



St Andrew's Prep School Newsletter 1 March 2017

Dear Prep Family

Lent is a time to renew wherever we are in that process that I call the divine therapy. It's a time to look what our instinctual needs are, look at what the dynamics of our unconscious are. – Thomas Keating

After exhaling in the quiet of half-term for a short while, the buildings and grounds of Prep are once again ringing with the busyness of boys and girls. I trust you all enjoyed a happy half-term with your children.

Half-term gave me some quiet time to wander around the grounds and buildings of Prep and to marvel at the work done by those who have gone before. She is a grand old lady, our campus, and she needs a lot of work to keep her in good nick. I would like to thank Lindsay and his staff and Roger and Jenny Wilkinson and their staff for the hours they put in to maintaining both our campuses.

On that note, we have upgraded the lighting and sound system in Memory Hall. We now have a modern, computerised lighting and sound system that the children will learn to operate for our school productions. The system will also benefit the shows we host during Festival.

We are also in the early throes of upgrading the kitchen. This is not a small project and will be phased over a couple of years. The first phase of this is the relocation of the DB board – which is the main school supply – out of the kitchen doorway to a more suitable and safe location.

My writing of news to you was interrupted by our Ash Wednesday service. I do have to share an amusing snippet from the service. Father Monwabisi asked the children what they would give up for Lent. Amongst the usual chocolate, sugar and sweets was an offer to give up alcohol – from one of our Grade 1s! Perhaps we didn't quite get the message across?

So, at Prep we have much to be grateful for, both from those who put so much work in to our school in the early years and from those who do so much to keep her running today.

Until next week...
Mr B



Easter Term Calendar

Week 7: A

Wed 01		U13 Albany Cricket
Wed 01		Cricket vs Reddam House U13B (h)
Thu 02		St Andrew's Scholarship Exam
Thu 02		U11 Albany Cricket
Thu 02	17h15	Fundraising Committee Meeting
Fri 03	10h30	Combined Tea (J & A Mullins Pavilion)
Fri 03		Tennis U11A vs Graeme (a)
		U11B vs Graeme (h)
Sat 04		Duty: Mr Cameron
Sat 04	09h00	Cricket vs Clarendon

Week 8: B

Mon 06		Independent School's Gala (St George's Prep)
Mon 06	17h15	SMT Meeting (Green Room)

Kingswood Mini-Cricket Festival postponed to next Friday 10 March.

Pre-Primary

On World Read-aloud Day, the Grade Rs had a special bonding experience as they were read to by the Grade Rs! It was lovely to see them sitting quietly with the older Preppies and patiently waiting as a word was sounded out, and chuckling together over funny moments in the story.

We're learning about our senses, and how they help us. It's important to give young children lots of sensory experiences, as well as teach them the vocabulary for describing different touch sensations, smells and tastes. Often children's tastes surprise us as they are more sophisticated than we think!

We hope that you are starting to think about costumes for our Nursery Rhyme Fun Day on 18 March. Costumes should not be expensive or elaborate!



Junior Primary



Despite a grey and drizzly start to the morning; nothing could dampen the spirits of our Junior Preppies during their 'Fun Gala' last week. Each child swam enthusiastically, cheered on by their parents and peers.

Junior Prep Gala Results

Event 1 – U9 Boys 2 Lengths Backstroke Championship

Record – Mark Ter Morshuizen 45.28sec - 2014

1. James Borkum 50.96s
2. Jaryd Mattison 53.56s
3. Nicholas Smailes 54.01s

Event 6– U9 Girls 2 Lengths Breaststroke Championship

Record Caitlin Dugmore 49.32s 2003

1. Ceridwen Irwin 53.69s
2. Michaela Blaine 59.41s
3. Phillipa Huxtable 59.53s

Event 2 – U9 Girls 2 Lengths Backstroke Championship

Record Tilabo Williamson 42.55s - 2009

1. Gabriella Hutchinson 50.01s
2. Michaela Blaine 53.17s
3. Phillipa Huxtable 1.01.65s

Event 9– U9 Boys 2 Lengths Freestyle Championship

Record Jason Thomas 37.96s 2011

1. James Borkum 42.38s
2. Jaryd Mattison 45.77s
3. Nicholas Smailes 48.74s

Event 5 – U9 Boys 2 Lengths Breaststroke Championship

Record Jesse Lodge 47.79s - 2000

1. Nicholas Smailes 55.04s
2. James Borkum 55.76s
3. Chase Repinz 1.00.58s

Event 10 – U9 Girls 2 Lengths Freestyle Championship

Record Caitlin Dugmore 38.70s 2003

1. Michaela Blaine 47.40s
2. Gabriella Hutchinson 50.97s
3. Phillipa Huxtable 54.80s

Tennis

Tennis Tournament hosted by St. Andrew's Prep in participation with Thiar Tennis Academy.

