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21 November 2019

ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

FROM THE HEADMASTER

A WORD ON INCLUSION . . .

Many parents are aware of the various initiatives and significant effort that has been put into ensuring that every child, parent, member of staff and visitor feels warmly welcome and 'at home' at St Peter's. This is, however, not something that can be achieved by the school alone - every person in the St Peter's community has a part to play.

If a 6-year-old girl, whose judgement and emotional intelligence are in the formative stages of development, makes what we would consider to be a racist comment, we must assume that this is a result of something to which the child has been exposed - whether it be the media, on play dates or overhearing adult conversations.

In the understanding that St Peter's will not tolerate discrimination of any form, the challenge for us is how we police this. Children of this age are only beginning to develop judgment. They do this by emulating adults and peers. The reactions to their behaviour and speech serves to shape their opinions and to demonstrate to them what is, and is not, acceptable. The role of the school AND the family is to provide the requisite guidance. This has to be a shared responsibility!

I believe and I know the Anglican Church would agree, that we have a joint responsibility to be agents of change! We have to be strong enough to challenge racial innuendos, monitor optics and be emotionally mature enough to understand how other people can perceive actions and words. I don't believe there is a finishing line in this process but I do know we have work to do - on ourselves and with our children, every day! In the same way, we need to teach our children the hurt caused by stereotyping people according to their race, their body shape, physical or intellectual ability and all the other differences that make humans such interesting and fascinating beings.

I, therefore, appeal to parents to make a deliberate effort to talk to their daughters, at every opportunity, about diversity and the crucial need for us to celebrate our differences and similarities. This can only be achieved if we, as the adults in their lives, are modelling this behaviour on a daily basis.

From the school's point of view, we need to be better and more deliberate in our efforts to speak to our girls about diversity. To this end, we have engaged with a company called Kopanya Institute to train all our teachers, in this regard, next year.

As Nelson Mandela said: 'We must work for the day when we, as South Africans, see one another and interact with one another as equal human beings and as part of one nation, united, rather than torn asunder, by its diversity.'

Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb (Headmaster)

FROM THE JP HEAD

GRADE 5 MARKET DAY

The girls will be visiting the Grade 5 Christmas Market Day on **Friday, 22 November**. They may bring between R30 – R40 to spend at the event.

SWIMMING DEMONSTRATIONS

The Grade 0 girls will start their swimming demos at 10:00 tomorrow - Friday, 22 November. Each class has a designated time, which has been communicated to you. Girls may go home after their swim if it is convenient. The girls who cannot go home will have activities in the classroom until the end of the day.

HOT LUNCH

A reminder that the Junior Prep will be offered the option of Hot Lunch next year. They will be served during their second break, at 12:00, so they will not be losing academic time. A while ago, the day was extended by half an hour to accommodate a second break, which has proved beneficial for our girls and allows for a much more productive time in the classroom.

The girls will be served, and will eat their food within the Girls Junior Prep building. Teachers will supervise them while they eat their lunch. Unfortunately, as we are a remote catering station, the kitchen cannot cater for children with allergies.

Please could you fill in the Google Form if your daughter will be having Hot Lunch next term.

The link is https://forms.gle/omTFkhhmnCt53scb6

GRADE 2 SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

The Grade 2s are preparing a very special service of Thanksgiving on **Tuesday, 26 November at 08:00** in the Chapel. I encourage all Grade 2 parents to make every effort to attend this morning. It will be a wonderful celebration of our girls. Following this event, tea will be served, the girls and their Grade 6 'Buddies' will show you around the Senior Prep and finally you can sit back and enjoy the Little Mozart Concert in the Royce Hall at 10:00. The Grade 2 girls may go home with their parents after the concert. There will be activities organised for girls who remain at school.

CLOSING TIME

From Monday, 25 November, there will be NO EXTRA-MURALS taking place. As the Senior Prep are involved in SPEET week activities and end at 13:00, all JP classes will also finish at that time. Girls will be supervised in Waiting Class until 14:00 as usual. Aftercare is still available until 4 December.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME

Owing to the Pre-Prep Parents Evening, scheduled to take place next week in the new facility, the Afterschool Programme will move to the Boys JP from **Monday**, **25 November until Wednesday**, **27 November**.

Please note that there will be **NO AFTERCARE** on break up day **Thursday, 5 December** owing to end of year functions. The girls will be supervised until 11:00.

BIRTHDAYS/FAREWELLS

There will be NO birthdays in Chapel on Tuesday, 26 November owing to the Grade 2 *Service of Thanksgiving*. Grade 2 leavers will have their farewell at this service. All other birthdays and farewells, for the remainder of the year, will be done on Tuesday, 3 December.

Ngi ni thanda nonke!

Trish Attlee (JP Head)

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

As the saying goes, 'Christmas time is family time!' This is so true, however, for some this Christmas will be a difficult time as they have had to deal with the reality of losing someone special in their lives. Death is not easy to cope with and often a little extra TLC and the openness of a group of people can assist one in coping.

We will be holding our Bereavement group session on Tuesday, 26 November from 07:30 in the morning until 08:30 in the Council Chamber.

This time around, we are opening our group up to all children of St Peter's who have experienced loss in their lives and who would benefit from this session. Many children have bounced back, but there are many who will find this time painful. This is for them.

