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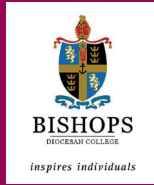
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BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY



Bishops Pre Prep Celebrates 50 Years: OD Fathers and Sons

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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

We began the fourth term with a busy schedule as usual – we held swimming trials for our grade 1 swimmers; selecting some of them to join our squad. The Cross Country Awards Evening was held during the first week back, and **Liam Winstain** was awarded a medal and certificate for 1st place in the U7 championship race. I attended the College Prize-Giving which was wonderful as the boy who came top in grade 12 – **Martin Dyer** – attended our Pre-Prep, and the new Head of School for 2013 – **Ty Wills** – was also one of our pupils. It is always exciting to see what these boys achieve through the Prep and College knowing that we have played a very important role in laying the foundation for their future learning. We held our usual Tag Rugby Tournament on the first Saturday morning of term where the boys in grade 1 and 2 had great fun playing mini matches against one another. They were supported by their parents and families while the tuck shop provided us with tasty bacon and egg rolls, and other eats and drinks. Those of us who were part of the Pre-Prep staff during Grant Nupen's tenure as Principal attended the very special Thanksgiving Service that was held for both Grant and Mike King in the Memorial Chapel.



Tag Team Tournament on Lutgensvale!

Timothy van Heerden, a grade 2 pupil, was one of the readers. Our grade 1 and 2 boys together with a few grade R's participated in the Living Maths Olympiad, and the following boys received prizes and certificates; **Gr. R's – Robert Forrest 3rd, Michael Kotze 2nd; Gr. 1's – Thomas Jacobs 1st, Cameron Orpen 3rd, Cayden Smith 3rd, Filip Sakota 3rd, Liam Winstain 3rd, Matthew Brodziak 3rd; Gr. 2's – Robert Kotze 1st, Aleksandr Selby 2nd**. Well done to you all! Last year Bishops Pre-Prep celebrated 50 years of educating young boys by hosting an evening attended by present and past staff members, including headmasters, with their spouses; members of Council; Prep Parents' Association members; the Executive of the School and 21 men, together with their wives, who formed part of the first class in Sub A of 1962. It was a wonderful evening spent travelling down memory lane for many who attended. To commemorate the year, each boy had the opportunity of decorating a tile and these have been used to decorate the plinth on which a beautiful bubbling water feature stands. This has been placed in the garden and Mrs Mary Maurel, a parent of one of the boys, has very kindly donated the planting around the base. We will hold a special service later this term to bless this feature and formally acknowledge its purpose. The tiles that couldn't be placed on the plinth have been stored away safely to be used in the new art room that has been planned for in the next building project. The Prep Parents Association covered the costs of building and decorating this water feature and we thank them for their contribution. Mrs Maurel oversaw the project on behalf of the school and for this we thank her. We arranged for our photographer to take some photographs of ODs and their sons; we also had a whole



*Present and past HODs of the
Pre-Prep: Noell Andrews, Lyn
Taylor and Myrtle Boy*

school (Pre-Prep) photograph taken. A special service was held in the Memorial Chapel and this was followed by singing “Happy Birthday” to the school and the blowing out of 50 candles! The boys thoroughly enjoyed their piece of cake baked and decorated by Mrs Jill Walsh. The remainder of the special day was spent doing fun activities. We hosted our 2013 Grade R classes to tea and a party. This was well attended and the parents were addressed by Greg Brown, me and Grant Nupen whilst their sons enjoyed a class party. We hosted our class representatives to tea in order to thank them for all their hard work and support during the year;

and our grade 2 parents one evening as a farewell before they moved across to the Prep. Our Pre-Prep Music Concert was of an extremely high standard with a large number of boys participating – well done Desiré Swanich. We were very proud of our two readers who read at the Prep Carol Service towards the end of term – **Sebastien Griffiths** from grade 1 and **David Wharton-Hood** from grade 2.

Staff news:

We formally welcome Heather Mills onto our staff in grade 2 – I am pleased to report that she has settled in well. Ashleigh Swartz, our third year Learnership, has joined us in grade 1 this year and reports that she is thoroughly enjoying her year. Marlize Dippenaar has joined us as a Learnership in grade R and is thoroughly enjoying the experience. Elmarie Dorfling, a resident OT, leaves us at the end of term and we wish her every blessing as she moves to her new post. Lindy van Stormbroek returned to school this term as Mrs Brien. Nazli Meredith is enjoying teaching in grade 1.

