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ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Girls SP School

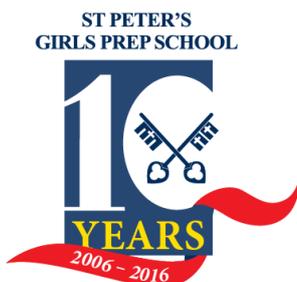
FROM THE HEADMASTER

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of our Trinity Term. Winter is almost behind us and we have the summer and a four week holiday to look forward to!

Thinking back (with the help of our termly calendar) I recall: The PA Movie Night, Hockey and Netball for all our age groups, the Junior and Senior Prep choir festivals, the Gr 7 Social, our amazing Gr 7 Production, 'Panto Pandemonium', Dads and Daughters Evening, Market Days, various excursions, numerous inter-house events, the PA bike ride, a number of school tours, our Flexible Learning Programme and finally Book Week. All this added to our 'normal' school days has made it a very busy term indeed.

In my last report to Council I mentioned that the standard of work achieved by the girls and the quality of preparation by our teachers astounds me on a daily basis. To this end I would like to thank all our teachers and coaches who put an extraordinary effort into preparing their lessons, giving of their time and guiding our girls every day of their schooling career at St Peter's! I'm sure you agree that they deserve every second of their holidays!

This week, in our ten year count down we look back at the year 2008:



2008 – by CARA EGGETT

In the year prior to 2008, meetings began to discuss the new development of the Girls School swimming pool and tennis courts. These structures don't just happen overnight and it took months of research and debate. Just deciding where to locate these facilities took many hours of thought and discussion.

Would you believe, that at one stage, the Girls School pool was going to be situated either alongside the boy's pool, to form part of an aquatics centre or, another suggestion was, to position it in the staff parking at Keys Pavilion! The fourth tennis court was to be a part of Newlands Field. Thanks to the vision of people such as Mr Royce and Mrs Attlee, today we have wonderful locations for these facilities.

Next, I visited several schools, getting ideas for the best possible pool area. Did we want a diving pool? Did we need a shallow end? So many things to consider. Today, we have the best of both worlds - where the younger children can be taught swimming in the boys' pool and water polo, which needs deep water, can take place in the girls' pool.

Then began the construction! As the rain poured down, cranes moved around the campus, collapsing the newly formed banks at the sides of the pool. All these were factors in the eventful timeline which took place while these facilities were being built in time for the Grand Opening of our pool.

The excitement mounted as the girls prepared for this big event and the Grade 3s practised hard for their special synchronized swimming exhibition. This indeed was a labour of love for our young, 'senior' girls! In 2008, they were only nine years old, and very young to put on a display of this nature. The girls braved the cold at Saturday morning practices and evening training, to ensure that their performance would be great. At one practice, we had beacons placed at the side of the pool, so each individual knew to where they had to swim. Poor Jess Webb and Victoria Swart seemed to constantly end up way off their target, later we discovered that Otis (the beautiful golden Retriever who lives on campus) kept running off with their beacons and causing the confusion!

The scheduled evening finally arrived. Our girls marched around the pool to the song 'The World's Greatest' and after Mrs Attlee and Mrs Atkinson (then the Chairlady of Council) had cut the red ribbon to officially open the swimming pool, all the girls standing around the edge of the pool released their red, yellow and blue balloons into the air.

Our Grade 3s were shivering in their swimming costumes, as they stood on the side of the pool. The music of 'Show me Heaven' began to play over the speakers as our 'Synchro' girls took to the water. A wonderful synchro display ensued. Our brave girls performed beautifully and this time, every-one landed on their mark! (Otis had not been invited to the show!)

Today, eight years later, our pool has hosted galas, water polo tournaments, life-saving and more synchronized swimming displays. Records have been broken and swimming strokes perfected. What a privilege for us to be a part of 'The World's Greatest' school, in our very own little part of Heaven.



The festive 'grand opening' of the pool



Mr Webb - parent and spectator, in those days!



Remember Rabali and Cara Eggett



Enthusiastic supporters



The various skills required for the display!

Happy holidays!

Darrel Webb
(Headmaster)

STAFFING NEWS

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Julia Aitken has been appointed as our new Gr 3 class teacher as we expand to a third stream next year. Julia started teaching in 2001. She has done a number of locum jobs for us recently, so we know that she is a passionate teacher. She is also a current parent (Samantha is in Gr 1 and Rebecca in Gr 0) and so she fully understands the ethos of our school. We certainly look forward to her joining our team.

D. Webb

LATEST 'AWSUM' PUBLICATION

Please click on the link and go to Page 8 to see some school news!

https://issuu.com/timedia/docs/johannesburg_july_primary-high_sc

A hard copy will be sent home with your daughter.

Jean Macleod
(Marketer)

NEWSLETTER SURVEY

If you have not already done so, please click the link below to answer a short survey regarding the weekly Newsletter, and other methods of communication, which you receive from St Peter's Prep.

We would really appreciate your feedback as we are always striving to improve!

<https://goo.gl/forms/Au3GXxKFkiBkkTEw2>

COMMUNICATOR

Wow, over 1 700 individuals have filled in the Verification Form for the authenticated COMMUNICATOR ST PETER'S (powered by d6 Communicator).

