



# THE HERSCHELIAN

## 2015



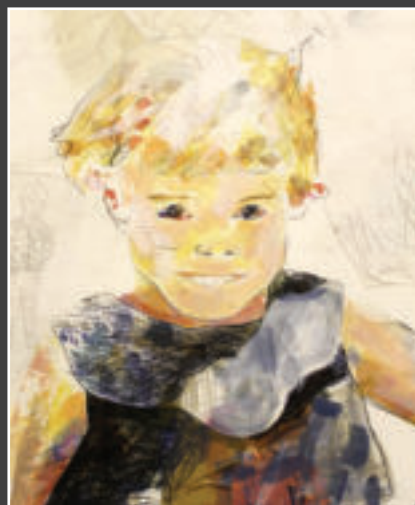
THE HERSCHELIAN 2015





THE MARY MULLER PRIZE FOR ARTWORK OF THE YEAR  
**GABRIELLA WESSON**





THE VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL PRIZE  
**JODY ASHWORTH**





HERSCHEL GIRLS SCHOOL  
LEARNING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE





# The **HERSCHELIAN**

## **EDITORIAL STAFF**

### **EDITOR**

Madeleen Welman

### **PREPARATORY COORDINATOR**

Joyce Goldschmidt

### **COPY EDITOR**

Alison Bodenstein

### **DESIGN AND LAYOUT**

Megan Andrews

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Staff, pupils and parents of Herschel  
Capephotography (Matric dance)

## **HERSCHEL GIRLS SCHOOL**

21 Herschel Road  
Claremont  
Cape Town, 7708  
Email: [info@herschel.org.za](mailto:info@herschel.org.za)  
Tel: 021 670 7500

## **HERSCHEL GIRLS PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

14 Kenmar Crescent  
Claremont  
Cape Town, 7708  
Email: [prepinfo@herschel.org.za](mailto:prepinfo@herschel.org.za)  
Tel: 021 670 7578

# narrative

**PUBLISHED BY NARRATIVE**

[www.narrativemedia.co.za](http://www.narrativemedia.co.za)

**CEO** Neal Farrell

**CONTENT DIRECTOR** Robyn Daly

**HEAD OF DESIGN** Christelle Grobler

**DESIGNER** Megan Andrews

**PRODUCTION** Zulpha Schroeder

Elkay House  
186 Loop Street  
Cape Town  
Tel: 021 487 9100



# Contents

## SENIOR SCHOOL DEDICATION

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Message from the Chairman | 4 |
| Academic List             | 5 |
| Academic Photo            | 6 |
| Administration            | 7 |
| Adieu                     | 8 |

## CELEBRATION

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| The Head's Address       | 10 |
| 2015 Prize-Giving Awards | 12 |
| Achievers                | 14 |

## TRADITION

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Founder's Day             | 20 |
| OH Report                 | 21 |
| OH News                   | 22 |
| Grade 1 to 12 at Herschel | 24 |
| OH Mothers and Daughters  | 24 |

## SERVICE

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| School Chapel           | 26 |
| FISH                    | 27 |
| Prefects and Forum Reps | 28 |
| Pastoral Care           | 29 |
| Community Service       | 30 |
| Interact                | 34 |

## IN THE CLASSROOM

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| English          | 36 |
| Life Science     | 43 |
| Physical Science | 43 |
| Afrikaans        | 44 |
| History          | 48 |
| Consumer Studies | 48 |
| French           | 49 |
| Drama            | 50 |
| Geography        | 52 |
| IT               | 52 |
| German           | 53 |
| Library          | 53 |
| Mathematics      | 54 |
| isiXhosa         | 54 |
| Commerce         | 55 |
| Music            | 56 |
| Art              | 60 |

## BEYOND BOOKS

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Enrichment     | 68 |
| Eastern Europe | 70 |
| Vietnam        | 71 |
| Exchange       | 72 |
| Academic Tour  | 75 |

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Orange River | 76 |
| Umfolozi     | 77 |
| Clubs        | 78 |
| Rolt         | 80 |
| Carter       | 81 |
| Jagger       | 82 |
| Merriman     | 83 |
| Stepout      | 84 |

## SENIOR GIRLS

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Head Girl's Address | 86  |
| Valedictory Address | 87  |
| Matric Dance        | 88  |
| Matric              | 90  |
| Grade 11            | 92  |
| Grade 10            | 96  |
| Grade 9             | 100 |
| Grade 8             | 104 |
| Arderne House       | 108 |

## SPORT

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Hockey        | 110 |
| Indoor Hockey | 111 |
| Swimming      | 112 |
| Water Polo    | 113 |
| Basketball    | 114 |
| Netball       | 115 |
| Squash        | 116 |
| Tennis        | 117 |
| Cross Country | 118 |

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

119





*Dedication*





# Chairman's Report

BY ALEX WATSON

**ON** behalf of the Herschel Council, it is my pleasure to reflect briefly on a successful and busy 2015 for the Herschel community. As you page through this magazine, you will get a sense of the diverse activities that happen on the beautiful Herschel campus. Life at Herschel can be busy and perhaps too busy for some who find it hard to limit their choices from the many available opportunities. I know, and appreciate, the efforts that the school is making to reduce the stress levels of many of our girls, as they feel their way to getting the right balance between the academic, sporting, cultural, family life and social aspects of their lives. As those of us who are parents and/or involved in education know, getting the balance between developing resilience and independence, while providing the necessary nurturing, is not always easy.

On the educational side, there is lots of energy and expertise as the outstanding academic results of our girls, in both the exit exams and standardised assessments across the grades, suggests. This year there has been increased focus on staff development and the big question of the appropriate exit exam continues to receive the attention that it should. On a personal note, I really enjoy my interactions with the staff members and appreciate their enthusiasm and friendliness. The formality and format of the occasions vary, from the staff Council braai at the beginning of the

year, where we traditionally celebrate the matric results from the year before, to the annual staff/Council dinner amongst many others. A recent highlight was the opening of the Preparatory School Knowledge Centre, which is a fantastic resource for our younger girls, made possible by the hard work of the Preparatory School's Parents Association and support from our Herschel families.

Ensuring the financial stability of the school is one of the Council's major responsibilities. We are acutely aware of the need to keep increases in school fees as low as possible in a challenging economic environment with increasing competition for the pool of families that can afford private education. Costs, more than 70% of which relate to staff costs, are closely monitored, to ensure that school fees are wisely spent to ensure the optimal educational experience for our current and future girls. In that regard, I would like to thank the Business Manager, Roger Ramsbottom, for his close scrutiny of expenses, financial expertise and devotion to Herschel during his time at the school.

Transformation remains a challenge, although progress is being made. Our newly formed transformation subcommittee is increasing the Council focus on this important aspect and focus on both staff and student diversity. Transformation of our pupil population is

heavily dependent on bursary funding, and we continue to pursue fundraising initiatives for our bursary fund.

We welcomed some new Council members during the year – Matina Angeliniadis and Neville Wellington have been elected as representatives of the Preparatory School Parents' Association. Old Herschelian, Tebogo Skwambane, has also joined the Council, and all three of them have already given us the benefit of their diverse experience and wisdom.

Herschel continues to flourish under the leadership of Stuart West, ably supported by a strong executive team and leadership at the Preparatory School and a committed and skilled staff. On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Stuart and all his staff for all they do for Herschel. I would also like to thank my fellow Council members for the time and skills that they so generously give to the school. ■

**FRONT ROW:** Ms R Bouwer, Mr S West, Prof. A Watson, Mr S Harrison, Ms T Skwambane

**SECOND ROW:** Adv. M Angeliniadis, Mr A Scott, Mr R Ramsbottom, Mrs J Macdonald, Adv. T Dicker, Dr A Ndhuni **BACK ROW:** Mr D Gordon, Mr R Gamble, Mrs B Heidmann, Dr N Wellington, Mrs D Paul-Diemont, Mr L Govender

# Staff 2015

## ■ HEAD ■

**Mr SO West**, BA Hons (Rhodes), PGCE (UNISA)

## ■ SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAM ■

**Ms R Bouwer**, B Com (PU vir CHO), H Dip Ed. (PG) (Wits), Deputy Head of the Senior School

**Mrs L Heidmann**, HDE Intermediate and Senior Phase (CTCE), Head of the Preparatory School

**Mr R Ramsbottom**, CTA (UCT), BCom Hons (UCT), Business Manager

**Mr APS Scott**, BA (US), Dip IR (Damelin), HDE (UNISA), Operations and Human Resources Manager

## ■ SENIOR SCHOOL EXECUTIVE ■

**Ms DM Baws**, BA Hons, HDE (Rhodes)

**Mrs S Grové**, BA Hons (UNISA), HDE (PU), ACE (History) UNISA

**Mr APS Scott**, BA (US), Dip IR (Damelin), HDE (UNISA)

**Mrs MLC van Schalkwyk** BSc, HDE (UCT)

## ■ CHAPLAIN ■

**The Rev. S Taylor**, BA Hons, HDE (Natal), H Dip Lib (Rhodes)

## ■ FULL-TIME ACADEMIC ■

**Mrs C Alpert**, A.T.C.L, L.T.C.L (Trinity College), BA (UNISA) BA Hons (UCT)

**Mrs N Barendse**, BEd, BTech HRD (CPUT)

**Ms ML Barlow**, MMus (NMMU), BMus (UCT), HDE (UCT)

**Ms H Basson**, BA, HOD (US)

**Mrs A Bodenstein**, BA (US), Hons (UNISA), HDE (UCT)

**Mrs H Botha**, Dip Hons Phys Ed (Bulawayo)

**Mr M Bräsler**, BSc (Wits), HDE (Wits), BA Hons (UNISA)

**Miss C Brown**, BSc Sports Sci (US), Dip Marketing (UCT)

**Ms K Burden**, BSc Hons (UCT), HDE (JCE)

**Ms J Cameron**, BA Hons, PGCE (US)

**Mrs M Cassuto**, MA (Paris)

**Mrs J Colly**, BEd (UCT), HDE (JCE)

**Ms H de Bruijn**, BA (US), BEd (UCT)

**Mrs S de Villiers**, BSc (PU for CHE), HDE (US), Post Grad Dip (UP), ACE Maths (UNISA)

**Mrs S Gordon**, BA, HDE (UWC)

**Mr JW Gouws**, Dip MusEd, BMus Hons (US), UPLM (UNISA)

**Mrs A Harding**, BA (UNISA), BEd (Natal), MEd (KZN)

**Mrs N Hughes**, BSc (US), PGCE (UCT)

**Ms N Jordan**, B(Fine Art), HDE (US)

**Mr C Karstens**, BCom, HDE PGSEC (UCT), BA (UNISA)

**Mrs N Karstens**, BA Hons, HDE (UCT)

**Ms R Klassen**, BMus (UCT), UTLM (UNISA) Dip Jazz Studies (UCT)

**Mrs C Lacerda**, BSc, PGCE and MEd (UCT)

**Mrs E Lureman**, BA, HOD (US)

**Mrs S Macfarlane**, BA Hons (Univ of Metz)

**Ms D L Main**, BA, HDE (UCT)

**Ms S McArthur**, BTheatre and Performance Hons, PGCE (UCT)

**Mr B Merckel**, BTh (Cornerstone), PGCE (UNISA)

**Mrs M Nyback**, BA, HDE (UCT), BEd Hons (UNISA), MPhil (US)

**Mrs H Oelofse**, BSc Hons (Wits), PGCE (UNISA)

**Ms B Parker**, BA, HDE (UCT)

**Mrs M Roebert** BHome Ec Ed (US)

**Ms T Rousseau**, BCom, PGCE (US)

**Mrs S Rule**, MSc (Wits), MBL (UNISA)

**Ms S Scarola**, BSc (Natal), Hons (UCT), HDE (Natal)

**Mrs P Sellmeyer**, MSocSci (UCT)

**Mr B Sopam**, BA, HDE (UCT)

**Mrs S Stein** HDE Phys Ed (UPE), BEd Hon (UJ)

**Mrs T Steyn**, BA, HDE (Rhodes)

**Ms J Taylor**, BMus, BA, RULM (Rhodes)

**Mrs T Thomson**, Dip Vis Com (AAA), PGCE (UCT)

**Mrs H Marais**, BA, PGCE (US)

**Mrs K van der Merwe**, BSc Hons (US), HDE (UNISA)

**Miss M van Zyl**, BA, BEd HONS, PGCE (NW)

**Mrs MC Venter**, BA, HDE (Bloem)

**Ms W Walter**, BSc, HDE (UJ)

**Ms J Wesson** BA, HDE (KZN)

## ■ PART-TIME ACADEMIC ■

**Mrs A Golding**, BA (Rhodes), HDE (UPE)

**Mrs A Hewitt**, BA HDE (UCT), Adv. Cert. Special Needs (UNISA)

**Mrs N Poggenpoel**, BA HDE (UCT), Maitrise FLE Univ. Paul Valery

**Ms P Vundla**, DipEd (Cape Town College), HDE

## ■ ADMINISTRATIVE ■

**Mrs L Bailey**, BA, HDE, PGCE (UCT), Old Herschelian Secretary

**Mrs V Bowes**, Admissions Officer

**Mrs J Buffkins**, Reception

**Mr U Cengani**, Driver

**Mrs F Cochrane**, HDE (Wits), Laboratory Technician

**Mrs Z Cripps**, Assistant Business Manager

**Mr F Fataar**, Network Manager

**Mr A Fataar**, AV Technician

**Ms D Griffiths**, Fees Officer

**Mr W Johnson**, Laboratory Assistant

**Mr S Levey**, BCom Hons (Rhodes), ICT Manager

**Mr B Odendaal**, Reprographer

**Mrs I Sadler**, Music Secretary and Care Centre Manager

**Mrs N Moolman**, Academic Secretary

**Mrs A Upshon**, BSc Hons (Bristol), Librarian

**Mrs G van Blerk**, Community Service Coordinator

**Mrs H Vaughan**, Personal Assistant to the Head

**Mrs M Welman**, BCommunication (PU), Cert Marketing (Rhodes), Marketing Manager

## ■ ARDERNE HOUSE ■

**Mrs G Cornish**, House Mother

**Miss M Shaw**, BA (US), Boarding House Assistant

**Mrs L Jacobs-Louw**, Housekeeper

**Ms D Malouw**, Housekeeper

## ■ CATERING ■

**Ms M Bond**, **Ms S Ndaliso**,

**Ms G Taillard**, **Ms L Wichman**,

**Ms C Witbooi**

## ■ ESTATE ■

**Mr E Terblance** Estate Manager,

**Mr A Blom**, **Mr D Feketa**

Foreman, **Mr P Kwezi** Foreman,

**Mr N Mde**, **Mr D Nomsobo**

**Mr S Nqenqa**, **Mr I Shorti**

**Mr N Solomons**, **Mr T Songelwa**

## ■ MAINTENANCE ■

**Mr C Jacobs** Maintenance

Manager, **Mr N Daniels**

Assistant Maintenance Manager,

**Mr A Boko**, **Mr G Jones**,

**Mr R Johnson**, **Mr L Lukwini**

## ■ COUNCIL MEMBERS ■

**Prof. A Watson**, Chairman

**The Most Rev. Dr Thabo**

**Makgoba**, Archbishop of Cape

Town, **Mrs M Angeliniadis**,

**Mr L Barlow**, **Rev. K de Vos**

(Representative of the Archbishop)

**Adv. T Dicker**, **Mr R Gamble**,

**Mr L Govender**, **Mr DJ Gordon**,

**Mr S Harrison**, **Mrs J Macdon-**

**ald**, **Dr A Ndluni**, **Mrs D Paul-**

**Diemont**, **Ms T Skwambane**,

**Dr N Wellington**

## ■ TRUST MEMBERS ■

**Mr D Loch Davis**, Chairman

**Countess S Labia**, **Mr R Haw**,

**Mr JR Millar**, **Mr R Peters**



# ACADEMIC STAFF



**FRONT ROW:** Ms J Taylor, Mrs H Botha, Rev. S Taylor, Mrs S Taylor, Mrs S Grové, Mrs M van Schalkwyk, Miss D Baws, Ms R Bouwer, Mr S West, Mr A Scott, Mr C Karstens, Mrs A Bodenstein, Mr B Sopam, Ms B Parker, Mrs K van der Merwe **SECOND ROW:** Mrs C Lacerda, Miss D Main, Mrs H Oelofse, Miss R Klassen, Ms W Walters, Miss J Cameron, Miss M Shaw, Ms J Wesson, Mrs T Thompson, Ms P Sellmeyer, Mrs N Poggenpoel, Mrs N Karstens, Mrs S de Villiers, Mrs S Rule, Mrs I Sadler **THIRD ROW:** Mrs H Marais, Mrs N Hughes, Mrs A McArthur, Mrs N Barendse, Mrs M Cassuto, Ms K Burden, Mrs A Upshon, Mrs C Alpert, Mrs A Diedericks, Mrs J Colly, Miss H Basson, Ms M Barlow, Ms N Jordan, Mrs F Cochrane, Miss T Rousseau, Mrs A Hewitt **BACK ROW:** Mrs M Nyback, Mrs T Venter, Mrs T Harding, Mr B Merckel, Mrs T Steyn, Miss H de Bruijn, Mrs S Macfarlane, Mr J Gouws, Mrs A Golding, Mrs B Lureman, Miss M van Zyl, Mrs S Stein, Miss C Brown, Ms S Scarola, Mr M Bräsler



## ADMINISTRATION

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs M Welman,  
Mr R Ramsbottom, Mrs M Posthumus,  
Mr S West, Mrs H Vaughan, Mr A Scott,  
Mrs V Bowes **BACK ROW:** Mrs S Bridgens,  
Mrs D Griffiths, Mr C Jacobs,  
Mrs J Buffkins, Mr W Johnson,  
Mr E Terblanche, Mr F Fataar,  
Mr S Levey, Mrs Z Cripps,  
Mrs N Moolman, Mrs G van Blerk



## CATERING

**FRONT ROW:** Ms G Taillard,  
Mrs S Ndaliso, Ms C Fortuin,  
Miss C Witbooi, Ms L Wichman  
**BACK ROW:** Ms T Naidoo,  
Mr E Bambata, Ms M Bond



## ESTATE STAFF

**FRONT ROW:** Messrs N Solomons,  
D Feketa, E Terblanche, P Kwezi, N Mde  
**BACK ROW:** Messrs I Shorti, T Songelwa,  
E Phike, S Nqenqa, D Nomsobo, A Blom



## MAINTENANCE

**FRONT ROW:** Mr N Daniels,  
Mr C Jacobs, Mr R Johnston  
**BACK ROW:** Mr T Lukwe, Mr G Jones,  
Mr A Boko



# Adieu



## RENÉE SCOTT BY BRONWEN PARKER

Renée was employed in 1997 as a Preparatory Physical Education teacher and made an inordinate impact on the Physical Education Department. Her extensive knowledge of all sporting codes enabled her to craft creative lessons that the girls were able to derive enormous benefit from. More importantly, Renée was able to motivate girls that were not in the least sporty and in so doing expose them to the benefits of an active lifestyle from an early age.

Renée later made the transition to the Senior School as a member of the Geography Department. Renée's passion in her subject teaching could be seen in the active increase in the number of the girls choosing Geography as an elective. Renée is a highly driven teacher and her eagerness to make Geography relevant and meaningful made her lessons interesting and challenging. As coordinator of Cross Country, Renée

has inspired many girls to pursue their running and placed Herschel as a top school in this sphere for a number of years. Besides Renée's contribution to the various sporting codes, she has been a Grade Head, coordinated the President's Award, the Umfolozi Wilderness Trails and has been the Life Orientation Department Head. All of these portfolios have been extremely demanding and Renée has run them with calm efficiency and given one hundred percent.

Renée's dedication to her family has been unwavering. Her daughters, Dominique and Natasha have had an incredible role model in their mother who has been an inspiration as a sportswoman and as their guide on the side. We thank Renée for all that she has done at Herschel; for being a wonderful inspiration to the girls and the staff and for being such a true and committed friend.



## JEAN COLLY BY MICHELLE VAN SCHALKWYK

Jean has taught at Herschel for seven years. As a teacher of Mathematics, Jean has been known for her patience to explain, as many times as needed, to girls who were grappling with concepts. She has also been resourceful in bringing in practical examples in an effort to cater for those who do not understand the explanation that all the other learners grasp. Fairness and integrity have been key fundamental principles by which Jean operates. She has been unselfish with her time and expertise. Her tutor class have been known to be spoilt with treats and girls have often seen her as a mother away from home. Her non-judgemental and firm approach has been much appreciated and Jean's varied life experience has provided much input into her interactions with girls.

Jean has been heavily involved in

the area of service at Herschel and has spent many hours behind the scenes encouraging girls to serve the greater community. As a colleague, we have loved Jean's sociable and friendly nature. She is a caring person who makes time to interact and spend time with people in a meaningful way. Her keen sense of humour, enjoyment of fun and her infectious laughter are just a few aspects that we will miss. Her steadiness, reliability and pleasant disposition have made her easy to work with in team situations as she is supportive at all times.

We are saddened by Jean's resignation as it is a great loss to our school. We do, however, understand her reasons for needing to go and we applaud her conviction to move to a simpler, more fulfilling life with her husband.



### SHIYAAM BRIDGENS

BY NICCI MOOLMAN

Shiyaam joined Herschel in 2007 as our Reprographic Technician and was soon known to everyone as our "Photocopy Queen". She started in a small little room, with a small little photocopier, but in no time it became evident that she was highly-trained and capable of coaxing the impossible out of her equipment. Management realised that with the right printing machines, most of the printing that was sent to be done off campus, could be done right here by Shiyaam. She rose to the challenge and the high-tech printing room was born.

Shiyaam always did her work with such grace and her sweet, caring nature endeared her to all of us. She is a devoted mother to Zayaan and Uzair and inspired us with the courage she showed every time her son had to undergo medical procedures.

It has been a privilege to work with her and, as she leaves us to start a new chapter in a new position at Bergvliet High School, we want her to remember that she will be fondly missed and will always be a part of the Herschel family.

We will miss her and say goodbye with love and blessings.



### VANESSA BOWES

BY MADELEEN WELMAN

When Vanessa joined the Administration Department as Admissions administrator in 2012, we were somewhat at a loss of what to make of this cheerful and bubbly blonde. It soon became apparent, however, that her easy, warm smile was not a façade: what we saw, is what we got. Her innate empathy and optimism ("Now look at the bright side...") made it a daily pleasure to share office space with her. She had an instinctive feeling for when her colleagues needed either emotional support or a hand with work and always just quietly stepped in to help. Her own work was done with professionalism and enthusiasm and she immersed herself into every sphere of Herschel life. The kindness she showed towards potential and new parents and their daughters was exceptional. Vanessa intuitively knew how to make each family, that walked into her office, feel special – and she treated each visitor with the same warmth.

We will miss Vanessa's straightforward honesty, her entertaining sense of humour and her generosity. We wish her, Mark, Callum and Caitlin well with their relocation to Grahamstown, her home town.



### MARY-ANNE POSTHUMUS

BY ROGER RAMSBOTTOM

In May 1997 she joined Herschel as a senior bookkeeper and, although her job was meant to revolve around the payroll, PAYE, medical aid, creditors, accounting and petty cash, Mary-Anne became involved in all aspects of administration at the school. She accounted for sporting events, overseas and local tours, events, bus hire, the flower fund and the second-hand book sale - the list seems endless. She tackled these tasks with boundless energy and soon Mary-Anne became the person that everybody asked for advice on how to do things! And whatever the advice would be, it was certain to be honest and fair. Her recall of events and faces is astonishing and she can tell you exactly who was a prefect/head girl/sports-woman of the year/Mary Muller artist/tennis coach in what year - and can probably remember the girls' parents' names, too. This interest in the individual was clearly seen in the love and concern she displayed in her dealings with the bursary students' needs (both financial and emotional).

Nothing is as important to Mary-Anne as her husband, Bernie, who has recently retired, and their grandson, Matthew, and although we miss Mary-Anne, we know where her heart belongs.

## ADIEU TO OUR PART-TIME STALWARTS (AND LIFETIME FRIENDS)...



**Andrea Hewitt** was our Academic Support teacher who went out of her way to know "her girls" and her approach of working as a liaison between girls and teachers, and teachers and parents, helped many a Herschel girl to find her academic niche. Andrea's serene and friendly nature made her a valued friend to staff. We wish her well.



**Shirley van der Hoek and Jean Pollock** had a long association with Herschel, but are mostly known for their role in the school shop which they ran with absolute precision and a great deal of warmth towards all their customers. We will miss their knowledge and friendly banter and Shirley's all-seeing camera.





## The Head's Address PRIZE-GIVING 2015

BY MR STUART WEST

*people that will go on to paint the landscape and marvels of our future.*" Schools and teachers will mould the nurses, scientists, architects, lawyers, teachers, entrepreneurs and business women of the future. They will also shape the families and communities of the future. Education alone has the power to give young people true freedom through the freeing of their considerable potential. All engaged in education in South Africa need to help take the water out of the boat and repair the holes.

Archbishop Makgoba echoed this at Prize-Giving last year when he implored Herschel to extend the excellent work and opportunities we offer here to even more students. *"Join us,"* he pleaded, *"in repudiating cynicism, fear and the feeling of being overwhelmed by our country's problems, and help us in our determination to bring about change."* He asked that Herschel find the ways and means to reach more intentionally into our neighbouring communities to attract a greater diversity of student and offer more bursary opportunities for future generations.

The Transformation and Diversity Committee of Council have been hard at work to transfer the Archbishop's appeal into an action plan. We have met several times this year and attended the ISASA Transformation and Diversity workshop as a team. We are already using our current resources and partnerships to prioritise the enrolment of students from diverse communities. The Herschel Bursary Fund and its benefactor partnerships, currently fund 40 talented students at any one time within Herschel and have helped us to fully-fund another 10 high performing grade 8 students for 2016. Council and the School Management will work closely together to drive transformation goals forward. We cannot do this alone, however, and need support, ideas and future funding strategies from within the Herschel family to increase and grow our current work.

We are also responding to Advocate Madonsela's challenge in other ways. We

play a vital, involved role in the National Senior Certificate delivery in the Western Cape. We have numerous staff appointed as examiners, moderators and markers. We are also working hard to ensure that our girls learn to be nation builders in their own backyard. Each week we host academic support and tutorial sessions in Mathematics, Science and History for senior students of Langa and Thandokhulu High, and Literacy, Mathematics, Art and Drama lessons and homework support groups for students from a number of our neighbouring community preparatory schools.

The second keynote speaker that challenged me at the conference was Rabbi Kacev, from the Jewish Board of Education. He sounded an insightful warning that a focus may have shifted among parents and schools. He shared this story to illustrate his point:

*Second term report cards had been sent home and Angela, then in grade 9, received an A for every subject except for one in which she got a 76%. The anticipated call came in and the urgent meeting was arranged. The mom arrived for the meeting that had been set up, husband in tow. This top surgeon could have and would rather have been in his rooms saving lives but here he was, forced to be the supporting act for a cause it was clear he did not support. For his wife this was a matter of life and death. "Headmaster," the mom said to the head of school, "Please understand. We just don't do Bs."*

Rabbi Kacev's theme was the need for schools and parents to find a balanced understanding and appreciation for their children between the educational process versus the product; the journey versus the output. Assessment, examinations, benchmarks and achievement awards are vitally important for understanding the growth and potential of a child. Rabbi Kacev fears, however, that the focus has shifted in recent times. As school heads we should be focused on presenting opportunities for the real growth of potential in each child

Tonight is a special opportunity for me to share some thoughts I believe hold significant value at this time for Herschel and for me as an educational leader. At the recent Heads of Independent Schools' Conference in Limpopo Province, two speakers particularly resonated with me and many of the Heads. Both were inspirational and challenging – for differing reasons.

Advocate Thuli Madonsela, addressed us on *"Speaking the Truth to Power."* She never mentioned President Zuma or Nkandla. Her subtle and incisive challenge was for us Independent Heads. *"Speaking the truth to power,"* she said *"starts with whispering truth to yourself."* In her view, Independent schools excel at discovering the leadership in young people and then mentoring and motivating those students to purposeful leading. *"Behind every success story in South Africa,"* she stated, *"is a remarkable encounter with a great teacher!"*

Nevertheless, her challenge was clear – *"We are in the same boat,"* she declared. South African education will rise or fall as one sector. We, in the independent schools' sector, cannot sit idly by, perceiving and decrying the holes and leaks on the other side of the boat. Those leaks will sink us all. *"We are in the same boat."* South Africa is still one of the most unequal countries in the world, especially in the delivery and quality of educational resources. She said that true development in our country is impossible without schools and teachers reclaiming their roles as nation builders.

*"Teachers are the artists of the youth,"* she stated. *"Teachers will create and shape the*



and yet, too often, we allow students and parents, teaching staff and even school structures to be more acutely focused on the output, product and results. All too frequently we as a school feel the pressure to over-assess to predict and guarantee the result; in part because the stakes are so high for our girls and partly because we want them to be extensively prepared for the demanding world of pressurised assessment that lies at the end of matric and at university.

The real goal of education, Rabbi Kacev argues, is to enable the children in our care to become something more than they were before: better thinkers, more able, more resilient, more capable; making the world a better place. He warned that schools, teachers and parents who focus on immediate results rather than on the long learning processes at work, will promote a generation of fixed mindset children. He implored Heads to constantly remind teachers that they are teaching and growing students and not subjects.

Carol Dweck's book, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*, talks about the difference between a child having a fixed mindset and a growth mindset. Children with a fixed mindset believe that their intelligence and talent are fixed traits that cannot be significantly developed or shaped through hard work. Either you have it or you don't. Children with a growth mindset believe that their basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. Brains and talent are just the starting point.

Most importantly, Dweck's research demonstrates that 'growth mindset' students assimilate criticism, learn from failure and enjoy exploring more difficult problems over time because they know that successful learning happens through effort and overcoming failure. The danger for children who are habitually praised for being smart, with no reference to hard work or resilience, is that they never develop that growth mindset so vital for navigating the complexities and challenges of school, university and life.

Lethu Ntshinga, the 2013 head girl, spoke at this year's Academic Dinner and this is her reflection on her time at Herschel:

*"Herschel is a major part of my story... This is where I was given countless opportunities to develop myself and my ideas in so many different settings and given the chance to experience realities outside of my own. Herschel is where I had teachers, who went far above and beyond their duties... Teachers and a system which*

*believed in us enough to entrust us with responsibilities and gave us the scope to develop our personal leadership and begin to gain confidence in our abilities. Our teachers were more than just academic educators; they were educators for life."*

It has been a joy and privilege to welcome Ms Ros Bouwer, to the position of Deputy this year. Ms Bouwer brings considerable academic and organisational experience to the position which will build on the commendable work of Mrs Clarke. Ms Bouwer is highly regarded in the Independent Examinations Board, the IEB, where she has served as an examiner and moderator for many years. She offers the ability to give a discerning assessment and leadership of Herschel's future academic needs. Ms Bouwer will be leading a Strategic Academic Think Tank in the next few months that will look closely at the current academic offer, the various local

### BEHIND EVERY SUCCESS STORY IN SOUTH AFRICA," SHE STATED, "IS A REMARKABLE ENCOUNTER WITH A GREAT TEACHER!"

and international curricula and examination bodies and the skills needed for 21st century teaching and learning. That Think tank will give recommendations of what will be needed to ensure that the Herschel legacy of academic excellence - for all - continues in the next decade and beyond.

We will always celebrate achievement, just as we are honouring significant achievers tonight, but more importantly we will celebrate a teaching and learning environment that significantly stimulates our girls, pushes them out of their comfort zone and instils a growth mindset for life-long learning. *Yes Angela's mom - we just don't do Bs. We do growing and learning!*

What we do know is that a vital aspect of our academic skillset needs to be anchored in a renewed approach to reading. The digital world has changed the experience of reading. While we celebrate how the world of technology and the portable tablet can enrich the teaching and learning landscape, the avalanche of digital media has raised a worldwide concern about reading skills in people of all ages. Research suggests that we no longer read for deep meaning and deductive comprehension but skim

read for a generalised and superficial understanding of a text or resource. If it is true for many adults, it is significantly true for our teen digital natives. A 'default' skim reading approach becomes something akin to a virus for our students, infecting the key critical engagement, comprehensive and analytical skills required for academic scholarship to function and flourish. The demanding academic work our girls are required to undertake at Herschel is designed to ignite and develop this scholarly deep reading.

Importantly, the research is clear that the foundational skill needed for deep reading is a passion and desire to read for pleasure. The Library staff constantly remind me of the research that argues that possessing the skill of reading for pleasure as a child is a strong future indicator and measure of educational and vocational success. A love for and competence in reading is more important than family finances and status, the research suggests. When the Aaron Searll building was designed, a glass classroom - what we call the Hub - was designed as the beautiful light-filled epicentre of that building. It has been used as a general purpose room, but I am thrilled to say that from today that has changed. Over the past weeks, the Hub has been secretly and magnificently transformed into a modern and inviting reading room to promote that foundational love, competence and comfort of reading for pleasure. The language teachers will take classes in there, just to read. Girls who have study periods or lunch breaks will go there, just to read. Staff will slip in there, just to read. It will be a wonderful Hub of quietness and comfort that invites all to snuggle up with a good book, because we know that reading both demands and provokes a growth mindset.

Herschel has been a bastion of academic excellence for the past decade. This must continue. And by that we do not mean celebrating only the top achievers. Most importantly for us, all of our girls do exceptionally well by the time they matriculate at Herschel and there is no doubt that they have developed the growth mindset and skills needed for life after school and the academic and organisational rigour demanded by the leading local and international universities to which our girls gain direct access.

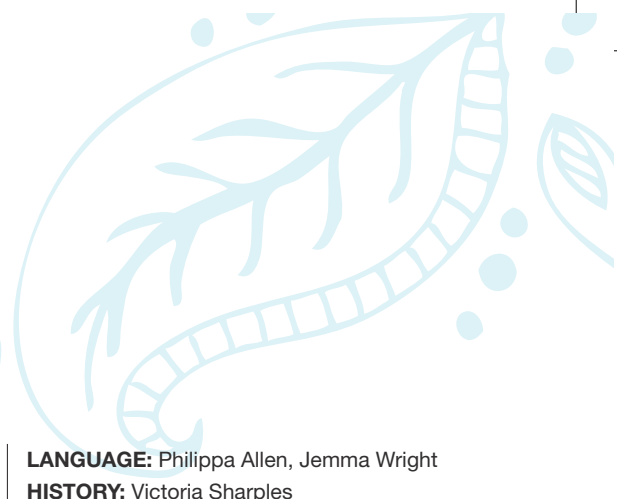
Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for joining with me tonight as we celebrate many of the joys of 2015. ■

**AD DEI GLORIAM**



# PRIZE-GIVING

## 2015 SUBJECT AWARDS



### GRADE 8

#### AFRIKAANS FIRST

**ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE:** Traci Hurling

**ART ELECTIVE:** Mariam Goolam Mahomed

**DRAMA ELECTIVE:** Jemma Morris

**ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT**

**SCIENCES:** Natasha Hablutzel

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:**

Nina Owen-Jones

**FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Georgina Schmiedeke

**GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Katinka Wilkinson

**LIFE ORIENTATION:** Lucca du Preez,

Nina Owen-Jones

**MATHEMATICS:** Nina Owen-Jones

**MUSIC ELECTIVE:** Kitty Fisher

**NATURAL SCIENCES:**

Mariam Goolam Mahomed

**SOCIAL SCIENCES:** Kitty Fisher

**TECHNOLOGY:** Kitty Fisher

**XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Sian Lawrenson

**THIRD PLACE:** Josephine Cunningham

**SECOND PLACE:** Nina Owen-Jones

**FIRST PLACE:** Kitty Fisher

### GRADE 9

**AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:**

Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Ameerah Saban

**ART ELECTIVE:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**DRAMA ELECTIVE:** Helena Comititis

**ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT**

**SCIENCES:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:**

Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Margaux Verspieren

**GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Sarah Ebell

**LIFE ORIENTATION:** Amber De Decker

**MATHEMATICS:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**MUSIC ELECTIVE:** Amber De Decker

**NATURAL SCIENCES:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**SOCIAL SCIENCES:** Amber De Decker

**TECHNOLOGY:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

**XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Nthabiseng Mandindi

**THIRD PLACE:** Olivia Proudfoot

**SECOND PLACE:** Amber De Decker

**FIRST PLACE:** Nur-Ayn Mohamed

### GRADE 10

**ACCOUNTING:** Lara Sebesteny

**AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:**

Caroline Robertson

**AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Alexandra-Naledi Holtman

**BUSINESS STUDIES:** Rachel Searle

**CONSUMER STUDIES:** Allison King

**DRAMATIC ARTS:** Gita Briel

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:**

Caroline Robertson

**FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Clemence Kacedan

**GEOGRAPHY:** Rachel Searle

**GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Emily Wilkinson

**HISTORY:** Emily Turnbull

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:** Holly

Judge

**LIFE ORIENTATION:** Holly Judge,

Anna Midgley

**LIFE SCIENCES:** Anna Midgley

**MATHEMATICS:** Caroline Robertson

**MATHEMATICAL LITERACY:**

Kira Badroodien

**ADVANCED PROGRAMME**

**MATHEMATICS:** Iris Jarre

**MUSIC:** Caroline Robertson

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES:** Iris Jarre,

Nandipa Mponda

**VISUAL ARTS:** Chiara Spokes

**XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Lithamsanqa Jacobs

**THIRD PLACE:** Anna Midgley

**SECOND PLACE:** Iris Jarre

**FIRST PLACE:** Caroline Robertson

### GRADE 11

**ACCOUNTING:** Diana Swales

**AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:**

Estelle Naude

**AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Victoria Sharples

**BUSINESS STUDIES:** Alexandra Miszewski

**CONSUMER STUDIES:** Lauren Garbers

**DRAMATIC ARTS:** Olivia Burton

**ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:**

Victoria Sharples

**ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH:**

Megan Cunningham, Chéri Laudien

**FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Stephanie Wild

**GEOGRAPHY:** Alexandra Bird

**GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Philippa Allen, Jemma Wright

**HISTORY:** Victoria Sharples

**LIFE ORIENTATION:** Emma Leslie

**LIFE SCIENCES:** Victoria Sharples

**MATHEMATICS:** Chéri Laudien

**ADVANCED PROGRAMME**

**MATHEMATICS:** Hayley Preen

**MATHEMATICAL LITERACY:** Saarah Gamiet

**MUSIC:** Megan Cunningham

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES:** Jessica Gleeson

**VISUAL ARTS:** Emma Leslie

**XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Abulele Dlova

**THIRD PLACE:** Jessica Gleeson

**SECOND PLACE:** Victoria Sharples

**FIRST PLACE:** Emma Leslie

### GRADE 12

**ACCOUNTING:** Nicole Lancefield

**AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:**

Amy Gennison, Carina Lategan

**AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Ara Ko

**BUSINESS STUDIES:** Ara Ko

**CONSUMER STUDIES:** Nicola Wills

**DRAMATIC ARTS:** Emily Cooper

**ENGLISH (LADY WOOLLEY PRIZE):**

Helen Acton

**ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH:**

Helen Acton

**FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Samantha Hearn

**GEOGRAPHY:** Jessica Wilson

**GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE :** Bianka Sass

**HISTORY:** Helen Acton

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:** Amy Chung

**LIFE ORIENTATION:** Jessica Wilson

**LIFE SCIENCES:** Shandukani Mulaudzi

**MATHEMATICS (LIZ GIBBONS PRIZE):**

Shandukani Mulaudzi

**ADVANCED PROGRAMME**

**MATHEMATICS:** Shandukani Mulaudzi

**MATHEMATICAL LITERACY:** Bianka Sass

**MUSIC:** Samantha Hearn

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES:**

Shandukani Mulaudzi

**VISUAL ARTS:** Jody Ashworth

**VISUAL ARTS - PRACTICAL:**

Jody Ashworth

**XHOSA FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE:**

Siyabulela Mgojo

**XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL**

**LANGUAGE:** Zamangwe Marubelela



### PREMIER ACADEMIC AWARDS: GRADE 12

**THIRD PLACE:** Samantha Hearn

**SECOND PLACE:** Helen Acton

◀ **THE DESMOND LOCH DAVIS**

**AWARD FOR DUX OF THE SCHOOL:**

Shandukani Mulaudzi

## SPECIAL AWARDS

### PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

**BOOK AWARD: ACCOUNTING AND**

**MATHEMATICS:** Nicole Lancefield

**PRIZE FOR ENTHUSIASM IN**

**AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:**

Amy Gennison

**ABE BAILEY PRIZE: BILINGUALISM:**

Helen Acton, Amirah Chikte

**BILINGUAL ORAL PROFICIENCY AT**

**HOME LANGUAGE LEVEL:** Carina Lategan

**ETHEL HILL CUP: SPOKEN ENGLISH:**

Ruby Lapid

**MRS MCCORMICK'S PRIZE: SPOKEN**

**FRENCH:** Emmanuella Tshala

**THE ALICIA WILKINSON SILWOOD PRIZE:**

**PRACTICAL COOKERY:** Hannah Earl

**SONIA BECK ESSAY PRIZE:**

Megan Cunningham

**JANET STEYN PRIZE: INTEREST IN**

**THE HUMANITIES:** Ruby Lapid

**MISS MCLEAN'S PRIZE: MATHEMATICS:**

Amy Chung

**DR HENDRICKSE TROPHY:**

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP:** Nicole Lancefield

**DR SILBERBAUER PRIZE: INTEREST IN**

**THE NATURAL SCIENCES:** Carina Lategan

**"LINK TO GROW" WESTERN CAPE**

**PRIZE FOR PERSEVERANCE IN THE**

**SCIENCES:** Aqeelah Esack

**DAPHNE BEAMES AEQUA MENTE CUP:**

Shandukani Mulaudzi

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR ART:**

Joëlle Joubert

**BURNETT FAMILY PRIZE FOR ART:**

Emma Leslie

**MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR MUSIC:**

Amber De Decker

### MONIQUE ZURICH TROPHY FOR MUSIC:

Anna Grieve

**STOBIE MUSICIANSHIP PRIZE:**

Jessica Scott

**CHORAL PRIZE:** Meredith Rothman

**FRITH TROPHY: PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

Sara Shaboodien

**JENNIFER SALE DRAMA TROPHY:**

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE:**

Holly Phillips

**ANNETTE HARTMANN TROPHY:**

**DRAMATIC ARTS:** Courtney Pinheiro

**MCCLURG TROPHY: THEATRE ARTS**

Paige Leaf-Wright

**ISABELLA TROPHY: PERFORMANCE IN A**

**SECOND LANGUAGE:** Courtney Charlton

**WATERFIELD PRIZE: COMMITMENT,**

**INITIATIVE AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE**

**CREATIVE ARTS:** Jean Marr, Khanya

Gubangxa

**ERIC ROSENTHAL PRIZE: GENERAL**

**KNOWLEDGE:** Gabriella Wesson

**JENNY TORR PRIZE: SERVICE TO THE**

**LIBRARY:** Courtney Charlton

**ERASMUS COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**TROPHY:** Victoria Searle

**CLAREMONT ROTARY CLUB PRIZE:**

Courtney Pinheiro

**ROTARY CLUB OF CLAREMONT / PAUL**

**LEE FLOATING TROPHY:** Luciana Graham

**PARENTS' DANCE TROPHY:** Tayo Croza

**MARY MULLER ARTWORK OF THE YEAR:**

Gabriella Wesson

**THERESA BRIDGMAN TROPHY:**

**SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR:**

Kirsten Pienaar

**CLEGG AWARD: OUTSTANDING**

### ACADEMIC AND SPORTING

**ACHIEVEMENT:** Carina Lategan

**MRS STOCKWELL'S PRIZE: ALL-ROUND**

**PARTICIPATION AND ACHIEVEMENT:**

Lucinda Macdonald

**CHAMBERS TROPHY: GOOD**

**SPORTSMANSHIP:** Demi Comititis

**HANNATH TROPHY: THE MOST**

**OUTSTANDING SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT**

**OF THE YEAR:** Lauren Nixon

**PIETAS TROPHY PRESENTED BY**

**THE LABIA FAMILY:** Emma Heidmann

**MISS GELDARD'S PRIZE FOR COURTESY:**

Kate van der Merwe

**PAMELA DUFF AWARD FOR AN**

**ENQUIRING MIND:** Michaela van Niekerk

**THE DI VAN ZYL AWARD:** Amy Gennison

**ARDERNE HOUSE FELLOWSHIP AWARD:**

Viwe Soga

**KIRSTEN LOCKE FELLOWSHIP AWARD:**

Tessa Botha

**SANDRA WINGFIELD FELLOWSHIP PRIZE:**

Demi Comititis

**SCHÖNBORN TROPHY FOR**

**EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT:**

Anna Midgley

**THE HEAD'S AWARD FOR DEDICATED**

**SERVANT LEADERSHIP:** Jessica Wilson

**THE HEAD'S AWARD FOR PARTICIPATIVE**

**AND SUPPORTIVE LEADERSHIP:**

Ruby Lapid, Shandukani Mulaudzi

**THE OLD HERSCHELIAN AWARD FOR**

**SERVICE, LOYALTY AND LEADERSHIP**

**(TROPHY):** Jessica Wilson

**THE JENNA LOWE TROPHY FOR**

**COURAGE AND INSPIRATIONAL**

**ACHIEVEMENT:** Abigail Russell



# ACHIEVEMENT



**AMBER DE DECKER** (Grade 9) earned a Gold medal and an invitation to represent the Western Cape at the Science Expo in Gauteng. She investigated the effect of human disturbance on the prevalence of Blister Bush in Platteklip Gorge. Amber's hypothesis was that the tourist traffic and resultant pollution was bound to have an impact on vegetation. She chose a common and easily-found plant, the Blister Bush, and looked at its prevalence in the gorge and compared it to elsewhere on the mountain. In addition to her Gold Medal, Amber was awarded the prize for the best junior project (Gr 9) and the best female contestant.



