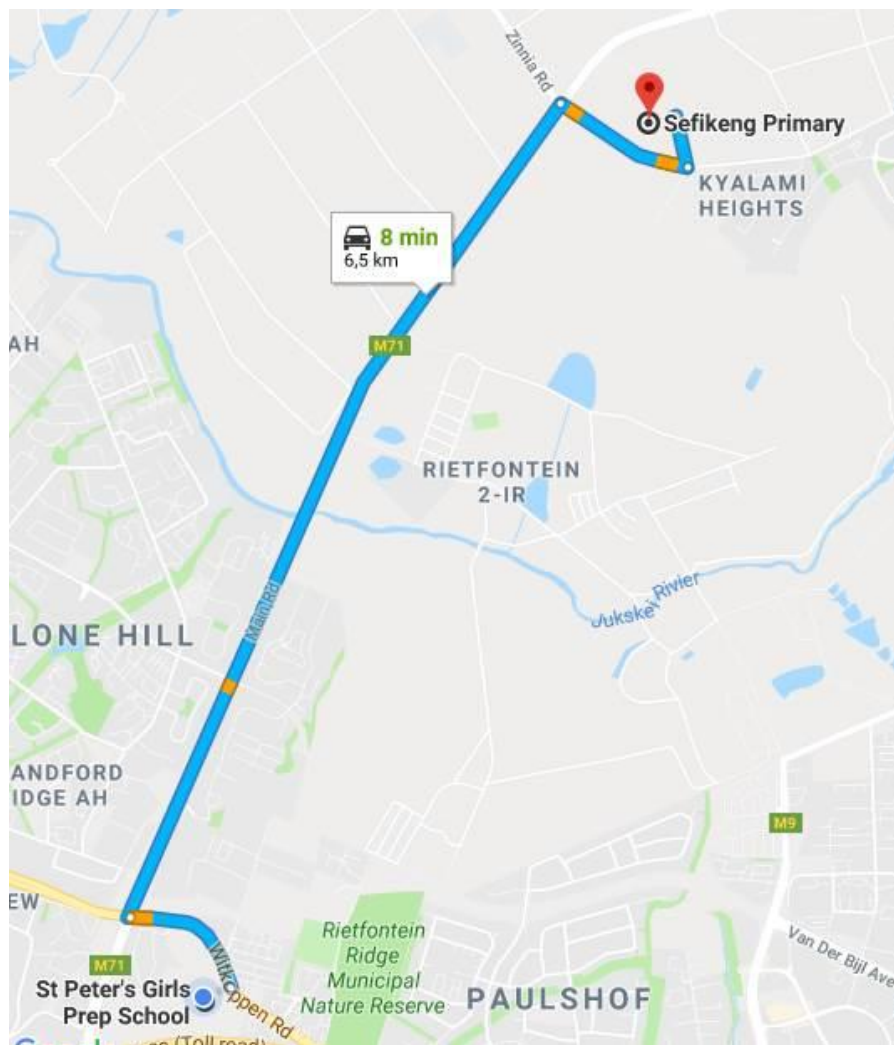
10:30 – 11:00 - Reading and playing

11:00 – Depart from Sefikeng

Please check the times above carefully. If you are making use of the shuttle service, please ensure that you are at St Peter's a little before the time so that we can leave promptly.

Looking forward to a wonderful morning together.

Leigh Lidgely and Cathy Linnell



TRUE HAPPINESS = VOLUNTEERING

Many of us have a wrong idea of what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification, but through fidelity to a worthy purpose - Helen Keller

It is true: real happiness is felt when we give of ourselves. At St Peter's, there are many ways to do this and become part of your daughter's school life.

