



St Andrew's Prep School Newsletter 31 January 2017

Dear Prep Family

Our virtue for the week is dedication. For our new parents, the virtues programme is one we run at Prep focusing on a different virtue each week. The virtue forms the focus of Monday morning assembly and each of the grades has a responsibility to prepare something around the virtue to present to the assembly.

My message to the boys focused on the life and work of Spencer West, a double amputee who has dedicated his life to improving the lives of others. You can find his story here. Have a quick look; his life story really does offer us some perspective.

Another way of looking at dedication may be through the story of the Chinese Bamboo Tree:

Like any plant, growth of the Chinese Bamboo Tree requires nurturing through water, fertile soil, and sunshine. In its first year though, we see no visible signs of growth in spite of providing all of these things. In the second year (again), there is no growth above the soil. The third, fourth year...still show no signs of anything happening. Our patience is tested, and we begin to wonder if our efforts caring for and watering the tree will ever be rewarded. We start to doubt ourselves and question the value of our efforts. Inevitably, we contemplate quitting. But then finally in the fifth year – something amazing happens...

The Chinese Bamboo Tree grows 80 feet tall in just six weeks!

But think for a moment, does the Chinese Bamboo Tree really grow 80 feet in six weeks? Did the Chinese Bamboo Tree lie dormant for four years only to grow exponentially in the fifth? Or, was the little tree growing underground, developing a root system strong enough to support its potential for outward growth in the fifth year and beyond? The answer is (of course) obvious. Had the tree not developed a strong unseen foundation it could not have sustained its life as it grew. The same principle is true for people. People, who patiently toil towards worthwhile dreams and goals, building strong character while overcoming adversity and challenge, grow the strong internal foundation to handle success. Success is always slower than we want but it's worth it. The only questions are how bad do you want it? And how long are you willing to work for it?



Happy Birthday Prep!

28 January was Prep's 132nd birthday – and we celebrated in style, albeit a day early! Our caterers baked a delicious cake for the staff and cupcakes for the children as well as a box cake for the Children's Shelter. The Grade 1's put their handprints into the vault while our two oldest boys, Oliver McKay and Keagan Haynes lit the birthday candle. At the end of proceedings our youngest two children, Liam Davy and Sambesiwe Dyantyi blew the candle out.

Sport

The sense of anticipation I referred to last week manifested itself in many ways through the school, not least in the eagerness with which the boys approached their first cricket fixtures of the term on Saturday. I was fortunate to be able to get around to all the games on Saturday and offer congratulations to all the boys and their coaches on a superb start to the season. One of the many highlights of Saturday's games was Mark Were's fine knock of 140 out of 259 in the U11A game – well done, Mark! You will find all the cricket results elsewhere in the newsletter.

Tennis and swimming have also been busy with the Albany tennis trials and the River Mile kicking things off. The tennis trials are ongoing and continue this week. Congratulations to Oliva Lange who was the first Prep boy home in the River Mile, just ahead of Matthew Hoggarth.

Aftercare

While enjoying the sense of anticipation about Prep, I have also sensed some frustration, particularly about aftercare costs. I have reviewed the situation with our bursar and you can expect some news on this front in the next day or two, which will alleviate the frustration.

Vision Screening

We have screened all the new boys at Top Prep and are in the process of completing the screening of the children at Fairlawn. Once the results of the screening process are in, we will share these with parents and take action, in conjunction with parents, where necessary.

Have a grand week!
Mr B

Easter Term Calendar

Week 3: A

- Wed 01 08h00 Gr 6 CPR Training (Memory Hall)
- Wed 01 11h00 Gr 7 CPR Training (Memory Hall)
- Wed 01 13h00 PPPC Meeting
- Wed 01 U13 Albany Cricket
- Thu 02 U11 Albany Cricket
- Thu 02 Cricket vs Newton Park U13A/U11A (h)
- Thu 02 15h00 Graeme Relay Gala (Graeme)
- Fri 03 Albany Tennis Champs (2nd Round & Trials)

Sat 04

- Sat 04 09h00 Duty: Mr Plescia
- Sat 04 09h00 Cricket vs Westering
- Sun 05 Albany Tennis Champs (Final Trials)
- Sun 05 18h30 Family Service (Memory Hall)

Week 4: B

- Mon 06 17h15 SMT Meeting (JP Meeting Room)
- Tue 07 10h50 Gr 6 Study Skills Workshop
- Tue 07 12h00 Gr 7 Time Management Workshop
- Tue 07 14h00 Short Course Gala (Kingswood)

Pre-Primary



Do you sometimes wish that you were a fly on the wall at the Pre-Primary? This is your opportunity to learn about what really happens during our school day! We are looking forward to seeing many parents at our PP Parents Induction tonight (Tuesday 31 Jan).