**NATASCHA GIESEMANN**, who represented South Africa at the Junior World Synchronised Skating Championships in Zagreb, Croatia, has been awarded her full South African colours for synchronised skating by the South African Figure Skating Association.



At the SA Surf Lifesaving Championships in Durban, **KARI STEYN** won two Gold medals for Swim and Board, as well as two Silver and two Bronze medals. **ALESSANDRA BAYLY** won three Gold and five Silver medals. Together, they achieved a Gold medal for Board Rescue and Silver for Board and Taplin Relay. Alessandra was the U15 Female Competitor of the Competition. Subsequently, Kari has been selected for the Lifesaving South Africa Surf Academy Squad based on her performances at SA Championships.



**MICHAELA FLOOD** competed at The World Championships for Irish Dance in Canada and won the Irish Dancing World 2015 Aisling Award (17-18yrs). This award is presented to the highest placing dancer from Asia, Mainland Europe, Nordic Countries, Russia, South Africa and South America.



**ANNA MIDGLEY** (Grade 10) was one of 27 South African students chosen to exhibit the science projects which had won prizes at regional and national expos, at an international science fair. In May, she attended the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh, America. It is the world's largest international pre-college science competition that provides an annual forum for more than 1600 high school students (Grades 9 to 12) from 70 different countries. It was therefore very thrilling to see Anna's name included on the Society's Award List: **PLANT SCIENCES, (Second Grand Award) High Protein Fynbos Nuts: A New Superfood.** Anna Illing Midgley, 16, Herschel Girls School, Cape Town, South Africa.



**MRS SUZANNE DE VILLIERS**, Head of Consumer Studies, received a Paul Harris Fellowship award from Claremont Rotary's John Jacobs. Mrs De Villiers, who was the teacher in charge of Interact at Herschel for twelve years, was given the award "in appreciation for her significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world."



**AMMAARAH ABRAHAMS** (Grade 11) was selected by Western Province Aquatics to represent South Africa at the CANA Zone 4 Swimming Championships held in Luanda, Angola. Ammaarah won gold in the 50m and 200m breaststroke events and silver for the 100m breaststroke and medley relay.

Our Grade 1 teacher, **MS CLAIRE HARRINGTON**, was a member of the South African team that attended the FINA World Masters (swimming) Championships in Kazan, Russia. She came home with a clutch of medals.



**KATHERINE GEES** won the Philip Smith Memorial Championships in Johannesburg. Only the top four Equitation riders in the country are invited to the championships and each rider has to show her or his skill, not only on their own horse, but also has to do each of the events on the horses of the other three competitors.



The National Consumer Studies Olympiad was written by 4 316 candidates and Tazkiyah Gazgay, Nina Wood and Nicola Wills finished in the Top 100. **NICOLA WILLS**, who was placed in the Top 10, was invited to write the final round at the University of the Free State in October. We were delighted to learn that she finished 3rd overall.





**HĀNIM ABRAHAMS**, who is only in Grade 7, participated in the SA National Aquatic Championship where she was entered as a senior competitor, based on her times this season. Hānim broke the WP 100m breaststroke record, previously held by Sarah Poewe, and achieved personal best times in 200m breaststroke and 200m freestyle events.

Hānim also participated in the Junior African Swimming Championships held in Cairo, Egypt, in October. She won gold in the 50m and 100m breaststroke events with new Junior African swimming records for both.



The **HERSCHEL U16 HOCKEY TEAM** won gold at the South African Summer Games, making them the top U16 hockey team in the country.



**NINA HICKMAN** obtained her Junior Black belt, 1st Dan, in Kimura Shukokai.



**CAROLINE ROBERTSON, SAMEEAH AHMED-ARAI, HELEN ACTON, AMY GENNISON AND ACHUME SIDIYO** (inset) were placed in the Top 100 Category (out of 8 000 candidates) of the National English Olympiad. Special congratulations go to Helen Acton who came 24th overall.



Hockey captain, **KIRSTEN PIENAAR**, has accepted the offer of an International Player position by Cornell University for 2016.

# EISTEDDFOD 2015

## Category Winners



**HAYLEY PREEN** had already made her mark in cross-country running, cycling and in horse riding when her attendance at the Summer Youth Games, as a member of the Western Cape cross-country team, was in the balance: Hayley was in the USA on a school exchange programme. She arrived back in Cape Town days before the race, had to shake off her jet lag and then had to face a 26-hour bus drive to Pretoria for the Games. It was a hard race against a big field, but Hayley pulled out all the stops to win the gold medal. Hayley also won the Western Cape Cross Country championships and, in February, she took the women's XTERRA title in Grabouw (400m swim, 12, 5 km mountain bike ride and 6km trail run). She also won the Juniors title in the Cape Town (Argus) Cycle Tour, coming 8th overall, was the fastest junior in the Two Oceans 12km trial and comfortably won the 11km ladies trial title in the Sanlam Cape Marathon.

| CATEGORY/SECTION                                                                             | JUNIOR                              | SENIOR                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| PHOTOGRAPHY                                                                                  | Hannah Fleming                      | Bonnie Mansveldt                       |
| ART                                                                                          | Sunmin Im                           | Jody Ashworth                          |
| DRAMA                                                                                        | Anathi Mngxekeza<br>Caitlin Dicker  | Courtney Charlton<br>Courtney Pinheiro |
| DANCE                                                                                        | Tessa Hutcheson<br>Lidian Plaatjies | Nirvanah Govinden<br>Gabi Leong        |
| MUSIC                                                                                        | Kelsey Brooks                       | Uliana Alekseev                        |
| ENGLISH: PUBLIC SPEAKING                                                                     | Marica Caldis                       |                                        |
| ENGLISH READING                                                                              | Alice Steytler                      |                                        |
| ENGLISH: WRITING - PROSE                                                                     | Alexandra Bird                      |                                        |
| ENGLISH: WRITING - POETRY                                                                    | Courtney Charlton                   |                                        |
| AFRIKAANS: PUBLIC SPEAKING                                                                   | Danelle Plaatjies                   |                                        |
| AFRIKAANS: READING<br>(LEES) HOME LANGUAGE                                                   | Amy Gennison                        |                                        |
| AFRIKAANS: READING (LEES) FIRST<br>ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE                                       | Jean Marr                           |                                        |
| AFRIKAANS: CREATIVE WRITING (SKRYF):<br>HOME LANGUAGE                                        | Josephine Rey<br>(Poetry)           | Caroline Robertson<br>(Prose)          |
| AFRIKAANS: CREATIVE WRITING (SKRYF):<br>FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE                            | Michaela<br>van Niekerk             | Maryam Gopal                           |
| FRENCH: READING                                                                              | Helen Acton                         |                                        |
| FRENCH: WRITING                                                                              | Lucy Macdonald                      |                                        |
| ISIXHOSA: READING                                                                            | Nandipa Calana                      |                                        |
| ISIXHOSA: WRITING                                                                            | Alison Malindi                      |                                        |
| GERMAN                                                                                       | Katinka Wilkinson                   | Bianka Sass                            |
| <b>BRUCE RILEY TROPHY FOR THE BEST ALL-ROUNDER<br/>(MIN 3 CATEGORIES): COURTNEY CHARLTON</b> |                                     |                                        |
| <b>LOUIS KAROL TROPHY FOR THE WINNING HOUSE FOR THE EISTEDDFOD:<br/>JAGGER</b>               |                                     |                                        |



**DANIËLLE BLIGNAUT** is a member of the fencing team that represented South Africa at the Junior African Fencing Championships which took place in Algeria. She also participated in the Gauteng Open Fencing Competition where she won a Silver medal in the junior women's epee (Under 20) competition and a Bronze medal in the senior women's epee competition. She also won a Gold medal at the KwaZulu-Natal Open fencing competition.





Three Herschel girls have been awarded their national colours for waterpolo. **LAUREN NIXON** will play in the SA U20 team and **ROSIE RITCHIE-ROUX** and **CARINA LATEGAN** were both chosen for the SA U17 team.



**JESSICA SCOTT** (cello) and **ULIANA ALEKSEEV** (violin) were selected for the South African National Youth Orchestra.

At the WCED LITNUM Awards ceremony Herschel Girls School was acknowledged as the Top Independent School performer in the 2014 Grade 3, Grade 6 and Grade 9 English and Mathematics Systemic Tests. They only award the one top performer from the Independent School sector. This is the second year in a row that Herschel has won all three prestigious accolades.



#### WESTERN PROVINCE AND SOUTH AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES

**FRONT ROW:** R Dawson (Hockey), A Welham (Hockey), Z Khan, A Hendricks (Hockey, Karate), M Flood (Irish Dancing), A Chung (Basketball), A Hodgkinson (Life Saving), K Steyn (Life Saving, Water Polo), A Scott (Basketball, Hockey), A Glaum (Hockey), N Lin (Basketball), A Abrahams (SA Swimming), L Ebell (Equestrian), A Hendricks (Hockey), J Tate (Hockey)

**SECOND ROW:** E Johnson (Water Polo), R de Kok (Netball), G Grobler (Hockey), U Alekseev (SA Karate, SA Youth Orchestra), T Huthcheson (Rhythmic Gymnastics), C Diemont (Basketball), R Ndhuni (Netball), N Giesemann (SA Figure Skating), D Comitis (Basketball), G Cotchobos (Hockey), N Owen-Jones (Hockey), C Golding (Hockey), N du Plessis (Hockey), I Wright (Squash), E Roos (SA Mounted Games), A Goodwin (Hockey)

**THIRD ROW:** A Bayly (Life Saving and Water Polo), K Orton (Tennis), K Pienaar (Hockey), A Charles (Water Polo), N Wills (Athletics), S Franco (Hockey), G Pera (Swimming), B Pera (Swimming), S Mulaudzi (Cross Country), G Elliott (Water Polo), H Preen (Cross Country), A Benjamin (Hockey), J Ashworth (Basketball), M van Niekerk (Swimming), C Smith (Hockey, Basketball), S Kirk (Water Polo)

**BACK ROW:** J Scott (SA Youth Orchestra), I Hardie (Hockey), M Planting (Water Polo), C Charles (Water Polo), C Barbour (Hockey), K Gees (Equestrian), D Blignaut (SA Fencing), A Collins (Water Polo), J Gleeson (Squash), L Nixon (SA Water Polo), C Smith (Basketball), J Kruger (Water Polo), R Ritchie-Roux (SA Water Polo), C Lategan (SA Water Polo), S Lumb (Water Polo), N Ebrahim (Hockey), K da Luz (Netball, Basketball)

**WP COLOURS SUBSEQUENTLY AWARDED:** S Ingram (surfing), A Hitchmough (Artistic Gymnastics)





Tradition



# FOUNDER'S DAY

**IT** was our 93rd birthday in February and we celebrated in style. The girls assembled in the Theatre, where the House Captains entertained everyone with their quirky renditions of the history of each of our four houses, not sparing the famous gentlemen the houses are named after. Carter is our new house and House Captain, Emmanuelle Tshala, received a portrait of Archbishop Carter on behalf of the House.

There had to be a cake, of course, and the candles were lit by Ms Margie Barlow and Deputy Head Girl, Ruby Lapid, because their birthdays coincided with Founder's Day. The girls dispersed for cupcakes before starting out for St Saviour's. And then the heavens opened...

Prue Crawley describes it well: "Founder's Day was different this year. For the first time that I can remember, it poured with rain just as the girls were due to walk down to St Saviour's. So very quickly the venue was efficiently changed and we had the service in the newly renovated Theatre

which had room for all of us. As always it proved to be a most special service, commemorating all Old Herschelians, with the beautiful rose cross and the silence for those who had died in the year."

After the service the girls formed the arch for new pupils and teachers and sang our beautiful school song. This was followed by the Old Herschelian AGM in the dining room and lunch in the Mary Jagger. ■







# Old Herschelian

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

BY PRUE CRAWLEY  
CHAIRMAN, OH COMMITTEE

Our Old Herschelian year, as always, started with the cocktail party and Founder's Day. This year we held the cocktail party in the new Aaron Searll building, such a lovely space and a wonderful venue. There was wonderful noise and energy created by reunion groups and, in particular, the 1965 Reunion. Stuart West welcomed everyone and although there were fewer people than last year, everything looked set for a good evening. Sadly I had to leave early as my wedding anniversary nearly always lands on the same evening. Tania, as usual, managed everything beautifully and we are all very sad to see her resign from her post. She intends to return to her studies and wants to qualify as a foundation phase teacher. Luckily for us Lucy Bailey (Burns) took over from her in the third term. Lucy is an ex Herschel teacher, on the OH committee and daughter of Di Burns, our former OH secretary for over 30 years and Lucy has a daughter at Herschel. Her credentials could not be better and we are thrilled to have her even more involved. I look forward to working with her and thank Tania so much for her

wonderful work, enthusiasm and loyalty to the Old Herschelians.

On that note we have three other resignations: Jennifer Wynne, Shushy Hugo Hamman and Liz Cowell. Shushy was one of the main fundraisers in the creation of the Old Herschelians Bursary Fund, which now donates about R10 000 every year to the school to be used as it sees fit as an auxiliary bursary fund, i.e. for things not covered for a bursary student. We shall miss her energy and enthusiasm.

Jennifer Wynne has been on the committee much longer than me and has been a wonderfully loyal and hardworking member. We thank her and trust that she will enjoy her retirement. We still hope to see her at all our gatherings.

Liz Cowell inspired us with the idea of the Golden Girls, a breakfast function for all those who had celebrated their 50th reunion. We had the first one last year and it was such a happy occasion that no one wanted to leave until lunch time! Here again it was most beautifully organised by Tania and the school and we thank them for all the wonderful food and service.

At the AGM on Founder's Day, our

treasurer mentioned that some reunions contribute towards the Bursary or the 100th celebration looming in 7 years. She suggested a plan for enlarging and relocating the archives. Please let us know your thoughts on this.

At the AGM we also suggested it was time for another circle secretaries' meeting. The last one was a long time ago and few attended! We held one on the 19 March and had a fabulous turnout, with Tania producing a wonderful hand-out, outlining duties of a circle secretary, how to arrange a reunion and how the school can help.

The next occasion on our calendar was The Winter Dinner. It was a magical evening. Our speaker was Ariella Caira, from Sterling EQ, one of our most successful SA music groups. Her speech was wonderfully inspiring and she informed us that her career had started in the Music Department at Herschel.

Last but not least, we had a wonderful response to having new younger members join the committee. I was so impressed by their enthusiasm and look forward to having fun with them on the committee. ■



# OH NEWS

FROM OUR MAILBOX

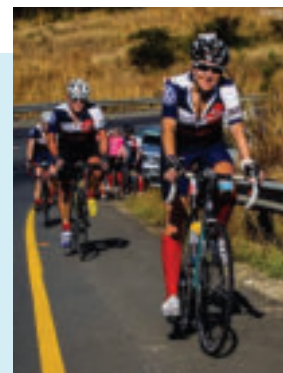


*I am researching the life of **Harriet May Skidmore Robinson (1887-1962)**. (Her grandfather was my great-grandfather so she was my first cousin once removed). I have recently discovered that she taught and was possibly Head Mistress of Herschel Girls School... wrote David Skidmore from St Albans in England. We were delighted to inform David that Harriet Robinson was indeed Head of Herschel, from 1933 to 1944, and that Miss Robinson was responsible for developments such as the Chapel (then the Library), establishing the first choir and the building of the first swimming pool.*



**Chanel Erasmus** (Matric 2011) joined Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut where she studied Drama, served on several campus committees, played college squash and hockey and became a member of the rowing team. She was awarded the Robert R Bartlett Award for her combined excellence in athletics, with devotion to community and/or campus service.

In September 2015 **Nicky Eckstein** and her partner, David Bellairs, were chosen as two of ten participants from around the world to undertake a journey of 1750kms, which entailed cycling from Cape Town to Pietermaritzburg over ten days and then running the Comrades Marathon on the 11th day: the Unogwaja Challenge. The Unogwaja Challenge follows the journey



of Phil Masterton Smith who, in 1931, was the youngest person (19) to ever win the Comrades Marathon.

It seems Old Herschelians are naturally suited to the food and book industry. **Alicia Wilkinson** wrote "A Year at Silwood", **Sam Wouldge** published "Confessions of a hungry woman", **Sarah Dall's** book, "For the Love of Baking", was an instant hit and restaurant owner, **Karen Dudley**, our Head Girl in 1985, authored "Another Week in The Kitchen". Another Old Herschel author, **Margie Orford**, is dubbed 'the queen of South African crime thriller writers'. Her novels have been translated into more than ten languages and she is also an award-winning journalist.

After leaving Herschel, she studied at UCT and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1999 and has her Masters in Comparative Literature from the Graduate School of the City University of New York. Margie says about Herschel: *My character Clare Hart went to Herschel, by the way – in my imagination – and there are some oblique references to the school and Arderne Gardens in Daddy's Girl and a couple of the other novels – just hidden away for me. You can also say that my wonderful English teacher at Herschel, Athene Hall, was an inspiration for me.*



▲ SAM WOULDGE



▲ KAREN DUDLEY



▲ SARAH DALL



▲ MARGIE ORFORD

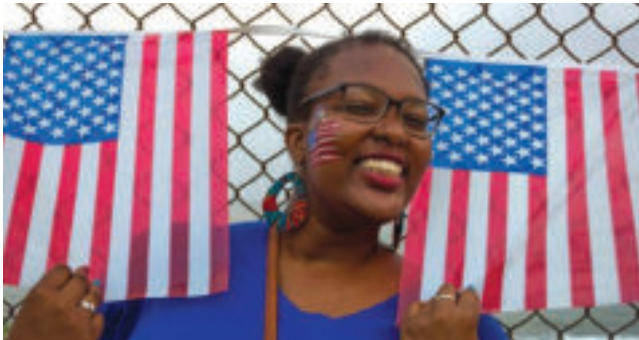


## FROM OUR MAILBOX



*The termly Newsletters are fascinating, and I found the sections on dance very interesting. Also it's hard to believe that the summer dresses are the same now as they were 80 years ago!*

**MARY-JANE DUCKWORTH, NEE HARRIS (1935 – 1947).**



**Lethu Ntshinga** (Head Girl 2013), who is currently studying at Harvard, spoke to our girls at the Academic Dinner:

"Herschel is a major part of my story and my years and experiences here prepared me for the journey that I am now at the beginning of. Over the past year and a half, I have learnt to question, I have learnt to listen, I have learnt proactivity and to make peace with rejection. But the most important thing I have learnt is to appreciate the beauty of the educational journey."



The Lady Herschel Society is a social club specifically for mothers of Old Herschelians and ex-teachers who do not want to cut ties with the

school, but who are not *bona fide* Old Herschelians. The society, which meets for drinks once per term, was started by Mrs Daphne Beames (front), who taught at Herschel for many years and the gatherings are still convened by her. (Mothers of Old Herschelians who are interested to attend this no-formalities-only-chat organisation can contact the Marketing Department.) Standing behind Daphne is Di Burns, who was Secretary of the Old Herschel Association for many years.



Several Old Herschelians featured in the Mail and Guardian's list of 200 Young South Africans. Among them were **Drs Sarah Whitehead, Nastassja Koen and Anna Haw.**

**Sarah Whitehead**, (above left) who discovered in her fifth year of medical school that she has a venal anomaly which started affecting her walking (and later her speech), continued with her studies but was told that, while she could graduate, she could not practise medicine. Sarah has, however, completed an internship and has worked in

medical care, despite her health obstacles. Her book, "Between Head and Heart" is the story of her courage and bravery and we are humbled that she shared her journey with our Grade 10 girls.

**Nastassja Koen** is a neuro-genetics researcher, working with the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health of UCT. She is also pursuing a PhD.

**Anna Haw** is a veterinary scientist and regarded as "one of South Africa's leading wildlife research veterinarians", according to the Mail and Guardian. With a veterinary degree from the University of Edinburgh (with distinction) and an MSc in veterinary tropical diseases from the University of Pretoria (also with distinction) she is currently in her final year of her PhD in physiology at Wits.

## FROM OUR MAILBOX



We received a wonderful letter, filled with memories, from **Dew Barry** (née Warren) who was at Herschel from 1939 to 1943.

*I started at Herschel in 1939 - two years after (Diana Davies) left, but much she wrote about struck a chord. We lived in Mountain Rd, just round the corner from the Strubens, within cycling distance from Herschel and Kirstenbosch. In those days Bishop's Court was quite undeveloped apart from the Bishop's house and the tracks leading to Kirstenbosch*

*were untarred.*

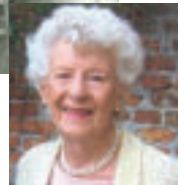
*And I remember Joel, a tall*

*dignified man who*

*waited on us at mealtimes.*

*He must have had one of the longest associations with the school of any staff member.*

*I was there for the opening of the "new" library. Even in those days the high, vaulted ceiling and leaded windows gave it a cathedral-like atmosphere of peace and calm. I can easily imagine its transition into the School Chapel.*



**Kim Whitaker**, who matriculated in 2002, and who is the co-founder and co-owner of Once in Cape Town, has been named the 2015 Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year at the annual Sanlam / Business Partners Entrepreneur of the Year Competition held in Johannesburg.





#### GRADE 1 TO 12 AT HERSCHEL

**FRONT ROW:** A Pycroft, L Barnard, K Gees, Mr West, A Steytler, A Beaven, L Macdonald

**SECOND ROW:** A Esack, S Mgojo, S Brink, E Rooney, E Morley, M Allardice **THIRD ROW:** K Macfarlane, O Warren, J Allen, J Lillie, L Nixon, J Gleeson, N Lancefield, A Pitcher **BACK ROW:** P Leaf-Wright, A Webber, K Orrey, K Scott, A Dias, K van der Merwe, Z Marubelela, D Comititis

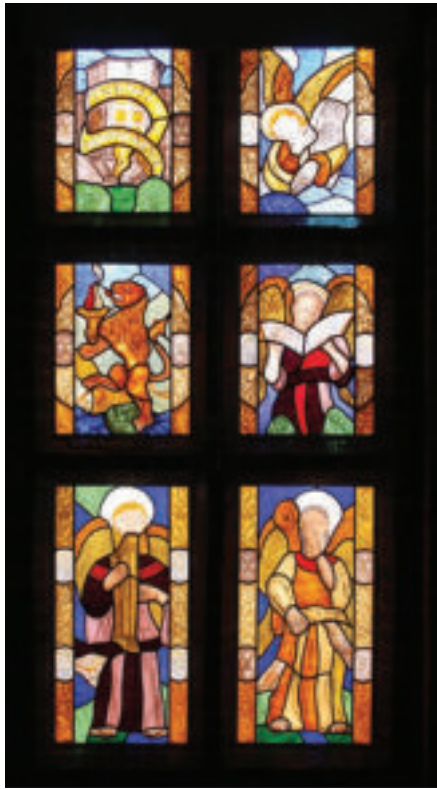


#### OLD HERSCHELIAN MOTHERS AND GRADE 12 DAUGHTERS

**BACK ROW:** Mesdames Morley, Orrey, Meinert, Panieri and Pinheiro

**FRONT ROW:** Elizabeth, Kimberley, Katharine, Angelica and Courtney





*Service*





# CHAPEL

BY REV. SUE TAYLOR

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN  
AN INCREDIBLE TIME  
TO **FAITHFULLY SERVE**  
HIM BY LOVING GOD,  
EACH OTHER AND  
OURSELVES.

**T**his year, our Theatre has come into its own as a sacred space. Our Founder's Day Service was hastily relocated to the Theatre when unseasonal showers prevented us walking to St Saviour's church and many Old Herschelians commented on the loveliness of the occasion. Then, in August, we hosted Bishops College and St Cyprian's School at our joint Confirmation Service. Ten of our girls were

confirmed in a beautiful and meaningful service, led by Archbishop Thabo. Our Chorale led the exquisite singing and a whole team worked together to create a place of worship and reverence. Our maintenance department built us a movable Altar table for use in the Theatre and a fine-looking new Altar Cloth was purchased with the kind donation of an Old Herschelians visiting from the USA.

*Fresh Expressions* is the name that has been adopted by a growing movement within the Anglican Church, encouraging us to explore ways in which we present the Good News of our Faith in ways which are accessible to the younger generations. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has challenged the church worldwide to re-evaluate the way we do things as we "seek to engage with an increasingly complex culture". As we address this issue in Herschel, we nevertheless affirm the value of tradition. While we continue to enjoy the formal services at the beginning and end of each term, our weekly Grade Eucharists in the Chapel present the opportunity to invite University students to lead worship and share a message in a more contemporary style.

Our Lenten focus this year was on stewardship of our environment. Reverend Dr Rachel Mash, the Anglican Environmental Officer, introduced the concept of a Carbon Fast on Ash Wednesday. As Easter fell in the middle of the holidays, we ended Term 1 with a 'Good Friday' style service focusing on the crucifixion, then opened the Second Term with an Easter Resurrection celebration. Earlier in the year two Preparatory staff members were licensed as Chapel Assistants in order to fulfil



## LAY MINISTERS

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs T Steyn, Miss D Baws, Rev. S Taylor, Mr S West, Mrs F Cochrane, Mrs A Bodenstein **BACK ROW:** T Buis, A Hendricks, N Lancefield, J Kruger, D Vlok, A Malindi, K Schwartz, A Ngwendu

the role of Lay Minister for Preparatory services.

Divinity classes this year have increasingly become moments of stillness and reflection for the girls, a change of pace from the pressures of the academic programme. Using the 'Godly Play' method of story-telling, which is both very contemplative and very tactile (with the use of little figurines and the time to *wonder* about issues within a biblical story), has been very fruitful. This has been enhanced by the purchase of a set of 26 Bibles for the Chapel, enabling the girls to have 'hands-on' opportunities to encounter scripture.

A major focus of the second half of this year has been the introduction of aspects of Benedictine spirituality, particularly the practise of *stabilitas* – finding peace and strength and contentment within the pressures of daily life, by using the regular routines of our community to point us to the presence of God in our midst. Increasingly the habitual state of a Herschel girl has been to declare that she is "stressed", and we are seeking to exchange this for a prevailing attitude, or inner climate, of *stabilitas*, not necessarily by reducing the pressures, but by equipping ourselves to face them in a way which does not debilitate us. This has captured our imagination and so we are using little daily rhythms as opportunities to develop habits of thankfulness, affirmation, forgiveness and celebration – habits of mind and heart that change our perspective from the otherwise overwhelming stress and create *stabilitas*.

The worshipping life of the school necessarily interfaces with the Music departments and it is with sadness that we bade farewell to Mrs Liezl Boyd who led the Prep. Music department with such grace and professional expertise. We will also miss the warm welcome, personal care and attention to detail of Mr Melvyn Peters, the Verger at St Saviour's, who retired at the end of May. Mr Neil Macdonald has served with passion as the Board member for Spirituality over a number of years and we thank him for his commitment to the girls. We welcome Dr Neville Wellington to this role.

It is with gratitude that we look back over a year of God's faithfulness in the school and it is with anticipation that we look forward to seeing His hand upon us and working through us as we seek, as a community, to love and serve Him.

**Ad Dei Gloriam** ■

# FISH

**H**erschel's Christian Union, FISH (Faithful in Serving Him), has been meeting every Wednesday in the drama studio. We play games, study God's word and enjoy worship in His presence. Our vision, as a committee for this year, has been to grow deeper in God and to grow in our relationships with each other.

The first term started off with the theme of 'The Amazing Race'. In order to grow in God, we used biblical examples to help us in our walk with God. We studied the lives of people such as Hosea, Paul and Esther to serve as an inspiration. We played games such as minute-to-win-it and we had a photo race. We wanted to share love among the rest of the school, so we handed out ice-bites and formed a massage-circle and had some fun. We included getting involved with other schools by having a pizza and testimonies evening at Camps Bay. Involvement with schools such as Rustenburg and Bishops extended to events such as 'Schools United' which included socialising with and teachings for the various CUs. This allowed us to grow as a Christian community, but also to learn from each other.

Term two was cut slightly short as a result of exams, but we tried to make

the most of our time. Speaking of which, the theme for the term was God's timing. We divided it up into past, present and future. A few guest speakers shared their testimonies with us, one of which was incredibly moving. We learned about God's faithfulness in the past and trusting His plan in our present and future. This was aided by 'YesHels' videos.

The third term had the theme of growing in God. Frau Diedericks spoke to us about growing in God through her personal testimony and reading God's word. Simone spoke to us about how we can grow through worship. We also discussed how to grow through prayer and the encouragement of others. Furthermore, we spent time watching a movie teaching us about the purpose God has for us. We are currently planning our sleepover which involves spending a night at school, ordering pizza, lots of chocolate and some ministry time.

The introduction of Monday morning prayer meetings helped girls bond with each other and some staff members (and they helped relieve Monday blues). Our new prayer buddy groups help to act as a support system as the girls help pray for any stressful situations. To get in tune with our younger selves and to bond with the Prep School guppies, we organised a praise and worship session which included some cute dance moves as well. This year has been an incredible time to faithfully serve Him by loving God, each other and ourselves. ■



## FISH

**FRONT ROW:** G Grobler, Mrs H Oelofse, A Gennison, K Pienaar, Mrs T Thomson, T Allen **BACK ROW:** J Joubert, E Heidmann, T Ddamulira, K Fabing, J Gwynne-Evans, B Sass





#### MANAGEMENT

**FRONT ROW:** C Charlton, Miss D Baws, M Rothman, Mr S West, G Elliot, Ms R Bouwer, B Sass

**BACK ROW:** M Kahn, O Warren, E Heidmann, K Kotze, H Acton, J Kruger, J Allen, L Macdonald, S Mgojo

**ABSENT:** A Smith



#### PREFECTS

**FRONT ROW:** R Lapid (Deputy Head Girl), Miss D Baws, J Wilson (Head Girl), Mr S West, S Mulaudzi (Deputy Head Girl), Ms R Bouwer, A Chikte

**MIDDLE ROW:** J Jeffery, K Meinert, V Searle, L Nixon, E Tshala, A Panieri, A Steytler

**BACK ROW:** D Comitits, T Botha, K van der Merwe, J Ashworth, J Baikoff, T Allen, E Rooney

# Pastoral Care

The grade system is the structure around which pupil care at Herschel is centred. The work of the Grade Heads of 2015, namely Renee Scott/Karen van der Merwe, Bronwen Parker, Bongani Sopam, Alison Bodenstein and Craig Karstens and their tutors provide girls with a wonderful support system. We started 2015 with 40 tutor groups of approximately 13 girls per group. The tutors' essential role is to facilitate relationship building within their group and the forty-minute tutor period on a Friday has provided much opportunity for this.

Mrs Paula Sellmeyer, the School Counsellor, is also key in supporting the girls through counselling. Her ideal is to create a safe, private space in her office, where girls feel they can come and talk to her about their emotional lives and problems or difficulties. These problems cover a range of issues from relational problems, stress, anxiety, feelings of depression or sadness, various traumas and many others. Her work is private and confidential, and she is only obligated to inform parents or the school if a girl is at risk.

Paula Sellmeyer and I have enjoyed interacting with the girls on a variety of topics relating to emotional health. We have tried to impress on the girls that emotional health is not about being happy all the time. Our emotional health is defined by our ability to understand and be responsive to our emotional experiences.

Starting high school and making new friends, while managing friendships that go wrong, are all pertinent Grade 8 and 9 issues. Practical activities like creating masks, which reflect ourselves on the inside and the persona we present to the world on the outside, have been valuable. In Grade 8 we held small group discussions prior to the second term examinations, in an attempt to allay fears around their first high school examinations.

In the FET phase, we looked at the pressures, stress and anxiety that our girls experience at this stage of adolescence. We started by providing girls with insight into the psychological rationale behind stress. We consulted with an expert in managing stress and anxiety in adolescents and she has run workshops with the senior girls on understanding anxiety, creating balance and managing stress.

We also enjoyed a workshop with the Grade 10 and 11 groups entitled "Managing our emotions". The importance of being self-aware and prioritising emotional health was discussed and scenarios were provided to practise the constructive process of STOP, REFLECT, THINK and ACT RIGHT.

*Pastoral Care is not the destination, but the nourishment for the learning journey.* (Mann 2006)

**MICHELLE VAN SCHALKWYK,  
HEAD OF PASTORAL CARE**

## CAREER COUNSELLING

The Career Resource Centre is now in its eighth year and has developed from a fledgling department to a dynamic, broad-based facility offering a variety of services to the Herschel girls. The primary focus of the centre is to equip girls to make meaningful career choices and ultimately to find purpose and pleasure in the world of work. It is a journey of discovery beginning in Grade 9 where girls make their subject selection for their National Senior Certificate curriculum. To this end we provide individual counselling opportunities, information about course requirements at leading South African universities and invite guest speakers from various tertiary institutions to address the girls.

A number of our pupils have been successfully placed in international universities and interest in such

opportunities is growing. We are able to assist girls with their tertiary applications both locally and internationally and have a good relationship with specialists assisting with applications to the UK and Europe, in particular. We run workshops on how to master the writing of the Personal Essay, which is so vital when applying to the UK, and also facilitate preparation for the SATs for applications to the USA.

Our annual Careers Expo with Bishops attracts between forty and fifty exhibitors each year and has recently included international institutions as well. Herschel also hosts an annual Universities Evening, which is geared towards providing Grade 12s with the latest information regarding application procedures and admissions policies of our main, feeder universities.

**MRS MONIQUE NYBACK**



## ACADEMIC SUPPORT

In the same way a sports coach works to achieve our sporting potential, the Academic Support Department works as an academic coach to empower and encourage girls. Our emphasis is not just on working hard, but on working smart as well. It is important that the girls learn how to identify their particular learning style. This tends to be a trial and error process so it is crucial that our girls experiment with different strategies and learning methods early on in their Senior School careers. Learning how to work with your brain, rather than against it, can make all of the difference to academic success.

Equally important to academic progress is metacognition, in other words thinking about our thinking. Questions like "Why do I feel a particular way about a certain subject?" and "Why am I scared of making mistakes?" are all helpful. Being aware of our thinking allows us to adjust patterns of behaviour and thought for the better.

The Academic Support Department's approach is to work as a liaison between girls and teachers, teachers and parents, and parents and the school. It assists with developing a considered support programme for girls with identified learning difficulties, as they journey through senior school. Close links exist between the Academic Support Department, the Counsellor and the Career Advisor within the school. The Department also has relationships with a number of enthusiastic tutors, dedicated remedial teachers, and select educational psychologists who assist in caring for our girls.

**MRS ANDREA HEWITT**



# COMMUNITY

# Service

Ingrained in the Herschel ethos, is giving of ourselves to make a difference to the lives of others and 2015 certainly lived up to this philosophy in terms of Community Service events. It has been wonderful to see the level of participation in our weekly activities, including Happy Hands, Jump HI, S.M.I.L.E, the Red Nose Chicken Club and Caring for Kids amongst others. Herschel's holistic approach to education and its emphasis on the importance of social responsibility made a difference to us, as well.

The ever-increasing participation by girls meant that we could introduce new outreach initiatives this year, with girls tutoring pupils in Outreach Science, in addition to the existing subjects. It was also wonderful to see the interest in weekend service opportunities. Habitat for Humanity held its annual 25-hour 'cyclathon' raising funds to build houses, with many girls participating in both the cyclathon and the building process. Helping at the Cape

Argus Pick 'n Pay Cycle Tour was also well supported, together with helping at various Christmas parties for disadvantaged children and the Sisanda Foundation children's day. The entire school supported our Mandela Day Initiative to collect specified stationery items for underprivileged children. We were overwhelmed by the generosity and level of support and the smiles on the faces of the Rosmead Primary School recipients is something we will never forget.

I would like to thank the girls (from the Sarmie Army making sandwiches for JumpHi and S.M.I.L.E to everyone who helps and donates) for their ongoing support and the service representatives and 2015 service committee for their energy and enthusiasm. The ever-growing service portfolio could not exist, however, without the guidance and input of Mrs Van Blerk, Mrs Colly and Mrs De Villiers. I would like to thank them for their dedication and on-going support.

**BY VICTORIA SEARLE,  
SERVICE PREFECT**





### S.M.I.L.E (ST MARY'S INTERACTIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE)

This programme, run collectively by Mrs Gillian van Blerk, Mrs Bev Labia and Mrs Karen Levitt, along with the help of sixteen Herschel girls, aims to help primary school children improve their English in an enjoyable and interactive way. This year we taught 48 Grade 5 pupils from Capricorn Primary School in Vrygrond. The activities varied from memory games and word searches, to building and decorating rice shakers and making up dance moves to poems.

Every week there was a theme to the activities. These themes ranged from the Circus and Animals to Dance and Sport.

Throughout the year the girls bond with their group of students and get to watch, as their English, and most often, therefore, their self-confidence, improve. S.M.I.L.E truly is a special programme that is making a difference to these young students' lives.

**BY MICHAELA VAN NIEKERK**



### JUMP HI

#### *(Junior Undiscovered Maths Prodigies – Herschel Initiative)*

JUMP HI is a wonderful maths programme designed for the Grade 5 and 6 learners of Regina Coeli Primary School. Every Thursday afternoon, 48 learners from Regina Coeli are tutored by 40 Herschel volunteers, with the aid of worksheets. The girls face many challenges when teaching, but at the end of the session when their 'buddies' have their

light bulb moments, it is most rewarding. Throughout the year, the girls and their 'buddies' have built strong, loving relationships - exchanging letters with each other where often the children ask their wise buddies for advice on life. This year has truly been successful with all the help from the dedicated girls.

**BY ZAAHIDAH RAZZAK**

### GRADE 12 PEER TEACHING AND LEARNING WITH LANGA AND THANDOKHULU

Friday afternoons are usually dedicated to coffee with friends or that much-needed nap, but there are a few Herschel Matrics who spend their Friday afternoons at school, teaching mathematics to students from Langa High School. This is supervised by teachers and we assist the learners. Difficult concepts are explained and a few exam tips are given. We work through past NSC papers and go through as many examples as possible. It is an opportunity not only for the Langa students, but we learn a lot as well and it helps with our own revision for finals.

Community Service History is a collaboration between Herschel Matrics and

Thandokhulu Matrics, under the guidance of Mrs Grové and Ms Wesson. We meet every Thursday after school and spend time discussing topics such as the Cold War, the Black Consciousness Movement and even the latest news in parliament. It has been enriching working with these insightful students, sharing our opinion and learning more about the lessons of history. Each week the forty students learn essay skills and how to work with source-based materials. These lessons teach us not only the facts of history, but why events happened and how they affect us.

Similar peer teaching in Science, IT and Cooking also take place weekly.







## REACH FOR A DREAM

Reach for A Dream has had a very successful 2015. We would like to thank the girls in the club for their enthusiasm and commitment, as well as Mrs Cassuto for her hard work behind the scenes, making all of our ambitious dreams possible.

A definite highlight of this year's Reach for a Dream projects would have to be the movie-outing. After various

fund-raising events, such as holding hot chocolate and bake sales, we raised enough money to realise our highly-anticipated project. One early and slightly damp Saturday morning we picked up a group of girls, from St George's Home in Wynberg, whom we treated to a movie at the cinemas and then their own choice of take-away lunch. The Herschel girls and their

new-found friends got driven back to St George's Home where we had an enjoyable afternoon of party-packs, games and much laughter. Reach for a Dream girls at Herschel help to raise funds to realise terminally ill children's wildest dreams as well as holding outings and parties to let these children know they matter and are special.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity is a world-wide, non-profit organisation that aims at eliminating substandard housing. Herschel participated in a "build" in Pelican Park, where we spent the day participating in the actual building process by laying bricks and mixing cement for the houses. Our main event was the annual 25-hour Cyclathon which took place at the V&A Waterfront at the end of January. Thirty girls helped out by cycling and selling raffle tickets to the public – including many Herschel supporters – and some girls even slept over at the Waterfront.

We raised R78 000 at this year's event which makes it the most successful to date! **BY SARA SHABOODIEN**

## HAPPY HANDS

Every Tuesday afternoon a group of Herschel girls called 'Happy Hands' goes to Heatherdale Children's Home in Athlone to interact with the children. They play with the children on the jungle gym and in the sandpit. They also help run the seminars which include: drug abuse and human rights. Often we are involved in heated debates with the older children, as we discuss women abuse and other conventional topics. At first it was strange when, on our arrival, the children ran out and greeted us with hugs and smiles until we realised that it is the highlight of many of the girls' week.

**BY LUCIANA GRAHAM**

## RED NOSE CHICKEN CLUB



If you just so happened to be in the Languages Corridor on any given Thursday lunch break you may spot a colony of rare and exotic creatures... Red Nose Chickens! We are a small dedicated group of young Herschelians, expertly guided by Mrs Macfarlane, whose mission it is to be vessels of love. Indeed our club mantra when interacting with patients is to let each of them know "you are safe, you are loved and you belong." Methods of showing our love and care are evident in our club's name: Red Nose signifying our clown outfits and silly antics (all in a bid to

cheer up the otherwise bored patients) and chicken club referring to the magical powers of chicken soup and our belief that laughter, fun and love can help heal a sad little heart.

We have been on numerous outings to Maitland Convalescent Cottage and held fund-raising events, such as selling ice-creams to buy the children at Maitland Cottage their very own toys and red noses. We have also taken part in an awareness video in collaboration with the Upliftment programme of South Africa to spread our message of fun and laughter across a wider audience.

**BY VICTORIA SHARPLES**

## CARING FOR KIDS

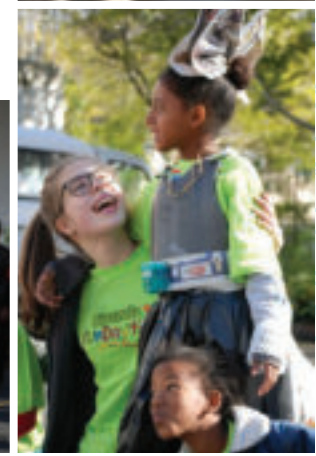
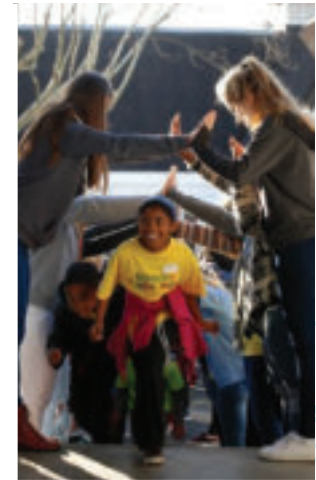
On the 25th of July, Caring For Kids held their annual Funday in conjunction with Sisanda Fundation. We were greeted by 40 excited children from Kewtown Primary, dressed in their brightly coloured Sisanda t-shirts, ready for a fun-filled day. The theme for the Funday was "Bright Stars". The children took part in a variety of intellectual and creative activities, such as puzzle building and an electronic quiz, where each group of children was given a remote and simply

pressed the letter they thought corresponded to the right answer. From smelling and identifying spices to examining animal spores, the questions not only posed a challenge to the children but the Herschel girls too! The highlight of the day would have to be the "Recycle Fashion Show." Each group of children was given a few recyclable materials such as dustbin bags, newspapers and bottled tops which they had to use to design an outfit. It was amazing to see what the children could come up with and the outfits designed

were hugely innovative. This activity gave the children an insight into what wonders you can do with waste and the importance of recycling. The Funday was hugely successful and we would like to thank all the volunteers who took part so enthusiastically.

This term we have also had a number of playdough making sessions and made covers for colouring books which were delivered, along with the playdough, to Kewtown Primary School and Regina Coelia Primary School.

**BY RACHEL SEARLE**



## OUTREACH ART

*"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes."* - Scott Adams

Every Monday a group of Herschel girls and 16 learners from Kewtown Primary School get together for an hour and fifteen minutes to engage in fun, 'artsy' and messy projects. The aim of this outreach art programme is to enhance the art skills of the children, through giving them the encouragement they need to make mistakes, for it is important to realise that some mistakes can result in great things on paper, interesting shapes or impressions, just as

good can come from mistakes in the real world.

The past year has seen many projects, ranging from underwater-themed mobiles to masks and observational drawings to owls. Not only do the lessons offer a safe environment for the children to experiment with their pens and paints, but it also allows for bonds to be formed and empathy to be cultivated. After all, in the words of Van Gogh himself, "there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." **BY KATELIJNE KOTZE**



## A word from

*Maahirah Khan*  
**Head of Community Service**

This year has been filled with many successful outreach activities which have allowed both the Herschel girls and the learners from the respective schools not only to extend their educational experiences within the Herschel boundaries, but also allowed them to explore their creativity after school hours. The JUMP HI, S.M.I.L.E and Outreach Computer, History and Mathematics programmes have been a platform for the Herschel girls to share their basic knowledge and skills involving Mathematics, English, History and IT, whereas

the Big Sisters, Outreach Catering, Outreach Art and Drama programmes have encouraged the girls and students to work together to explore and release their inner creative and artistic flair. The outreach programmes were not only held within the Herschel grounds but also extended to various children's homes, hospitals and underprivileged schools. Our Red Nose Chicken, Reach for a Dream, Happy Hands and Caring for Kids programmes ensured that many young lives were brightened by the generous donations and interactions with the Herschel girls.





