



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



MICHAELMAS TERM

No 5/2010

Dear Parents

MASIBAMBANE

On this past Saturday, I spoke at the Masibambane College Senior Prize Giving. It was a special celebration of the start of the High School with 90 Grade 8s and Grade 9s, as well as the Grade 7s from the Primary School. It is truly a wonderful story and in many ways has followed the *Venture of Faith* of St John's College. Masibambane was started with 5 pupils and a teacher in a hall in January 1997. One hundred years earlier St John's College was started in August 1898 in a room 8 x 3 metres, 11 pupils and one teacher linked to St Mary's, the local Anglican Church. Johannesburg was 12 years old with dusty roads in winter, muddy roads in summer, corrugated iron shacks and few brick buildings - much the same as Orange Farm 14 years ago.



Today at Masibambane there are over 700 Primary School pupils and next year 140 College pupils. There are classrooms, computer laboratories, science laboratories, a hall and playing fields. It is financially sustainable through school fees and a government subsidy. The buildings have been funded through generous donations from the City of Vienna, and the Cedar Foundation. There have been many other generous donors. Most importantly, the school is a centre of educational excellence and the boys and girls, and the parents and teachers are proud of their school. St John's College has been involved from the beginning and presently the Chairman of Council, Mr Philip Maxton is a St John's parent as is the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr Peter Theunissen. Over the years our association has been strong, with staff and parents deeply involved and committed.

We can be proud of our association with Masibambane. It is a beacon of hope in our country.

FAREWELL TO STAFF

Mr Craig Bosch

Mr Craig Bosch was appointed to St John's College as a teacher in the Science Department in January 1999 and subsequently was appointed Housemaster of Clarke House in September 2002. His duties include teaching Science to senior grades in the school and the leadership and management of Clarke House.

Mr Bosch has proved to be a valuable member of staff and over the years has made a significant contribution to the Science Department and to the lives of individual boys and the boys in his House. He is intelligent, energetic, and has worked within the school with integrity and loyalty. He makes wise judgments and has a valuable insight into the progress of his pupils.

Mr Bosch has a sound knowledge of the science curriculum. He prepares properly for his lessons and has been a supportive member of the Science Department where he has achieved good academic results.

As a housemaster he has been responsible for academic progress as well as the welfare of 80 boys in his House. In this capacity he has served the school well, exercising sound discipline in a fair and consistent



way. He sets clear boundaries and the boys have enjoyed his stern approach because he has at the same time a compassionate heart. He has earned their respect because he knows them and understands their needs. As part of the housemaster body, he has exercised his authority and contributed with wisdom to its common purpose. He has competently organized the Remove camp for 145 new boys each year. During his tenure at St John's College he has also run the Outdoor Club, Scuba Diving Club and the Photographic Club.

Craig is a person of integrity and has been a loyal member of St John's College. He is reflective about the management of the school, and is able to express his opinions strongly, with conviction and insight. At the same time he is a loyal member of staff and seeks what is good for St John's College. He has a particular concern for staff welfare, and will communicate his concerns to his headmaster. He has always acted in a professional manner, respectful of his colleagues and of authority.

Our best wishes accompany him and Christine as they join a new school in Perth, Australia.

Mrs Sandra Laurence

Mrs Laurence joined St John's in January 2000 as an English Teacher. Mrs Laurence does not accept second best from any of her pupils. She demands a high standard and has enjoyed challenging boys to excellence. Her knowledge of her subject is superb and she has taught with intelligence and wisdom. What is special about Mrs Laurence is her breadth of knowledge, not just about the world of language and literature, but also about society, politics and economics. As a pupil in her class you benefitted from this experience of life.

We also thank Mrs Laurence for her role as the Matric Dance Organiser over several years - that memorable evening when Big School and David Quad is transformed into a Russian Winter or mid-summer night's revelry. Besides this Mrs Laurence has helped organise the golden Eagle Award, which recognises a 5-day community service project. Under her guidance boys have worked with *Habitat for Humanity* and built houses in informal settlements; painted orphanages; played with AIDS babies and expressed the *Lux Vita Caritas* of St John's College.