Eye screenings take place on Wednesday 1 February.

The first meeting of the Pre-Primary Parents Committee is on Wednesday this week. We are very grateful to the parents who so willingly serve on our committee. Once office bearers have been elected, we will let you know who's who!

Reminder: Phys Ed is on Mondays and Wednesdays, so please allow children to wear shorts, leggings or long pants; swimming for Grade Rs is on Fridays so please send costumes and towels!



Junior Primary

Our Junior Preppies have settled in extremely well since the new school year began just over two weeks ago. Meeting new friends, getting together with old friends, acquiring new skills and knowledge as learning takes place all over our campus in classrooms, during music lessons, on the sporting fields and at Clubs.



Grade 4 Outing to The National English Literacy Museum



On 25 January, the Grade 4 class were fortunate to go on an excursion to The National English Literacy Museum, where Mr Basil Mills gave the boys a tour of the eco-friendly building and surrounding gardens. With Mr Mills's profound knowledge of the design and art of the building, as well as his endless stories and bush facts, the Preppies absorbed every word. A truly enriching experience for all Grade 4 pupils.

- In the Theatre we learnt that the carpets and wooden stage were made from recycled material. The walls were made from coconut husk. – **Nicholas McKeown**
- At the Museum Mr Basil Mills told us about the bathrooms. The Bathrooms were so cool because when you walk in the lights automatically turn on so don't worry about the electricity you can just relax. – **Aba Zingela**
- They even grow plants on the roof of the building to keep it cool. – **Daniel Meihuizen**

Grade 7 Social



River Mile



Prep Results	Name	Time
1	Oliva Lange	7.1
2	Matthew Hoggarth	7.13
3	Scott Ritchie	7.18
4	Julius Rocher	9.14
5	Stuart Carr	9.15
6	Nicholas Field	9.15
7	Wesley Donald	9.3
8	Ben Terry	9.32
9	Scott Moorcroft	9.35
10	Eirik Torp Nelani	9.5
11	Bert White	9.55
12	Patrick Wingfield	10
13	Liam Field	10.05
14	Chris Pretorius	10.25
15	Connor Wells	10.25
16	Braam du Toit	10.3
17	Daniel Fowlds	11.15
18	Johnny Davies	11.3
19	James Grobler	11.45



The weather was calm and the sea cool at Bushman's River as pupils from St Andrew's College, DSG and St Andrew's Preparatory School participated in the annual River Mile swim on Sunday 29 January.

The Junior event, a distance of over half a mile, began first and was a tightly contested affair with Oliva Lange, Grade 7 St Andrew's Prep pupil winning the event.

3D printer



Great excitement as we test out Prep's 3D printer, a gift from our 2015 Grade 7 leavers.

Grade 5



The Grade 5s created machines from the contents of their pencil bags for a MakerSpace challenge.

JP Eco Club



JP Eco Club with Grade 3s this term explores clay and snakes.