# INTERACT

BY COURTNEY PINHEIRO

The Interact committee at Herschel is a group of dedicated girls supported by Rotary Claremont and Rotaract, Rotary's youth component. Rotary and Rotaract organise annual events, which the Interact committee advertises to the school and participates in. The committee also attends regular meetings, camps and workshops.

The teacher-in-charge of the committee is Mrs Colly and Interact will miss her dedication and enthusiasm in 2016. The events and various activities, that involve assisting children, the elderly, the underprivileged, disabled citizens and any other organisations in need of help, are open to participation by any girls and staff at the school.

No time was wasted at the beginning of the year as the annual event, Fun Frenzy approached. Various schools gathered at Bishops to entertain and play games with hundreds of underprivileged children. This year the Herschel girls who signed up to participate had a wonderful, though rather tiring day, painting faces and playing games. There was no doubt that the unforgettable event left smiles on all of our faces.

Soon after Fun Frenzy, the Cape Town Cycle Tour took place in early March. The committee organised sign-up lists for Herschel girls to volunteer to help on the day. This initially seemed daunting for the volunteers and meant waking up at the

crack of dawn to be at the start where we helped by 'checking in' the cyclists. It was a busy, challenging morning for the volunteers, who were faced with large numbers of very eager cyclists. Everyone was up for the challenge, however, and the result was a happy, rewarding experience.

For Interact's annual project, which is sponsored by Rotary and Rotaract, the committee planned to paint and donate shelves filled with books and toys to the Grade One classrooms at Constantia Primary School. On visiting the school, it was evident that they struggled to find age-appropriate English and Afrikaans

books for their younger children and it was this that inspired the idea for the project.

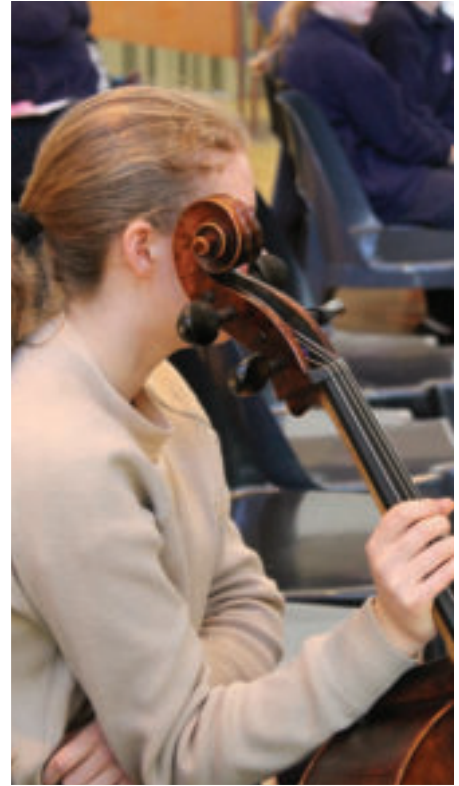
In the midst of the planning of these events, Interact also conducted various drives and collections, including a book drive to celebrate Rotary's 110th birthday, the making of Valentine's Day cupcakes by the Grade Eights for the elderly at Huis Lückhoff, a spectacle collection, the annual sock and facecloth collection, Interact Camp, Interact workshops and the Term 3 sweets collection for the yearly One-to-One day in August.

Overall, 2015 was an exceptionally rewarding year for Interact. ■



## INTERACT

**FRONT ROW:** J Macleod Smith, H Acton, Mrs J Colly, C Pinheiro (president), E Leslie **BACK ROW:** L Graham, V Sharples, C Laudien



*In the  
classroom*





# English

## AN EXTENDED BONADEI FAMILY MEAL

"NINAA, COME SET THE TABLE."

I look up from my cellphone. For a few peaceful minutes I had forgotten that the family was coming over.

"HOW MANY PEOPLE?" I yell back and unwillingly get off the couch to walk to the kitchen.

"So there's the four of us, plus Tyrone, Luce, Nat and the boys, Nonna, Lesley, Sharon, Daniel, Thea, and Guy. But the boys won't sit at the table. So that's..."

"Thirteen." I finish my mom's sentence, counting my fingers.

Just as I place the last plate on the table, the front door bursts open and blows my carefully folded serviettes off the table. My grandmother is here. I scramble to retrieve the napkins and make my way to greet her.

"Ciao Nonna."

"Ahh! Ciao Nina, come stai?" Nonna asks as she pulls me towards her and kisses every part of my face.

"Uhh bene..." I reply feebly, wiping red lipstick smudges off my cheeks. I wish I could speak more Italian.

At around eight, Milo and Hugo are sitting on the couch entranced by a movie whilst the rest of us are seated around the large table on the stoep. The mildly spicy smell of chicken curry floats around the room. My dad is pouring wine and hospitably asking if anyone would like anything else, and my mom is listening

tentatively to Nonna.

Nonna complains self-righteously in her heavy accent "Yah! Ehdn she doesn't eeven geeve me de pikchas anymore! She just put dem on her ... ehh..."

"Cellphone?" my mom says helpfully.

Nonna loves having pictures of her grandchildren to show off to her friends, and she wants more of Michela and Oliver. Last year my cousins moved to Johannesburg. These gatherings haven't quite been the same since they left. Now I'm the only one awkwardly in the middle of child and adult conversation. I think about Michela and Ollie as I chew on a clove: the rush of flavour reminds me of them.

Sharon's voice bounces into my ears, "They work overtime! And if I don't do the work no-one will. It is ridiculous. Reeduculous!"

I look at Sharon sitting on my right. She's very different to my mom. Sharon is rounded, balding, and cynical of the world. My mom is curvy and has a full head of thick hair. I try to find a gap in her and my father's conversation. But there is none.

I decide to try finding an opening elsewhere. My first choice would be my sister, Eva, but she and Tyrone are discussing UCT and their final exams. Another topic I can't relate to. I take another fork-full of curry and rice and gulp down some water.

My line of vision focuses on Lesley. She's talking to my cousin, Daniel. In many

ways they are similar: dark hair, lonely, and have a tendency to isolate themselves.

Lesley makes a joke and laughs at it, despite the lack of actual humour. Daniel laughs as well, even if it is just to be polite. It's good for him to laugh. I think that's why I always act as a fool around him; I want him to be happier.

Thea's laugh steals my attention. Her loud cackle is such a contrast to her brother, Daniel's laugh. She is watching my half-brother, Luca, who cuts a slice of the pizza-sized Brie cheese given to us by Nonna.

"Luca! Enjoying that cheese there, hey?" Thea raises her eyebrows teasingly and lets out one of her signature cackles.

"Looking at my plate now I can see I took a bit much," Luca replies with a laugh so similar to our dad's.

I bump my glass, accidentally spilling some water on Ev's plate. She doesn't notice, but Daniel does. I can see his vague smirk as he shakes his head.

It is getting late. The room smells more of wine and chocolate than of curry or cheese now. I can see my mom's eyelids getting heavier and her head nodding slowly back as she begins to doze off. I finish my slice of Panettone slowly, as the night is coming to an end.

"Rrooaarr..."

I hear a soft muffled giggle and look up from my plate to see Milo pushing his little blonde head and chubby fingers against the glass of the sliding door.

Natalie says, "Oh. Hmh. Luc, we better get going. It's way past their bedtimes."

"It's my bedtime now," I mumble tiredly as the last of our family hikes back to their cars parked on our steep road. I subconsciously find my way to my bedroom.

And as I crawl into bed, I hear 'NINAA, COME CLEAR THE TABLE.'

But I'm already asleep.

**NINA BONDADEI - GRADE 10**

## SUMMER

Warble-drenched sun-filled skies  
Quivering flesh  
and everything happiness bright.  
Surfers stretch winter-weary muscles  
and they ripple with the ride...  
Burnt thoughts  
and perspiring days  
And watermelon pips  
dripping  
from hazy breath.

**KATHARINE MEINERT**  
- GRADE 12



▲ GEORGINA ELLIOTT (DETAIL)

## SUMMER'S SYMPHONY

Everything was still. Pianissimo. The warm sun was just beginning to peak over the horizon, flooding the stage in a dim, golden glow. The audience waited in anticipation.

Then, faint and distant, the first animals began to poke their heads out of the safety of their nestling places. The fidgeting of players readying their instruments and the crackle of precariously arranged sheet music lingered. Eventually, the 'clop, clop' of smart, heavy black boots cut cleanly through the silence. Black tails flicked in the air.

Suddenly the world burst into chaos. Cacophony. Nocturnal creatures darted across the forest floor, desperate to discover a last tasty morsel before burrowing frantically to escape the crowded auditorium, hiding from deafening applause. Slowly, the commotion settled and all was quiet once more. The heart of summer was already evident. Tension stretched between branches, twitching leaves – nervousness.

A single, pure note sounded. A bird stirred restlessly somewhere in the trees, whistling enquiringly to his friends, inviting them to welcome the new day. One by one, others joined the oboe, chirping and calling. All the instruments tuned simultaneously, each added his unique timbre to the now overwhelming birdsong – first the strings, the woodwind and finally the brass blasted from far off. Hadedas took to the air with full trust!

The world had been awoken. Within minutes the birdsong died down and the day was edging to fully begin its joyful melody. Quietly, very quietly, a horn began to play. Snakes slithered between long, lashing grasses. The sun hovered over the dark mountains in the distance, drawn upward by the deep, rich tone of cellos and double bass. A wide, powerful river crept and meandered along the valley basin, its water smooth and cool. High notes soared as violins sang and birds darted among the treetops and rose into the clouds, scouring the plains for prey. Glistening silver flutes danced as arpeggios trickled like water droplets from flower petals touched by delicate butterfly wings.

The beautiful harmony of colour was everywhere.

Lions prowled, searching for the unwary. Tension was building – *accelerando* – a chase! Suddenly, he pounced. 'Bang!' the gong resonated and shook every corner of the vast hall.

Someone's heart skipped a beat.

Then, *Subito piano*, *tristamente*. Another



deer had passed on. The Music died away and slow, mournful chords floated, hanging in disbelief, grieving. *Morendo*. The beckoning scent of blood drifted away on the whistling wind.

An eagle instantly dived towards the burning landscape. *Vivace!* Shrieking violins played fast runs echoed *marcato* by clarinets. A hawk had spotted the carcass as well! The trombone rudely interrupted and carried the theme intensively towards the lifeless deer. *Fortissimo!* Desperate for food, scavengers gathered rapidly, lured by their noses. In unison, squeaky stings chewed away over the soft, lapping tune of a giraffe, unaware, drinking from a calm water hole not far off.

Summer afternoons... lazy *pizzicato* and the occasionally absent-minded toot from a tube – an indulged elephant bathing in the warm shallows of a muddy hollow raised his head. *Andante*, a bassoon accompanied in crotchets. Zebras ambled over the immense baking grasslands. The sun, tired and weakening, began to sink towards the skyline. Cicadas buzzed in trumpets, *staccato* alongside the trills of the viola part.

It has been a long summer's day. *Adagio*, sleepy harmonies progressed as the creatures sauntered into the shadow to rest. *Diminuendo et smorzando*. The last rays of twilight glimmered as the sun dropped out of view, pulling a curtain of darkness over the world as the day came to a perfect cadence. Summer is magnificent.

**AMBER DE DECKER - GRADE 9**

▲ COURTNEY COX

## THE LONE TREE

Somewhere on Dorset's rolling hills,  
A lonely tree stands tall and still.  
One winter I discovered it there,  
High on the hilltop, its branches bare,  
And I felt warm, despite the chill.

On Christmas Eve, when dawn awoke,  
I pulled on boots and scarf and coat,  
And up that dewy hill I climbed,  
While soft the morning sun did shine,  
And only singing sparrows spoke.

And when, at last, I reached the tree,  
Upon its roots, I took a seat.  
And in that quiet solitude  
I sat and watched the world - for who  
Could want for better company?

The sea, the town, both far below  
As I perched on my mighty throne  
And thought how we were so alike,  
That solitary tree and I:  
Perhaps not lonely, just alone.

But all too soon it came to pass;  
With my lone tree, I had to part.  
And though I doubt I shall return,  
That tree, for which I often yearn,  
Still holds a place within my heart.

**MEGAN CUNNINGTON**  
- GRADE 11





## WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN TEN YEARS?

I stare at the words. This is the essay topic that I've been assigned for my English class.

Needless to say, I am not impressed. Even if I can ignore the fact that it is the most common and least interesting topic ever to be printed on a slice of dead tree and given to a student, accompanied by the ever so helpful instructions of "Write from the heart", there was still the fact that I am only sixteen.

Have there ever been sixteen year olds who knew at that specific age exactly what they wanted to do with their lives? Even if there have, how many of them ended up doing what they said they would?

I can tell you how many.

Absolutely zero. Zilch. Zippo. Nada.

And I know why.

It's really quite simple. The reason sixteen year olds don't know where they're going to be in ten years is because they don't even know where they are now. Most 16-year-olds don't even know what they're going to be having for lunch. Contrary to what they would have you think, most 16-year-olds are completely clueless. This isn't to say that they can't be well informed about things, I mean, anyone can read a book and comprehend it (and for those who can't, there's always Cliff's Notes). But there is more to life than just books and facts. There are lessons that cannot be taught, only learned, and at 16, my ability to understand these lessons leaves much to be desired.

If a human life could be compared to the history of humankind, then teenagers would only just be discovering fire. I can't be expected to write an essay about my Industrial Revolution when I've only just started banging rocks together.

Of course, this is all very complicated and there's really no point in explaining it to my teachers.

It's much easier just to write the essay. And I will.

I'll write about how in 10 years, I'll be 26. I'll have worked very hard to get to the place where I am now. I'll have a loving husband (he's a guitarist), a beautiful home, and well-paying job that I love and am very dedicated too. We'll be needing the money, you see. We have a baby on the way! I'll mention that my husband, Grant, is nervous about being a father (he's worried that he won't be a good one) and that I have no doubt that we'll be just about the happiest family that ever lived. I'll even mention the balcony on the third floor; it's the place where I go when I need a break from my busy, perfect life (hey, even happy people need to relax sometimes).

Of course, there are things that I won't mention.

Like how, even though my job pays well, I'm still working a 65 hour week to pay off the mortgage on the triple storey house. And how I come home at eight p.m. to a passive-aggressive husband who spends all day watching TV and reminiscing about his high school days because he can't hold down a job. Or the fact that ever since my second miscarriage, we've been drifting apart.

I won't mention that I go to the balcony every evening, or how when I stand out there in the chilly air and I look out over the twinkling city lights I feel more alive than at any other point during the day.

I won't write about how every evening I lean just a bit farther over the railing, thinking about how easy it would be to answer l'appel du vide.

No, I won't mention those things.

I haven't learnt those lessons yet, remember?

**DANIÉLLE BLIGNAUT - GRADE 11**

## THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS

It is hard to thank someone for something that you cannot remember. At least in the way that people expect you to. When I was five, I sat too close to the gas fire in my house. My nylon pyjamas caught alight.

I remember it was a winter day and I was cold, watching TV while eating a breakfast of "Rice Crispies". My father had taken my sisters to school. I remember becoming very hot and going to push my sleeves up, but as I looked behind, I saw the flames. The first thought that came to mind was to get my shirt off. I fumbled with the buttons, but I couldn't undo them so I jumped up and ran to my mother on the other side of the house.

I remember seeing her eyes reflecting the orange of the flames that were dancing up my back. She pulled me into my room and I watched her pull a blanket off my bed and place it over me. I remember being underneath it, then nothing.

I remember being in the back of the car and when I moved I heard a crunching sound. It was my skin crumbling.

I cannot remember the hospital. I cannot remember the strangers who helped me and healed me. I cannot remember pain. I remember Tinker Bell who guarded my door.

Strangers took care of me and made me comfortable and helped me.

The other day I gave a cheque to a lady who helps burn children; the cheque was to pay her salary for the year because the government thought her job was a luxury for the children she tended and therefore pointless to pay. So my father's company paid it.

The nurse was amazed to see me at seventeen, in matric and strong. She was a stranger to me and yet she knows my story. The charity of the event was completely forgotten and it was more about friends helping each other out. The laughter filled the room as someone walked past and asked if she could take the cheque with her. The people who work for my father who inadvertently paid for this lady's salary were strangers to her and yet they both had the kindness to help someone in need. They were connected by twelve long years and the little girl who was cold.

Me!

**PAIGE LEAF-WRIGHT - GRADE 12**

# Anger

It was the first time that the sound of my alarm clock evoked a feeling of utter excitement in me, as opposed to the regular dreariness associated with waking up for the first day of school. Grade Ten was the year I had been waiting for: more freedom and fewer subjects. Along with these pleasures, there was that of being reunited with friends after a holiday which, without them, would feel like an eternity.

Amongst the high-pitched shrieks and the general buzz of feminine reunion, familiar hugging – as well as new hugging – took place. There were to be several new girls joining us this year, and the rest of us were thrilled to be welcoming the “newbies” into our family. One girl, in particular, had the most gorgeous golden curls which spiralled all the way down to her lower back, and fell perfectly over her shoulder as she turned to greet me. With bright eyes and a wide, sparkly grin, she said:

“Hey! I’m Angie!”

I was sure that my limbs went numb as soon as the familiar, haunting voice once again rang in my ears – reverberating inside my head and hitting every memory of my Grade Seven year which I had so neatly tucked away. What should have been an enjoyable, final year of childhood life unravelled into an infinite countdown to the end of a torturous year. Why a person, such as she, could make someone’s life so completely miserable, or how, is quite beyond the mind of my seventh-grade self, and likewise now in Grade Ten.

▼ KATELIJNE KOTZE (DETAIL)



A day would feel like a week, and a week a month. Not even in the classroom, under watchful eyes of teachers did I once feel secure. I had never done anything to Angie... but, as with most children that age, Angie wanted a toy to play with: a human toy. One with several buttons that she could press to keep herself, and others, amused, until the butterflies finally gave in.

If ever a new form of bullying in primary school arose, it was most certainly Angie who would have been its creator. Perhaps she had a list; my name scribbled at the top, followed by all her “to do’s”. Cyber: check. Social: check. Emotional: check... yet next to “physical”, the box stood empty. Astonishingly, in the naïve and childish mind of a Grade Seven, she knew that ticking that box would only get her into trouble, and so focused her energy on making my life a living hell some other way.

I was certain that her fists pounding against me would have tickled. Yet, funnily enough, that same hand with her index finger fully extended and her purple, glittery nail polish pointing at me from a distance would make me collapse into a tiny heap – like a pile of broken toy parts ready to be tossed out with the trash.

Looking rather puzzled as to why I had not yet responded to her greeting, she hesitantly said, “Well it’s nice to meet you... I hope we can be good friends.” She smiled awkwardly and turned to walk away. She glanced over her shoulder, scanned me up and down, and carried on. Grade Seven seemed to have just repeated itself, and I could only pray that this year, it would be different.

**HANNAH EARL - GRADE 12**



▲ AMBER PITCHER

## NIGHT SKY

Underneath a celestial blanket,  
My breath curls like tendrils of smoke  
Around my cheeks and, with poised  
dignity,  
Rises skywards and weaves between  
Gaseous palms of light  
Like spilled salt across a table  
Then is absorbed by a warmth I  
cannot  
Even start to fathom;  
For no fabric held between creaking  
fingers  
is softer than  
their smooth luminescence.

When, forsaking my reluctance,  
the torture of sleep creeps up  
And tightens my eyes in its embrace,  
Dew edged ground moulds my back  
and earth’s winds kiss my face

And though I will it not,

I peel my glasses from my cheeks,  
Water spills upon my sight  
Constellations and nebulae blur and  
smudge;  
Flaws on my canvas of night.

I am tethered to this earth it seems,  
Yet galaxies reflect my inner eye,  
For there is no oppression sweeter

Than that of this clear night sky.  
**JOSEPHINE REY - GRADE 10**



# A Leap of Faith

As I shone the 100 candlelight powered torch, a beam of light lit up the left eye of a crocodile on the bank of the Black Umfolozi River. We stared at one another for a time, the ice-blue and blood-red creating tension and fear in both of us, but I was on the ridge and he on the bank. I was safe for now.

My adventure through the Umfolozi game reserve came with much anxiety and anticipation. Nothing had ever gone wrong before and we were assured that if we listened to the guides we were guaranteed to be all right, but there is always a first time for everything. The wilderness was beautiful and all the animals were out for a glorious day in the bush. The herds of Zebra and Impala would run when they saw us approaching but the Rhinos would make us flee with terror. Being away from our 'safe' environment showed me the way in which humans fit into the cycle of life and the natural food chain. Humans have secluded themselves from nature, but why? No other animal has distanced themselves or changed their natural way of life. It was unnerving to see that nature could survive without us, but that we are unable to survive without nature. I found it calming when we walked in complete silence, with only our thoughts for company – contemplating newfound ideas which we could later put to the group for discussion.

We arrived at our camp-site, while the sun was still high in the sky, and began to set up camp. The rain started lightly, a drizzle pattering the ground and opening the opportunity for new life, but then the heavens opened, and we were soon drenched.

After dinner, it was time for a briefing and then the most formidable task of the journey would start, night watch. You are required to sit alone, for one and a half hours, in the dark, while using your torch to scan the vicinity for any animals that could be dangerous. My shift was last and when I was woken from my restless sleep, my only hope was that the sun would rise quickly.

A Hyena barked and the sound kick-started my heart. I quickly swung the torch in the direction of the noise, hoping I would not see the dreaded eyes lit up by the beam of my torch. My mind churned through all the possible outcomes of tonight: the group being mauled by a lion, or trampled by an elephant. Someone could be dragged away by a Hyena. As the torch beam passed between two trees, I saw him – a small creature with bright eyes that gleamed in the light of my torch, a Hyena. My knees began to tremble and my hand shook. Remaining calm, I slowly walked over to Zondi, our guide, and woke him. He took the torch from me and swung it in the arch, catching the Hyena in the beam. He did not seem unnerved by our strange visitor.

An overwhelming sense of calm rushed over me as I sat by the fire and watched the sky as the first signs of dawn came into view. The rising sun cast light over the wilderness and I was surprised at how safe I felt with the light streaming down from the sky. Nothing would make me forget last night's adventure and the memory that I had overcome my fear of the dark and the uncertainty that comes with night watch, by simply trusting another human.

**LUCIANA GRAHAM - GRADE 11**



## ABANTWANA OF THE SUN

Beads of sweat roll down their sun  
embraced skin  
Ululation lifts the eyes of pedestrians  
Legs are lifted in excited dancing  
Cardboard is held up with their  
demands  
High pitched laughing fills the air  
The sun proudly holds onto its offspring  
"Hayi, hayi, hayi"  
the anthem of joyful anger  
Reigns  
A mother wraps her son in a towel  
tied to her back,  
protected,  
He sleeps peacefully as she jumps in  
song  
The skip in their step does not cease  
throughout their lives  
Their joy passes through the pain  
Their songs and dances yielding  
nothing

**COURTNEY CHARLTON -  
GRADE 12**

## EXAMS

I sit.  
I wonder.  
What is the answer?  
  
I stare at the plain wall  
No help will come from there.  
The rectangular tiles on the wall  
Make for a fun counting game  
But I must focus.  
  
Tick-tock goes the clock on the wall.  
  
The inky mess of the page.  
Blue on white.  
A scribble of last night's knowledge.  
  
The teacher strolls between the desks.  
Like a metronome she walks around.  
Hurriedly she goes to the girl with her  
hand up.  
The little action excites her.  
  
I stare at my page.  
The blanks I must still fill.  
  
Tick-tock goes the clock on the wall.

Time's up.  
**LUCIANA GRAHAM - GRADE 11**

◀ GABRIELLA WESSON (DETAIL)

## DON'T

They say that curiosity killed the cat.

Well, according to the law that excuse will not get me out of this squeaky plastic chair any faster. I feel nothing for the four people behind the one-way mirror waiting anxiously for me to pull my hair, bite my nails or sneeze out some confession.

But none of that will happen. Instead, we wait. Wait until they bring in another good cop/bad cop combination of detectives exhibiting a gallery male pattern baldness and beer bellies which explain why they stay inside the office instead of "out in the field", thinking they'll be the ones to finally "crack me". Wait for a psychologist to psychoanalyze the day's events and explain in layman's terms to the aforementioned detectives why I did what I did and have nothing to say for it. Wait for my mother to come into the room with a throat bound tighter than my wrists behind my back and tears running down her cheeks.

All those brains behind that grey door and yet no-one has realised that I don't mind waiting, not at all. I had to wait for my father to leave his office. Wait for the sun to kiss the sky hello. Wait for Mr Bennet to say his last word in Assembly. Wait for the deafening sound of that first bullet to stop shaking the ground beneath my feet. Wait for me to feel something. Anything.

You see, I never like the word "no". It sounds too harsh in my ears like a slap against my eardrums almost as if to say you don't want to continue this conversation anymore or any other related to it. "Yes" sounds inviting, promising. But nothing excited me more than the word "don't". Oh, the excitement, the risk, the adventure. It seems limitless because to me there was never a good enough reason to follow it up. The Ten Commandments are a list of don'ts and yet we are all sinners walking. Temptation plagues each of us, some more than others.

Thou shalt not kill.

No-one suspected me. My actions were clinical really. I woke up this morning and got ready for the day exactly like I would for school. Only this time, a small metal carry gun with a wood finish made my backpack droop at the centre. I kissed my mom goodbye when she dropped me off at the front gate. I went through the motions of the morning period like any other day until the end of assembly.

I waited until everyone stood up before I fired my first shot.

**KHANYA GUBANGXA - GRADE 11**

KATELIJNE KOTZE (DETAIL) ►

## MID-MOURNING

The flowers were getting old, as was the tombstone that they lay upon. Decades of hard weather had reduced half of its inscription to blurs – not that it made any difference to its understanding. 'P.J. Bloem' it read in its engraver's scrawl. 'loving mother, daughter and wife.' Perhaps it was one of winter's ice-tipped fingers that smudged the "f" into itself. It may well have been for Sutherland is infamous in this regard.

This small town is a paradox in itself. Although located in the middle of the blazing Karoo, it is the coldest village in South Africa with an average annual temperature of 1.3 degrees Celcius. In winter, this figure plummets even further. As a direct result of poor planning and sheer naivety, my family and I ended up finding ourselves in this extreme winter destination mid-July.

"I saw a lizard, Gramps!" my brother whispered with quiet enthusiasm. As he bent with difficulty to look underneath a rock, all fourteen layers of clothing creased underneath his belly. My grandpa shuffled towards him with Gran's reptile identification chart in hand, a red balaclava covering half his face. I wouldn't be surprised if a passerby mistook all four of us for a family of

colourful sausage rolls.

"What do you have there?"

My mother was probably the least susceptible to feeling the cold. Wearing a mere twelve layers, her lips were only a tinge of ocean blue. Mine, on the other hand, were as purple as Chanel's plum lipstick. The cold is nature's anaesthetic and I was fully under its influence.

Mum stepped forward as I gestured towards the grave. The Flowers' pale pinkness seemed to spill across the grey and the leaves along its stems had begun to brown and curl with age. Gran probably would have known the exact genus, species and phylum of the plant before us, but she had elected to remain in bed.

"Wide?" she asked, bemused.

"Wife. The lettering has deteriorated."

I placed my palm on the cool granite and Mum slowly placed her hand over mine. We stood like this for a while. As suddenly as it had come, the wind subsided and an eerie silence filled the air. I turned to meet my mother's eyes only to find them vacant. The engine rumbled and reality cleared her vision.

She squeezed my hand and together we walked back to the car.

**JOSEPHINE REY - GRADE 10**





# Mind Tricks

"Alright, so let's move on to number 4.2. Why don't we have..."

Please don't. Don't, don't, don't, DON'T-

"Sophie, you can answer..."

I didn't hear the rest. I was too busy revelling in the fact that I hadn't been chosen; the only thing I was capable of doing was to stare down blankly at my page, the letters turning into a jumble of blue ink. Completely incomprehensible. It seemed like forever until the pounding in my chest slowed to a semi-normal rhythm and my white-clenched hands stopped shaking. Out of the corner of my eye, I glimpsed movement as the class started to stir around me and, with relief, I too started to hastily cram my things back into my bag - eager for an escape.

"We'll pick this up again next time," came my Science teacher's monotonous voice just as I was about to leave. In a second my moment of calm came crashing down around me. Dread immediately jumped in to replace my sense of relief and the idea of tomorrow was starting to look even worse. But now wasn't the time for that; there was a far more terrible obstacle to face: surviving the locker hallway. I stepped out into the narrow passage - made narrower by the masses of people that were trying to prepare for their next periods while still trying to have some lunch before the bell rang. I consciously felt myself withdraw; shrinking only as much as a 5ft 11 girl possibly could. While immediately hating the part of myself that wanted to hide. As I walked, my gaze also moved instinctively to the floor, the fear of possibly meeting someone's eyes - that they would see me - and that I would be swarmed with judgement (regardless of whether we had spoken or not) consumed me. Thoughts that then buzzed relentlessly around in my head until they devoured whatever remaining self-confidence I had left...

"Did you watch?"

"Hey, can I copy your?"

"Do we have period?"

"Let's do something after..."

The dull drone of conversation washed

over me as I sat, quietly watching, and listening to, my friends; their animated gestures and familiar expressions setting me at ease. This was the one place where I could free myself, just ever so slightly, from the never-ending negative voices that criticized and ridiculed each and every one of my movements. My safe haven that only lasted 15 minutes. But, even now, there is still a sense of isolation - as if an imaginary barrier prevents me from ever crossing over into their world. I guess I'm partly to blame; always too cautious...too untrusting and convinced that everyone has an ulterior motive. So I put up my walls; making sure no one ever gets truly close enough to be able to know the real me. And so I just sit...

And watch.

The rest of the day goes by with me always repeating the same cycle of anxiety; never quite able to rid myself from the thoughts that hound me. Soon I'm home and finally I'm able to breathe again.

Tomorrow.

The rude awakening that allows the dread to creep up and seize complete control of me. Walking to Science, I can feel each step get heavier while my head fills with noise. I take my seat. My legs start trembling. Uncontrollable. My heart feels as though it is being crushed by a merciless, invisible hand. My stomach is churning and I feel so nauseous. I can feel the blood drain from my face, leaving my face pale, ghostly and utterly consumed by fear. My hands have started shaking and I can feel the cold drops of sweat dripping slowly down my spine.

Why am I like this? Why am I always so scared?! As I barraged myself with these questions the voices decided to join in - almost as though they enjoyed the pain they inflicted. I lifted my gaze trying to seek some sort of comfort from my classmates. They aren't there. Instead, in their seats, sit twisted figures. Their disfigured faces, contorted into mocking sneers, are a clear indication of their thoughts. Over and over again. They all scream: 'Worthless! Worthless!'

I broke. I couldn't take it.

'No more! Stop!' I cried; wanting them to so badly that a pained whisper escaped my lips. My last desperate attempt to cling to sanity...

It seemed like hours went by. Blinking, I realize my class had returned to normal. My internal battle merely that: internal. Time having gone on, while I fought a war unbeknownst to the world around me. I listen.

Waiting...

But my mind is quiet. The voices gone. Silence all that remains.

"Okay, let's go back to where we left..."

An indescribable feeling overwhelms me.

"Who's going to answer the next one...?"

It was all in my head. A figment of my imagination. Made-up.

"Anyone?"

Slowly, I raise my hand; ignoring how it still trembles slightly (habits are hard to kill I guess).

"Oh, Poppy, what a surprise. Well, go on."

I open my mouth to speak, my throat feeling like a desert - the words the water my tongue can't form. 'It's all in your head' I tell myself and, with determination, I say "I think it's-"

**ALEXANDRA BIRD - GRADE 11**



▲ AMY PYCROFT (DETAIL)

# Life SCIENCES

BY MS SILVANA SCAROLA

The Life Sciences or the “Bio” department, as we fondly refer to ourselves, functions effectively and harmoniously like any balanced ecosystem. Each organism has their own role to play and, without their contribution, the balance would be disturbed. The major role players are: Mrs Karen van der Merwe, Mrs Sandy Rule, Ms Silvana Scarola, Ms Cindy Brown (an exciting new recruit), Mrs Fiona Cochrane, Mr Warren Johnson and the minor, but very important role players, the worker bees or our beloved students. We truly believe that because our ecosystem is well resourced and our role players are adapting to the ever-changing environment (IT use, YouTube clips, current trends in biological research, etc.), we continue to attract a steady stream of pupils to this dynamic subject. The girls find the subject interesting and relevant and the department prides itself in always trying to meet the academic needs of the students. This is best shown in their hard work, including the Grade 9 Expo project and the Final Matric results.

We place a strong emphasis on the practical component of the subject, as it enhances the content and makes the subject come to life on so many different levels. Practicals covered in the different grades include: microscopy, photosynthesis and respiration experiments, diffusion and osmosis, food tests, enzymes, transpiration, dissections, plant diversity, agar plates, tropisms, DNA extraction, to list a few.

Excursions for each grade are also an important part of the journey. The Grade 9s visit the Heart Transplant museum, which completes our Human Blood Transport System module. A very relevant part of the Biodiversity module in Grade 10 is a field trip to the rocky shore at Kommetjie. The girls get so excited when they see the organisms, which are taught in class, in their own environment. The girls also gather data by using quadrats along a transect. The data is analysed, manipulated and plotted. Such important skills are developed.

This year, for the first time, our Grade 11s went on a plant biodiversity workshop at Kirstenbosch. This proved to be a very valuable and hands-on workshop which really reinforced and consolidated the content taught in class. Feedback from the girls was very positive and we hope to be able to make this a regular excursion for our Grade 11s. Once again, we took our Grade 12s to the Tygerberg Medical museum, where the girls get to see all sorts of exciting aspects of the human body and this includes a cadaver, which proves to be both fascinating and frightening. Nonetheless it was so valuable as many of our students do pursue a career in one of the many Life Sciences fields. Dr Larissa Panieri-Peter addressed our Grade 12s on being a forensic psychiatrist and we also invited Helen Stanford to chat to the Grade 12s on having her thyroid gland removed and how this has impacted on her life. Both guests covered topics that were very relevant to the Grade 12 syllabus.

The Life Sciences ecosystem at Herschel continues to evolve and it is very important that our students are happy and secure. This continues to be an overriding selection pressure in our teaching. Charles Darwin will be very pleased that Natural Selection is alive and well in the Herschel “Bio” department. ■

## PHYSICAL Science

BY MS KATHY BURDEN

The Science Department continues to have at least half the girls in a grade choosing Science as one of their subjects. The CAPS syllabus continues to be a challenge in terms of the number of topics that are required to be covered. The teachers and pupils need afternoon sessions in order to tackle the length of the syllabus adequately.

The Science department has integrated the use of iPads into the teaching of Natural Sciences. Our focus, however, remains to expose the pupils to as much practical work as possible. We could not manage this without the hard work of Mrs Fiona Cochrane and Mr Warren Johnston who organise the setting up and running of all practicals and demonstrations.

Samantha Hearn, one of this year’s matriculants, started Outreach Science this year. Sam and her team of fellow matriculants have assisted Grade Eleven pupils from Thandokhulu High School each week. They have worked through different topics from the syllabus. A group of Herschel Grade 11 pupils have now volunteered to continue this very valuable programme and have already started working with the matric girls.

Mr Michael Bräsler attended The South African Physics Teacher Workshop and Conference hosted by St Cyprian’s. It is hoped that the department can incorporate new ideas from the conference into further enriching the learning experience of the pupils in the classroom.

Two of our Grade Nine girls excelled at the regional EXPO in 2014 and were invited to represent the Western Cape in Pretoria at the national EXPO. Iris Jarre whose gold winning project on the influence of researchers on the

penguin population was impressive in its mathematical rigour, earning her the SAEON award for the best Environmental Management project. Anna Midgley, whose research into the viability of a particular fynbos seed as an alternative foodstuff, generated so much enthusiasm that she was chosen to attend the International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she was awarded second place in the Microbiology and Plant Sciences category. ■





# Afrikaans

BY MRS TILLY VENTER, SUBJECT HEAD

**THE** Afrikaans department has had another exciting year. 2015 kicked off with a visit to the Baxter theatre where the Grade 11 and 12 Home Language girls attended Marthinus Basson's epic South African adaptation of Shakespeare's classic *Macbeth*, *macbeth. slapeloos*. It was truly an enriching experience and enjoyed by all.

This was followed by a visit from Alet Steenkamp and Nerine Ahlers, co-authors of a series of Afrikaans novels aimed at teenagers between the ages of thirteen and fifteen. Their talk tied in well with the reading theme which the Grade Nines did at the beginning of the year.

In April, a number of girls participated in the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod. As always, they did us proud with their fine achievements. Courtney Charlton, one of our top achievers, was also selected to recite her poem at the ATKV's annual prize-giving ceremony.

This year, we also offered our girls the

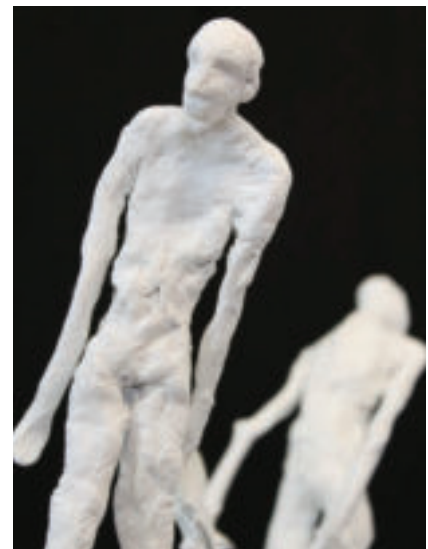
opportunity to participate in the SA Taalbond bilingual examination. It is written across the whole country and Namibia and is probably the only forum where a pupil can obtain a certificate that confirms his/her standard of bilingualism. It also provides learners with an opportunity to become accustomed to a standardised external examination.

It is pleasing that more and more girls are making use of the Afrikaans Help Desk which runs from Monday to Thursday during lunch break. Girls use this service to catch up work after being absent or for support when completing homework or studying for a test.

The most exciting aspects of teaching Afrikaans Home Language and Afrikaans First Additional Language are to instil a love for this language and to teach our pupils how to use it in a creative and constructive manner. Learning another language opens up new opportunities and gives one perspectives that one might never have encountered otherwise.



▲ CAITLIN BARBOUR



▲ GABRIELLA WESSON (DETAIL)

## 'N GEHEIM IN OUMA SE DAGBOEK

'n Stowwerige reuk omhels my. Miskien is dit die bokse ou boeke en foto's wat rondom my lê soos 'n see van geskiedenis.

Ek haal 'n dik, ou leer boek uit een van die bokse. Die naam Cecelia is in goud op die voorkant geborduur. Dis Ouma se dagboek, besef ek.

Ek weet ek moet dit nie lees nie, maar ek is te nuuskierig! Die eerste inskrywing beskryf die eerste keer toe sy 'n seun gesoen het. Dis te oulik! 'n Paar bladsye later vertel sy vir die dagboek hoe verlief sy op iemand is. In die volgende bladsye beskryf sy my ma se geboorte en haar eerste dag by die skool.

Daarna sien ek iets wat oor my handel. Op 7 April 1997 het Ouma "My kind het 'n tweeling!" geskryf. Ek is op 7 April gebore, maar ek is die enigste kind wat my ma gehad het. Ek lees verder. My kop is deurmekaar en my oë word

verblind met trane. Hulle het leuen na leuen vir my vertel.

Die laaste inskrywing is op 29 Julie 1998 geskryf. Ek sukkel om die blou skrif deur my trane te lees.

"Hoe kan ek hierdie geheim hou? Wanneer my liefste kleinkind grootword, kan ek haar regtig nie vertel nie? Dis nie haar skuld nie. Haar ma wil maak asof niks gebeur het nie en het al die foto's en dokumente vernietig. Maar dis nie die kind se skuld dat sy haar tweelingbroer doodgemaak het nie. Dit was net 'n treurige ongeluk!"

"Liefie, hoe gaan dit met die boeke?" vra Ouma soos sy by die deur instap. Sy sien die dagboek in my hande en haar glimlag verdwyn.

"My kind," sê sy soos sy begin om saam met my te huil.

**MICHAELA VAN NIEKERK –  
GRAAD 12 AFRIKAANS EERSTE  
ADDISIONELE TAAL**

## HANDE

Hierdie uitbreidings van been, vel, spiere  
niks meer nie

as 'n paar atome wat in die ruimte draai  
vir 'n oomblik onbelangrik  
as die lug deur are vloei

Hierdie hande hou en paai 'n kind  
getraumatiseer deur sy vlugtige jeug  
omhels mekaar  
vee die trane van wange  
tel op, laat lomp val

haal lemoene uit wat onder die toonbank rol  
plaas ys op kneusplekke  
en kneusplekke op gesigte  
en gesigte op bladsye  
Hierdie hande is kuns  
wat inspireer meer en meer  
sag en hard  
warm en koud

dié uitbreidings van been, vel, spiere  
Soveel meer  
as 'n paar atome wat in die ruimte draai

**JOSEPHINE REY -  
GRAAD 10 AFRIKAANS  
HUISTAAL**

## OUMA SE KOMBUIS

Ek sit en swaai my bene heen en weer onder die groot tafel in Ouma se kombuis. Ek behoort my wiskunde te doen. Dit is Vrydag, die dag wanneer ek by Ouma kuier.

Die hele kamer is vol bekoorlike goed. Daar is 'n hoë rak waarop die groot blou-en-wit melkkaraf staan. Teen die ander muur is die muurkas. Dit het geen deure nie. Pleks daarvan is daar 'n kantgordyntjie. Daar staan al Ouma se pragtige porseleinkoppies. Daar is nie twee met dieselfde patroon nie. Elkeen is uniek. Ouma versamel hulle. Sommige is met blommetjies versier terwyl die ander strepies of kolletjies het.

Bo-op die kas staan groot fesse konfyt met geruite katoenhoedjies oor die deksels. Ouma lê die vrugte self in. Daar is allerhande verskillende geure soos vy, braambessie, en aarbe, wat my gunsteling is.

Ek sukkel met 'n wiskundesom, maar daar is soveel wat my verbyster. Ouma is besig om vir môre se kerkbasaar te bak. Sy dra 'n groot, spierwit voorskoot met 'n wye valletjie. Daar is 'n klein meelblomkolletjie op haar rooi wang. Haar glimlag is die ene sonskyn en ek kan haar mollaigheid voel as sy my omhels.

Voor my staan groot baksels beskuit, klein vrugtetertjies wat met suiker versier is, en klein broodrolletjies. Die wonderlike geure prikkel my eetlus en ek kan nie help om van die klein krummeltjies te steel terwyl haar aandag elders is nie.

“Wat doen jy nou, Liefie?” vra sy in haar sagte, warm stem. “Kom help liever vir Ouma.”

Sy hoef my nie om te praat nie. Ek spring dadelik op. Ouma gee vir my 'n voorskoot om oor my ligblou skoolrok aan



▲ KATHARINE MEINERT

te trek. Dit is veels te groot vir my en die bande moet twee keer om my lyfie gaan. Ek gebruik die eierklitser terwyl sy die meelblom sif.

Saam bak ons 'n heerlike koek. Ons geniet 'n snytjie daarvan terwyl ons tee uit haar pragtige koppies drink. Die koek smelt soos botter op my tong.

Al te vinnig is die middag verby en kort voor lank hoor ek die piepgeluid van die hekkie wat Ma se aankoms aankondig. Ek is huiwerig om te gaan, maar oor 'n week sal ek weer kom kuier – hier in Ouma se kombuis.

**CAROLINE ROBERTSON**  
- GRAAD 10 AFRIKAANS HUISTAAL

## NOOIT WEER DIESELFDE MENS NIE

Ek het 'n unieke ervaring gehad toe ek onlangs die Berlynse muur saam met 'n groep Herschel-meisies besoek het.

In my kop was die Berlynse muur baie vervelig, want ek het nie die verskriklike stories wat daarmee verband hou, geglo nie. Ek het nooit gedink dat mense sulke wrede dinge aan ander kon doen nie. My lewensfilosofie is dat mense mekaar moet help en veral as families moet saamstaan. Min het ek geweet ...

Ek was egter geskok toe ek die muur vir die eerste keer sien. Die groot grys muur wat nie net 'n stad in twee gesny het nie, maar ook families en vriende van mekaar geskei het, was vir my baie hartseer. Met ons besoek is daar heelwat verhale vertel van hoe daar oor baie jare mans en vroue was wat oor die muur probeer klim het. Die meeste het dit nie gemaak nie. Wat my veral gevang het, was die baie foto's van die mense wat dit nie gemaak het nie. Hierdie muur het soveel littekens gelaat.

Ek het beslis baie uit my ervaring in Duitsland geleer. Een daarvan is dat ons nooit ons vryheid moet opgee nie. Ek het ook uit die verhale geleer dat waar daar 'n wil is, is daar 'n weg. Hierdie ervaring het my verander. Dit het my 'n nuwe perspektief op die wêreld en my vryheid gegee.

**CHARLOTTE LOUW** - GRAAD 9 EERSTE ADDISIONELE TAAL

## DIE IDEALE VROU

Die ideale vrou is slim. Sy kan 'n intelligente gesprek voer en sy geniet dit om te debatteer. Sy weet hoe om te luister en sy hou daarvan om so te maak.

