



ST ANDREW'S PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

12 July 2011

Dear Parents

Half-term provided a welcome break. The weather in Grahamstown proved to be bitterly cold, but we were grateful to receive some more rain over this period.

The Children's Arts Festival, hosted once again at Prep, proved to be a huge success with many children from around the country attending workshops and shows. Our thanks and congratulations to Mrs Renard and her team for a superb effort in every respect. The organisation was, once again, of an extremely high standard and visiting parents and teachers were very impressed, whilst the children thoroughly enjoyed all on offer.

We are grateful to those local parents who accommodated some of our boarders during this period. This freed up bed space and added to the bottom line. The school of course, does gain indirectly from this exercise.

Our seniors are currently on Winter Tour in Gauteng. The group did have an unfortunate incident on the way up when a bolt sheared off the tow-hitch and the trailer carrying the marimbas came adrift. Thankfully there was no damage and the group were able to effect a repair and continue, arriving safely in Johannesburg on Sunday evening, where they were hosted by St John's. In matches played yesterday Prep prevailed 26-14 in the rugby and 22-8 in the squash. Prep won 3-1 in hockey this morning and are also due to give a Marimba performance to the school.

Staff News

We are pleased to welcome Mr James Cripps to St Andrew's. James, his wife Zandra-Lea, and three children Erin, Lea and JD hail from KZN where James has been teaching at the Hillcrest Christian Academy. He has extensive experience at this level, as well as having taught in the United States. James will be taking over Grade 7.2 in the third term.

IQAA Evaluation

Parents will recall the above evaluation, completed in October last year, in compliance with our ISASA (Independent Schools' Association of SA) membership.

The final report has been approved by the Board of Governors and we have identified five areas for improvement. First and foremost is to address the IT lag mentioned in the report. Parents will recall from the previous newsletter that, following a generous donation, we have placed an order to enable us to equip the Senior Prep classes with data projectors. These machines are on their way!

In the meantime, the Junior Prep are delighted with their notebooks - funded by the Fundraising Committee.

The report has been posted on our website for your information. The link for this report is <http://www.saprepschool.com/uploads/files/IQAA%20FINAL%20REPORT.pdf>.

Mandela Day - 17 July

We will be commemorating this day once again with various activities planned in the different departments - please see the Junior Prep and Pre-Primary news blocks. In the case of the Senior Prep we will be removing alien vegetation above Rhodes University this coming Sunday under the guidance of Mr Lorraine Mullins.

All Senior Preppies - as well as any interested parents - are to meet on Top Field at 14h30. We will walk down to Rhodes and return to school at approximately 17h00. Please bring gardening gloves if you have - and any spares so as to equip the boarders.

In conclusion, the term is rapidly drawing to a close. Teachers are hard at work revising formal assessments in the Senior Prep, whilst I was most gratified to have an opportunity to see the high standard of work in the Junior Prep Literacy books over the holiday period.

Have a good week!

Graham

Quote for the week:

"The price of excellence is discipline. The cost of mediocrity is disappointment." William Ward

Junior Prep News

We all had a fine time with 'Festival School' last week. Our Junior Preppies enjoyed shows and workshops of a high standard this year.

The school programme is running normally from this week and for the next couple of weeks until the end of term. There are some sport matches still to play and we will remind you closer to the time of PAT Chats which are scheduled at the end of the month.

Junior Prep will celebrate **MANDELA DAY** by making sandwiches for needy children on Friday 22nd July. Parents will receive a letter with further information closer to the time.

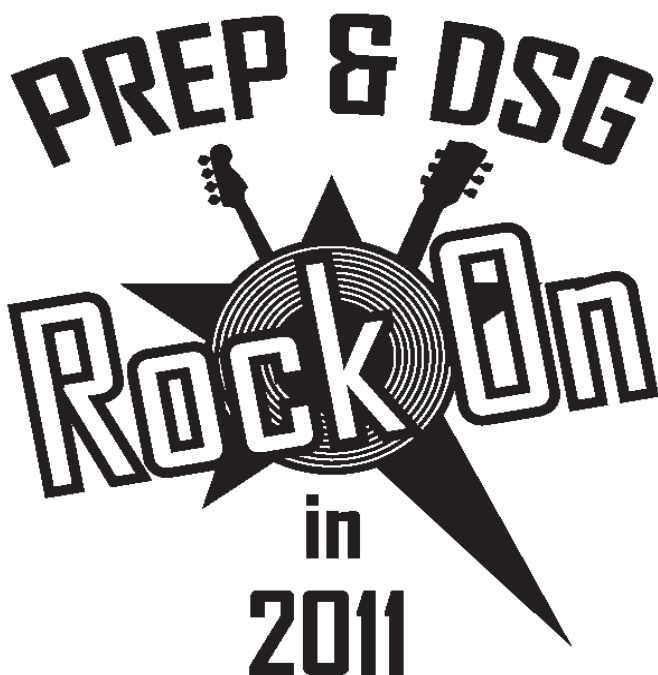
Don't forget to check our website for more photographs
www.saprepschool.com

Pre-Primary News

The children seem to be enjoying being back in the normal Pre-primary routine as much as we are after our Half-term break! Kay Barker and Jean Schäfer attended a wonderful conference in Johannesburg and are brimming with exciting ideas! It's also just good to get away and look at the "bigger picture" of education, and what we need to be providing for our children ...