Mrs Laurence has also coached swimming and has contributed to St John's College as a colleague and as a professional. We are grateful for her service and wish her well as she returns to journalism.

Dr Stephen Sproule

We thank Dr Sproule for his contribution to St John's College over the past nine and a half years. One of the strengths of St John's College is that we have on our staff a number of very passionate people. They are often difficult people because they have strong opinions – and they challenge the *status quo*. Stephen is such a person – without doubt he has challenged us to remain true to our key academic task here at St John's.

He has led the Mathematics Department with immense success, and has placed St John's Mathematics firmly on the national stage and contributed significantly to the IEB. He has authored a number of text books for Advanced Programme Mathematics.

His passion for mathematics has ensured that the Maths staff have grown in their professional development. All of this has led to outstanding mathematics results over several years:

22 AP Maths distinctions in the 2008 matric group
Having 27 of his class of 28 boys achieve an A for Maths in 2008
16 boys achieve 99% for Maths Higher Grade in 2007
Over 50 boys achieve distinctions last year

Mathematics has been one of the strengths of the school and we have used our status as the top Mathematics department in South Africa to market St John's College. Our Maths Department is the envy of many schools.



One of the characteristics of the Maths Department under Dr Sproule's leadership has been its remarkable collegiality and support for each other. He has made wise appointments.

Dr Sproule leaves us to go to the University of Tennessee in the conservative south of the USA. We wish him, Amy and his boys everything of the best and God's richest blessing.

Mr Rick Clarke

Mr Clarke's contribution to St John's College has been immense. He took over from Mr Michael Marais who has almost legendary status. He needed to manage a talented but challenging and diverse group of experienced teachers and he needed to bring about a change to the management of the department. He needed to ensure that his department were working together in support of each other as a team going in the same direction. This he has achieved.

He has made some excellent appointments to the English Department over the past 5 years, he has managed the move to the new classrooms, and he has shifted the teachers into the electronic age with white boards and projectors.

The English Department results have been excellent. The largest group of boys of any South African school (160) entered the English Olympiad. We have had two top 10 finalists in the last 5 years.

Mr Clarke has been involved in organizing an IEB Regional conference hosted by St John's and a national conference, and he has been involved in marking matric papers.

We have been impressed by his wisdom and his determination. He has earned the respect of your colleagues by at all times upholding academic excellence, but at the same time having the breadth of vision to understand the nature of schooling and boys. The English Department under your leadership has been outstanding.

Mr Clarke has coached cricket and hockey and his performance in Grobs as the Rowan Atkinson schoolmaster was outstanding.

We will claim his marriage to Natalie as a St John's romance and Olivia as a St John's baby.

We wish you all the best as you join Wellington College, UK, next year as housemaster. We are confident that you will do well.

Ms Sarah May

Ms Sarah May has spent two valuable years with us. She came to us as an intern and in this past year was employed as a full-time teacher in the Maths Department. She has contributed widely, not only in the classroom, but also with the organization of swimming and she has run an accounting club. We wish her all the best at Kingsmead where she will be teaching next year.

Finally to all the St John's College boys, girls, teachers, parents and friends may God bless you richly over this Christmas time. I end with the words of Meister Eckhart as quoted by Father Jaques Pretorius:

*What good is it to me
if Mary gave birth to the Son of God
fourteen hundred years ago
if I also do not give birth to the Son of God
in my own time
and my own culture*

**Roger Cameron
Headmaster**



STAFF NEWS

Robin van Ginkel was awarded the Southern Gauteng Hockey Coach of the Year award at the yearly hockey awards ceremony held in Randburg.

He coached the following teams:

St John's College 1st X - Finished 3rd in Aitken Tournament
Wanderers Club 1st XI Senior men's team in the premier league - 2nd in the premier league
Southern Gauteng men's provincial B team - won the S.A. Inter Provincial Tournament
S.A. National U/18 Schools team coach

Adrian Carolan was also awarded a Certificate of Service to Hockey at the same ceremony. He attained his FIH (Federation of International Hockey) Coaching certificate in development.