Die ideale vrou is mooi. Sy sorg vir haar lyf en maak seker dat sy gesond eet. Haar gesig is perfek; nie eers 'n sproet nie.

Geen soetgoed vir die ideale vrou nie.

Die ideale vrou is gaaf. Sy stel haar man en sy vriende voor haarself en haar geluk. Sy maak vir hulle kos: slaai en koek en brood en tert, maar sy braai nie. Sy weet dat dit 'n man se werk is. Die ideale vrou ken haar plek.

Die ideale vrou is perfek vir haar man. Sy stem oor alles met hom saam. Ja, sy debatteer, maar net om dinge interessant te hou. Sy weet haar man is altyd reg.

Die ideale vrou luister vir haar man. Sy hou haar hare lank, want hy het gesê dat hy nie van vrouens met kort hare hou nie. As hy haar vra om haar romp te verander omdat dit te kort is, sal sy. Maar dit sou nooit gebeur nie, want sy weet van watter klere haar man hou, en dit is wat sy dra. Die ideale vrou behoort aan haar man.

En sy weet dit.

Die ideale vrou se man is nie ideaal nie. Hy is so effens aan die dik kant en partykeer is hy so dom dat 'n mens maklik slimmer klippe kan vind. Hy luister nie vir haar nie en hy sê nooit dankie nie.

Soms slaap hy met ander vrouens. Die ideale vrou weet daarvan, maar sy sê niks nie. Sy is net bly dat hy altyd terugkom. Sy weet dat sy nie perfeksie van hom kan verwag nie.

Die ideale vrou is wel perfek. Sy is mooi, slim, jonk, gaaf, talentvol en heeltemal fiktief.

Die ideale vrou bestaan nie.

Die ideale vrou is nie eers 'n mens nie. Sy is 'n stuk klei wat man gevat het en gevorm het. Sy is 'n manifestasie van wat man wil hê: 'n slaaf, nie 'n persoon nie.

Die ideale vrou is 'n man s'n.

**DANIËLLE BLIGNAUT**  
- GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL





▲ HANNAH FLEMING  
- JUNIOR PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE, EISTEDDFOD

## DIT INSPIREER MY

'n Koue wind laat my bewe. Die steil paadjie lê voor my soos 'n berg wat ek moet uitklim. Vinnig maak ek seker dat my skoene vasgemaak is. Ek staan op en probeer om te ontspan, maar dis te laat, die rewolwer suis in my ore. Ons laat waai!

Ek is halfpad op teen die berg en ek skep vinnig asem. Ek kan nie stop nie, nie nou met al die toeskouers nie. Ek moet deurdruk om by die gelyke deel uit te kom. Ek begin stadiger om die rugbyveld draf om my asem te kalm. Voor ek weet, is die rugbyveld verby en die ander meisies begin al hoe vinniger hardloop.

Die geluid van die klipies onder hulle voete laat my vinniger hardloop. Ek kan die einde van die wedloop sien. Die geskree van die toeskouers inspireer my. Nog een keer om die baan en dan kan ek in 'n warm stort spring!

My longe bars, my spiere is doodmoeg en ek voel asof ek 'n hartaanval gaan kry. Ek kan die sweet voel wat van my bloedrooi gesig aftap, maar ek móét deurdruk!

Uiteindelik is die einde in sig. Die geluid van die gelukkige meisies wat klaar is, en die groepie pienk en blou Herschel-meisies wat saam met juffrou Rousseau staan, skree en moedig my aan. Ek ignoreer my longe wat soos die Kaapse vure na 'n droë somer brand en dink net aan die einde.

My arms en bene beweeg vinniger, ek skep asem en verbeel my iemand is besig om my te jaag. Ek spring oor die lyn en glimlag breed. Ek het nie gewen nie, maar ek is klaar. Vir my is dit genoeg.

### RUBY LAPID

– GRAAD 12 AFRIKAANS EERSTE  
ADDISIONELE TAAL

## in Breukdeel van 'n sekonde

"Twintig jaar oue vrou."

"Trompopbotsing. Vermoed epidurale hematoom."

"Ons moet opereer."

Alles het swart geword.

Vyftig minute vroeër.

"Val! Va-a-al! Valerie Cassidy Snow!"

Ek het gespring. Ek het stadig omgedraai om my vyf-voet-ses-duim-kollega te sien wat na my gluur.

"Val, ek weet jou skof is amper verby, maar dit is geen verskoning om rond te staan en te dagdroom nie. Kom help my om hierdie bestellings in te kry sodat ons huis toe kan gaan," het sy berispe en toe begin stap na 'n paartjie wat in die verste hoek van die eetplek sit.

"Geen verdere slap houding nie. 'Kei?' het sy oor haar skouer gewaarsku en 'n klein glimlag na my geflits voordat sy terug na die kliënte gegaan het.

"Ja, Jess!" het ek na haar geroep en my voorskoot haastig reggemaak. Ek het toe na 'n groep hoërskoolstudente geloop, 'n halfhartige glimlag op my gesig geplak.

"Welkom by Fred se Eetplek. Ek is Valerie. Mag ek julle bestelling neem?"

Na 'n dreinerende vyf-en-twintig minute het my skof amptelik geëindig. Ek het by die venster uitgelooer en hoewel dit net halfagt was, was die lug donker; gevul met grys-magie reënwolke wat dreigend van bo af na ons gluur en die bedreiging van reën inhou. Ek het omgedraai en my voorskoot opgehang en die onheilspellende weer gou vergeet. Met 'n vinnige handwaai na Jess het ek die eetplek verlaat en na my klein, tweedehandse Chevrolet gehardloop net toe die reën begin val het.

Ek het vir amper vyftien minute gery en selfs met my ruitveërs en hoofligte aan het ek gesukkel om die kronkelpad te sien. Die beeld van my in slaapklere langs 'n gesellige vuur, warsjokolade in die hand voor 'n goeie flik was die laaste ding wat ek onthou dat ek gedink het. Net toe ek om 'n hoek kom, het dit gebeur; veels te vinnig om te vermy.

Die pad was glad. Die ander bestuurder het beheer verloor. Hul motor het uitgeswaai. Ons het gebots. My motor het omgekeer en in daardie breukdeel van 'n sekonde het ek gedink: Dit is dit... Dit is verby.

Maar toe het die grond my ontmoet en terwyl ek daar gelê het, snakkend na asem, het ek onthou hoe ek Haley William

se statiese stem uit die radio gehoor het voordat my visie swart geword het.

Dit is wat gebeur het voordat ek wakker geword het; voor die verskeidenheid van onsamehangende stemme, helder ligte en die sieklike reuk van ontsmettingsmiddel my begroet het. Ek het geweet ek was in 'n hospitaal en die wasige figure in wit jasse het dit bevestig.

"Ons moet haar verdoof..."

"Sy het te veel bloed verloor! Ons moet 'n ander..."

"Moenie bekommerd wees nie, Liefeling," kom 'n sagte gefluister, te midde van die warboel dialoog wat rondom my gebeur, voordat ek 'n klein prik in my arm voel. Daar is so baie vrae wat ek wou vra, maar my tong is te swaar en wil nie woorde vorm nie. As my ooglede begin hang, voel ek hoe hulle 'n suurstofmasker opsit. Teen daardie tyd was ek reeds bewus daarvan dat my stryd vir bewussyn 'n verlore stryd was.

En, vir die eerste keer daardie dag, gee ek myself oor aan die naderende donkerte...

### ALEXANDRA BIRD

– GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL

## DIT HET MY VIR ALTYD VERANDER

"Ma, ek wil nie gaan nie! Ek haat skoolkampe en Ma weet dit!"

"Nthabi, jy moet gaan. Jy het nie laas jaar gegaan nie."

"Maar, Ma..."

"Maar niks. My besluit is finaal."

Dis presies hoe ek voor die skoolkamp ogetree het. Ek het nie van skoolkampe of enige ander kampe gehou nie. Kampe het geen tegnologie nie, aaklige kos, onvriendelike leiers, ongemaklike beddens, vuil kamers en baie insekte. Die meeste van die tyd is jy in 'n slaapsaal sonder enige vriende. 'n Kamp was my grootste nagmerrie.

Ons hele graad nege klas is op die twintigste April 2015 Wortelgat toe. Eers was die kamp nie lekker nie en ek het 'n bietjie heimwee gehad. Die slaapsaal was eintlik glad nie erg nie en die kos was regtig heerlik. Ek het uiteindelik aan die daaglikse roetine gewoond geraak. 'n Gewone dag op kamp her soos volg verloop: 'n vroeë ontbyt, 'n klomp aktiwiteite, swemtyd, rustyd, aandete en 'n vrolike gesing om die vuur. Die leiers was baie vriendelik en een was só aantreklik!

Op die ou end het ek die kamp terdeë geniet. Ek het nuwe vriende gemaak en het 'n sterk band met my nuwe vriendinne gesmee. Nou haat ek nie meer kampe nie en sal definitief weer gaan!

'n Dag of selfs 'n vakansie sonder tegnologie of TV is moontlik. Moenie 'n bedorwe brokkie wees nie. Gaan op 'n avontuur soos ek gedoen het!

**NTHABISENG MANDINDI –  
GRAAD 9, AFRIKAANS EERSTE  
ADDISIONELE TAAL**

## AS EK MAAR NET WEER SES JAAR OUD KON WEES

Ek onthou my klein tongetjie en hoe ek dit uitgesteek het as ek op my vingers die jare tel.

"Um ... Nog net ... Ses jaar voor ek dertien is!" het ek probeer om myself te oortuig dat dit nie vreeslik lank sou wees nie. "Ag! Sewe!"

Ek en my beste vriendin het so gesit en die jare afgetel tot wanneer ons uiteindelik tieners sou wees. Asof die lewe van 'n sesjarige nie pret genoeg was nie. In ons speletjie was ons altyd ouer en ek onthou hoe ek so baie na die "groot" hoërskoolkinders opgekyk het.

Toe ek na al hierdie afwagting dertien geword het, het ek nie so wonderlik en oud en wys gevoel nie. Inteendeel, ek het nogal klein gevoel. Ek was nog steeds 'n klein kindjie in vergelyking met my hele lewe wat voor my lê en al die toekomstige jare waarin ek sekerlik oud sal voel!

Om 'n tiener te wees, is nie so "kwaai" en vol pret as wat ek gedink het dit sal wees nie. Toe ek ses was, het huiswerk nie bestaan nie. Daar was geen kommernis oor akademie nie. En behalwe vir die oomblik voor 'n pak slae, het ek nooit in my lewe regte stres ervaar nie.

Op ses kon ek 'n leeu wees – sonder oordeel – as ek 'n leeu wou wees. As ek saam met my teddies in die tuin oor 'n onderwêreldse, onsigbare kasteel wou regeer, sou niemand na my soos 'n skisofreen kyk nie. Die lewe was nog wonderlik en mooi deur my klein, naïewe oë wat alles deur 'n rooskleurige bril gesien het.

Ek wens dat ek nooit daardie spesiale jare weggewens het nie, want nou dink ek eintlik aan hoe lekker dit sal wees om maar net weer ses jaar oud te wees.

**JOËLLE JOUBERT  
– GRAAD 9 AFRIKAANS HUISTAAL**

## MY GUNSTELING-SEISOEN:

*Die Lente*

Uiteindelik is die lug helder! Die reën het ophou val en alles word weer droog. Die son skyn vir 'n slag, 'n bietjie skaam, maar genoeg om my van die koue winter te bevry.

Dis weer lig wanneer ons vroeg soggens skool toe ry. Elke keer met sonsopkoms bewonder ek die pragtige pienk van die hoë wolke. Ek begin my warm klere tuis los.

Smiddae sit ons nou buite om die sonlig te geniet. Rondom ons sit die voëls in die groen bome en sing hul harte uit. Hulle dra

by tot die vrolike atmosfeer.

Lentebloem maak oral hul verskyning en die helder kleure gee my nuwe energie. Hulle vul die vars lug met 'n heerlike geur en as daar 'n bietjie wind is, dans hulle so mooi en vrolik.

Terwyl ek in die son sit, spring my gedagtes van die kleurvolle blomme na die see. Die berugte Suidooster sal binnekort die see vrugbaar maak sodat die ryk vislewe terugkeer en die roofvisse hul prooi na die kus volg. Ons sal dan weer vars geelvis kan vang!

Op 'n warm namiddag lê ek ontspanne in die son. Die sonstrale verwarm my koue lyf, maar ek brand nie seer soos in die somer nie.

My orkesmaats is ook bly dat dit warmer word. My fluit klink nie meer vals nie en my vingers kan ook vinniger beweeg noudat hulle nie meer so koud is nie.

Vroeg saans kry ek 'n kombers en gaan sit buite. Ek bewonder die rooi van die sonsondergang terwyl ek 'n goeie boek lees.

Ja, die Lente laat my weer lewendig voel. Die pragtige kleure en heerlike geure, die lig en die warmte wek my stadig uit my winterslaap.

**IRIS JARRE – GRAAD 10  
AFRIKAANS HUISTAAL**

▼ KATHARINE MEINERT (DETAIL)







# History

BY MRS SUE GROVÉ

Teaching history comes from a deep appreciation of the opportunities and pleasure we derive from educating our classes about events of the past. Our aims are based on, amongst others, leading girls to understand the present in the context of the past and to stimulate an interest in past events – not just for a random trivial pursuit of knowledge, but rather to encourage the girls to develop a sense of their own and our collective identity. Knowledge and understanding of human behaviour in other countries and other cultures fosters empathy and

tolerance. Not only do we focus on the imparting of historical knowledge, but we continually strive to train the minds of the girls through disciplined study and to guide them to develop historical methods based on investigative enquiry and source-based learning. Class discussions are often lively and interesting: these are vital for girls to develop and substantiate their own ideas as they grow their understanding. Working with evidence develops knowledge, understanding and skills. These discussions are often continued in the meetings of the current

events society called VOX that meets once a week.

The skills engendered by a study of History, include critical analysis; recording and reporting findings after a process of collating, sorting, categorising and investigating; working with primary and secondary source evidence according to historical methods; discerning and identifying bias and prejudice; organising and communicating knowledge and understanding of events and drawing historical conclusions that are open to reinterpretation should new evidence become available.

This year we made a concerted effort to develop research skills across all grades. The Grade 8s were resilient in the task of tackling a fully-fledged research essay entitled *What does colonialism teach us about human behaviour?* They have matured and become more independent as a result of their management of the process. It was a big challenge, but most of them can be proud of their tenacity to master the six steps of research so capably. The Grade 9s have completed a research task based on oral sources related to the apartheid period, while the Grade 10s delved deeper to assess the contribution of C.J. Rhodes in the context of SA and his worthiness to be recognised as part of our heritage. The Grade 11s researched an aspect of modern nationalism for a group presentation, while the Grade 12s defined their own topic related to the 1960s or the Cold War period for an analytical essay.

We continue to explore new methodologies and integrate IT and creative and critical thinking skills into our teaching. This has inspired us as educators this year. ■



## CONSUMER STUDIES

Consumer Studies covers a variety of topics, such as consumer issues, nutrition, clothing and textiles, housing and interior design, entrepreneurship and food production that includes food science. The practical aspect of the subject focuses on entrepreneurship and the production of good quality food that can be sold.

As part of the housing and interior design section, the Grade 11s did a project on re-imagining the Herschel library. The girls had to re-design the office space and source pods where

learners can work. They also had to source paint, furniture, window - and floorcoverings and accessories that can be used in the lounge areas. Part of the project was presented on mood/story boards. Many of the girls' ideas will be used in future when the library is refurbished.

In order to learn more about entrepreneurship, the Grade 10 and 11 girls went on an outing to IBCO, a company that manufactures and coats industrial bake ware. ■

BY MRS SUZANNE DE VILLIERS



In August the Grade 10 and 11 girls, who study French, were accompanied by Mme Cassuto (front row) and Mme Macfarlane (second row) to a French Festival at La Rochelle girls' school in Paarl. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the diverse workshops on offer and were proud of Madame Macfarlane's excellent presentation.

Fourteen of our girls were invited to the Alliance Française for the prize-giving function organised by the French Embassy. Our girls received their diplomas from the French Vice-Consul Mme Gaelle Loir.

## LE PARDON

Le pardon est une des choses les plus importantes du monde – c'est la clé de la libération et du bonheur dans la vie. Le pardon a le pouvoir de changer le chemin vers votre avenir – ceci est évident dans l'histoire de Chris et Axel dans "Concerto à la Memoire d'un Ange". Pardonner est très positif et important, mais c'est aussi très difficile.

On pourrait dire que la plupart des gens pensent que le pardon est très difficile. C'est pourquoi c'est naturel que les gens ne veuillent pas être vulnérables, mais il faut devenir vulnérable pour pardonner. Quand on est en train de pardonner, la douleur du passé est très forte et on a beaucoup de mal. Pourtant, après avoir pardonné, on ne se sent plus victime – mais, les gens luttent pour arriver à ce point de la libération. Les gens sont, par nature, assez égoïstes et pour cette raison ils éviteront cette vulnérabilité et en conséquence, ils ne peuvent guère pardonner.

À mon avis, le conflit et la haine sont toxiques dans la vie. Je suis d'accord avec ceux qui disent que le pardon est difficile et plein de douleur, mais si je dois choisir entre la vulnérabilité du pardon ou le pouvoir de la haine, je choisirai le pardon chaque fois. À cause de ma personnalité, j'évite le conflit tout le temps – je le déteste. Donc, le pardon joue un grand rôle dans ma vie. Quelquefois, je crois que je pardonne trop facilement et en conséquence, le pardon n'est pas nécessairement la vérité – ce n'est pas ma

vérité, parce qu'il y a souvent beaucoup de haine dans mon cœur. Cependant, j'apprends à pardonner et à m'améliorer depuis 18 ans – je fais des progrès!

Le pardon le plus important est le pardon de soi-même. C'est impossible d'avoir une vie heureuse sans s'aimer. Si on ne peut pas se pardonner, on se détestera et pour cette raison, on accumulera trop de haine et on deviendra une personne triste et méchante. Axel Lang en est un exemple parfait – son manque de pardon (pour Chris et lui-même) a créé un monstre d'Axel. La personne qui pardonne est toujours la personne qui bénéficie le plus du pardon.

En outre, l'importance du pardon est très évidente dans notre histoire – le passé de l'Afrique du Sud est une preuve du pouvoir du pardon. On pourrait utiliser "l'Apartheid" pour montrer comment ce n'est pas possible de créer un nouvel et un meilleur avenir sans pardon. Le pardon de Nelson Mandela et la TRC de Desmond Tutu ont montré au monde que le pardon, à grande échelle, était possible, malgré toutes les difficultés. Grâce au pardon, l'Afrique du Sud a pu se transformer et s'unifier après tellement de souffrances.

Enfin, le pardon est une arme très puissante. Il peut libérer les gens qui ont mal ou qui souffrent, et il peut détruire des fardeaux. C'est vrai que le pardon est difficile et on doit être très fort pour le faire, mais c'est très important pour le monde dans lequel nous vivons.

**HELEN ACTON - GRADE 12**

## LES RÉSEAUX SOCIAUX

Les nouveaux réseaux sociaux sont très pratiques, mais ils sont aussi dangereux. Les aspects positifs sont la possibilité de retrouver des amis et de parler avec des personnes à l'étranger. Les aspects négatifs sont les dangers qu'ils peuvent représenter pour les adolescents.

Les moyens de communication comme Twitter, Facebook et Instagram sont très superficiels. On parle avec tout le monde et on a une centaine d'amis et de « followers », mais en réalité, la plupart de ces gens ne sont pas nos amis.

Pour les adolescents le nombre de « likes » est très dangereux pour leur amour-propre. Quand ils postent quelque chose sur les réseaux sociaux et tout le monde aime ce qu'ils ont mis, ils se sentent heureux. Par contre, si personne ou peu de personnes aiment leur poste, ils se sentent très tristes et diminués. Par conséquent, on peut dire que cette forme de communication est superficielle et dangereuse pour l'estime de soi des adolescents.

En outre, c'est très facile de mettre quelque chose sur ces réseaux sociaux, on n'a pas besoin de trop réfléchir. Par conséquent, on y met souvent des choses qu'on regrette plus tard. Ces choses peuvent être offensives et méchantes et peuvent nous affecter un jour quand on cherchera du travail. Donc, on peut dire que cet outil est aussi une menace permanente.

Inversement, Facebook, Twitter et Instagram donnent la possibilité de retrouver des amis de l'école, de l'université ou d'anciens lieux de travail qu'on ne voyait plus. On peut les retrouver et parler avec eux facilement même s'ils sont dans des pays différents.

Personnellement, je n'ai pas de compte Twitter ou Instagram, mais j'ai un compte Facebook. Je l'utilise uniquement pour parler avec des amis à l'étranger et pour l'école. Je trouve que cette utilisation des réseaux sociaux est un peu extrême, mais la plus pratique et la plus prudente.

**STEPHANIE WILD  
– GRADE 11**



# Drama

WEEKS OF  
**PREPARATION**  
AND REHEARSALS  
CULMINATED  
IN A MUSICAL THAT  
**ROCKED OUR  
THEATRE.**





## SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The annual Shakespeare Schools Festival at Artscape Theatre is an opportunity for Grade 10 Drama students to flex their creative muscle, applying their ideas of concept



and design to a Shakespeare classic. This year's casts chose *Much Ado about Nothing* and *Macbeth*.

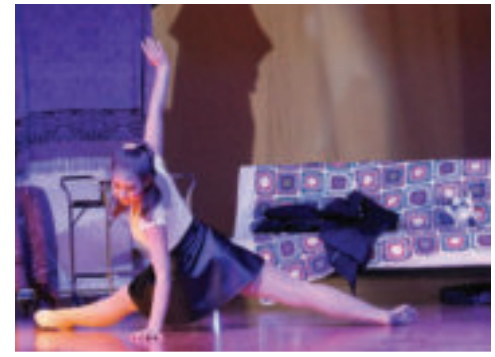
*Much Ado* was a fun take on a Gatsby era, filled with the Mafia, flappers, jazz, prohibition and parties. *Macbeth* stripped down to the whiteness of a mental institution to reflect the madness of the man and the mind.

The girls benefited from the opportunity to make theatre together, on a professional Cape Town stage, with the support of professional theatre staff and technicians.



## INTERHOUSE PLAYS

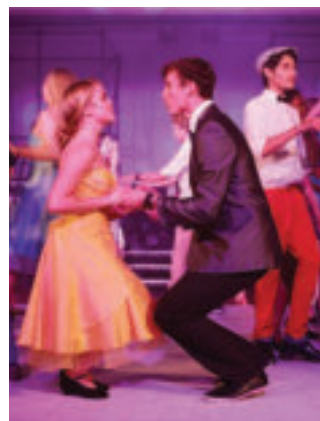
Interhouse plays are the responsibility of the Grade 11 girls. They write the scripts, design the costumes, sets and lighting, organise auditions, do the casting and direct their plays. Staging Interhouse plays involves girls across the grades and they get to know one another while rehearsing, working backstage or front-of-house, or simply waiting for their lifts after rehearsals. Competition is fierce and this year the standard was of a very high level, making the judges' task a difficult one. Rolt walked away with the prize for the best play.



## LOVE ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

Weeks of preparation and rehearsals culminated in a musical that rocked our Theatre. Herschel collaborated with Bishops, SACS and Rondebosch Boys to create a new musical: *Love across the Universe*. It was our in-house adaptation of the film *Across the Universe*, which is set in the time of the Vietnam War, mind-altering drugs and *The Beatles*: the iconic Sixties.

This story, about the lives of the young people of that time, and their conflicting emotions and opinions regarding the war, was brought alive through excellent acting and choreography and *The Beatles'* songs, weaving through the



story-line, were beautifully performed. Jenna Baikoff and Jean Marr alternated in the lead role.

This musical was like no other, capturing this tumultuous time, in a fusion of multi-media, with avant-garde sets, timeless music and live performance.





# Geography

BY MS BRONWEN PARKER

**T**he study of Geography at Herschel endeavours to stimulate an interest in and a sense of wonder about places, people and the environment. It attempts to help our girls make sense of a complex and dynamically changing world and how society, the economy and the environment combine to bring about change.

So many of the world's current issues on a global scale and locally in South Africa, boil down to Geography and therefore we need the geographers of the future to help us understand and creatively solve these issues.

We have, amongst other topics, studied global warming and how it affects countries and regions, food and energy security, the degradation of land and soils from over-use and misuse, the spread of disease, the causes and consequences of the Syrian migration and the impact of economic change on places and communities.

A broad range of skills is developed throughout the year, as well as an understanding of sustainable development, stewardship of the environment and citizenship. These skills are achieved through studying current world and local South African events and experiential learning in the form of excursions and project-based enquiry which require making a sustainable difference to the environment or a community.

In particular, our ongoing focus in the Herschel Geography Department is on critical thinking and analysis. While the interpretation of data is part of the curriculum,

more in-depth analysis is done through the longer research-type assignments. This year the Grade 12s had to discuss "The value of trade versus aid in Africa".

The highlights of our year are always the outings we undertake, as there is no better classroom than the outdoors. The Grade 10s went on their usual tour of the Cape Town coastline and explored the local geomorphology dating back to 560 million years ago, while our Grade 11s had an adventure on Paarl Rock in the pouring rain.

The Paarl excursion is designed to evaluate the spatial planning of Paarl and to understand the development of domes from batholiths. As part of the excursion, the girls are also taught the value of Paarl's granite dome as part of the wine-making process and how viticulture is intrinsically linked to climatic factors. Specifically the concept of 'terroir' was taught, so that the girls could appreciate how factors such as the soil, topography, and climate create the uniqueness of a particular cultivar.

Both Grade 10 and 11 groups produced outstanding 'Making a Difference' projects. While the outcome of the project is important, the value of primary research and execution is instrumental in developing critical thinking skills. Examples of project topics this year were: Increasing the greenness of our homes by undertaking a green audit; designing and making furniture for St Joseph's home from old tyres; creating activities from recycled



material to improve the fine motor skills of burn victims at Red Cross Children's Hospital. Red Cross Children's Hospital have been particularly helpful in assisting our girls to design activities in conjunction with

their physiotherapists.

As always, this year has been a fun and rewarding one. It has also been a year of change as we say farewell to Mrs Renée Scott who I have worked with for nearly fifteen years. ■

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Herschel Girls School prides itself in having a state-of-the-art ICT set-up, providing the students with many opportunities to enhance their learning. The girls are encouraged to become responsible digital citizens and are equipped with 21st Century skills to prepare them for working life.

Teaching and learning has extended outside of the classroom with conversations, discussions, guidance and interactions continuing after class times. Virtual classrooms and technology have become part of their everyday learning.

The one2one iPad programme has put technology in the girls' hands at all times, allowing them to have access to tools and information in all the classrooms. In collaboration with the Resource Centre, research tasks have been set

to up-skill the girls' academic writing, referencing and research skills.

The girls have developed a full range of ICT skills including data-handling, research, recording, collaborating and creating authentic content. They have made use of portable technology to create documentaries, movie clips, animations and presentations for various subjects.

'Turnitin' software was introduced to assist the girls with plagiarism issues. Girls use the software to assess their research tasks for plagiarism issues before submitting the task for assessment.

Herschel has a strong technical support team which allows for the teachers and staff to have a smooth, hassle-free ICT experience.

**BY MS SUE STEIN,  
IT INTEGRATOR**

# GERMAN

## UMWELTVER- SCHMUTZUNG

Kapstadt, den 5. April

Liebe Erika

Ich freue mich, dass du ein Projekt über Umweltschutz machst, denn es ist ein sehr wichtiges Thema

Luftverschmutzung wird durch Rauch, Staub, Gase, Aerosole, Dämpfe und Geruchstoffe jedes Jahr verschlimmert. Der Verkehr ist einer der größten Ursachen von Luftverschmutzung. Man sollte deshalb lieber mit dem Rad oder der Deutschen Bahn fahren. Man kann natürlich auch laufen (den Vorteil wird man körperlich merken, denn man bleibt fit). Mit der Bahn zu fahren ist eine umweltfreundliche Art, da Autoverkehr viele Abtriebsgase verursacht.

Kaufe auch nur Aerosole, die keine Kohlendioxidgase enthalten, da diese schädlich

für die Umwelt sind. Da ist meistens ein Zeichen auf den Aerosole Dosen, die zeigen, dass sie umweltfreundlich sind.

Müll sollte man trennen. Wirf alle biologischen abbaubaren Müll auf einer Komposthaufen. Den Rest des Mülls sollte man wieder trennen, aber diesmal in Papier, Glas, bestimmte Sorten Plastik und Metal. Das nennt man Recycling. Diese Sachen können man auch auf einer anderen Art anwenden, nämlich sie wieder neu zu nutzen und einen anderen Zweck zu geben.

Solaranlagen zu Hause einzurichten spart viel Geld, denn die Energie kommt von der Sonne und nicht von brennenden Kohlen. Spar auch Wasser; dusche doch lieber und bade nicht so oft, u.s.w. Ich hoffe diese Tips helfen dir.

Liebe Grüße

Bianka

**BIANKA SASS, GRADE 12**

## TAGEBUCHEIN- TRAG - BITTERS- CHOKOLADE

Dienstag, den 20. April

Ach, wieder war ich so beschämt!

Es war die dritte Stunde.

Turnen, und Alexandra und Susanne haben die Mannschaft gewählt. Wie immer wollte niemand mich haben, aber dann musste die Alex mich nehmen. Es erinnert mich wieder daran, dass ich dick bin und keine Freunde habe. Babsi, mit den engen Jeans, denkt sie ist Barbi und das nervt mich so! Warum habe ich immer so einen Hunger und werde nie satt? Ich vergleiche mich immer mit anderen Leuten. Warum bin ich so fett?

In der Pause hat Franziska sich neben mich gesetzt. Sie hat mit mir über mein Anne Frank Tagebuch geredet. Das war sehr komisch!

Mittwoch, den 21. April

Mutter hat Pfannkuchen mit Apfelmuss gemacht. Ich wollte nichts essen, denn ich will so

gern abnehmen. Mutter hat mich dazu gezwungen. "Sie meint so gut mit mir"! Warum versteht sie nicht?

Ich habe die Tür zugeschlagen. Das macht mich immer glücklich.

Fünfzehn Jahre alt und sitzt immer zu Hause.

Ich höre Leonard Cohen singen. Das tut Weh.

Ich möchte so gern schwimmen gehen, aber kannst du dich vorstellen: Eva in einem Badeanzug? Verdamm! Es ist so warm!

**JEMMA WRIGHT,  
GRADE 11**

## KLEINE KUSCHEL- KITZE KATZE

Kleine kuschel-kitze Katze  
Du hast eine süße Fratze  
Schnurrst du um die Beine her  
Dann mal durch und dann mal quer  
Am Abend hast du wieder Hunger  
Schmatzt dein teures Katzenfutter  
Ab ins Bett und jetzt ist's aus  
Morgen kannst du wieder raus!  
**BIANKA SASS, GRADE 12**

## BAXTER BY COURTNEY CHARLTON RESOURCES CENTRE

This has been an exciting year for the Library as Mrs Angela Upshon's appointment as the new school librarian has encouraged a large influx of new Library Monitor Trainees. There have also been a number of new and exciting displays mounted, such as the new Careers Display and the Grade 8 and 9 Technology displays. The monitors have been hard at work relieving Mrs Upshon of some of the more repetitive duties, such as shelf-reading and the processing of books. While this has allowed the monitors a more hands-on approach, which they have enjoyed, it has allowed her to fulfil more significant

responsibilities.

A group of these very talented, Library monitors marched boldly on to the gruelling Battle of The Books Competition at Bergvliet High School. This involved teams from 20 different schools in the area, pitting their wits against each other and their knowledge of books. In the end, Herschel was placed third overall, the highest placed, single-gender school! Part of the prize was a hamper of books and R2000 for the Library.

In the days leading up to William Shakespeare's birthday in April, the Library featured, yet again, a wonderful display of the life of the Great Master. Quite a



challenging Shakespeare quiz, which took place the day after his official birthday, was won by the proud Grade 12 Ilex 1 tutor group. Some people evidently need to "Brush up" on [their] Shakespeare!

The Library has become a joyful and vibrant gathering place in the school, as more and more girls gather here before and after school, as

### ▲ LIBRARY MONITORS

well as during break. Everyone feels comfortable under the watchful eye and reassuring smile of Mrs Upshon, while the 73 monitors take turns to ensure that the atmosphere is not too loud.

We are all very excited about what new things will be introduced in the Library in the near future. ■



# Mathematics

BY MRS MICHELLE VAN SCHALKWYK

2015 has been a year of innovation in using information technology to enhance our teaching. Miss Debra Main must be credited with inspiring us in various ways to experiment with IT innovations. She has developed Interactive iBooks for Geometry in all grades. Videos explaining geometry proofs are a useful resource for girls who would like to revise at their own pace. Via the platform of EDMODO, pupils can watch the teacher's explanation at home and have the teacher live when they practise examples in class. A departmental objective for the year has been to go as paperless as possible and we have certainly achieved success, using EDMODO and cell phone/iPad technology. The interactivity of iPads has been invaluable for Grade 9s and 10s to investigate graphs. Grade 8s had fun using a QR code treasure hunt to self-learn.

The Advanced Programme Mathematics has continued to grow and we now have two classes in Grade 12. The girls continue to surprise and inspire



us with their enthusiasm to tackle this extension subject on top of their required seven other subjects.

We entered the entire school in the Harmony National Mathematics Olympiad in March. Nur-Ayn Mohamed, Amber De Decker (who was awarded best girl learner in the competition) and Amy Chung must be commended on qualifying to write Round Three.

We continued with Community Service, extending our teaching programme with Langa High to include their Grade 11s.

Mathematics Help Desk has been well subscribed to. Staff run four afternoon and two break sessions. Girls use this service in a variety of ways: to catch up on work after absence, for on-hand support when completing homework, for an alternative explanation from a different teacher, or a place to do Mathematics revision while waiting for an extramural activity.

The Mathematics Department at Herschel work hard but also enjoy being together. We mark examination papers as a team, share all

resources and have dinner together once a term. The dedication is evident from the extensive list of activities and innovations in 2015, and as the leader of this team my gratitude must be expressed. Mr Ben Merckel joined us this year; he settled in easily and soon made his mark. We will miss Jean Colly as she moves on. We thank her for her significant contribution in terms of assisting girls as well as her colleagues: she has always been a key member of all that is Herschel Mathematics. ■

## IMFUNDO

Mna, ndifunda eHerschel Girls High School. Kukho izinto ezininzi ezimnandi ngeHerschel. Ndingca ukuba iHerschel yindawo elungileyo kakhulu. Ndithanda iHerschel kuba ootitshala nenqununu banobubele. Ndithanda ootitshala bam. Ootitshala bam bayakhathala. Sifumana imfundo elungileyo kuba ootitshala baxhasa abafundi.

Umntu angenza izinto ezininzi eHerschel. Angadlala imdlalo enjenge ntenetya, ihoki, ibhola yomnyazi,

isikwashi nokudada. Mna ndidlala intenetya kabini ngeveki.

Esikolweni ndithanda ilayibrari kuba kuthule. Umntu angafunda nokusebenza elayibrari. Kukho iincwadi ezininzi. Ndithanda ukusebenza nokufunda elayibrari.

Kukho nevenkile yokutya. Sithenga ukutya okumnandi khona. Ndithanda ukuthenga ikeyiki nelekese ezininzi. Umntu angahlala atye etafileni ngaphandle okanye ngaphakathi.

Ndithanda indawo yeekhompyutha. Kukho iikhompyutha ezininzi. Iintombi ezininzi zisebenzisa indawo yeekhompyutha. Ikhompyutha iluncedo ebomini bethu.

Esikolweni sifunda izifundo ezininzi njengemathematika, isiNgesi, isiBhulu, idrama nezembali. Mna ndikhethe imathematika, isiNgesi, inzululwazi, ibhayoloji, isiBhulu nocwangciso-mali. Ndithanda imathematika nocwangciso-mali, kuba ndithanda ukusebenza

ngeenombolo. Ndisebenza kakhulu esikolweni. Ndithanda ukubhala iimviwo kuba sigoduka emini emaqanda.

Phakathi evekini ndivuka yonke imihla ngo-6 kusasa. NgoLwesine ndivuka kwakusasa ngo-5:30 kuba ndidlala intenetya kusasa phambi kokuqala kwesikolo.

Ndithanda isikolo kakhulu kuba abahlobo bam bakhona. Sithetha sihleka kakhulu. Isikolo sam simnandi gqitha.

**SABEEHA KHAN -  
GRADE 11**

# COMMERCE

BY MRS NURAAN BARENDSE

The Commerce Department has had an exciting year with Deputy Head, Ms Ros Bouwer, joining us as the new Accounting and EMS teacher. Each year brings a more techno savvy group of Grade 8s to Herschel and our department takes full advantage of the fact that research is much quicker and easier with a tablet on hand. The Grade 8 students are an energetic and creative bunch - this year they designed and developed a wholesaler business idea in groups. They were keen to learn about the National Budget Speech and completed a challenging Budget project which required them to research and analyse Budget spending.

The Grade 9s had their creative thinking skills challenged when they were tasked with compiling a business plan for a product made out of recycled materials. This tested their ability to identify a gap in the market and produce

something trendy, in demand and cheap to produce. We had some lovely product designs. They also created a documentary based on foreign countries and their market structures which left their audiences in awe at the "Did you Know" facts.

In the FET Phase, our Accounting and Business Studies girls have had a busy year, but it was not all work and no play. They visited the Coca-Cola factory where they were shown the production line and were introduced to the concept behind the Coke brand. Oh, and they got to drink as much Coke as they wanted (need I mention the sugar-induced noise on the bus ride home?). The Grade 10s also produced business plans with that wow-factor this year. Our Business girls really have a flair for identifying brilliant business ideas that are fun, different, daring and smart.

The Grade 12s visited the Two-a-Day apple packing



shed, as well as the flower production plant in Grabouw where they learned much about how flowers are grown in greenhouses and packaged differently, according to the needs of the target market. The Grade 11 girls produced and directed television and magazine commercials based on a product of their choice. It is always an exciting experience

for teachers and girls to watch these commercials and to see what amazing creative talent they have for marketing and advertising. Our Commerce Department is by no means short of creative entrepreneurial spirit. Our Matric Accounting and Business Studies girls will be making waves in the commerce field in years to come. This is a definite! ■



▲ CAITLIN WALTERS (DETAIL)

## IHLOBO EKAPA

IKapa linamaxesha onyaka amane ngemini enye kodwa ixesha lonyaka endilithandayo lihlobo.

Ehlotyeni iimini zishushu zaye zinde. Iinyanga zehlobo nguNovemba, noDisemba, noJanuwari noFebruwari. Amaqondo obushushu aphakathi ko26 'C. EKapa akufuneki umbrella! Bamba isiketi sakho xa kunomoya kakhulu. Kukho imimoya emibini: i'Cape Doctor' ne'Berg Wind'.

Siyoja kakhulu ngehlobo. Ndithanda ukuhlala emthunzini nditye ivatala nemengo ne-ayiskrimi.

Ehlotyeni kufuneka umntu anxibe iimpahla ezipholileyo: isiketi, ilokhwe, ibhulukhwe emfutshane neembadada. Iifashoni zehlobo zibandakanya iiphatheni

ezibuntyatyambo, iziketi ezimfutshane kakhulu neempahla ezimhlophe.

Ndithanda ihlobo eKapa kuba kukho ubuhle bendalo. Kumnandi ukuya eKirstenbosch ngehlobo. Imithi inamagqabi amaninzi aluhlaza. Iziqhamo ezivuthiweyo ezinencindi zikhula emithini. Iintyatyambo zidubula ngokupheleleyo. Kodwa ngamanye amaxesha ingca yomile kuba kuyatshisa.

Sithanda ukuya elwandle siqubhe sihambe entabeni sitye idinala eTokai Forest. Ehlotyeni eKapa abantu bathanda ukudlala babukele imidlalo enjengale: umbhoxo, itenesi ne 'surfing'.

Ihlobo lixesha lonyaka elikhethekileyo kuba kukho iindawo nezinto ezininzi onokuzibona nonokuzilinga.

**NUR-AYN MOHAMED - GRADE 9**



BY MS J TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

# Music

**A**nd so it continues, every year the same, but different. We have a new intake of Grade 8s, a slightly different range of concerts, more exams and eisteddfods, girls developing and honing their music skills, staff sharing and passing on so much more knowledge with the girls than they could ever repay. The spark of a music department is an elusive beast but somehow we continue to share its magic at moments in the year.

On the staffing front, at the start of the year, we welcomed Ms Lindsay Johnston, who is teaching cello, Ms Carmen Kinsey who has joined the singing staff and Mrs Candice Brewis who is now teaching violin at the Senior School as well as at the Prep. We were so sad to say farewell to Mr Peter Narun, who has left us after nine years in the guitar department, to take up a full-time teaching post. His successor, who joined us in the fourth term, is Mr Gary Craig.

Our musicians continue to do us proud in various Eisteddfods and examinations.

## PRIZE WINNERS IN THE VARIOUS EISTEDDFODS WERE:

### CAPE TOWN EISTEDDFOD:

**Anna Grieve:** CT Eisteddfod award for Most Diplomas 13-14 years (Piano)  
R400 Victoria League to the Most Promising Vocal Entrant

R250 CT Eisteddfod for obtaining the most diplomas 13 years and over (Vocal)

### Alexandra-Naledi Holtman:

R400 Victoria League for Best All Round Entrant (Woodwind)

**Iris Jarre:** R300 for the Best Performer - Runner-Up (Woodwind)

### AFRIKAANS EISTEDDFOD:

**Samantha Hearn:** Silver medal:

Recital 17 years - Open

**Uliana Alekseev:** Silver medal:

Strings 16 years

**Caroline Robertson:** 2 Silver medals: Strings

**Amber De Decker:** Gold medal:

Senior Strings; Silver medal Strings 14 years

**Anna Grieve:** Gold Medal: Senior Singing;

Silver medal: Singing 13-14 years

### ABRSM AND TRINITY EXAM RESULTS:

We had our usual large number of entries for theory and practical exams. Results below are from **October 2014 - September 2015**. Distinctions (over 87%) were achieved by:

Uliana Alekseev (*Piano 5*), Nina Alley (*Theory 2*), Lelethu Bavuma (*Singing 2, Theory 2*), Tayo Croza (*Theory 2*), Megan Cunningham (*Piano 8, Violin 6*), Josephine Cunningham (*Cello 6*), Amber de Decker (*Violin 7*), Margot Dower (*Singing 5*), Anna Grieve (*Singing 6*), Khanya Gubangxa (*Singing 4*), Adrienne Hendricks (*Singing 4*), Alexandra-Naledi Holtman (*Flute 5*), Iris Jarre (*Flute 7 and Harp 3*), Paige Leaf-Wright (*Singing 2*), Katharine Mason (*Theory 2*), Chloë Oaker (*Tenor Saxophone 3*), Amy-Leigh Pithey (*Theory 2*), Sophia Rabie (*Singing 3*), Caroline Robertson (*Theory 5, Piano 4*), Lucy Schlebusch (*Singing 1*), Jessica Scott (*Cello 8*), Emily Turnbull (*Singing 5*)

### MUSIC COMPETITIONS:

We are absolutely thrilled that Amber de Decker and Kelsey Brooks reached

the finals of the Pieter Kooij Music Competition and Kelsey Brooks reached the finals of the Johann Vos piano competition this year. The pressure is extensive and to reach the finals is an outstanding achievement, the result of many hours of focused and hard work (and some dedicated teaching as well!)

There has been the usual musical involvement at Founder's Day, Open Day, the Eucharists and, of course, the massively successful Herschel Eisteddfod and Interhouse Singing (won this year by Jagger). *Guitars Unplugged* once again had such a lovely evening of music-making at the Knead Bakery at Palmyra Junction as well as their more classical concert in the Chapel in September. Once again we enjoyed the Matric Music Recital – a celebration of five years of musical growth by our Grade 12 subject music students. This concert is always so beautifully organised by the Grade 11 subject students, with proceeds this year going to the SAADA. The annual Ensemble concert show-cased the hard work put in by groups of girls and the Lunchtime concert by Scholarship Students wowed the audience. As usual, the year ended off with the Choir and Chorale adding to the joy of the Carol Service.

See the separate reports on this year's musical and *Love across the Universe* and the Ensemble reports below for even more music activities that happened during the course of this year, including the Chorale's brief tour to Hilton, KZN.





## CHOIR

**Conductor and Trainer:** Ms Margie Barlow  
**Pupil Leaders:** Georgina Elliott and Meredith Rothman

The Herschel Choir has come together even more as a unit this year under the meticulous teaching of Ms Barlow and Ms Taylor. As leaders of the choir, Meredith and I have thoroughly enjoyed our Monday lunch-break choir rehearsals as it is wonderful to see such a large group of girls singing their hearts out. We love being such a big group and making music with each of the members has been a great pleasure. The choir is a great stress-relief and escape; not only does the music serve as comfort, but the atmosphere has been uplifting and fulfilling.

## CHORALE

**Conductor and Trainer:** Ms Margie Barlow  
**Pupil leader:** Meredith Rothman

"The only thing better than singing, is more singing."

