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ST PETER'S GIRLS PREP SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter of St Peter's Girls JP School

FROM THE HEADMASTER

CLASS SELECTION

A few parents are starting to make requests for friends and class selection for 2018. I thought it would, therefore, be relevant to remind everyone of our class selection process and in so doing ask parents not to approach teachers with special requests for your daughter to go to a particular teacher or be placed with a pre-selected group of friends.

Classes are split into two or three (depending on the grade) equal academic ability groups.

We then look at friendship groupings and who should, or should not, be placed together. In the JP, it has been common practice over the years to allow the girls to choose five friends and to guarantee that at least two of these friends will be in the same class, next year.

A similar process is followed in the Senior Prep. However, whilst every effort will continue to be made to accommodate friendship groupings, we must also be aware of the inherent dangers of cliques. Not only are they sometimes detrimental in terms of focus in class, but they also have the potential of alienating other girls. If we claim to teach life skills at school then we need to teach our girls, as early as possible, how to interact with different girls every year. Opportunities for establishing new relationships must be seen as a positive mechanism for growth and maturity.

Teacher match or suitability is also considered. Occasionally, a girl may be better suited to a particular teacher in terms of teaching style and personality. However, it needs to be said that every teacher at St Peter's is phenomenal and there is no doubt that your daughter will flourish, no matter with which teacher she is placed.

In the JP, the class teachers in consultation with Mrs Kissack take all decisions around class placement. In the SP, the class teacher and Mrs Cara Eggett (Head of Pastoral Care) do these in consultation with Mrs Pam van Gass.

Classes for 2018 will be announced in the last week of this year. We will then ask for parents to support the school's decision and to guide and encourage your child to understand that the decision was made with very good reason, rather than a 'knee-jerk' insistence that your daughter needs to be moved. If we acceded to every request of this nature, the end result would be chaos. However, if parents support the school, your daughter will very quickly realise that she needs to make an effort to adapt to her new surroundings. If your daughter thinks that mom or dad can 'fix' the problem, then they will continue to protest and not make any effort to adapt.

I sincerely hope this clarifies the process for you. If you have any questions or concerns in terms of this process please feel free to chat to your daughter's teacher or me.

Have a good weekend! Nibe nempelasonto emnandi!

Darrel Webb (*Headmaster*)

FROM HEAD OF JP

JP SPORTS DAY

We are looking forward to Sports Day tomorrow, Saturday. Please have the girls in their classrooms by 07:30. They will be led up to the Newlands field at 07:45, ready to start at 08:00.

Please remember the following:

- Your daughter must be dressed in her sports kit and school hat (she can wear a school peak)
- It is important that she has a water bottle. (Remember, juice will make her thirsty)
- Please apply sunblock before coming to school.
- Grade 2 parents will be selling light refreshments. Please support them.

Just for fun: Grade 2 parents will participate in a Parent/Daughter Shuttle Relay!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Rain is predicted for Saturday. If we need to postpone the event – it will be rescheduled to Friday, 13 October at 08:00. **If the Sports is being postponed, we will notify you at 06:30 on Saturday morning.** Please come to school if no notification is received.

YEAR OF THE WOMAN

Thank you to Philippa Ellis and Amy for presenting to the girls on what it takes to be a Speech Therapist.



CLASS LISTS FOR 2018

We are about to start the process of organising classes for 2018. Please read the letter Mr Webb has shared with parents around this. We make every effort to make good choices around your child and their placement. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

BIRDS AND BEES TALK

A big thank you to Wendy Wenzel for presenting to parents on this important and sometimes difficult conversation. It always helps to get a little advice from someone who has some great ideas. Many parents attended and some asked for an evening talk to help working parents. We will try to get this organised for early in 2018.

GRADE 2 COFFEE MORNING- THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER

Liz Ashmore and Leanne Fleming will present on the expectations and philosophy of sport at St Peter's Girls School - with particular reference to Grade 2 and 3. Grade 1 and 2 parents are welcome to join us.

FAREWELL

Skyla Jerome will be relocating to a new school next week. We will miss her smile and kind nature. Wishing the family all the best.

