



Dear St. Nicholas Mums, Dads and Staff,

Welcome back to Term Three! I trust that our girls and boys enjoyed a well-deserved holiday break and have returned with renewed energy and enthusiasm for the term ahead. I also hope that you as families were able to spend some meaningful and quality time together, creating memories that strengthen the bonds that matter most in our lives.

A new term always brings with it fresh opportunities, a clean slate for our children to build on their successes and, just as importantly, to make right the things that did not go as well in the past term. When children are given the space to learn from their mistakes, to reflect and to grow, they flourish not only in their academics but in their personal development too. This is the heart of education: growth through experience, reflection and perseverance.

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to address the staff and I shared the importance of shifting our focus from chasing high-end, once-off results to raising our average more consistently across all areas. By doing so, we position ourselves to achieve more positive and sustained outcomes. I encourage you to help your children adopt the same mindset. A practical example is encouraging children not only to prepare when assessments and tests approach, but to give their best effort in all their academic endeavours throughout the term. When children commit to consistent effort, the results naturally take care of themselves and more importantly, their growth becomes steady and meaningful.

We also returned to school during Mandela Month, a time when we reflect on the legacy of Nelson Mandela, whose birthday is on on 18 July. Madiba reminded us that:

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

As we inspire our children this term, let us remind them that their learning journey is not just about personal success, but about preparing to make a positive difference in the world around them.

As we embark on this new term, we begin, as always, with our traditional Eucharist and blessing, setting the right tone and focus for the busy weeks ahead. Term Three is always a bustling and busy period in our school calendar, filled with opportunities for our girls, boys and staff to ‘learn, grow and flourish’.

Please take note of the following important dates:

- Monday, 28 July & Tuesday, 29 July - Parent Contact Afternoons for Pre-Primary to Grade 3.
- Wednesday, 30 July - Parent Contact Afternoon for Grades 4 to 7.
- Grade 5 Camp - 11 to 13 August.
- Grade 4, 6, and 7 Camps - 19 to 21 August.
- Spring / Arbor / Casual Day - Friday, 5 September.
- Foundation Phase Production - Wednesday, 17 September.
- St. Nicholas Family Fun Heritage Day - Saturday, 20 September.

Our major sporting codes this term are girls soccer and boys hockey. We encourage all parents to ensure that their children are equipped with the correct sports kit and equipment for these activities so that they can participate fully and safely.

There is so much to look forward to this term, from exciting class camps that develop independence and teamwork, to our Foundation Phase Production which always showcases the creativity and confidence of

our young children. Not forgetting, of course, our Family Fun Heritage Day where our entire St. Nicholas community comes together to celebrate our diversity, heritage and togetherness.

The past weekend highlighted South Africa's dominance on the sporting front: Banyana Banyana won their WAFCON semi-final against Senegal to qualify for the finals, Siya Kolisi's Springboks secured their fourth victory of the international season and the Springboks U20 team won the U20 Rugby World Cup in Italy.

I would also like to congratulate our U13 soccer boys, who reached the quarter-finals of the prestigious Camp Discovery Soccer Tournament, which took place in Limpopo over the past weekend.



I am looking forward to this busy term and hope that as a school community, we can offer our girls and boys all the love and support they need to thrive in all spheres of school life.

Kamal Rugbar

Kamal Rugbar (Headmaster – Junior School)

During the last week of term two, we had our annual Spelling BEE competition. Congratulation to our winners below:



Grade 4 Winner – Oluchi Madlala (Grade 4MD)

Grade 5 Winner – Khumbula Ngwenya (Grade 5S)

Grade 6 Winner – Mfundo Mabaso (Grade 6T)

Grade 7 Winner – Simnikiwe Ndlovu (Grade 7N)



FOUNDATION PHASE GEOGRAPHY DAY



FOUNDATION PHASE END OF TERM BLESSING

Assembly: Mr S Topper

This morning's assembly was focused on living a life of significance. Mr Topper used Nelson Mandela as an inspiring role model of a man who lived to serve his community and bring about change by not being focused on himself or his own importance but by leading through service to others.

We were all challenged to look into our own hearts and first love who we are and then use that to look for ways to serve others and become fulfilled by doing things to uplift and care for others. This is a better way to gain self worth than focussing on wealth and success that sometimes only serves an individual.

28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3 v 28)



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday, 25 July	Pre-primary – Grade 2 Blessing Grade 3 – Grade 7 Eucharist
Saturday, 26 July	U11 & u13 Girls 5-a-side Soccer at Laddsworth
Monday, 28 July	Pre-primary to Grade 3 Parent Contact Afternoon
Tuesday, 29 July	Pre-primary to Grade 3 Parent Contact Afternoon
Wednesday, 30 July	Grade 4 to Grade 7 Parent Contact Afternoon
Friday, 1 August	Hooked on Books Show