Once again the Chorale has had a year filled with highlights and magical music-making led by Ms Barlow and Mr Gouws. Welcoming many new girls, this talented group of 28 has bonded and grown in both their sound and friendships. The Chorale continues to be a fundamental part of Herschel's life and culture, leading the singing in Eucharists, the Easter service, the Matric Valedictory and many other special occasions throughout the year. The group has demonstrated their diversity and strength, performing at Jenna

Lowe's memorial. They performed some of Jenna's favourite Disney songs such as "You'll be in my heart," from the film, Tarzan, as well as a touching performance of "Bridge Over Troubled Water" by Simon and Garfunkel.

The Chorale had such a fun and satisfying, albeit brief, tour to The Hilton Arts Festival in KZN in September, where our unified sound and challenging repertoire moved and inspired the audience. We had performances with the Hilton Chamber Choir, with the Epworth Chamber Choir as well as contributing to the Sunday morning service at the Church of the Ascension in Hilton.



## CHORALE

**FRONT ROW:** J Marr, T Botha, E Tshala, Mr J Gouws, M Rothman, Ms M Barlow, T Ddamulira, A Panieri, T Allen  
**MIDDLE ROW:** M Cunningham, M Meyer, K Fisher, G Alpert, M Dower, I Sutherland, A Malindi, J Scott, A Dlova, E Turnbull, A Grieve  
**BACK ROW:** K Gubangxa, E Da Costa, J Cunningham, C Melville, A Hendricks, U Alekseev, J Wilensky, A Pepler, A Mangxola, A Cader







### FUSION

**FRONT ROW:** J. M. T., G. Elliott, Mr K Smuts, J. Baikoff, K. Gubangxa  
**BACK ROW:** A. C. 1875, A. Hendricks, M. Dower, A. Dlova, M. Meyer, R. Moliea

## FUSION

**Trainer:** Mr Kevin Smuts

**Pupil leader:** Georgina Elliott

Fusion, Herschel's a cappella singing group, has grown from strength to strength this year. Every Friday afternoon we look forward to spending some quality time together while getting to make music at the same time.

Our director, and the brilliance behind our repertoire, Kevin Smuts, guides us with his musical knowledge, while also managing to make us produce our 'synched' and balanced sound. His passion for music is a great motivator for us girls. Fusion is like a sisterhood with a big brother. Jean, Jenna, Anna, Khanya, Michaela, Adrienne, Feeli, Margot, Abu and I love our Fusion family. This shows during our performances when all we need is a smile from one of the members to let the stage fright go. Performing at the MADD Evening, Sun Run, V&A Waterfront for the Cyclathon and our Supper Show, were some of our highlights over the past year. As a matric and leader of Fusion, I can say with confidence that Friday Fusion rehearsals were the reason I got up in the morning. It has been a pleasure and honour to make music with these girls.

## WIND BAND

**Trainer:** Ms Rochelle Klassen

**Pupil Leader:** Samantha Hearn

It has been a busy and successful year for the Wind Band, with performances at MADD evening, the Herschel Eisteddfod and the Ensemble concert. We have grown from strength to strength as our repertoire has expanded and we have many new recruits.

The Wind Band allows girls an opportunity to enhance their instrumental skills, while playing fun, enjoyable music and, most importantly, to improve their teamwork and ensemble playing skills. Our members have been devoted and hardworking this year, this being evident in the powerful sound we can now produce as well as the successes we have achieved.

## FLUTE ENSEMBLE

**Trainer:** Mrs Elsabé Pretorius

**Pupil Leader:** Victoria Searle

The Flute Ensemble has had an incredibly busy and successful year performing at the Ensemble Concert and perfecting Quantz's Preludio and Aria for the Cape Town, Kaapse Afrikaanse, and the Herschel



Eisteddfods. We received Honours in all three eisteddfods and, not only has it been enjoyable playing together as a group, it has been a great opportunity to work towards a common goal and on our performance techniques. Through music, we have formed inter-grade friendships and it has been a pleasure to play with such a sweet group of girls.

## GUITAR ENSEMBLE

**Trainer:** Mr Peter Narun

**Pupil Leader:** Sara Shaboodien

The Guitar Ensemble has had a busy and fun-filled year. We have performed at the Herschel Eisteddfod, the Ensemble concert and also at the Guitar concert - where many girls also performed solos. We have covered different musical pieces, ranging from the classical Irish tune, "Sailors Hornpipe", to Avicii's, "Hey Brother". It has been a rewarding year being in the Guitar Ensemble and we look forward to its continued success next year.

## WORLD PERCUSSION GROUP

**Trainer:** Dr Linda Muller

The World Percussion Group, with Dr Muller, is a fun and energetic group of girls who play different instruments from around the world, including some from around the African continent. At the moment the group has eight members, mostly Grade 8s. They are not all musically trained, but they manage to keep a beat and will find the rhythm, as well as having fun at the same time, creating a strongly bonded group. When I joined WPG I did not expect to discover so many instruments and I love how different people suit different instruments. This year we have played at the Herschel Eisteddfod and the Ensemble Concert. We played an arrangement of a Brazilian samba and are currently working on a traditional Marimba piece - it is especially interesting as it sounds different to local township marimba pieces. It all comes together to create beautiful harmonies.

## MARIMBAS

**Trainer:** Mr Gavin Bolton

**Pupil Leader:** Luciana Graham

This year has been extremely busy and fulfilling for the marimba bands. After our auditions at the end of last year it was exciting to do so many performances with

the new band members. We performed at the Baxter Theatre in the annual Marimba Festival, as well as performing at the Herschel MADD evening, Wynberg Marimba Festival, Interhouse Singing, Confirmation and the Ensemble Concert. We are proud of the senior band for receiving distinctions for both their pieces in the school eisteddfod and to the junior band for the huge strides they have made in confidence as a new band and for performing solo for the first time at the Wynberg Marimba Festival. We would like to thank Gavin, our teacher, for all the enthusiasm and energy that he puts into these two bands, and for giving up so much of his time to be with us, especially at the crack of dawn, which is when the bands rehearse!

## THE SAXOPHONE TRIO

**Trainer:** Mr Ron Franchitti

This year the Saxophone Trio has consisted of Jessica Gleeson (alto), Chloë Oaker (tenor), and myself, Tamara Allen (soprano/alto). Our aim as the Saxophone Trio is to find fun in music through sight-reading and enjoyable songs. Our repertoire includes The Pink Panther theme song, Bach's Gavotte and numerous other pieces. This year we have performed at the ensemble concert, Interhouse Eisteddfod and more. The Saxophone Trio is a time of pure fun and enjoyment through music. I have really enjoyed leading this group and will take the valuable skills that I have learnt throughout my time in the ensemble to the rest of my music career.

*Every time it's a miracle. Here are all these people. We all have our troubles... tears and laughter, fights and break ups, dashed hopes and unexpected luck - it all disappears, just like that, when the [music] begins... this marvellous sharing. I'm no longer myself, I am just one part of a sublime whole, to which the others also belong, and I always wonder at such moments why this cannot be the rule of everyday life, instead of being an exceptional moment, during a performance. In the end I wonder if the true movement of the world might not be a voice raised in song. (paraphrased from the 'Elegance of the Hedgehog' by Muriel Barbery). ■*



## STRING ENSEMBLE

**FRONT ROW:** M Meyer, S Rabie, A Ko, K Fisher, J Scott  
**BACK ROW:** A De Decker, U Alekseev, R Lapid, A Grieve, C Robertson,  
 M Cunnington, D Comititis



# Art



▲ CAITLIN BARBOUR



▲ GABRIELLA WESSON



▲ KATHARINE MEINERT





▲ AMBER PITCHER



▲ KATELIJNE KOTZE





▲ KYRA SCOTT





▲ ALEXANDRA BEAVEN

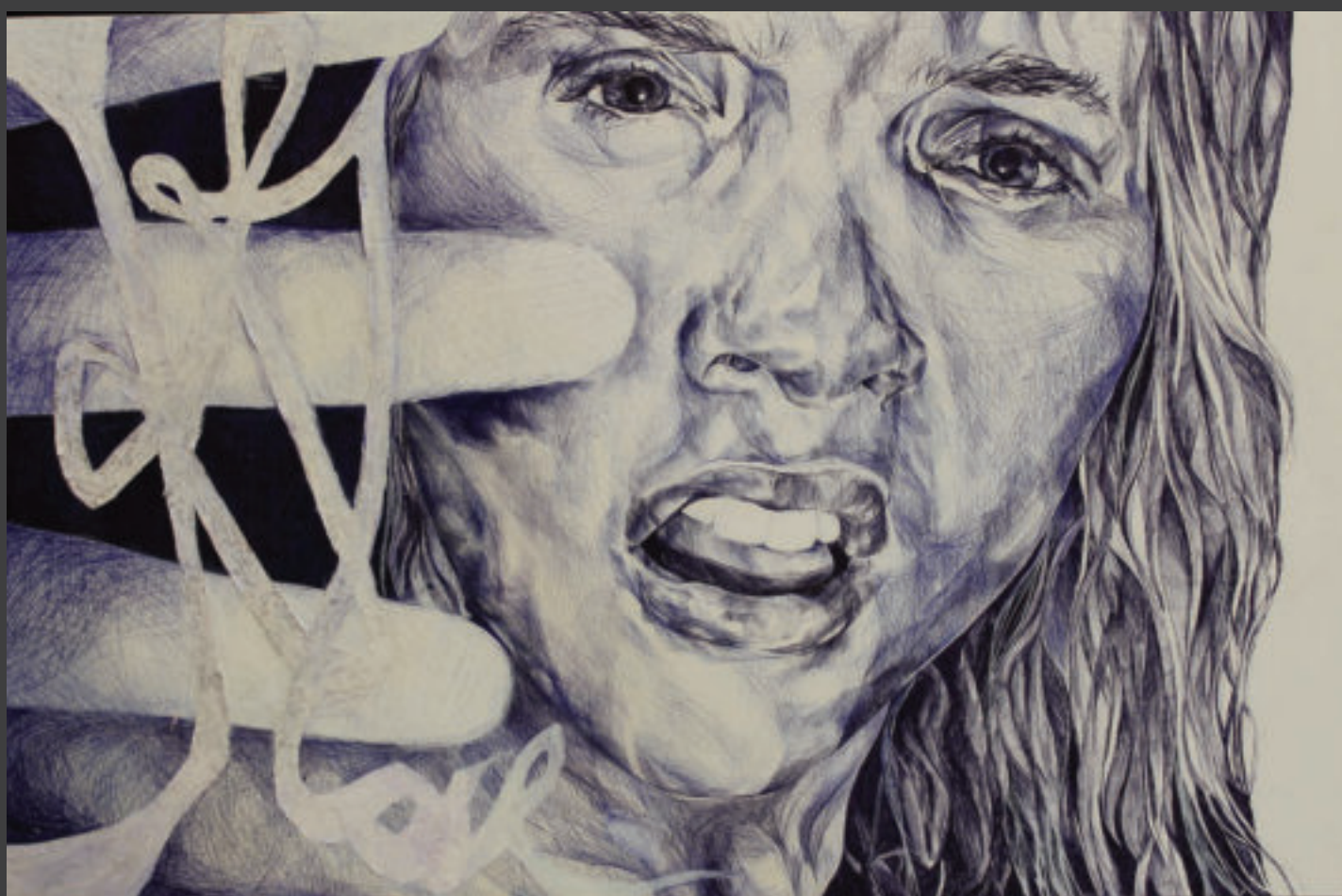


▲ JODY ASHWORTH



▲ AMY PYCROFT





▲ CAITLIN WALTERS



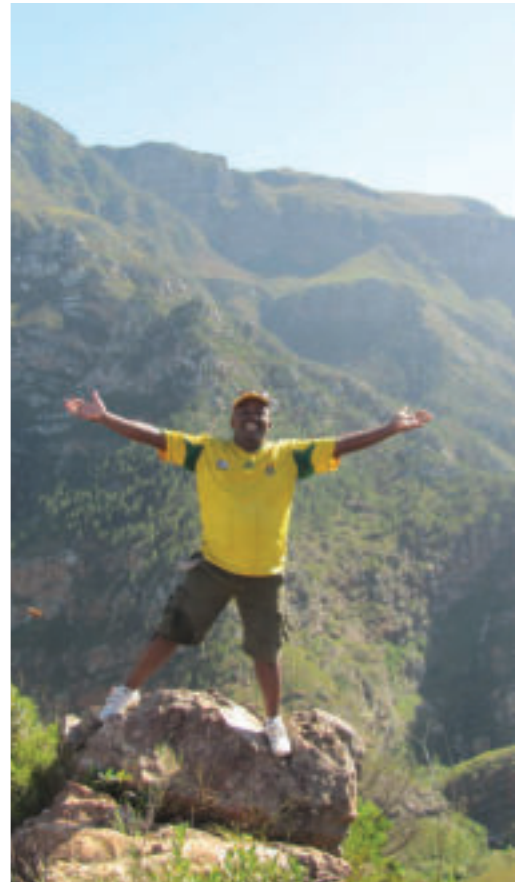
▲ GEORGINA ELLIOTT





▲ COURTNEY COX





*Beyond books*



# Enrichment



## GRADE 8

Miss Burden and Mr Karstens planned and coordinated the programme for the Grade 8s this year: "We are keen on green." The varied programme was well-designed to create opportunities for girls to be physical, to think about managing waste, protecting the resources in and around Cape Town, ways to conserve energy and examining the ways to save our seas and marine life.

The following feedback highlights the experiential learning that took place as part of the programme:

"Throughout the week

we heard a variety of talks, watched inspiring documentaries and went on many outings to create awareness about the pollution in the sea and how we can help to change it. The week included trips and activities such as a beach clean-up; physical activities at Soetwater; a presentation in Kalk Bay; a visit to the Aquarium; the Urban Park in Green Point and a fun afternoon spent making fashion items out of recycled materials. The whole week opened my eyes to ecological issues and made me realise that we all need to change our behaviour towards the environment. The highlights of the week for me were Kalk Bay, making eco-bricks and the documentary at the Labia Theatre."

"I really enjoyed and learned a lot from the Kalk Bay outing. Many people are unaware of all the life in the oceans which we need to protect. You may think that throwing one sweet wrapper onto a beach will not do any harm, but all litter will eventually end up in the sea and even the tiny pieces cause harm to the sea life. If a bird or any sea creature eats that plastic, it stays within them and releases harmful chemicals which we also ingest if we eat that fish or animal. I also loved going to the beach to touch and hold all the little sea creatures and see how beautiful they are. It would be such a shame if, in years to come, they did not exist anymore because of our pollution."

"Constructing the eco-

bricks was very hard work but we knew it was for a good cause. Eco-bricks are plastic bottles filled with unrecyclable materials to make an equivalent of a brick which must weigh 400g. It was hard work because you don't realise how much unrecyclable material you have got to stuff into a bottle to get it to weigh 400g! The bricks are used to make houses and walls in local communities. It is a great idea because, not only do they produce strong houses, but it is also a great way to use your unrecyclable material."

"At the Labia, we watched one of the most inspiring and eye-opening documentaries I have ever seen. It was called *Love Thy Nature* and after the film, I walked out feeling completely changed. It explored the way in which we treat our animals and our environment, and use technology to get away from nature, whereas we should use it to connect with nature. With the advanced technology we have, we can use biomimicry to solve pollution by copying nature's patterns over time. After all, we should work together with nature to restore our ecosystems and ourselves. But, the only way to do that is together. *All hands on deck.*"

We are grateful to all the teachers who explored the week with us. Thank you.

**BY JOSIE CUNNINGTON**



## GRADE 9

The Grade 9 Enrichment programme (called Head – Heart – Hands) under the leadership of Mrs T Thomson and Mrs C Lacerda aimed to create a greater awareness for the girls of the people, places, heritage and history of their own city and to develop creativity and problem-solving skills in designing projects that would meet the needs of primary school children and

their teachers, at three chosen schools in Gugulethu.

After attending talks by expert speakers who piqued their interest about design, social entrepreneurship and gentrification, the girls were given their own design assignment – to create a positive learning environment in a primary school assigned to them – and had to start planning how they would tackle the job, what materials they would need and how

best to utilise the time given. They had two days to execute the task and there was some hard work involved. The girls also made learning support materials to improve visual literacy and numeracy.

In Woodstock, we listened to stories of local Woodstock inhabitants at the SAE Institute in Zonnebloem and were addressed by Bishop Garth Counsell. We went on a walking tour of the area with an artist who explained the

meaning of the many murals that have been completed in the area. We also visited the South African Design School, which showcases the power of creativity and entrepreneurship.

The last day of the week was spent reflecting on all that the girls had experienced. It was clear that the week will stay with them forever. Here is a sample of their insights:

**IMAN KHAKI:** "There are millions of things the Mseki Primary School children could have complained about, but they were the happiest, most cheerful children I have ever seen."

**TABITHA HATHERILL:** "You bend down to hug one child and suddenly you're surrounded by twenty laughing children, all hugging you."

**ALEXANDRA THOMPSON:** "The most amazing experience of my life was being able to put a smile on someone's face just by doing a little task."

**LIBBY RICHARDSON:** "I learned to appreciate the small things in life and make the most of all the opportunities I get because lots of people don't get the same opportunities."

## GRADE 10

The Grade 10s were guided by the enthusiastic Enrichment leader, Mrs Macfarlane and introduced to our theme, "A change of heart". Throughout the week she inspired us to look at life with a different perspective and to improve our well-being emotionally, physically and spiritually. Her talks, as well as the speakers who came to school to share their life stories, the documentaries and films we watched all led to one purpose: to learn how to "be more in our hearts than our heads." Our outings to different homes, the dance performance and listening to Dr Mamphela Ramphele's wise words were

all incredible experiences. What an inspirational week it has been for staff and girls!

The following comments reflect but a portion of the personal growth that has taken place in the hearts of Grade 10 girls:

"I have learnt that one must walk through vulnerability in order to reach empathy and that my perception about people and things isn't reality - just my perception."

"This week talked about what really matters in life - something normal school life doesn't teach you!"

"We are all different. Nobody is worth less than another. People with disability deserve much more than our pity!"

"We are all searching for the

same things in life: happiness, love and acceptance."

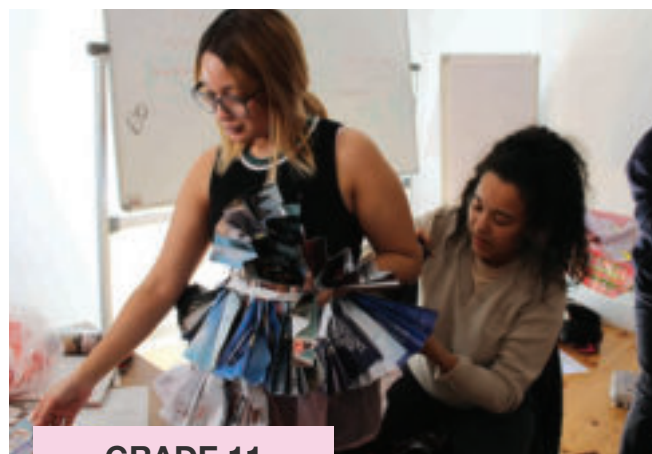
"I have learnt that only through human connections can one find true happiness. 'Things' are nice to have, but they can't love you back."

"It was an eye opener! Truly thankful to have experienced the meaning of empathy!"

"This week I had the most valuable experiences of my life! I have seen, heard and felt things I have never experienced before! Everything was so inspirational!"

"This week has been simply incredible. I never had such a drive to get up ...!"

A big thank you must be extended to Mrs Barendse who co-led the group and to all staff who assisted in many constructive and positive ways.



## GRADE 11



The continuous theme running through the Grade 11 Enrichment was "The Power of Women's stories, and my story." And what amazing stories we got to hear. On Monday we had Marianne Thamm, acclaimed journalist and South African writer, who inspired and challenged all the girls' minds with her alternative views and strong feminist beliefs. Later we had Maria Phalime. Her intriguing story involving the weaknesses in the health system in South Africa inspired many. A controversial video on advertising led the girls to question how they viewed media on an everyday basis. That was just the first day!

The next day involved talks by Ros Malandrinos, Sonja Kruse

and Karen Dudley - each with an amazing story of their own to appeal to each and every unique individual. The day ended on a creative note, with girls crafting dresses that told their story, out of whatever materials they could find at home.

The next day we moved on to the Grade 11 camp. It really lived up to its reputation. To isolate the activities and talks we had on camp would be impossible: it all flowed together, becoming an emotional rollercoaster for some and for others a time to quietly challenge their point of view. The talks, the multiple tea breaks and grade bonding time will definitely be memories that remain with the Herschel Grade 11s long past their school careers.

The Grade 11 Enrichment was truly an amazing experience. Some of the most important lessons learnt were to truly listen to other people's stories because there is more to people than what you might perceive there to be; the importance of your own story and how you have the power to craft your own journey.

**BY JENNA VON BULOW**





# EASTERN EUROPE CULTURAL TOUR

BY MRS S RULE AND MR C KARSTENS

After months of anticipation and the acquisition of much paperwork, the group had their passports and visas and we were set to go. Our transit stop was Istanbul where we sampled the Turkish delight before departing for Berlin for the start of the itinerary.

**BERLIN.** We enjoyed this vibrant, rejuvenated city. A highlight was definitely the 3-hour bike tour of the Berlin Wall. It surprised us all because when we heard "cycling", StepOut came to mind. It was very exciting to cycle along the sight of the former Berlin Wall and learn the details of its history. Although it was perhaps not the best idea for our budgets, we shopped up a storm at the 75% off sales at all the trendy shops in the area where our hotel was situated.

**DRESDEN.** Everything about the city was breathtaking.

**PRAGUE.** A walking tour of the city showed how it was so different to Berlin, particularly from an architectural perspective. Our mutual reluctance for walking in the heat ended up being the one thing that brought us together as a group because while Mr Karstens and Mrs Rule were powering along in the front, we all lagged behind, getting to know each other. The town square with many café-style restaurants, clock tower and steeped churches, was exceptionally beautiful. On the second day in Prague we did a walking and boat tour of the Old Town and cathedral and the absolutely beautiful St

Charles Bridge.

**KRAKÓW.** Our hotel was beside a river with a magnificent backdrop of the palace. The evening in Kraków was enjoyed in the magnificent town square with many quaint streets radiating off it. The second day in Kraków started with a visit to Auschwitz 1, the largest Nazi concentration camp. When we saw the infamous sign, *Arbeit Macht Frei*, (Work makes you free), we realised that this was real. The worst part was seeing all the shoes, bags and toys of the former prisoners. There is a room that is filled with hair - a sight we will never forget. At Auschwitz 2, the structures that are left, give one an inkling of how it must have been: the small cattle carts that the prisoners arrived in, the holes that were called toilets and a room with the bunk beds where we heard the most disturbing stories of what had happened. The saddest part was when we were next to the railway and our tour guide told us: "*The place you're standing right now is where the Nazis would decide whether or not someone was going to live or die straight away*".

The second part of our day was spent in the salt mines. We walked down around 400 steps into the mine. In the mined-out caverns everything was made out of salt, including the floors and chandeliers in a large ballroom where weddings often take place. There were even 3 churches.

**BUDAPEST.** On arrival we enjoyed the hot springs in the historic Szechenyi thermal baths. These baths were followed by a

spectacular night cruise on the Danube where we were treated to the sight of the magnificent lights of the Budapest buildings. The next day we enjoyed buying traditional goods in the market and a bus tour of the city. St Stephen's Basilica was an enormous work of art to take in.

**VIENNA.** This was the last city we visited and probably the place we enjoyed the most. We had supper at an all-you-can eat restaurant and we constantly had Mrs Rule or Mr Karstens coming to our tables to give us friendly reminders that no one could leave until we had all eaten a minimum of 2 desserts or at least something expensive.

**BRATISLAVA,** a city in our sixth country, Slovakia. Yet another walking tour of the city in 38°C weather. Here we found a public piano in a small square and, with some Herschel pianist playing and us singing, we attracted a fair bit of attention from other tourists.

**BACK IN VIENNA.** We dressed up for a visit to Schonbrunn Palace, the former home of Maria Theresa (Marie Antoinette's mom). The tour of Schonbrunn palace was finished off with a sumptuous meal and classical concert, complete with opera, ballet and traditional dancers.

We were delighted to visit Prater amusement park, the oldest amusement park in Europe (where there was a lot of screaming as the rides were pretty crazy) and enjoyed a day cruising down the Danube, past ancient castles, to Melk. Here we explored the quaint town square, enjoyed ice-creams and a tour of the extensively decorated monastery.

After last-minute shopping and a visit to St Stephens Cathedral we whooshed up the Danube tower to view Vienna from above and bid farewell to Europe.

"We would like to thank Mr West for the opportunity and of course Mrs Rule and Mr Karstens. We know you thought organising was difficult, but bet you did not know that being with 19 girls for 2 weeks would be such fun. This tour is something we will never regret or forget." - Rufaro Ndhuni ■

# Vietnam

WORLD CHALLENGE  
EXPEDITION 2015

BY EMMA HEIDMANN

**B**eing the first Herschel team ever to take part in a World Challenge expedition was such an honour. We did not know at the outset, however, that we had to plan our entire itinerary and raise funds for our community project. We thought that we had signed up for a fully paid vacation to Vietnam. As kit was discussed at a meeting, we realised that the journey ahead was most definitely not going to be the type of holiday to which most of our group were accustomed: mosquito net, emergency gear, water purification tablets, sleeping bag and backpack liners - the kit list said it all.

On the day before our departure, we met for a build-up session. Under the watchful eyes of a World Challenge staff member, we had to unpack every item in our bags for inspection. We had spent hours trying to squeeze everything into our bags at home prior to this meeting, but soon realised that in order to fit all of our gear into the regulation size bags, we would have to lose all of our luxury items.

We were briefed on the various roles that our team would need to fulfil. Some team members would co-ordinate and book transport and others had to secure affordable accommodation. The

management of the budget was also left to the team and a set amount had to be allocated to each area of expense with a daily limit placed on spending. The fact that we were about to embark on a journey with many challenges, suddenly became reality.

The following day our team of ten girls, Ms Scarola and our very experienced World Challenge leader, Leah, arrived at the airport, armed with tickets, passports, unabridged Birth Certificates and our massive rucksacks. The excitement was as palpable as the anxiety of the parents and family who had gathered to bid us farewell.

Our expedition consisted of three main phases: the trek, the community service project and rest and relaxation. We began our expedition in Ho Chi Minh City, the capital of Vietnam. It is an extremely busy, crowded urban jungle. Things started getting easier as we acclimatised to the extreme heat and humidity. The tiny bit of English spoken and the Rand to Dollar to Dong conversion, which left us working in 500 000 Dong notes, were a few of the early challenges that we faced.

We travelled from Ho Chi Minh to the Nam Cat Tien National Park for our 4-day trek. The park was beautiful and the trek

not very strenuous, though we did have to fight with leeches and an unwelcoming swarm of bees.

From the national park we travelled by bus to Dalat, where we shopped in a 3-storey market, and then it was on to Nha Trang, where we relaxed on the beach and shopped in this beautiful coastal city. We went snorkelling for the day with a World Challenge Team from Scotland. The water was spectacular and we saw the most incredible tropical fish. Then followed the almost impossible task of catching an overnight train at a station where no one seemed to speak English and the only way to reach the correct train was to run across two sets of tracks.

The location for our community project was a small, rural town called Cu Chi. We spent four days at the Thien Duyen Family Centre for orphaned and disabled children and adults. This centre was opened by a phenomenal woman, known as Mrs Number 10, whom we met. We spent our days interacting with the children and adults and by the end it was like saying goodbye to relatives. We painted two murals to brighten up the playground, installed fans in the ward, sponsored four cradles and donated a few essential items with the help of Simone Godfrey and her team, who generously donated R10 000 to our community project. We would not have been able to make a difference in the lives of these children and adults without her help.

While in Cu Chi we visited the Cu Chi Tunnels, a simulated structure of the tunnels that were used by the Vietnamese during war (1960 to 1975). It was inconceivable to see how the Vietnamese lived during this time.

We returned to Ho Chi Minh for our last two days where we did more bartering and shopping, avoided being knocked over by one of the millions of motorcycles and visited beautiful temples. We took a detour to the Mekong Delta, enjoyed a boat tour of the floating markets and tried our luck at mud fishing.

We could never have imagined the impact that this journey would have on us, returning to South Africa so enriched and challenged, having learnt so much about ourselves and our fellow travellers. We now have a broader view of the world, an understanding of the historic Vietnam War and a deep respect for a culture which is so welcoming, respectful and dignified. Travel-weary, but changed for life, was the consensus of the Herschel Vietnam World Challenge Team of 2015. Gam urn, Ms Scarola and Leah. ■





# EXCHANGE

## EXTRACTS

### COLEGIO VIRGEN DE EUROPA, MADRID, SPAIN

A strange country, a new family, a new culture and a very different language - these obstacles added to our unforgettable adventure. The school contrasted greatly with Herschel: there were boys and the school day also had a completely different structure. During the school day we had interesting classes, but unfortunately we didn't understand the majority of the lessons. We found, however, that the art classroom presented no language barrier and in there we sculpted, painted, etched and moulded. One of the highlights was the week-long school camp in a small town called Almarza. We were allowed to explore the beautiful town at our leisure. I will never forget, as a South African, catching the metro in the dark and feeling safe

- a privilege the Spanish take for granted, but we definitely did not (though we often found ourselves craving the view of Table Mountain).

- **CHERI LAUDIEN AND ERIN HAMPTON**

My exchange partner and I became best friends and without her I honestly don't think I would have survived all the challenges I have had to face. Living in Spain was a very eye-opening experience. The city life of Madrid is unique, with its beautiful old architecture and all its history. The atmosphere in Plaza del Sol made me fall in love with Spain the day after I arrived. The Spanish were such kind, friendly people and made this experience fantastic and enriching. - **ALESSANDRA BIELICH**

welcoming and kind and we made some friends for life. The Dutch food is absolutely amazing and we had to try out everything. We also were lucky to attend the MUN (Mini United Nations) which is an annual event attended by pupils from all over the world. Everyone represents a specific country and is a member of a committee (for example Human Rights). We debated various world issues which the real UN is also debating. On our grade trip to Berlin (for a week) we visited Checkpoint Charlie, Sachsenhausen, which was an emotional experience, the Brandenburg Gate and, of course, the Berlin Wall. Stephanie's host parents took her to Budapest and she also played hockey and water polo for local clubs.

- **ALEX PARKS AND STEPHANIE MALHERBE**

### RIJNLANDS LYCEUM, WASSENAAR, NETHERLANDS

Rijnlands Lyceum is a modern school with about 900 students and the first thing that you notice is the 900 bicycles parked in front of the school. We grew to love our bicycles and took different forms of public transport everywhere. The best part of exchange? Firstly: experiencing a co-ed school. Secondly, no uniforms. The Dutch people were very



### ST PAUL'S COLLEGE, HONG KONG, CHINA

We attended Saint Paul's Co-Educational College, located in Kennedy Town. SPCC, much like Herschel, offers an array of activities. While Hong Kong's first language is Cantonese, lessons are taught in English and we were able to participate. On the weekends we went to many interesting places including the Big Buddha, Stanley, Ocean Park and the Lady's Market. Hong Kong is a vibrant and lively city. Exchange was a great way to meet new friends and make a life-long exchange sister. - **LUCIANA GRAHAM AND ATHENA HAGGIYANNES**

### BRANKSOME HALL, TORONTO, CANADA

My exchange family was amazing and I am still in contact with them. I experienced the most incredible opportunities, such as a Canadian school canoe trip in the wilderness, an ice hockey game, a trip up the CN tower, a typical Thanksgiving weekend, Halloween, a weekend in Niagara Falls and even Montreal. My exchange sister, Sarah, and I, even though we are very different, got along really well and formed a lasting friendship. Going on exchange taught me a lot about independence and about how to be my



own person. Hosting my exchange partner was also an incredible part of the programme! It was so much fun being a tourist in my own city and seeing the beauty of where we live through someone else's eyes.

- **EMMA ROWAND**





### THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL, INDIA

Because this incredible country of Bollywood and butter chicken is so hard to describe, I present to you the Alphabet of India: Aloo (potato in Hindi - eaten with everything and considered a vegetable), belly dancing and badminton, candles, Diwali, elephants in the street friendship, goats and the Ganges, henna, incense,

jewellery, kindness, laughter, magic and memories, noise, optimism, peace, religion, sunsets, turbans, Umar, village (pronounced "willidge"), wisdom, yoga and finally Zumba. Although

not for the faint-hearted (if showering daily is a must for you, stick to Australia), the most unforgettable opportunity of a lifetime awaits anyone who travels to this beautiful place. I could not have been happier or more fulfilled and my new motto is: "You haven't lived 'till you have been to an Indian wedding".

- EMMA LESLIE

### HAILEYBURY, UK

At first, the thought of being away from home for three months was incredibly daunting, considering it was my first time flying overseas alone! Now reflecting on my exchange experience, I would honestly give anything to go back to England. From my first day at boarding school, to the heart-wrenching goodbyes, my experiences in England were all so special. Thanks to my wonderful host family, I had the privilege of exploring places ranging from quaint country towns to the vibrant city of London. I



made such incredible friends at Haileybury, and I'm still in contact with many of them today! - JESSICA MCLEOD SMITH

### EPISCOPAL ACADEMY, USA

Clem Golding and I attended the Episcopal Academy, a co-ed school on the outskirts of the city of Philadelphia. As we were committed to compulsory sport for 2 hours per day, Clem joined the field hockey team and I joined the water polo team. We were lucky enough to visit Washington DC, New York City and Orlando in Florida. We did sight-seeing, watched spectacular shows on Broadway, ate delicious greasy food, watched professional basketball, football and ice-hockey games and accepted the fact that one is simply never too old to visit Disney World. Exchange allows you to find yourself as a person; you are faced with challenges and you cannot simply run home. It forces you to be the best person you can be, every day. - PHILIPPA ALLEN



### PRESBYTERIAN LADIES COLLEGE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

PLC was very easy to fit into, although wearing long green socks and a scratchy kilt to school in the summer was something slightly harder to adapt to. School life, on the whole, was filled with exciting activities, including art, textiles, drama, sports science (weekly surfing trips to Bondi Beach). Our independence was encouraged as travelling on buses and trains was the norm. We had a real Aussie experience at a wildlife park where we fed kangaroos and held snakes and koalas. We went to a sheep station where we drank Billy tea, learned to crack whips and attempted to get a boomerang back to us. - HANNAH OELZ AND GABI TOPAT







### EUROPAGYMNASIUM BAUMGARTENBERG, AUSTRIA

My hosts' house in Mauthausen, a small town with one main road, was right beside the Danube River. An exchange programme is something that many people sugar-coat, but I do think it is important to know that leaving your family to live with another, is easier said than done. I am truly fortunate to have had a family that took me in as their own and I cannot think how different my time would have been if I had not stayed with them. I am a strong believer in the fact that the best way to see a country is to live like a local, and an exchange experience gives you that opportunity. You come back, having learnt things about the country's culture and also about yourself and that is what makes the experience so unique. - **TALYA RUBIN**

### BOARDING AT ST HILDA'S, GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA

I was in the boarding house with my exchangee, Annie. This enabled me to establish close bonds with the girls in my dormitory. On Annie's farm, I got to know her family and had lots of fun riding motorbikes, helping around the farm and going on night drives. I took exciting subjects such as Media Production  
- **GEORGIE VAN HEERDEN**

I was a day girl at St Hilda's. My exchange partner was a year younger than I am and we had our differences and in my opinion that is what the whole process is about:



having to deal with and adapt to different situations. My exchange family was extremely caring and an absolute joy to be around. I must encourage every exchange girl to participate in a sport, as it keeps you sane when things are difficult. I must thank Georgie van Heerden who accompanied me to the Gold Coast. She was my rock.

- **ROSIE RITCHIE-ROUX**

### GUTWARNBERG, MUNICH, GERMANY

My exchange was an experience bursting with new opportunities, shocking changes, self-discovery, long train rides, festivals and endless foreign tastes, smells, and ways of life. The city won my heart, with its cobbled streets, ancient buildings, flowers and churches. I attended a tiny co-ed school in the mountains with 20 people in each grade. At first I felt that their order of academics, breaks and sport, each day, was completely wrong, but I soon became accustomed to it. I was there during Oktoberfest, an annual festival which brought a constant buzz of life into the city. I was presented with



a fair share of challenges on exchange. However, the bonds that I had formed with the seven girls in my class meant that I had a firm support system. It was actually the difficulties that transformed me the most. I learned how to cope with circumstances and people, my empathy was exercised and so was my patience, and I gained such independence and courage. I was strengthened and moulded by my experience and arrived back home a new person.

- **JEAN MARR**

### LANCASTER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL, USA

Exchange in the heart of the "Amish Country" in Pennsylvania. Lancaster Country Day School (LCDS) welcomed us with open arms as we embarked on a journey that was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The school offered us that 'typical American' school experience with the iconic yellow school buses, cafeteria and homecoming dances. We visited Baltimore, where we ate crab, explored the cobbled streets and old record stores, and

made use of their water taxis. We had a true Amish buggy ride, picked and carved our own pumpkins for Halloween, and joined in Thanksgiving celebrations with our exchange families. New York was, of course, a magical experience for both of us, as we visited all the famous places, including Broadway, where we felt right at home while watching The Lion King. We would both go back in a heartbeat...

- **LAUREN GARBERS AND SOPHIE MALANDRINOS**





## UK ACADEMIC TOUR

As we disembarked from the plane that had been our home for the better part of the past 8 hours, we were surprised to be greeted by a day that mirrored the one we'd left behind in sunny South Africa. We were in Glasgow for goodness sake, wasn't it supposed to be cold here? And wet? The drive from Glasgow to Edinburgh is roughly two hours long, so it was late afternoon when we finally arrived at our accommodation.

Barely 30 minutes later, we were bundled into the coach and made our way to Edinburgh Castle. The city of Edinburgh is absolutely beautiful with amazing architecture. After a long walk up a small hill, we arrived at the Castle and enjoyed a very entertaining tour. After dinner, we headed off to the part of the trip I had been dreading the most: the Ghost Tour. The first half of the tour was very enjoyable. We were told all about Edinburgh's gruesome history and we walked around a bit of the more "haunted" part of the city. It was a tad creepy, but at least we stayed above ground. The same could not be said for the second half, which took place in some very scary, abandoned, underground rooms. By the end of the tour most of us were very

glad that it was over. The next day we went to the University of Edinburgh, where we had a talk about the University and some application strategies that we should use when we applied. This was followed by a tour of the University's amazing facilities, as well as a glimpse into the student life. By the end of it, almost all of us had decided that we were going to apply to what had quickly become the university of our dreams.

The next day we went to Durham University, where we once again had a talk about the university and the application process. At Durham we were also fortunate enough to attend some extremely interesting lectures on Human Geography and on Anthropology. We had lunch there, followed by a quick tour and a high definition 3D movie, courtesy of their Astrophysics department. After that, the day got even better. We were given the option of a guided tour of Durham Cathedral, which some of the girls jumped at, especially after finding out that a few of the scenes from the first two Harry Potter films had been shot there.

A four-hour coach ride separates Durham from Oxford. The next day we had a tour of Oxford (town and University), and our guide attempted to get

us to understand the system of Colleges that the University uses. After a brief time (a very brief time, Dad. Almost no time at all) spent shopping, we meandered towards a river, where we went punting. For some girls, this was a traumatising experience, as they chose the "self-punted" boats, which meant that instead of paying a professional to push them around in the water with a stick, they were stuck doing it themselves, wondering if paying would not have been better...

On to London. Commuting on the London Underground with twelve girls is not easy. Commuting on the Underground with twelve girls who all have suitcases at least half their size? We were all very glad to arrive at our fourth and final accommodation. We went to Piccadilly Circus and then Madame Tussauds, where many selfies were taken with wax versions of our favourite celebrities. The next day was an early one. We went to the University of Westminster, where we had some high quality lectures on Marketing, Marketing in the Digital Age, and Investing. Between lectures we had lunch on a pavilion which overlooked the Thames and briefly saw



the South African Rugby Team. And by "South African Rugby Team" I mean their bus. And by "briefly saw" I mean they drove past us... We enjoyed a walk on the South Bank, followed by dinner and a performance of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time." Our final day was a busy one. We started at the National Portrait Gallery, then we went to the British Museum. We spent two hours doing our last minute gift shopping and finally arrived at the airport where we reflected on the trip: there had been many ups and there had been a few downs. Though we did not spend as much time at the Universities as we would have wanted, we still had been afforded an amazing opportunity to get a feel for the places that we wanted to spend some very important years of our lives at. I know for a fact that many of us ended the trip with very different dreams than what we had started with, and for that alone we would be eternally grateful to our parents, our teachers, and our school.

- DANIELLE BLIGNAUT





**NONE** of the 29 girls who signed up for the Orange River trip in December 2014 could have imagined what lay in wait for them in the adventure ahead. Right from the word go it was a rustic journey: we braved a dusty 12-hour bus ride before sleeping under the stars on the very first day.

Dressed in wide-brimmed hats, lifejackets and helmets, we paired up to paddle the next day: it was not long before each group had established an effective rowing rhythm, although we managed to prove the “inflatable boats are impossible to capsize” assurance to be untrue...

We encountered rapids with the names Corkscrew, Scorpion, Mini Falls, Big Bunny and Dolly Parton. Communication was essential when facing these challenges, and we needed constant reminding from our guide Roche that the only way to keep moving forward was to “Paddle!”. If and when our possessions were not securely attached using significantly complicated roping techniques, we would find ourselves laughing as we swam after the floating dry bags to rescue our sleeping bags and food. We camped at different sites along the river each night, from sandy beaches to a rocky slope.

Each day was filled with exciting new activities: we floated down small rapids in lifejackets in the popular “nappy run”, got the adrenaline flowing when we cliff-jumped, and competed with our guides in campfire games. When the heat got too much, we would simply jump overboard

and pull our boats alongside while swimming down the river. When one girl began humming a tune it soon escalated to the whole group singing along at the top of their lungs. Mr Scott impressed us all with his fishing skills – every time we turned around he was holding a new species of fish that we had no idea was swimming with us!

On one particularly tiring day we had to carry our boats to the edge of a cliff to avoid a huge waterfall in our path. Forming a human chain trailing down the rocks, we successfully abseiled our boats with our belongings down the cliff face and into the lower section of the river: each person was needed to manoeuvre the many heavy boats.

It was on a small hike up a hill that gave us perspective on the incredible landscape that we were surrounded by: lush green plants that crowded the land around the river fused with the sandy Namibian desert that stretched as far as we could see.

Our group of Grade 11 girls showed amazing resilience. We had to deal with accidents, injuries, rashes and the continual annoyance of insects, but we kept our spirits high and survived as a team. The trip ended too soon, leaving us with a great sense of accomplishment and contentment with nature. The whole adventure was truly unforgettable, and we thank Mr Scott and Ms Cornish for accompanying us so enthusiastically and making the trip possible! ■





# UMFOLOZI

BY DANIELLE TURNBULL

**AT** 5 o'clock in the morning, on the last day of a busy term, a half-awake, yet excited group of Herschel girls boarded a flight to Durban. We then drove for two hours out of Durban as the anticipation grew within us. Finally we reached the Umfolozi Game Reserve, where our buses off-loaded our bags and skidded away on the dirt road, leaving us standing in the middle of the bush, staring hopefully at our guides and at the kilometres of uninhabited bush surrounding us. Once we had solved the complicated formula of how to pack our bags and awkwardly balance them on our backs, we separated into our smaller groups and began walking. We managed to find a pace that was suitable for everyone and slowly, as we walked, without really realising it, we grew silent, even as we passed grazing rhinos or herds of impala.

Our daily walks became tranquil times of reflection, rather than the strenuous hikes I had been dreading to encounter. The guides displayed their incredible senses, by informing us of animals, long before we were to encounter them, making it easy for us to trust in their instincts. We knew we could rely on them for protection which they proved to us when we were unexpectedly confronted by a rhino.

Once the guides had sussed out a camp site for the night, we marched down to the river where, to everyone's relief, we were allowed to bathe in the shallow water, not far from the wallowing hippos. At our camp sites we sat on the rocks overhanging the river, quietly admiring the sun setting behind the rolling hills and the abundance of animals below, as we listened to the distant cackle of a hyena or the bark of a troop of baboons and even the occasional roar of a lion, echoing into the vast silence.

When darkness finally fell, we dunked rusks in tea around the campfire, as our guides shared stories until, with full bellies, we retired to the warmth of our sleeping bags and gazed at the moonlit sky above as the first night watch began. After the first night of nervously clutching onto torches with white knuckles and

fumbling with shaking hands desperately trying to rekindle the camp fire, the night watches became the time of solitude and privacy that we were deprived of during the day and with a sense of security from our guides, or rather from their rifles, we learned to embrace our fears as we anxiously scoped for pairs of reflective eyes belonging to a potential predator fiercely staring back at us through the darkness and the rain.