Outreach:

Once again we supported Bandana Day and then collected them for the Prep so that they could use them in their project of making bags for the children at St Paul’s in town. We delivered more books to St Paul’s and learned from their teacher in charge that the children have thoroughly enjoyed having the books available to read – their literacy results have also improved thanks to this project. An exciting bit of information was that they have used some of the themes in the books to introduce the children to other experiences such as planting their own vegetable gardens in trays outside their classrooms! Our sandwich drive continued each Tuesday with boys bringing an extra sandwich. We continue to sell u/turn vouchers from the school. We supported Remembrance Day by selling poppies. For our final Carol service boys were asked to bring old toys, puzzles, games, clothes and a variety of other items for redistribution in the Villiersdorp community. Pam Syndecombe, a retired headmistress from St Cyprians, came through to collect the goods and attended our service – we have since received a letter of thanks and all the items have now been given to those who have need of them. An exciting event occurred when *Zaminkosi Moyo*, *Joshua Petersen* and I were invited to an intimate communion service officiated by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu in his offices as a thank you for our contribution to the Heifer Foundation of which he is a patron. We then were invited to share a breakfast afterwards. Each boy received an autographed children’s book from him. What a special occasion!

Noell Andrews

News From Grade R

The fourth term is a very busy time in the Grade R section of our school. There is so much to do and so little time! We were actively busy preparing for our Nativity Play from early in the term so by the time the actual day arrived, it went so smoothly. It was very special and I could see some mommies wiping away tears as they saw their boys saying their words and singing their songs so beautifully. We welcomed our new boys for 2013 at a New Boys' Tea and this was well attended. The parents looked as excited and happy to be entering a whole new era in the lives of their little ones. We played games; had delicious things to eat; and ended off with a special story. Moms and Dads had the opportunity to enjoy a cup of tea in the hall with Mrs Andrews. We were all looking forward to teaching our new classes in 2013. Then we had the wonderful Storyteller Gilly Southwood who shared Animal Tales as we were learning about wild animals within that week. The boys had a good giggle and enjoyed engaging in questions and actions with wonderful props. Gilly never reads but only tells her stories; making use of her voice in many ways to make it exciting and fun. Thank you Gilly and we hope you come again soon! We were sad to say goodbye to our 2012 Grade Rs and hope they will enjoy their time in Grade 1 next year.



*Gilly Southwood: Story Teller
Extraordinaire*

News From Grade 1



Carl Krenski, Joshua Petersen, Jack Howard and Solly Nankin show off the lovely things they made.

The final term in Grade 1 is a fun term for the boys. They are confident, sensible and ready to take on any challenge. Our focus was on guiding them in the development of their entrepreneurial skills. There was a great deal of interest shown in our new South African notes and these were examined in detail. We played games with money and familiarised the boys with working with money - buying, selling and giving change. We spoke about the value of money and the teachers had a good giggle when many of the little boys commented that you could buy our whole school for a million rand. Trading Day was a highlight! Every boy set up a stall with novel items that they had made at home; advertised their goods; sold their items and did lots of buying too! We heard one little boy politely remark to his peer that he had not been given



Kiddies Campus: The boys have fun at the Veterinary Clinic.

through the beautiful gardens and then enjoyed a picnic tea under the shady oaks. It was a most enjoyable morning. We bid Anne Atkins a fond farewell as she left us at the end of the year to enjoy her retirement. We thanked her for 25 years of loyal service to Bishops Pre-Prep and the valuable contribution that she has made to education. She touched many young lives and will be remembered by many. We fully embraced the Christmas spirit and decorated our classrooms to the rafters with gorgeous crafts that the boys made. We learnt carols, celebrated the Christmas message and had a blessed Christmas Family Service in the Chapel which was a fitting end to a great year!

Rose Harris, Ann van Breda, Anne Atkins

the correct change, at which the money was promptly returned with the comment, "Just take it then!" It was a fabulous experience for all of the boys and a great deal was learnt. We went on an outing to Kiddies Campus and there the boys experienced a wide variety of working environments such as the bank, the supermarket, the veterinary clinic and a T.V. studio. It was lovely to see how the boys interacted in small groups; trying out their positions in the companies. Our other outing was to Kirstenbosch and we encouraged the parents to join us on this one. We followed the Monty Mongoose Trail



Grade 1s celebrating the coming of Christmas.

