

ST STITHIANS COLLEGE

A South African School Making a World of Difference

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Dear One & All,

It is hard to believe that the end of the year is upon us. The last few weeks are always very busy but the true spirit of Christmas was demonstrated in our first combined Carols by Candlelight held on 3 November. Many thanks to all the students and staff who worked so hard to produce some truly melodious sounds and helped us remember the true meaning of Christmas. And of course thanks to the OSA who took the initiative to coordinate an all schools carol service.



RECYCLING

The College recycled 5460 kg of waste in October compared to 3000 kg in September; this included paper, plastic and cans. An income of R3944 was generated for the month so not only are we reducing our wastage levels but we are generating an income to further assist our recycling efforts. On the last page of the newsletter is a recycling checklist – print it out and stick it on the fridge! Please recycle and help us all reduce our carbon footprint.



Thanks to René Swart, our Operations Director, for the checklist and generally her drive around recycling on campus. We aim to be carbon neutral by 2015, so hopefully the recycling project will give us a major boost towards this goal.



ST STITHIANS
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Rector's

Newsletter no. 9

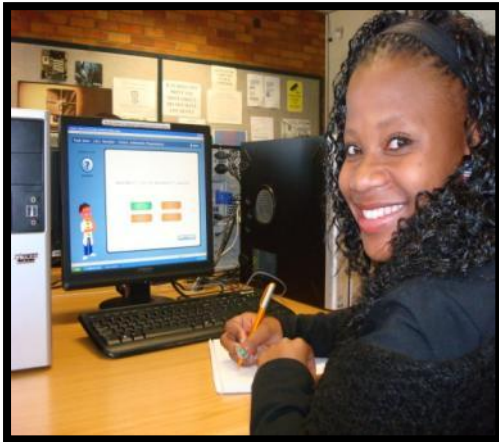
25 November

2011



FOUNDATION

Thandulwazi and Mathletics working in partnership to improve maths education in Gauteng



One of the key objectives of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy is to improve the learning and teaching of Maths in schools across Gauteng. During 2011, over 800 learners attending the Thandulwazi Saturday School and more than 680 teachers attending the Thandulwazi teacher workshops were registered for the *Mathletics* programme and received individual *Mathletics*

logins. *Mathletics* is an internet based Mathematics programme, developed in line with the national curriculum, and offers students the opportunity to practice mathematical concepts and examples/ problems on-line, either in the Thandulwazi computer labs or on PCs at home/ school. *Mathletics* is a self-study tool, which has proved to be very successful in a number of schools, and has added an additional dimension to the Mathematics lessons offered to students at the Thandulwazi Saturday School. Thandulwazi teachers are also able to use the programme as an assessment tool and to improve their own Mathematic skills.

Several teachers have written letters describing how the Thandulwazi workshops and *Mathletics* have benefitted them as teachers, helped them to hone their Mathematics skills and to improve their computer skills as well. Mr S Ngwenya wrote that: "*Mathletics has made me competitive, especially when competing with other Mathletics users from around the world. I received six Mathletics certificates (four bronze and two silver) over the last few months.*"

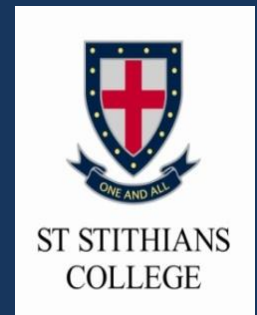
Mathletics has added value to the Thandulwazi programmes this year and the St Stithians Foundation is grateful to OMNIA/ Protea Chemicals, who sponsored this programme for the Thandulwazi beneficiaries.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

Phantom of the Opera supports Thandulwazi



Broadway's longest running musical, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* has experienced sell out seasons around the world, and will now play at the Teatro at Montecasino from 31 Jan 2012. Having played to more than 100 million people in 149 cities



"Men stumble over the truth from time to time, but most pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing has happened."

Sir Winston Churchill



around the world, this full-scale production directed by Harold Prince is arguably the most popular musical of all time.