Our guides encouraged us to let our minds wander and constantly fuelled them with interesting discussions, allowing us to comfortably bond with one another. I found that the most challenging adjustment was the permanent, inescapable oblivion of time as watches were a forbidden privilege and we simply relied on the sun to gain a vague sense of orientation. On our last day, when we were torn away from this place with which we had just become so compatible, our guide evoked unexpectedly teary eyes with a few last wise words: "The journey is the destination," something that we had all discovered over the last 5 days of emotional transformation. ■





# CLUBS & SOCIETIES

## HERSCHEL CREATURE FEATURE CLUB

The aim of our club this year is to raise funds for The Uitsig Animal Rescue Organisation. The pancake and subsequent pizza sale to raise funds was a huge success and we have managed to raise R2700 so far, taking us more than half way towards our goal of raising R4500 which will enable them to build a new shelter in their adult cat wing. A group of girls belonging to the club, travelled out to see their operation recently and it was extremely heartening to see how well cared for their animals are. They have built units for their adult cats which include a grass section, a wooden deck and a large sand area. This is attached to an enclosed area which is filled with cushions, chairs, blankets and scratching pads so it is really like a home for the cats. We spent some time with the cats and then built a pathway to the cattery. It was thoroughly rewarding to be there and to see the incredible work people are doing to improve the lives of these animals. So a huge thank you for helping us to reach our goal as a club.

**JENNA VON BULOW**



## SPANISH DANCING CLUB

Every Monday the Circuit Room comes alive with the vibrancy and rhythm of Flamenco as Herschel girls immerse themselves in the Spanish culture and dance form. Expressiveness is key as girls lose their inhibitions and swirl skirts; stamp feet and clap hands to the strains of the Spanish guitar. The Spanish Club has been going from strength to strength at Herschel where dancers have participated in the launch of the Inter house Dance Festival and the Herschel Eisteddfod this year. Shaylene Faro has been an enthusiastic head of Spanish Club and has inspired many with her skill and sense of performance. We are indebted to her. The club has had another successful year keeping the spirit of Flamenco alive on the Herschel Campus. Olé!

**MS J WESSON**



## FRENCH MOVIE CLUB

**BY SAMANTHA HEARN**

It has been a fun and enriching year for the members of the French movie club. Girls from different grades have bonded over their shared passion for the French language, while enjoying delicious treats and watching a variety of wonderful French movies. It has been a place for girls to relax and yet enrich themselves culturally.

## THE THEATRE TECHNOLOGY CLUB

**BY PAIGE LEAF-WRIGHT AND ZAAHIDAH RAZZAK.**

Our aim is to train girls to use the equipment in the Theatre. Girls learn, amongst other skills, to set up and work microphones, how to monitor sound levels, how to set up and work a projector,

AV computer and lighting software. Girls also learn to deal, in the moment, with the many problems that can occur. These skills are used in the many assemblies, shows and Interhouse events that happen at Herschel.

## THE 30 SECONDS CLUB

**BY DANELLE PLAATJES AND RUFARO NDHLUNI**

Our aim, this year, has been to provide an outlet in which girls are able to have fun while expanding their general knowledge. They are also given the opportunity to interact with girls from different grades as the club is open to all grades. Activities include playing 30 Seconds and other general knowledge games, as well as enjoying home-made munchies provided by the club leaders.

# Ballroom



Every third Thursday, an excited bunch of Grade 11 Herschel girls and Bishops Matric boys got together to learn the art of ballroom dancing. The venues alternate between the Herschel Sports Centre and the Bishops Mallet Centre. With the help of Mr and Mrs Court and Juffrou van Zyl, we learned the basic steps to several dances. After much fumbling about and looking down at our feet, we mastered the classic waltz. We then ventured into the lively foxtrot, vibrant cha cha, energetic sokkie and the much loved rock 'n roll. We put our best foot forward for our final meeting, where the boys wore black tie and the girls formal dresses. Looking back at our first nervous and daunting lesson, we have improved enormously. We were able to dance with ease and poise, as our partners spun us around the room.

**LUCIANA GRAHAM, GABRIELLA TOPAT AND NATASCHA GIESEMANN**



## THE TEA CLUB

**BY DANIELLE BLIGNAUT**

2015 has been the debut year of the Tea Club. The club has about seventeen members, who meet every two weeks. During this time, the girls have sampled many different teas, ranging from black to white to iced tea. The teas come from as far afield as Russia and India. At the beginning of the third term, all of the girls worked together to plan and have a traditional High Tea, with cucumber sandwiches and all. Thus, the aim of the club - to expose its members to different cultures through their respective teas - has been achieved. Later this year, the Tea Club hopes to have an afternoon at either the Mount Nelson or the One & Only, both of which have High Teas of very good repute.



## EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE CLUB

This year we have had three groups meeting once a week during lunch break. We continue to work through topics such as self-awareness, self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationship and optimism, amongst many others. Very often our sessions lead to discussion on issues that the girls are facing at that particular time. What we are reminded of, time and again, is how we often cannot control our external environment but that our choices lie in how we respond to this. It is wonderful to witness how often the girls are able to give guidance to one another and to empathise when they have faced similar

situations. Something which we have spent a lot of time on this year is the issue of self-esteem and how crucial this is in developing relationships of any kind. It is very clear that one of the key elements of self-esteem is being able to love ourselves. It has struck me how a number of girls who seem so 'successful' in so many areas that are important to girls, still are not able to see the good in themselves. Hence, 'learning to love ourselves' has become our mantra. It is always a privilege to work with the girls in this club as it is a place that they come to voluntarily and with great enthusiasm.

**MRS A BODENSTEIN**





# ROLT

BY ANGELICA PANIERI,  
HEAD OF ROLT

**R**olties have, for generations, made us proud to be at Herschel. We have girls with intellectual, musical, sporting and cultural talent. Year after year we see yellow-clad performers sing, dance, swim, laugh and cheer. A gentle competition and fierce spirit give a sense of belonging to our girls, who will, from their school days to their twilight years, wear a little yellow with a smile and a warm heart.

From the start of this year, our Rolties have been in form. The new Grade 8s showed their Roltie passion immediately with their energy and cheers that reverberated around the school. They formally joined the rest of our crazy house at the house braais, where we all swam, made spirit tunnels, ate a feast and broke it down to some new funky cheers: the volume blew us away. 'Rolt Styling Hallelujah' seemed to echo from the mountains.

This sense of unity continued throughout the annual Interhouse Gala. Yellow-capped performers, regardless of their swimming ability, kicked or doggy-paddled across the pool, encouraged by the rousing cries of the yellow army. We cheered tirelessly as we watched many of the prizes being collected by Yellow Swimmers (Special mention to Michaela van Niekerk) and to top it all, we won the Spirit Cup to conclude a very successful first term!

Rolt's spirit did not falter through the

second term, one which proudly exhibited the immense yellow talent. Each and every girl felt proud. We were privileged to be part of Herschel's first ever Interhouse Dancing. The Rolt team, expertly lead by Holly Phillips and Megan Allardice, danced beautifully and creatively, and made us proud.

This was shortly followed by a cultural highlight of our school calendar: the Eisteddford and Interhouse Singing Competition. Our spirit built to an all-time high. The girls performed their hearts out and truly did us all proud. Hours and hours of singing rehearsals brought us closer together as we worked on the notes, harmonies and dance moves of our Michael Jackson 'Will you be there' and High School Musical performances. We sang proudly in our sparkly yellow hats and striking white gloves, showing the audience the true nature of our extraordinary house. This, combined with the ensemble's moving performance of Angel, dedicated to a Rolt angel, Jenna Lowe, created a magical night that we will always remember.

Finally, it was a privilege to watch the Interhouse plays this third term. The girls' hard work, immense enthusiasm and incredible talent, under the skilled instruction of Nicola Haller and Hannah Oelz, was greatly rewarded as they won 'Best Play' and left the audience in stitches of laughter.

It has been an immense honour and

delight for Olivia and I to lead this great house this year. We are grateful for the expert guidance of Mrs Oelofse, our house mother of Rolt.

However, nothing would have been possible without the endless enthusiasm, spirit and love that each Rolt girl has brought to our incredible house. Smiling faces, yellow and black war paint, love and laughter, cheers and companionship, determination and persistence are what make us proud to be that yellow part of Herschel. We thank you ALL!

Rise and Roar because we are ROLT. ■

# CARTER

BY EMMANUELLE TSHALA, HEAD OF CARTER

**IT** has been an amazing journey for our house - the newest kid on the block. We have celebrated successes and losses, but most of all we have managed to make this house a home.

We started the year off with the Founder's Day celebration. This was something new as the houses "ran the show" and united the school in rivalry. Instead of the school hearing about its history, the school heard about the history of its houses and this, in turn, increased the sense of camaraderie and sisterhood that the house system thrives on.

The Interhouse gala was our first interhouse event and it was absolutely spectacular. The spirit was tangible and so was the joy of the girls, to be standing alongside one another and fighting for their house. Among the sea of red, yellow and green T-shirts was the incomparable roaring sound of the blue. The atmosphere was charged, not with competition, but with pride. We took home the trophy and that set the tone for the rest of the year's journey. The rest of the events included Interhouse dance - the first of its kind - where the girls were given the opportunity to showcase their dancing talents. I found this event truly rewarding because the Lemurs, who would not typically have had the opportunity to showcase their talents, were able to. The support and participation of the tribe was overwhelming.

One of the biggest events was the Interhouse singing. With a mixture of major and minor chords, successful and unsuccessful harmonies, we "leaned" on each other by singing an adapted version of the popular song "Lean on me". This song choice was inspired by the fact that it represents support, spirit and sisterhood. It was my greatest honour to lead such a determined and talented group of girls that night. The pride that we had was far more rewarding than the trophy, and that is one of the greatest lessons I have learnt while being a lemur.

The final event was Interhouse plays where the Grade 11s took the baton and impressed every single one of us. Their talent and leadership capabilities displayed, made me a very proud captain. Our Grade 11 group tackled a challenging topic - the

future - and exposed us to the harsh truth of what our future could look like if we do not look after our "roots". We were especially impressed at their courage to tackle such an issue. Despite the fact that we did not take home all the trophies, we took home a sense of camaraderie and pride.

In the words of King Julien from the film, *Madagascar*, "I must really compliment my brain. Brain, good job," but I would like to replace the word "brain" with "Lemur family." And so it says, "I must really compliment my lemur family. Lemur family, good job". I will forever be proud.

It has also been a great pleasure working with a great deputy, Georgie Elliott, who has been a great support. Furthermore I would like to thank Ms Rousseau who has been a pillar of strength throughout this year. I could not have had a better house mother. I am sure that Carter will continue to go to great heights. ■





# JAGGER

BY ALICE STEYTLER, HEAD OF JAGGER

**IT** has been a very busy year at Herschel with regards to house activities and it has been an honour to be a part of the Jagger herd during 2015. House unity was emphasised this year with a new Interhouse competition and the Houses being the theme on Founder's Day. There was plenty of time for girls to interact and get to know their fellow herd members apart from the usual annual events.

It was evident from our first event, the "Grade 8 Welcome," that 2015 was going to be Jagger's year. We could tell from their energy and excitement (and immediate attraction to the food), that these new hippos were perfect for our Jagger herd. The evening was the perfect way for the new girls to be introduced to Jagger in the high school and to learn all the new cheers before being introduced to the whole house at the house braais.

The annual house braais were a success and it was such an amazing opportunity to get the whole herd together. It allowed us to make a new, Jagger banner, that included a part of all the members (hand prints) and also to introduce our Grade 8s to the whole house, while enjoying delicious food and great weather. Luckily there was a pool for everyone to cool off in and brush up on our swimming techniques, as the gala was right around the corner.

The gala was, as always, a very

entertaining and spirited event. Jagger is not the sportiest house as a whole (that does not mean that we do not have sporty girls), but we do have spirit and this event demonstrated that fact. It is very easy to be spirited when you are winning all the races but our herd cheered loudly and proudly through it all and they made me very proud.

The second term, which is usually already very busy with exams, interhouse singing and eisteddfod, had another Interhouse event added to it this year: the first ever interhouse dance competition. This event was a way for our very talented dancers to represent their houses in a way that had not been given to them before. The Matric Jagger Dance Committee worked tirelessly with the cast of dancers from all different grades to create a group of dancers that perfectly fitted the theme and allowed phenomenal group and teamwork to take place. All the hard work that all the dancers put in meant that Jagger will go down in history as the first ever winners of the Interhouse Dance Competition.

The dancing was just the beginning of Jagger's cultural success. After our girls had survived the June examinations it was time to start preparing for the eisteddfod and the interhouse singing. The daily interhouse singing practices were another opportunity for the house to spend time

together as a unit and for us to come together to make something special. A special thanks needs to be given to the music committee. Without them none of it would have happened. I have no musical talent or knowledge and they taught me just enough to be able to "fake it until I made it". The night of interhouse singing was one of the highlights of my high school career, not because we won, which we did, but because the house was able to take everything we had learnt and put it into practice, while having a fantastic time. This was evident in the way they performed: their energy was contagious and it is something that will remain with me for the rest of my life.

In the third term the Matrics take a reluctant step back from house responsibilities to focus on academics and pass over the reins to the Grade 11 drama girls for the Interhouse Plays. This year the Grade 11s presented a witty, thought-provoking play about family and greed that was both skillfully directed, written and acted. Although it was hard not to jump up on stage with the girls, it was a treat to watch them perform and represent the house.

It has been an honour to have been a Jagger girl for the last 12 years of my Herschel career and for my last year as a school-going, Jagger girl to have been such a success goes beyond my wildest expectations. However, that is not what counts. House events are an amazing way to meet people from all different grades and it is the girls I have met and the relationships formed through Jagger that have made it all worthwhile. My blood will always be green and I will never not be a proud Jagger Hippo. ■



# MERRIMAN

BY KATHARINE MEINERT, HEAD OF MERRIMAN



**WHAT** a year it has been!! From the house braais to the house plays, this year we certainly painted the town psychedelic R-E-D. With the guidance and nurturing from their mother reindeers, our newly born reindeer calves (grade eighties) were quickly shown the ropes of high school and became eager to jingle their bells!

As the days went on the reindeer team was challenged to compete in the Interhouse swimming gala. With their bright flashing noses, cheers and shouts, the swimmers were fired up in no time. Despite being in the peak heat of the sun, Merriman's spirit was infectious and our hearts combined teamwork and fun.

To end off the month and pledge the calves into the family the mother reindeer gathered everyone for a house braai. This was an exhilarating evening of music, many chicken kebabs, dancing girls, love and red comfort. The night ended with the ultimate test for our reindeerettes to prove their place

on the family sleigh... a sassy strut down the red carpet. With flamboyant moves and great confidence, each Grade 8 earned the respect from everyone and were inspired to follow their elder members with pride.

In this time of great energy, Merriman's very own dance team shook up the theatre stage with their spicy Chicago performance. After days and days of putting their social lives on hold, all the while destabilising their sleep patterns, the dancers left the audience in wonder. A massive thanks to all the dancers who really stepped up to the challenge and put their best 'point shoe' forward.

Interhouse singing started with a thrill, when we were given the memorable High School Musical song to perform. The run-up to the night became a rollercoaster of highs, celebrating when the girls were singing on key – and of lows when we realised that every second girl did not know their lines. But in the last week our strength emerged and our team brought great excitement and absolute beauty and brilliance onto stage through their spunky, Tina Turner voices, electric dance moves and sequined headbands.

At Interhouse plays, every house brought immense joy and talent to the audience and left the judges with a tricky decision. It was a time for the Merrimamas to show their sassy performance skills and rock everyone's socks off. This year Suzelle made a comeback, "Because anybody can". Our very own reindeer, Rosie, brought Afrikaans back and made us all laugh...

While this has not been a year of winning trophies and receiving accolades, in our eyes it has been a year of victory for the spirit of our team. We have enjoyed every activity in which we have participated and our team has developed a meaningful pride in each other. Lucy and I made it our mission this year to ensure that each member of the team has felt valued and loved.

The very busy year and, at times, stressful organisation, has been made worthwhile by the smiling faces, laughter, love and support that has been so readily available from each beauty queen in the house! ■







BY MRS SANDY RULE

# STEPOUT

**AFTER** much anticipation, Stepout 2015 was ready to start. There had been much nervous packing and anxious group queries from the girls, and much planning and organising by the staff team. We set off with boxes of carefully prepared and packed food to our three start points. Each group was set to hike, cycle and canoe a journey comprising 125 self-propelled kilometres.

My group climbed out of the bus at Die Galg and were met by the sight of 40 pumped up bikes. These were eagerly jumped on and everyone was ready to pedal to Robertson. The route initially lead us downhill, and then after a short look at McGregor, we meandered through farmlands and wine estates before spending the night on a stationary train. The following day started with a daunting uphill which quickly became a gentle rolling descent down to the Breede River.

After a night spent camping with too many unwanted mosquitoes, much hilarity was had as the girls all got to grips with their two-man inflatable canoes. We paddled down the river; it was tranquil sometimes while faster moving at other times. The river even felt uphill when paddling into a head wind. After another night camping all together, the girls enjoyed a shorter canoeing stretch which culminated in an exciting whoosh down a weir.

A short bus ride then took us to Genadendal where a comfortable night

was spent in the historic hostel. The following morning we were treated to a tour of the really interesting well-stocked museum before we set off on our hike across the fynbos-clad mountains to Greyton. The quaint ambience of Greyton was enjoyed by all as they stocked up on snacks for the final day: the Boesmanskloof trail.

We all enjoyed this last day hiking to a cool pool beneath a waterfall and up to the pass which lead us back to Die Galg, where we had started many days previously.

It was wonderful travelling home on the bus (as opposed to being propelled by our own limbs). All were pleased that they had stepped out and conquered previously dreaded challenges. Most importantly, the anxious moments spent beforehand had now evaporated and we felt sad that the group would disband on our return. We all had had a wonderful time in each other's company.

The successful Stepout operation involved many staff members, as well as hired specialists. We had Mrs Posthumus, Mrs De Villiers and Ms De Bruijn running the base stations. Much of the catering was supplied by the Herschel catering department and Mr Cengani supported the cycle leg. The girls were accompanied along every kilometre by an intrepid staff team comprising Mrs Rule, Mrs Stein, Mr Merckel, Mr Sopam, Mrs Lureman, Mrs Roebert, Mr Ramsbottom, Mr Scott and Ms Shaw. Thank you all. ■





*Senior girls*





**"HOW LUCKY AM I  
TO HAVE SOMETHING  
THAT MAKES SAYING  
GOODBYE SO HARD."  
- Winnie the Pooh**

High school is like a whirlwind: it moves at an immense pace and can send your emotions flying round and round while you sit, protected in the calm centre. We have watched the years fly past, around us, with assignments being handed in and exams being written and moving from Grade 8 to 12. Now as we have reached matric and are sitting on this stage for our final moment, the walls of our whirlwind are beginning to disintegrate. One by one, threads of protection are drifting away. We have been in this protective environment for so long that many of us are unsure if we will be able to survive outside the centre, but if there is any school that could prepare us enough, it is Herschel.

This year has blown by, and, of course, I thought the best way to describe the year, was going back to the references used in my first speech on this stage: Disney. The year of 2015 was a magical and unforgettable one: whether it was the Grade 8s running around like Cinderella in search of her lost slipper, turning into the incredible, strong princesses they are by the end of the year, getting involved in everything from house plays to any sport possible – thank you Grade 8s; the Grade 9s starting the year off as Alice falling through the rabbit hole and being

# VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

BY HEAD GIRL, JESSICA WILSON

scared at the wonderland that lay ahead: whether it was the daunting idea of having to complete their Science Expo, having to carry on with their hundreds of subjects or just trying to survive the in-between year. In the end they are all strong and truly the Alice that slayed the Jabberwocky, ready to make the tough choices that they face. Good luck grade 9s. The Grade 10s started as the shy Elsas from Frozen and then slowly began to break out of their shells: whether it was the immense musical talent, creating incredible bands together, sending a girl overseas for her expo, many girls having the courage to go on exchange or the courage to stay behind and power through school without half the grade here. Grade 10s: you have truly grown and are ready to use your powers to crush Grade 11. Grade 11s, you have survived the infamous year. Starting off as Peter Pan, unfamiliar with your surroundings and scared to take the leap of faith, but you did it: putting on incredible house plays or simply the achievement of completing your research essays – you have truly begun to fly. Congratulations, Grade 11s.

And finally the Matrics of 2015: it was hard to pick just one Disney character to represent us all. Choices ranged from Ariel to Bambi and even to the genie in the bottle until, finally, I settled on Rapunzel. For us, this year began with a running start, leaping into work and projects and the daunting task of final exams that lay ahead, but just like Rapunzel we have slowly grown and begun to get ready for our future and soon we will leave our castle with its perfectly white walls and familiar Atrium smell of bacon and get ready to run on the new grounds that lie ahead of us. It is the final push and we can do it. Before we completely give up let us give one last push together; let us turn up some music, sit down at our desks and read over the Spark Notes of the lessons we have learnt from Herschel.

## SPARK NOTE SUMMARY LYRICALLY REFLECTING THE 8 LESSONS WE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT:

1. RESPECT: one of the best lessons

that we have learnt and will always remember is to respect and cherish one another.

2. YOU'RE NEVER FULLY DRESSED WITHOUT A SPAPPYHAPPYDAPPY-DAPPYDADADADADA – SMILE: never to forget to smile, to enjoy the happy moments, embrace the embarrassing moments and never forget the distance that a small smile can go.

3. LEAN ON ME: we will always support one another and be there for our H-factor family.

4. NOBODY'S GONNA DRAG ME DOWN: we have learnt to be strong; we have learnt to be confident and are ready to conquer.

5. SHAKE IT OFF: we have learnt never to let anything control what we do or any marks determine our self-worth, and never to forget just how strong we are and to shake off something when it gets us down.

6. To always come in LIKE A WRECKING BALL: we have learnt never to be afraid to voice our opinion and show that we are a force to be reckoned with.

7. YOU'VE GOT TO PUSH IT, PUSH IT TO THE LIMIT: we know that nothing will come to us without hard work and dedication and we will always be prepared to give it our all.

8. THEY MAY SAY I'M A DREAMER BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE: Herschel has taught us to dream big and not to stop believing that we can do anything we put our minds to.

Have you ever experienced that moment where your stomach begins to hurt simply from laughing too much? That moment where nothing else matters except this eruption of laughter? The number of times I have experienced this at Herschel cannot be recorded and that is what we will remember as we say goodbye: not the tough times and the hard work, but the joy and happy memories that our five years of high school have brought us. Saying goodbye is never easy but let's just say farewell and we will see you soon. ■

**AD DEI GLORIAM**



# VALEDICTORY ADDRESS 2015

BY CRAIG KARSTENS, HEAD OF GRADE 12

Valedictory is a time of endings. It marks the end of your school education and the end of your time as "Herschel girls". Many of you have spent the majority, or even all of your school years at Herschel, and the thought of moving forward might be quite daunting. However, Valedictory also marks the beginning of your venture out into the world as young adults; this is an exciting time. It is our wish for you that it will be a time in which you embrace opportunities and face, with intelligence and courage, the challenges before you.

The inspiration for my message comes from a book called "The Four Agreements" by Don Miguel Ruiz. It has been on the New York bestsellers' list for the past seven years. I felt it had relevance for you today, as you make the life-changing move from school to the real world. Ruiz followed his ideal of attending medical school, wanting to become a surgeon, but after a near-death experience he began devoting himself to self-inquiry and ancient wisdom. From his studies, highly relevant ideas emerged and are reflected in his book.

Ruiz feels that making four agreements with yourself will guide you on the path of achieving personal power.

The first agreement is to be impeccable with your word. According to Ruiz, one word can change a life or destroy a life. Impeccable comes from the Latin, "without sin". Life causes us to lie to others and to ourselves. An example is gossip or cyber bullying.

The second agreement is not to take anything personally. Understand that whatever people say is not about you, but a projection of their own reality. If you are told that you are stupid, do you take possession of it and believe those who have labelled you in that way?

You need to try to be immune to the opinions of other people as this only leads to unhappiness. I am sure that you have noticed that when you feel good about yourself, you do not tend to take things personally. A good lesson in life is to be

able to walk away from those people who abuse you, in any form. Initially, it will hurt but will be better for you in the end.

The third agreement is not to make assumptions. We assume to know what people are thinking about us and then believe it to be true. We often assume that our friends know what we think and that we do not need to say what we want. Then, we are disappointed or annoyed with that person if they do not act in the way we anticipated. This leads to fights and disappointments. We need to communicate with others, asking them what they actually want rather than making assumptions.

The fourth agreement is always to do your best. Your best changes from day to day, but regardless of the quality, keep doing your best. Do your best and take action in everything you do and not only when reward or recognition is on offer. We need to do our best for ourselves. In a few years' time, when you are working, the recognition you will receive from your employer is your salary. You applied for the job, you accepted the salary. Once you have the job, do not be frustrated and upset that your employer is not recognising your work, or feel that you are under-paid. If you allow this to influence you not to do your best, you will feel unhappy to the extent that it will influence your life negatively. Do your best

at all times and if you are unhappy about something, do what you can to change it.

These four agreements of Don Miguel Ruiz are thus: be impeccable with your word; do not take anything personally; do not make assumptions and always do your best. These four rules should help you live a more complete and happier life.

In his next book, Ruiz added a fifth agreement: be skeptical, but learn to listen. Don't believe yourself or anybody else without question. Use the power of doubt to question everything you hear. Listen to the intent behind the words, and you will understand the real message.

We all know that the more positively you think, the more likely you are to make a success of a situation. Undoubtedly, each of you will make a difference in your own way. I suggest to you that there is no such thing as an "ordinary" man or woman, in that each one of us is capable of something extraordinary, whether it is extraordinary courage, extraordinary compassion for others or extraordinary skills or talents.

It has been an honour being your Grade Head and I wish you well for your studies and for your future endeavours.

I leave you with a quote from Ruiz to take with you throughout your life: "You can achieve what you believe you can achieve." ■



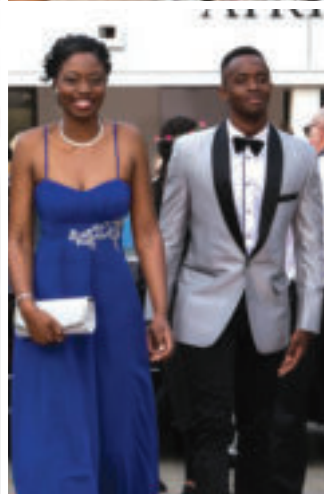




# Matric Dance









## MATRIC



### GRADE 12 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** H Acton, Miss J Cameron, T Ddamulira, Mr C Karstens, C Cox, Ms H de Bruijn, M Barton

**MIDDLE ROW:** M Allardice, T Ajam, E Cooper, D Comititis, A Davies, C Charlton, E Blackburn, S Aron, A Chung, A Chikte, K Davids **BACK ROW:** S Brink, T Allen, P Buxey, A Beaven, L Barnard, J Allen, C Barbour, J Ashworth, R Charles, T Botha, J Baikoff



### GRADE 12 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** N Lancefield, J Kruger, Mrs Cassuto, K Gees, Mr Karsten, C Fenner-Solomon, J Gleeson

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Ko, T Gazgay, A Gennison, Z Gerryts, M Flood, N Govinden, T Edwards, A Esack, F Ebrahim, S Faro, M Khan, K Felix **BACK ROW:** O Edwards, A Dias, H Earl, S Hearn, K Kotzé, E Heidmann, J Jeffery, G Elliot, J Gwynne-Evans



#### GRADE 12 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** B Mansvelt, Mrs C Alpert, L Nixon, Mr C Karstens, J Lillie, Mrs M Nyback, A Panieri

**MIDDLE ROW:** C Pinheiro, G Leong, C Lin, K Parkin, D Neilson, Z Marubelela, K Pienaar, P Leaf-Wright, E Morley, S Mgojo, G Panther **TOP ROW:** K Orrey, A Pycroft, H Phillips, K Macfarlane, K Meinert, A Pitcher, C Lategan, S Mulaudzi, L Macdonald, J Pentz, R Lapid



#### GRADE 12 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** C Smith, Ms K Burden, A Smith, Mr C Karstens, E Tshala, Miss T Rousseau, V Searle

**MIDDLE ROW:** C Strydom, E Rooney, E Tinney, J Wilson, C Walters, B Sass, K van der Merwe, V Soga, V Schwulst, S Shaboodien, N Wood **BACK ROW:** M van Niekerk, M Rothman, P Rigby, G Wesson, C Seton, A Steytler, D Vlok, O Warren, K Scott, N Wills, A Webber



## GRADE 11



### GRADE 11 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** M Gessler, Ms D Main, A Bird, Mrs A Bodenstein, D Blignaut, Ms S Scarola, C Charles

**MIDDLE ROW:** S Abert, R Banderker, N Brookes, C Biebuyck, T Buis, M Caldis, L Garbers, E da Costa, F Farista, J Adams, A Abrahams, S Gamiet **BACK ROW:** A de Villiers, N du Plessis, M Cunnington, A Dlova, P Allen, A Bielich, G Bensch, O Burton, U Alekseev, J Garbers



### GRADE 11 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** E Leslie, Mrs S McArthur, J Gleeson, Mrs A Bodenstein, N Haller, Mrs S de Villiers, T Harris

**MIDDLE ROW:** K Gubangxa, A Glaum, E Lesbirel, G Grobler, J Macleod Smith, N Hardenberg, C Golding, E Hodgson, C Laudien, B Gray **BACK ROW:** S Malandrinis, C Madella, J Joubert, L Graham, E Hampton, A Haggiyannes, T Kerbelker, N Giesemann, S Khan, A Ismail, A Lorenz **ABSENT:** S Lumb



#### GRADE 11 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** H Oelz, K van der Merwe, A Parks, Mrs A Bodenstein, A Malindi, Mrs M van Schalkwyk, N Mayman  
**SECOND ROW:** A Ngwendu, I Marine, K Pettit, S Malherbe, J O'Brien, P Ngalonkulu, J Marr, L Musselwhite, Z Razzak, S Meezraci  
**THIRD ROW:** R Ndhuni, T Revel, M Planting, D Plaatjies, A Miszewski, R Ritchie-Roux, G Pera, H Preen, A Malindi, E Naude, B Park



#### GRADE 11 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** V Sharples, Ms W Walter, A Tapanlis, Mrs A Bodenstein, L Weimann, Ms J Wesson, R Viuff  
**MIDDLE ROW:** K Schwartz, A Russell, I Ventura, B Shapcott, J Wright, G van Heerden, E Rowand, V Snyders, A Saith  
**BACK ROW:** J von Bulow, D Swales, O Wallace, T Sulaiman, T Rubin, E Wilmans, J Scott, G Topat, D Turnbull, M Silver, S Wild





# Grade 11

BY CHÉRI LAUDIEN AND VICTORIA SHARPLES



THE GRADE 11 YEAR IS ONE OF THE  
**MOST DEMANDING, YET MOST  
TRANSFORMATIVE AT HERSCHEL.**

**ON** the 20th of January 2015 about 95 friendly-faced, yet apprehensive Grade 11 Herschelians started the year with nervous chatter. "What would the academic year have in store for us?" we wondered. "Would we be able to cope with the greater demands of Grade 11?"

Cope we did. And well.

The Grade 11 year is one of the most demanding, yet most transformative at Herschel. Having moved through the ranks and becoming firmly established as seniors, we are given more liberty and responsibility.

In all spheres of Herschel life our talented grade has excelled; be it in the waterpolo pool during the Waller Cup final, our debaters in the Western Cape Provincial semi-finals, or our dramatists in the school production of *Across the Universe*. The achievements of our grade

are something to behold; in our fold includes South African representatives for disciplines as varied as netball and squash to karate, fencing and figure-skating.

Nevertheless, we Grade 11s are not afraid to relax and revel in each other's company. Many Friday Tutor periods have been spent playing 30 Seconds, discussing current world issues or just talking about how we are feeling at that moment and what is going on in our lives.

Other unifying activities include the optional monthly ballroom dancing with Bishops Matriculants (which always promises to be a slightly awkward, if not enjoyable evening), the highly anticipated Grade 11 Research Essay and, of course, the Grade 11 self-development Camp.

One of the most exciting events of the first term was the Matric Dance. Although it was not ours, we were able to waitress at it. This was an event that really brought our grade together as we all got to watch our Matrics look absolutely beautiful.

A much anticipated event this year was



our House Plays, with the Grade 11 Drama students directing, writing and acting in the plays. Many girls were involved in this, whether it was backstage, sound and lighting, acting or simply just being a background extra. The plays were of an extraordinary standard, and really made our grade proud to be part of such a production.

This year many girls got involved in the Umfolozi trip, in which they spent 5 days in the wilderness. There were also exchange students in our grade in the first term, from Chile and the Netherlands. Many girls also went abroad on the Eastern European Tour or they went on the World Challenge tour to Vietnam in which they had to organise most elements of their trip.

We had a difficult time saying goodbye to three girls leaving our grade to study overseas: Rebecca Viuff, Belle Park and Belinda Shapcott. They will be greatly missed.

Enrichment week was a highlight in every girl's calendar. We were able to spend a whole week gaining spiritual and emotional awareness, in conjunction with being exposed to the most incredible speakers, who shared their stories and inspired us all. Our theme this year was women's stories and our own stories and the whole week really encompassed this theme.

The Grade 11 camp was a milestone in our school life, where we were forced out of our "comfort zones" and into dorms with girls outside of our friendship groups. As daunting as this may seem, we were able to connect with girls we had never really spoken to before, and it made us all feel as if we were truly travelling through this journey of school together - not in isolation, as we had all believed before. The teachers who went on the camp with us were very enthusiastic, especially in the "Not the Herschel Eisteddfod" during which they sang for us. It was truly a time of connection and will not soon be forgotten by anyone who attended.

Special mention must be given to our considerate and bubbly Grade 11 prefect Lauren Nixon who, combined with our Grade Head, Mrs Bodenstein, ensured we were emotionally well looked after and that our 2015 school year ran as smoothly as possible. A particularly sweet gesture of theirs would have to be our grade pizza and movie evening after the June exams which was a lovely opportunity to decompress as a group. ■





## GRADE 10



### GRADE 10 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** N Alberts, Mrs H Marais, J Barends, Mr B Sopam, C Blignaut, Mrs S MacFarlane, H Baba

**MIDDLE ROW:** Q Bhawoodien, K Badroodien, R Blackwell, K Abbas, T Croza, N Alley, L Bavuma, S Ahmed-Arai, A Cassim, N Bonadei, A Chigwida **BACK ROW:** N Calana, C Barnard, A Bayly, M Chesterton, R Booth, J Brand, J Blanckensee, G Briel, R Bateman, A-L Cuninghame, A Asin



### GRADE 10 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** S De Wet, Mrs S Stein, M Dower, Mr B Sopam, K Fabing, Mrs B Lureman, C Kacedan

**MIDDLE ROW:** S Hendricks, T Esack, A Hendricks, M Fisher, L. Jacobs, T Dayaram, Y Dollie, M Gerrys, I Jarre, A Holtman **BACK ROW:** C Ferreira, K Els, A. Hendricks, S Edwards, T Hickman, S Henderson, A Ebrahim, S Franco, C Diemont, V Holding, P Inglis



#### GRADE 10 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** B Pera, Mr B Merckel, O Lowe, Mr B Sopam, G Mitchell, Mrs S Rule, A King **MIDDLE ROW:** N Lin, S Kuphe, L Mali, Z Kahn, D Negrine, N Lowe, K Mason, A Pepler, S Kirk, S Odendal, R Moliea, R Norsworthy, D Lin **BACK ROW:** B Postings, H Judge, P Makgoba, A Pithey, A Midgley, E Desitedt, C Koen, M Meyer, N Mponda, M Meyer, K Orton



#### GRADE 10 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** R Searle, Mr M Bräsler, J Rey, Mr B Sopam, S Viuff, Mrs N Karstens, M Viljoen **SECOND ROW:** E Wilkinson, A Souchon, A Scott, A-J Riley, A Pruiem, C Robertson, J Wilensky, K van Schalkwyk, I Tyres, H Toulouse **BACK ROW:** A Sherrell, C Voegt, L Sebesteny, E Turnbull, C van Coller, C van der Bergh, L Salie, C Spokes, A Sidiyiyo, A Wilson, C Smith





# Grade 10

BY TAMARA ALLEN

THE GIRLS LEARNED  
THE ART OF  
**PERSEVERANCE** AND  
BEGAN TO APPRECIATE  
THEIR SAFE HOME  
ENVIRONMENTS.

The Grade 10s of 2015 have had a year filled with growth, forming of new friendships, various activities and new adventures. This included new-found academic enjoyment (as they now only take select subjects), their senior status in the school, a physically demanding Stepout journey, enrichment week, the Dads' and Daughters' Dinner, exchange and so much more.

At the end of Term 1, the girls set out on a six-day self-discovery journey: Stepout. This annual programme involves rowing, cycling and hiking through Greyton and surrounding areas. While Stepout is known for its physical challenges, it teaches the girls more than coping with just that. The girls learned the art of perseverance and began to appreciate their safe home environments. They formed new friendships with unexpected peers and learned to cope with the strenuous exercise by laughing, taking time out in the beautiful nature and relying on their new friendships for constant support.

Another highlight, Enrichment week, was a time of reflection and growth in the grade

while they worked through the 'Change of Heart' theme. Some of the best parts of the week included the soup kitchen, meeting Dr Mamphela Ramphele, learning about empathy and putting it into practise during the various outings organised.

The Dads' and Daughters' Dinner was a special time for the girls to say thank you to their fathers or special people in their lives, for their guidance and support over the years. The theme was 'Hollywood' and the girls and dads dressed up for the occasion where they listened to talented performers, danced to 80s music and ate some wonderful food.

Exchange is always a highlight of the year. The girls excitedly await their foreign exchange partners and quickly form long and lasting friendships. Herschel girls found themselves tourists in their own country, as they showed their exchange partners around, and eagerly jetted off across the world to experience new adventures soon after.

This year I have been the Grade 10 prefect and it has been a privilege for me to get to know the grade. They have taught me a lot and are a remarkable group, filled with so much potential, talent and determination. My wish for them is that they will realise these qualities, use them to their full potential and become successful women in the future. ■







## GRADE 9



### GRADE 9 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** J Lanfear, Miss M van Zyl, C Louw, Ms B Parker, S Ingram, Miss M Shaw, E Richardson

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Saban, D Moore, K Steyn, E Low, A Lorenz, K Rice, E Roos, B Moxley, K Hofmeyr, Z Khan, N Ebrahim **BACK ROW:** S Dyason, A Piotrowski, K da Luz, L Moolla, T Lillie, L Mulaudzi, I Hardie, E Munroe, T Ddamulira, N Hickman, E Johnston



### GRADE 9 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** H Fleming, Miss C Brown, I Michau, Miss B Parker, J Wright, Mr J Gouws, G Edwards

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Adams, M Khan, H Comitis, C Melville, I Khaki, S Jaffa, S Oschmann, A de Decker, C Brooks, S Jenkins, M Kalassa **BACK ROW:** S Ebell, J Parton, A Affleck, J Austin, G Alpert, M Manthorp, H Schuhbauer, J Joubert, G du Plessis, S Petousis, G Earl





#### GRADE 9 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** S Rabie, Ms M Barlow, A Collins, Miss B Parker, Z Booth, Mrs H Oelofse, H Dennis

**MIDDLE ROW:** Z Zalganikir, A Gennison, I Kuttel, D Hollingum, N Elliott, C Oaker, K Noordien, A Malik, N Moolla, Z Zoutenberg, J Bennie, A Mngxekeza **BACK ROW:** C Koch, C Borain, F Harris, J Wickens, J Shé, T Hatherill, K Meyer, L Blyth, S Brown, E Ford, J Bleekers



#### GRADE 9 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** A Goff, Mrs T Steyn, I Sutherland, Miss B Parker, A Green, Mrs T Venter, A Simoni

**MIDDLE ROW:** N Mandindi, Z van der Vent, C Zimmermann, S Ahmed, C Tennis, A Thompson, M Collings, A Welham, B Johnson, N Mohamed, J Cooper, A Roshan, K Brookes **BACK ROW:** N Skinner, A Faure, C Glynn-Dicks, S Ebrahim, M Verspieren, S Truswell, S Erasmus, N Ebrahim, C Wigston, C Schippers





**THE** Grade 9 year is characterised by 'transformation' - personally and as a group. As the year progresses, so the Grade 9 group develops their talents and embarks on a road of self-discovery. They are an enthusiastic group of young women who are adaptable, diligent and fun. The highlight of the year

is always the Grade 9 camp which, this year, was held at Buffalo Drift, just outside the town of Gouda and on the banks of the Klein Berg River.

The 'Inspired Collective Programme' is focused around leadership development, trust building, motivation, encouragement and, above all, team work. The objective of the camp is to work with the girls in

an environment away from school, where they can thrive and, through the various activities, develop their leadership style and potential.

The camp co-ordinators, Bootcamp SA, were our hosts and, once again, delivered a varied and exciting programme. The day comprised of individual and team exercises ably run by the Bootcamp staff. Down time was spent playing games like frizbee, touch rugby and canoeing on the nearby river. We encouraged the girls to resist the temptation of social media and to absorb and appreciate the two days in nature surrounded by flowing water and special sunrises and sunsets.

As always, the girls were absolute role models and treated the environment and the facilities at Buffalo Drift with the utmost respect. The Bootcamp staff were blown

IT IS, HOWEVER, THE **BALANCE** THAT THE GIRLS HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR BETWEEN WORK AND PLAY THAT I HAVE **BEEN MOST PROUD OF.**



away by the confidence, friendliness and enthusiasm of the girls, not to mention their incredible voices. The evenings around the camp fire were a treat as the girls spontaneously sang.

Academically, Grade 9 is an extremely busy year. They have a vast array of subjects each with their own assessment criteria. Added to their academic programme, there is the completion of the Science EXPO project which is a wonderful opportunity for our girls to hone their research methodology.

There is little doubt that our girls are extremely busy individuals and this they couple with sport and other extramural commitments. Their involvement in Eisteddfod, the MADD evening and the House Plays is nothing short of remarkable.

It is, however, the balance that the girls have achieved this year between work and play that I have been most proud of. In a society which is driven by competitiveness and stress, these girls have managed to find that critical balance. As a result, the year has been fairly stress-free apart from the critical examination periods which are unanimously unpopular.

Paula Sellmeyer, our school counsellor, has spent a great deal of time this year developing programmes which deal with enhancing the Grade 9s EQ as well as delivering workshops around forming good relationships with people. These workshops have been popular and the girls have been responsive.

Amirah Chikte, the Grade 9 Prefect, has done a superb job of creating a strong bond across the grade. Her gentle nature, yet firm approach has endeared her to the Grade 9s who have appreciated her efforts in organising fun, grade events. Amirah has also been personally invested in the well-being of each and every girl and for her tireless efforts, I thank her.

As the year draws to a close, the Grade 9s are having to make subject choices for Grade 10. They were invited to a very informative evening where the process was explained and very careful guidance given as to how to approach the process of subject selection for Grade 10.

As Grade Head, it has been a pleasure to deal with such a spirited and cohesive group of girls this year. In addition, the Grade 9s have had an incredible team of tutors to guide them through the year. I wish to thank them, in particular, for their role as tutors and for shepherding the flock through 2015. ■





## GRADE 8



### GRADE 8 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** J Tate, T Tsinonis, Ms H Basson, L Plaatjies, F Guy, Mrs N Hughes, K Wilkinson, H Ismail  
**MIDDLE ROW:** D Schultz, G Schmiedeke, S Im, D Prout-Jones, A Rose, Mrs R Scott, C Moyle, E Judge, V Robertson, M Stewart  
**BACK ROW:** M Stanley, B Massey, M Tshivhase, S Longworth, L Maslin, C Vine, I McKay, J Lander, E Romano, G Gibbs, S Williams



### GRADE 8 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** A Ebrahim, A Angeliniadis, Ms R Klassen, G Angeliniadis, A Cader, Mrs T Thomson, M Goolam-Mahomed, A Hendricks  
**MIDDLE ROW:** S Hudson, S Lawrenson, L Ebell, M Gopal, G. Koury, Mrs R Scott, T Hutcheson, B Pistorius, A Matiso, E Hayes, H Hennessy  
**BACK ROW:** A Palframan, I Pargiter, B Passmore, J Beare, C Joubert, J Neethling, Z Desai, N Hablutzel, G Cotchobos, T Pema



#### GRADE 8 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** C Dicker, Mrs T Harding, E Norton, Mrs R Scott, B Waner, Mrs J Colly, T Hurling

**MIDDLE ROW:** S O'Shea, Z Erasmus, A Mangxola, S Mukhopadhyay, J Cunnington, M Williams, H Glanvill, S Andrews, A Mnyamana, O Strauss, L Kingston, L Schlebusch **BACK ROW:** K Wood, K Johnstone, N Owen-Jones, A Grieve, C Slabber, K Fisher, P Elliott, K Levett, K Wallace, I Wright, J Morris



#### GRADE 8 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** A Chagan, Mrs C Lacerda, R Dawson, Mrs R Scott, S Matthews, Mrs N Barendse, K Vlok

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Goodwin, A Falconer, O Masekela, R de Kock, C Ferrerira, J Hickey, G Bulmer, C Julie, C Ewan, T Geyer, P Dube **BACK ROW:** C Hudson, L Chesterton, K Charles, L du Preez, A Benjamin, T Vuiff, A Townsend, A Charles, K Pruim, J Brown, G Bolligello







I took a deep breath and stepped across the Herschel threshold at the beginning of this year, with my roots still sunk deep into junior school and nervous to make new friends. I hesitantly made my way into the dense pack of girls that were this year's Grade Eights. We all stood quivering anxiously like seeds newly sown into the Herschel garden, feeling as if we were blindly breaking the surface and entering a whole new world where everyone knew everyone and more importantly, everyone knew where everything was.