Let's hope the weather is kind . . . see you tomorrow.

Heather Kissack

(Head of Junior Prep)

CHAPEL COLLECTION THIS TERM

Our Chapel collection this term will be going towards a St Peter's College initiative.

Every year the Grade 11 pupils at St Peter's College are assigned with the task of raising funds in order to build a classroom for less privileged children. This year the Grade 11s will be building an administration block and school hall at Kwasa College, near Springs, through the leadership of the *Make A Change* Committee, which is run by the Grade 11 pupils. 'We really appreciate the support we have received from the St Peter's Prep families. Whether one has donated money or actual building materials, you are helping us now and into the future to *Make A Change*.'

Kamohelo Kotsi *(Chaplain Assistant)*

MY STORY - REFLECTIONS ON TRANSFORMATION AT ST PETER'S

We end this year's My Story series by reflecting on the Transformation journey at St Peter's Prep Schools. We will look back at what has been achieved and look to the road ahead, identifying current challenges and discussing initiatives for 2018. We would welcome your input and hope that you are able to join us:

Date: Tuesday, 10 October

Time: 18:30 – 20:30

Venue: Girls Junior Prep Hall

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

MARIA SHILALUKI

Maria was born in Limpopo and she is 27 years old. Her mother raised her. Maria's father died when she was eight years old, after which her uncle assisted financially, wherever possible. She has a sister and four brothers.

Maria was schooled in Limpopo and attended the University of Limpopo for her tertiary education. Maria also employed her entrepreneurial prowess to overcome financial constraints successfully. From 2009 - 2011 she ran a homework support group in the community and this venture helped to fund her studies.

'Being involved in the Intern programme has exceeded my expectations. I have gained invaluable knowledge and experience. I have improved my IT skills considerably and have mastered the complicated workings of all the printers/laminators, etc. Financially it has also been a great help and I can honestly say that I just love every minute being a part of this fantastic programme'.



SCHOOL SHOP

FAMILY ORGANISER

The popular Family Organisers are back in stock at the School Shop. This could make a great Christmas gift - it costs R140.

SECONDHAND

Owing to lack of space in our stock room, we are unable to take in secondhand uniform items until further notice. We start receiving all our year-end orders at this time of the year and unfortunately, we do not have sufficient storage space.

Nadia Thompson
(School Shop)

FORTHCOMING WEEK

Saturday	07/10/2017	08:00:00	11:00:00	Girls JP Sports Day	Newlands Field
Tuesday	10/10/2017	18:30:00	18:30:00	My Story	Girls JP Hall
Thursday	12/10/2017	07:30:00	08:00:00	Grade 2 Sports Coffee Morning	Girls JP Hall
Saturday	14/10/2017	08:00:00	10:00:00	Dance Mouse Festival	Rivonia Barnyard

St Peter's 2017 Golf Day Roundup

On behalf of St Peter's Prep Schools and the Parents Association we would like to thank all those who played as well as our sponsors who made the day possible.

Also thanks to the many volunteers who gave of their time to make the day a success.

Congratulations to the Hendrik du Plooy, Paul Wilmans, Gavin O'Brien and Mark Boyd fourball for taking 1st place.

AND THE RAFFLE WINNER IS... ..
Georgie Lennox
 Congratulations on winning – we hope you enjoy the weekend in Cape Town





- R250 per plaque
- Order forms available on the Communicator or at Reception
- Sample plaque can be viewed at reception
- Plaques will be installed on brick seating alongside Newlands field, amphitheatre, tennis courts or swimming pool (as specified on your order form)
- Orders can be placed any time but plaques will be installed twice annually
- Email completed forms to Katinka Cross kcross@mweb.co.za or hand in at reception




Sample plaque

Order by 15 November for January installation

St Peter's Girls Prep Leavers' Plaques

An initiative of the St Peters PA


Three Options:
 Current pupil:

	<p>MOTHEO RAMORITING GRADE 3 2017</p>
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Leaver's plaque:

	<p>KATIE SMITH 2010 – 2017</p>
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Family plaque:

	<p>THE SMITH FAMILY 2008 – 2017</p> <p>KATIE JOSIE BELLA</p>
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