



PREP

NEWS | 1 May 2018



ST ANDREW'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Dear Parents

It's always exciting to open something new. That feeling when unwrapping a present, or a new shirt, turning the first page of a new book – we all know it – and isn't it fun! That's exactly how we felt in re-opening Fairlawn boarding this term. It has been a delight to see the reaction of our youngest boarders to their new and vastly improved living conditions. What a pleasure it is too, to welcome girls back to boarding at Prep.

Our littlest boarders are cared for by their House Parents, Nic Heymans and his partner Lindsey Walsh along with their crew of interns and student house staff. We welcomed Lindsey to our team from the start of the term.

Please do pop in and have a look at the new boarding facility at Fairlawn. I hope you'll enjoy it as much as we, and the children, do.

The rest of the boarding upgrade is beginning to swing into gear as most of the networks are now complete and the open spaces can be filled with new furniture and beds for boys. Over the next two months we will be installing the new cubicle cupboards and moving boys.

The #AcademicExcellence project is beginning to take shape. The Griffin block classrooms have largely been stripped, the openings for the new doors and breakaway spaces cut in and the foundations and retaining walls for the new verandas are largely complete.

It really is good to be back!

Along with the exciting news, comes some sad news, both for past and current staff. We heard with sadness of the passing of Anthony Parnell during the first week of the holidays. Anthony was the seventh Head of Prep (1971 – 1980) and one of the great reformers and visionaries of prep school education. Lorraine Mullins pays Anthony a fine tribute elsewhere in this newsletter. Along with Lorraine, we extend our sincere sympathy to Mr Parnell's family.

Father Monwabisi has accepted an offer to serve as the Chaplain at Bishops Diocesan College in Cape Town. Father Monwabisi will end his term at Prep at the end of this year. While the news is indeed sad for Prep, we are delighted for Father Monwabisi and extend our sincere congratulations to him. Being called to serve in one of the oldest school diocese's in the country is an honour and a reflection of the esteem in which Father Monwabisi is held. We wish Father Monwabisi and his family well as they prepare for their new lives in Cape Town.

Mr Roodt shared a delightful video about this week's virtue, commitment, with the children in assembly yesterday. It's about getting up after you've been knocked down, and not giving up! It's one I think you will all enjoy. [Click here](#) to see it.

Mr B

TRINITY TERM CALENDAR: MAY

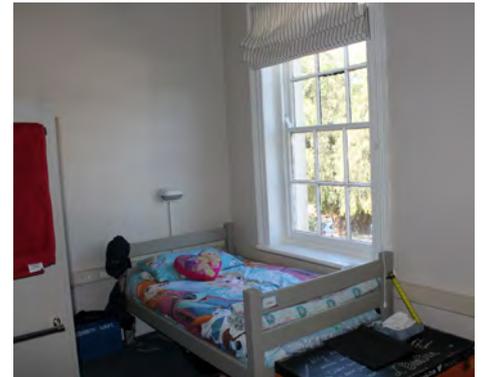
Tue 01 (B)	17h15	Grade 7 Play Rehearsal
Wed 02 (B)	16h15 18h00	Grade 7 Play Rehearsal Prep Squash vs PAHS 2 (A - PAHS)
Thu 03 (B)	17h15	Grade 7 Play Rehearsal
Fri 04 (B)		Duty: Mr Roodt
	11h00	U9A, U9B, Colts A, B, U13A Hockey vs Cambridge (Webster Astro)
	11h00	2nd Hockey vs Cambridge (Rhodes Astro)
	12h00	5th Hockey vs Graeme U13A (Rhodes Astro)
	14h00	3rd Hockey vs Kingswood U13B/C (Kingswood Astro)
	15h00	Colts C Hockey vs VP (VP)
	15h00	4th Hockey vs Oatlands U13B (Rhodes Astro) Prep Squash: Alan Stapleton EP Squash Tournament (PE)
Sat 05		Prep Squash: Alan Stapleton EP Squash Tournament (PE)
	08h00	SAP Bondel (U8) vs Bedford, Oatlands and Grahamstown Primary, Fairlawn Fields
	09h00	SAP U9A, B, U11A, B, U13A, B, C vs Graeme College
Sun 06		Prep Squash: Alan Stapleton EP Squash Tournament (PE)
	08h30	Family Service (Memory Compulsory for all boys to attend.)
Mon 07 (A)	14h00	Grade 7 Play Rehearsal



Keeping you up to date



BOARDING UPGRADES AT FAIRLAWN



The Grade 3s made these pillow covers on Outdoor Ed with Tori Stowe and they donated them to the boarding house.

SQUASH

The SAP Squash team played the DSG Open 1st team on Wednesday 25 April. Although SAP lost 5 matches to 0, the matches were most exciting, the individual games were closely contested and our boys gave the girls a serious run for their money.

Many of the boys were up against Grade 10/11/12 girls and can be very proud of their efforts!



