



# ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

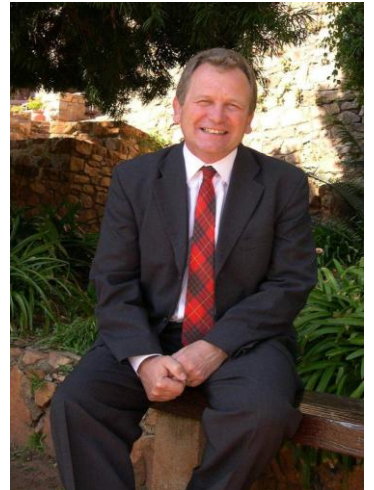
## NEWSLETTER

EASTER TERM

No 2/2011

Dear Parents

**The International Boys Schools Coalition National Conference** was held at St John's College over this past weekend. It was organised by Mr Warwick Taylor and a team of St John's College staff. The response from the 150 delegates from all the major boys' schools from throughout South Africa was very positive. This was an encouraging time for teachers to reflect on their practice of teaching boys. One of the keynote speakers was Dr Adam Cox a psychologist and author from the USA. His books *No Mind Left Behind* and *Boys of Few Words* deal with the eight essential pillars of cognitive development in boys' to enable them to be successful and to communicate and connect. He also addressed parents' on these topics, giving much food for thought and imparting much wisdom. A number of our staff led workshops topics ranging from: *The challenges of running a successful sports programme*; *Articulating emotion through dramatic performance*; and *Creating structures and opportunities for music*. I do commend and thank our teachers on their contribution to the national educational debate about the effective education of boys.



### Community Service at St John's College

One of the essential roles we have as educators is to hold up to boys a challenge to shape and contribute to the needs of our society. In South Africa we face several crises in the areas of poverty, health, education and service delivery. Boys need to be challenged to be men of justice and righteousness. They need to be challenged to stand for truth, beauty and goodness. This is particularly important for boys who come from privileged homes and a privileged school.

Every boy is expected to do 18 hours of community service per year. This will be monitored by his tutor and recorded on his term report. This is a minimum requirement for success at St John's College. Rev Tsepo Matubatuba continues to take boys to charities in Yeoville and Berea on Monday, Thursday and Friday afternoons.

The Eagle Award this year will be organised by Mr Siphwe Vilakazi and will take place over 5 days at Othandweni Children's' Home from 25 – 29 April. It will involve purposeful work: painting, building and repairs as well as contact with young children, organising games and building relationships. This service opportunity will count towards the service component of the gold President's badge and can earn an eagle badge from St John's College.

Any boy who hopes to be a leader at St John's College needs to have demonstrated his willingness to do voluntary work for others.

### Summer Sporting Programme

I include some comments from the sports coaches. We have had a good season with some significant successes and pleasing results:

## **Summer Season 2011 - Easter Term**

### **Cricket Season**

*We have had a busy and successful cricket season. More games were scheduled in an effort to ensure that all teams were able to compete. This and some missed games due to rain which were subsequently played later in the season, resulted in some congestion. The cricket staff are thanked for their commitment and dedication as well as the hours they put into practice and umpiring.*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> XI season was a successful one. For the first time in many years the team managed to beat both Maritzburg College as well as Grey College .U15A, U16A and the 1<sup>st</sup> XI attend their respective Independent School Cricket festivals returning with some mixed results. Throughout the season there were some very good individual and team performances from all the age groups and we look forward to the start of the new season.*

**Adi Norris**

### **Basketball Season**

*The highlight of the 2011 summer basketball season has been our annual under 16 and under 19 tournaments. This year we had a lot more schools participating, and the level of competition was quite high. It was good to see so many young men of different cultural backgrounds and nationalities compete in an atmosphere of good sportsmanship and goodwill. We will endeavour to keep up the high standard witnessed this year and play our part in lifting the standard of basketball being played in the Southern African region.*

**Enock Kamangira**

### **Water Polo**

*The U15 Water Polo team lost in the Semi-finals to St Stithians 9 – 8 after losing to them 10 – 1 in the first game of the season. They have worked very hard to close the gap with the top water polo teams in the country and we are very proud of them with their performance at the Indigo National U15 Water Polo Tournament. We hope that they can continue to show this type of dedication and commitment to the sport.*

