



Dear Parents,

FROM THE HEADMASTER

I am writing this article on the morning of World Teachers' Day: 5 October. It is interesting to reflect on how the role of the teacher has changed in our modern world. Traditionally, the teacher has been the imparter of knowledge and skills aimed at preparing the child for a place in an industrialised workplace. Numeracy and literacy were combined with general knowledge and scientific skills to become the basket of goods delivered by the teacher.

Over the past twenty five years we have seen an enormous increase in the emphasis placed on what were previously regarded as recreational activities. With ever increasing opportunities to earn a good living in the worlds of art, drama and sport, schools have been forced to move their thinking away from offering these activities as complementary, to adjusting their basket to include the offering of a mini-academy in each of these areas. Professional coaches and teachers have been employed and Headmasters have lost their jobs based on the perception of the old boys' network that the school's first team was not performing.

Let us now add to the mix that there is a general breakdown of community living and institutions, such as the Church, are often marginalised in a post-modern and secular world. Both parents are now having to hold down full time jobs in order to cope in our consumerist and competitive society. Who then, is responsible for the inculcation of values and the growing need for a highly developed sense of EQ in an increasingly global society? Who is expected to deal with the fallout when modern pressures cause traditional family structures to collapse? Schools now employ psychologists, counsellors and other professionals to help with the demand to be community centres and even faith centres. However, it is the teacher at the coalface who first encounters these demands.

While high schools move towards the employment of more and more specialists in these various areas, the traditional primary school classroom teacher is expected to diversify and become not only a "Jack of All Trades" but "THE Jack of all Trades." At St Peter's, our teachers have not only taken this role on willingly, but with a huge amount of passion. Teachers, on this World Teachers' Day, I salute you.

Have a very pleasant week.

Rob Macaulay

FROM THE JUNIOR PREP

SPORTS DAY – SATURDAY, 08 OCTOBER

Please take note of the following changes for tomorrow:

- Sports Day has been moved from Feathers Field to Mvukuzane Field as the Girls School will be using Feathers Field for parking, due to their Senior Prep Sports Day.
- Junior Prep parents please park on Somerset and Gunn Fields at the JP building, and not on Feathers Field.

Meeting times:

Grade 0's must meet their teachers at 8:00 on Mvukuzane Field.

Grade 1 and 2's must meet their teachers at 9:30 at the cricket nets.

SWIMMING

We will start swimming next week (starting 10 October). Grade 0H: Tuesday and Friday all other Grade 0 classes Wednesday and Friday; Grade 1: every Monday; Grade 2: every Monday. Boys must come to school wearing their costumes and pack a change of clothes.

Craig Jooste: Head of JP Sport

WINNIE THE POOH MONTH

As October is Winnie the Pooh month, here is a saying from Winnie the Pooh:

“A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes the difference.”

GRADE 2 VISIT TO EXPLORATORIUM

Unfortunately, due to ongoing student protest action taking place around the country, we have cancelled our visit to the University of Pretoria, planned for Wednesday, 12 October. We apologise for any inconvenience caused, but the safety of our boys is our main priority.

GRADE 2V – Heritage Day stories

The Grade 2V class wrote a story about what they would do for South Africa if they were President for Heritage Day.

Shandu Nesengani

If I was President of South Africa I would go to the poor and I would build the poor a school. I would start by calling the builders to build the school. I would go to the safari and call the cops to shoot the poachers and save the rhinos and tell the poachers to stop. I will change South Africa and change it to a better place.

Riley van Schoor

If I was President of South Africa I would stop wars like the Botswana war. I would stop the war like this. I would call the police. I would also stop poaching the endangered animals. I would call people to stay at farms to look after it. I would stop the littering like this, I would put up signs to stop littering.

Michael Kruiskamp

If I was president of South Africa I would save electricity by putting solar panels on my house. I would save water by showering and putting a bucket under the shower and using it to water the garden. I would save animals by giving them new houses.

