



ST PETER'S COLLEGE

RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE

THROUGH THE KEYHOLE NEWSLETTER



8 SEPTEMBER 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,

After a well-deserved break, I welcome all our students back to St Peter's College for the final term of the year.

Staff News

- Our **Dramatic Arts Teacher, Mrs Crystal Miles**, is currently on Maternity Leave and our thoughts are with her for a happy and healthy baby and we hope that she takes time to rest and to enjoy her new bundle of joy. In the interim, **Ms Avril Cummings** has been appointed as a locum for the duration of Term 3 whilst Mrs Miles is on leave. We wish her a happy and pleasant teaching experience at St Peter's College.
- We had recently announced that our **HOD of Afrikaans, Mrs Joan Delport** has accepted the HOD position at St Peter's Boys Prep School, from January 2018. I am happy to announce that **Mrs Karen Grobbelaar**, who is the HOD of Afrikaans at Sutherland High School has accepted the HOD position at St Peter's College with effect January 2018. Mrs Grobbelaar is the Chief Examiner for the Gauteng Education Department, as well as, the Chief Marker. We are looking forward to the experience and value that Mrs Grobbelaar will bring to our Afrikaans Department.
- **Mrs Hettie Fourie** who also teaches **Afrikaans**, will be retiring at the end of 2018 and she will be replaced with effect January 2018 by **Mrs Marli Oosthuizen** who joins us from St Mary's in Waverley.
- We welcome our **HOD of Business Studies, Mrs Cathlyn Dracatos** back to the College after a well-deserved sabbatical.
- Our **Director of Sport, Ms Saranne Hudson**, has resigned and will be taking up an opportunity at an events management company. She will be leaving St Peter's College at the end of 2017. We wish her all of the best in her new endeavour.

Capital Projects

In line with our policy of continuous improvement and upgrade of the College facilities, you would have noticed the building site alongside our car park. The construction of our new **Administration Centre**, as well as, the **School Shop** is underway and will be completed towards the end of Term 1, 2018. These facilities will be a welcome improvement to "Lego Land" and will give us much needed administrative space to accommodate the continued growth and expansion of the College.

Sport

I want to **thank our sports department** for organising the basketball, soccer, tennis, water polo and cricket clinics over the holidays. These were well attended and it was wonderful that so many of our students attended these clinics.

We are proud to announce that St Peter's College has partnered with the **number one basketball franchise** in South Africa, the **Egoli Magic**. Egoli Magic, under the auspices of the highly acclaimed **Coach Flosh Ngwenya** and his coaching team, will be looking after all the coaching structures at St Peter's College.

St Peter's College is committed to growing, giving focus to and improving the standard of basketball at our school. Please join the Egoli Magic coaches for what promises to be the start of a very exciting period in the history of St Peter's College basketball.

Annual Sports and Cultural Festival

St Peter's College looks forward to welcoming 45 schools and their players and supporters at our **14th annual Sports and Cultural Festival** from **Friday, 15 to Sunday, 17 September 2017**. This event is the highlight on our College calendar where +3,000 students enjoy the festivities and competition in Basketball, Netball, Soccer, Chess, Pavement Drawing, Music, Choir, Dance, Public Speaking and Debating.

We encourage our St Peter's College parent and student body, as well as, family and friends to come and enjoy three days of wonderful sport and cultural activities.

World Tour Challenge

We welcome back Ms Sonja Theron, Ms Suzette Meyer and Mr Ian Havenga from accompanying our students on the World Tour Challenge to **Vietnam**. Judging by the numerous Facebook posts, a great time was had by all with the highlight being the "Mud Fishing". I look forward to the tour report and the presentation from the touring group to the rest of the College.

