



Dear Parents,

This week we have been discussing Mothers – our super heroes, in prayers. To all the St Peter's moms, here is hoping that you feel celebrated not only on Sunday but every day.

IS MOTHERHOOD A JOB?

I have always believed that being a mother is part of who I am and it is not just the second job of the day, although it does require a lot of doing! But there is so much feeling and self-discovery along the way that makes it a deeply personal and unique experience for each and every one of us.

While Mother's Day puts the spotlight on mothers for just a single day, I hope that you are all deeply appreciated every day for who you are and what you do for your families. Being a mom is not a button that you can switch on and off at will. Once a mother, always a mother. You take it with you wherever you go.

This Mother's Day I thought to share an excerpt from Shonda Rhimes' book *The Year of Yes* (Simon & Shuster, 2015) which is one of the best books I have read this year. Shonda Rhimes is Hollywood's most powerful woman, the mega-talented creator of *Grey's Anatomy*, *Scandal*, *The Fixer* and more. *The Year of Yes* is not about motherhood per se but is an intimate account of her life and how she overcame herself, came out of the shadows, learnt how to dance it out, stand in the sun and be her own person. And motherhood is very much a part of who she is.

SHONDA RIMES ON MOTHERHOOD.....

I work, I have a job. People with a job often do not have time to bake.

"But being a mother is also a job, Shonda."

I can hear someone reading this book saying those words right now.

You know what I say to that?

NO

IT IS NOT

Being a mother is not a job.

Stop throwing things at me.

I'm sorry but it is not.

I find it offensive to motherhood to call being a mother a job.

Being a mother isn't a job.

It's who someone is.

It's who I am.

You can quit a job. I can't quit being a mother. I'm a mother forever. Mothers are never off the clock, mothers are never on vacation. Being a mother redefines us, reinvents us, destroys and rebuilds us. Being a mother brings us face-to-face with ourselves as children, with our mothers as human beings, with our darkest fears of who we really are. Being a mother requires us to get it together or risk messing up another person forever. Being a mother yanks our hearts out of our bodies and attaches them to our tiny humans and sends them out into the world, forever hostages.

If all of that happened at work, I'd have quit fifty times already. Because there isn't enough money in the world. And my job does not pay me in the smell of baby head and soft weight of snuggly sleepy toddler on my shoulder. Being a mother is incredibly important. To the naysayers, I growl, do not diminish it by calling it a job. And please, don't ever try to tell me it's the most important job I'll ever have as a way of trying to convince me to stay at home with my children all day. Don't. I might punch you on the nose.

The most important job to a woman who has rent, has a car note, has utility bills and needs groceries is one that pays her money to keep her family alive. Let's stop trying to make ourselves indulge in the crappy mythological lady-cult that makes being a mother seem like work.

Staying at home with your children is an incredible choice to make. And it's awesome and admirable if you make it. Go you. Being a mother still happens if you don't stay home with your kids. It still happens if you get a job and go to work. It happens if you are an Army Ranger and you're deployed overseas and your kid is staying with your parents. Still a mother. Still not a job.

Working or staying home, one is still a mother. One is not better than the other. Both choices are worthy of the same amount of respect. Motherhood remains equally, painfully death defying and difficult either way. It does, it does.

Powerful stuff! Whether you work or are a full-time mom, I'm sure something in this excerpt has resonated with you, as it did with me. I love being a mother. It is one of the most precious parts of my being. I have loved being a mom more than I ever anticipated I would. And yes, it has its highs and lows because we are human. But, through my children I have learnt more about myself than I could ever

have dreamed. I am blessed to have had the privilege of being their mom.

To every mother old and young, biological or not, working or non-working, I salute you all this Mother's Day.

NIKKI BUSH

Creative parenting expert, inspirational speaker and co-author of *Tech-Savvy Parenting* (Bookstorm, 2014), *Future-proof Your Child* (Penguin, 2008) and *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions* (Metz Press, 2009).

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WELCOME

This week I would like to welcome Jesse Koeberg (Grade 2S) and Jack Lamberti (Grade 0B), to St Peter's. I hope both boys settle into their new environment with ease and their families find St Peter's to be a happy and welcoming school.

We also welcome little Ben Clay to the world. Matthew and Tristan are extremely proud big brothers! Congratulations to Donna and Wesley on the birth of their third son.

VOLUNTEERS

At the Second Term Class Moms planning morning last Friday there was discussion around the number of volunteers required from the parent body each term. As a result we are trying a new format this term. Volunteer lists have been placed outside each class, we ask that each family volunteers to assist for one event during the course of the term. This will help spread the load, allow families to plan and grow a sense of pride amongst our boys who enjoy having their parents "work" at the school.