A successful tennis tournament took place over half-term with many matches being played at the Fairlawn and Kingswood courts. Games were counted at the end to determine the winning teams.

U/10 team: Daniel Meihuizen, Matthew Ladds, Aba Zingela, Zen Nkosa

U/12 team: Matthew Froneman, Charles Rose-Innes, Antony Baker, Christopher Pretorius.

The most important rule, which was highlighted at the beginning of the tournament, was to have fun and enjoy all the matches. For some of these boys it was the first time they had played in a tournament and it was a very good tennis experience for them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their support and to the Prep boys who took part and were great ambassadors for their school, well done. A huge thank you to Capitol Caterers for making sure we had lots of liquid refreshments and snacks and to Prep Maintenance and Mrs Wilkinson and her staff for helping with all the preparation. Many visiting parents complimented Prep on their beautiful grounds and facilities.

Date:	Team	Type	Opposition	Format	Score
Friday 17 February	U13C/D	Friendly	P.J. Olivier	Doubles	Prep won by 9 games
	U11A	Friendly	Port Alfred	Doubles	Match Postponed
Half-term TTA/Prep 24-25 February	U10 Team	Tournament	Graeme/Cradock/Port Alfred	Singles/Doubles	Finished 4th
	U12 Team	Tournament	Graeme/Cradock/Port Alfred A&B/ TTA Invitation	Singles/Doubles	Finished 4th



Grade 4 Outdoor Ed

Merino Farm

This year the Grade 4s embarked on their outdoor excursion to Merino Farm, with quite a few stops on-route. The boys were very excited and a little anxious, when we left school on the Blunden bus and headed out of Grahamstown. Mr Basil Mills, the historian from the National English Literacy Museum accompanied us on our excursion. One of the many highlights was going into the fort at Fort Brown and then on to Hogsback to experience the hiking trial down to the magnificent waterfall, Madonna and Child. We arrived on the farm and the boys all got involved in pitching their tent for the night. We woke to a beautiful, crisp Eastern Cape morning and after a hearty breakfast everyone was keen to explore the area around Kuduskloof. In the afternoon we jumped onto Vernon's bakkie and went down to Richmond to see how the windmill pumps underground water into the reservoir. On Wednesday morning the boys were fascinated to see Mr Mills' survival kit and they were full of interesting questions on how to survive in the bush. All the boys came back to Grahamstown very tired, but happy and full of adventure stories. A huge thank you must go to Mr Mills and my husband Vernon, for assisting to make this experience memorable for all the Grade 4 boys.

Mrs Julie Sparks



Grade 5 Outdoor Ed



Forest Way was a fun adventure!

We learnt many survival skills, such as how to get dirty without having to worry and staying warm in the freezing cold weather. We did many team building activities and were encouraged to think 'outside the box,' rather than just doing things. Some of the many activities we enjoyed, were raft building, orienteering, abseiling, hiking and archery.

Written by Julius Rocher and Divan Eksteen

Grade 6 Outdoor Ed

Hobbiton

On 20 February an excited bunch of Grade 6 boys departed for Hobbiton on Hogsback.

Day 1 : There were many fun activities such as obstacle courses and a hike to Madonna and Child. We went on a night Hike which was quite scary as we weren't allowed to hike with our torches on. Knowing we were surrounded by many creepy crawlies made the experience even more special.

Day 2 : We hiked to Kettle Spout which had awesome breathtaking views.

Day 3 : We started with high rope activities which was scary, especially for boys who are afraid of heights. Afterwards, we packed our bags and returned to Prep, very tired and exhausted.



Grade 7 Outdoor Ed



Karoo River Rafting

Karoo River Rafting is fast becoming an institution for the Grade 7's, which is ideal as it is only a few hundred kilometers away from us. Fortunately, the area has had ample rain and so the Fish was raging. We were thankful to have had two young, but very experienced guides to assist us through the rapids. It was great fun and some of the rapids were as intimidating as they sounded, the likes of: Mother-in-Law, Gert-se-Perd and Washing Machine, to name a few. Our hosts, the Jordans, were incredibly hospitable and certainly made our visit worthwhile. Some of the highlights included the 16 km, 7 hour adventure on the second day, the great food and the slow-starting-but-eventually-huge bonfire. We had an awesome time out on the river and wished we could all go back again. - **Brad Storrer and Wesley Donald.**



Scottish Golf Day



31 March | 12h30 | Belmont Golf Club
Shot Gun Start | Better Ball

R1200 per 4 Ball

(Entry Fee, Halfway House, Fantastic Prizes and Live Music)

Mini Putting Competition at 17h30
Steak Dinner at R100 per person

Be Seen in Tartan | Music by Charl Live from PE

St Andrew's Prep Golf Day



ST ANDREW'S PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

All bookings to Fiona Tessendorf by 10 March 2017
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