Preston Greene

If I was President of South Africa I would build the poor people a house because they don't have one. I would build more hospitals in the poor areas because they don't have any. I would give the poor people more money because they don't have any.

Aphiwe Ndhlovu

If I were president of South Africa I would stop the littering. I would tell them to recycle and if they were finished with their thing they should throw it in the dustbin. If I were president I would make things solar powered so people don't waste any electricity for their houses. I would make schools for the poor people so they have education because I believe everyone needs education.

Matthew Hunter

If I was President of South Africa I would help people who have robberies. How I would help them I would build an estate by getting builders and at the end I would hire security and they would catch the robbers. I would also help people who get attacked a lot by getting builders and building hospitals so they could go to hospital when they were injured. I would also stop littering by law every day I would send people out to pick up litter and South Africa would be clean.

MAKERSPACE

Please bring clean, empty yoghurt containers (any size) for our Makerspace. Thank you.

SAGE HOUSE

On Tuesday morning Mr Attlee and the Sage Grade 6 boys handed the Grade 2's their new house shirts. Amidst the excitement of the boys, a brief history of Sage was given. This highlighted the values we strive for as a house and the activities they will participate in during their time in Sage.

Sage looks forward to these boys being part of the greatest house!

Justin Attlee (Housemaster: Sage)

LOST

The following boys have lost their school bags - Daniel Benjamin and Aphiwe Ndhlovu. If found, please return to them in their classroom: Grade 2V (Mrs van der Merwe).

FOUND

An orange Nike bag containing various CDs was handed in to the office. Please can the owner collect it from Ros?

GOLDEN MOMENT

One of our Speech Therapists, who usually wears contact lens, came to school on Tuesday wearing spectacles. A Grade 0 boy asked her if she was in *“tisguise!”*

Have a good weekend, see you at Sports Day tomorrow!

Warm regards,
Dominique van der Merwe (Grade 2 Head)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<p>Saturday 08 October SPORTS DAY: Mvukuzane Field 8:30-9:30 Grade 0 10:00-11:45 Grade 1 & 2</p>
<p>Monday 10 October SCIENCE WEEK 13:10-14:00 Grade 1 Clubs 13:00-13:45 Grade 2 Sport</p>
<p>Tuesday 11 October 7:45 Grade 2: Housemaster’s presentation Bishops (Green) 8:30 DCS lesson 13:00-13:45 Grade 1 Sport 13:00-14:00 Grade 2 Clubs</p>
<p>Wednesday 12 October 8:00 Chapel (birthdays 10-16 October) 13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir 13:00-13:45 Grade 1 Sport</p>
<p>Thursday 13 October 13:00-13:45 Grade 2 Sport 13:00-13:30 Grade 1 Choir</p>
<p>Friday 14 October</p>

FROM THE HEAD OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

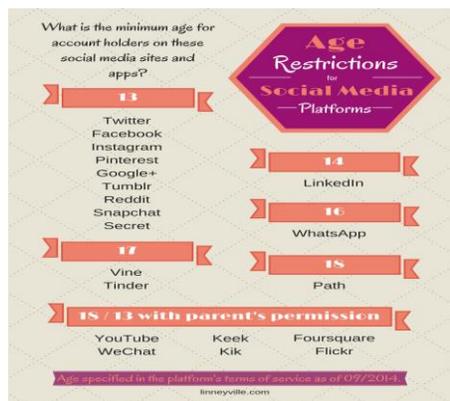
DANGERS OF OVERUSE OF DIGITAL DEVICES

The popularity of apps, social networking and gaming amongst young people could potentially lead to childhood development problems. At present there isn’t firm medical consensus on digital addiction. This month, however, the US Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), published by the American Psychiatric Association, is set to classify Internet Use Disorder (IUD) as an area worthy of further study. Lego, one of the largest digital gaming companies, offered the following statement about responsible digital usage: “Each child and situation is unique and that decision is ultimately the responsibility of the parent, that’s why we encourage parents to have a dialogue with their children on healthy digital behaviour and – as a family – set some clear rules regarding digital activity.”

