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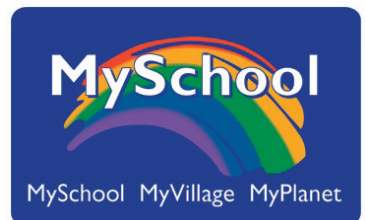
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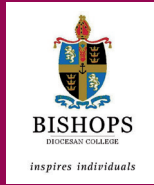
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BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY



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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT



Noell Andrews

General:

The year began with the Executive, Deputies and I meeting together with Guy Pearson; giving us all the opportunity to share information pertaining to our sections of the school. This was followed by a lovely evening at his home where our spouses were able to meet and greet our new principal and his lovely wife, Mareé. The following evening a whole school function was held in Guy's garden, and he was able to meet the staff together with their spouses or partners in a lovely relaxed manner also giving us all time to catch up with one another.

We decided to begin the year without attempting to include staff training during the staff conference as we had some movement within the school, as well as new staff members, who needed time to settle into their new positions. Even although we consciously attempted not to overload ourselves, somehow the start of a new year brings its own challenges with its business; ensuring we found our 'work legs' quickly.

The usual grade meetings were held to give teachers and me an opportunity to connect with the parents and share the expectations of the school and curriculum.

The Grade R Bench Mark Assessments were carried out during the second week of the new year in order for us to assess where the boys' strengths or weaknesses lay; allowing the teachers to structure their teaching to meet these needs within a group of boys from different learning environments and experiences. I was able to meet the parents, together with Nicky van Zyl our secretary, in the hall whilst they waited for their sons, and this allowed us the first real opportunity to get to know them a little better.

The Prayer Group began meeting regularly on Thursday mornings in the staff room and it has been very exciting to be joined by an OD father as well. Claudine Griffiths is our leader and the prayers are sent out via email each week to those who are happy to be prayer partners but can't always make the meetings.

Ash Wednesday had all the boys in grade 1 and 2 attending a mini service in the Brooke Chapel with Fr Terry – those that wished to have ashes placed on their foreheads afterwards were able to do so as they left the chapel.

The Grade R Brooke Chapel Family Service was well attended; there were surprised faces to find a 'skeleton' waiting at the front of the chapel but this turned out to be Fr Terry's prop for his lesson – the college boys had positioned him rather cleverly at the front.

Founders Day proved to be a bit disappointing due to the heavy downpour of rain which prevented the school from holding its planned Bishops Praise Service. **Richard Alfredo** and I represented the Pre-Prep, and joined the College in the Memorial Chapel for the service. Richard was included in the procession into the Chapel and walked with the Headboy of College and the Headboy of Prep to the front, where he sat. At the end he proudly presented Mr John Gardener, who as the speaker shared his wonderful bank of memories about Bishops through his many years of being part of this community, with a 'thank you' gift. The Pre-Prep held its own impromptu

service in the hall led by the teaching staff. We all enjoyed a special tea to celebrate 164 years of education and community at Bishops.

Staff development and news:

Both Carron Cale and I attended a most stimulating two day workshop on Teaching Thinking and Reasoning in the Foundation Phase, presented by Sara Stanley from the UK.

The teachers in grade 1 and 2 have all agreed to join the iPad programme for this year as part of the school's plan to investigate the possibilities of using this technology within the classrooms. We have also had a Wifi point installed in our staffroom – so there is plenty of excitement. Staff members are also using these at meetings to take notes, so cutting down on the paper trail.

Sport:



Grade 2 Dads putting their backs into the tug-of-war!

Swimming: Within the first week of term the swimming squad trials had been held and the boys were preparing for their first gala which was a B League Relay Gala hosted by Bishops. Of the 4 relay races swum, our team achieved one 1st place, one 2nd place and two 3rd places – there were 6 schools participating. So well done to our swimmers – **Nicholas Allison; Antony Smith; Luke Patterson; Benjamin Norton; Liam Winstain; Oscar Blatch; Joshua Gevisser** and **Nikolaos Augustatos**. In the A League Relay Gala at SACS we were very happy at being placed 3rd overall. Our swimmers did very well in the gala held at Reddam.

Eight schools participated and our boys came 4th in the Freestyle relay race; **Luke Patterson** achieved 3rd place in the Individual Freestyle race; **Nicholas Allison** achieved 1st place in the Individual Breaststroke race with **Sam Berrisford** achieving 2nd place. Our swimmers also did extremely well in the Pentangular gala hosted by Rondebosch Boys Prep School.