Bereavement

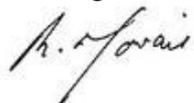
Our thoughts and prayers are with our Director of Cultural Activities, Mr Izak Botha on the passing of his grandmother, as well as, our Admissions and Marketing Assistant, Mrs Tanya Oakes whose husband Alastair passed away after a prolonged illness. Our condolences go out to the respective families at this time of bereavement. We wish them peace, comfort and courage to face the days ahead, and loving memories to forever hold in their hearts.

Please keep our fellow Anglican counterparts, Michaelhouse, in your thoughts and prayers, especially the parents of one of their students, Themba Dloti, and all of the students and staff injured in the tragic bus accident on the N3 between Hilton and Pietermaritzburg.

I wish all connected with St Peter's College a happy, adventurous and fulfilling Term 3.

"In Futurum Fortiter"

Kind regards



Mr Rui Morais
Headmaster

Grand Piano Launch

The music department celebrated a milestone on Monday, 31 July, with the unveiling of our very own grand piano! She is a beauty and sounds even better than she looks!

Alessandro Gueli (Grade 12) played an incredible, self-composed piece that gave the audience goose bumps - it was beautiful. I suspect that the music students are consuming some sort of super talent pills because they all sounded so brilliant. Ruby Shih and Vuyo Tshwele (Grades 10 and 11) played a duet with Ruby on piano and Vuyo on the flute. Ruby also played a solo which was outstanding!

The mood of the night shifted with the surprise Mr Lottering organised.

Benjamin Jephta and his Quintet... as well as Willem de Beer graced the MADDitorium stage with their highly esteemed musical items that drove the audience wild! We all felt that we were at a live jazz concert. It is a great feeling knowing that music can evoke such emotion. I found myself literally shedding a few tears because the pieces that were so good and I am sure I was not the only one.

To end the night off, the College choir performed and got the audience to interact with us for our last song which was the 'Gallop Country' song. It was both funny and motivating to see how excited everyone was. Thank you to everyone who supported the music department. We're excited for more!

Pelo Mpuru (Grade 12)



PA Annual Quiz Night

Well done to the winning quiz team that included students who beat the older folks and even some teachers (although the winners included a teacher too).

The team was Bronwyn and Nic Peake, Justin Gordyn, Paul, Aimee and Anne Wright and Murray, Jordyn and Tarryn Nitch. Thank you to Tania Else and everyone involved in making this a success, great fun was had by all!

Mr Des Mahony

PA Chairperson

Die Kat se Snor... Afrikaans Is Rocking It!

As part of the Language and Culture Day Celebration (still continuing), the Afrikaans band 'Die Kat se Snor' will be performing in the Dippenaar Hall on Thursday, 21 September at 19:00.

The event is compulsory for all Grade 9 students. The African Languages Department decided to open the event and invite all the Grade 8s to join the event free of charge. The Grade 8s will recognise the band from the movie 'Hoofmeisie' that they watched in class.

All staff as well as the Grade 8 and 9 parents are invited to join the students. The event will be in the same format as a night at the Barnyard Theatre. Families are welcome to bring their take-away dinners and non-alcoholic drinks along and have dinner while being entertained by the talented band. The evening promises to be very entertaining with a few surprises during the performance... The event will finish no later than 21:00



The band was a great hit at the College back in 2015

Please join us in the fun!

Mrs Joan Delport

HOD: African Languages

Grade 12 Trip to Cradle of Humankind

On Wednesday, 2 August, the Grade 12 Life Science (Biology) students had the privilege to travel to The Cradle of Humankind in Maropeng. This is a World Heritage site and the world's richest hominin site. After having studied hominid evolution for the preliminary exams, we, Grade 12s, were keen to see fossils first hand. Although we were unable to see the actual caves, the museum was more than enough.

Before entering the museum, our guide told us the story of Mrs Ples (who was later discovered to be a male). The building is beautiful and clean with the representation of the human evolution on their walls. We went on a boat ride inside the building which showed us the four elements (water, air, fire and earth) in creative ways. It was almost as if we were in a 4D movie. We then moved on to an activity filled centre. The games allowed us to learn about evolution of humans and other animals too. Later we were able to see a woman at work, removing a fossil from a rock.