How kids use digital devices and games will be dictated by the example that parents set at home. It’s worth considering this the next time you download an app to keep the kids quiet.

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FKepNvkl7g>

See below information on the age limit for various social media apps. Please take careful note of Instagram, Snapchat and WhatsApp as these seem to be commonly used by the children. Please ensure that none of these are loaded onto their devices



Scott Hauptfleisch (HOD IT)

OLD BOYS CRICKET PLAYED ON SATURDAY, 01 OCTOBER

Click on this link to see the full article on the St Peter's Website:

<http://www.stpeters.co.za/news/entry/st-peters-old-boys-cricket-match>

**ADVENT TERM ECO DRIVE – GREY WATER AWARENESS**

The Eco committee's drive for the term is to create awareness in our St Peter's community about grey water.

Grey water is waste water from your household that has not been contaminated by human waste or heavy chemicals found in detergents. 50 – 80% of all waste water from homes can in fact be re-used to water your gardens or flush your toilets. Grey cannot be stored for longer than 24 hours as bacteria multiply and contaminate the water. Using grey water allows opportunity for taking responsibility for efficient use of water, our precious finite resource.

Boys will be educated about grey water and encouraged to collect some of their own grey water from homes. Some easy suggestions for the boys can be:

- to put a bucket in your shower to collect the water wasted while you are waiting for the hot water to come
- to use water from your bath
- to collect the little bit of water they never used from their water bottle that day at school
- to wash fruit and vegetables in a bowl instead of under a running tap and then to bring that water to school

Once they have collected the water, they must bring it to school in a container. They can then place a coloured sticker on their poster in the classroom and empty their water somewhere on our campus.

This Eco drive will run from next Monday until half term.

SAFE DRIVING ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Please could parents be vigilant about driving safely on school grounds as there are many children walking around.

Even where there are "caution children crossing" signs and pedestrian crossings, parents are ignoring the rules of the road. Please do not sms or talk on your cellphones while driving on the school property as it is against the law. This could save a life.

**SUNSET CAROLS CHRISTMAS MARKET AND BROCHURE 2016**



LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE – book now
Saturday, 3 December 2016.
 This concert usually draws in excess of 2500 spectators.

The St Peter's Foundation invites you to participate in the **Christmas Market**, which is held prior to the Carols. This is a wonderful opportunity to sell your goodies!

To further support the fundraising efforts, a glossy **A4 Carols brochure** will be distributed to all the attending parents, grandparents, St Peter's staff and friends. This is a fantastic platform to advertise.

For Christmas Market details, contact Amanda or Dalene at carols@stpeters.co.za

For the Carols brochure details contact Monica msloane@stpeters.co.za

PA NEWS**PAVER PLAQUES**

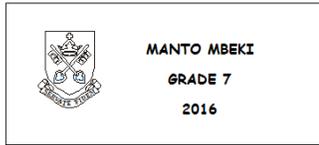
Order by 15 October for December Installation

A PAVER PLAQUE is a timeless reminder of your son's years at St Peter's Boys Prep School. This brass plaque is engraved with your son's details and is placed in the quad outside the Dodson Hall – The Old Boys Quad.

Should you wish to order, please contact Leonia West-Russell on Leonia@imagnet.co.za or download the order form from the Communicator under Resources/GIRLS/BOYS PA information.

Plaques designs available to order:

CURRENT PUPIL:



LEAVERS' 2015:



FAMILY PLAQUES:



ST PETER'S CLASSIFIEDS

We are looking for a volunteer to manage the St Peter's Classifieds. This involves sourcing advertisers, managing the ads and payments and compiling the newsletter on a monthly basis. A percentage of the revenue generated accrues to the responsible person to cover costs and time. If you are interested, please mail robyn@designoval.co.za for more information.