



ST NICHOLAS DIOCESAN SCHOOL

34 Jabu Ndlovu Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201. Tel: 033-345-1566

**OUR VALUES: Faith, Respect, Compassion, Integrity, Humility,
Passion, Wisdom, Truth, Discipline and Courage**

Newsletter 8: 14 April 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Learners

The school has settled into the second term very nicely and with a number of parent contact evenings behind us I am always reminded of how important parent involvement in a school is.

A growing body of research shows that successful parent involvement improves not only student behaviour and attendance but also positively affects student achievement.

Parents can demonstrate involvement at home-by reading with their children, helping with homework, and discussing school events-or at school, by attending functions or volunteering to help at events and staying in contact with their child's teachers.

We at St Nicholas are dedicated to improving our relationship with parents and we have laid out a number of strategies to do this.

Firstly we plan on improving our communication with parents. We will do this by ensuring that communication is a two way street with parent's opinions being asked before any major decisions are made at the school. You can help by spending a little time filling in surveys that will be sent to you on important matters.

We would also like to make the school a place of learning for our parent body as well and will be looking to host a number of workshops that will help the parents be more effective in helping their children.

Possible topics could include: "How to best help your child with their homework". Or perhaps "The importance of nutrition for your child: What should we be feeding our children". These quality workshops will be developed in collaboration with parents and reflect their needs and interests.

Parents are the most important partner in a St Nicholas child's education and we rely on your support. To be sure, such relationships require a lot of work by both educators and parents. Although success will not come easy, the rewards are too great for us not to try.

Kind regards

Leon Grové

From the Headmaster: Junior School

Dear Parents, Guardians and Learners

Our children and teachers continue to work hard during this very busy term. You would have noticed that our term two calendar is very full. Please refer to this calendar on a daily basis so that you are aware of what is happening at St Nicholas Diocesan School.

Our u13 soccer team travelled to Pretoria last weekend and participated in the Camp Discovery Soccer Tournament. The team departed very early on Friday morning and returned back to school on Sunday. This tournament was very tough and has served its' purpose as a pre-season event. Our boys are now ready for the local school league which starts next week. The team needs to be complimented for their excellent behaviour and manners that they displayed throughout the weekend. I would like to thank Mr Nero for accompanying the boys to this tournament.

Last Friday was our opening Eucharist for the term. This service took place at St George's Garrison Church and was led by Reverend Tracy Bell and Reverend Emilio Kasaba. I was very delighted that four parents attended this Eucharist and I encourage more parents to attend such services in the future. We are an Anglican school and we use all opportunities to spread the word of God. Our Ascension Day service takes place on Thursday, 5 May at 07h40. An invitation will be sent to you closer to the time. We would love for you to join us.

Our Monitor Induction for 2016 took place yesterday at school. I wish to congratulate the following grade seven learners who have been selected in this leadership role in our junior school:

Azile Dlamini	Nobuntu Sibisi	Aphiwe Khumalo
Siyanda Mafu	Silindokhule Zikhali	Lethu Mkhize
Mbali Mbili	Andile Zitha	Azande Mbatha
Phelokazi Memela	Nondalo Zulu	Andile Ngcobo
Nala Mkhize	Alwande Zuma	Ndwandwe Nxumalo
Khethelo Nxele	Aphiwe Karuhije	Fundi Zuma

Once again, we had a great attendance by parents at this monitor induction and I am certain that this was greatly appreciated by the children and staff.

The most satisfying part of my week at St. Nicholas Diocesan School was to meet and greet so many parents who attended the Foundation Phase Parent Contact Evening on Tuesday. I have written in previous newsletters about the value of parents and teachers working together and the attendance on Tuesday really warmed my heart. I trust that all of you received meaningful feedback from your child's class teachers and I encourage you to continue to visit us if you have any concerns regarding your child's progress and well-being at St Nicholas Diocesan School.

The lighting in our indoor centre is now complete and ready to be used in the evenings. Thank you to all parents and children who supported our Big Walk last term. All money raised from the Big Walk was used for the lighting of the indoor facility. The lucky draw for the Big Walk took place on the last day of term one. Our lucky draw winners were:

R500 Cash Prize: Mluleki Majozi (Gr RF)

R500 Cash Prize: Simphiwe Nhlapo (Gr 2M)

R2000 School fees discount: Masenzi Nzimande (Gr RF)

Our Grade threes and grade fours will be attending the EARTH DAY Festival at the Botanical Gardens on Friday. As per the notice sent home, the children will be participating in outdoor activities and therefore will be allowed to come to school in the PE kit and takkies. I trust that they will have lots of fun and I look forward to sharing some photos with you in next week's newsletter.

All Grade three and Grade four parents are reminded of our soccer morning on Saturday, 16 April at 08h00. Parents are encouraged to come in sports attire and to participate in this activity. The mornings' activities will be finished by 09h30. I look forward to seeing all grade three and four parents on Saturday morning.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Take care
Kamal Rugbar



Every
Thursday is
Recycle Day.

Let's help save
our
environment.



Mr Peter Sithole achieved 5 Distinctions and received 3 Awards at the recently held ISASA Maths and English Programme Awards. Well done sir, we are extremely proud of you.



The Annual St Nicholas Fireside Festival will be taking place on Wednesday, 25 May 2016 at 17h00. This will be an evening filled with fun, laughter, entertainment and lots of delicious food to eat. The ticket price is R30 per person and your

name will automatically be entered into the numerous lucky draws that will be taking place during the course of the evening. We would love for you and your family to join us for this Festival.



Well Done to our U13 Soccer Boys that represented the school in the Camp Discovery Tour. They played 9 games and won 4 out of these 9 games. It was very competitive matches but the boys played very well and had some great fun. Thank you to Coach Kieran Nero for his time and dedication to the team. Well done Team!!!



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