



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

EASTER TERM

No 1/2004

Dear Parents

The term flies by. The new Removes are no longer so new. They all appear to have progressed happily into College and many have expressed how proud they are to be Johannians. The new staff have settled in and are making a significant contribution to the life of the school. The excellent matric results of last year are a memory. We have, however, recorded them in this newsletter for your interest. Once again we had a 100% pass, 97% matric exemption (university entrance), 28 boys with A aggregates, two of whom achieved 8 distinctions each and two were in the top 50 of the IEB exams. We were also very pleased with our results in 6th Form (Cambridge A Levels).



We congratulate our boys on their hard work, and the teachers on their commitment and hard work. We are proud of these excellent results achieved by the 2003 Matriculants.

CANDIDATES IN THE TOP 50

**Abdul Khaaliq Mohamed
Bradley Roberts Smith**

**Two pupils achieved 8 distinctions
One pupil achieved 7 distinctions
Three pupils achieved 6 distinctions
Seven pupils achieved 5 distinctions**

Notable successes were achieved in the following Higher Grade subjects:

**24 distinctions in Afrikaans
20 distinctions in English
20 distinctions in Physical Science
18 distinctions in Biology
15 distinctions in History
14 distinctions in Maths
6 distinctions in Standard Grade Maths
6 distinctions in Add Maths**

Of seven pupils taking Music as a Matriculation subject, three achieved distinctions.

CANDIDATES WITH A AGGREGATES

NASH

**Andrew CRICHTON
Pierre-Jacques KOTZE
Kemp SWANEPOEL**

HILL	Grant ROTH LISBERGER Marc TANZER
CLAYTON	Gareth BAARS Matthew BECKETT John HENDERSON Neill WRIGHT
THOMSON	Dale BIDDULPH Richard VAN RENSBURG
ALSTON	Reka BOROLE Nicholas BURNETT Ryan DE VILLIERS Marc FREDERICK Grant LEE Zaakir MAHOMEDY Darryn MC CLELAND Robin SAGGERS Bradley SMITH Robert STURGEON Justus VAN DER HOVEN
CLARKE	Warren ABBEY Aleksandar ANDJELPOLJ Rudi BENADE Himal SOOKA
HODGSON	Khaaliq MOHAMED James ROBB

2004 CAMBRIDGE A-LEVEL AND AS LEVEL RESULTS

Top 5 candidates :

Patrick Leckie	A A A A
Rafal Gutaj	A A A B
Jason Bertram	A A A
Tongayi Masvikwa	A A B
Charles Nocker	A B B

2003 – A-Levels
A = 24%
A – C = 64%
A – E = 96%

The summer sports season is over and the excitement at the moment concerns the selection of teams for rugby and hockey. Our 1st Water Polo team reached the final of the KES Tournament and were narrowly defeated 2-3 by Durban High School. This ended a remarkable run of 100 victories – unheard of in the annals of St John’s sport. The rowing

boys took part in the SA Schools Rowing Championships over the past weekend, and did well, coming 7th out of 28 participating boys schools, and winning several medals.

So often our success at Sport is judged on the victories of the 1st Teams. It is however what happens in the B,C and D teams that makes a significant impact on the lives of the majority of boys. I am therefore pleased to congratulate the U15 B Cricket team on their first victory in many years over King Edward's. St John's were 87 all out and KES were 75 all out in the allotted overs. Well done boys! A new exciting development for the golf club is a new putting green, which is being established near the basketball court and new cricket nets.

One of the most notable achievements on the cultural 'front' was that of Garikai Nyaruwata and Michael Fargher who represented St John's as members of the four-man South African debating team. They took part in the world debating championships in Germany and did exceptionally well – see the detailed article on their success. We are very proud of them.

Your sons might have told you that we are holding a St John's mock election and have had speakers from the IP (Patricia de Lille), UDM (Bantu Holomisa), ACDP (Graham Macintosh), NNP (Tom Claasens) with others still to come. Thank you to Mrs Young and Mrs de Souza for their energy and enthusiasm in organising this mock election.

