

# Junior School Newsletter

31 January 2017



## FROM THE HEAD

Assembly Theme: A new start with goals

Value of the Week: Tolerance

Dear Parents and girls,

It has been a delight to be part of the second week back at school and I have so enjoyed watching our girls focus on academic tasks as they settle down into new routines and topics of work.

Many girls took to the tennis courts this weekend as part of the Albany Champs and did our school proud, displaying superb sportsmanship and grit in very windy conditions. Another highlight was seeing our family of schools converge on the banks of Bushmans in near perfect conditions for the annual River Mile. It was a wonderful day out! Congratulations to all who participated, and in particular Catherine Williamson for being the first Junior girl to cross the finish line in the half mile race.

Our clubs programme commenced on Wednesday and the girls are really spoilt for choice this term. They have the opportunity to develop a variety of skills and talents at clubs such as culture quest, card making, mosaic, origami and brain games.

Now that the library stock taking has been completed, the girls have eagerly flocked back to the shelves to select books to read for pleasure. Each class teacher will soon nominate two library monitors who will support their classmates during their library experience.

There is a tangible level of excitement in the air linked our Grade 7 play which will take place at the end of this term. Ms Geel held auditions last week and selected the main characters for this year's production of 'Matilda'. Thank you in advance to everyone who will be involved in bringing the play to the stage. Our assembly theme currently is 'Rights and Responsibilities' and the girls have been made aware of the UNCRC 'United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child'. UNICEF published 42 Articles describing the many rights of children under the age of 18 years. Unfortunately, there are many adults, school leaders, local authorities and governments who do not protect and provide for their young children. These rights include: the right to life and a healthy way of living, protection from violence, nutritious food, a nationality, family ties, privacy and the right to say what you think should happen when adults are making decisions which involve you.

I drew the girls' attention to the rights which pertain to their time at school, such as the right to an education, to explore new environments, to be heard and able to express themselves, access to reliable information and to develop their talents to the full. For each and every right, children need to be aware of the important responsibility they have in order to uphold that right and see it become a reality. For example: I have the right to be heard; however I am aware of my responsibility to approach my learning with a positive attitude, try my best and respect my classmates and teachers. Or...I have the right to be heard but I understand that I have the responsibility to listen to the views and beliefs of others. I should also express myself in a composed and thoughtful manner.

That said, I have set each class teacher and their girls a task – they must select at least three rights, discuss and agree upon the responsibilities linked to each and sign a charter to be displayed in their classrooms. This charter will develop a sense of ownership of their classroom and the teaching and learning which takes place therein.

In closing, I would like to remind you all of our PTAAGM and picnic tomorrow at 18:00. This will be an ideal opportunity to make new friends in our school family and support our PTA in their preparation for 2017.

Kind regards,  
Barbara Hibbert  
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD



The Value Box is linked to our value of the week and girls are encouraged to take note of positive behaviour by their peers. On Fridays notes from this box will be read out and celebrated as a school. This week the value is KINDNESS!

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

AGM and Welcome Picnic

18:00

I would like to remind all parents of the AGM to be held tomorrow in our Junior Art room at 18:00. While the AGM is taking place, your daughters will be supervised on the hockey field below the Junior School. We envisage it finishing at no later than 18:30 after which we will all have a picnic on The Grange lawn. Please bring your picnic baskets and blankets and enjoy the wonderful opportunity to meet new school families and the staff.

Should anyone like to be part of the Parents' Committee, please contact Gina Meldrum at 072 407 0811

### TUESDAY 3 FEBRUARY

Grade 7 Social with Kingswood

### TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY

Gr 6 Studyskills and Grade 7 Time Management Workshop

### WEDNESDAY 8 - 10 FEBRUARY

Gr 5 Great Karoo Outdoor trip and Grade 6 Assegai trails Outdoor trip

### WEDNESDAY 8

Gr 4 City Tour with Basil Mills

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## FROM THE SPORTSDESK

Just a reminder that all sport information regarding sport fixtures, team lists and bus departure times can be found on Fixtures Pro on the DSG website. A few parents were unsure what time the bus was leaving for the River Mile in Kenton this past Sunday morning. Bus departure times are clear on Fixtures Pro.

