



20 September 2011

Dear Parents

It's difficult to believe that we have just started week three of our term! We seem to have already packed so much into the ten days that we have been back. We had the privilege of hosting the Independent Schools' Athletics meeting yesterday and, once again, our pupils gave it their all in every aspect of the competition. I would like to congratulate them on their positive participation and as always, their excellent sportsmanship and behaviour. I would also like to convey my thanks to all the pupils who did not compete, but gave up their time to assist with the logistics and running of the event - these folk often go unnoticed but without them the day would not have been possible - please take a bow. To Mrs Fowlds, Mrs Hobson, Mr Jackson and Mr Mtshiki, thank you too for putting everything together.

Last Thursday, Lisa Brown presented a talk to the Pre-Primary and Junior Primary parents on bullying. She covered a range of different aspects relating to the identification of bullying, the different types of bullying and possible solutions if bullying was, in fact, taking place. One of the tools presented, in order to equip children when confronted with a possible bullying situation, was the acronym WITS, which stands for;

- W- Walk away
- I - Ignore
- T - Talk about it
- S - Seek external intervention

The four steps above mirror the three-step policy that we already have in place at Prep, namely;

- Step 1 - To ignore.
- Step 2 - To talk about it and ask the offender to stop.
- Step 3 - To seek external intervention.

I do like the acronym WITS as it is catchy and easy to remember. It also implies the exercising of intelligence, being aware of the situation and taking a pro-active stance against the perpetrator - effectively to use one's wits. Please be assured that we have a zero tolerance approach to bullying and that we do, as part of the make-up of our school, address the pupils on an ongoing basis around the issues of bullying. WITS will be adopted by us and will be continually reinforced amongst our student body. We ask that you, as parents, reinforce WITS at home as part of our partnership against bullying.

As our parent body we do value your input, suggestions and ideas and do our best to address your concerns in a timeous and positive manner. You are also our best marketing tool and as such, if you are aware of any folk in your communities who are thinking of enrolling their children for 2012, please spur them on as some of our grades are already full and there is limited space in others.

In conclusion, some food for thought.

In Ancient Greece, Socrates was widely lauded for his wisdom. One day an acquaintance ran up to him excitedly and said, "Socrates, do you know what I just heard about Diogenes?" "Wait a moment," Socrates replied, "Before you tell me I'd like you to pass a little test. It's called the triple filter test." "Triple filter?" asked the acquaintance. "That's right," Socrates continued, "Before you talk to me about Diogenes, let's take a moment to filter what you are going to say. The first filter is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?" "No," the man said, "Actually I just heard about it." "All right," said Socrates, "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now let's try the second filter, the filter of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about Diogenes something good?" "No, on the contrary..." "So," Socrates continued, "You want to tell me something about Diogenes that may be bad, even though you're not certain it's true?" The man shrugged, a little embarrassed. Socrates continued, "You may still pass the test though, because there is a third filter, the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about Diogenes going to be useful to me?" "No, not really." "Well," concluded Socrates, "If what you want to tell me is neither True nor Good nor even Useful, why tell it to me or anyone at all?"

May your week ahead be both productive and positive.

Marc

Junior Prep News

The Sponsored walk is coming up soon. Don't forget to keep finding donations and sponsors to help us raise money for our school. You will receive a letter soon where you can indicate which walk you would prefer to do on the day - most Junior Preppies choose to walk the 5km walk with their families.

The grade twos enjoyed a picturesque nature walk on Friday. They had a wonderful time observing signs of spring in beautiful bushveld.

On Thursday we will be entertained by Heather Tomlinson and her travelling puppet theatre. We look forward to this special treat.

Pre-Primary News

Our theme on **Dinosaurs** wouldn't be complete without a visit to SAIAB to see a dinosaur fish! We'll combine the visit with a picnic in the Bots Gardens, so please send **PICNIC LUNCHES** in bags that are easy to put on backs or carry.



Books 2 you will be on display in the Top Prep library on Tuesday and Wednesday next week (27th – 28th Sep). This is an ideal opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping! We're in desperate need of **newspaper!** Please send any old ones that you have.

Lots of children have been bringing dinosaurs and books to supplement our theme. It's a good idea to **mark these items** so that they can be returned to their rightful owners afterwards.



