



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER



14 JULY 2017

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Important links

Our website: <http://www.stpeters.co.za/college>

College Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Stpeterscoll/>

Old Petrian's Alumni Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldpetrians/>

Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

I was privileged to have been given the opportunity to attend a Principals' course at **Harvard University** over the half-term. The focus was on leadership development and the course, "Improving Schools: The Art of Leadership" was designed to provide Principals with opportunities to hone their leadership skills by reflecting on the presentations, on the readings, and on their professional strengths and challenges.

Dr Jeff Howard | [The Impact of Efficacy on Student Achievement](#)

One of the most interesting sessions I attended, was a presentation by Dr Jeff Howard, who is a trained social psychologist. His session was designed to introduce us to the idea that proficiency for all children, in all subjects, is the proper mission of education, and to explore a method of self-directed improvement as the primary means to achieve the mission.

We first examined and challenged the **Innate Ability Paradigm**, which portrays intelligence as a trait that is fixed and given, and not subject to further development. We then explored an empowering alternative, the **Efficacy Paradigm**, the belief that effective, focused effort controls intellectual development, and is the basis of policies and practices that mobilise students' efforts toward academic proficiency, and character development.

The Efficacy Principle:

"We must continually affirm for students the connections between their efforts and their achievements; they will get smart if they work hard" Jaime Escalante

This concept is wonderfully depicted in the movie "Stand and Deliver", about the life and work of Jaime Alfonso Escalante Gutierrez (December 31, 1930 – March 30, 2010) who was a Bolivian educator



If we expect kids to be losers they will be losers; if we expect them to be winners they will be winners. They rise, or fall, to the level of the expectations of those around them, especially their parents and their teachers.

— Jaime Escalante —

AZ QUOTES

known for teaching students calculus from 1974 to 1991 at Garfield High School, California. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9AxNx84Sjc>

Dr Howard stated, "Once you convey to children – whether consciously or not – that they are too "dumb" to learn, they will almost always prove you right".

Dr Howard's mission: to build the belief that virtually *all* children—if they commit sustained, effective effort—are **capable of learning at high levels**. The onus is on us as educators, as well as, parents, to ensure that we **demand high standards from our students**. If the going gets tough, they must not find an easy route by dropping a subject, but must show the **resilience** to work through and ensure a high level of achievement.

"In Futurum Fortiter"

Kind regards

Mr Rui Morais
Headmaster



Harvard University is a private Ivy League research university in Cambridge, Massachusetts, established in 1636, whose history, influence, and wealth have made it one of the world's most prestigious universities.

Established originally by the Massachusetts legislature and soon thereafter named for John Harvard (its first benefactor), Harvard is the United States' oldest institution of higher learning.

The university is organised into eleven separate academic units - ten faculties and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study—with campuses throughout the Boston metropolitan area: its 209-acre (85 ha) main campus is centered on Harvard Yard in Cambridge, approximately 3 miles (5 km) northwest of Boston; the business school and athletics facilities, including Harvard Stadium, are located across the Charles River in the Allston neighborhood of Boston and the medical, dental, and public health schools are in the Longwood Medical Area. Harvard's \$34.5 billion financial endowment is the largest of any academic institution.

Harvard is a large, highly residential research university. The nominal cost of attendance is high, but the university's large endowment allows it to offer generous financial aid packages. It operates several arts, cultural, and scientific museums, alongside the Harvard Library, which is the world's largest academic and private library system, comprising 79 individual libraries with over 18 million volumes. Harvard's alumni include eight .S. presidents, several foreign heads of state, 62 living billionaires, 359 Rhodes Scholars, and 242 Marshall Scholars. To date, some 130 Nobel laureates, 18 Fields Medalists, and 13 Turing Award winners have been affiliated as students, faculty, or staff.

Harvard has an academic faculty of 4671 with over 21 000 students, of which 6 700 are undergraduate and 14 500 are post-graduate students.

John Harvard:

"He gazes for a moment into the future, so dim, so uncertain, yet so full of promise, promise which has been more than realized".