UPPER V DRAMATIC ARTS SUPPER THEATRE

Held in Big School on 28 September 2010

The Upper V Dramatic Arts students presented their Grade 12 IEB Practical Examination Programmes to parents and interested staff as 'dress rehearsal' for their final examination which was held on the morning of 2 October 2010 in Big School. These practical programmes represent 25% of the final mark for Dramatic Arts and the boys had spent many hours honing their pieces for the best result possible. The requirements for the examination are rigorous; each boy is expected to perform an individual item/monologue, participate in a group scene and present one other item of their own choice, such as stand-up comedy, a song or a Physical Theatre piece. The boys in each group arrange their pieces into a cohesive programme and are marked accordingly.



Kyle Mather as Sersant Marais in Geig Coetzee's
'White Men with Weapons'



Dave Jacobs and Rea Khumbane as the Commedia dell'Arte
characters, El Capitano and Pulcinella

The boys performed exceptionally well and the parents and staff who attended the Supper Theatre were astounded by the superb quality of their work. They went on to perform brilliantly in their actual examination and the examiner, Ms Carol Fields, remarked that the work was the best she had seen in the entire country.

We are extremely proud of our boys and their results.

Russell Untiedt and Phillipa Sandilands



South African Mathematics Olympiad

The following boys finished in the top 100 students in Gauteng in the **Senior** Mathematics Olympiad this year:

Grade 10: **M Sacranie, O Newton–Hill, M Mangera, L Nel, B Kalidas**

Grade 11: **L Buisson-Street, S Burger, R Dalton, T Geffen, S Jamnadas, R Kholabai, M Lee, E Mohammed, J Prinsloo, A Rathugamage, G Rowan, P Swart, M Trengove, G Varughese, J Wood**

In addition **Jason Smythe** and **Himal Kooverjee** finished in the top 100 seniors in South Africa and receive a medal from the SA Maths Foundation.

The following boys finished in the top 100 student in Gauteng in the **Junior** Mathematics Olympiad this year:

A Diayar, T Marks, J O'Connor, M Reed, P Venkatakrishnan, N Viviers

In addition **Adrian Jennings** and **Michael Davies** finished in the top 100 juniors in South Africa and received a medal from the SA Maths Foundation.

Benedict Didcott-Marr not only finished in the top 100 juniors in South Africa but was also one of the top achievers in Gauteng.

Stephen Sproule
HOD: Mathematics

62nd Intel International Science and Engineering Fair

Schalk Burger and Peter Raney have been selected to represent South Africa at the 62nd Intel International Science and Engineering Fair that takes place in Los Angeles, California, USA from 8-13 May 2011.

Congratulations to both young men.

EMS Stock Exchange Game

At the beginning of each term, boys in Lower IV had an opportunity to take part in the game based on the Stock Exchange. The boys formed syndicates and learned how to trade on the Stock Exchange with a virtual portfolio of R1 million. The boys who gained the greatest profit won the challenge, and are awarded prizes sponsored by FNB. In the photo are winners from the third term, together with EMS teacher Mr. Sipiwe Vilakazi:

1. **Cameron Dry**
2. **Ponoane Molemo**
3. **Odirile Kgosana**



Left to right: **Mr. Sipiwe Vilakazi, Odirile Kgosana, Ponoane Molemo and Cameron Dry**



SAIT – SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT TESTS

Congratulations to Reshard Kolabhai on being awarded a gold medal by the University of New South Wales, Australia as a result of his excellent performance in this year's SIAT (ICAS) tests.

His performance in English has placed him as the top student in South Africa in English in Grade 11 of all those students who participated in the tests.

