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ST PETER'S **GIRLS PREP SCHOOL**

Weekly Newsletter of the Girls JP

FROM THE JP HEAD

SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION AT THE JP

Last week we had a Sports/Physical Education coffee morning. Thank you so much to the parents that attended. At St Peter's JP, our philosophy supports the following principles and guidelines:

- The importance of learning through play and encouraging pupils to participate in all lessons with the hope that they enjoy the activity and experience success.
- Fundamental Movement skills are specific skills that involve different body parts such as feet, legs, trunk, head, arms and feet. These skills are the 'building blocks' for more complex and specialised skills that pupils need in order to competently participate in different sports, games and recreational activities.
- The PE programmes are designed around the **different developmental stages** of the pupils we teach/coach.
- We encourage participation, rather than winning.
- A passion for sport/PE is encouraged and developed the only way to do this is to play and have fun.
- Play as many different sports/activities as possible. Children should be given a 'taste' of all sports.
- We teach the basics of each sport and allow for freedom of expression, letting children play using their own creative rules and testing them.
- We improve fitness.
- Pupils learn the reasons for 'an appropriate age' for competition and dealing with 'failure'.
- Parents and teachers work together to encourage girls to participate, without adding pressure to win or pressure to do 'everything' i.e. find the balance
- The OT Programme complements the sports/physical curriculum taught in the JP.
- Each class from Grade 0 to 2 has three Sports/Physical Education lessons a week

Parents are invited to talks, demonstrations, sports events and open days in order to better understand and follow their daughters progress and development.

During this term, we will be covering the following fundamental movement skills in Physical Education.

- Movement skipping, hopping on both and single legs, forward and backward rolls, obstacle courses (including climbing wall, tick bars and trampoline)
- Dance step, rhythm, creativity
- Throwing and catching of balls/hitting and stopping of balls
 - Introduction to netball skills and rules relevant to specific age and developmental stage
 - Introduction to hockey skills and rules relevant to specific age and developmental stage 0

Leanne Fleming and Tshego Mashabela facilitate this programme in the JP.

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Gemma de Villiers who joined us in Grade 1RVG. Wishing the de Villiers family many happy years at St Peter's.

Heather Kissack (Junior Prep Head)

ST PETER'S AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME

The St Peter's Afterschool programme has been running for nearly 21/2 years. It has been most gratifying to see the success and observe the benefits of this service as the children involve themselves in work and play.

After Hot-Lunch (provided by the school kitchen) and homework is completed, the children immerse themselves in play. The variety of games ingeniously invented by the children, is a delight to watch. Parents might feel that time could be used more constructively with more 'hard skill' instruction, but when I observe the children absorbed in constructive play, it is rewarding to witness countless learning opportunities. I marvel at the important life skills and character development which takes place daily in our little centre.

- Problem solving and critical thinking develops as children figure out how to respond to challenges, work with others and overcome fears.
- Social skills progress as they negotiate, compromise and learn to get a better perspective of the feeling of others while they work together to build a fort, a shop, a train set or put on a production. The cooperation, collaboration and teamwork is a delight to see.
- The values, which are being taught at school are reinforced and practised during their time with us too.
- Agility, co-ordination, physical strength and balance develops as they move through the obstacle course, climb trees, balance on the log walk or make use of any of the other equipment.
- Imaginative play cultivates the children's creativity, imagination and helps them to practise thinking outside of their own perspective.
- Resilience grows each day and there is very little intervention needed as the children learn to resolve their challenges independently and efficiently. Play is more important to them than altercations and issues are solved promptly so play may continue.
- The responsibility of tidying up after themselves is a life skill which is increasingly improving.

What a rewarding place it is to observe the learning which occurs daily while the children are away from screens and immersed in activities which they love and enjoy!

Trish Attlee

(Manager of St Peter's Afterschool Programme)







BIRTHDAY CHAPEL

On Tuesday, 29 May 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.

V Mabunda A Murray

K Munilall J Helyar

Grade 2 Choir

There will be no Grade 2 Choir on Thursday, 7 June. Girls can be collected by 13:45.

SPORT IN THE GIRLS SCHOOL – COFFEE MORNING

Further to last weeks Coffee Morning, on Friday, 8 June (07:15 - 08:00), in the Girls JP Hall, we will host a Coffee Morning to discuss 'Sport in the Girls School' as a whole. We will ask for parents' input in terms of drawing up a final 'Sports Philosophy' document. For parents who are unable to attend, minutes of the meeting will be made available.

D. Webb (*Headmaster*)

ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS BUS SERVICE SURVEY

As part of our strategic intent to alleviate traffic congestion, both on campus and en route to school, St Peter's Prep is considering offering a bus service that would depart from the pickup zone around 06:25 in order to arrive at school around 07:05.

Please answer the survey on the following link, to help us gauge if this service would be viable.

https://goo.gl/forms/jAf8wXKRAa0MMFBa2

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE ST PETER'S VALUES

Last term we successfully introduced our 'St Peter's Values', which will guide our girls on their behaviour and character. The girls have embraced the process enthusiastically and have made a visible effort to adopt these dispositions.

We would like to involve you, as parents, in the ongoing dialogue we are having with the girls regarding the values that we hope will become intrinsic in St Peter's girls. We have placed posters in the car parks and driveways and encourage you to engage in conversations with your daughter, around these questions.

Jane Ritchie (HOD Thinking Skills)



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

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**



CHARITY