The last part of the guided tour was the actual reason we went. We were able to see life-size cardboard cutouts of the people who were actually involved in excavating the fossils and we were also given a chance to try and fit in a polystyrene mould of the small spaces that were in the cave. The best part was seeing the bones of Homo naledi which were found in the Dinaledi Chambers. It was fascinating. It is actually so amazing how technology has allowed us to date back how long ago they lived, determine the similarities with humans and even categorise them into different hominin species.

Our educational trip ended with a delicious lunch and conversation. The Cradle of Humankind is a "must see" and I would recommend that all parents and students see the caves and the museum at least once in their life, to learn and gain first-hand experience.

Promesse Nkongolo (Grade 12)



Budding Accountants' Day at KPMG

During the August holidays some of our Grade 11 and 12 Accounting students had the opportunity to attend a career day hosted by KPMG. Although it was a full day from 08:00 until 16:00 there was not a moment where we lost interest. The career day was attended by approximately 25 students from independent schools in Johannesburg.

On arrival, we were split into five groups of five and then tasked to build a small house with cardboard, sticks, paper and prestik. The challenge was that the two members who were building were blindfolded which really tested patience and communication skills as the rest of us had to give instructions and were not allowed to touch the building or the builders. The exercise served to be an excellent ice-breaker and, within minutes, I had socialised with four strangers.

This exercise was followed by talks from three different KPMG representatives enlightening us about the business. An excellent, interactive presentation was then delivered to us by one of the KPMG partners in which he motivated us and informed us how KPMG differentiates itself from the other three big accounting firms in South Africa.

After the presentation, we had some fun playing the amazing race; this helped to orientate us in the building. After a morning of social interaction, we felt very comfortable sitting with our new friends at lunch time, enjoying our Nando's. After lunch, we were addressed by Accounting lecturers from different South African universities in order to get an idea about what their departments are like and what makes them unique.

The last talk was given by the co-ordinator of the day, Stephen Price, in which he informed us about training contracts and bursaries. Overall, it was a very interesting and enlightening day which inspired me and I highly recommend it to future senior Accounting students.

Matthew Wille (Grade 11)



*Front: Jason Raw and Tadiwanashe Zororo
Back: Matthew Wille and Daniel de Castro*

St Peter's Young Mathematician: At WITS University

We are pleased to announce that Gathuku and Lou has been selected to participate in the prestigious SAMF SA Maths Team Competition to be held 9 September 2017. The training was provided to our Mathematicians at WITS University.

This is an important event in the Mathematics community. It would be prestigious if a Gauteng team could be the next South African Mathematics team.

*Mr Rakubu Sokana
Mathematics Department*

At first, we started with a new portion of number theory regarding Modular Arithmetic learning how it's almost like how a clock works but slightly more complicated. From mod, we learnt Euclid's Lemma about prime numbers of $p|ab$ and p is prime $p|an$ or $p|b$. This was helpful in learning how to do Modular Arithmetic equations.

The following weeks we focused on geometry starting off with Stewart's theorem and Circle Geometry. We then did cyclic geometry with triangles and quadrilaterals, especially regarding right angled triangles and how the hypotenuse is the radius in a circumcircle which greatly helped with Olympiad questions.

The following week we had a session of game theory and how you can win tile filling games and how to choose the correct option when you are unaware of your opponents' decisions such as the prisoner's dilemma.

We finally touched on the properties of integers learning the general rules for divisibility and how to find the factors of any unknown integer with combinatorics. We did some injectivity and how Euclid's Lemma and modular divisibility relates to properties of integers.

If there is anything I learnt from this experience, it is how there is a whole world of maths out there other than the branches of mathematics taught in class such as algebra or calculus which is very interesting to learn. Another thing I realised is how maths is more logic and rationale than numbers and formulae.