Gauteng and South African Teams for Water Polo 2010

U13 A

M Motsiri
H Ledley
M Irvine

U14 A

D Testa
J Chemaly

U14 B

B Skirving
C Strong
C Moses

U15 A

R Olver
D Trninic
N Vosloo
A Kuttschreuter
B Van Staden
N McLaughlin
D Henson

Pierre Le Roux
Coach

U16 A

W Antonites
J Stephenson

U19 B

J Cowper
A du Plessis

U19 A

M Irvine
N Hock

South African U18 Team

N Hock

South African U20 Team

M Irvine
M Dryden



Christmas Reflections from a Chaplain

As we reach the end of 2010, we reflect on an 'interesting' year. Dominated by the World Cup, which was a joy and feather in the cap for the country, with considerable 'feel good' spinoff, the school year was thrown out of kilter by the odd holidays and terms.

The school faced a number of exciting aspects and challenges, but also had some rather trying and worrying incidents as well. Reflecting on what we've been through, it is not a year I for one would like to repeat, but we are probably in a better place for having been through it.

Now as we move into the season of Advent, where the church prepares for coming of Christ in history and in the future, the Christmas story looms ever larger. The story of a God who loved us so much that He gave up all the joys and glory of heaven and humbled himself as a baby – tiny, dependent, and fragile – so that our fallenness could be overcome and our world could be given new hope.

A sadness for me as a chaplain is that we close down at the beginning of December, and so the full wonder of this story is only briefly touched on. The joyous family celebrations of Christmas are often detached from their foundation. Rather than try and extend the school year by three weeks (which I am certain would not have the support of any of the boys, or teachers for that matter), I would like to encourage you all to try and find a church wherever you are over Christmas and join in their celebrations as part of the great family of Christ.

For those who are not going away, you are invited to join any of the churches nearby. To help you, I include a number of the churches and the details of the services they will be holding over this period:

St John's Parish, Houghton, (meeting in the school's Crypt chapel)

Sunday 5 th	18h30	Carol Service
Christmas	09h00	Christmas Eucharist

St Michael's, Bryanston, (Cnr Bryanston Drive & Mount Street)

Sunday 19 th	18h30	Nine Lessons & Carols
Friday 24 th	17h00	Crib Service
	22h30	Midnight Eucharist
Christmas	06h30	Said Eucharist
	08h30	Sung Eucharist - Church
		Family Eucharist - Hall
	10h30	Sung Eucharist - Church
		Family Eucharist - Hall

St Martin's, Rosebank, 43 Cradock Ave, Dunkeld

Friday 24 th	17h00	Children's Service
Christmas	07h30	Christmas Eucharist
	09h30	Christmas Eucharist

St Luke's, Orchards, 18 High Road

Sunday 19 th	19h00	Carol Service
Friday 24 th	16h00	Children's Service
	23h00	Midnight Eucharist
Christmas	06h00	Christmas Eucharist
	07h30	Christmas Eucharist
	09h30	Christmas Eucharist

St John the Evangelist, Sandton, 1 Pam Road Morningside

Sunday 5 th	08h30	Christmas Cantata
Friday 24 th	23h00	Midnight Mass
Christmas	08h30	Christmas Service

St. Francis, Parkview, 48 Tyrone Ave

Sunday 19 th	18h00	Carols in the garden (bring your picnic)
Friday 24 th	17h30	Family Service
	23h00	Midnight Mass
Christmas	08h30	Christmas Eucharist

St Augustine's, Orange Grove, 83 9th Street

Sunday 5 th	18h00	Christingle Service
Friday 24 th	23h00	Midnight Mass
Christmas	08h30	Christmas Eucharist

St Thomas's, Linden, 75 8th Street

Friday 24 th	22h30	Midnight Mass
Christmas	06h00	Christmas Eucharist
	08h00	Christmas Eucharist
	09h45	Christmas Eucharist

St George's, Parktown; 7 Sherbourne Road

Sunday 5 th	18h00	Carol Service
Friday 24 th	17h00	Children's Crib Service
	23h00	Midnight Eucharist
Christmas	07h00	Christmas Eucharist
	09h00	Christmas Eucharist