*A special mention to the 1<sup>st</sup> Team Water Polo for remaining in the top 4 schools in the country on a very good achievement, especially as we have a very young team this year. They played good water polo and have beaten the top sides in the country this year. The lack of experience finally showed in the semi-finals when they lost to eventual winners KES. We are very proud of them and pleased with their performance and hard work.*

*Christopher Thurling (L4) was awarded a Headmaster's Lollypop Award as one of the keenest and most dedicated water polo players in the College.*

**Pierre Le Roux**

### **Golf**

*The sides are lying in the following positions out of 12 per league :*

- A – 9<sup>th</sup>*
- B – 4<sup>th</sup>*
- C – 3<sup>rd</sup>*
- D – 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Aaron Krishna is currently lying 19<sup>th</sup> (out of 220) in the Central Gauteng Schools league.*

**Bradley Cotterell**

## **Rowing**

*The rowers did particularly well this year, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> to St Benedict's at the Junior South African Championships for the second consecutive year. Amidst all the fine achievements on the water, the moment that stands out most in my mind is the sight of all 75 rowers huddled in front of the trailer outside the VLC shed after unloading after SA Champs. It is 7:30pm on Sunday evening, they are exhausted after three days of racing, but they manage to shout a war cry which reverberates off the buildings on the opposite side of Germiston Lake. For the senior opens, it marks the end of their last regatta as Johannians: they are openly shedding tears; but they are not unhappy. Each member of the club has accomplished something, they move away in groups, heading for bed and a much-needed rest.*

**Matthew Taylor**

## **Swimming**

*The highlight of the swimming season this year was seeing James Verhagen, MG Visser and Gareth Baker win their races at the Inter-High gala, where Gareth Baker won the junior individual medley by beating the South African Champion.*

**James Joseph**

## **Winter Sports Programme**

This coming weekend we commence our winter programme playing rugby and hockey against Jeppe Boys High. Jeppe has always proved to be a be a tough rival and I look forward to exciting games played with true St John's passion and sportsmanship.

At the beginning of the season I reminded you of the agreed policy we have established between all our rugby/hockey playing schools with regard to parent support on the side of the field.

We are educating boys on the sports field to play fairly and not to question the decisions of referees. We want them to play the game and even if decisions go against them, to remain focussed on the game. This is undermined by parents who shout abuse at the referees and question their decisions. We ask parents to refrain from this practice.

We also strongly request parents to sit in the allocated seats or areas and not to march up and down the touchline shouting encouragement or advice to players. Please desist from shouting abuse at the opposition, however angry or upset you might be. They are also boys just like your sons and they are trying their best. I encourage you to applaud good play on both teams and not to jeer or laugh at mistakes from the opposition.

Finally let us encourage our boys to be mentally prepared, to go onto the field confident and wanting to win. Let's encourage them to play hard and fair till the final whistle has blown. Let them be robust and resilient.

I am sure that we will enjoy an exciting and challenging winter sports programme, and that your sons will come out stronger and more confident. You may wish to purchase SJC supporters tops from the Shop. It would be good to have lots of support from parents.

Regards

Roger Cameron  
Headmaster

## MUSIC

Jason Smythe has been selected as a member (Trombone) of *Simfonia Juventi 2011 Orchestra* (together with 97 pupils, representing home schooling and 29 different schools) from around the country.

The contemporary music competition “Viebz” took place at St Andrew’s School for Girls during February 2011. The competition is sponsored by Lovemore Music Centre competition.

Jordan Sunnasy (drum kit) entered for the junior category, and Jason Strong (guitar) entered for the senior category. Both St John’s College pupils won their sections, and were presented with gift vouchers redeemable at Lovemore Music Centre. We congratulate these two pupils for winning the competition!

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## PUBLIC SPEAKING

Congratulations are due to Kai Brummer, this year’s winner of the Senior Impromptu Speaking Competition. Kai will be awarded the Chilvers Cup on Speech Night later this year.