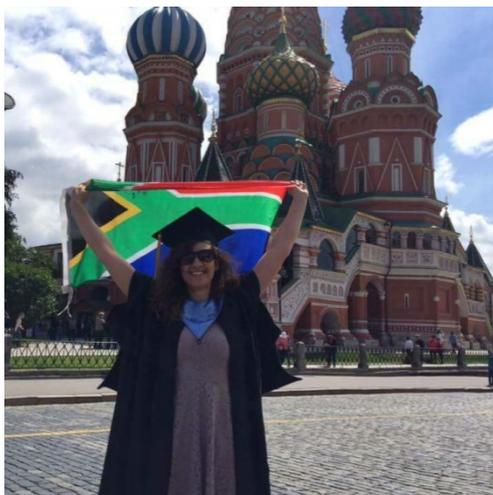
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvard_University

Breaking Ground for College Administration Centre

5 July 2017 is marked another 'groundbreaking' day with the sod-turning and blessing ceremony of the site where our much needed new Administration Centre is to be built. Construction starts in the next couple of weeks. Watch this space! Another 'groundbreaking' day at the College today. The sod-turning and blessing ceremony of the site where our much needed new Administration Centre is to be built. Construction starts in the next couple of weeks. Watch this space!



Alumni News



Congratulations to our 'Old Pet' **Jeanie van der Merwe** (Class of 2010) who just graduated from the Moscow Aviation Institute as an **aerospace engineer** (Specialising in Rocket systems and cosmonautics) with a distinction to boot!

Parents' Association Annual Quiz Night


ST PETER'S COLLEGE

EXAMS ARE OVER

LET SEE IF ALL THE STUDYING HAS PAID OFF

ANNUAL PA QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 28 JULY 2017

18:30 FOR 19:00

MADD FOYER

ST PETER'S COLLEGE

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

=R200 PP

INCLUDES DINNER

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL, LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

CONTACT: TANIA ELSE AT 082 782 0804 OR TANIAELSE1@GMAIL.COM

School Shop News

Supporter's Clothing

It would be great to see parents wearing the new supporter's items at the Sports and Cultural Festival in September!
Men's and Ladies golf shirts all R200 each.
Men's and Ladies Jackets R400 (XS-L) and R450 (XL – 2XL).



Textbooks 2018

Information regarding the ordering and payment for textbooks for 2018 will be sent to you towards the end of July. Please note that payment for the textbooks needs to be made early in September. Please budget for this.

NB: Textbooks still to be collected

Grade 12s	Grade 11 – for Term 3	Grade 9 - for Term 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths Examination Aid Book • Studying Business Workbook and Exercise Book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English, • Afrikaans • Life Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much Ado about Nothing

School Shop Accounts

Statements have been sent out to those who for some reason have a debit balance. Please check the statement and contact Mrs Wheeler on 087 00 00 322 on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday if you have any queries or concerns regarding the statement or by email at wheelerc@stpeterscollege.co.za.

EFT Payments

Please note that the School Shop account number is different to the School Fees Account. Please always use the following account for payments to the School Shop for uniform, textbooks or stationery:

St Peter's College PA

Standard Bank Rivonia, Branch Code 001255

A/C # 420095144

All EFT payment confirmations must please be emailed to Nerina Deeb at deebn@stpeterscollege.co.za.

School Shop Hours

Please note that the School Shop hours are as follows:

Mon, Tues and Thurs 07:00 to 15:00

Wed and Fri 07:00 to 13:00

*Nerina Deeb & Cynthia Wheeler
St Peter's College School Shop*

Academic News

A Record for Advanced Programme (AP) Mathematics

We are incredibly proud and humbled by the magnificence of our AP Mathematics students. We have made history, as 73 students at St Peter's College wrote the AP Mathematics July Examination last week.

AP Mathematics has posed many challenges in the content this term, and many students displayed their resilience and continued with the subject due to their tremendous passion for learning. There exists an energy and a "never give up" attitude with our students that we have not seen in a while.



Many schools take credit for the Mathematical talent that comes with the students who enrol, but our AP Mathematics students who wrote the July Examination, did so only because they discovered their purpose and ambition to do so.

