

KINGSWOOD COLLEGE

Junior Head Newsletter



Friday 8 September 2017

Dear Kingswoodian Family

I trust you have all managed to enjoy some quality family time with your sons and daughters over the last month and that you all enjoyed your children at home for an extended period of time. Everyone (both pupils and staff) seem well rested and it was great to welcome everyone back on Tuesday. It, again, amazed me to see how happy everyone was to return to school to see their friends. This term we welcomed nine new pupils to the Kingswood family and I trust that Lot and Abel Moraal (Grade 0 and Grade 1), Yi and Rong Zhan (Grade 1 and Grade 3), Sarah-Mae and John Fox (Grade 4 and Grade 5), Nepo Kao (Grade 2) and Maile Mosisili (Grade 5) will enjoy a long and happy association with the Kingswood community.

Our Maintenance Department has been hard at work revamping our boys' and girls' bathrooms and what a difference it all makes. A new set of plants has also been laid along our new boundary wall and the Prep Department 'Creative Wall' should be completed this weekend. Of course we also took delivery of our new sets of climbing apparatus at the end of last term and these are being enjoyed and tested by our youngsters. I am so pleased and proud of all the upgrades and improvements that have taken place during the past six months and I do invite parents who haven't visited us for a while to please do so. At the same time the construction of our new girls' boarding facility is also going along nicely and this will, when completed, be another fine addition to our facilities.

While the Sport and Cultural Tour groups were away last term, the remaining Grade 6 pupils were involved in an exciting Life Skill Project. The pupils divided themselves into groups of 4 or 5 and they embarked on an Election Campaign. Each group had to complete the following:

- Form a political party and give it a catchy name.
- Develop a manifesto and complete a vocabulary sheet on words related to an election.
- Make a poster to advertise their party. Write a slogan and a song to encourage voters to cast their vote for their party.

On day 3 of the project, the Grade 3-5 pupils came to the Polling Station to cast their votes. The Grade 6 group tackled this with much enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed the project, while great educational lessons were learnt by all who participated. My thanks to Mrs van der Merwe for overseeing this event.



All classes will be participating in the KJPA Spell-a-thon next week which will have an academic, as well as financial, benefit. Grades have been given spelling sheets and they will be assessed next week. At the same time sponsors have been sought for each correct word spelt by individuals and funds raised by the KJPA in this fun way will go towards the purchasing of books for our various libraries.

Classes have participated in a number of external benchmark assessments this week which have included Maths, English and Afrikaans Conquestas, as well as the SACEE Language Challenge for Grades 1 - 7. I am confident we will see pleasing results in all of these.

Derek Braans

Head: Junior School

BOARDING NEWS

Intermediate: Intermediate has been abuzz with noise and laughter and fun as the girls have returned to their home at school. The excitement of seeing their friends again and catching up with news and events is certainly a testament to the firm bonds that are forged in boarding. Much unpacking and sorting has been accomplished, and their cubes are certainly looking neat. Tonight, the girls will enjoy the first KWAM of the term and for the remainder of the weekend, they will be playing "mini-games" - puzzle building, charades, guess the object and a host more! Chapel on Sunday evening is formal and compulsory.

Our Stars of the Week were Emke Klopper and Megan Schmidt for their helpfulness in setting things to rights during the jumble of unpacking and returning to school.

Boys' Village: The sounds of laughter and playful banter are back at Van Vuuren Village. New boys were welcomed and old friends were greeted with hugs and handshakes, while stories were shared of holiday experiences. With pleasant weather around, the boys quickly moved into the gardens to start a game with friends. All enjoyed a full week of athletics and a few have already started practising cricket, squash and tennis. After all the activities it was no surprise to see that most boys had no problem falling asleep at night.

Activities for this coming weekend include the Park Run at the Botanical Gardens, a stretching session to help recover sore muscles, visits to the pool and movies. Tomorrow morning the Common Rooms will be packed with boys and Student Assistants watching the Springbok versus Wallaby rugby match. Computer game time is promised for those who display good conduct throughout the weekend. Play practices for the cast are scheduled for the weekend and a schedule has been given to each member in this regard. All activities are arranged and supervised by our diligent group of Student Assistants.

Parents are reminded to let the House Persons know if your child will be staying in boarding during Half Term.

PRE-PRIMARY NEWS

There has been great excitement this week in the playground as the children have been learning to climb on our new climbing equipment. Whilst for most it is still quite challenging, it has been wonderful to see them trying really hard and embracing the challenge. We are very grateful to the KJPA committee for helping us make this a reality. This equipment was purchased with money raised by the Pre-Primary and the KJPA, and is going to go a long way in helping the children with their gross motor skills.



TIFFINDEL TOUR

The annual trip to Tiffindell arrived and there was much banter in the corridors of the Junior School at the end of last term, most of it being aboutwould there be SNOW? We have experienced such a hot winter, that doubt initially set in about whether the trip would actually take place.

We followed our normal route through Queenstown and Elliot, over the Barkley Pass and up towards Rhodes. The drive took a little longer than expected with our now famous stop-and-go's providing the delays! We settled into our accommodation and started to explore our new surrounds. We realised that it was a few degrees colder than Grahamstown and that our jackets were going to come in handy. There was still plenty of doubt as to whether there would be snow as none had been spotted.

As we approached the ski resort the next morning there were cheers of excitement when the "white stuff" was spotted. Confidence was at an all time high and the challenges were being issued.

'I am going from the top!' "I can jump that small hill!"....."It is SO easy!"

Reality soon set in when they realised what they had let themselves in for. We started off by deciding whether we would like to ski or snow board. We split into groups, collected our gear and met our instructors. This was where the fun started, as many found just putting on their ski boots to be quite a challenge. Everyone slowly started to find their feet and there were a few naturals amongst the group, while others kept bumping into every obstacle possible.