With the help of my mentor, Tutor teacher and Grade Head, I found myself finding the light slightly more often and settled into my new surroundings quickly. So many new faces was a breath of fresh air for me and my year has been filled with rays of sunshine like at camp, where I completed a long list of thrilling activities, such as raft building, swimming in waterfalls, photo shoots, zip-lining and even dance-offs, through which I got to bond and build memories with new people.

The first ever Interhouse dance competition, the Interhouse singing competitions, the Herschel Eisteddfod, as well as the numerous sport derby days were other definite highlights. I am still awed by the girls' support and appreciation of each other's talents. Our teachers have sprinkled us with drops of wisdom and love throughout the year. This has helped us develop both in our work and play and we are extremely grateful for this. Even though I was terrified by the older girls that loomed

# Grade 8

BY JEMMA MORRIS

over me, as well as the daunting prospect and highly likely possibility of making a mistake, I learned that we can all learn and grow together and I have made some new friends that I never would have, had I not extended my confidence boundary and taken a little leap.

This year the Grade 8s have really branched out into Herschel's wide variety of opportunities and although we have had a few patches of dirt thrown our way, our stems have hardened a little and we have all become a close pack of buds who have opened up into beautiful, fresh new flowers, all facing the sun, ready to grow and learn together. ■

I LEARNED THAT WE  
CAN ALL LEARN AND  
**GROW TOGETHER**  
AND I HAVE MADE  
SOME **NEW FRIENDS**  
THAT I NEVER  
WOULD HAVE







# ARDERNE HOUSE

BY ZOË GERRYTS, HEAD OF HOUSE



**AT** the end of last year we said farewell to the Matrics with our traditional Christmas dinner on the Matric lawn - as opposed to an outing to a restaurant- which made it more sentimental and intimate. Thanks to the maintenance and kitchen staff and the current Matrics, we managed to organise one of the most festive dinners. We were all very sad to say goodbye to our first stooge, Ms Louw, but eagerly welcomed Ms Shaw, whose enthusiasm and kind nature immediately allowed us to accept her into the Arderne family.

In the afternoons the house is full of girls, drifting in and out, between sporting, academic, cultural and social activities, only stopping for the occasional chat with Mrs Cornish and Ms Shaw and the matrics of course who can always find time to procrastinate in the 'sit'. Many exciting things have taken place this year, such as early morning fitness on the field, outings to the cinema and restaurants, theme nights in the dining room with cuisine from all over the world, Wednesday morning breakfasts with Mr West and family braais to kick-start a new term.

This year could not have been possible without the support and effort that certain people have put in to ensure that the boarding house runs smoothly. A big thank you goes to Ms Dina Malouw and Ms Lenet Jacobs who always keep our home-away-from-home sparkling and clean, greeting us with big smiles each break. A special mention goes to Ms Shaw for keeping us on our toes and becoming that big sister we can all go to during stressful times; she is understanding and patient and her cheerfulness always rubs off on us. Lastly, I would like to thank Ms Cornish, our weekly mother who has never failed to support and encourage the boarders and tries to shape us into model citizens who can make her proud. I have appreciated every bit of guidance and have thoroughly enjoyed having her as a mentor during my term of leadership.

To my fellow boarders: this has been a year filled with new additions to our family, goodbyes and endless moments of laughter. I would like to thank you for supporting the matrics and always brightening up our stressful year. I believe that we have achieved our ice-breaking moment between the different grades and formed that special, sisterly bond that is irreplaceable and very rare.

I wish Arderne House and its leaders all the best for the next year and I will be sure to visit in the near future. I would like to end off with a quote which I think represents our Arderne family:

"Like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one". ■



## ARDERNE HOUSE

**FRONT ROW:** A Chigwida, C Cox, V Soga, Mrs G Cornish, Z Gerryts, Miss M Shaw, C Charlton, J Kruger, K Kotze **SECOND ROW:** Ms L Jacobs, E da Costa, T Buis, A Ngwendu, J She, A Mnyamana, P Dube, K Schwartz, Ms D Malouw  
**THIRD ROW:** K Wood, L Bavuma, O Wallace, G Gibbs, A Hendricks, R Moliea, M Gerryts, A Matiso **BACK ROW:** P Makgoba, C Joubert, S Truswell, I Michau, E Wilmans, A Simoni, J Joubert, M Tshivhase





Sport





The 2015 Hockey season has certainly been one to remember. It's been jam-packed with tours, early Saturday morning matches, tournaments, late night practices and plenty of spirit. The first team started the season early in March to get ready for our famous St Mary's Festival in Johannesburg. St Mary's is the most prestigious girls' school hockey tournament in the country, and hosts 32 schools for 5 days. St Mary's was the perfect way for us to prepare for the tough season ahead and for the team to bond even more than we already had. We ended in 6th place, after coming 2nd in our pool to the tournament winners, Meisieskool Oranje, and narrowly losing in our playoffs. Nevertheless, we walked away from that tournament feeling privileged to have been a part of such a

reputable and well-organised event. We were all very thankful to our dedicated coach, Ms Cindy Brown, to our surrogate mother, Mrs Botha, and to our host of parents and Mr West who followed us up to Johannesburg to support us.

The rest of the season continued and proved to be a resounding success. Western Province trials were already well underway by April, and in June, Herschel had 12 Western Province representatives between the U18 and U16 teams jetting off to play in their Inter-Provincial Tournaments in Pretoria and Stellenbosch respectively. We also had 8 U14 representatives in the South Zonal team, reinforcing the fact that Herschel's hockey future is teeming with potential. The U18As won gold in their tournament with 3 Herschel girls in their

side. At the end of the tournaments our Ammaarah Hendricks was selected for the U16 South African Squad and Georgie Grobler was selected for the U18A South African team.

At the beginning of Term 3, the U16As, 1st and 2nd teams, as well as several netball teams, boarded a bus for the 14-hour drive to Grahamstown, to play Collegiate, Kingswood College and DSG. We had an incredibly fun-filled tour that allowed us to make friends with girls from all hockey and netball teams.

Twelve schools competed in our Grand Challenge league, with Herschel beating every one of these teams, barring one. We ended top of our league, with a goal difference of 49, beating our runners-up by 2 points and 15 goals. This was strengthened by the incredibly mature hockey that was demonstrated by the U16s and U14s, allowing the U14As and U16As to win their leagues too.

The Interschools' tournament, played against Springfield, Rustenburg, Wynberg and St Cyprians, rounded off the season for all our teams. The U14s narrowly came second, the U16s won gold in their section and the First team came second.

The highlight of the hockey season, however, had to be the famed Herschel Springfield match. After weeks of build-up through the Herschfield Challenges, the school was ready to compete with Springfield, not only in hockey, but in spirit too. Standing on the astroturf, watching 300 girls from each school masked in pink and blue paint, waving balloons and ribbons and cheering their hearts out is something I definitely will never forget. Our team, although nervous, played like champions and we ended the game with a 2-0 win with those 300 girls rushing onto the field to hug us and sing our school song. It was a night of healthy competitiveness, extreme school spirit and enormous school pride. We hosted a social with the Springfield team after the match, and although we all love winning, the camaraderie and energy we felt with the team was worth more than the match itself.

So, on a final note, a big thank you to our coach, Ms Cindy Brown, who has put a huge amount of effort into our team, and whose passion and love for the game is certainly evident on the side of the field. This season, and this team, has been extraordinary. Every girl has contributed to its success, and the ethos that permeates our team, is special and certainly unforgettable. ■



#### HOCKEY FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** J Jeffery, C Smith, K Pienaar (**Captain**), Ms C Brown (**Coach**), C Barbour (**Vice Captain**), A Steytler, C Walters **BACK ROW:** A Scott, A Glaum, N du Plessis, S Franco, A Midgley, C Golding, G Grobler, E Morley



BY KIRSTEN PIENAAR, CAPTAIN

## INDOOR HOCKEY

**W**e had an incredibly successful indoor hockey season this year. Although it was short, with only one term of matches, it was certainly worthwhile and whipped us into shape for our big, field hockey season!

We had 9 full teams this year with about 70 girls participating for the season. Every team did unbelievably well. Barring 3 matches in the whole season, every team won every game, from the 1sts to the 9ths - an outstanding performance. Every team played consistently well and each player's strength grew significantly from the start of the season. With the high level of hockey being played by our new Grade 8 teams, it looks like Herschel has a bright future in hockey.

Our first team was incredibly strong this year, with a number of Grade 11 and 12 players, who have had 3 to 4 years of experience, playing in the first team. We therefore had a very closely-knit team, which made the season that much better. There were a few challenging games, but all in all we crushed our league opponents, finishing unbeaten, with no draws and a clean sheet of wins. We scored 38 goals in the 7 league games we played.

Our interschool's tournament was hosted by Herschel in our sports centre in March, where we came up against Wynberg, St Cyprians, Rustenburg and Springfield. It was a great day of solid hockey, with our team dominating and taking first place.

The girls played stupendous hockey and

thanks must go to our dedicated 1st Team coach, Mr Scott, as well as Ms Brown and Mr Merckel. They always managed to make practices exciting, which was apparent by the laughter that was always heard coming from the sports centre, as well as Mr Scott's consistent attempts at taking on the first squad - only to come out with another torn ligament!

There was a great spirit amongst the indoor teams, as many of the stands remained full of supporters, even until the late 8pm games. May the girls keep thriving, may the excitement grow, and may the H Factor continue to dominate! ■



### INDOOR HOCKEY FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** C Barbour, K Pienaar, Mr A Scott, C Walters, E Morley

**BACK ROW:** G Grobler, A Steytler, C Golding





# Swimming

BY MICHAELA VAN NIEKERK, CAPTAIN

The swimming season of 2015 began with a splash! From the first of the weekly Thursday galas to the final PGSGU Inter-schools gala, the swimming team carried the Herschel name high, with spirit, enthusiasm and great races!

Old Herschelian, Caitlin van Niekerk, took over as head coach for 2015. As an ex-Herschel girl who was the Captain of Swimming in 2013, she was extremely capable and took us under her wing. Her passion and energy inspired our team to reach new goals: from attempted land training in the cold mornings (let it be said that swimmers should probably stick to water sports) to many lengths and laughs, she really put our team to work.

The energy, hard work and dedication of each team member paid off with us having an incredibly successful season. At the annual, Newlands, A-League 'Boy-Girl' gala, Herschel secured third place, narrowly missing out to Rustenburg in second place, with reigning champions, Rhenish, winning once again. On this note, I would like to thank all the girls who came out to support our team at this event. In my entire Herschel career I have never seen such a big crowd of screaming Herschel girls on the stands and, on behalf of my team, I would like to say that their H-Factor was loud, proud and greatly appreciated. Another whole-hearted thank you must go to Mrs Botha for organising the entire event. From having to move the gala earlier to avoid load-shedding, to organising tickets while away on another

sports tour, she managed to run a huge event - seemingly effortlessly!

At the PGSGU Inter-school gala, the last of the season, the team clinched second place, a mere 10 points behind Rustenburg, to end the swimming season of 2015 off on a high note.

Congratulations must also go to Ammaarah Abrahams who swam for South Africa in the CANA Zone IV Championships held at the beginning of May in Luanda, Angola, this year. She won gold in the 50m and 200m breaststroke

and silver in the 100m breaststroke. Well done Ammaarah!

I am so proud of my team and what we managed to achieve this year. Thank you to each and every one for the commitment and liveliness that you brought to each practice and gala. I hope that swimming continues at Herschel with this much passion in future years and I know that I can count on my team to do just that! Keep the Herschel name up high girls and show everybody exactly what it means to have the H-factor! ■



## SWIMMING TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** L Chesterton, K Steyn, M van Niekerk, C van Niekerk (**coach**), G Elliott, D Prout-Jones, D Schultz **SECOND ROW:** H Ismail, B Gray, A Bayly, B Passmore, A Collins, F Guy, E Judge, A Abrahams, S Im **BACK ROW:** O Wallace, P Allen, J Wright, N Alberts, I Hardie, B Pera, P Elliott



The Herschel girls have exhibited tremendous spirit in and out of the pool this year. Their dedication is evident in the long hours spent in the pool – from long before school, sometimes until 9 at night.

The U14s have revealed remarkable potential as they have brought the "H-factor" to each game and tournament. At the Dave Pitcairn tournament, the team played extraordinarily well and played in the finals which they narrowly lost. Again, in the finals of the Waller Cup, their force was one to reckon with as they were ahead most of the game and in the last few minutes lost by one goal against Reddam. We are hugely proud of the U14s and under the wing of their coach, Megan Schooling, they will, without a doubt, continue to display "H-Factor" domination.

The U16s also showed huge potential as they travelled to Port Elizabeth to play in a First Team tournament and gave other first teams a run for their money. Matt Stringer, their coach, has given them the push they needed to improve their water polo dramatically.

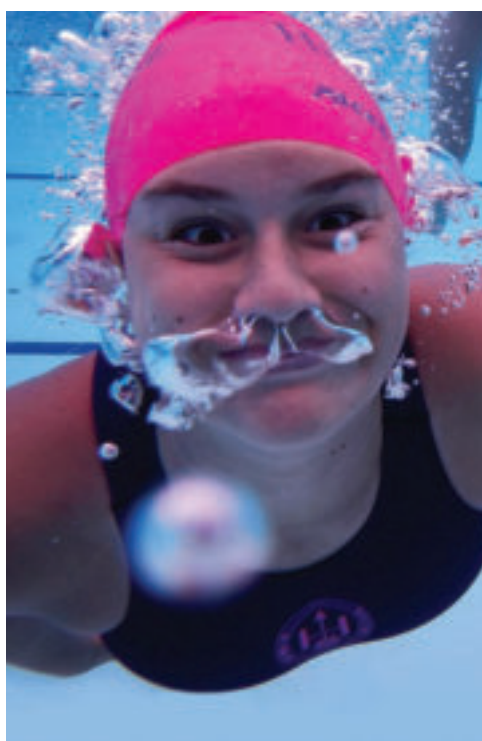
The First Team girls have demonstrated the best qualities of sportsmanship as we have learnt how to manage defeat and celebrate winning. Megan Schooling, coach of the First Team, guides and motivates the girls constantly. In such a competitive sport we had some big matches and tournaments, the biggest tournament being St Peter's, where the top water polo schools battle it out to see which school is best in the country. Herschel had a very tough pool but



throughout their games they gave it their best and gave the Reddam First Team, who won the tournament, a run for their money.

A huge thank you must go to all the coaches for dedicating their time to guiding and teaching all the girls. The water polo girls look up to their coaches who have been exposed to the highest level of water polo and teach us all their tricks and skills.

Being part of such a big team and being a leader has been so rewarding: not only has it increased my passion for water polo but it has created bonds with girls of all age groups who feel the passion for water polo. Sports don't just keep you fit and strong, they teach you so many valuable life skills. Water polo will be one of my greatest memories of Herschel that I will cherish every time I play the sport in the future. ■



#### WATERPOLO FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** C Lategan, G Elliott, L Nixon, J Kruger, S Malherbe

**BACK ROW:** T Revell, P Allen, T Rubin, N Haller, C Charles, M Planting, A Bayly



**I**n recent years, Herschel basketball has become one of the school's most popular summer sports. This has helped to elevate our performance. This is partly due to the enthusiasm of all the girls wanting to learn more and improve their skills on the court but mostly, thanks to the commitment, expertise and professional way in which our head coach, Mrs Bev Ashworth, has dedicated herself to taking basketball to a new level at Herschel. This past season has been one filled with some excellent results, achieved through teamwork, disciplined practices and respect for our peers. Our teams have shown tremendous spirit, both on and off the court, and many new friendships have been made.

The U16A and first team had the privilege of being invited and travelling to Johannesburg to take part in the prestigious annual tournament, hosted by the International School of Johannesburg. The competition at this tournament was extremely tough and our teams were faced with many challenges, one of them being the change in altitude. Opposition was strong, especially against teams from Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo and Michael Mount, but the commitment, teamwork and determination of the girls, resulted in both teams reaching semi-finals and ultimately, coming 3rd. More importantly, this invaluable experience gained from a tough pre-season tournament, improved our skills and ability as a team, which played a big part in the success we went on to enjoy in our league matches.

The first team and U16A beat both the WCSS and Phakama for the first time in

the league clashes, demonstrating our improvement over the past three years. The U14As enjoyed easy wins over all their league opponents, a sign of a bright future for basketball in the coming years. Our teams showed quality performances against all the local schools and qualified for the Top Schools Final in the U14, U16 and U19 division. The U14 and U19 teams won the league and the U16 team came second to a very well drilled team from Heideveld High School. Individual awards were presented to Chelsea Smith (U18)

and Lucca du Preez (U14) – Most Valuable Player of the Western Province Top Schools League.

In May, some of our girls took part in the CTBA trials for the National U16 and U18 Championships taking place in September 2015. Nikki Lin and Courtney Smith (both U16) and Jess Gleeson (U18) were selected for the teams in their age categories.

The 2014/2015 first team has been a work in progress over 3 years. We have learnt many skills, both on and off the court and, in particular, about the bench part of sport being just as important as the team members in the game. With many first team players being Grade Twelves, there will be an opportunity for new girls to attend first team trials and be a part of this exciting and wonderful sport. There have been over 130 players playing in six teams this past season and a big thank you must go to all the coaches for the time, effort and expertise in training the teams. Thank you to Mrs Botha for all her co-ordination and work behind the scenes and to our referee, Sizwe Kweyama, for keeping order on the court! A very special thank you to Bev Ashworth for all that she has done to develop basketball at Herschel and instilling discipline, fun and a love of the game. ■



## BASKETBALL

**FRONT ROW:** C Lin, J Joubert (table official), C Smith (captain), Mrs B Ashworth (coach), D Comitis (vice captain), J Jeffery, G Leong **BACK ROW:** H Oelz, J Gleeson, J Gleeson, A Panieri, A Dlova, J Ashworth **ABSENT:** A Chung

# BASKETBALL

BY CHELSEA SMITH, CAPTAIN





# Netball

BY JEMMA JEFFERY, CAPTAIN



**THE** netball season this year has been an incredible one. All teams have played exceptionally well with the help of the most enthusiastic and committed coaches: U19s Nzeka Biyela; U16s Igshaan Galant and the U14s Atandile Mafanya.

The First Team have been a wonder this year: there is so much diversity in one team. However, the strength is carried through each team member. The beginning of the season was a struggle but we managed to work together after we lost our first three league games and ended up winning the rest. Along with the U16s, the First Team headed off to

Grahamstown to join the hockey girls on the annual DSG tour in July. The level of spirit and playing was outstanding and, despite both teams losing their first games, they carried on fighting to win their second games. They showed their determination and energy when the U16s lost narrowly by one point against DSG and the First Team went out to show DSG, with the help of the hockey girls cheering, that they can in fact beat them after losing in previous years. The tour was an exciting few days where the teams grew together and developed a bond that helped them through the second half of the season. They even managed to turn hockey lovers into netball lovers with their fast-paced, skilled and enthralling games.

All teams went out at PGSGU Interschools to show their strength and resilience. The U14s had a tough, tight tournament where they played their hearts out, narrowly losing to Rustenburg, coming second. The U16s played incredibly, coming first and beating their rivals, Saint Cyprians. The First Team claimed the trophy after beating every single team there and altogether Herschel won the Cup for the most goals scored across all age groups.

None of this would be possible without our cheerleaders and coaches on the side, especially Mrs Botha who constantly had advice for us and never gave up on our abilities. We appreciate your endless support, Mrs Botha! Well done to Katja da Luz, Rufaro Ndhuni and Rebecca de Kock for making Western Province Netball. ■



## NETBALL FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** A Parks, D Comitis, J Jeffery, N Haller, H Acton

**BACK ROW:** E Morley, A Dlova, R Ritchie-Roux, P Allen, R Ndhuni





BY STEPHANIE ARON, CAPTAIN

# Squash

**S**quash, although one of the smaller, lesser known sports that Herschel has to offer, is arguably one of the most fun. Due to our small size, the squash group has become more of a family than a team. The first and second team "family" is headed by our coach, Kim Commins, who puts up with our relentless giggles and still, despite everything, manages to get us to do fitness. The third team is managed by Ms Scarola, whose enthusiasm for the game inspires all her girls to work hard but most

of all, enjoy the game.

Squash generally occurs quietly under the radar, with matches being played on Friday afternoons and practices happening on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. I want to encourage all girls to consider squash as a sport: matches are short, the games are packed with fitness and most of all, you will make lasting friends out of your teammates.

This season has been a tough season for our girls, but we did have some notable wins. Our first team plays in the boys league, and beat Herzlia 14-0 and Wynberg Boys High School 10-7. The second team beat Springfield 14-0 and our third team beat Rustenburg with a convincing 13-3 victory. Special mention must be made of Isabella Wright who is arguably one of the most dedicated members of the team as she is not afraid to slide across the court in order to save a shot.

Highlights of the season were the squash dinner, where many amusing squash stories were discussed, and the nail biting first team match against Rondebosch where we narrowly lost 7-10 (in squash, the winning team gets 2 extra points, so we only technically lost by one game 7-8).

I would like to thank our coaches for their continued passion for the sport and for encouraging all of us to reach our potential and I would like to say a huge thank you to the girls for their commitment to the sport and for displaying such good sportsmanship. ■



**SQUASH FIRST TEAM**

S Aron, J Gleeson, L Graham, I Wright

The 2015 season of tennis at Herschel was a season where we enjoyed many successes and had a lot of fun along the way. The girls put in consistent hours of practice, which certainly showed in the incredible results achieved. Our not always welcome, early morning, training sessions, run by our dedicated coach, Miss Brown, were worth rising for as our dreaded alarm clocks went off at 05h30, only once the trophies started to materialise. These sessions consisted of fun-filled practice matches and drills, that prepared us for our Friday, league games.

Earlier this year, our top 7 players, along with Mr Scott, departed for DSG in Grahamstown, to take part in the Independent Schools Tennis Festival. We came second in our pool, narrowly losing to St Anne's and therefore playing Springfield for 3rd and 4th place. The girls played incredibly well and we secured 3rd place quite convincingly. The tour was a great way for our players to bond with one another and to meet new girls from other schools around South Africa. For some of us, it was a reunion from previous years.

With our team on a high after a very successful tournament, we went into our next challenge with the goal of coming home with the trophy. The PGSGU Inter-schools Tennis Tournament ran over a Saturday morning and was split into the senior and junior category. Our senior team consisted of Kirsty Orton, Chelsea Smith, Jessica Wilson, Courtney Smith, Candice Borain and Jo Blanckensee and our junior team consisted of Courtney Wigston, Emma Hayes, Charlotte Slabber and Kate Levitt. With 4 out of our 5 doubles pairs winning their sections, we ended up



BY CHELSEA SMITH, CAPTAIN

# tennis

winning both the junior and the senior section and took home the trophies.

As a result of winning all of the league matches this season, the first team went through to the play-offs where we had to play against the top side from the northern suburbs, Stellenberg High School. After a long afternoon of intense matches, Herschel came out on top and we finished our successful season of tennis on a high.

Congratulations must go to our number one player, Kirsty Orton. Earlier this year, Kirsty was selected to represent WP U19A at the age of 15! As a part of this team, Kirsty was fortunate enough to represent WP in April at the Inter-Provincial Tournament held in Pretoria.

Thank you to all those tennis players who committed themselves this past season and, therefore, contributed to the fun we had playing this fantastic sport, and to the successes we enjoyed in 2015. I hope you all continue to play this amazing game and make many friendships on the side of the tennis court during your time at Herschel. A big thank you to Mrs Botha for all her work and co-ordination behind the scenes and to Miss Brown for her time and effort on the court and at the matches. ■



## TENNIS FIRST TEAM

FRONT ROW: C Smith, Ms C Brown, J Wilson

BACK ROW: C Smith, K Orton



# CROSS Country

BY NICOLA WILLS, CAPTAIN

Looking back on the 2015 cross country season, it really has been a fun-filled and successful one. So many girls of different abilities have been involved in the Tuesday afternoon training sessions, with Mrs Harding and Mrs Sellmeyer. Everyone seemed to find a group suiting their capabilities, and left the practices with smiles on their faces. Girls of all grades got involved and it was wonderful to see the pleasure that sport could bring to these girls.

We have also had an enthusiastic group of girls who participated in the league races every Wednesday afternoon. Not everybody placed in the top ten every week, but that was never our intention as a team. Instead we all have fun running and supporting each other. The bus rides to and from the races were a time of real enjoyment where everyone was able to chat and get to know girls from other grades. I can honestly say that it has been an absolute pleasure to run with the cross country girls this year, and that there have been many memories from many a race and practice session that I will never forget. Running memories have often been the fondest times at high school, and so I urge more girls to join in with cross country



in the years to come. It is not about being competitive, but simply about having fun!

Ms Rousseau and Mr Cengani have been our personal cheerleaders through all weather conditions, and it has been their support, and the girls' hard work, which has led Herschel to its PGSGU interschools cross country victory for the sixteenth consecutive year. Two girls managed to make the Western Province team in their respective age groups, so a very well done to Hayley Preen in U17 and Amy Goodwin in U14. I would also like to congratulate all the girls who made it past zonals and to the Western Province trials, which took place on a particularly wet and windy day.

I think that I can safely say that the 2015 cross country season has been one of enjoyment and accomplishment for all who got involved in any small way. ■







Preparatory





# PREPARATORY School

BY MRS BELINDA HEIDMANN, HEAD OF PREPARATORY

I believe that when Nelson Mandela said: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," he was not only speaking to students, parents or politicians, but also to the stakeholders in the various educational fields, imploring them to ensure that the students in their care are effectively prepared to ensure a future generation of competent leaders.

Strategist, Henry Doss, in an article for Forbes Magazine, says: "Educating students to become innovative leaders is not yet a science, and is inherently a messy enterprise. It is not likely to occur in the safe, predictable, ordered and linear world we tend to put students in. In a sense all of this can be summarised as the need to teach students to dare, to experiment and to fail with joy." With this in mind, it falls upon us to ensure that our girls are suitably equipped to meet the challenges of the future in an optimistic and confident manner.

Doss tells students to focus on the following five factors when choosing an educational institution for the future: language, leadership, authenticity, breadth and resilience. I believe that simply hoping that these skills will be acquired by our students during the course of their education at the Preparatory School is not responsible; these skills should be explicitly taught from a very young age for the girls to be exceptionally well prepared for the future.

Innovation and creativity, solving big problems and leveraging opportunities demand highly-developed language skills, says Doss. Without powerful language skills, leaders struggle to gather resources, to bring clarity to action and to lead

conversations that cause innovative action.

We have created multiple opportunities for our girls to ensure that they are confident linguists. Our girls, from Pre-Preparatory through to the Senior Phase have engaged in Poetry Eisteddfods, Public Speaking Competitions, Lit Quiz and even a Spelling Bee. The Library has been an exceptionally busy hub of activity where reading is encouraged. Pupils are exposed to print media and technology on a daily basis and literacy has been a focal point for the entire year. We believe so strongly in the acquisition of Language and Reading skills, that our Parents

## EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Association made the decision to create a library in an economically challenged school whose Head's dream it was to have a Library for his students. We have re-created our own traditional Library into a Knowledge Centre, in preparation for a change in teaching style for 2016. The new design and layout has allowed for specific places to be created for high levels of collaboration as well as individual reflection and introspection and the use of traditional reading materials and technology can be utilised in tandem.

Doss also focuses on learning about one's self. As a Preparatory School we made the decision to focus on self-awareness as our theme. If a child is able to accept themselves for who they are and

are taught how to care about others in an empathetic and authentic manner, I believe that they will be able to adapt and change where necessary, growing and developing personally and seeking to focus on being of service to the wider community.

We did this by selecting CARE as our theme for the year. The 'C' is for connections they will make with the broader community, peers, staff and family. The 'A' is for attitude. I explained to the girls that we have control over the attitude that we choose to take in relation to each action and reaction in life. The 'R' is for respect and responsibility. I spoke about the meaning of respect and the fact that it is vital for it to be a part of our school, making each girl feel that she belongs and is safe. In order to be respectful we need to be responsible and accountable for our actions and behaviour. Finally, the 'E' is for empathy - one of the hardest skills to master, as it requires us to imagine how others feel in particular circumstances. It allows us to be non-judgemental and equips us to be supportive and caring of those that we meet, engage with and with whom we form relationships. Via our newsletter we encouraged parents to work with us in teaching the girls to be compassionate and empathetic young women who make an effort to engage positively within the community and adopt a positive, pro-active attitude towards all that they do.

We extended the theme to our Grade 7 Leadership Programme, teaching our girls how to be innovative, intuitive and creative leaders. We encouraged problem-solving and explained that "successful failure" is critical to success in the future. We encouraged the girls to take risks and

provided them with four very different portfolios in which they were able to learn a variety of skills and work with different staff throughout the year. Collaboration was key to each portfolio, as was service to the school and broader community. Our counsellor ran an effective mediation programme, which encouraged girls to focus on effective listening and conflict resolution skills, as well as resilience.

The girls have had the most wonderful opportunities to participate in a host of sporting, cultural and academic activities. The joy is seeing them giving their all in each sphere. Building relationships, growing personally and developing skills such as adaptability, problem-solving, leadership, commitment, dedication, perseverance, determination, awe, tolerance, respect and sportsmanship. Their positive energy and innate ability to have fun and find joy are what makes education such a worthwhile career choice.

The CARE theme included responsibility towards creating a sustainable environment. As an Eco School, it is vital that the girls are engaged in authentic, meaningful environmental projects throughout the year. Our focus this year has been on Healthy Living and we have successfully run workshops and activities for girls, staff and parents. A project that the girls thoroughly enjoyed was the Interschool Rhino Sculpture Challenge. In the three weeks it took to create our rhino, it was wonderful to see the collaboration between Senior and Preparatory girls, academic and technical staff and parents.

I believe that due to the phenomenal collaboration between the Herschel Council, parents and the School, we are on a positive journey together, ensuring that we prepare our girls adequately for the future. The grounds and maintenance teams are fantastic and I thank them for the pride they take in our grounds. The administrative staff work tirelessly to ensure good relations between parents, staff and prospective parents. The committed and exceptional academic team empower the girls by encouraging them to strive for excellence, work out of their comfort zones and break through traditional boundaries and expectations. Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." My hope for Herschel is that the trail we leave, is one that others will follow.

**AD DEI GLORIAM**

# PREP Staff 2015

## ■ HEAD OF PREPARATORY ■

**Mrs B Heidmann**, HDE (CTCE)

## ■ DEPUTY HEAD OF PREPARATORY ■

**Mrs L Martin**, TTHD (JCE)

## ■ HEAD OF DEPARTMENT INTERMEDIATE / SENIOR PHASE ■

**Mrs A Baikoff**, B Prim Ed (UCT), BEd (UNISA)

## ■ INTERMEDIATE / SENIOR PREPARATORY STAFF ■

**Mrs G Barrett**, BA (HDE)

**Ms P Beeton**, BA (Natal), BEd (UCT), DSE, H Dip Bibl (UNISA)

**Mrs C Billett**, BSocSci PPE (UCT) and PGCE (UNISA)

**Mrs S Bräsler**, BMus Ed (UFS) BMus Hons (UCT), LTCL

**Mrs S Centurier-Harris**, BEd (CTCE) ACE Special needs (UNISA)

**Ms L Cowie**, HDE (ECE), Dip. Ed Management (RAU)

**Mrs I Fisher**, PTD (UCT), HDE (STB)

**Mrs J Goldschmidt**, ICT Teacher and Co-ordinator

**Mrs L Hampton**, PTD (Art)

**Mrs B Julies**, Assistant Teacher, Technology and Library

**Ms L Karsten**, Dip ECD (CCT), BEd (UNISA)

**Mrs M Laubscher**, BSc (US) and HDE (UCT)

**Mrs A Lewis**, B Prim Ed (UCT)

**Mrs C Moritz**, BA (US)

**Mrs A Mozley**, HDE (CTCE)

**Ms M Roebert**, B Home Economics (Ed) HDE (US)

**Ms D Smith**, Leanership

**Mrs S Stein**, BEd Hon (UJ), HDE (UPE)

**Mrs L van der Westhuizen**, BMus Hons (US), MMus (Hogeschool Zuyd), PGCE (UNISA)

**Mrs A van Niekerk**, BEd (RAU)

**Ms P Vundla**, DipEd (Cape Town College), HDE (CTCE)

**Ms J Ward**, BMus Ed (UCT), LRSM

**Ms E Webster**, HDE, PTDIII (GTC), ACE Special Needs (UNISA)

**Mr D Williams**, Learnership

## ■ HEAD OF DEPARTMENT FOUNDATION PHASE ■

**Mrs H J Bailey**, HDE (Paarl)

## ■ FOUNDATION PHASE STAFF ■

**Ms C Harrington**, BSS, (UCT) Hon, PGCE (UNISA)

**Ms H King**, BEd (CPUT)

**Ms T Mazibuko**, DE III, HDE (CPUT)

**Mrs J R Nel**, DE (UPE), Dip Sp Ed (Remedial)(UNISA)

**Mrs K Rutgers**, HDE (CTCE), Rem Ed (RAU)

**Mrs C Zevenster**, BEd (CPUT), Cert. Ed. Man (UNISA)

## ■ HEAD OF DEPARTMENT PRE-PREPARATORY ■

**Mrs J Brock**, NTD (Barkly House), FDE Hons (UP)

## ■ PRE-PREPARATORY STAFF ■

**Mrs C Blencowe**, HDE Pre-Primary (Barkly House) Dip Sp Ed Rem (UNISA)

**Mrs L Codd**, BA (UOVS), HDE Pre-Primary (UOVS), DSBO (US)

**Mrs T Davids**, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

**Mrs T Dicey-Brogan**, BA Hons (UCT), HDE Pre-Primary (CTCE)

**Ms S Gobey**, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

**Mrs V Johannes**, Assistant Teacher, Certificate in ECD

**Ms N Macala**, Assistant Teacher

**Ms A Malefane**, Assistant Teacher, ABET

**Ms M Martin**, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

**Mrs E Odendal**, BA (UWC), HDE Junior Primary

**Mrs L Thomas**, HDE Pre-Primary (Barkly House)

**Mrs C van der Spek**, BSS (UCT) PGCE (UNISA)

## ■ SUPPORT STAFF ■

**Dr A Fourie**, BHons (US), MA (UP), PhD (NWU)

**Mrs R Stakemire**, Dip Ed FP (CTCE), FDE (CTCE), Special Needs (UNISA)

**Mrs L Verster**, DE SP (CTCE), FDE Rem Ed (UNISA)

## ■ ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ■

**Mrs L Gibb**, Receptionist/Secretary

**Mrs C Guercio**, PA to the Head of Preparatory

**Mrs C Levitt**, Pre-Preparatory Secretary

**Mrs B Maho**, HDE (CTCE), Marketing and Admissions Secretary

**Mr R Rhoda**, ICT Network Technician

**Mr M Visagie**, ICT Technician



# PREP STAFF



**FRONT ROW:** Mrs C Levitt, Mrs L Gibb, Mrs B Maho, Mrs C Guercio, Mrs L Martin, Mrs L Heidmann, Mrs J Brock, Mrs H Bailey, Mrs L Boyd, Mrs A Baikoff **SECOND ROW:** Mrs T Davids, Ms K Kula, Mrs E Odendal, Ms A Bossr, Mrs C Blencowe, Mrs T Mazibuko, Mrs K Rutgers, Mrs L Codd, Ms L Cowie, Ms P Beeton, Ms D Smith, Mrs A Malefane **THIRD ROW:** Ms C Harrington, Mrs S Bräsler, Mrs I Fisher, Mrs J Nel, Mrs L Thomas, Mrs P Vundla, Mrs A Lewis, Mrs B Julies, Mrs M Martin, Mrs S Gobey **FOURTH ROW:** Mr M Visagie, Ms E Webster, Mrs J Goldschmidt, Mrs S Centurion-Harris, Mrs C Moritz, Ms J Ward, Ms V Johannes, Mrs A Mozley, Mrs R Stakemire, Mrs T Brogan **BACK ROW:** Mr D Williams, Mrs M Laubscher, Mrs L Verster, Dr A Fourie, Mrs C Billett, Mrs A van Niekerk, Ms H King, Mrs C Zevenster, Ms L Karsten, Mr R Rhoda, Mr E Rogers **ABSENT:** Mrs G Barrett, Mrs N Macala, Mrs L van der Westhuizen

# Adieu



## LYNETTE HAMPTON BY PRISCILLA BEETON

It is with great sadness that Herschel says farewell to Lynette Hampton as she retires. In many ways, in the nine and a half years that she has taught at Herschel, she has transformed Art both as a subject and as an extra-mural activity. She arrived in April 2006 and promptly took up the challenge of creating a workspace where the girls could express themselves creatively and artistically. When she first arrived, her art room was rather cramped and with a too-small store room for the art stocks that she was building up. A generous donation from Brendalyn Stempel enabled a move upstairs to the existing larger art room with its much larger and well organised workspace. This studio-like workspace has beautiful views and as Lynette says, 'perfect ambience'. Lynette began teaching the Grade 4s to 7s but, as her abilities and creativity became apparent, her teaching periods were extended to include also the Grade 1 to 3 classes.

Lynette has the wonderful ability to teach a specific skill or style of painting to her classes, after which they produce amazingly creative and individual works. Her quiet and calm manner and

her creativity and dedication have earned her the respect of all her pupils. Her Extra Art pupils enjoy their afternoons in the creative space of the art room outside the more formal environment of the classroom. Many of them would stay there far longer if they could! The whole school enjoys the once a month assembly when the artists of the month display their 'masterpieces' to the rest of the school. The girls wanted to have their efforts acknowledged in some way, and, typical of Lynette, she thought about and acted on their request and so the tradition of "Artists of the Month" was born. In the beginning there were just two "Artists of the Month" but now there are sixteen or more the artworks of whom, as well as being acknowledged in an assembly, are displayed in the foyer. Many visitors walk through the foyer and can be seen enjoying the paintings on display, absolutely 'wowed' that these artworks have been done by primary school children.

An end-of-year exhibition of art work has become an important event on the annual Herschel calendar, and Lynette always strives to ensure that every girl she teaches, from Grade 1 to 7, has at least one artwork on display. The Christmas projects are worked on throughout the fourth term, and the display of Christmas art at the Carol Service in the Sports Centre are wonderful.

Both the Preparatory and the Senior schools will miss Lynette terribly for the foundational skills and creativity that Lynette engendered so successfully in her young pupils.

## CHLOE VAN DER SPEK BY LARA THOMAS

Mrs van der Spek has had a long association with Herschel, having been a boarder from Grade 1 to 12. She loved being here so much that she returned as a teacher to the Cuddly Kittens Class in 2012 after studying, qualifying and travelling extensively overseas.

She taught in this class for two years, then moved to the Bouncing Bunnies Nursery Class, where she has been for the last two years. In the four years that Chloe has been here, she has become engaged, married her husband Gus and produced her delightful little boy - Jack. Chloe is a highly organised,



extremely neat person, and a very efficient and effective teacher. She has been much loved by the girls she has taught and has been a caring and supportive colleague.

Chloe has long dreamt of opening her own Pre-school and this dream is finally being realised. She will be missed by her colleagues and the girls. We wish her much success in her new venture and future career.



## LIEZL BOYD BY JULIE WARD

With great sadness we bade farewell to Mrs Liezl Boyd at the end of Term 2 this year. As Head of Music at Herschel Preparatory School for nearly ten years, she had become a much loved and inspirational teacher and colleague to us all.

Liezl was fully involved in every aspect of the Music Department, organising everything from eisteddfodau and examinations, from concerts, music workshops and Music Assemblies to the annual Evening of Music. Many hours were put into musical productions over the years, including Grease, The Wiz and Annie. During her time at Herschel, the Junior Choir was started, the Instrumental

Programme was introduced and girls were encouraged to join the MTech programme (learning to compose on the computer).

Liezl was passionate about education and, in particular, music education. In all that she did, Liezl simply 'got on with the job', including the relentless pile of paperwork. She always expected high standards from both the music staff and pupils but, more importantly, encouraged a love for music in all. We will mostly remember her for her love and laughter. She had a huge, warm smile and was always ready to laugh and share many a joke with the staff and girls. The girls loved Liezl: both for her gentle kindness and her great sense of fun.

In so many ways, Liezl gave of her very essence to us. We will miss her, but know that all her contributions to the Music Department at the Prep will continue to be felt in the years ahead. We wish her, her husband Ernie and her two daughters, Rebecca and Mikaela, all of the very best as they step forward into new challenges and opportunities.





## PRISCILLA BEETON

### BY CHRISTINE MORITZ

After nine years of being the dedicated Librarian, Library Resource Teacher, Recycling Activist, Can collection Coordinator and Eco Warrior in general, the time has come for Priscilla to retire.

However, I have a sneaky feeling that, for her, retirement may bring a change of location and faces, but not in tempo or passion! Librarians, and teachers in general for that matter, seem to never 'retire'. Their roles just change, and if anything, they become more valued and treasured than before – just like the Classics. I have no doubt that she will continue to inspire and teach others in some form or another.

Having previously worked in senior schools and adult education, Priscilla often remarked that she was so

appreciative of the fact that the last part of her career was spent at a primary school, and at Herschel in particular, where she would be with young readers who would be embarking on the adventure of reading.

At first she worked with Joyce Goldschmidt in the library. Priscilla is quick to point out that Joyce always set a high standard when it came to 'all things library' – especially when it came to the decoration and celebration of the annual Readathon. When Joyce moved to IT, I was employed as Library Assistant, and became Priscilla's side-kick. We have worked closely for the last six years, and I cannot imagine the Prep Library without her.

Priscilla is passionate not only about teaching, but also her family, her church, the environment and birding. Under her leadership Herschel was awarded the esteemed 'big green flag' in the Eco Schools programme 5 years ago and since then Herschel has attained Platinum Status as well. She can be fully credited with positioning Herschel as a top Eco-School.

Priscilla will be missed by many, not only as a colleague but a friend.



## KHAYA KULA

### BY LORAIN CODD

Khaya Kula started at Herschel Pre-Preparatory in 2002, as a teacher assistant.

She learned quickly and was always efficient and organised. She had the chance to assist and occasionally teach in all three classes and working with different teachers inspired her to start studying to become a

qualified teacher herself. Miss Kula was extremely dedicated and studied part-time through Unisa to obtain her BEd (Foundation Phase) degree.

It was a challenge to work and study at the same time but her perseverance paid off and she graduated in July 2015. Miss Kula's love of children and her ability to interact in a natural manner with all the girls was a great attribute. Her colleagues will miss her playful personality and her lovely laugh. We wish her all the very best in her first teaching post in Grade 1 at Bongolethu Primary school in Philippi. We will miss her and know that she will make a difference to the children in that community.

## ANDRIA BOSSR

### BY CAROLINE BLENCOWE

Andria Bossr joined Herschel Pre-Preparatory in 2009 and worked in every grade – Pre-Nursery, Nursery and Grade R. She completed her studies at the end of 2014 with a Bachelor's Degree in Education (Foundation Phase).

During her time with us, she was a dedicated member of staff and displayed her versatility by being prepared to assist wherever she was needed, both in the Pre-Preparatory and the Foundation Phase. She devised and introduced an Afrikaans Curriculum for all the Pre-Preparatory classes and the girls gained much knowledge from her teaching, encouragement and creative ideas.

Andria also pursued her interest in counselling



and volunteered her time unselfishly within her community. She has been a wonderful colleague, inspiring teacher and a loyal and dependable friend. The children have enjoyed her warmth and patience and will miss her.

We are delighted that she has taken up a position as teacher at Westville Primary School in Mitchell's Plain. We wish her much success in her future teaching career and know that she will enrich the lives of her students and colleagues.



## ALMARIE VAN NIEKERK

### BY MRS LINDA MARTIN AND MRS ALISON BAIKOFF

It is with much sadness that we say goodbye to Almarie, a friend and respected colleague, who has been a valued member of the Herschel Preparatory School staff since 2007. As Head of Afrikaans, she was highly respected. Her dedication and unwavering commitment to promoting excellence in Afrikaans was admirable and an inspiration to all. She was thorough and uncompromising in the high standard she demanded of herself and the girls and yet she always took time to nurture the

individual.

Almarie could always be relied upon to take an objective and critical view of any matter under discussion and we grew to respect her considered professional opinion. She was well-informed on worldly matters and current events and her level-headed and pragmatic approach was reassuring. As a friend and colleague, she was supportive and honest. We will remember the fun cooking evenings, where Almarie introduced us to the best of Greek cuisine and showed us how easy it is to make bread. Her food philosophy of cooking and eating real, natural food has rubbed off on many of the staff and the recipes she has shared will help us to remember her and think of her often.

As Almarie and her husband make their new home in Phoenix, Arizona, we will think of them often and wish her happiness and fulfilment as she goes about the next exciting phase of her life.



# THINKING SKILLS *The Sparkle Centre*

“Everyone’s a spark, and in the night, together we make a light, a fire burning bright.”

BY MS ROBYN STAKEMIRE AND MRS LINDSEY VERSTER

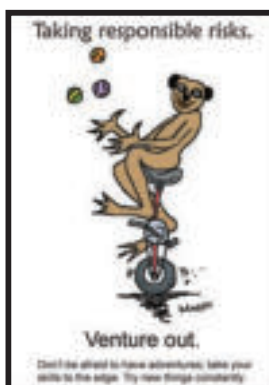
**IT** is fitting that The Sparkle Centre at Herschel Preparatory is situated in the centre of the school: this is the home of each girl’s academic and emotional well-being. A team of caring and passionate professionals work together to support the girls, be it in the Learning Support, Enrichment or Emotional Wellness arena. The team is run by Robyn Stakemire, Lindsey Verster, and Arina Fourie. They are also lucky enough to work with a group of private occupational therapists, physiotherapists, a speech and language therapist and facilitators.