PARKING

Parents are once again reminded that courtesy, respect and good manners will allow for less tension in the Car Park:

Please allow users to pull out of parking bays to free these for others.

Please do **not** park and leave your car unattended at the drop off. Drop off means stopping your car for your son to climb out and then continue driving off.

Please obey the rules of the roads at all times on campus and remain vigilant of our precious children.

OUTREACH - DIEPSLOOT COMBINED SCHOOL

This week is our first "teaching session" at Diepsloot Combined School. If you are able to assist please meet behind the boat to leave at 8:30; as our Interns are writing exams more volunteers than usual are required.

A reminder to all that we have the shoe collection box in the Boys JP foyer. All old shoes in good condition would be appreciated, especially with the arrival of winter.

GOLDEN MOMENT

At the end of last term an excited Grade 1 boy told his Speech Therapist that the Easter Bunny had "naid" chocolate eggs all over the Junior Prep building!

Enjoy the weekend.

Warm regards,

Kenda Melvill-Smith

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 15 May
Tuesday 16 May 8:30-10:30 DCS
Wednesday 17 May 8:00 Chapel (birthday cards 15-21 May) 12:00-12:20 Grade 2 Choir OR 13:00-13:30 Grade 2 Choir
Thursday 18 May
Friday 19 May
Saturday 20 May Grade 0, 2018 screening

NEW SHOP HOURS

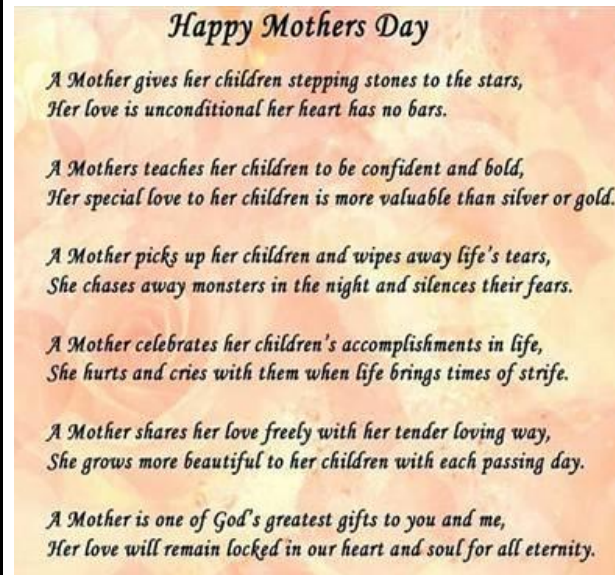
Please note new School Shop hours, with effect from **Monday, 15 May:**

Monday:	6:45 to 09:00
Tuesday:	6:45 to 09:00
Wednesday:	6:45 to 16:00
Thursday:	6:45 to 09:00
Friday:	6:45 to 09:00

Nadia Thompson – School Shop

YEAR OF THE WOMAN

St Peter's wishes all moms a Happy Mother's Day on Sunday!



On behalf of the Diversity Committee
Vijay Maharaj (Director: Diversity)

PA NEWS**MY STORY – SAVE THE DATE – 8 JUNE**

We invite parents and staff to the cinema to watch BEYOND THE RIVER. This is a truly South African story that taps directly into “My Story.” It is about going “beyond” and really getting to know another person.

To view the Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a7eQnJf8VlI>

DATE: Thursday, 8 June

TIME: 20:00

VENUE: Ster Kinekor Cedar Square

COST: R65 per adult

Further details to follow on how to RSVP and book your seats.

Regards

Transformation Committee

ST PETER'S AUTUMN CARNIVAL!

The Jam Jar Prizes Competition deadline has been extended to Monday, 15 May. With the busy start to the term, there have been numerous requests to grant the classes one more weekend to prepare their Jam Jar Prizes. Thank you for the great response we have had so far.

The winning class will receive their Krispy Creme Donuts on Wednesday next week.

For more information, please contact Sally on sally.diack20@gmail.com

**VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2ND TERM**

Opportunities to volunteer and to get to know your community better.

Who can volunteer? **Moms, dads and grandparents**

How much time is needed? **From an hour up to the whole day**
 What can they volunteer for?

	<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Opportunities</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
1. Autumn carnival	Saturday, 27 May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ticket sales a week before o On the day – to assist with activities, manning stalls, etc. 	Debbie Little Debbie@littlemail.co.za 083 391 1206 (text)
2. Soccer Festival (Family Day)	Saturday, 15 July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Preparations o On the day 	Malope Mabizela malopem@icloud.com 082 341 6561 (text)
3. Class volunteers	Ad-Hoc	Hot Dog Days & other Grade related activities	Your Grade's class moms

ST PETER'S FAMILY DAY – SOCCER FESTIVAL

