

BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY



Freddy Pfaff (Grade 1) milks a cow at Gumboot Farm

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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT



Sharlene Groom

The sound of children playing can brighten any day. Imagine hearing that all day, and you now have a vague idea of the joy that we experience, sharing each and every day with these exciting little boys. Mix this

all with a drill or two, or the sight of a dump truck, front end loader or a crane and you have an outline of our year thus far! Bricks, sandstone and concrete have become part of our daily lives, resulting in the most beautiful and tasteful venues that Bishops has to offer. Our new hall was excitedly initiated by our Grandparents on Grandparents Day when, after our Family chapel service, all were invited to tea and to read to the boys as an extension of our Readathon week.

Carol Bailie was an absolute delight and evoked much food for thought when she

presented her talk to both teachers and parents entitled "Dare to Love". Our boys were treated in so many ways this past term with outings to various places, interesting speakers and visitors to the school. Our Gentlemen's Tea wrapped up the term with our recognition of those boys who are really trying hard to become true Bishops Gentlemen.

Our Outreach Programme once again astounded us all, with seven bookshelves being filled with wonderful books and donated to Little Libraries, which reach the outskirts of the city, providing sometimes the only books in the school. Thank you to all those generous parents who made a contribution to this cause. To quote from Nelson Mandela's talk on the 90th birthday celebration of Walter Sisulu in 2002, *"What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."*

May we continue to strive to make a difference in the lives of those we teach as well as those around us.

NEWS FROM GRADE R

Everybody returned after a long winter break into an exciting and eventful new term! The term was packed with a range of activities for boys and their parents. We were proud to celebrate the Olympics with a feast from around the world. Boys came dressed in creative outfits to match or represent their

favourite country. To accompany the dress-up day, the boys brought in delicious foods from different countries too. We snacked and shared a range of Italian, Eastern, African and American foods. Thank you to all the mummies who helped prepare and put all the goodies together. During Readathon



Fun with construction (Gr RN)



Fire Station Excitement (Gr RuZ)



Qadeer Orrie and his Granny



Ethan Johnson enjoys International Food Day



Max Harvey being read to by his Granny



Blankets sewn and collected by Grade RC



Dominic van Reenen

week, the boys could bring their favourite Dr Seuss book to school. Over the course of the week many books were read to the boys, showing much love for the famous and well-known writer. Much fun was had when a day was put aside to dress up as your favourite book character! We had a range of lovely characters such as a whale from the *Snail and the Whale*, pirates, knights, and even a little Springbok to represent Bokkie. The boys had the opportunity to see a fantastic show called *Hooked on Books*. This was performed by a group of energetic and creative young actors. The stories being presented were selected for children of Pre-Prep age and used as an inspiration to get them reading. The books can be purchased at

any bookstore. The Readathon week ended with a Grandparents Chapel Service in the Memorial Theatre. Selected boys from each grade had the opportunity to say a prayer in front of their special guests. The singing performed by our little boys was lovely and filled the whole chapel with a special feeling of appreciation for South Africa and its wonderful Heritage. At 9am, our special visitors came back to Grade R to enjoy tea and delicious eats in our new hall. As part of our Readathon week, the boys were read to by their grandparents. This made it a very personal and memorable day for all! Well done Grade R boys, for showing lovely manners and respect to all involved on this special day.

NEWS FROM GRADE 1

The boys came back feeling refreshed after their lovely winter holiday and were ready for the long term ahead. We started the term with a theme about Trees and Plants. We learnt about the importance of trees and how they are vital in providing us with oxygen. We made posters encouraging the planting of trees and the protection of our beautiful environment. Our next theme was 'Animals' where we focused on farm animals, wild animals, animal coverings and animal homes. We created a project on these topics, incorporating it into all our learning areas. The boys enjoyed an informative talk about cows and dairy farming. We also went by bus to Gumboot Farm where we were given the opportunity to collect eggs, feed a variety of animals and go on a tractor ride. We learnt about the products that are used from the various animals and

other interesting facts. Everyone enjoyed the experience of trying to milk a cow and then we watched how the milk was separated. It was a fun-filled morning the boys will never forget.

The elections also took place during the term and we gave our boys an opportunity to vote for a special treat. We made ID books and each boy was greeted, had his ID book stamped, received a black dot on his thumb and then was given the opportunity to go into a voting booth and make his mark on the ballot. The majority of boys voted to come to school wearing civvies, with the boys voting for extra break losing narrowly.

Another highlight of the term was our Readathon Week. On the first day, the boys came dressed up as a character from a storybook and we were treated to a wonderful performance from *Hooked on Books* in the



Off on a tractor ride

theatre. The boys were encouraged to read as much as possible and we had a pyjama day where they came to school still in their onesies with a teddy and blanket. We invited our grandparents to the family chapel service. The prayers and singing were particularly special and then the grandparents were invited to tea at the new Pre-Prep hall. After tea the grandparents shared their favourite stories with their grandsons. The weather was lovely, and we were able to sit outside and share a special time together. The boys also collected gently

used books for donation and we thank all those who responded so generously.

