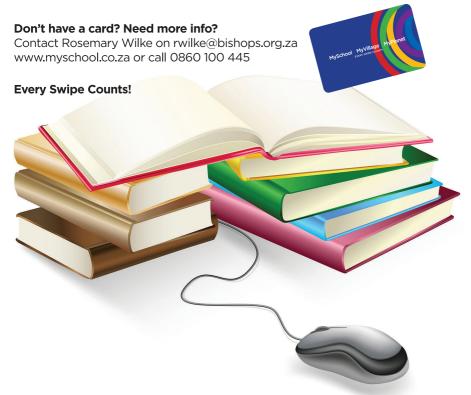


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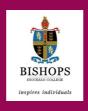












BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY









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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

General:



Noell Andrews

at the start of the term to observe teaching and collect lessons from their respective mentor teachers. Everyone had thoroughly enjoyed the extended holiday

period which gave staff and boys a chance to recover from the busyness of the preceding term. However, soon after the term began we again enjoyed time off with the Easter Weekend and the extra school holidays! Drama lessons, given by Tam Speirs, began for both the Grade 1 and Grade 2 boys. With there being no production this year, Tam's focus is our Grandparents' Day which takes place this term. Desiré Swanich is working with the boys to produce some good music on the day, during her lessons. We hosted our class representatives to a tea early in the term as a way of welcoming and thanking them for the support they lend to both the teachers and the Parents' Association during the year. Our Open Day, which was held in mid-May, was very disappointing – although invitations were sent out, it appears they didn't get received and our numbers were rather limited despite the enthusiastic support we received from College boys who form part of the PR group. They were extremely helpful and engaged easily with our visitors while in between enjoying their day back at Pre-Prep.

We hosted a Grade 1 Parents' Reception in our hall that turned out to be a lovely evening, giving both parents and staff the opportunity to connect in a relaxed atmosphere. Both the Grade 1 and 2 Memorial Chapel and Grade R Brooke Chapel services, towards the end of the term, were well attended. Mike Hampton preached at the Memorial Chapel service where he created great excitement by using helium balloons to demonstrate Christ's ascension into Heaven; a message I'm sure the boys will remember for a long time.

Staff development and news:

On the first day of term, the staff met together with the grade 3 teachers in a language workshop led by Nazli Meredith titled 'Learning through Play', where we shared ideas for consolidating phonic sounds and vocabulary. The ideas range from games the teachers had made to ideas which included the use of technology. A large group of us attended the 'Stumbling Senses' workshop hosted by Professional Minds at the CTICC one Saturday in May. It was very valuable with professionals from a variety of fields sharing their knowledge with regards to the senses and how difficulties impact the ability of individuals to perform at their best. We held another in-house workshop together with the Grade 3 teachers around Mathematics and the teaching strategies we use, including the use of apparatus, across the Phase. Pippa Houghton retired from the Aftercare and we hosted a lovely tea for her one Friday morning

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where she was presented with a gift from the school, and Noell Andrews thanked Pippa for her past seven and a half years of good service to the Pre-Prep. We also held a tea to say farewell to Sicelene Hendricks who took up a cleaning position at Michael Oak Primary School. We wish her every success in her new position. We welcomed Marilyn May to the school in Sicelene's place. She has settled into the position with ease, and appears to be happy working at the Pre-Prep.

Sport:

The winter sports programme kicked off to a good start with the weather being rather pleasant. A large group of boys chose to participate in Cross Country training, and weekly many of them took part in the Inter Schools' meetings held across the Peninsula achieving some good weekly results. Hockey coaching began in earnest and at the end of the term an in-house tournament was

held on the Astro with some good parental support. Our Tag Rugby coaching began on Friday afternoons with many dads giving up time to come and assist. The boys have thoroughly enjoyed these practice sessions and also enjoyed the opportunity of playing an inhouse tournament at the end of the term on a lovely sunny winter's afternoon.

Outreach:

We have continued to bring an extra sandwich on Tuesdays and are grateful to the mums who deliver these to Athwood Primary. We supported St Luke's by asking parents to donate gently worn clothing – we were very grateful for the support that flowed in allowing us to give to this worthy Organisation. Towards the end of term, we linked with the Prep in a shoe collection drive – overall 600 pairs of shoes were collected across the two schools to be distributed to needy folk around our city.





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NEWS FROM GRADE R



Sahil Thomas plays hopscotch on our new brick-paved area

ur second term began after a well-deserved Easter break. The boys were rejuvenated and ready for their winter term, having settled in so beautifully after the long rest. Our annual Grade R visit to the Fire Station was welcomed with squeals of excitement and future plans of, "One day I will be a firefighter!" As always, the firefighters gave us the grand tour of the station, allowing boys to experience an exciting and informative day - the highlight,



Finn Moran, Sahil Thomas and Luke Michaletos admiring the new 'grass' under the jungle gym up at the Grade R playground

of course, being the trip around the yard in the fire engine. Every single boy had the ride of his life with sirens blaring and boys on the loudspeakers calling out, "EMERGENCY! EMERGENCY!" We made fire engines out of wood for the firefighters who were duly impressed by the boys' creativity. We also explored the 'olden day' fire engine where the boys were allowed to have a bit of fantasy play, which they loved. Our Brooke Family Chapel service was, as always, a special service with the boys and their families. The boys always so look forward to practising and singing their songs proudly in Chapel for moms and dads. Our special paved area was a welcome addition to the playground, as the boys longed to have a place where they could engage in board games and sensory integration activities. They love playing with the wheel toys or playing a game of giant snakes and ladders in the winter sun, and constructing the most incredible machines during their playtime. Thank you for our paved and grassed areas, Parents' Association! An eventful and exciting term was had by all, and we look forward to the new experiences which lie ahead in term 3.



