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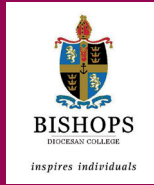
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BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY



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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

General:



Noell Andrews

Each term is extremely busy and the last term of 2013 was no different with sporting events to prepare for together with the usual end of year commitments. Individual photographs were taken of the boys during the first week of term.

It was decided that we would invite our new grade Rs for 2014 to placement interviews in small groups. The teachers and assistants at grade R, together with Marileen Harrod, provided the boys with a variety of activities on a rotational basis. With the observations made, we felt in a better position to place the boys in classes that would be similar across a range of criteria allowing for more balanced teaching within the grade. While the boys were busy, I was able to meet with the parents and give them an understanding of Pre-Prep and our approach to teaching boys.

Anne McDonald, our school counsellor, organized a talk one evening presented by Janet Freemantle for parents from grade R – 3. It was an outstanding frank but often amusing talk on sexuality, which was refreshing and certainly empowering – something to be repeated.

Our boys participated in the annual Living Maths Olympiad with the following results; Noah Macnab Gr. R 2nd place; Akshay Thakersee, David Tripe and Ryan Webb Gr. R 3rd place; James Gibbs, Michael Kotze and Sebastian Jack Gr. 1 2nd place; Andrew Betty and Nicholas Basson Gr. 1 3rd place; Joshua Egypt, Joshua Gevisser, Joshua Petersen and Solly Nankin Gr. 2 3rd place.

Desiré Swanich arranged and hosted the Pre-Prep Music Concert one evening towards the end of term in the Memorial Theatre. It was well attended by the families of the boys performing and as usual showcased the high levels of performance and talent within the school across a number of instruments, including voice – well done to all the music teachers involved in teaching music to our boys, but special thanks to Desiré Swanich for her dedication and commitment to music at the Pre-Prep.



Welcome Tea - Anas Tyer and Tristan Thirion

Desiré Swanich also played a pivotal role, together with assistance from Rose Harris and Claire Hobbs in preparing our boys for the end of year Carol Service in the Memorial Chapel.

The grade 2 parent body very generously donated a beautiful wooden bench and a drinking fountain to the school. Both of these items have been positioned on the field close to the school and are already being enjoyed by the boys and others on a daily basis. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity towards the Pre-Prep! We wish you all a happy year at the Prep school!

At final assembly the following boys were awarded Gentleman's Award badges to keep; **Dylan de Groot, Matthew Brodziak, Josh Egypt, Hasheel Govan, Andrew Dallas** and **Thomas Jacobs**. The grade 2s voted for these boys as those whom they felt consistently throughout the year displayed behavior befitting a true 'gentleman'. Well done to you all!

Staff Development and News:

We held an internal reading workshop where we considered the way reading is taught at the Pre-Prep. An overview across the school was presented and ideas were shared regarding assessments; moderation and teaching strategies. 2014 will see the focus on English Language teaching continue.

We also held a workshop where we looked specifically at the use of Numicon within the curriculum – we invited Oxford Press to join us for this meeting and they secured the services of Lindy Brien to help them consider where Numicon supports CAPS.

Appraisals which involved observation of teaching were done during the term with me meeting with each teacher to discuss their year.

We welcome Sharlene Groom onto the staff in grade 2 this year. We trust that she will enjoy being part of the Bishops family. Sharlene comes to us from Reddam Atlantic Seaboard, where she taught grade 3 and was Head of Academics in the Foundation Phase.

We congratulate Mandy Korwarski who has given birth to twin daughters, Liv and Eden, and wish her every happiness with these special little girls. Mandy is on maternity leave, and we welcome Mrs Claudia Ranoszek, who is assisting us with learner support until she returns next term.

Sport:

Early in the term Grade 1s participated in swimming trials for selection into the squad. The results of the A League Gala held at Rondebosch Boys' Prep were as follows: **U8 Backstroke 3rd place; U8 Breaststroke 5th place; U8 Medley 2nd place; U8 Freestyle 3rd place**. We came 3rd overall with the following five schools participating – Bishops, WPPS, SACS, RBPS and Wynberg Junior School. The B League Gala was cancelled due to inclement weather; however, all our swimmers participated in the SACS Squids Gala and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Our Tag rugby tournament took place on the first Saturday of term. Once again it was well supported by the parent body and our boys demonstrated the skills they had developed

during the season. The parent body with support from the PA ran a wonderful tuck shop. It was a very pleasant morning on Lutgensvale.

Once again we were invited to participate in the Rhenish Foundation Phase Athletics Meeting out in Stellenbosch. The competition is always very strong at this meeting. Two heats are run per race and our boys often managed to achieve a place in the heat; however, the fastest three runners were awarded certificates. The final results were: **Arran Muir 2nd place U7 60m and Adam Constant 3rd place U7 80m.**

Results from the Paarl Boys Primary Inter-schools' Athletics Meeting are as follows: **Arran Muir came 1st in the U7 80m heat which gave him 2nd place overall and a silver medal** – well done!

NEWS FROM GRADE R



Mrs Cale and Bandana Day 2014

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 off smoothly. This year we put on a new production and were excited to see how the boys would perform and present themselves on stage. In the end it was very special, and I could see some mummies wiping away tears as they saw their boys saying and singing their songs and words so beautifully.

We welcomed our new boys for 2014 at a New Boys Tea and this was well attended. The parents looked as excited and happy to be entering into 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 Noell Andrews, Mr Greg Brown and Mr Guy Pearson. We were all left looking forward to teaching our new class in 2014!