IRON KIDS AND NANAGA CYCLE RACE KIDS

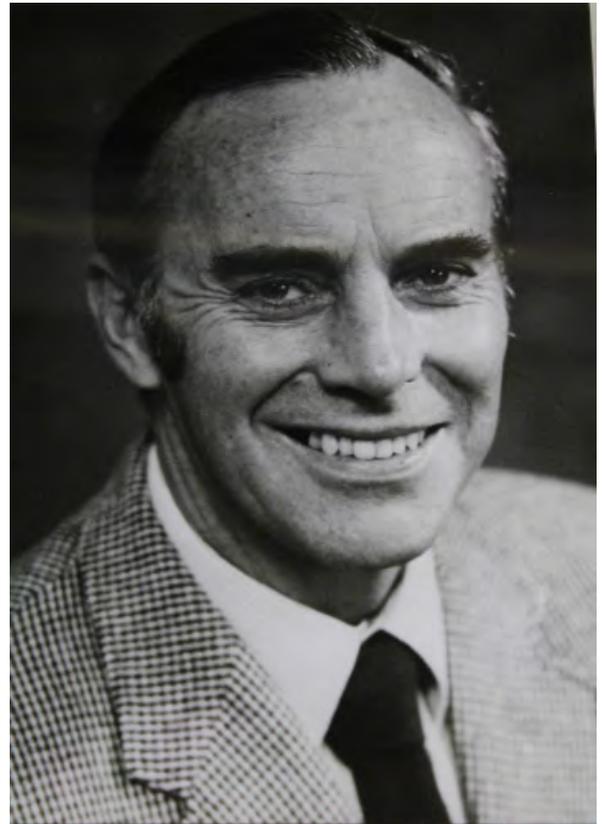


TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY PARNELL

St Andrew's Prep Grahamstown regrets to report the death of Anthony Hugh Parnell, Headmaster from January 1971 to December 1980, at his home in Kenton-on-Sea on the 3 April 2018. He leaves his wife Fiona and their children Nicola, Julia and Giles.

Old Johannian Anthony entered Prep from St Andrew's School, Bloemfontein armed with a BA (Wits), BA Hons. Cum Laude (UOFS), a Grade 1 rugby referee's certificate and fresh and critical eyes. With support of the Board of Governors, he made changes to a school steeped in the traditions of 86 years, while suffering under the financial restrictions of declining numbers.

Under his leadership the School was extended with the addition of the 'Junior Prep' for pre-primary children, which included opening its doors to girls. Before he left he was in the midst of making plans for a pre-primary class. Conscious that previous headmasters had tended to keep parents at arm's length, Anthony initiated the 'Parents' Association', which provided the opportunity to become more involved in their children's education and in improving facilities. One of the immediate results was the radical change to what became known as the "Storm Dower Library" in memory of a delightful senior boy who had died of leukaemia. Various fund-raising activities provided Prep with its first school transport that enabled a variety of educational outings and sporting events. Anthony fought manfully to get his hands on finance from the United Schools Trust, which was most reluctant to release funds for the immediate needs of DSG, Prep and College.



Following the dreadful Sharpsville Massacre and mass educational disturbance throughout the country, the hard Government policy of racial segregation began to show signs of crumbling. The Anglican Church, following the example of the Catholics, put serious pressure on the schools to open their doors to non-white children. Anthony and the Board were having to tread lightly, for Prep was coincidentally negotiating with the Cape Provincial administration for a subsidy. Nevertheless it was agreed that desegregation would take precedence, and Anthony became heavily involved in the negotiations that followed. The Board decided upon a conservative route, and on the basis of 'educational qualification' a Chinese boy, then a few local Indian boys were allowed through. By 1979 though, Anthony was being faced by a lengthening list of African applications. Despite his serious efforts to receive the first black boys into Prep, it would be his successor who had that privilege.

Headmastering a private school is not a job for the faint-hearted. Yet Anthony was to go on to head St Peter's Rivonia and the Drakensberg Choir School. But despite that he was pre-eminently a fine schoolmaster. He never withdrew from teaching the Top Class; he, under pressure, devoted hours of his time coaching the U13A cricket and the budding Springboks of the new Junior Prep; he conducted the Sunday services in Memory Hall with sincerity. But what his Old Boys will remember most, I think, was his fine singing voice and gifted acting on stage. Not many will forget his performance as Fagin in 'Oliver' or Captain von Trapp in 'The Sound of Music'. He was even able to coax his staff on to the stage, with the connivance of our actor-director, Peter Weldrick.

To work with Anthony Parnell was to be caught by frequent surprises, and often much laughter. He was a friend to his school and a personal friend whom I have long valued. Rightly Prep's Centenary music block was dedicated to him as The Anthony Parnell Music Centre. He will not be forgotten. Our deep sympathy goes out to his family.

Lorraine Mullins.



TICKETS ON SALE

THURSDAY 7 JUNE

FRIDAY 8 JUNE

VENUE: MEMORY HALL

TIME: 19h00

ADULTS: R80

CHILDREN: R40

Based on a story and characters by Damon Runyon
 Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser
 Book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows
 Presented by arrangement with DALRO (Pty) Ltd, representing
 Music Theatre International, New York

Grade 7 Production 2018

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