Congratulations are also due to Michael Macklin for his fine performance at last week’s Senior Prepared Public Speaking Competition. He fought off stiff competition from a large field of fine speakers, particularly Markus Trengove and Jacques van Rhyn who were this year’s runners up. Michael will receive the O’Dowd Medal for Senior Prepared Speaking later in the year at Speech Night.

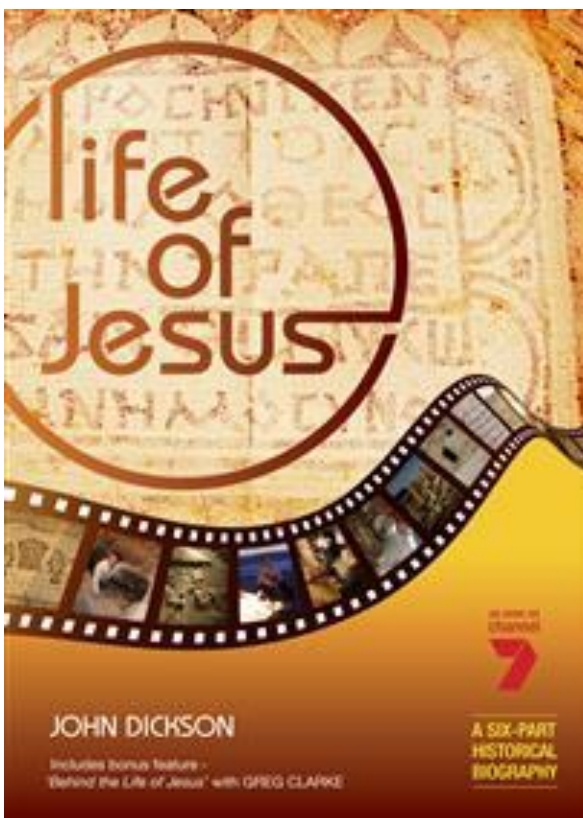
The Junior Impromptu Speaking Competition was won by Kyllian Pather. The runner-up was Daniel Erasmus. Both these boys are outstanding public speakers, and we look forward to listening to their wild and whirling words in the future.

The team of Gianluca Agostinetti, Naeem Vallee, Luke Reid and S’bo Nene were awarded an A symbol for their Grade 10 Impromptu Speaking run by the SA Guild of Speech and Drama. Well done, boys.

Wendy Young

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## Life of Jesus Lent Course



The Parish of St John’s invites all members of the St John’s Community to join us for the Lent Course this year.

The Diocese of Johannesburg has agreed that all the churches in the diocese should use the same material and run a common Lent Course this year. We will be using the “Life of Jesus” Course.

The Life of Jesus course is a book club with a difference. Over six sessions you will watch a full scale documentary on the life of one of history’s most intriguing figures. You will also have the chance to read one of the ancient biographies, the Gospel according to Luke, on which the documentary is partly based.

The purpose of the course is straightforward: to provide the inquiring, the sceptical and believers alike with an opportunity to explore Jesus’ life and to consider its significance for today. Whatever your current perspective, we are confident you will be informed and entertained.

The Parish will be running the Lent Course on **Wednesday evenings** from **19h00** to about 20h30 in the **College Divinity Room** (north-western corner of David Quad) starting on **16 March**. Please do join us for these 6 evenings. Contact Ian Stevens at 082 348-6053.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Inter-House Gala – Thursday 20 January 2011

TROPHY	WINNER
U14 Medley Medal	Hodgson
U15 Medley Medal	Hill
U16 Medley Medal	Thomson
U17 Medley Medal	Fleming
Open Medley Cup	Hill
U14 Relay Medal	Fleming
U15 Relay Medal	Hill
U16 Relay Medal	Thomson
U17 Relay Medal	Thomson
Open Relay Medal	Hill
Combined Relay Medal	Fleming
Headmaster's Medal	MG VISSER
Junior Individual U14 Medal	A VENTER
Best U15 Swimmer Junior Individual Medal	B SKIRVING
Gostelli Memorial Medal (U16)	G BAKER
Best U17 Swimmer Medal	J COWPER
Senior Individual Medal	M CLOETE
Proteus Medal for Individual Medley	J VERHAGEN
House Spirit Award	Runge

<b>1</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>NASH</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>THOMSON</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>HILL</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>ALSTON</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>300.5</b>	<b>FLEMING</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>299.5</b>	<b>CLAYTON</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>HODGSON</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>CLARKE</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>RUNGE</b>

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## CHESS

The St John's College Chess Team won the South Gauteng High Schools Chess League for 2011.