During the term we learnt about castles and everything the people in those days experienced; in particular the way they lived. We decided to take the Grade Rs on a special outing to the castle in Cape Town which they thoroughly enjoyed while learning a lot of facts. We also had one day where the boys dressed up in medieval attire and then had a proper feast to accompany the day! Yummy food was enjoyed by all the boys focusing a lot on good table manners – this being 2013!

We were lucky to have the opportunity to participate in a clay workshop offered by Dale,

our clay teacher. We made safari animals as this was also one of our themes that we covered during the term. The end product was beautiful, and the boys took them home as a Christmas gift for mom and dad.

We had a busy term but the boys loved every minute and did us proud. We will miss them so much but know they are well prepared for yet another wonderful part of their schooling careers.

Geordie Nolte, Carron Cale and Carmen van Zyl

NEWS FROM GRADE 1



Grade IV enjoying their ice creams after a visit from Father Christmas.

opportunity to role-play a variety of jobs including being a teller at the bank; a shopkeeper; a vet's assistant and broadcasting the weather on television. We played 'Shop, Shop' and the boys learnt about our currency and how to give change. The highlight was our Trading Day when each child had to bring items that they had made to sell. They set up their stalls; advertised their goods and had to market their items to the rest of the boys in the grade. Then the shopping began – it was a fun-filled morning and a great deal was learnt in the process.

Before we knew it, it was time to begin our Christmas theme. The boys

The final term of Grade 1 is always an exciting one as our little boys have gained so much confidence, and the world of reading, writing and mathematics has been opened up to them. We were so proud of all that they had accomplished, and they were ready to take on almost anything.

Our first focus was on learning to work with money. The boys chatted about their parents' occupations and wrote about what they want to be when they grow up. Our outing was to Rosen Castle Activity Centre where the boys were divided into groups and given the



Trading Day!



Trading Day!

delighted in making Christmas angels during a special clay workshop that we arranged for them. We decorated the classrooms with Christmas decorations that we made and learnt about the real meaning of Christmas.

Our final outing was to Kirstenbosch, and many of the parents joined us in doing the Monty Mongoose walk and exploring the beautiful gardens. It was great to relax together as a grade one for the last time and enjoy a picnic under the trees.

We also had end of year class parties with a magician to entertain the boys and delicious treats to eat. The boys were overjoyed when we had a visit from Father Christmas who delivered ice-cream for everyone to enjoy. The boys practised hard for the Christmas Carol Service which was absolutely lovely. They sang like angels and we were so proud of the boys who did the readings so well. A great way to end the Grade 1 year!

Rosemarie Harris, Ann van Breda and Nazli Meredith

NEWS FROM GRADE 2

The final term in grade 2 has been a busy but happy end to the year. We ‘kicked’ it off with the annual tag rugby tournament held at Lutgensvale on a chilly Saturday morning. The boys thoroughly enjoyed their internal games and Thomas Jacobs’s thought, “It was exciting.” Benjamin Swift loved the fact that, “We got to go to the tuck shop afterwards.”

According to the boys, some of the highlights for this term have been; “going to singing with Mrs Swanich. I loved being a happy helper. I enjoyed soccer during school and playing the elastic game in free time.” says William Gibbs. Jamie Chester said, “I liked playing games with my friends. I loved building puzzles, playing Sparklefish on the iPad and playing with Lego.” Richard Alfredo’s best memory of grade 2 was, “my birthday when the boys threw a surprise party for me and brought me presents.” Carl Krenski remembers his favourite as, “playing cricket, especially playing against Forres and winning by 2 runs.” Peter Martinez had lots of thoughts to share on his highlights for the term, “My favourite memories of grade 2 are going to the baby chapel for chapel services. I also enjoyed making all the Christmas crackers and decorations. I really miss practising for the Aladdin production. I am also going to miss the Friday tests!” Xhanti Ngxangane shared that his favourites have been, “writing tests, art lessons, playing soccer and cricket at break-time. As well as being a key and book monitor. I have also liked the homework!”

A few weeks into the term, all of our Grade 2 Bishops boys had the privilege of visiting The Red Cross Children’s Hospital Tracheostomy Department’s end of year party. The boys sang beautifully and provided a few musical items to share with the recovered and recovering children. Craig Harrod said that, “I liked seeing how the doctors saved the children’s lives. It was also fun to sing to the children and their parents!” Thandile Rodinis had great insight and mentioned, “I loved singing to the children. It made me feel grateful that I am not ill.”

Towards the end of the term, as the year drew to a close, the boys presented the most unbelievable projects on Natural Disasters! Sadly, having heard all the news about the typhoon that hit the Philippines, the boys were reminded that natural disasters are a force to be reckoned with. We thank all the Grade 2 boys for making such an effort to research and present amazing projects!

This year we have been blessed with boys that have many musical talents. The annual Pre-Prep music concert was held in the Memorial Theatre. From electric guitar to the drum set - the parents and teachers were thoroughly entertained for over an hour. The choir performed some of their favourites too. Joshua Petersen’s best part was, “Seeing my mom smile, and singing in the choir!” Thomas Rowand said that, “I liked to sing the songs and watch the drummer; he was good.”

Our last outing of the year was to the Newlands Fire Base. The boys learnt about fire safety and how the fire base protects our environment and fights fires regularly. Zachariah Wolfson said, “I loved climbing into the helicopter. I also liked learning all the actions which they use to signal when the walkie talkie runs out of battery!” Nikolaos Augoustatos mentioned that, “I enjoyed watching the teacher dress Conna as a fire fighter. I also liked learning about the tools that they use to fight fires.”

To end off our fun-filled year, we had a Christmas party with a treasure hunt that eventually led to crackers, treats and red Christmas hats!

We are confident that as we said goodbye to these precious Grade 2 boys in 2013, they will continue to shine right through into 2014 and beyond!

Heather Mills, Laurelle Fry and Lindy Brien