In conclusion it gives me pleasure to announce that Byron Thomas has been made a Prefect in Clayton House. We wish him well.

I look forward to our first Rugby and Hockey fixture against Pretoria Boys' High. This always proves to be a tough match, and I would like to wish our boys the best of luck.

Roger Cameron

ACADEMIC COLOURS were awarded to: **Pier Spinazze, Mykola Welihockyj** and **James Heydenrych**. Congratulations on an excellent achievement!

CULTURAL AWARDS – JANUARY 2004

Garikai Nyaruwata was re-awarded Honours and **Michael Fargher** awarded Honours for Debating.

SA SCHOOLS DEBATING TEAM EXCELS AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

GARIKAI NYARUWATA and **MICHAEL FARGHER** represented SA Schools Debating as part of a team of four at the 14th World Championships held in Stuttgart, Germany recently. South Africa posted its best ever performance, winning all eight preliminary debates and reaching the World Final before being narrowly defeated by Australia. This ranks amongst the greatest achievements in the history of South African debating and is a tribute to the talent and dedication of the four members of the team: Garikai (Captain), Michael, Daniel de Kadt and Vivek Ramsaroop, both from Natal.

During the round-robin section of the competition, the team defeated Canada, England, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, New Zealand, Slovakia and the USA and was ranked second going into the break. The team then beat the USA in the octo-finals, Israel in the quarter-

finals and Greece in the semi-finals. The final was widely hailed as one of the best in recent years, and the closeness was reflected by the division in the adjudication panel: 6 – 3 in favour of Australia.

All four of the team members spoke superbly and demonstrated incredible dedication during and before the competition; they fully deserve their success.



MUSIC AWARDS – JANUARY 2004

Colours have been awarded to **MATTHEW HARTDEGEN** and **CAMRON ANDREWS**.

Half-Colours have been awarded to: **JAMES OESI, ATTIE ESTERHUIZEN, SEAN VAN ZIJL, MPIOLO MASONDO, NIKI SIQEBENGU, THABO MOTAUNG, DEAN RIDER, MAURICE POSNIAK, GRANVILLE MATHESON, KEATON MYBURGH, ADRIAAN DE VILLIERS, RAYMOND MASIL, ROBIN SCHER** and **JAN-HUGO FYFER**. Well done!

UNISA ROLL OF HONOUR – 2003

CONRAD DE KOCK – Pianoforte Grade 5 will appear on The Roll of Honour 2003. In order to be included on the list a candidate who has played for the Practical Music Examination of the department in 2003 must have obtained at least 90%. A fine achievement!

SIMFONIA JUVENTI 2004

Congratulations to **JAMES OESI – Bass** and **SAM PEIRSON – Violin 1** who have been selected as members of Simfonia Juventa. This year the Orchestra, under the direction of Prof Fanie Jooste, consists of 100 pupils from 33 different schools.

INTER-HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL RESULTS

House Award:

1. Clayton 85.9%
2. Nash 83.76%
3. Runge 82.57%
4. Hodgson 81.83%
5. Hill 80.92%
6. Alston 79.29%
7. Clarke 71.46%
8. Thomson 56.29%

Best Individual Performer:	Clayton - Willem Esterhuizen
Best Mass Vocal Group Item:	Nash
Best Instrumental Ensemble:	Clayton
Best Small Vocal Group Item:	Hodgson

CHESS

Adam Earle – Remove has been invited to participate in the SA Junior Closed Tournament from 30 March to 3 April. Congratulations Adam!

SUCSESSES OF OLD BOYS

GRANT LEE has been admitted to his first choice of Ivy League School in America – Brown University. We wish Grant well, and we are sure he will be a credit to St John's.

WELCOME



To **FEDERICO CERÓN** and **ALEJANDRO BARRACO** exchange students from Argentina who have joined College in U5 for 10 weeks.

SPORTS NEWS

JUDO

Congratulations to Alexander Szpytko on winning 1st place in the Central Gauteng Judo trials held on 28 February for the Inter-Provincial tournament. Alexander fought in the Under-90 kilogram, men's group, and won all his fights. He was chosen to represent the Central Gauteng 'A' team for his age group.