The St Stithians Foundation has been offered the opportunity to benefit from a performance of Phantom of the Opera on Sunday 11 March 2012 at 18:00. All proceeds will go to the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. We would ask the St Stithians community to stand behind this worthy cause. Tickets are available through the Foundation at normal retail prices. For further details contact: Kelly Brimacombe at brimacombe@worldonline.co.za

KAMOKA

When we started Kamoka Bush School (visit www.stithian.com), we always had in mind that we would love to give many children the opportunity to visit this piece of paradise. The fact that the students from St Stithians have gained so much from coming to Kamoka for extended periods - even up to twenty



nights at a time - has been rewarding on its own, but when we managed to bring fifteen boys from Nkosi's Haven we grew in unexpected ways.

We were approached in February 2011, when we were still building Kamoka, by Mark van der Walt, a successful businessman who dedicates a lot of his own time to Nkosi's Haven. Mark asked what opportunities there would be to bring children from Nkosi's to Kamoka. As exciting as this was, we knew that finances were tight.



However, due to the incredible generosity of the Barrow family, who not only own the land that Kamoka is situated on, but now also allow us to use the money that St Stithians College pays them in rent to bring under-privileged children to Kamoka, the answer became clear. We met with

Mark van der Walt and Gail Johnson from Nkosi's Haven in July 2011. Gail explained that the teenage boys at Nkosi's Haven have a strong need for male role models, discipline, exposure to outdoor activities, time away from city life and hopefully an opportunity to develop some new and exciting interests and friendships.

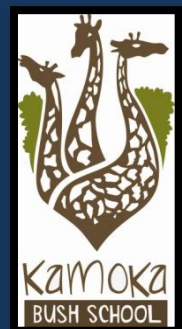
We offered boys from St Stithians College and their fathers the opportunity to join us for the three night outing: the four boys and two fathers who joined us added a tremendous amount to the experience. In addition, Mark van der Walt and his son, Julian, and John and Jean Barrow also joined us for the weekend and loved the time with the boys.



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"Each experiences his humanness to the degree he can open to his joy and sorrow."

Stephen Levine



The weekend was largely about having fun in a beautiful environment, eating good food, learning lessons through engaging with others and having discussions in a place that somehow gives more time, has fewer distractions and enables people to understand each other more.

It is hard to explain what happens over days such as these, but every single person who was involved went home richer, had a greater understanding of others and gained far more than they ever expected. The boys went on hikes, completed adventure challenges, cooked their own poitjies, watched inspirational DVDs, had brave discussions, built their own goal posts and had a number of serious soccer games, swam in the dams, climbed trees and spoke honestly and openly. It is hard to say who gained more in the end – the boys from Nkosi's Haven, the father and sons from St Stithians College, or the staff at Kamoka.



We are just so grateful for people like Nkosi and Gail Johnson, Mark van der Walt and the Barrow family, who make ideas which seem impossible come true.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS

Congratulations and welcome to the following new member of staff:

- Colleen Meintjies has joined the Bursar's department as an accounts clerk

SAINTS FAMILY NEWS

Congratulations to:

- Jenny and Ray Branch on the birth of their granddaughter, Kaylin
- Sharms and Dees Moodley on the birth of their daughter, Jenika
- Jayne and Ron Thackwell on the birth of their grandson, Matthew
- Lesego on the birth of her son, Katlego
- Ugen and Kerishma Sunder on the birth of their daughter, Yuktha

We wish to express our sincere condolences to the following members of the Saints Family on the loss of their loved ones in recent weeks. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

- The Krige family on the death of Steyn Krige, who was the second Head of the College
- Jono Dale (BC) and family on the recent death of his father



**ST STITHIANS
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*"Grace is the free,
undeserved goodness
and favour of
God to humanity."*

Matthew Henry



- The Meyers family on the death of Michael Meyers
- The Strauss family on the death of Johann Strauss

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MICHAEL MEYERS

It is with great sadness that I must inform you of the untimely death of Mr Mike Meyers who suffered a heart attack on Monday the 14th November 2011.

Mike worked at St Stithians College as the Operations Director from March 2002 to June 2007.

I suppose the key word to describe Mike in his work was unflappable. The post is a particularly stressful one as you are required to juggle the demands and needs of some 270 professional staff all wanting their pet projects completed, of course by yesterday, as well as seeing to the unseen needs and maintenance requirements of the College. Mike managed all of these demands with quiet determination, attention to detail and patience.