Athletics: Heats were run during school time in each grade to select our fastest eight runners in each class; these boys then were taken down to Lutgensvale where, with the help and support of many parents, semi-final heats were run and the fastest eight runners in each grade found to participate in the final heats at Sports Day. The results of these were as follows; U7 75m **Arran Muir** 1st and the trophy; **Adam Constant** 2nd; **Jack Campbell** 3rd; **Michael Voogt** 4th – **Michael Davidson** is the U7 reserve for 2013. U8 75m **Ethan Probert** 1st and the trophy; **Callum Jenman** 2nd; **Joshua Gevisser** 3rd; **Nicholas Allison** 4th – **Liam Winstain** is the U8 reserve for 2013. This team then began preparing in earnest for the 46th Quadrangular Meeting hosted by Bishops – the results of which were; **Adam Constant** 1st place U7 50m; U7 4 x 50m shuttle relay 1st place; U8 4 x 50m shuttle relay 2nd place; **Callum Jenman** U8 100m 3rd place. At the Southern Suburbs Pentangular they faced some very strong competition but they did well, and what was to be admired was their spirit which allowed some to lose graciously. U7 50m results – **Arran Muir** 1st and **Adam Constant** 3rd; U7 4 x 50m – Bishops 2nd place (**Arran Muir; Jack Campbell, Michael Voogt** and **Adam Constant**) – an excellent



Grade 2s being encouraged and assisted by Mike Hampton and Heather Mills at Fun Sports Day.

result considering they dropped the baton; U8 4 x 50m – Bishops 2nd place (**Calum Jenman, Joshua Gevisser, Nicholas Allison and Ethan Probert**); U7 75m – **Arran Muir** 1st, **Adam Constant** 2nd.

We held our own internal Fun Sports Day on the second last evening of term where much fun and competition was enjoyed by all. This was followed by our grade picnics; enjoyed on the fields beside the school on a lovely calm Cape Summer evening.

Outreach:

We have continued to collect sandwiches on Tuesday mornings for Athwood Primary and thank the two parents – Jo Karlein and Shereen Ahmed – who take it in turns to deliver each week. We collected pet food and other items for the Animal Anti-Cruelty League for which they were extremely grateful.

News from Grade R



Grade Rs, James Robb-Quinlan, Aleshay Thakersee, Dominic Buswell, Austin Johnson, Rish Jaga and John van der Watt, enjoying the equipment.

It's the first term of 2013 and boys have arrived ready for their first experience at the 'best school in the WORLD!' While some had already begun making friends; others chose to familiarise themselves with the environment by racing around on the go-carts and scooters. Our happy boys settled soon, and started enjoying the daily routine while cultivating a love for learning and discovery at Grade R. The boys (along with the rest of the Pre-Prep) were all extremely inspired to reach out to our furry

friends by collecting tins of pet food; collars; bags of pet food; blankets; wicker baskets; as well as treats for the Animal Anti-Cruelty League. An immense effort; greatly appreciated by the less fortunate pets! A sunny and warm day welcomed the Moms and Sons picnic. What a lovely morning was had by all as moms were able to connect with one another across the classes while the boys had scrumptious treats, and showed off their cricket and soccer skills. It was Bishops' 164th birthday this year, and the boys celebrated by decorating a cake with 164 candles; we needed some accurate counters! With doughnuts and a juice to boot, the boys went home in a birthday party mood!



Connor Fletcher with Sarah Howard enjoying the grade R Moms and Sons picnic.

Our first term outing was to Greenpoint Park where all three classes took part in an ‘out of the ordinary’ sensory experience. Each class was divided into groups headed up by moms. The moms did a sterling job of being ‘tour guides’ for the day; guiding the boys through their sensory pathways and the natural heritage site with the sensory packs provided. Thereafter we all enjoyed a light snack and headed back to school. With the first term drawing to a close, the boys had a successful Fun Sports Day and picnic until the sun set on a glorious and energetic day. What a wonderful introduction to ‘BIG’ school! May the energy, courage, sensible behaviour and love for learning endure!

Carmen van Zyl, Geordie Nolte and Carron Cale

News from Grade 1



Ann van Breda with some of her new pupils on their first day in Grade 1.

The first day in Grade 1 is always filled with a mixture of excitement and a little nervousness. However, once the little boys had been welcomed by their teachers and had greeted their friends, everyone began to feel at home again. We were happy to welcome the new boys to the school; namely Jamie Stephens. We also welcomed Mrs Meredith who moved from teaching Grade 2 to teaching Grade 1. Our first themes were ‘Me, Myself’, ‘My Family’ and ‘My Pets.’ The boys were encouraged to talk about themselves and to bring photographs to school. This way they all learnt more about themselves and their classmates; both the similarities and the differences. We also taught the boys about respect and the acceptance of each other. Our first social gathering was a picnic on the Frank Reid field. It was great fun and allowed both the parents and boys to get acquainted with their new class and their teachers.