By lunchtime on day two, many of the pupils had progressed to the main slope which meant catching the ski lift to the top. Once at the top they were soon flying down the main slope, looking as good as the pros. After two full days of skiing, a few sore muscles and a few bumps and bruises, we felt like we had conquered the Tiffindell slopes, and for many the fact that they could now ski was a wonderful achievement. On our final evening we enjoyed some entertainment at the resort, which provided a fitting end to our time there.

GREG BAXTER



SPORT

ATHLETICS

It is Athletics season again and we have enjoyed a very busy start to the season. Our Cross-Country team participated in the Independent Schools' Trail Run at Woodridge yesterday and we will be hosting our annual Tabloid Meeting on Monday. Our Athletics team will be participating in the annual Independent Schools' Athletics Day, hosted by DSG, next Thursday (14 September). Although we have had minimal time for preparation, I am confident our teams will give a good account of themselves.

GRADE 1/2 RUGBY FESTIVAL

At the end of last term the annual Kingswood Grade 1 and 2 Rugby Festival took place on City Lords. The format of the festival consisted of a Grade 1 and a Grade 2 section with 8 players per side. City Lords was divided into four mini-rugby fields with four games taking place at the same time. Each match was 10 minutes long with every school playing each other in a round robin format. There were 120 very keen and enthusiastic rugby players from the following participating schools: St Andrews Prep, Yellowwoods, Bedford, Grahamstown Primary, Oatlands and Kingswood Junior. At the conclusion of the festival each player received a doughnut and a juice. Thank you to all the coaches, teachers and parents for ensuring that all the games were played in the right spirit and that fun was had by all.

U13 SPORTS TOUR TO THE WESTERN CAPE

The U13 boys and girls had a lovely time on their tour to George at the end of last term. On the way there we stopped off at the Tsisikama Ziplines, which was great fun! In George the boys and girls were hosted by Glenwood and Holy Cross families. They made lasting friendships and the hosting developed great camaraderie between the schools. They each played two hockey matches with the girls winning one and losing one. The boys unfortunately lost both. Three rugby games were played with Kingswood winning two of them. The tour really was a resounding success and much fun was had by all.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthdays for the week ahead are: Taryn Brown 9th,
Ross Henry 9th, Percy Ramokwena 11th and Ngcali
Ndubela 12th.

We wish you all a happy day!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving'
- Albert Einstein

KINGSWOODIAN CLUB NEWS

KINGSWOODIAN CLUB FUNCTION : East London

Our Kingswood community in East London and surrounds are encouraged to support this event which promises to be a fun evening where our Kingswood family can get to know each other. OKs and parents (both past and present) are invited to attend. If you have friends who may be keen on educating their children at Kingswood College, bring them along. It will be a great help if you could network amongst fellow Kingswoodians in order to ensure a good attendance at the function.

Kingswood is getting great support from the East London / King Williams Town areas which means that our profile is growing nicely in this region. We as the Kingswood community need to contribute by creating a strong bond within our ranks, by marketing the school to potential parents and by supporting our Alma Mater by every possible way.

So let's all make a special effort to support this function so that we can get to know each other better, renew old KC friendships and above all put a fresh spark into our support for Kingswood. We look forward to being part of a very successful Kingswoodian Club function in East London on 20 September. See you there!

KINGSWOODIAN CLUB - EAST LONDON

Function

**You are invited to join us for a
Bring & Braai in East London**

Date: Wednesday 20 September 2017

Venue: Old Selbornian Club, East London

Time : 18h30

Format : Bring and Braai

(Braai packs will also be available from the Club)

**RSVP : Carey Hobson at:
c.hobson@kingswoodcollege.com**



MIDLANDS BRANCH DINNER/AGM AND BEDFORD GOLF DAY

The annual Midlands Branch Dinner and AGM will take place at the Bedford Club on Friday 29 September followed by a golf day at the Bedford Golf Club sponsored by Kingswood on Saturday 30 September.

You do not have to be a regular golfer to play - it is a better ball competition that will be followed by a steak evening at the club after the golf. For those of you who will be travelling from neighbouring districts I would suggest that you consider sleeping over at The Duke of Bedford Inn who have kindly offered a good rate for this weekend. The contact details are as follows -

Telephone : 078 511 9689

E-Mail : bookings@dukeofbedford.co.za

This success of these events depends to a large extent on good support from our KC community so I would like to encourage you to join us in Bedford at the end of the month. It will be a great help if you could network amongst fellow Kingswoodians as well to ensure that everybody is aware of what is being planned. I would also like to encourage golfers from neighbouring districts like Grahamstown, Somerset East, Cathcart, Adelaide and Fort Beaufort to participate in the golf day.

Sally-Anne van Niekerk would appreciate your replies for the dinner by 20 September 2017. Golf entries must be communicated to Charlie Wienand (charlesw@bosberg.co.za) or Carey Hobson (082 657 0703).

MIDLANDS KINGSWOODIAN CLUB

Dinner & OK AGM

Date: Friday 29 September 2017

Venue: Bedford Club

Time: 18h30

RSVP: Sally-Anne van Niekerk andries@isat.co.za or 083 651 5305



KINGSWOOD COLLEGE

BEDFORD GOLF DAY

Date: Saturday, 30 Sept 2017

Venue: Bedford Golf Club

Betterball stableford

Green Fees & Dinner: R250 per person

Non golfers joining for dinner: R150 per person

Contact Charlie Wienand (Bedford Golf Club) for bookings on charlesw@bosberg.co.za