A man of very few words but with a presence that you could not miss. Mike was scrupulously honest and fair in his dealings with subordinates, colleagues and superiors alike. This life attitude of his was no doubt due to his intense Christian faith.

His passing is a real shock to all of us at St Stithians. He is survived by his wife Tilla and daughters Urscha and Zoë.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHANN STRAUSS

Johann has been a faithful and dedicated member of the St Stithians College community for many years, serving in a number of capacities at the College until he lost his battle with cancer on Friday the 11th November 2011.

Johann's association with the College started as a parent with all four of his children, Ryan, Brandon, Murray and Carrie matriculating here.

He has played a very important role in various capacities at the College. Johann started his involvement through the Parents Association, eventually serving on the St Stithians College Council, as well as performing the function in other capacities such as Chair of the Girls' College PTA. He has served on the Trust for a number of years, of which he has been Chair for the past two. His legal background has served the College well, especially regarding the various elements of property and town planning law that has impacted on the College. He has always been solicitous of our needs and given meticulous attention to all matters he has undertaken on our behalf, most of which were performed on a voluntary basis.

Johann played a central role in the restructuring of our Governance structures of the last five years, including the revision of the School Constitution and



*"God did not call us to be
successful*

but to be faithful."

Mother Teresa



Trust Deed. His input into these processes is deeply appreciated and the College owes him a huge debt of gratitude for all he has contributed over the years.

But Johann will be remembered most for his deep sense of faith and spiritual awareness. He was often seen to be juggling church and school commitments outside his professional life. He was a great witness to the love of God and consolation of the promise of His kingdom. Rest in God's peace, Johann, we will miss you.

RECOGNITION OF SECURITY GUARDS

There are a body of tireless men and women who work day and night on campus to ensure the security of children, parents and staff. It is heart warming to receive letters like the ones below, recognising the contribution made by this, so often, unnoticed dedicated team of people.

"I would like to publicly commend all the security personnel at our Peter Place gate. They are consistently vigilant, carry out their monitoring of vehicles entering and leaving Peter Place in a professional and efficient manner, and are always friendly and good-natured. On arrival every day, the gentlemen at the gate stand tall and salute as I pull up – this puts a smile on my face every morning. The ladies give a cheerful wave. Often there is time for a brief conversation and the security personnel are always grateful when I compliment them on their neat appearance and their polite greeting of visitors to the school. "



"Just a short note, to let you know, how much many of us (parents) appreciate the work of these fine men and women. In rain or sun, their appearance and demeanour is always exemplary. They greet us at the main gate with a happy salute, and always seem cheerful and smiling. It must be tiring work at times, and I just wanted to take a moment to commend them."



"Trust God implicitly and the Truth of His divine design will be revealed in every situation."



The security guards create a wonderful impression on arriving at the College and I am confident of, and grateful for, their commitment and dedication to the security of our school.

EASTER FESTIVAL

The Easter Festival, held at the end of the first term, and in line with the request for transparency from parents in the Pons Survey, I am publishing feedback on the Festival from the organising committee, including the financial breakdown.

“The Easter Festival plays a pivotal role in the life of the College. In addition to Boys’ College rugby and both Boys’ College and Girls’ College hockey, the 2011 event incorporated a highly successful Boys’ Prep rugby festival. When one considers the involvement of the OSA in organising the hospitality tent, the Rowing fraternity who man the gate and the Grade VII catering committee who make a major contribution at the food court, this cross campus event is a great integrator of the St Stithians family.

The 2011 event was extremely challenging for the organising committee as the Easter weekend fell in the middle of the Independent School holidays and between a string of other public holidays which resulted in many usually loyal supporters being out of town. Exacerbated by the inclement weather, attendances were negatively affected with a commensurate impact on gate revenues as well as food and beverage sales. The bulk of the costs incurred are fixed and are not impacted by spectator volumes. These costs are covered in the main by sponsorships (FNB and Day 1 Health), advertising on the Big Screen and perimeter of the rugby field, players fees (in the case of Hockey) and the revenues from the sale of tickets to the school community. It is hoped that in future years the weather as well as the timing are more favourable and the festival will generate profits for the school community from gate ticket sales as well as profits on the sales of food and beverages. The following is a summary of income and costs:

Revenue:	R000
Sponsorships	475
School tickets	385
Gate takings	158
Perimeter advertising	100
Players fees	80
Total Revenue	1,198
Costs:	
Facilities	459



“The measure of a man is not how many servants he has but how many men he serves.”