Gathuku Matheri (Grade 9)

For the last few weeks, I had a training section for ASSA SA Maths team competition at Wits university (University of the Witwatersrand). And I had a great learning experience.

During this training section we practiced a lot and learnt about team work, and how to communicate your idea with people that you've never met before. We also learnt many concepts of maths: trigonometry, modular arithmetic, properties of integers, strategy games and many maths theorems.

Among all the things I've been taught, the strategy game is my favourite part. This is because most of the strategy games are pretty easy to understand the questions, but it doesn't mean they are easy to solve. Most of the time, it requires a lot of thinking to get the correct answers. It is the type of maths questions you can do without knowing that much about maths and they are still very challenging. **And all of those questions are real life problems which fully demonstrate the real purpose of maths.**

Louis Lou (Grade 8)



Gathuku Matheri and Louis Lou

Viva Italia, Viva Dance!

During the recent August holiday, the St Peter's Cultural Department hosted a tour group from Fly Communications, a community-based organisation situated in Ascoli Piceno, Italy. The group, specialising in the Performing Arts, consisted of a drummer, a singer and two actors and were accompanied by their English teacher, Lee Piccioni and Christian Mosca, the Principal. The group spent 24 hours spread across four days soaking up African culture as the beginning of an extensive exchange programme that will see teachers and students from St Peter's travel to Italy within the foreseeable future.

During the four days, the Italians not only cultivated a love for "braaivleis", but also through the efforts of Mr Doneda, were taught how to devise and create physical theatre. The concept, quite surprisingly, seemed foreign to them and they were most enthusiastic about incorporating it in their next production.

Ms Vallow, who does such sterling work with our Beauty Shop girls, taught them some African tunes in harmony, of which Johnny Clegg's 'Asimbonanga' proved to be the favourite. The group even sang it acapella whilst on a safari drive!

Mr Botha organised a full day experience with drumming, Pantsula, Gumboot and even a brief history lesson on the cultures of South Africa. Again, our visitors were amazed at the panache and ease we Africans have at utilising and recycling unwanted materials in our music and dress. Many of the girls wanted to take the "African Tutu", the Xibhelane, as a souvenir!

St Peter's College hopes to send their Creative Arts teachers to Ascoli next year to have a similar experience of Italian culture and even teach some classes in a local school. Both these exchanges are in preparation for larger groups to visit and counter-visit from 2019. Please feel free to visit Fly Communications' website at <http://www.flycommunications.it/> or like them on their Facebook page. That is of course after you liked their pictures on our Facebook page!



Mr Zak Botha
Director: Cultural Affairs

Interhouse Sports

Athletics

Red, blue and yellow everywhere you look! The annual Interhouse Athletics day was filled with spirit, dedication and lots of shoe-prints! Although the day was quite cold and cloudy, many students participated in the various events showing courage and commitment. It was great to see the spirit coming from the houses, with new war-cries created on the spot! Each house was determined to win the spirit trophy to show that they are the most enthusiastic of all!

To start off the chilly morning, the 800m began in and many students took part. With beaming smiles and large strides, the students tried their best with a positive attitude that motivated the students to run after them. The relay was the best race of the day. The spectating students eagerly watched the people in their house run their hearts out, while cheering them on regardless of what place they were coming. After the student relays were over, it was the student/teacher relays and needless to say, they were very entertaining to watch!

To end off the buzzing-day, the Victor and Victrix Ludorums were announced, which happened to all consist of students from Bishop! The **Spirit trophy** was awarded to **Oriole** for their everlasting enthusiasm, as well as the trophy for coming **first place**!

It was a very fun-filled day with lots of drive and cooperation. Well done to everybody who participated as well as Lourie, Bishop and Oriole together for their positive outlook and cheerful spirit throughout the day.



