



St Andrew's Prep School Newsletter 26 January, 2015



Dear Parents and Pupils,

"If you watch animals objectively for any length of time, you're driven to the conclusion that their main aim in life is to pass on their genes to the next generation".
David Attenborough

During the December vacation, my family and I were privileged to spend time in the Kruger National Park. There are many reasons why we enjoy Kruger so much, one of these being the life lessons that one can draw from the experiences and observations that abound in a myriad of shapes, sizes and micro-environments.

New born creatures can be typically classified into two groupings. Altricial animals are those that when born, are almost completely defenceless and require the protection and feeding they receive from the adults around them. Precocial animals astound us with their ability to run from the moment they 'drop'. One thinks of the almost comical and gangly legged giraffe and wildebeest in this regard!

In drawing a parallel to Prep, (and I am by no means suggesting our new pupils are comical or gangly!), it is fair to say that some of our new pupils are precocial in nature and are able to hit the ground running, functioning independently when required. Other pupils will be altricial in nature, requiring extensive academic support, much nurturing in the boarding houses and loads of personal guidance. The fact that there is a space for every type of pupil at Prep, and that they are welcomed so warmly into the fold, makes our school a very special and accommodating environment. Regardless of their 'state of entry' into Prep, I have been thrilled to see how all of our pupils have commenced this year – with energy and enthusiasm!

A new born elephant requires the care of its mother and indeed the entire herd, but once mature, it will be a valuable member of the herd. One of the greatest sources of professional joy and reward for teachers is watching over a period of many years, how our ex-pupils make strides in their scholastic or personal progress and end up blossoming, becoming valuable contributing members to society.

Prep is an amazing, collaborative community in which a wide range of adults play vital roles in developing the children across many spheres. We gain great delight in setting up the next generation for lives of success and significance, and I encourage our parent body to work closely with our teachers and to enjoy the educational journey!

Gareth Allman
HEADMASTER

UPCOMING CALENDER EVENTS

Easter Term

Week 3: Academic Week A

Monday 25 January

Tuesday 26 January

11:00 Gr 5-7 CPR Training (Memory Hall)
13:00 JP Parents' Committee Meeting (J & A Mullins Pavilion)
17:15 SP Parents' Committee Meeting (Green Room)
PP Parents' Induction Evening (class & extra-curricular presentations)

Wednesday 27 January

08:00-12:30 Gr 5-7 CPR Training (Memory Hall)

SP Book Check (Grade Heads)

13:00 PP Parents' Committee Meeting (J & A Mullins Pavilion)

14:00 U13 Albany Cricket U13D/U13E/U13F

Thursday 28 January

14:00 U11 Albany Cricket U11C/U11D

Grade 7 Social (Hosts: Prep)

Friday 29 January

Founders' Day Celebration (131 years)

10:30 Combined Tea (J & A Mullins Pavilion)

14:00 Tennis Albany Trials/Championships

Saturday 30 January

Duty Master: Mr Jackson (0828386214)

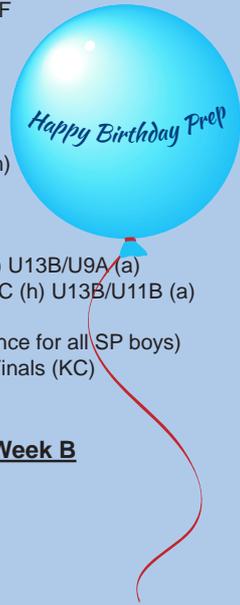
09:00 Cricket vs Woodridge U13A/U11A (h) U13B/U9A (a)

09:00 Cricket vs Summerwoods U13D/U11C (h) U13B/U11B (a)

Sunday 31 January

18:30 Family Service (Compulsory attendance for all SP boys)

09:00 Tennis Albany Trials/Championship Finals (KC)



Week 4: Academic Week B

Monday 1 February

Tuesday 2 February

Piano Lesson



SP Singing



Parent Handbook

We have introduced a Parent Handbook, which is available on the D6 Communicator under Resources/General, which details all the events and traditions that are part of the life of Prep. Please familiarise yourselves with the info so that you may join in, if you are able.

Pre-Primary



Our Parents' Induction Evening takes place tonight – at 17h15 at the Pre-Primary. We are looking forward to seeing many parents there! If you have to bring children along, please chat to a teacher, and we will make arrangements for babysitting during the meeting.

For our baking activity this week, the children used knives to cut up a variety of fruit – watermelon, paw-paw, mango, granadillas, bananas and pears. Even those who said that they never ate fruit were willing to try a little bit!

Thank you for sending R15.00 Cookie Day money for the term, and all completed forms.

Junior Primary

We have very busy little people down on campus. They are engaging in classroom lessons, getting active on the sports fields and happily participating in the afternoon clubs programme. I trust that all of you are managing the homework drill and encouraging and supporting your children. If you need more clarity, do not hesitate to chat to the relevant class teacher with regards to homework or the extra-curricular programme.

If there are any volunteers who are able to assist with covering of books at JP, please contact Mrs. Nan Hoole. We have just received an exciting batch of new reading material and there are always new library books to cover too. Your assistance with this is hugely appreciated!

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River Mile



The Preppies took part in the River Mile at Bushman's on Sunday 24 January. The boys were enthusiastic and swam with gusto. Congratulations to Ben Fleming who came in first, closely followed by Oliva Lange (second) and Mark Ter Morshuizen (third). Fourth and fifth place were taken by Taine Hartzenberg and Julius Rocher respectively.



Cricket



A jubilant U9A cricket team after winning their first fixture for the season.

The Grade 4 boys have all settled in very well to life at Top Prep. Our first theme in History is to learn about the History of Prep. The boys were allocated their iPads to do this lesson, using the app QR Reader. They had to go around the school and find QR codes to get all the information they needed to prepare for the second lesson. They thought it was magic when they held their iPads over the QR codes and all the information popped up onto their iPad screens.



iPad

Tennis

Albany Championships/Trials and Cup

We had 17 entries from Prep for the Albany Championships and 9 entries for the Cup. On Friday afternoon the U/10, U/12 and U/14 started with their first round. If they lost their first game they were placed into the backdraw and will continue playing for positions this Friday. The cup players played a round robin format. The finals for the Championship matches will be played at Kingswood on Sunday morning at 9am.



Art



The Grade 7 boys have been learning to draw with charcoal using wild animals as the subject matter.



The Grade 6 boys have started the year with drawing exercises called 'Drawing with the right side of the brain'. After just one lesson they produced some great line drawings of their hands.



**KEEP CALM
AND
PLAY HOCKEY
AT
PUPS HOCKEY ACADEMY
WITH CHRIS HIBBERT**

**GRADES 1-7
SATURDAYS 8-9AM
WEBSTER ASTROTURF**

**6,13,20 FEB
5,12,19 MARCH**

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