Dwight Moody



Players food	287
Marketing	221
Event management	205
Sundry	17
Total Costs	1,189
Net profit on sale of food	45
Net profit at hospitality tent	25
Operating profit	79
Less:	
Transfers to role players	
Hockey (surplus at Festival)	49
Rowing (fee for handling ticket sales)	40
Waterpolo (access control at Hospitality Tent)	25
Boys Prep (food sales at Rugby Festival)	25

The event not only provides a weekend of excellent rugby and hockey, but offers both the players and spectators a variety of other entertainment. The participating rugby teams are accommodated on campus as guests of the Boys College and enjoy expert speakers, social gatherings, outings for out of town teams and a sponsored kitbag filled with goods. Spectators have options of music concerts, a hospitality tent, an up market Pavilion, children's play area and a food court. What is also critical in an event of this nature is that the participating athletes will recall the experience for years to come. In today's highly competitive sports environment the ethos of a festival of sports shone through the cloudy days and the sense of enjoyment and camaraderie was tangible and what most.

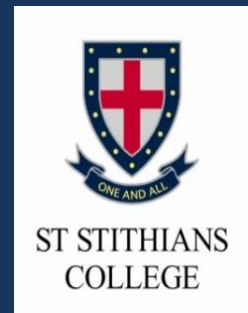
The Saints indebted to National has our event as festivals at St College and School for nine years through substantial sponsorships. The College salutes FNB for this fine contribution."



indeed was mattered

family is First Bank who supported well as the Johns King Edward

The College is indebted to the Boys' College and all the committees of staff and parents who work tirelessly to make the Festival such a success.



"God did not call us to be successful but to be faithful. "Mother Teresa



RECTOR NEWS

Financial Planning and Sustainability

Discussions concerning the long-term sustainability of the College were held between the College Executive and Finance Committee between 2009 and 2011. This led to the College embarking on a survey of parents regarding the financial sustainability of the College. The Pons Survey report was published in February 2011 and made available to all parents at the College. One of the key findings of the survey is: "Respondents consider transparency of information and accountability of leadership as key considerations" (p 8). The College holds an annual budget meeting at the start of each year and has been doing so for the last 9 years. At the meeting the budget is presented. It is recognised that not all parents can attend such meetings and given the strong parental interest in the financial management of the College it has been decided to publish key financial information for parents. The document "Financial Planning and Sustainability and the Pons Survey can be found at http://www.stithian.com/about_us_pages/strat-plan.htm.

Strategic plan 2012 – 2015

The process of strategic planning for the College for 2012 – 2015 has been completed and key directions have been established for the next 3 years. The plan has been approved by Council and subsequently presented to the staff of all 5 schools including campus staff. A summary of the strategic plan can be found on the website at: http://www.stithian.com/about_us_pages/strat-plan.htm.

School calendar 2013

The 2013 school calendar has been uploaded onto the web site and is available at the end of this newsletter.

Social media



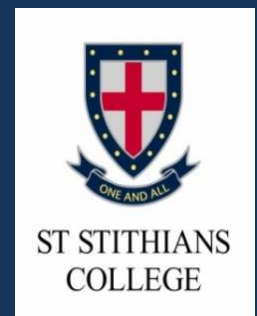
St Stithians has recently developed an official Facebook page and this can be found at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Stithians-College/139693456106256>



If there is anything you would like more information about, please do not hesitate to send your questions to me at rector@stithian.com.

With kind regards and wishing you all a blessed Christmas; travel safely, relax and rejuvenate in the holidays and I look forward to welcoming you into a prosperous 2012.