Wendy Wentzel, our school psychologist, and I will run the group at no charge. Should you want your child to attend please notify them of the session and time, as well as their class teacher who would be able to follow up with them that morning.

Blessings Fr Richard

INTERN ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

A few of our interns are desperately looking for accommodation nearer the school. Please consider this request if you have a room/cottage/flat to let or available to rent. Occupation would be from January 2020.

Please contact June Tromp - Head Mentor (Interns) itromp@stpeters.co.za OR 082 5731030

June Tromp (Head Mentor: Interns)

CHRISTMAS BOXES 2019

Christmas is time to celebrate! We remember, however, that it is also a time of giving and it creates the opportunity for us to give to someone who is less fortunate than we are.

In the boxes provided, please include:

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, face cloth, soap
- Small toy (Maximum value R60 as the children will open their boxes in front of other children who have received a box and we don't want any disappointment)
- Packet of sweets
- Crayons and blank book

If there is space, please fill the box up with: tinned fish, tinned beef, tinned fruit, baked beans, sugar, tea bags, long life milk, jam, biscuits.

Please be so kind as to wrap the box in Christmas wrapping paper or newspaper. Please help us to build on last year's success by returning your boxes by the Friday, 29 November.

Collection points:

Senior Prep Girls and Boys: Chapel

Junior Prep Girls and Boys: JP reception areas

Blessings Kamohelo Kotsi

SEFIKENG HOOKS

'It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another' (Nelson Mandela)

Continuing from an incredibly successful #MandelaDay2019, our Grade 7 boys were tasked with transforming what began as 'tagged for the rubbish pile' desks into awesome pieces of functional art! Our team of 'worker bees' recognised the value of the remnants of a number of old, broken, but very beautiful desks and chairs on the day, and with pure determination, sweat and eventually the right tools, we had 29 pieces of raw wood that told of an age old story of learning and growth.

Mr Sean Creamer accepted the challenge and the transformation began... our Grade 7 boys worked solidly over 3 weeks - sanding, painting, measuring, drilling, screwing and testing.

These 'pieces of junk' that have literally stood the test of time and hours of hard use by hundreds of children, have become beautiful coat hooks that we hope will be loved by many of our St Peter's family, as much as we love them. Should anyone be interested in purchasing one for R900, please message Colleen (082 391 0554). They will be sold on a first come first served basis. 100% of the proceeds will go directly to the Foundation for a future Sefikeng project.







HOLIDAY CLUBS



Grade 2, 3 & 4 HOLIDAY OUTDOOR CLUB

Mrs Fleming, Mr Steyn, Ms Mashabela and Mrs Clarke will be holding an Outdoor Holiday Club in the December Holidays. It will run from Monday, 9 December - Friday, 13 December. We will be having the best time swimming, playing outdoor sports/activities, riding bikes and a range of other unusual sports. There will be music, dancing and mostly GOOD FUN! Girls may sign up for all days or selected days on the sign-up sheet on the Holiday Club board at the JP and SP sports boards. All information can be found on this board. Please include your email, with your child's name and take a sign-up sheet and information letter. Payments to Mrs Fleming before the end of term.

Cost R220 per child per day.



Mrs Buck, Mrs Steyn and Ms Peake are holding an exciting and fun Christmas Craft/Baking/Bike riding Holiday Club for the **Grade 0 and 1 girls (siblings by arrangement with Mrs Buck)** Girls may attend all week or on selected days only. The cost is R220 per day and the club runs from 07:30 – 12:00.

Dates: Friday, 6 December - Friday, 13 December. Enquiries jbuck@stpeters.co.za

SEATBELTS

It has been brought to my attention that numerous girls are arriving and leaving school without their seatbelts on. In the knowledge that your daughters are the most precious cargo you will ever carry in your cars, please can parents be reminded to ensure that your daughter is buckled up before you start your journey.

D.Webb



SUNSET CAROLS - TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

https://tickets.tixsa.co.za/event/stpeters-sunset-carols-2019



The Festive season shopping at the Market is going to be fabulous!

HOMEMADE CRAFT

Nikiya's Collection

Meraki Lifestyle Brand Bella Rosa Made by leon & Ethnic Clothing Pink Flamingo Clothing Saffron Rose

FOOD/ CONFECTIONARY

Candy Lanu Chabs House of Cakes Finchly Bespoke Bakes

EDUCATIONAL

Edge Toys (educational toys) Puzzle Time - RGS Group

SHOES

ACTIVITIES

Henna Tattoos Sand Art

INTERESTING GIFTING

Fenwicks Ales Ifitshipitshere Tash's Treats Microfiber Towels - Swim Dry

Constance picnic blankets PoolPillow African Beauty Domestic Work Wear LLYLA Swimwear and Sportswear BDM Cricket and Solar/Battery backups

HOME DECOR

DC's Gifts Fly-Bee-Gone Handpainted Fabrics The Baked Bean

BEAUTY/HEALTH/FRAGRANCES

Pamper Me Pretty Everything Sunshin KITA Fragrances

TOYS

Michelle - Toys Squishies Galore

JEWELLERY

LUCKY DRAW

This year's lucky draw prizes are better than ever! 6 hampers of goodies from our generous stall holders, each valued at over R4000!

Buy your tickets on Tixsa or on the day - only R25 each