Lara McDonald (Grade 11)

Contact us on (011) 807-5315

Chess

Who said Chess isn't a sport? On Monday, 31 July - during the Interhouse events - many representatives from each sports house proved the stigma around Chess to be incorrect - where students from Grade 8 up to matric chose to exercise their most powerful muscles and competed against one another to 'checkmate' their opponent.

The room was filled with deep and intense thought as the players sat in their seats contemplating on which piece they should move next. The different matches not only challenged each individual player but brought about integration of the four grades which is really great!

After some brilliant Chess playing from Oriole and Bishop, Lourie managed to take the trophy home. Well played Lourie but you better watch out for Oriole next year.

Pelo Mpuru (Grade 12)



Dance

On Wednesday, the 2nd of August, the annual inter-house dance was held in the Dipenaar hall. The dancers were beyond excited to showcase their talents and specialties in the different genres of dance. This year was quite special as we had an outside adjudicator who had experienced competing in international events.

Unfortunately due to unnamed circumstances, Bishop was unable to perform but their supporters still showed enthusiasm and cheered on the other teams.

Lourie was first to perform. The dances varied in style but the passion for the activity was evident in each dance. Oriole was next with the juniors really leaving their legacy on stage. All the dancers that performed are all phenomenally gifted and enjoyed themselves on stage.

The awards are as follows:

Best group:

North Movers:
Nikayla Chetty
Mawande Nzima
Iviwe Skulu
Chebwa Chiluba

Best Solo:

Tyler-Maddison Thokoane

Best Duet:

Siphelele Xulu
Katiso Mochela

Best Improv:

Siphelele Xulu
Katiso Mochela



Lourie won the entire event. Well done and congratulations to all the dancers.

Promesse Nkongolo (Grade 12)

Sports News

Basketball Clinic

The training clinic started on a positive note, with enthusiastic athletes turning up even though it was during their holiday. The coaches from Egoli Magic Basketball club drilled both girls and boys on basic skills and proper technique through to fitness and discipline. The eagerness and excitement of the College student athletes towards the game promises a good working relationship between the school and club feeder system in the future.

The partnership with Egoli Magic is an integral part in ensuring the development of the student athletes and the overall success of the season.

Coach Barry Nkosi

Cricket Clinic

The Cricket clinic started off well on Monday morning, the boys were all excited to be back. The session started with an introduction to the coaching staff. The boys then moved on to some tough and thorough training. In this, the boys worked very hard on their own individual skills as well as their fitness levels. This year we saw an introduction of the girls' programme which started on Thursday morning. The girls were also put through their paces and they left the clinic looking forward to the season ahead. All in all, the boys and girls had a good work out and we are all looking forward to a great season ahead.

I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the clinic as well as the coaching staff from United Stars Cricket.

Mr Lofty Tyebileyo

MIC: Cricket

Equestrian

After our Equestrian Team Riders competed at the SANESA Regionals in August, seven of our riders were selected to ride at the National Championship coming up in October. The riders were Chanel Thomas, Andrew Thomas, Imogen Imbert, Erin Dos Santos, Kayla van der Burgh, Chiara Reddy and Stella Sharp. We wish these riders all the best for the competition.

Mrs Joan Delport

MIC: Equestrian

Soccer Clinic

The Soccer Clinic was held from 28 August to 1 September. The Soccer coaches decided that in order for our teams to be prepared for the upcoming season, it was essential to hold these sessions. The sessions focused on fitness and tactical play. Most of the girls that signed up for soccer attended practice and it was interesting to note how passionate they were during these sessions. The boys soccer sessions had to be combined with both senior and junior teams practicing together. The junior boys benefited from this as they were able to see the demands that senior players need to meet. Furthermore, this scenario created an environment where coaches could identify junior talent for progression into the senior team.

The coaches and managers would like to wish their respective teams well during this busy Soccer Season.