Stephen Lowry



*"I have come
so that they may have Life
and have it to the full"
John 10:10*



ST STITHIANS COLLEGE CALENDAR FOR 2013

TERM 1

Staff Development Days:	Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 January
School Commences:	Wednesday 16 January
Ends:	Friday 12 April
Half Term: Tuesday 26 February	12:00 Thursday 21 February to 07:00
Public Holiday:	Thursday 21 March (Human Rights Day)
School Holiday:	Friday 22 March
Public Holidays: April (Family Day)	Friday 29 March (Good Friday) Monday 1 April
Easter Festival dates:	Thursday 28 March to Monday 1 April

TERM 2

Staff Development Day:	Monday 06 May
School Commences:	Tuesday 07 May
Ends:	Thursday 08 August
Compulsory Saturday:	Saturday 08 June (Founders' Day)
Half Term: Monday 08 July	Normal closing: Friday 28 June to 07:00
Public Holiday:	Sunday 16 June (Youth Day) Monday 17 June (Public Holiday)

TERM 3

Staff Development Day:	Tuesday 03 September
School Commences:	Wednesday 04 September
Ends:	Wednesday 04 December
Half Term: 29 October	12:00 Thursday 24 October to 07:00 Tuesday
School Holiday:	Monday 23 September (School Holiday)
Public Holiday:	Tuesday 24 September (Heritage Day)

IEB Marking at St Stithians College: 06-11 December 2014: School commences – Date TBC



Sydney's Recyclers

(Based at St Stithians College Recycling Depot)
 Sydney Seale – 084-094-2943 / sseale@stithian.com

RECYCLING CHECKLIST

<p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Bottles - soft drinks, water, juice, milk bottles etc Food Containers - oil, yoghurt, cream, custard, margarine, ready-made meals, peanut butter etc Cleaning Agent Containers -washing liquids, cleaning products, detergents, etc Toiletry Containers - shampoo/conditioner, sunscreen, cleanser/toner/moisturiser, toothpaste, toothbrush, make up etc Packaging - plastic bags, sandwich bags, sweet packets cellophane etc Cords - appliance, computer, telephone, extension etc Bottle caps, Plastic toys, Seedling trays, Blister packs</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Cling wrap, Tupperware, Sticky tape Chip packets & chocolate wrappers etc aren't plastic Polystyrene - cups, egg & food trays (eg. meat) etc</p>	<p>PAPER</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>White office & Typing paper, Envelopes, Faxes, Printouts, Accounts, Junk mail, Notes, Till slips Cereal boxes, Medicine boxes, Tissue boxes, Clothing tags Cards, Magazines, Flyers, Pamphlets, Brochures, Catalogues, Calendars, Phonebooks, Newspapers Wrapping paper Cardboard boxes</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Paper or cardboard that is waxed, glued, plastic or foil coated Tissues, Serviettes Egg cartons, Toilet paper inners, Roller towel inners</p>	<p>METAL</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Beverage Cans, Food tins Pie pans, Tin-foil, Foil food containers Window frames, Garden furniture, Sheet metal Aerosol cans, Bottle tops, Lids Metal toys Oil cans, Paint tins Nuts & Bolts</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Toxic substances need special disposal</p>	<p>GLASS</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Jars, Bottles - clear and coloured Broken glass bottles or jars Spectacles – find an eyeglass collection centre Lightbulbs – deliver to a special recycling bin</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>China, Porcelain, Ceramics, Pyrex or Cooking ware, Crystal, Drinking glasses, Windowpane glass, Mirrors, Windshields, Clay pots</p>
<p>E-WASTE</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES</p> <p>Computer equipment, entertainment electronics, and mobile phones, household electronics</p>	<p>INK CARTRIDGES</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES</p>	<p>BATTERIES & GLOBES</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES</p> <p>Traditional light bulbs & CFLs require special recycling. Some supermarkets have bins for batteries & globes</p>	<p>NOTES</p> <p>Rinse food containers with a sparse amount of water. Keep paper clean and dry. <i>Check with your recycler what they will collect</i></p>

Benefits of Recycling: Recycling conserves resources for our children's future; saves energy; provides raw materials to industry; promotes development of greener technologies; reduces landfill dumping & incineration; decreases emissions of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants and creates jobs.

Separation of Waste: Recyclables in one bin and wet (food, non-recyclables) waste in another. Use green bags for recyclables and blue bags for wet waste (obtainable from the Ops office @ R25.00 per pack of 10 bags).

Respect Yourself Respect Others Respect our Environment