Sports Concussion Programme 2011
Supported by Panado



Dear Parents, Scholars and Coaches

THE SCHOOLS SPORTS CONCUSSION PROGRAMME 2011

The **Schools Sports Concussion Programme**, now in its 6th year, aims to make contact and collision sports safer by preventing the potentially serious consequences of head injury. I am extremely grateful to all coaches, parents and scholars who have co-operated in helping to evolve our protocols. The protocols are based on international guidelines and form the basis of SA Rugby's concussion protocols and the Boksmart injury prevention programme (see www.boksmart.com). In addition I am very pleased to announce our association with **Panado**. Apart from helping to sponsor our concussion laboratories in Rosebank and Morningside, together we will be driving a sports concussion awareness week on Radio 702 in early February 2011.

The annual Sports Concussion Programme fee of **R280** includes:

- Sports Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT) information cards for the school
- A school link to www.sportsconcussion.co.za
- As many consultations as necessary by a sports doctor after any suspected concussion.
- A free baseline computer brain function test before the season (performed at your school or in one of our laboratories).
- As many follow-up brain function tests as necessary after any concussion.
- Return-to-sport guidelines after a concussion.

The purpose of the programme is to return the injured player to sport as soon as is safely possible. As per current international guidelines which emphasise that returning to play is a medical decision, the Schools Sports Concussion Programme is managed by doctors experienced in concussion assessments. At no time should a player be returned to sport following a concussion without being thoroughly assessed by a doctor. We have a team including neuropsychologists who provide support especially in the interpretation of computerised tests and assessment of post-concussion complications.

We place most emphasis on the repeated examination of the concussed child by a doctor and hence offer as many consultations as required until the clinical criteria are satisfied for return to play. In line with international trends, we continue to research the integration of computer brain function software in detecting subtle brain changes. Central to the success of this project is the **baseline computer brain function test** which provides with important information against which to compare your child's post injury scores. Please contact **Karen at 011-8839000** or **Julia at 084-678 5000** to arrange for testing. Please go to www.sportsconcussion.co.za for more concussion information.

Yours faithfully

Dr Jon Patricios
(011-8839000 / sportsconcussion@mweb.co.za)

www.sportsconcussion.co.za

"Return to play, the safer way!"



2011 1st Term Cricket Fixtures (NB FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO RAIN AND JOHN WAITE FIXTURES)