The team members are:

George Varughese (Captain)  
Jaishil Modi  
Neil Viviers  
Nick Lambropoulos  
Jonathan Georgiades  
Eric McLaughlin  
Hano Prinsloo



## **SPORTS CONCUSSION TEST PROGRAMME 2011**

Dear Parents

The Schools Sports Concussion Programme, now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year, aims to make contact and collision sports safer by preventing the potentially serious consequences of head injury.

The purpose of the programme is to return the injured player to sport as soon as is safely possible. At no time should a player return to sport following a concussion without being thoroughly assessed by a doctor.

Central to this we encourage you to let your son do a "baseline computer brain test" which will cost you R280-00; this will be charged to your account. The test includes the following:

- As many consultations as necessary by a sports doctor after any suspected concussion.
- A free baseline computer brain function test before the season starts.
- As many follow-up brain function tests as necessary after any concussion.
- Return-to-sport guidelines after a concussion.
- Sports Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT) information cards for the school.
- A school link to [www.sportsconccussion.co.za](http://www.sportsconccussion.co.za)

These tests will be conducted on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2011 in the IT lab at the school from 15H00 onwards.

To avoid any disappointment your son needs to make an appointment ASAP with Mr Lourens. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Mr Lourens.

Yours faithfully

Stefan Lourens  
Director Rugby

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



**RUGBY**  
2011  
**FESTIVAL**

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A S H O W C A S E O F S C H O O L B O Y R U G B Y

**PREPARATORY SCHOOLS**

TIME	THURSDAY 21 APRIL	TIME	SATURDAY 23 APRIL	TIME	MONDAY 25 APRIL
07h30	Clifton vs Pridwin: Burger	07h30	Virginia vs St Benedict's: Burger	08h15	Leeuwenhof v St Benedict's: Burger
					Cordwalles v Woodridge: C Rugby
08h15	Cordwalles vs Virginia: Burger	08h15	Clifton vs The Ridge: Burger	09h00	St John's vs Clifton: Burger
	Leeuwenhof vs The Ridge: C Rugby		St John's vs Cordwalles: C Rugby		The Ridge v Virginia C Rugby
09h00	St John's vs Jeppe Prep: Burger	09h00	Jeppe Prep vs Woodridge: Burger	09h45	Jeppe Prep v Pridwin: C Rugby
	St Benedict's vs Woodridge: C Rugby				
11h00	Cordwalles vs Leeuwenhof: C Rugby	10h30	Leeuwenhof vs Pridwin: C Rugby		
11h45	Jeppe Prep vs The Ridge: C Rugby	11h15	St John's vs Virginia: C Rugby		
		12h00	Woodridge vs Clifton: C Rugby		
		12h45	Pridwin vs St Benedict's: C Rugby		

**1ST XV TEAMS – BURGER FIELD**

TIME	THURSDAY 21 APRIL	TIME	SATURDAY 23 APRIL	TIME	MONDAY 25 APRIL
09h45	Hoërskool Florida vs Lions	09h45	St John's, Harare vs Parktown Boys'	09h45	St John's, Harare vs Paarl Boys'
11h00	Nelspruit Hoërskool vs St John's, Jhb	11h00	FNB Invitation vs Lions	11h00	FNB Invitation vs Parktown Boys'
12h15	AFFIES vs St John's Harare	12h15	Nelspruit Hoërskool vs Daniel Pienaar	12h15	Daniel Pienaar vs Millfield School
13h30	Daniel Pienaar vs FNB Invitation	13h30	OPENING CEREMONY	13h30	St John's, Jhb vs Lions
14h45	Millfield School vs Paarl Boys'	13h45	Hoërskool Florida vs Paarl Boys'	14h45	Paul Roos vs Nelspruit Hoërskool
16h00	Parktown Boys' vs Paul Roos	15h00	Paul Roos vs AFFIES	16h00	Hoërskool Florida vs AFFIES
		16h15	St John's, Jhb vs Millfield School		