







Edition: 20 27 June 2019

# ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

### FROM THE RECTOR

#### ST PETER'S DAY

St Peter's Prep commenced celebrating its patronal feast day approximately 20 years ago. Although the Feast commemorating the martyrdom of St Peter is celebrated on 29 June, the school has traditionally done so on the Friday preceding the winter half-term.

Each school celebrates with a Eucharist service, usually conducted by the Bishop or Dean of the Cathedral. Thereafter, the children are allowed to go home early after a more modern equivalent of the traditional 'bun and Coke'. The entire staff, over 200 persons, then gathers for a modest celebration of their own. We love the fact that Peter is our patron saint, because he was human with so many of the characteristics that we share.

Peter was a rough oke! He was a fisherman, in partnership with his brother. Later, he whinged to Jesus that the disciples had given up everything to follow him and wanted to know what he was going to get in return. There's not a great deal of information about him, but we do know that he vacillated between opinions and that he was subject to irritability and even anger. I imagine that he would be a beer, rather than wine drinker. We know that he struggled to learn and would probably have benefited from remedial support. The fact that he experienced fear, as do we, is sharply exposed in his denial of Jesus. That being said, we know that he had the courage to confess and was deeply remorseful.

In his time as an apostle, he was unflinchingly courageous and inspirationally loyal. I can hardly think of a better role model for our children.

# **US SCHOOL VISIT**

Last week, Rob and Darrel hosted a party of pupils, staff and parents from Meadowbrook School in the United States.

ST PETER'S

Meadowbrook is a prestigious elementary school (Gr0-8) in the suburbs of Boston. It feeds a number of prestigious senior schools including Phillips Andover, Phillips Exeter, Rocksbury Latin School and the Concord School. It has a rigorous academic programme and attracts high quality staff.

The visitors were pleasantly surprised to note that many St Peter's Prep methodologies were based on current international research by leading educationalists. Please see the letter from Pete Johannsen, Tour Leader, below:

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Dear Greg, Rob, Darrel, Paula, and Jenny,

I want to express our gratitude for the exceptional hospitality you showed our Meadowbrook group today. We were all really inspired by what we experienced at St Peter's. The students, parents and teachers debriefed after dinner tonight, and they mentioned many things they were taking away from the visit. Certainly, your incredible campus with its many child-centered innovations was a big highlight. Your teachers really impressed us with their passion for their programs. And, most important, your students, both those who gave our students such thoughtful tours, to every child we passed who greeted us in such a welcoming way, made a big impression on all of us. We loved your philosophy and approach, and we all came away with such a positive feeling having been with you. And we were humbled by your great hospitality - we are so grateful for all the time you spent with us, the lunch was delicious, and we can't wait to taste that bottle of wine once we're back in the states! You're doing wonderful things at St Peter's, and your families are very lucky to have you helping to raise their children. We hope that we will have the opportunity to welcome you to Meadowbrook soon!

With warm regards, Pete Johannsen

## **Questions for the Rector:**

If anyone wishes any further information on any topic, please feel free to contact me at school or at <a href="mailto:groyce@stpeters.co.za">groyce@stpeters.co.za</a> or <a href="mailto:dradloff@stpeters.co.za">dradloff@stpeters.co.za</a>.

Greg Royce (Rector)

#### FROM THE JP ACTING HEAD

#### AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMME

A reminder that the Afterschool Programme facility will be moving down to the Boys Junior Prep, after Half Term, while the alterations and refurbishments takes place. The children will have lunch there and will be using two classrooms for homework. The playground outside will be available and the inside play area will be behind the ship.

I am sure the children will enjoy a change of venue for the duration of the alterations. You will be notified when the revamped facility is available for the children to return.

## **HALF TERM**

A reminder that we break up tomorrow, Friday, 28 June, for the Mid-term break. Please be aware of the pick-up times:

Grade 0 - 10:00

Grade 1 - 10:15

Grade 2 - 10:30

The girls will be supervised until 11:00 and then will be taken to the Afterschool Programme, which closes at 14:30.

Wishing all our families a restful, safe and happy Half-term. Enjoy the extra time in bed in the mornings and we look forward to see seeing our girls back on Monday, 8 July.

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#### **BIRTHDAYS**

The following girls will receive their birthday cards on Tuesday, 9 July at 08:00 in the chapel. Parents of these girls are welcome to attend.

Gemma de Villiers, Kuhlekonke Nsele, Tawana Dube, Chuma Fatyi, Blye Mitchell, Olivia Holding, Keratilwe Nhlapo

Trish Attlee (Girls Acting JP Head)

#### ST PETER'S PRE-PREP

St Peter's Prep launched the 'little sibling', to our family of schools, on Saturday, 22 June!

We are delighted to announce that St Peter's Pre-Prep is full for 2020!

It was with great excitement that a fun-filled day was hosted where parents, and their children, got a feel for this wonderful new facility.

The philosophy, on which the curriculum for the school is based, is grounded on the fundamental principle of making childhood a positively memorable experience. We strive to inspire imagination and wonder in children, while motivating their desire to learn.

A play-based approach, inspired by Reggio Emilia, Montessori and Nature-centred education, is being offered in order to achieve these objectives. The importance of facilitating learning through play and allowing children to be more connected to the outdoors and the magic of learning is recognised and embraced.

We aim to give children sparkling eyes and busy minds every day!



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# RALF SCHMITT'S CHOIR PERFORMS AT 'AMERICA'S GOT TALENT'

A 'feel good' story!

Marguerite Schmitt's (Girls Prep: Director of Music) husband, Ralf, a talented musician and choir director, took his choir (a group of children from Limpopo) to the USA to participate in the popular 'America's got Talent' show. Watch and listen to this amazing performance:

## https://youtu.be/NqsFO4atwJo



#### **PA NEWS**

Thank You:

A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in making the 2019 Winter Warmers a success!

A special thanks to:

- Laura Brodsky and the amazing team (Julie-Anne Hegarty, Svieta Ngcaba, Sally Diack, Carike Laroque, Boipelo Nkadimeng, Julie Rostron, Semole Mooka and Colleen Hayward-Butt) for organising this wonderful event.
- Sponsors for their generous gifts
- MC Robbie Grota for his enthusiasm and for the splendid and entertaining show at the end.
- Our Ground Staff Ntjilo's Cleaning Services, Muchachari Garden Service, Security and Maintenance for being available to assist whenever necessary.
- The St Peter's Prep Schools Music Departments, for giving everyone the opportunity to be entertained by Legacy and FJC.
- Our Headmasters, Darrel Webb and Rob Macaulay for their assistance.
- All the parents who volunteered and helped make this an awesome day.

We really appreciate and value your time, hard work, effort and dedication.

Congratulations to everyone for making it such a fabulous and successful event.

The St Peter's Parents Association Committee

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ST PETER'S PREP SCHOOLS ANNUAL GOLF DAY 2019

CALLING ALL GOLFERS

# **Kyalami Country Club** Friday, 27 September 2019

- R1000 per player includes green fees, halfway house, 2 drinks, watering holes, casual dinner and mulligans
- Shotgun start at 12noon
- Prize giving
- Raffle (no fundraising auction)
- Fourball bookings open 10 July

Sponsorship opportunities available!
For any further information please contact
the committee at golfday@stpeters.co.za