Date	Fixture	1st	2nd	3rd	4 th	5th	16a	16b	16c	15a	15b	15c	15d	14a	14b	14c	14d
15 Jan	St Stithians	A 9-5	A 9-5 H Mit	H 1-5 C Rug	H 9-1 C Rug		A 9-5	A 1-5	A 9-1	H 9-5 Rice	A 1-5	A 9-1	H 9-1 D Rug				
Wed 19 Jan	Heidelberg	H JWK Mitch															
Wed 19 Jan	King Edward			A 2-6	A2-6		H2-6 Rice	H 2-6 C Rug			H 2-6 D rug				A 2-6	A2-6	
Thur 20 Jan	King Edward					A3-6			H 3-6 Mitch			H3-6 Rice	H 3-6 C rug				A 3-6
Sat 22 Jan	Grey College	H 9-5 Mitch	H9-5 Rice							H9-5 C Rug				H9-5 DRug			
Sun 23 Jan	St Andrews	H 9-5 Mitch	H9-5 Rice							H9-5 C Rug				H9-5 DRug			
Wed 26 Jan	King David		A JWK														
Wed 26 Jan	Trinity			A JWK													
Wed 26 Jan																	
Thur 27 Jan	Randburg				H 3-6 Mitch				H 3-6 Rice			A 3-6			H 3-6 CRug	A 3-6	H Ast 3-6
Sat 29 Jan	Randburg	H 9-5 Mitch	A 9-5	A 9-1			H 9-5 Rice			A 9-5				H 9-5 CRug			
Wed 2 Feb	Parktown			A 2-6		H 3-6 Mitch		H 2-6 Rice			H2-6 C Rug		H Astro		A 2-6		
Thur 3 Feb	Parktown				H 3-6 Mitch				A 3-6			H Rice				H CRug	A 3-6
Sat 5 Feb	Parktown	H 9-5 Mitch	A 9-5				A 9-5			H 9-5 Rice				H 9-5 CRug			
Wed 9 Feb	Alberton			A 2-6		A 2-6		H 2-6 Mitch	H2-6 Rice		A 2-6	H 2-6 C Rug					A 2-6
Sat 12 Feb	Alberton	A 9-5	H9-5 Mitch				H 9-5 Rice			A9-5				A 9-5	H 9-1 C Rug	A 9-1	
Wed 16 Feb	Affies			H 2-6 Mitch	H 2-6 Rice			A2-6	A2-6		A2-6	H 2-6 C rug	H 2-6 D rug				H 2-6 Astro
Sat 19 Feb	Affies	A 9-5	H 9-5 Mitch				H 9-5 Rice			A 9-5				A 9-5	H 2-6 C Rug	H 9-1 C Rug	
Wed 23 Feb	CBC Boksburg				H2-6 Mitch	H Rice Rice			A2-6			A2-6	A2-6			H2-6 C Rug	H2-6 Astro
Wed 2 Mar	St Benedicts		H 2-6 Mitch	H 2-6 Rice	A2-6		A 2-6	H 2-6 C Rug			A2-6				A2-6		
Thur 3 Mar	St Benedicts		H 3-6 Mitch				A 3-6		A3-6				H 3-6 Rice			H 3-6 C Rug	A3-6
Sat 5	St Benedicts	H 9-5 Mitch								H 9-5 Rice				H9-5 CRug			
24 February to 28 February			1 st XI St Alban's Private School Festival				U15A St Stithians Private School Festival				U14A St Peter's Festival						

MITCH: MITCHELL; C RUG: C RUGBY; JWK: JOHN WAITE KNOCKOUT ; A/H:ALBERTON HIGH; MV:MARAIS VILJOEN;LENS:LENASIA



CRICKET PRACTICE SCHEDULE

NET SESSIONS

NETS	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MITCHELL	14A/B	16A/15A	MATCHES	1 ST /2 ND	14C/14D/14E
RICE	4 TH /5 TH	15C/D	ONE ON ONE	16B/15B	14B/15C/D
C RUGBY	14C/D/E	16C	SESSIONS	3 RD /4 TH /5 TH /16B	
WATERPOLO					

FIELD SESSIONS

FIELD	MONDAY	TUESDAY	THURSDAY
MITCHELL	1 ST	16B	16A
RICE	2 ND	15B	15A
C RUGBY	3 RD		14A

COACHING STAFF

1 ST	A NORRIS	15A	D SELEPE
2 ND	TBC	15B	R VENTER
3 RD	G HEIDT	15C	N FOCHE
4 TH	D BRADLEY	15D	G BOSSERT
5 TH	K ARLOW	14A	L MANTHTATA
16A	M HEUNIS	14B	A LION-CACHET/STUDENT
16B	C MILLIGAN	14C	J KUIPER
16C	A ROBINSON	14D	M HYSAMER/DAVIES

CRICKET: 1ST WEEK PRACTICE/TRIAL SCHEDULE

TEAM	DATE	TIME	VENUE
U14	MONDAY 10 JANUARY	14:00-16:00	MITCHELL NETS
U14	WEDNESDAY 12 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	C RUGBY
U15	WEDNESDAY 12/ THURSDAY 13	14:30-17:00	PREP/C RUGBY
U16	WEDNESDAY 12/THURSDAY 13	14:30-17:00	RICE
OPEN	WEDNESDAY 12/THURSDAY 13	14:30-17:00	MITCHELL

SATURDAY 15 CRICKET FIXTURES VS ST STITHIANS (SEE FIXTURE LIST)

