



# ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

## THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER



17 NOVEMBER 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,

Exams are well underway at the College, with the Matrics nearing the end of their examination schedule, and the Grade 8 to 11 students mid-way through theirs.

Examinations are always a very stressful and anxious time for both students and parents. Examinations are a central feature of school systems in many countries and a large amount of emphasis is placed on examination results, especially the final Matric results.

In a recent letter to Principals of Independent Schools, the CEO of the IEB (Independent Examination Board), Anne Oberholzer alerts us to be mindful when using these results as a marketing tool.

*"Our society tends to believe that the value of a school lies in its ability to churn out learners with outstanding results and a matric class with a 100% pass rate. The obsession with pass rates as measures of quality and success fuels intense media scrutiny, without necessarily understanding the massive complexities that sit behind those numbers".*

Anne suggests that a more important step than emphasising simply how great those results are, would be for schools such as St Peter's College to define what it is about our College that enables our students to achieve these results? How do we make the educational experience of our students positive, supportive, empowering and encouraging? Here I must give credit to our academic faculty who have bought into the benevolent intent of the College, which is to "Empower Individuals for Life". I am always astounded at the results attained by our students, especially when we are one of the very few independent schools in South Africa who don't have entrance exams, hence "Cherry Picking" students. Our teachers make students want to work and achieve the very best results they can.

Anne further emphasises the need for *"Society to look beyond results and ask deeper, more relevant questions. How does the school support a child to be the best they can possibly be not only academically, but also in other important realms - as a teammate, a friend, a citizen, mindful of injustice, discrimination and bullying?"*

In a powerful statement, Anne mentions that *"Distinctions cannot be the only measure of a school's worth. Sometimes it's the Cs, Ds and Es that reflect true achievement"*.

Thus, whilst we wait in anticipation for our students' results in Grade 8-11 to be released at the beginning of December, and our matric results on 2 January 2018, it is important that we reflect and celebrate each individual student, not just for results, but for their overall contribution in all areas.

In conclusion, in Anne's words: *"As we celebrate the Matrics of 2017 - the group is diverse, their levels of achievement - diverse, and their challenges real. Let's inspire and motivate them to enter their young adult lives with encouragement and respect at every level and an appreciation of what holistic achievement is all about"*.

Go *"Bravely into the Future"*.

Regards,



Mr Rui Morais  
Headmaster

## Visual Art News

I would like to thank ex-St Petrian, Jonathan Young, who assist me in looking after my Visual Art Classes while I was away assessing Grade 12 Visual Art Practical Portfolios for the IEB. I have no doubt, that in the short time he was here he has created a lasting impression among the students and inspired much creativity!

### Figure Sketching for Moms, Dads and Friends

Recently, a few parents and teachers gathered on a warm summer's evening with the intention of stretching our creative muscles over a crisp glass of wine. The evening bequeathed far more than we had imagined... wonderful company, a superbly physiqued model, inspirational music and, most significantly, an exuberance of creativity.

Thank you to the moms who took a chance at expressing their artistic side and congratulations on creating fabulous drawings. The efforts of the evening raised an impressive R2,100 for the MAC Build. I have no doubt that Ms Theron and Ms Meyer will direct these funds towards a special creative space within Kwasa College. Thank you, too, to Mr Izak Botha and Mr Rohan Jubber, my special colleagues in the Visual Art Department, who were instrumental on the evening.

*Mrs Avril Swanepoel*

*HOD: Creative Arts*



### Equestrian

- **Kayla van der Burgh** has been invited to represent Gauteng at the Junior Championships as part of the **Junior Gauteng Novice Equitation Team**. This show will be held at Kyalami Equestrian Park from 8 - 13 December 2017.
- **Imogen Imbert** won the **Junior Show Jumping Championship**. She placed as the Top 1m Junior and Top 1m rider. She has been selected as one of the Top 3 riders of the year in Eventing, 80cm.

*Mrs Joan Delport*

*MIC: Equestrian*

### Netball

I am so very proud of the following twelve students who all passed the Level 1 Umpires Examination:

LEVEL 1 Umpires Exam	
Classen, Tammy	73%
Davies, Tarynn	82%
Hadjidemetriou, Anastasia	87%
Mgaga, Sicelo	70%
Mohabir, Yogita	80%
Molenaar, Natalie	79%
Mothusi, Didintle	75%
Padayachee, Timeeka	70%
Roslee, Amber	71%
Sandham, Courtney	85%
Saravanja, Dhyan	82%
Semenya, Kgopotjo	79%

Well done!

*Ms Christelle van Schalkwyk*

*MIC: Netball*

### Girls' Tennis

It is official that the Girls' Tennis will remain in **Pool A1**, which is the second highest league in Southern Gauteng Tennis. They came tie with HeronBridge (A and B) as well as St Mary's (C and D). This placed these teams in 3<sup>rd</sup> position in Pool A1. Our opposition in Term 1 in 2018 will be Northcliff AB, Roedean AB, St Mary's CD, HeronBridge AB and Holy Rosary AB. We are looking forward to yet another exciting season for the Girls' Tennis.

### January Holiday Tennis Clinic

We will be starting with the Tennis Clinic on **Wednesday, 10 January 2018**. This is an exciting time for the students to get "Tennis Fit" after the holidays. Here are the details of the Tennis Clinic:

<b>When it's happening</b>	<b>Date:</b> Wednesday, 10 January 2018 – Friday, 12 January 2018 Monday, 15 January 2018 – Tuesday, 16 January 2018 <b>Time:</b> 08:00 – 10:30 (Tuesday, 16 January: Grade 8s will start at 09:00 and end at 10:30)
<b>What to wear</b>	Navy school shorts Flash shirts / dark blue new flash shirts Court shoes
<b>What to bring</b>	Tennis Racket Water Snack Passion for Tennis Positive attitude Loads of energy
<b>Purpose of the Tennis Clinic</b>	To get the players skilled, fit and ready for the Tennis Season.
<b>Is it valuable?</b>	The school offers this clinic free of charge. This gives the coaches insight in the skills needed to develop each individual tennis player. The tennis players get insight on their strengths and weaknesses.
<b>More information</b>	Parents are invited to a get-together picnic on <b>Friday, 12 January at 10:30</b> . Please bring own eats and picnic blankets. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please contact Mrs Cornel Malan if you need any further information at <a href="mailto:malanc@stpeterscollege.co.za">malanc@stpeterscollege.co.za</a>



*Tennis Clinic: January 2017*

### Water Polo

Big congratulations to **Jessica Frame** for being selected as Captain for the Gauteng U16A Water Polo Team and to **Emily Botha** for being selected as the Vice-Captain for the Gauteng U16B Team that will travel to the Eastern Cape in December.

*Ms Julia Braatvedt*  
1<sup>st</sup> Team Girls Coach