There are still a number of folk who need to download the **Communicator St Peter's** (from the App Store/PlayStore on your mobile phone) and request your password (which will then be emailed to your verified email address). You only need to use this password once to verify and get into the secure App. Once in, please do the following:

- Choose St Peter's Schools
- Personalise which school you wish to receive notifications from – and tick at least one of the following: Girls Junior Prep General, Girl Senior Prep General, Boys Junior Prep General, Boys Senior Prep General or College General
- Personalise other channels – select areas for which you would like to receive information e.g. Grades, Sports, Music, etc.

The reason we have changed the COMMUNICATOR to the new app is so as to have a secure communication system, where only parents, staff and caregivers of the St Peter's community can access information.

The previous system could be accessed by any interested party.

This is a valuable communication tool between the school, parents and teachers. It is also really helpful when there are last minute changes to schedules and **'Alerts'** are sent out. These pop up on your device once, in red, to alert you to the changes.

- View latest info under 'News'
- View full Term Calendar under 'Calendar' and save directly into your Outlook calendar
- View documents such as Newsletter, Latest Sports Notice, Hot Lunch Menu, MySchool/Makro Forms, Sports Programme, Sports Fixtures, Team lists, Wet Weather policy etc. under 'Resources'
- View photographs of pupils' achievements which are taken at awards presentation services under 'Gallery'. These stay up for a month from date of post.
- From the start of Term Three view other photos that teachers take of the class doing something interesting under 'Gallery'
- From the start of Term Three all team sheets with names (which could not be published before) can be found under 'Resources/Sport/ Age group'
- Click on easy links to Hot Lunch Forms, Music Instrumental Lessons, Interesting publications and articles and more...

Please feel free to email me if you have any queries or need help to get your COMMUNICATOR ST PETER'S, it is really worthwhile! (jmacleod@stpeters.co.za)

Jean Macleod (*Marketer*)

SPORT DEPARTMENT

We have come to the end of a very busy term. I would like to thank the Sports Department, as well as a number of academic staff (from both the JP and SP) who have assisted in coaching netball and hockey this term. The results have been pleasing, but more than that, the increased skills levels and general improvement in both sports, across all grades, has been even more impressive. Well done to the girls and thank you for your enthusiasm and willingness to learn.

Next term, we will begin with athletics. A reminder that athletics meetings take place on Friday afternoons. All girls need to be available to run for the school. Please also save Saturday, 8 October in your diary – the date of our SP Sports Day, which is compulsory for all girls to attend. A reminder too, that girls must wear predominantly white takkies, white socks and their sports kit for all athletics practices and meetings. As the weather will be warmer when we return to school in September, it is vital that all girls wear hats and bring their water bottles to school.

Annelie Koekemoer from Kingsmead College will be hosting an athletics clinic from 29 August – 2 September at JCE Wits. All girls are welcome to attend on all or one of the days from 09:00-11:00. The cost is R50 per day.

Inter-house hockey for Grades 4-7 will be played on Friday, 5 August during the school day from 08:45. Girls must please ensure they wear their house t-shirts.

Please note that there will be sport (athletics) on Tuesday, 6 September as per the weekly occurrences timetable. Tennis will commence on Monday, 12 September.

See the School Communicator under the Resources tab for sports notifications.

Liz Ashmore
(Director of Sport) LAshmore@stpeters.co.za

'WATER EXPLORERS' AT ST PETER'S GIRL PREP

St Peter's Girls School has been selected as being one of the Top 5 Water Explorer Schools in South Africa. This acknowledges the work done at our school in educating the girls and our community about water.

A team of girls will accompany Mrs Linnell and Ms Ritchie to Durban where they will share our Water Explorer journey with a panel of judges. The winning school gets to represent South Africa at the International Water Explorer event in London in October. We have also won R5 000 to be put towards future Eco projects in the school. We wish the following girls all the best for their presentation:

Sarah Garrett
Erin Daniels
Keiomarah Chigudu
Amy Urmson
Lulu Williams
Georgina Schaefer

Cathy Linnell
(H.O.D. Science and Additional Culture & Learning)



PA NEWS

GOLF DAY
30 September 2016

Limited Four Balls Left!

Please don't delay if you would like to reserve a four-ball.

There are only a few left and we don't want to have to turn late comers away like last year.

To reserve your four-ball, email golfday@stpeters.co.za

DO IT NOW! Don't be the person who just missed out!



QUOTATION

Having somewhere
to go is *Home*
Having someone
to love is *Family*
Having both is a
Blessing

FIRST WEEK OF NEXT TERM

Tuesday	06/09/2016		07:30:00	07:30:00	Commencement of the Advent Term	
Tuesday	06/09/2016		09:00:00	10:00:00	Eucharist	Chapel - wear No 1s
Wednesday	07/09/2016	09/09/2018	06:00:00	06:00:00	Grade 7 Camp leaves	Chapel Car Park
Wednesday	07/09/2016	09/09/2017	06:15:00	06:15:00	Grade 6 Camp leaves	Chapel Car Park
Wednesday	07/09/2016	09/09/2016	06:30:00	06:30:00	Grade 5 Camp leaves	Chapel Car Park
Thursday	08/09/2016	09/09/2016	06:00:00	06:00:00	Grade 4 Camp leaves	Chapel Car Park
Friday	09/09/2016		06:00:00	19:00:00	Grade 3 Camp leaves	Chapel Car Park
Friday	09/09/2016		15:00:00	16:00:00	Grade 4,5,6 & 7 Camps Return	Chapel Car Park