As usual, there are lots of interesting things happening over the next week:

1. **SCHOOL READINESS SCREENINGS** were calendarised for this week, but will take place next week on the 19th and 20th. Grade 0 parents will receive a letter giving further details.
1. **MANDELA DAY** will be celebrated at the Pre-primary on Tuesday 19th July when the children from the Holy Cross Pre-school at the monastery will join us for a day of sharing and play.
2. Our **LOST PROPERTY** has been relocated! If you are looking for an item of clothing, follow the arrow on the blue sign. As usual, at the end of the term we will be donating all unclaimed items to Hospice.



Senior Prep and DSG Junior proudly present the **Art & Music Evening!**

Please join us in Memory Hall at Prep for a wonderful evening of Art and Music.

The Senior Prep & some DSG Jnr ART will be on exhibition and the Choirs will join together to entertain you with a wonderful

'ROCK ON' CONCERT!

Bring your own picnic supper & bring friends and family ... tables will be provided and there will be a cash bar available.

**WHEN: Thursday 28th July and
Friday 29th July 2011 at 18h30**

Tickets from Anusha at the Prep offices:
R30.00 for Adults / R20 for children.

Money from ticket sales will be donated to charity.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 12 July d4

Winter Tour

Pre-Primary School Readiness Assessments

14:00 Rugby vs Kingswood - U11B U9B (h) - postponed to Wed

Wednesday 13 July d5

Winter Tour

Pre-Primary School Readiness Assessments

09:00 President Zuma to visit Grahamstown

14:00 Rugby vs Kingswood - U13C/U11B/U9B (h)

18:00 Squash - SAP1 vs DSG2/SAP2 vs SAC5 - postponed

Thursday 14 July d6

Winter Tour

14:00 Rugby vs Yellowwoods - U13C/U11B/U9B (a)

17:00 Student Housemasters' meeting (SP staffroom) - postponed

Friday 15 July d7

Winter Tour

Saturday 16 July

Duty Master - Mr Zane Plescia (Cell: 072 018 3878)

Winter Tour

Sunday 17 July

17:00 Winter Tour returns

18:30 Evening Prayers - Duty Master (Memory Hall)

Monday 18 July d1

17:00 HOD's meeting (H/m's office) - postponed

17:00 SP Assessment Meeting (SP Library)

Tuesday 19 July d2

14:00 Rugby vs Oatlands - U9A/B (h)

17:00 Fundraising Committee meeting

Wednesday 20 July d3

14:00 Rugby vs GT Primary - Prep U13C vs GP U13B (h)

14:00 JP Netball vs Oatlands (a)

15:00 Rugby vs Sweet Valley Primary U13A (h)

Thursday 21 July RAP

14:00 Rugby vs Grahamstown Primary U11B (h)

17:00 SP Parents' Committee meeting

Friday 22 July d4

12:15 Hockey vs Woodridge - U13A/B/C U11A (h)

14:00 Hockey - Albany League U13D/E/F

18:30 Old Prep Supper

Saturday 23 July

Duty Master - Mr Richard Jackson (Cell: 082 8386214)

09:00 Rugby vs Woodridge - U13A/B/C/D U11A/B U9A/B (a)

09:00 Hockey vs St George's - U9A/B girls (h)

Sunday 24 July

18:30 Evening Prayers - Duty Master (Memory Hall)

President Zuma to visit Grahamstown

Tomorrow President Jacob Zuma will be visiting Grahamstown and some of our children will be attending a welcome for him at Church Square at 09h00. The children will be supervised to and from Church Square by their teachers.

Changes to the Calendar

Please check the calendar and newsletter before phoning the office for information.

My School Card

Every swipe counts. Please remember to use yours.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY



Vuyo Ketwa set a new record in the Open boys race



Liam Little came 1st in the U11 race, although he is still an U10!

Winter Blanket & Soft Toy Collection



Some of the many toys and blankets collected by the generous Prep community.

Festival Fun



Funky hats are the flavour of this year's Festival!



Grade 3s with their hand-made name plates.



Beautiful butterfly girls.



Grade 1s made Festival masks!