In keeping with Heritage Day, we explored our heritage with a theme entitled 'Proudly South African'. The boys made posters celebrating our rainbow nation, brought special South African food to school and came dressed as proud South Africans. As it was the end of the winter sports season, we held a tag rugby tournament at Lutgensvale that ended with a family braai. It was a great way to end an exciting, busy term.



Readathon Dress-up Day

NEWS FROM GRADE 2

After a long and refreshing holiday, the Grade 2s were ready to come back to school and get stuck into some challenging work. We as teachers are always amazed at how boys often come back to school after their three-week break, more mature, independent and ready to master whatever we have to teach them! July and August were excellent months for the boys to consolidate concepts, learn new ones and test their newly-learned computer skills out in the computer lab each week.

In early September, some of our hockey boys were fortunate enough to be invited to play in a tournament with some other Cape Town schools at Western Province Cricket Club AstroTurf. We were very proud of the skills that these boys demonstrated on the field, and even more so of their excellent sportsmanship and gentlemanly manners. Later on in the term to end off our hockey season, all the boys were invited to play a match together with their parents on the Bishops AstroTurf. The best rule was that



Some Grade 2 boys showing off their Character Day costumes



Grade 2s from Grade 2LF at the Tag Tournament



Our Grade 2 Gentlemen's Club for Term 3



Cameron Joubert, Nicolas Lanfranchi and Liam Hacking at Oranjezicht City Farm



Noah Coleman and Samuel Crookes planting their very own seeds at Oranjezicht City Farm



Oliver Howie (Grade 2HF) at the Magic Classroom being an assistant to the magician!



Matthew Leck, Oliver Howie, Michael Whitelaw and Hayden Smith sharing some tag rugby team spirit at the tournament

only the boys were allowed to score goals, and not their parents! Lots of fun was had by all involved.

Towards the end of the term we managed to cram in lots of exciting events! One of these events was our Readathon week. We encouraged all boys to read as many pages as possible and record the names of the books and pages read each day. This fun-filled week kicked off with a 'Character day' where the boys came dressed as a character from a story they knew. We had everything from Harry Potter to Charlie from the Chocolate Factory. **Max Petersen** said, "I was Dr Seuss, because I like reading his books." We commend the parents and the boys on all the effort they made with this.

The next event on our calendar was a visit to the Magic Classroom at The College of Magic in Rondebosch. The boys learnt about colour and light and how they are used to trick the eye. **James Gordon** said he, "Enjoyed seeing the secret door which lead into the classroom." **Cullen Creedon** recounts he really liked, "When the magician turned the orange into a Fanta!" The boys had some time to experiment with some apparatus, **Reve Tuscher** said, "I liked the glasses where you could see backwards."

Not long after this, still during our Readathon week, the boys were invited to come dressed in their pyjamas and bring along a favourite teddy. **Joe Lanning** said, "It was so nice and cosy!" **Sahil Thomas** recounted, "I liked not having to change in the morning at home and just coming straight to school in my pyjamas." On the same day the boys were treated to a show called *Hooked on Books*. A talented team of actors presented some short scenes from books the boys might

be interested in reading. **Noah Coleman** loved, "When they called volunteers up on the stage." Lots of laughter was heard and the boys' love for reading increased when they realised how many more funny books there are out there to read.

In the same week the boys invited their grandparents to a morning chapel service, tea and a reading session with them out on the field. The boys were treated to having their grandparents reading to them and really enjoyed showing off their classrooms and beautiful artwork. **Tristan Thirion** said, "Grandpa Chris read *The Crocodile Ride*. It was nice reading outside." **Jack Stewart** said, "My granny brought her own book from long ago."

To end off our wonderful tag rugby season, the Tag Tournament was held for boys to play in some final games against each other. The teachers and parents were very impressed at the excellent skills that were displayed on the field that afternoon. **Gabriel Lind** said, "It was so exciting to see our friends and play together." **Murray Finch** recounted, "When you got the ball you were just so excited and didn't know if you should run or pass so you just ran and you are so happy to score a try!" Lots of fun was had by all and this exciting afternoon was followed by an afternoon braai for all to enjoy. **John van den Heever** said, "It was very exciting and fun at the braai!"

After a wonderful, learning filled term, the Grade 2s were looking forward to their short holiday before they come back to experience the last of their time in Grade 2. We are so proud of how far each Grade 2 boy has come this term and look forward to enjoying our last bit of time together in the fourth quarter.

Sharlene Groom