We offer opportunities to participate, at the Girls JP, in the following ways:

- Class Parents
- Communication Co-ordinators (CC)
- Puzzle Library support
- Hot Dog Day
- Book Covering(Media Centre)
- Community Outreach at Sefikeng
- Diversity Committee

Please contact me by email, hkissack@stpeters.co.za , if you are interested in volunteering, now or in the future. I will help you get in touch with a parent who will assist in finding your passion, in order to support the community and be a visible and important role model.

GRADE 2 OUTING TO SCI-ENZA

The Grade 2s went on an exciting outing to Sci-enza, at the University of Pretoria, on Tuesday. It was a fun-filled, informative and exploratory adventure. On arrival, the girls had a presentation with Science experiments and learned all about water. Thereafter, they did a hands-on experiment with electricity. They built their very own circuits, to make a fan blow. They then had an opportunity to explore the many weird and wonderful objects and activities that Sci-enza had to offer. The mirror maze was a big hit with all the girls, as was the 'nail chair'! It was a quiet bus drive home, with all exhausted after this exciting day!

Grade 2 Teachers



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parents have been meeting with teachers since Half-term. For this reason, consultations are no longer a formality at the Girls JP this term. Please contact your respective teacher to set up an appointment if needed.

Have a super weekend.

Heather Kissack (Junior Prep Head)

BIRTHDAY CHAPEL

On **Tuesday, 24 July** the following Birthday girl/s will receive a birthday card and a blessing in Chapel at 8:00. We hope to see the parents there.

A Khama
U Nkomo
T Pillay
S Redhi
O Klein

Z Mtshaulana
U Nkomo
J van der Merwe
B Wattam
J Lang

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*)

HOT DOG DAY!

Hot Dog Day is tomorrow! Girls please bring R25.

Parents assisting: please meet at 08:30 at Girls SP Terrace on Friday, 20 July.

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

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Thursday	26/07/2018	12:00:00	13:00:00	Gr 2 Music Demo (info to be sent via Whatsapp)	Girls JP
Friday	27/07/2018	09:00:00	11:00:00	Production 2000	Boys JP Hall



GRADE 0, 1 AND 2 HOLIDAY CLUB – WEEK 1 AND 2 OF THE AUGUST HOLIDAYS

Grade 0, 1 and 2 girls, friends and younger siblings come and join **Mrs Buck, Mrs Steyn, Ms Peake and Ms Mafatle** for a wonderfully fun and creative holiday club. **Club staffed by fully qualified teachers.**

DATES: **Week 1 - 6-10 August** **Week 2 - 13-17 August.** Girls may attend all or selected days only.
ACTIVITIES: Lots of baking and delicious treats to make, beautiful crafts to create, bike day.
COST: R220 per day, all payments by latest 3rd August by EFT to Janet Buck
TIMES: 7.30am – 12pm
VENUE: Mrs Buck's classroom week 1, Ms Mafatle's classroom week 2.
 Sign up on the lists on the JP noticeboard and **collect an information letter and application form.** Looking forward to having you! For banking details and queries contact jbuck@stpeters.co.za

PA NEWS

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

St Peter's Prep Schools presents

Winter Warmers 2018 Lucky Draw

Thank you to our Sponsors & Well Done to the winners



Meerlust Wine Hamper

Tanya Watson

Private House Products [R1,500]

Wendy Ralph



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

Constance Mukarati

unitron. Hearing matters



Vogue Cantilever Umbrella [R2,000]

Natasha Lockley

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

Nasipi Ngwendu

3 Piece Diamond Luggage Set [R3,000]

Penny Moerane

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

Donna Clay



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

Patrick Earlam

The Guy Family

2 nights for 2 at The Cavern [R5 000]

Yvonne Wattam

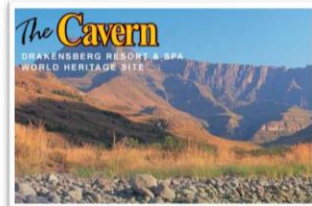


2 nights for 2 at Makalali Private Game Reserve [R13 000]

Nicolas Tsaperas



tourvest destination management



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.