South African Schools Rowing Championships 5th - 7th March

Overall Positions

St John's College came 7th out of 28 boys schools competing

Won bronze Medals

Boys Under 14 Scull

Richard Kerr-Phillips

Boys Under 14 Octuple

Sean Daly
Matthew Mac Farlane
Kyle Hanck
Shaughan Lacey
Richard Kerr-Phillips
Bradley Rautenbach
Roy Fisher
Nicholas Sokolsky
Thomas Kerr-Phillips

Boys Under 14 Double

Matthew Mac Farlane
Michael Meijers

Boys Under 14 Octuple

Robert McEwan
Jason Rutenberg
Scott McPherson
Mark Rudling
Alain Fowler
John Morgan
Matthew Lewis
Michael Whitfield
Simon Bosman

Boys Open 1st Pair

Steyn Roets
Lou Du Plessis

Steyn Roets and Lou Du Plessis have been invited to the South African Junior National Trials

Other Results

Boys Under 14 Quad	Daly	4th A-final
Boys Under 14 B Octuple	Karvelas	8th A-Final
Boys Under 15 Quad	Whitfield	5th A-Final
Boys Under 15 Octuple	Pengelly	8th A-Final
Boys Under 16 Quad	Shub	7th A-Final
Boys Under 16 Four	Daly	7th A-Final
Boys Under 16 Eight	Daly	8th A-Final
Boys 2nd Eight	Myburgh	2nd C-Final
Boys 1st Eight	Roets	1st B-Final
Boys 2nd Four	Myburgh	8th A-Final
Boys 1st Quad	Hall	8th A-Final
Boys 1st Four	Roets	7th A-Final

TENNIS

KYLE DAVIDSON has been selected for the Gauteng Central Junior Tennis squad in the Under 16 age group.

WATER POLO

The following St John's boys have been selected to play for the SA Junior Water Polo Team (Under 20) in Poland and Germany, at the International Tournaments from 16 until 28 April 2004.

Chris Brown (L5)

Brian Dudley (L5)

Etienne Le Roux (L5)

Pierre Le Roux (OJ)

This will be a part of preparation for the next year Junior World Champs in Argentina.

Parents may be interested in the following trip that Mrs Hartopp is promoting. There are four places still available:

DAVE JOHNSON'S GALAPAGOS TOUR
Departure 29th May 2004



**7 day Galapagos Cruise - The Amazon
Cloud Forest - Cotopaxi**
This tour has been especially designed for bird lovers
For details contact: Audrey/Janine
Sure TURBO TRAVEL (Pty) Ltd
Tel: (011) 880-6030
Fax: (011) 880-5868
E-mail: ttravel@iafrica.com



Intranet (*Aquila*)

Students, staff and parents have access to *Aquila*, the St John's College intranet/extranet. The web address is <http://intranet.sjc.co.za> The login name and password are the same as the individual login name and password that each student has when he logs on at a College pc. If a student has never logged on before he should visit one of the College computer rooms for assistance.

E-mail

Each student has a St John's e-mail address. For example if a student, say John Smith, is in Lower 5 now, he will matriculate in 2005. His e-mail address will be **05smithj@stjohns.wits.ac.za**
The web address for webmail is <http://webmail.sjc.co.za/exchange>. The username and password are the same as for logging on at a pc. The domain is sjc.

OJ Eagles Hockey

Old Johnnies hockey has been quiet for some years now. Since the selling off of the former Old Johnnies grounds, many members relocated to other clubs. We want to bring OJ Hockey back to St. Johns and have launched OJ Eagles Hockey Club. We are looking for players to initially make up 2 sides to enter the SGHA league. Our home field will be the Gillette synthetic field at St Johns College and we have access to the OJA facilities.

Discussions are under way to give members added benefits, which centre round the Johannian facilities. We are also in the process of tying up a sponsorship deal with one of the top manufacturers of hockey equipment.

For more information please contact:

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The Learning Curve

In future each college newsletter will contain information regarding learning and the learning process. The intention is to provide suggestions and input to parents to aid them as they contribute to the intellectual development of their boys.

