



St Andrew's Prep School Newsletter 19 April 2016



ST ANDREW'S PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

To the Prep Community

Welcome to the Trinity Term. It is always an action packed term with plenty of rugby and hockey fixtures which always bring a special atmosphere to the school. The Gr 7 production is always a highlight on the calendar and preparations already commenced last term so we look forward to another spectacle – Mrs O'D's swan-song! This term will be extra special in that the opening of the Centre for Creative Learning will take place and because we will be once again hosting the Independent Prep Schools' Rugby Festival – an event that was initiated and first hosted by Prep in 2012. Planning for the 28th hosting of the Children's Arts Festival will escalate along with preparations for the annual Winter Tour. In the midst of all this, we must not lose focus on our core business which is the academic component of our curriculum. It is important that from the start, our senior primary pupils look towards their formal assessments with a keen desire to push themselves and to achieve results that they can each be incredibly proud of. Please begin chatting to your children about this if you have not already done so this holiday, and indeed, keep these conversations alive.

Many of our big brothers at the college participated in various sporting events and festivals over the holiday and their performances provided much substance to be incredibly proud of. Kudos to the lads and their coaching staff. On a similar note, our sister school, DSG Junior hosted the All Girl's School Sports Festival over this past weekend. 14 schools with over 400 girls participated in hockey, netball, tennis, squash and water polo fixtures over three days. The festival had a marvellous atmosphere and the DSG Junior girls produced some exceptional results, pulling off victories against some of the larger girls' schools from Cape Town. Well done to Ms Laubscher, Ms Tooley and her team!

Mr Johnson and his team were also busy over the holiday undertaking a multitude of maintenance tasks and so we thank them for their ongoing efforts which often go unnoticed. We welcome Mrs Sparrow into the Gr 000 class this term as Mrs Prince is on maternity leave. Mrs van Rensburg is currently enjoying her long leave in the USA visiting her daughter and we are thankful that Mrs Barker has stepped into Mrs van's Gr 3 class.

Mr Thompson and Mr Oliver issued a communique about my resignation at the end of last term. I wish to elaborate ever so slightly on this matter. Although St Andrew's had offered an extension of my five year contract, Ilze and I have decided to establish careers in the international education arena. I have accepted the offer of Head of the Primary School and Deputy Head of the Whole School at Lusaka International Community School, LICS. LICS is a Cambridge School, a member of the Council of International Schools and is well in excess of 600 pupils from Kindergarten through to Year 12. As it is an international school, the start of their new academic year is in August; hence my resignation with effect the end of our Trinity Term in order for me to assume my new position at the start of LICS school year. Prep is in a very good space with an exceptionally strong and positive profile. The recruitment process has already commenced and there is zero doubt that my successor will be an educational leader of the highest calibre who will be well equipped to take Prep to the next level.

I wish our school community a smashing term and look forward with relish to all that it will offer!

Gareth Allman