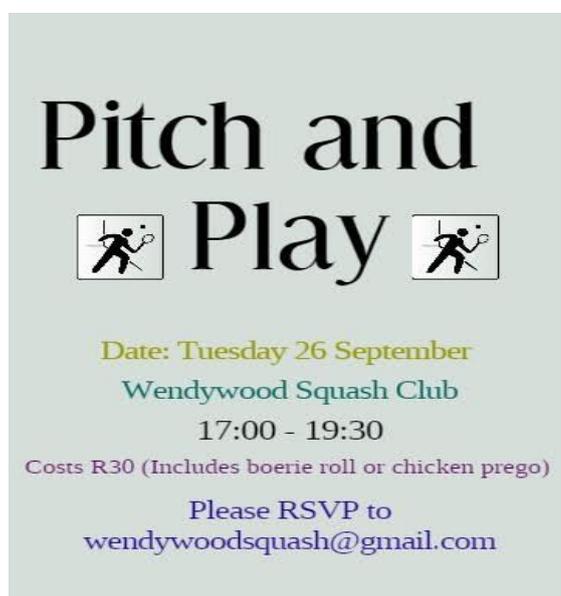
Mr Ritesh Hariram

MIC: Soccer

Squash – Pitch and Play Invitation

Get a game or two in at the Wendywood Squash Club, home of St Peter's College squash.

Let Mr Kirkland know if you have any questions:
kirklandm@stpeterscollege.co.za



Pitch and Play

Date: Tuesday 26 September
Wendywood Squash Club
17:00 - 19:30

Costs R30 (Includes boerie roll or chicken prego)

Please RSVP to
wendywoodsquash@gmail.com

Tennis Clinic: August 2017

From 28 August until 1 September, the netball courts transformed into tennis courts with the hustle and bussle that goes with it. The players start the Clinic early in the morning and had a 2 and a half hour of cardio tennis workout. Including in this workout, fun was the main objective and secondly the focus was on getting our players' tennis technique ready for the challenging Third Term fixtures.

After this week of drills, fitness and fun, the players agreed that the Clinic was perfect preparation for them and the fun factor was present with every minute of training. We thank Benjamin and Warren from Blessed Tennis Academy for running the Tennis Clinic effortlessly and we are looking forward to another term of tennis successes.

Every student at the College is welcome at the tennis training sessions. The training is every Wednesday and Thursday for two hours after school. We are looking forward to the development of new tennis players who might not have discovered that hidden talent yet. Bring a racket and come and hit some balls.

Yours in tennis,

Mrs Cornel Malan

MIC: Tennis



Water Polo Clinic

St Peter's College hosted a pre-season clinic for all College water polo players during the holiday. The clinic was very well attended with all age groups training from Monday, 28 August to Friday, 1 September. All the players showed great resilience by completing two pool sessions every day, enduring strenuous but fun training to prepare them for the season ahead.

Wahoo also hosted an external Junior Pre-Season Clinic which some of our College players attended. The clinic was led by four of our current SA Men's Water Polo players, Nardus Badenhorst (Centre Forward), Jon-Marc De Carvalho (Centre Back), Nicholas Rodda (Fetch) and Themba Mthembu (Goalkeeper). Our College players improved significantly over the five day period and we look forward to seeing them play in the season ahead.

Our boys and girls have a very busy season ahead with all age groups competing in National Schools Tournaments. It is a short but action packed season with exciting tournaments like Reddam Tournament (U19 Girls), Ian Melliar Cup (U15 Boys), St Stithians College Invitational (1st Team Girls) and Co-Eds Tournament (1st Team Boys).

St Peter's College wishes our players the best for the season ahead.

Mr Nardus Badenhorst

MIC: Water Polo



St Peter's Schools Christmas Market

The St Peter's Foundation invites you to participate in the 2017 St Peter's School Christmas Market to be held on Saturday, 2 December!

This is a wonderful opportunity to sell your goodies. This market has grown in popularity each year. The market is held prior to the St Peter's Sunset Carols, which in the past has attracted over 2 500 people. To secure your stall or for further info please email carols@stpeters.co.za