Chris, Joe and Jeremy with some of our new toys



Mrs Long's boys and girls get into the spirit...Go Bokke!



the book fair people

**BOOKS
2
YOU**

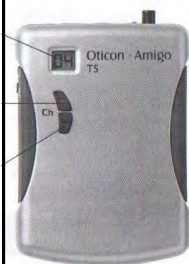
Date: Tuesday 27th, & Wednesday 28th September
Venue: Senior Prep Library

Please note: "Books 2 You" will visit Prep next week. They have wonderful books at excellent prices!

Senior Prep boys & Junior Prep boarders will be permitted to buy books of their choice to the value of R100,00 unless parents authorise otherwise in writing to Mrs Karen Hobson at k.hobson@saprepschool.com.

This amount will be debited to your child's account.

MISSING



Some very valuable auditory processing equipment belonging to a pupil has gone missing from his classroom at Top Prep. There are two units like the one in the picture on the left. Should your child have brought these home in error, please return them to the office as a matter of urgency, as the child concerned **DESPERATELY** needs this equipment.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 20 September d7

13:00 Pre-primary Parents' Committee Meeting

Wednesday 21 September d1

16:00 Staff IT Workshop - No Prep

17:15 Fundraising Committee Meeting (SP Staffroom)

Thursday 22 September d2

14:00 Graeme Triangular Athletics Meeting - *postponed*

17:00 Prep Board Exco meeting (Clubhouse)

Friday 23 September d3

11h30 Golf Tour departs

Saturday 24 September

Duty Master - Mr Richard Jackson (Cell: 082 838 6214)

Sunday 25 September

14:00 Golf Tour returns

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

Monday 26 September (4)

14:00 Athletics B Quadrangular Meeting [Yellowwoods, Kenton Primary, Shaw Park, DSG/Prep] (Prep)

14:00 Tennis vs WPPS U12 and U13 (h)

Tuesday 27 September (5)

Books 2 You (SP library)

13:00 Food Committee meeting (Memory Hall)

Wednesday 28 September (6)

Books 2 You (SP library)

14:00 Graeme Triangular Athletics Meeting (Graeme)

Thursday 29 September (7)

14:00 Shot Put finals (U11/U10)

14:00 High Jump heats (Open/U13/U12)

15:00 400m finals (Open/U13/U12/U11/U10)

Friday 30 September (1)

11:00 SAC Council Exco meeting

15:00 Table Farm Camp-out (Grades 4-7 & live-in staff)

Saturday 1 October

Duty Master - Mr Siphelo Mtshiki (Cell: 071 950 8392)

09:00 Sponsored Walk

Sunday 2 October

10:00 U11 Cricket Tour departs (Knysna)

12:00 Junior Orchestra Tour departs (Karoo)

18:30 College Chapel

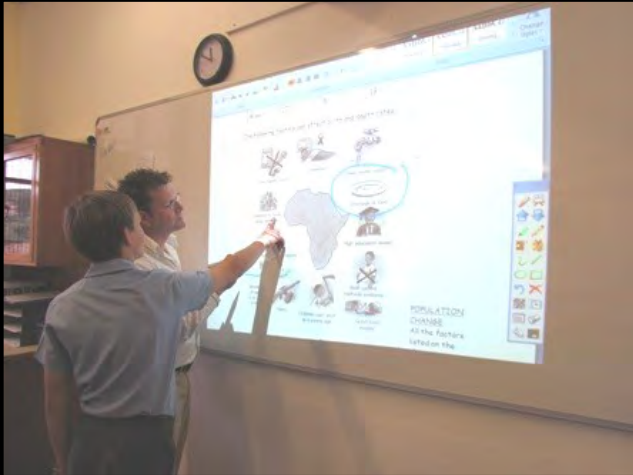
Changes to the Calendar

Please check the calendar & newsletter before phoning the office for info.



Congratulations to Thozzi Botha and Joshua Starr on their achievements in the Absa World Knowledge Olympiad

Senior Prep boys are introduced to their newly installed whiteboards



Grade 2 Nature Walk



Grade 1 Spring Hats



President's Award Fun Run



**1st 3 Preppies home
Roland Palme, Peter Tharratt & Guy Musto!**

Independent Schools' Athletics Meeting