Another special day was the ‘Pet’s Assembly,’ when the boys were allowed to bring their pets to school, and Fr Terry Wilke conducted a special service on the field and blessed the pets. Our next theme was called ‘Sand between the Toes’. We visited



Rose Harris’ class celebrating Valentine’s Day.



Arran and Lisa Muir enjoying the Moms and Sons Picnic.



Grade 1s enjoying the lesson at the Two Oceans Aquarium.

the Two Oceans Aquarium and St James' beach. We had to adapt the latter as we had the most unfortunate rainy spell. And so instead, we travelled by train to Kalk Bay and back again. We were most grateful to the Brass Bell Restaurant, as they accommodated all 72 boys and parents at the last minute; serving breakfast and hot chocolate to all. And so the outing proved to be a happy experience after all. In keeping with this theme, we introduced the concept of capacity during our maths lessons. These practical lessons are always lots of fun while at the same time, learning takes place. Our summer sport programme began. We were very proud of our top runners who not only competed in our school's Sports Day, but also represented Bishops against other schools. Many boys joined in the extra-mural sport's programme; participating in swimming, tennis, golf, judo, athletics and cricket. We held our Fun Sports Day in the last week of the term. All the boys competed in their classes against the other classes; having sack and bean bag races, tug of war and other fun activities. After all the fun, a family picnic was held on the field. What a lovely way to end a busy first term!

Ann van Breda, Nazli Meredith and Rosemary Harris

News from Grade 2

"I am excited about Grade 2, because it is a new year and I will make new friends!" This is how **Conna Watson** felt about 2013. We kick started the year with swimming trials and athletics trials. Mathematics moved on quickly from "train sums" to solving equations, and our spelling words started getting more and more difficult each week. The boys were up for the challenge! As our theme for this term was 'Insects and Bugs', we all went to visit Butterfly World. Here is what Miss Mills' boys had to say about the outing: *"I had such a fun time at Butterfly World. I can't wait to go back there. I saw a parrot and it walked on a girl's head. Then it started to bite her clip."* **Roston Bosini.** *"We went to Butterfly World. First we had a lesson. Then we had lunch. Next we went to the spider room. After that we went to see some snakes and some buck."* **Andrew Williams-Ashman.** *"We had a lesson and we learnt new things. Next all of us went to see the snakes and the cockroaches. We saw guinea pigs. Next we went into the butterfly enclosure. Then we said thank you."* **Jett Bacher.** After learning about the ant and designing our own ant farms during art; each class got to write their own story about, 'A Day in the Life of an Ant.' **Grade 2B** wrote the following: *"In the forest Locky the ant met a moose. The moose gave Locky a ride to the spider. Then Locky realised it was a trap! He called his friend Black Widow to fight the Tarantula. The Tarantula fell to the ground and Locky was set free."* **Grade 2F** wrote: *"He and his family are hiking on Spider Mountain. Waiting for them at the top of the mountain is Sneaky Spider. He gives Zee a fright and he runs and loses his family. Mommy Ant asks parrot to help her find Zee and shows him how to web swing Zee. Zee swings to his family and they scurry home; safe from spider."* Valentine's Day also came with a few surprises. All dressed in red and white, it turned out to be a very sweet day. **Storm Marriott-Watson** said, *"I liked making the cookies a lot! Nic made a*



Hudson Tyers brought his dog for a blessing at our Pets' Service.



Grade 2s with their mums preparing to start the Wheel Barrow relay.

banner with the Head boys.” Cayden Smith said, “My favourite thing this term has been playing cricket at break. In the classroom, my favourite thing is doing Number Sense.” Luke Patterson said, “I have loved doing Maths this term.” We did have one very interesting visitor at Bishops. The teachers even spotted dads taking photos of the mystery footprints at 7am! **James Morkel** shared, “When I came into the classroom, I saw Easter eggs on every desk, and I hope that I get a sticker inside my Easter egg.” Morné Ogada said, “I saw lots of footprints and I think it is a real bunny!” Excitement was in the air as boys found traces of the Easter Bunny. We look forward to many more surprises in Term 2 at Bishops! **Lindy Brien, Heather Mills and Laurelle Fry**

nice friendship biscuit for me. It was very delicious!”

Devon Marshall said, “I loved that we could all give each other heart biscuits.” **Timothy Walsh** said, “My mom baked heart biscuits for us all. I felt good on Valentine’s Day!” The boys also attended a special service in the Brooke Chapel for Ash Wednesday. **Zachariah Wolfson** said, “We had ash crosses put on our foreheads to remember that God died on the cross for our sins. I felt happy in the Chapel.” **Richard Alfredo** was chosen to represent the Pre Prep at the Founders Day service. This is what he had to say: “I loved the singing part the most. I felt very proud to carry the

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