Teams will also be available for the girls to see on the sport notice board in the junior school. For those new parents who are not quite sure how to access this information, I hope this step by step guide will be helpful;

- Open the DSG Website [www.dsgschool.com](http://www.dsgschool.com)
- Select "DSG junior"
- On the right hand side select "Sports fixtures and results"
- On the left hand side select "Sports & Teams fixtures and results"
- Select Sport code eg, Swimming "Team fixtures and results"
- Under your child's age group select "Fixtures and Results"
- Select "Details" to see venue, starting times, bus departure and arrival times and Team sheet.
- Once you have viewed the team list, close this sheet and if you'd like, there is an option to "Download to Your Calendar"

### SWIMMING

Congratulations to all those girls who managed to complete the Bushman's River Mile, there were 49 in total this year. Catherine Williamson was the first DSG girl to come in this year, followed by Cara Meldrum and Jenna Foster. Well done swimmers.

The annual Graeme Relay Gala takes place on Thursday at Graeme College. Together with Prep we hope to defend our winning title. The entire team will travel together by bus from DSG. Team will be posted on the website.

### TENNIS

It was a long, hot day on Saturday for all those girls who took part in the Albany tennis champs, specifically for the U10's who only ended late that afternoon. We shall address this with Albany tennis and request that these young ones possibly end a little earlier next year. Some of these players will be going through to the next round of trials this Saturday and finals will be played on Sunday at Kingswood College. As soon as the names of those taking part have been received, the information, times and venues will be posted on the website.

If your daughter is going to be in Grahamstown over half-term and would be interested in taking part in the Thiarts Academy team tennis tournament, please make sure she puts her name down on the entry form which is up on the sports notice board by Thursday 2 February. See information attached.

### MOUTH GUARDS – HOCKEY

If your daughter intends playing hockey this year, it is compulsory that she wear a mouth guard and no girl will be allowed to play without one. The company that makes mouth guards, MAX, will be coming to Grahamstown tomorrow to take the impressions. This is an optional choice. Parents may wish to purchase mouth guards elsewhere. Yesterday, a newsletter was sent out to all parents regarding this. A friendly reminder that the deadline for replies granting your permission is 17:00 today. Emails must be sent to [p.tooley@dsgschool.com](mailto:p.tooley@dsgschool.com)

### WATER POLO

Congratulations to the following girls who have been chosen to represent DSG at this year's Oakhill Chukka Festival in Knysna.

Derrin Bush, Bianca Coventry, Ruby Graven-Dugmore, Cody Laubscher, Jamie Laubscher, Erin Powers, Lucy Pringle, Megan Searle, Cate Stretton, Wendy-Mae Turner, Catherine Williamson, Arabella Winshaw.

Patti Tooley  
Sports Director

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

15:00 Graeme Relay Gala @ Graeme

### SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY

08:00 Tennis Albany Champs venue TBC

### SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY

09:00 Albany tennis champs finals @ Kingswood

### MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY

13:45 Tennis vs KC U11 @ Kingswood

### TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY

14:00 Short Course Gala @Kingswood

### THURSDAY 9-12 FEBRUARY

12:00 Depart for Oakhill Water Polo Chukka Festival till 12 February

### FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY

13:45 Tennis vs Prep mixed doubles @ DSG and Prep

18:00 A league gala @ Newton Park PE

### SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY

08:00 A league gala @ Newton Park PE

### MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY

14:00 Albany Swimming Trials Gala @ DSG



Albany Tennis Champs



Bushman River Mile



# Junior School Newsletter

## THE GRANGE

After the River Mile held at the Bushman's River mouth on Sunday, the Grange girls went across to the Kariega River mouth at Kenton-on-Sea, and had a blissful few hours on the beach. The weather was perfect and the girls swam in the waves and in the river for as long as they could. We went home tired, a little sun-kissed but content! It was a wonderful break from routine and was enjoyed by all.

Grade 4 Emily Wingfield said...I had lots of fun, but I felt sorry for the bird that had a broken wing.

Grade 5 Liyema Stemele said...Sunday's beach outing was super fun. The waves were cold but it was still awesome. The waves got bigger and bigger each time. It was a really fun outing!

Grade 6 Martha Tumwikirize said...The beach was a wonderful experience. On Sunday the whole of The Grange went to Kenton. We swam in the waves and floated, allowing the tide to carry us, in the lagoon.

Grade 7 Megan Freeman said...The waves were big and bold, the water was freezing and we had an amazing time.

### PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT UPDATED RULES IN THE GRANGE:

- Girls leaving the campus must be signed out by an adult. They may not sign themselves out.
- Persons driving DSG girls to or from school must have a valid driver's licence and be over the age of 23.
- Girls leaving and returning to campus must be in school uniform.
- If you agree that your daughter may go out with a friend to a party, out for a weekend or on a play date, it is necessary to give your written permission that she may do so to the housemistress at least two days prior to the event.

Mrs A Gooden



## THE GRANGE DUTIES 046 - 603 4337

MONDAY 30 JANUARY

Ms Renè Barnardt 079 854 8799

TUESDAY 31 JANUARY

Ms Danica Kukard 082 304 7181

WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

Mrs Alet Pretorius 084 602 1346

THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

Ms Zanele Mavuso 074 335 0978

FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY

Ms Cathy Munro 076 424 5016

WEEKEND

Ms Danica Kukard 082 304 7181

## GRADE 7 SOCIAL WITH ST ANDREWS' PREP

On Thursday, 26 February our Grade 7 girls hosted their first social with the St Andrew's Prep boys on the field below the Junior School. It was clearly evident that a great time was had by all. We would like to thank our Grade 12 portfolio prefect, Nichola Quarmbly, and her team for organising a few ice breaker activities and some fun games for the girls and boys. Thanks also go to the DSG kitchen for providing us with tasty boerewors rolls.

The next time we meet up with the Prep boys will be on Monday, 13 February for our St Valentine's Day social when the pupils exchange gifts. As we will be away on our outdoor camp on the 14th, we are having the social on the day before at DSG.

Mrs E Timm and Mrs T Ferreira



## HELP NEEDED!

Our teachers are in desperate need of volunteers to help with book covering. Please contact Mrs Pienaar if you are able to assist.

We are also in need of seamstresses who can help make cushion covers

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Josie Rushmere

3 February



## CLUBS ON OFFER THIS TERM

- Culture Quest
- Mosaics
- Outside the Lines
- Brain Games
- Card Making
- Play Rehearsal for main characters
- Ragdolls
- Recorder
- Arts and Crafts
- Origami



Grade 5, 6 and 7s have been busy with first aid training.



## GRADE 7 ART



Working in their new Visual Journals, the Grade 7 class were consolidating their knowledge about colour, pencil and charcoal use as well as drawing techniques during art classes.

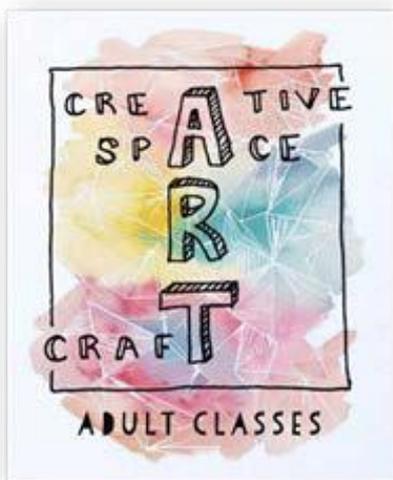
## REMINDERS!

- Grade 6 and 7 Apple ID information to be brought to school for Ms Herring to support them in setting up their iPads.
- Max Mouth Guard Fittings  
Deadline for replies granting your permission is 17:00 today. Emails must be sent to [p.tooley@dsgschool.com](mailto:p.tooley@dsgschool.com).
- Parents are kindly asked to use the top car park when visiting our school.

## GRADE 6 NS RESEARCH



The girls were making observations of different plants in order to categorize them.



Interested in adult Arts and Craft classes?  
Sasha Scholtz will be running a series of courses in 2017 including mosaics, fabric painting, ceramics, basic canvass painting and print-making.

Places still available for the mosaic course on Tuesday mornings from 10:45 to 12:45.

Please contact:  
Sasha on 083 3578232 for more information.

Holy Cross School  
Country Fair

For a whole lot of family fun and good food  
Please help us fund our sports field fence

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
From 9:00am to 1:00pm

At the Holy Cross School, Highlands Road, Grahamstown.  
(Google maps: Holy Cross School, Grahamstown)  
Take the N2 to PE - turn right at Highlands Road (Industrial Area) and then immediately left onto Highlands Road - proceed for 3km

Jumping castle Slippery Slide (bring a costume)  
Traditional food Boerewors rolls Sweets  
Cakes Tea/Coffee Face-painting Produce  
Bargain Stall Pancakes Tombala  
Cooldrinks Bompies Ginger Beer  
Children's art and craft

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