Mathematics

Remove boys are in the process of adapting to high school mathematics. The new curriculum requires them to read more instructions and work on extended tasks not just give answers to short questions. This skill takes time to develop. If your son says that he doesn't understand his homework please ask him to spend time reading the instructions more carefully and spend 10-15 minutes trying different approaches. Even if he never gets the answer, the thinking and perseverance with the question will stand him in good stead for the future. He should leave all his pencil work for the teacher to see, so that s/he can help him.

Lower V mathematics requires substantially more interpretation and insight from the boys than anything they have previously encountered. Boys find they know how to use a method but just don't know when to use it. Please encourage your sons to spend time comparing questions not just answering them. If your son asks a family member for help it is very important that he be asked to complete the first step of the question, even if he thinks he is only guessing. This will ensure that he is interpreting the question and developing this very valuable skill.

Dr Sproule

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

The Sisters from Blood Bank reported that we had a superb collection at the Blood Donor Clinic: 40 units were donated in all. Most of this was from the boys. Unfortunately there were another 32 applications to donate, but they were turned down. The Sisters were most impressed with this as it shows that there was a large interest: 72 possibilities!

Interestingly some of the most common reasons for deferral were having been tattooed or having had body piercing in the last 3 months, because of the risk of hepatitis. Blood Bank staff congratulated our boys on their good behaviour and excellent manners.

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



RUGBY
2004
FESTIVAL

Associated with



Dear St John's Parents

St John's College Easter Rugby Festival 2004 – 8, 10 and 12 April

The 2003 annual Rugby Festival was a huge success. Not only did it attract a great number of spectators, but was broadcast via M-Net Supersport throughout South and Southern Africa. The Festival also generated wide print media coverage. It has enhanced St John's reputation and become a showcase of schoolboy rugby as well as a showcase for our school and its entire community.

The Festival generated a substantial surplus. The committee has undertaken to fund for the next two years the salary of a sports development officer whose work will benefit sport throughout the College, the Prep and the Pre-Prep. In addition to this, the festival erected a retractable awning at the Henry Bennett pavilion and also had a permanent water and electrical line laid onto Burger Field and supported the building of the walkway between the Burger and Endean fields

During the 2004 season, St John's will actively support the Alexander Wanderers Rugby Club. These disadvantaged boys are included in coaching sessions at the College and as College sides when St John's itself cannot field a sufficient number of teams. They are transported, fed and housed during these sessions. The Alex Wanderers boys will play in St John's colours against Pretoria Boys High, Hilton College, King Edward VII and St Stithians.

The Easter weekend and the Festival, associated with First National Bank, starts the day after school closes. The Festival Committee sincerely hopes this will mean that many school families will stay in Johannesburg for the Easter Weekend and join us for the Festival.

In an attempt to include all St John's families in the Festival, the Festival Committee allocated each College family with a booklet of six season entry tickets shortly after the February half-term. The winning booklet number will be drawn at a school assembly during the first week of the second term.

The cost of each booklet is R100. 00, and this amount will be debited to each St John's College family's account in Term 1. Only one booklet will be issued to each family. Should you feel that you do not wish to support this worthy cause please return your tickets to your son's Housemaster before the last week of term. Your account will then be credited with the R100. 00

The Committee looks forward to welcoming you, your family and your friends to our 2004 Festival. If, sadly, you will be going away for Easter and are unable to join in the fun of the Festival, the booklet of tickets gives you the opportunity to support St John's College and this highly successful event. You are welcome to give the tickets to friends, colleagues or relatives who will use them. THE LUCKY NUMBER, HOWEVER, REMAINS WITH YOUR FAMILY. Should you wish to purchase more than one book, these will be sold on a first-come-first-served basis only after every family has had an opportunity to take part. Lucky draw prizes include a term's school fees and a computer as well as other valuable prizes.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Easter Rugby Festival.

Yours sincerely

Ron Thomas, Chairman 2004 Organising Committee & Cliff Midgley, Second Master