A game of outdoor Snakes and Ladders being enjoyed by Reve Tuscher, Matthew Ramsay and Michael Whitelaw

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NEWS FROM GRADE 1



Party time for Gr. 1H - The boys dressed as pirates!

he boys always return from holiday keen to catch up with their friends. We kicked off the term sharing and writing about our holiday news; a relatively new concept for the Grade 1s as for the first time they were now able to form and write simple sentences. The second term looked to be a long fun-filled term, and we were all the more

motivated as we looked forward to a mid-term holiday, courtesy of Freedom Day and Workers' Day! Our first theme work for the term was on birds, and we began this with a lovely outing to The World of Birds in Hout Bay. The boys were able to interact with the talking parrots, monkeys, tortoises and the little wallaby, as well as share their own knowledge and learn new facts about the wonderful variety of birds on display. We then moved on to learn about farm animals and then

wild animals. The boys all prepared a wonderful oral on their favourite animal, and even taught the teachers a thing or two! On 7 May we all went to the polls to vote in our National Elections. This brought about a lot of discussion and our very own voting day. The boys all received a Bishops identity document; had their finger prints taken; and voted in private for: Extra Break; Civvies Day; Extra Points for their Class Group; or Sweets. After tallying the votes, Civvies Day proved to be the most popular choice. We ended a most

enjoyable term with a party theme where the boys were involved in many party games and learnt valuable skills on how to win and lose like gentlemen. We had a pirate-themed dress up party where the boys enjoyed participating in game stations with gold coin rewards. It was a wonderful day and fortunately no-one had to walk the plank!



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NEWS FROM GRADE 2

t has once again been an exciting term for the Grade 2s. With all the holidays scattered here and there, we took a while to get settled into the 2nd term. We successfully managed to accomplish all we wanted to during this busy time. We joined the world of politics with our voting spirit by having our very own 'Voting Day' in each Grade 2 class. The boys were presented with an ID book and got to vote for one of the 4 options: 10 minutes extra break; 3 sweets; a Day of Civvies; or 3 Merits. Civvies Day won hands down, and the boys were excited to show off their latest fashion trends on the day their teacher picked for them to wear civvies. The boys got an inside look into the world of politics and learnt about the voting process, spoilt ballots, why we vote; and how the IEC operates: 'My best part was thinking of what to vote for!' Daniel Foulkes; 'I liked voting. We got to wear civvies the whole day!' James **Gibbs**. Mother's Day followed shortly after this and the boys used all their love and care to create a beautiful pot made out of a recycled tin for their amazing moms. They decorated it with tissue paper and then chose a succulent plant to put inside. When asked to write some wise words about their mom, this is what some Grade 2s had to say: 'My mom wears dresses and she has a ring. She also wears high heel shoes sometimes. My mom stays at home. She looks after Thomas too.' **Brett Jenman**; 'My mum likes to wear jeans and shoes and jewellery and some make up and nice jackets. My mum is a psychiatrist. She helps people when they are sick and when she's at home she is working on her computer.' Theo Scheder-Bieschin. This year we explored the Oranjezicht Community Farm by going on an adventurous outing





there. In line with our theme on 'conserving the environment' and 'people who help us', the boys were delighted to learn some history about the land as well as experience the tastes and smells of the beautiful farm garden. 'We learned so much history. We planted seeds and we had a word hunt.' Jack Campbell; 'We got to pick vegetables and did a scavenger hunt.' Adam Constant. The boys also learnt about different types of homes in Life Skills this term; everything from Cape Dutch, San, Khoi, Xhosa, Ndebele, Fishermen's Cottages and Zulu huts. They got to use their artistic flair by creating their very own home out of clay. These masterpieces were fired in the kiln and sent home to be put on display. We were lucky enough to have a

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team of ladies come and perform a puppet show for the boys about Nelson Mandela's life. It was an educational and entertaining experience for the teachers and the boys. The story of Nelson Mandela's life was beautifully and accurately portrayed, and when asked how they felt about it some boys said: 'It was incredible!' Yusuf Ahmed; 'It taught me not to fight and to show respect.' Cameron Wallace; 'It was very inspiring.' Andrew Betty. Having celebrated the moms earlier on in the term, it was now time to celebrate the dads for Father's Day! The wonderful dads were treated to a photo of their son - decorated and held up by a clever stand made by the boys themselves. When I was making it I felt happy. When my dad saw it he jumped for joy!' Jack Allerton; 'I liked it when I hid the present and when my dad found the

present.' **Sebastian Jack.** We ended off the term with an internal tag tournament which was a highlight for many! We were blessed with beautiful weather and the boys successfully showed off their skills to the dedicated dads that coach each week. 'I loved the last match because that is when I was passed the ball.' **Ben Karlein**; 'I loved it when I scored all my tries.' **Josh van Wyk**. The boys ended off their term by presenting projects on an African country that they had researched at home. The teachers were impressed at the high quality of work! The boys were enthusiastic and had good knowledge of their country, while we all enjoyed listening to each other and learning about Africa. With half a year to go of the Grade 2 year, we are very proud of our boys for all they have achieved so far!



Colleen teaches Grade 2F about the history of Oranjezicht Farm