A big thank you to our eighteen Grade 12 AP Mathematics students for setting a great example and touching the future, inspiring the next generation of our AP Mathematics students to be resilient and headstrong. This is the highest ever number of AP Mathematics students registered to write the IEB Final Examination and, if they persevere and prepare adequately, there will be a high number of distinctions at the end of the year.

Well done to all the AP Mathematics students – you are so good and so good for us!

Mr Rakubu Sokana
Mathematics Teacher

Student Affairs

Cyber Safety

Feedback on **Cyber Sexuality Education in the disconnected connected** - A CPD talk by Luke Lamprecht



Connected but disconnected

These are certainly interesting times we are living in. A group of St Peter's College teachers, our Educational Psychologist and I recently attended a Cyber Sexuality Talk by Luke Lamprecht, held at Gresswold Secondary School. Luke will soon be coming to visit St Peter's College and be speaking to our students about Cyber Safety and the implications for what we write and say on social media sites and in chat rooms.

A large portion of his talk was concerned with the "grooming" of youngsters. How subtly and innocently it all starts and how quickly it escalates and the dire consequences it has for our children.

The St Peter's College Wellness Department wants to remind you as parents that you need to be aware of what sites your children are visiting and who they are in communication with. We encourage you to check your child's phone from time to time to ensure that they are using these devices responsibly and are not in any danger that you may not be aware of. Please keep the lines of communication with your children open so they feel safe and secure to openly discuss matters with you especially as they find their way in this sometimes-scary world.

Keep your eyes open for when Luke will visit St Peter's College.

Mrs Holly Ryder-Nimb
School Counsellor: Wellness Department

World Challenge 2018



As the World Challenge Tour to Vietnam is drawing closer, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents who are considering sending their son/daughter to Morocco, during the April holiday 2018, that application forms can be collected from Ms Theron.

The 2 week tour incorporates a 3-4 day hike, community service project and the highlight of every tour, the Rest and Relaxation. All activities are planned by the World Challenge tourists. Yes, your children plan all this, under supervision, but with little interference from me. After all it is their tour.

The monies involved cover all the expenses, accommodation, food, transport, R&R everything... except pocket money. Fundraising is encouraged before the time and is discussed with the tourists in advance. Babysitting, car washing, waitering at the Spur, gardening, Barnyard events, raffles, tuck shop at school evenings/events are but a few ideas that have been implemented to raise funds.

Should you require any assistance or information please contact me at therons@stpeterscollege.co.za.

Travel is the only activity that you spend money on and come back richer.

Ms Sonja Theron

therons@stpeterscollege.co.za

World Challenge Co-Ordinator

CULTURAL NEWS

Music

I am proud to share that three of our music students: Natalie Walsh, Ruby Shih and Vuyo Tshwele, were selected to perform in the Stellenbosch International Chamber Festival from 30 June to 9 July 2017. They had to audition for the various orchestras as well as attend masterclasses given by professional musicians from all over the world.

All three of our students were placed in the Concert Orchestra playing flute, which is a great achievement. Here are a few pics of them rubbing shoulders with international artists. Well done to them!

Mr Antonio Lottering

HOD: Music



Sports News

Equestrian

Well done to the following riders who qualified for **Regionals in August**:

- Amy Shackleton
- Andrew Thomas
- Chanel Thomas
- Chiara Reddy
- Erin Dos Santos
- Imogen Imbert
- Kayla van der Burgh
- Mikaila Fintelman
- Nolo Maripane
- Samantha Meiring
- Stella Sharp
- Syjil Ramjuthan

And to the following riders who competed at the **SA Junior Derby**:

- Nolo Maripane – 2nd in Novice Equitation
- Chiara Reddy – 2nd in the 1.10m Show Jumping
- Erin Dos Santos - two 2nd places, won the SA Junior Championship and was selected as Victrix Ludorum
- Mikaila Fintelman – 1st in Preliminary Dressage

Mrs Joan Delport

MIC: Equestrian

Tennis

Well done to **Michelle Ncube** who won 2nd place in the final of the Gauteng North Winter Tennis Tournament in Pretoria on 4 July 2017.

Mrs Cornel Malan

MIC: Tennis