News For Grade 2

As Grade 2 drew to an end, we began a countdown of events before we could finally say our goodbyes to all the happy memories of our time spent together at the Pre-Prep! At Number 10, we celebrated the Pre-Prep's 50th Birthday. A special chapel service was followed by Mrs Andrews blowing out 50 candles on the beautiful birthday cake, which according to Timothy van der Colff, "was really yummy"! Ethan Smith took a look into the future and worked out that he will "be 58 for the 100th celebration"! At Number 9, we were more than thrilled to gather on the Lutgensvale Fields on the first Saturday of the term to play the final tag tournament for the season. Dads had to remain strong and focused on refereeing the game fairly, rather than being lured by the amazingly, tempting smell of bacon and egg rolls that wafted through the air. Thando Kumalo was happy that there were "so many matches to play". "Good sportsmanship" according to Kieran Urquhart was the highlight of his day! Now at Number 8, we all got out our colourful bandanas in support of Cancer Research. Asking the boys why they thought we participate in Bandana Day, Thomas Withers announces that "we sell bandanas so we don't get cancer because they protect us from the sun"! Michael Beaumont happily reminded us all that although this was very clever insight, we actually "buy the bandana for R20 and then they use the money to take care of the people

with cancer"! Reaching Number 7, it is Carnival Time! The stories that flooded the classrooms on the Monday morning of all they got up to, made their teachers smile! Joshua Taylor agreed that his favourite part of the carnival was "the big slide because it was very, very high." Aidan Lotter loved all "the food, drinks and the sweets"! Craig Ressel loved that the carnival "was at night and the army tunnel was scary and spooky"! Onto Number 6, our final Grade 2 outing to the Newlands Firebase. The boys were all intrigued and mesmerised by the incredible work these fire-fighters do. Dean Sned-

don reported back that "on Tuesday, 27 November 2012, we went to view the Newlands Firebase. We went there because our theme is Natural Disasters. Haydn dressed up in the PPE kit. It had such a cool helmet!" Nicholas Bradfield loved the "vehicle called the 'bakkie sakkie'". Daniel Thom firmly states that it was "the best outing ever, in my life". The countdown reaches Number 5, as the fathers and sons gather together on a very windy Friday evening to camp beneath the stars. Sipho Ndlovu says that "we went to sleep at 12:06. My favourite part was when I heard Liyema snore!" With energy and excitement levels at a peak, Luke Botha was proud to announce that he "ran such a lot that my feet got sore". The night left the boys exhausted as they crawled up into their tents and Tyron Slauk said they "slept like logs". Maths Olympiad makes it in at Number 4. Congratulations to Robert Kotze, Aleksandr Selby and Ethan Smith who earned themselves a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place! Well done boys! Meeting their Grade 3 teacher is at Number 3. James Barrett says that "you sort of get nervous and excited at the same time. It might be different or the work is harder and you get all the stuff wrong". However, the boys came leaping back to the Pre-Prep filled with anticipation for 2013. The best part, they tell us,



Newlands Firebase.



Tag Tournament.

is that their classrooms are right next to the pool! The end is in sight, at Number 2, as we make certain our dear friend Santa knows exactly what we would like for Christmas. Trae Turner is incredibly gentlemanly in his request for "a new bicycle, and an Ipad and a bionicle." To make sure he was extra polite, he concludes his letter, "If you can get all of these that will be great! If you can't that is also ok, and how is Mrs Claus doing?" Lastly, at Number 1, we take a trip down memory lane as we bid farewell to the Pre-Prep campus we have grown to love and enjoy. Some happy memories include learning to read; writing on the chalk boards; playing tag rugby; meeting new friends; learning about

the Letterland characters and the list goes on and on! And finally: **BLAST OFF!!** We send you off to Grade 3, our precious boys of 2012, knowing that you will continue to shine!

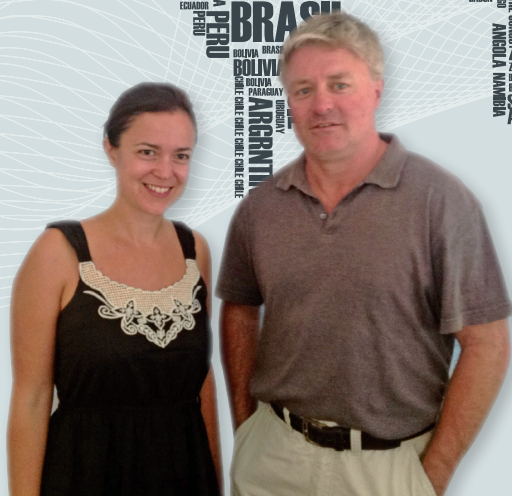
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