Cricket



DATE	TEAM	OPPOSITION	FORMAT	MATCH ANALYSIS
25 Jan	SAP U13A	SAC U14B	25 overs	SAC U14B 111/10 (W. Donald 4/4). SAP U13A 115/3 (S. Conroy 46*; C. Birrell 28*). SAP U13A won by 7 wickets.
25 Jan	SAP U13B	SAC U14C	20 overs	SAC U14C 116/5 SAP U13B 117/5 (O. McKay 39*). SAP U13B won by 5 wickets.
28 Jan	SAP U9A	Kingswood U9A	25 overs	SAP U9A 125/3 (S. Eksteen 26*; L. Painter 25*). KC U9A 100/3. SAP U9A won by 25 runs.
28 Jan	SAP U11B	Kingswood U11B	30 overs	KC U11B 129/10 (J. Kroon 3/13). SAP 130/4 (L. Field 22). SAP U11B won by 6 wickets.
28 Jan	SAP U11A	Kingswood U11A	40 overs	SAP U11A 259/5 (M. Were 140). KC U11A 81/10 (A. Carr 5/7). SAP U11A won by 190 runs.
28 Jan	SAP U13C	Grahamstown Primary U13A	20 overs	Ght Prim U13A 94/10. SAP U13C 95/7 (A. Burton 13). SAP U13C won by 3 wickets.
28 Jan	SAP U13B	Kingswood U13B	40 overs	KC U13B 97/10 (J. Houghton 5/16). SAP U13B 98/4 (J. Houghton 40). SAP U13B won by 6 wickets.
28 Jan	SAP U13A	Kingswood U13A	50 overs	SAP U13A 254/7 (Z. Micklewright 87; C. Birrell 58). KC U13A 98/10 (J. McAdam 3/11; X. Hoyi 2/18). SAP U13A won by 156 runs.



VALENTINE'S MOVIE UNDER THE STARS



Fairlawn Fields | Saturday 11 February | 6pm - 9pm
R25 per ticket including 1 Bag of Popcorn

BRING A PICNIC or FOOD ON SALE: Hein's Food Truck, Popcorn, Slushies and Ice Cream
MOVIE: Inside Out (starts at 7pm)

Outdoor Movie Night



ST ANDREW'S PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

Please collect movie tickets before 4pm on Friday 10 February from Anusha at Reception (046) 603 2400



**KEEP CALM
AND
PICK UP A
HOCKEY STICK**

@ PUPS HOCKEY ACADEMY
BLOCK 6

SATURDAYS 08H00 - 9H00 ON WEBSTER ASTROTURF FOR GRADES 1-7

**4TH, 11TH & 18TH FEBRUARY
4TH & 11TH MARCH**

**PUPSHOCKEYACADEMY@GMAIL.COM
FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

Tennis

Thiart Tennis Academy, in collaboration with St Andrews Prep, would like to invite your U/10 & U/12 tennis teams to our annual team tournament. It promises to be a wonderful weekend of tennis and usually boosts the players' enthusiasm.

Invited Schools: St Andrew's Prep, Graeme College, Victoria Primary, PJ Olivier, Kingswood College, Cradock Primary, DSG, PAHS, Fort Beaufort, Bedford Country School, Grey Junior School, Collegiate, Hudson Park.

Dates: Thursday 23 February (Only Grahamstown Schools), Friday 24 February and Saturday 25 February.

Entry cost: R425/player.

Please email Mrs Sparks j.sparks@saprepschool.com to confirm by Friday 3 March, if your son would like to enter. After entry you will be emailed the programme details.



Golf

Dear Parents

Back in October 2015 The Belmont Golf Club was opened just outside Grahamstown, which was a fantastic improvement on the old Grahamstown course. Many improvements to the course continue to be made and it is at present a wonderful place to play.

When the course opened I managed to get the club to come on board and offer a great opportunity to encourage boys and girls to play more golf. For R1000 for the year, the boys and girls can play as much golf as they like, without having to pay green fees. They will also for that fee be signed up with the SAGA handicapping network, which costs in the region of R450. Therefore it is a really good, cheap option.

If you would like your son/daughter to continue his membership or be added as a new member, please would you let me know and I will sort out the details with the club.

Many thanks

Scott Jackson (s.jackson@sacschool.com)

Message to Grade 4 – 7 parents please;

A reminder that, as per the calendar, we have Family Service this Sunday. The occasion will be made more special in that it also includes the Induction of the new Prep Headmaster, Mr Brendan Brady.

Family Service takes place twice a term and is compulsory for all Grade 4 – 7 boys. We invite and encourage parents to join us. The service normally runs from 18h30 – 19h00 and takes place in Memory Hall, which serves as our Chapel.

If your son is unable to attend any of the Services, as a matter of courtesy, please correspond directly with his class teacher prior to the Service. Boys not attending, without excusing themselves, will be held accountable.

Please note that this Sunday's service will run until approximately 19h30.