Learning Support entails academic support, focused on either individual learning programmes or on small groups. Parent workshops are also held. In a fun environment, it helps the girls to build confidence. Counselling, under the direction of Dr Arina Fourie, is structured for either individual or group support and support for parents. She implements mediation and anti-bullying workshops and offers workshops for parents.

Thinking Skills concentrates on study skills, visual learning and the awareness of an integrated curriculum. Great emphasis is placed on the Habits of Mind ethos which will be of inestimable value to the girls for the rest of their lives.

2015 has seen the focus shift back onto the integration of Thinking Maps in all the classrooms at the Pre-Prep and Preparatory school. All teachers have received training in the implementation of these maps that help pupils develop into independent and critical thinkers; they show pupils what their thought processes look like and show what kind of thinking they are doing or using, making the girls’ thinking visible and visual. The girls have made good use of the Maps in their learning across the curriculum. Thinking maps are becoming a common language within our school. ■

◀ (Illustrations by Maggie)







# ECO-SCHOOLS ECO-CLUB

BY MS PRISCILLA BEETON



**H**erschel continued to embrace the Eco-Schools programme in 2015 and we have flown the Eco-School flag with pride. Ms Beeton, Mrs Thomas and the two Eco Monitors, Beth Ingram and Jenna Hickman, attended an award ceremony at Lotus River High in March 2015 at which we were awarded the Double Bronze award for 11 years' involvement in the Eco-Schools Programme. Herschel Preparatory is one of very few schools to achieve this status in the Western Cape.

Our chosen theme for 2015 has been Healthy Living. Dr Neville Wellington addressed the staff and parents on healthy eating issues and there was also a 'healthy lunchbox' campaign. We continued to encourage the girls to be 'sun smart' by emphasising the importance of wearing hats and sun block when they are outdoors. Mrs Roebert led a Family Hike to Elsie's Peak above Fish Hoek to encourage girls to exercise in the outdoors.

A highlight of the year, and linked to our healthy living theme, was the Eco-Camp at Bloublommetjieskloof Farm near Wellington. Bloublommetjieskloof is a biodynamic (organic) farm at which the 34 girls experienced 'olde-worlde' farming: riding horses, milking cows, making yoghurt and butter, collecting vegetables, picking fruit, making soap and shampoo, and much more. The organic food was home cooked and many girls declared this the best eco-camp ever!

Another highlight was the Two Oceans Aquarium Sleepover attended by 75 girls from Grade 3 to Grade 7 and seven teachers. It was an evening of fun: supper, various talks, an 'amazing race' around the exhibits, fabric painting shoulder bags and watching a movie, all before settling down to sleep in front of the predator tank.

Recycling efforts have again focused on the Tuesday Oasis Association collections



collections which are supported by many Herschel families. We continued with our quarterly can collections and collected a huge number of cans, supporting an outreach school in Manenberg with the money raised. Added to that we managed to fill the green waste paper igloo with scrap paper almost every six or seven weeks. Every Herschel girl (and her family) is now very aware of the importance of the recycling of materials in the conservation of our environment.

In the first half of the year the Eco-Club had many exciting meetings and outings with Hadley and Catherine, two young education officers of the Cape Leopard Trust and later with Ms Beeton during which they learnt some basic scientific field research skills such as water quality testing in nearby rivers and transect studies in places such as the Tokai and Newlands forests. They visited

EVERY HERSCHEL GIRL  
IS NOW VERY AWARE  
OF THE IMPORTANCE  
OF THE **RECYCLING**  
OF MATERIALS IN THE  
**CONSERVATION** OF  
OUR ENVIRONMENT.

Kirstenbosch, the Kenilworth Racecourse Conservation Area, looking at plants and biodiversity, and birded on several occasions at venues such as False Bay Ecology Park, Zandvlei Nature Reserve and Intaka Island. A very special outing was to Sanccob, the seabird rehabilitation hospital. The school now has a resident Venus fly trap plant after a visit to a nursery specialising in carnivorous plants.

During the year special environmental days such as World Wetlands Day, Earth Hour, World Environment Day and Arbor Day were observed with special assemblies, displays and projects. Part of our World Environment week included a talk by Simon Naylor, a ranger at Phinda Game Reserve, on the poaching of rhinos. This served to launch a big project in which both the Senior School and the Preparatory School built an almost life-size rhino out of recycled materials. This, along with the rhinos made by ten other schools, was displayed at the Waterfront to raise the public's awareness of the plight of our rhinos. ■







# It's always tea-time in Wonderland

BY MRS HEATHER BAILEY  
AND MRS KAREN RUTGERS

Families and friends alike were cordially invited to be guests at a tea party with Alice. Our Foundation Phase production told of a girl named Alice falling through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by peculiar creatures. The tale played with logic, giving the story lasting popularity with adults and children alike and the innovative script brought Lewis Carroll's beloved classic to life.

All your favourite characters were there: Alice, White Rabbit, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, Lewis Carroll, Caterpillar, March Hare, Gardeners and of course, the Queen of Hearts! The use of Storytellers and open staging brought flexibility and comedy to the production. The script allowed for five Alices, giving more girls the chance to play their favourite part.

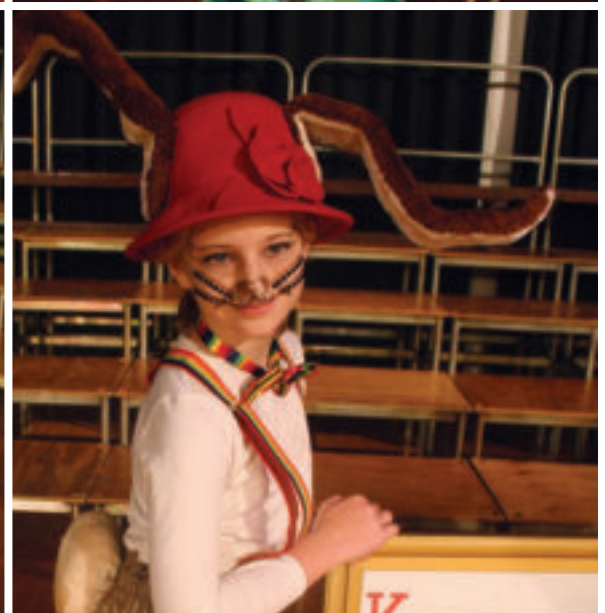
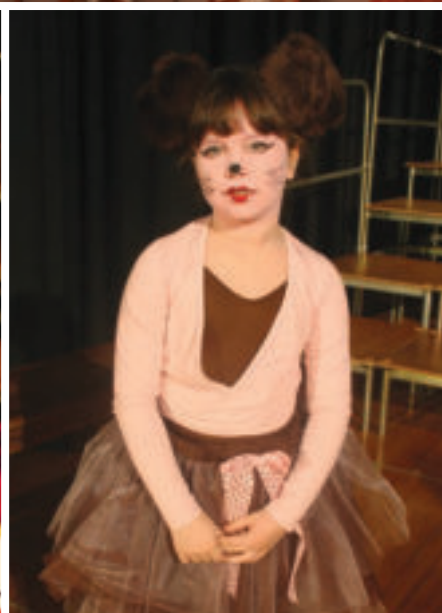
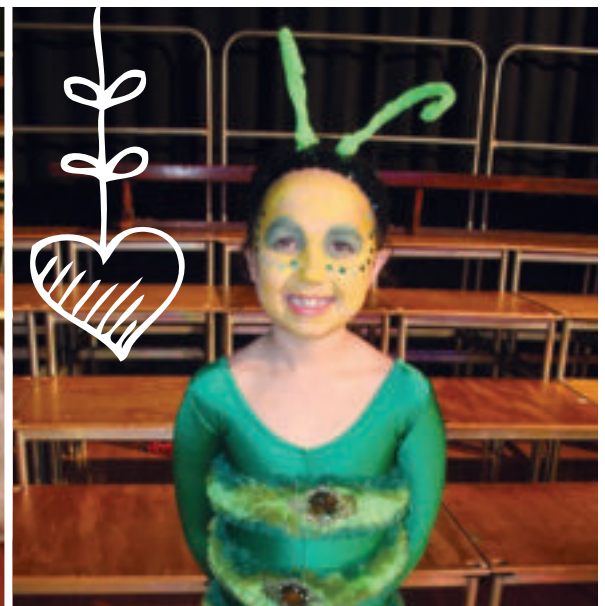
*When you reach the bottom of the rabbit hole, please promptly follow the white rabbit, he's got a very important date. He will escort you to the tea party, where you will be greeted by various guests. Don't feel obliged to answer the Mad Hatter when he asks you why is a raven like a writing desk? (unless you know the answer) Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum are sure to fly by and the Cheshire Cat is slated to make an appearance, but you never know when he will disappear. And whatever you do, don't offend the Queen – you might end up losing your head!*

The songs were taught by the Music Department and included such favourites as *Alice in Wonderland*, *I'm Late* and *A Very Merry Unbirthday*. The girls thoroughly enjoyed singing these songs. The various costumes were spectacular in their innovation and were worn with appropriate pomp and ceremony.

*Alice in Wonderland* was a fun-filled adventure down the rabbit hole for the whole Foundation Phase. All 157 girls were afforded the opportunity to be part of a co-operative, narrative production. ■









# Music

## MRS LIZA VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

Our Instrumental Programme continues to form an important part of the Class Music curriculum offered to Grade 1 and 4 pupils. Pupils in Grade 1 were exposed to playing recorder, violin, cello and percussion while girls in Grade 4 learnt to play clarinet, trumpet, flute and saxophone. This allows us an opportunity to identify talent for these particular instru-

ments. We are also able to identify musicality in the pupils, especially those who would not necessarily take music lessons or think of playing a wind or brass instrument. These lessons are always met with huge excitement from the girls who love experimenting with these new instruments and their sounds.

The annual Music Evening took place in September. As always, this was a joyous musical experience involving approximately 200 girls from Grade 2 to Grade 7. The programme included a variety of items ranging from soloists to small ensembles,

the orchestra, percussion ensemble and choirs. The girls were commended on their high standard of playing.

We continue to proudly represent Herschel at the Cape Town and Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod with many of our girls participating in various categories. Congratulations in particular to Isabella Tsinonis for receiving a medal (most Diplomas received in a category) at the Cape Town Eisteddfod and to Anja Bräsler and Alida De Villiers for being awarded medals (both in the string category) at the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod.

Our music pupils are entered regularly for external examinations. We received excellent results across the board for both the ABRSM and Trinity practical and theory examinations this year with girls performing in the string, piano, guitar, woodwind and vocal categories.

Weekly performance opportunities are made available to our girls at our assemblies. The highlight is always the termly Music Assembly. These assemblies are dedicated to our young musicians and is taken very seriously as the young musicians have to go through an audition. ■

## Junior CHOIR

BY MRS SONJA BRÄSLER

The Junior Choir consists of 71 carefully selected, enthusiastic and musical girls in Grades 2 and 3. They sing a variety of choral music, mostly in unison settings, but often venturing into two-part music and canons, with repertoire ranging from sacred to secular. The combined Western Province Preparatory and

Herschel Preparatory schools Concert in Term 2 was undoubtedly the highlight of this year's activities for the Junior Choir. In addition to their own songs, *Who will Buy from Oliver!*, *Wouldn't it be Lovely* from *My Fair Lady* and the festive traditional Israeli folk song *Tsena, tsena*, the girls were also very excited about singing with the boys. They were thrilled to be part of the massed choir item at the very end, *The Music in My Life* and they certainly added a lot of sparkle to the melody line!

The Junior Choir also performed at the annual Music Evening. They thoroughly enjoyed singing *Tsena, tsena*, with Ms Olga Leonard on the accordion, Ms Julie Ward on the guitar, Mrs Annemarie Dall on the violin, as well as Caitlin Macleod Smith on the tambourine and Ella Sales, Jessica Jensen and Megan Harrison on recorders. The girls' favourite song, however, was *Pizza!*, an arrangement by Kirby Shaw based on the Neapolitan song, *Funiculi, Funicula* by Luigi Denza (1880)

and famously sung by Mario Lanza in the 1960s. This song was accompanied with great gusto and flair on the piano by our new Head of Music, Mrs Liza van der Westhuizen.

The Carol Service ended the year on a high note as the Junior Choir joined the Senior Choir to sing the vibrant *Come, Colours Rise* by South African composer, Grant McLachlan. This was an incredible experience for these young choristers and a memory they will cherish for many years. ■



### JUNIOR CHOIR

**KNEELING:** G Fürst, E Swart, J Kohler, Z Douglas **FIRST ROW:** K Verster, L Rothschild, S Ebrahim, K Buissonne, A Tresfon, S Sunday, O Sherren, A Moonda, O Emmerich, S Dore, C Kleye, R Parker, K van Schalkwyk, S Lund, E Brodziak, S Mohamed, K Seymour, I Kepelele **SECOND ROW:** I Lappin, K Mills, S Essa, A Coquelle, G Ovenstone, G Mulder, O Sparks, E Magrath, S Vickers, I Lindsay, O Currie, S Flint, K Cadiz, M Else, H Wright, S Dearnaley **THIRD ROW:** B Stewart, E Du, K Hodgson, A Badenhorst, S Gruber, K Formby, J Rutgers, H Thomas, N Macey, G Antrobus, G Sales, I Barbour, L Schuhbauer, L van der Merwe, L Mangxola **BACK ROW:** Mrs S Bräsler, M Govender, L Gross, A Searson, N de Bruyn, E Vermaak, J Hatherill, G Finlayson, P Dower, J Lückhoff, J Petersen, E Aspinall, M Sainsbury, C Macleod Smith, A Bräsler, Mrs L van der Westhuizen

# Senior CHOIR

BY MRS BRONWEN LEITH

If you wander through the music department between 07:15 and 08:15am every Friday morning, you'll hear the voices of over 100 girls who enjoy singing in the Senior Choir. Despite practising being so early the girls have shown commitment and enthusiasm in all we have put our minds to this year.

At the start of the first term we welcomed the new Grade 4s who have proved to be a musical group, adjusting to singing in parts for the

first time. Our grade 7 Choir Leaders for this year have been Chumisa Dornford-May and Ruby Paton. They have proved to be invaluable in helping with administration and other general choir matters. Our choir has been ably accompanied on the piano by Mrs Anne Meyer who has also assisted with part work during rehearsals.

Our first performance for the year was at the Easter Service where we sang a rousing, joyful song, *Celebrate the Risen Saviour*. This was accompanied by Mrs Bräsler on the organ, which was a first for our choir. In the second term we had the privilege of hosting a combined choir concert with Western

Province Preparatory School. The senior and junior choirs of both schools participated in this very successful event which was held in the Herschel Theatre. Our choir girls excelled as they sang three songs: *Si Nje, Nje, Nje* (African traditional), *Danny Boy* and *Bye Bye Blackbird*. The concert was concluded with a massed item with over 200 girls and boys singing *The Music in My Life*.

Every year at the start of September the Senior Choir participates in the annual Music Evening. This year we sang an amusing version of *Mary Had a Little Blues* and two African traditional songs. This is the first year we have

attempted songs of this genre which have been challenging as they are sung *a capella* and include some dancing.

*What we love most about the choir, is the impact it has on the girls. Some of the girls probably didn't even know they could sing, until they got a letter telling them they were welcomed to the choir. And singing builds your confidence which is why some people join, but it is also being part of a community of girls who you see around the school and knowing if you're sad, the choir will cheer you up with the singing.*

**RUBY PATON AND  
CHUMISA DORNFORD-  
MAY, CHOIR LEADERS**



## SENIOR CHOIR

**KNEELING:** J Houwing, E Clarke, E Parker- Forsyth, D Jähnig, N Tsinonis, Y Rawoot, G Weir, K Mahabeer, C Coutts-Trotter, C Williams, J Wellington, S Pearce, K Farrell, N Starke, S Searll, H MacKay, A de Villiers **FIRST ROW:** K Webb, M Harrison, J Searll, S van Wyngaarden, R Clark, I Tsinonis, K Casewell, R Turck, L Frater, G Perdakis, J Kirsten, C Fisher, J Ovendale, K Buissinne, A Mohamed, P Duckitt, O Hill **SECOND ROW:** Mrs A Meyer, G Wellington, S Gonsenhausner, D Govender, A Dowling, E Hillary, A Mondry, J Dore, G North, L Berman, J Lancefield, D Kaye, A Cousins, P Moodaley, R Cuninghame, Mrs B Leith **THIRD ROW:** L Weldon, D Crabtree, M Efsthathiou, J Paine, I McAdam, C Maharajh, D Varney, G Stewart, C Laubscher, L Formby, C de Gouveia, R Ndhuni, A Jones, O Sieff **FOURTH ROW:** F Johnstone, H Osrin, C Hooper, G Bromley, J Hickman, C Dornford-May (leader), G Lanfear, M de Villiers, L Miszewski, C Rumbelow, R Paton (leader), E Ingram, H Abrahams, S Wilensky, L Koopman, S Sale **FIFTH ROW:** J Finlayson, H MacRobert, C Wilson-Trollip, L Burke, R Williams, E Frater, C Fleming, J Dow, R Moller, C Basnett, N Duckitt, A Meyer, T Spencer, S Mayekiso, A Martin, J Sainsbury **ABSENT:** T Bagg, G Horrigan, R Dower, A de Villiers, M Erasmus, S Angeliniadis, B Wilson, H Lee



## SENIOR MARIMBA BAND

**FRONT ROW:** Mr G Bolton, M Efsthathiou, G Lanfear, S Sale, N Tsinonis **BACK ROW:** A Mesham, K Hallé, L Johnson, G Bromley



## JUNIOR MARIMBA BAND

**FRONT ROW:** Mr G Bolton, N Tsinonis, R Turck, S Gutuza **BACK ROW:** S Gonsenhausner, R Moller, N Vermaak **ABSENT:** Sofia Angeliniadis



# ORCHESTRA, STRING ENSEMBLE AND WIND BAND

BY MS JULIE WARD

**WE** have a big, thriving orchestra of nearly 45 girls at the Preparatory. The orchestra is largely made up of string players with nearly 20 violinists and 20 cellists. In the wind section there are two clarinetists, two trumpeters, two saxophone players and an occasional flautist. The orchestra would not be complete without a small but vital team of percussion players. These girls play a variety of instruments including orchestral bass drum, snare drum and cymbals, orchestral glockenspiel and various other small hand percussion instruments.

The orchestra plays an important role in the life of the school, in particular in accompanying the singing at special services throughout the year. These occasions include Founder's Day, Ash Wednesday, Easter and Christmas. Orchestral pieces are also performed annually at our Music Evening in Term 3. This year we had two challenging, but exciting pieces: the *James Bond Theme* and *Happy*. The latter was also performed as a farewell to Mrs Boyd and her

daughter, Rebecca – one of our trumpeters.

Girls in the orchestra are expected to be in either our String Orchestra (conducted by Mrs Brewis) or our Wind Band (conducted by Mrs Fisher-Jeffes). Some percussion players and additional recorder players are included in the Wind Band. At the Music Evening

the String Orchestra performed *Ping Pong* whilst the Wind Band performed *Scooby Doo*. The girls also did a combined band play-off with the *Tango* and *Cha-cha* – adding a touch of show-biz with their bling hats and special moves.

One weekly rehearsal is held by each group whilst occasional Saturday morning

rehearsals have been held this year. Being a member of an orchestra requires long-term commitment and dedication. We thank both girls and parents for their efforts to get up early on Thursday mornings and stay late on Friday afternoons throughout the year. It has been worth every minute, we believe! ■



## ORCHESTRA

**FRONT ROW:** A de Villiers, R Clark, M Wright, J Hutcheson, D Jähnig, E Floquet, H Mackay, J Houwing **SECOND ROW:** S Gutuza, M Sonnenberg, E Parker-Forsyth, L Frater, G Lanfear, G Bromley, K Swain, E Faure, P Duckitt, R Ebrahim, C Coutts-Trotter **THIRD ROW:** J Collins, A Martin, I Robb-Quinlan, H MacRobert, S Pitman, C Rumbelow, L Miszewski, K Hallé, E Ingram, N Duckitt, N Vermaak, I McAdam, Ms J Ward **BACK ROW:** L Berman, C Boyd, C Williams-Wynn, C Wilson-Trollip, R Dix-Peek, A van Graan, G Stewart, J Paine, P Govan, G Neethling, R Shortt, P Moodaley **ABSENT:** R Dower, K Pillay, L Edelstein



## STRING ENSEMBLE

**FRONT ROW:** A de Villiers, K Swain, E Floquet, S Gutuza, C Wilson-Trollip, N Duckitt, R Dix-Peek, L Berman, E Parker-Forsyth, J Houwing **MIDDLE ROW:** R Ebrahim, P Moodaley, R Shortt, C Rumbelow, E Faure, P Duckitt, C Coutts-Trotter, M Wright, Mrs C Brewis **BACK ROW:** G Neethling, A Martin, I McAdam, H MacRobert, I Robb-Quinlan, J Hutcheson, P Govan, C Boyd



## WIND BAND

**FIRST ROW:** M Harrison, L Frater, L Miszewski, A Mohamed, J Jensen, S Jensen **SECOND ROW:** J Paine, J Collins, K Hallé, E Ingram, S Pitman, Mrs A Fisher-Jeffes





# Library

BY MS PRISCILLA BEETON

**WE** reopened the library at the beginning of Term Two after a closure of almost five months. Our revamped library is a wonderful place – light, bright and airy. We see an almost continuous stream of girls coming in for lessons, talks and presentations and for reading and relaxation in a quiet place. Not that the whole library is quiet, though. More and more, in line with trends in education, it is becoming a place where group work and collaboration can take place, which means there is a lot of chatting and sharing. We have, however, created 'The Quiet Reading Room' where the girls can read and relax on the colourful and comfortable bean bags. The semi-circular issue and returns counter is near the windows in the main non-fiction area of the Library from here the librarians can see all areas of the Library. There are tables and chairs in this area where girls can sit to do research – and more bean bags. To make the space totally flexible all the shelves in the middle have been put on castors so they can be moved around. The old auditorium area was flattened and large picture windows were installed. The

tables are all on wheels and can be folded away, making this area extremely versatile for workshops and presentations and also for large groups to gather. Teachers and pupils alike love using this venue, now called The Space. It can be closed off by closing a sliding door; in fact the Library can now host three or four different groups simultaneously. Parents are welcomed into the Library; they can sit and relax on the couch, reading the newspaper or browsing in books from the Parenting section.

The girls and staff had a vibrant Launch and Blessing of the Library on 24 April. The girls entered into the spirit of the day – sporting colourful and crazy hats to mark the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. The centrepiece was a magnificent Mad Hatter's hat cake. It was a joyous occasion during which the Grade 6s led the rest in singing our traditional 'Gotta keep reading' song. Reverend Sue Taylor blessed the library and girls brought a nearly new book to donate to the Parents' Association's outreach project – they are building and equipping a school library for the Grassy Park EC Primary School.

In Term 3 we celebrated Book Week from 31 August to 4 September. As this was also the beginning of Spring and Arbor Weeks, we had a spring theme for which every single girl in the school made flowers. During the assembly Ms Beeton and Mrs Moritz told the story of Wangari Maathai who started the reforestation movement in Kenya after observing the devastation of the chopping down of trees in the name of progress and for firewood. The girls, in a symbolic process, picked up on this theme by writing on green paper leaves their hopes and dreams for themselves, the school, the country and the world. These they stuck onto a wooden tree outline in the library. On the brown or autumnal leaves they wrote something they wanted to stop or see the end of.

Visiting authors and illustrators addressed the girls and we also were treated to an hilarious 'Hooked on Books' show as well as an excellent stage show of Roald Dahl's *Matilda*, both of which involved considerable audience participation.

Our team of library monitors, led by Catherine Baker and Ruby Paton, have been so helpful, reporting for duty at break-times and assisting with issues and returns. Mrs Moritz and Ms Beeton could not have managed without them. ■



# COMMUNITY Service

BY MRS LINDA MARTIN

Community Service offers wonderful opportunities for the girls to make a difference to the lives of others and our Herschel Family has continued to fully support our Community Service programme this year. Ice cream sales and our weekly sandwich collections continued throughout the year and all girls were involved in donating items for the Grade 7 Fair. The Fair was held on 22 April and was a huge success. The total amount raised for the Community Service fund was in excess of R30 000.

To lift the hearts of many sick children on Valentine's Day, we organised the making and distribution of over 300 Valentine's Day cards to the Red Cross Children's Hospital and Groote Schuur Hospital. In addition, 50 red heart Sweetie Pies were handed out to children at the Plumstead Childhood Cancer Foundation of South Africa (CHOC) and to the Cancer

and the Constantia Village Trolley folk. In addition, R8000 has been given to Mrs Annette Champion and her team who work with various Maths teachers from schools in Grassy Park, Philippi, Khayelitsha, Mitchells Plain, Athlone, Retreat and Gugulethu. There are more than 60 teachers and approximately 2500 children who benefit from the donation which is used to pay for printing costs, teaching materials and many other incidental items. Assisting these teachers is an important part of our programme.

The whole school was involved in the collection of second-hand clothing for The Rural Child and St Luke's Hospice and the response was overwhelming.

Our annual Chores for a Cause project was launched at the end of the second term. The girls were challenged to raise R50 by undertaking various chores around the home. This was to encourage the

girls to earn the money as opposed to simply asking their parents for donations. The R18 000 raised from this successful appeal went to the purchase of stationery items for

THE NEW LIBRARY WILL TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF THOSE CHILDREN WHO ARE HUNGRY FOR KNOWLEDGE AND LITERATURE.

Ward of the Red Cross Children's Hospital. In addition to these activities, R7 000 of our Community Service funds was used to upgrade the lounge at the Plumstead CHOC home. This project was facilitated by Glen Jensen. Money from the Pre-Prep ice-bite sales and the end of term civvies collection was used to fund this project.

Real empathy was evident during the devastating fires that swept the Peninsula. Donations of bottled water, medical supplies and food items were delivered to various stations around the Cape Peninsula.

Many boxes of chocolate marshmallow Easter eggs were donated by the girls. These were given to various charity organisations to ensure that the spirit of Easter was enjoyed by all. A soap and toothpaste collection enabled us to make donations to the Mowbray Maternity Home

Kewtown Primary School. Each pupil in Kewtown Primary will start their school year with a new stationery pack.

In August we supported the Reach for a Dream Foundation by taking part in the Reach for your Slippers Day. All girls were invited to pay R10 towards this worthy cause and to wear slippers to school that day. This enabled us to contribute R5 100 towards the Reach for a Dream fund. As part of our Spring Day celebrations we visited Red Cross Children's Hospital. Together with flowers, which the Prep girls brought in decorated containers, we were able to give each child we visited a fluffy teddy bear or toy. Over 300 teddies were donated by the girls.

Term three ended with our Civvies day appeal and this money was used to support the SPCA ribbon day.

The fourth term started with our

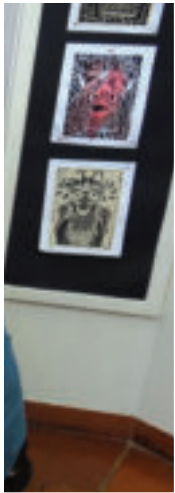


annual Blisters for Bread walk. This, once again, proved to be a most enjoyable morning enabling us to make a generous contribution to the Peninsula Feeding Scheme. The Preparatory girls were encouraged to support Bandana Day in aid of the Sunflower Fund. Close to the end of the term, the Grade 7 girls invited Glenbridge to a Christmas party. This is a popular occasion and is always thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

This year, the PA, Lin Heidmann and Bruce Probyn identified Grassy Park EC as a school with whom Herschel could build a partnership. Paul Sassman, head of this Anglican school, identified the need to have a library. Our Herschel families stepped in and generous donations of shelving, paint, and manpower enabled us to turn his vision into a reality. The new library will transform the lives of those children who are hungry for knowledge and literature. We hope to enjoy a long-term relationship between the staff, parents and children at Herschel and Grassy Park EC.

2015 once again showed that the generosity of our Herschel community made a difference in the lives of so many who are less privileged than ourselves. ■







# EXCHANGE TO ST JOHN'S-ON-THE-HILL

BY MRS JENNI BROCK

**ON** a Friday afternoon, early in September, five excited Grade 6 girls gathered at Cape Town International Airport to begin the first stage of their trip to the UK on a two-week school exchange to St John's-on-the-Hill in Chepstow, chaperoned by Mrs Jenni Brock and Ms Linda Cowie.

After an uneventful flight to Heathrow, a smooth train trip to Paddington Station on the Heathrow Express and a tube ride to Elephant and Castle, we checked into our SafeStay hostel and began our time in London with an afternoon shopping trip to Oxford Street and Hamleys toy store.

The next few days were spent in a whirl of sightseeing and exploring London, in mercifully mild and sunny weather. Sights included the London Eye, the Tower, watching the changing of the guard and a matinee performance of the show Mathilda. The amount of walking we did and the catching of tubes, buses and the Thames River Ferry meant that the girls soon found their travel legs and remembered to 'mind the gap'!

After three wonderful days in London, we caught a coach from Victoria Station for the two-hour trip across the English countryside to Chepstow, a small town situated on the River Wye, which forms the border between England and Wales. Here we were met and taken to St John's-on-the-Hill, an independent grammar school perched 'on the hill' above the river on the English side of the town, with a magnificent view of the ruins of Chepstow Castle.

Our Herschel girls had a happy reunion with the St John's girls whom they had hosted in Cape Town in May, and were taken home to these host families while Mrs Brock and Ms Cowie were accommodated in a house on the school property.

The next week was spent touring the area, with day trips organised by the school to places of interest and historical sites. We visited Gloucester Cathedral, the beautiful city of Bath with its abbey and Roman baths, spent a day in Bristol at the Interactive Science Centre and the aquarium, enjoyed the peace in the ruins of Tintern Abbey and braved the darkness underground at The Big Pit in Caerleon. One of the highlights was the visit to the

Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, just a few days before the start of the Rugby World Cup. The girls also spent some time in lessons at the school and participated in sporting activities.

All too soon, our time was up, we had to say our farewells to the staff and pupils at St John's and make our way back to Heathrow for some last-minute duty-free shopping before our return journey to Cape Town.

The time overseas and at St John's-on-the-Hill was an enriching experience that took the girls outside their familiar environment, widening their horizons and providing them with many wonderful memories. ■

*"I really enjoyed getting to know all the other girls and having a chance to be grown-up and responsible. With all the ups and downs, I'll never forget my trip to the UK".* **GEORGIA HARRIGAN**

*"I enjoyed going to the Roman Baths and shopping".* **AMELIE DE VILLIERS**

*"I enjoyed seeing all the famous landmarks near Chepstow".*  
**KENDAL PILLAY**

*"It was fun but absolutely freezing and no-one understood what we were saying because of our South African accents".* **ROMY DOWER**



# General KNOWLEDGE

BY MS ELIZABETH WEBSTER



## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Ms E Webster, E Richardson, C Basnett, M Versfeld, L Frater **BACK ROW:** S Pitman, M Cadiz, L Miszewski, C Baker, J Dow

Every year a team of Herschel girls participate in an Interschools General Knowledge Quiz, which is made up of three rounds. Approximately 35 schools participate and the first two rounds are held at various school venues, with either five or six teams competing against each other. Scores from both quizzes are added together to decide which ten teams will go through to the final round.

The Herschel team is decided after all the girls have participated in our annual Founder's Day Quiz. This year our team members were: Jaqueline Dow, Mia Versfeld, Maxine Cadiz, Lucy Miszewski, Emma Richardson and Lucy Frater. Our reserves were: Catherine Baker, Shannon Pitman and Calli Basnett. Herschel hosted the first round in the second term, where Bergvliet, Greenfields, St. Joseph's, Western

Province Preparatory and Wynberg Boys Primary were our competition. We had good support from parents and girls, but sadly did not do as well as we would have liked to do. In the third term we went to Herzlia Highlands, where we played against Herzlia, The Grove Primary, Golden Grove, Llandudno and Rosebank Primary Schools. We fared much better in Round Two, but were pipped at the post in the last section by joint winners Herzlia and The Grove. We were complimented on our keen enthusiasm by the host Quiz Master which we felt was a great feather in Herschel's cap. Both Ms Webster and Mrs Billett were proud of the team's eager participation and demeanor which were a credit to Herschel. We are determined to up our game next year and see if we can make it to the 2016 final round. ■

# LITERATURE QUIZ

BY MS PRISCILLA BEETON



**FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:** C Baker, M Ameen, I Peters, M de Villiers **MIDDLE ROW:** S Pitman, L Omar, H Fraser **BACK ROW:** R Paton, S Osman, R Glanvill, L Koopman **ABSENT:** R Dower, A van Graan, J Lancefield, A Mondry

We participated in two Literature Quiz competitions: the Kids Lit Quiz in Term 1 and an Interschools Lit Quiz during Term 2. The Regional Kids Lit Quiz, an international quiz competition with competitors from English speaking countries all over the world, was held at Grove Primary School on 13 February 2015. The quiz master is Wayne Mills from New Zealand. In South Africa regional competitions were held in the major cities on different days ending with the South African finals in Johannesburg on 14 February. In the Cape Town Regional competition there were 33 teams from 18 schools from all over Cape Town. We entered two teams, each made up of four girls, all of whom were in Grade 6. They acquitted themselves well considering that for all of them it was their first lit quiz competition. Our teams came 17th and 18th. The winners from Sweet Valley

Primary flew to Johannesburg for the finals the next day. Our next competition, included new participants and was on 22 May at Wynberg Girls Junior School. The team was accompanied by Mrs Moritz and again managed to hold their own.

For each competition we struggled to get together an experienced team of "regular" Lit Quizzers because so many of our pupils have commitments to other activities on Friday afternoons. We congratulate the number of girls keen and willing to rise to the challenge of the competition as literature quizzes are difficult to 'train' for. Successful Lit Quiz participants have to be avid and eclectic readers and have remarkable memories for names and for the little details in the books they read. Girls who love reading enjoy the challenge of this competition and also that they hear about many books that are newly published. ■





# ICT

BY MRS JOYCE GOLDSCHMIDT

**2015** has been another busy year in the ICT Department at the Prep. All girls from Grade 1 to 7 continue to work hard at becoming digital experts. The Grade 1 girls spend the first two terms using software which is designed to make them confident users of the mouse. By term 2, they were using Microsoft Word and, occasionally, the bank of iPads.

The Grade 2 girls create many beautiful worksheets during their computer lessons which are curriculum-based in order to reinforce work taught in the classroom. They are always thrilled when they discover that they will be doing a lesson on iPads.

The Book Creator App on our bank of iPads makes revision of spelling words an exciting project. The Grade 3 girls thoroughly enjoy formatting their pages beautifully, adding voice recordings and images before publishing their books on iBooks.

The Intermediate and Senior phase girls spend their ICT lessons becoming familiar with MS Word, Publisher, Power Point and Excel so that, by the time they go to senior school, their ICT skills are fairly comprehensive. They spend lessons learning the finer points of research, creativity, file management and note-taking. Their use of iPads plus a Windows

desktop ensure that they become familiar with both platforms.

Parent training sessions and information evenings are held in the early part of the year to give parents guidance on how to put measures in place to help protect their children from the evils of cyberspace. In addition, the girls are constantly reminded about the dangers of posting derogatory or personal information and photographs onto social media sites which they may later regret.

Our Marketing and Communications and ICT Departments spent time collaborating with a design team to create a new website for Herschel. I am sure everyone who has visited the new website will agree that it is more user-friendly and better reflects the ethos of Herschel.

The D6 Schools Communicator was launched in conjunction with our new website on 17 August. This will provide parents with a reliable communications platform which can be used on all devices and is tailored to the specific needs of the Herschel parents.

In addition, our Extranet no longer falls in the public domain. Our new Intranet is tailored to the needs of pupils and staff and is accessed via network credentials.

The ICT Department at Herschel continues to embrace the ever-changing world of technology. ■





# TECHNOLOGY

BY MRS MARGOT ROEBERT

**THE** Grade 7 Fair was a massive success this year. The girls worked efficiently to prepare their craft products during their lessons in the first term. Stuffed cushions, headbands and beaded jewellery seemed to dominate the crafts popularity and the products were beautifully finished and presented. A record sum of money was raised for Outreach.

The Grade 6 Dads and Daughters is always a highlight. The girls and their dads worked really hard to develop a marble run that had to be contained on a wooden board. Card and recycled paper were the main construction materials. The marble had to finish with a flourish that included a buzzer and a light. The winners for this year were Mr Horrigan and Mr Wilensky, together with Georgia and Sam. Our gratitude goes to the judges Mr Mervin Walsh from Bishops and Mrs Fiona Cochrane from the Senior School who so generously gave up their time to assist at the evening.

The Grade 5 Moms and Daughters is a super evening where the girls spend time with their moms making crafts. The girls love being with their friends and having the opportunity to play hostess to their mothers.

The Grade 5s thoroughly enjoyed doing their combined Social Science and Technology project at the end of the Second Term. Here they had to design and make an indigenous village using as many recycled and natural materials as they could. The Grade 5s hosted a 'knitathon' where the girls gathered in the Technology classroom together with some moms and grans to make knitted squares for the Grey Ladies Association of St Savior's Anglican Church.

The indigenous musical instruments created by the Grade 4s are all meant to create sound - not noise. This is not always the case, but a great deal of learning and invention occurs in the process. The Grade 4s were also exposed to iPad activities, and always tackled these with enthusiasm and the special expertise of the very young.

The focus of the Grade 3 activities was on developing fine motor control and the simple skills of cutting and gluing. The girls loved every moment of being part of this busy classroom and produced some very creative work.

Remember: *Those who make no mistakes, make nothing.* (With apology to Joseph Conrad.) ■



## Art Club

BY MRS LYNETTE HAMPTON

**WE** love the special and inspiring times we have in the afternoons for our creative art projects.

This has been a bumper year for extra art, with greater numbers of girls and more varied and exciting projects than ever. We tackled large portraits of Tudor kings and queens in paint and collage, did fine line drawings of Victorian houses, scraffito Indian elephants, stunning flower paintings and pastel portraits, to name a few. The focus is always on encouraging individuality of expression in a happy, relaxed environment where there is time for discussion as the work progresses. It's a quality time for growing our creativity, as is often evidenced in the work of the girls who have been with us a long time. ■





## GRADE 7



### GRADE 7A

**FRONT ROW:** J Le Roux, E Richardson, M Versfeld, N Ebrahim, A Stirk, C Basnett, T Cresswell-Turner, V Cresswell-Turner, C Williams-Wynn, Mrs I Fisher **MIDDLE ROW:** E Frater, F Johnstone, O Fernandes, S Booth, E Alberts, E Ingram, K Els, G Searson **BACK ROW:** H Abrahams, J Hickman, T-B Aspinall, T Brown, G Lanfear, L Johnson, K Hallé **ABSENT:** R Paton, C Dornford-May



### GRADE 7 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** I Tsinonis, G Perdakis, L Weldon, D Crabtree, R Ndhuni, R Dix-Peek, S Govender, A Jones, G Clark **MIDDLE ROW:** J Keeton, S Slauck, J Quinlan, S Sale, J Dow, O Cresswell-Turner, A Meyer, M Efstathiou, Mrs A Baikoff **BACK ROW:** G Jacobs, C Fleming, C Baker, A Ramsbottom, L Miszewski, M Cadiz, G Bromley, S Pitman, A Mesham





▲ ALEXA MESHAM



▲ ALYSSA MEYER



▲ VICTORIA CRESSWELL-TURNER



▲ SHANNON PITMAN



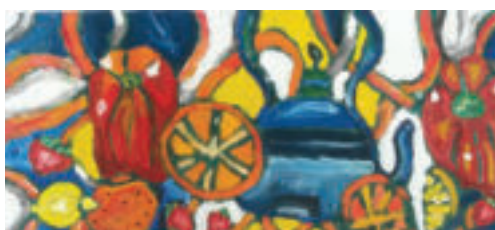
▲ SHIVADHNA GOVENDER



▲ NAMREEN EBRAHIM



▲ OLIVIA CRESSWELL-TURNER



▲ TAKARA ASPINALL



▲ EMMA RICHARDSON



▲ ELIZABETH INGRAM



▲ JENNA HICKMAN



▲ GEORGIA JACOBS



▲ CHARLOTTE FLEMING



▲ GEORGINA BROMLEY



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE

# Grade 7 Year

2015 has been a busy and interesting year filled with commitments and variety. The Grade 7 girls are the leaders of the school and they always impress the staff with the way in which they rise to every challenge.

Leadership is service-orientated and this year all the girls will have served in each of the four service portfolios. These portfolios include Monitoring, where the girls assist class teachers in supervising the younger girls, Public Relations, where girls represent Herschel at open days and other functions, Outreach, where the girls organise events for charity, and Mentors, who assist the

Learning Support Department in listening to and encouraging the younger girls to read. In addition to these portfolios, the Grade 7 girls are selected as leaders in every sphere of school life.

Each girl has the opportunity to lead in some way during the year. The House Captains, Sports Captains, Library Monitors, Ensemble, Choir and Orchestra Leaders, the Eco Team and Class Captains all perform essential functions in the school and afford the girls the opportunity to experience more than one aspect of leadership.

The girls learn about leadership and

styles of leadership on a special Leadership Day and are able to apply and develop these skills during the year. This year, the day included a talk by Stuart West, our Headmaster, as well as one by Jessica Wilson, Head Girl of the Senior School. Different styles of leadership are discussed and role-played.

Challenging but fun games are played to reinforce and practise what has been learnt. This day sets the tone for the girls to confidently step into their service portfolios and leadership roles as leaders of the Prep for 2015. ■

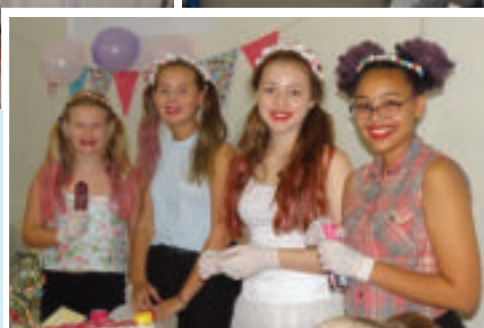


## FAIR

The annual Grade 7 Fair was held on Wednesday 22 April. This was a huge success and a lot of fun. The Grade 7 girls made all the goods during their Technology classes and at home.

This is really an incredible effort and makes our Fair special. Items on sale included beautiful jewellery, bags, soaps and candles. There were also lots of delicious goodies to eat, as well as a tea and cake stall where moms could relax while their daughters shopped. Games and activities were also very popular.

The Grade 7s will use the money raised for a variety of Outreach projects throughout the year. ■







# Camp to *High Africa*

BY RUBY PATON AND  
TAKARA ASPINALL

**IN** February, the Grade 7 girls set off for four days at High Africa. We were very excited on the bus going there and ate most of our treats for the whole week! When we arrived, we settled into our cosy cabins, were divided into three groups and then the first activities started.

Each group worked at the same activities, but in different sessions. The first activities were raft building, mind games and the leap of faith. Not many of our girls will aspire to enter construction as a profession in later life as most of the rafts did not make it past the start line! Quite a few girls were nervous about the leap of faith, but with everyone cheering them on, they conquered their fears and loved it.

On the second day we did rock climbing, obstacles and games inside. The activities were fun, especially since it was a warm day. We also did lots of free swimming in the river. That evening we felt like masterchefs as we made a potjie with meat, vegetables and herbs and curries of our own choice. We had tremendous fun preparing, cooking and eating our own potjie. Everyone agreed that we would make a potjie for our parents sometime in the future.

On the third day, the girls faced their worst fear – heights. We were split into two groups of twenty-six in each group.

One group went to do the high ropes and one group did paddling down the river. The high ropes were treble the height of the leap of faith, but this didn't stop anybody. Most of the girls faced their fears by doing obstacles like walking on a rope ladder and walking on planks. Nobody understood the definition of fear until she was looking down at the other girls on the ground below.

The paddling was like swimming through wonderland, with much arm work, shouting and directing. What I did learn in that activity was that, if you sat at the back, your friend in the front wouldn't notice that you weren't paddling for quite a while. After a break on the river bank, we had the best part of the paddling. The nappy run. This is when you take your life jacket off and step into the arm holes and clip it together. We then waddled off to lie down in the river, waiting for the tide to take us back to our paddle boats.

Everyone was gutted to leave High Africa the following day. Even though we had crusty mud in our hair, bags under our eyes and smelly clothes, we left with smiles on our faces. The food was incredible, the leaders were so caring and the activities cultivated our leadership skills. Thank you to our teachers who made this camp possible. We shall never forget. ■



# My Success

I am energised by happiness  
A feeling of glee I cannot express  
So I run and I run for now I am  
free  
My hair let loose and wild  
behind me

This is the day the struggle is over  
It was no luck, no four leaf clover  
It was mind over matter and  
determination  
Proved them wrong, soared  
above their expectation

I never let anyone say I couldn't  
when I could

I said I would show them and  
knew that I would  
So here I am to tell you, I knew  
you were wrong  
Here it is, here's the proof.  
I'm happy brave and strong.

I can feel joy at last as I have  
felt pain  
I guess this is the rainbow after  
the rain.  
The big bold black and beastly  
clouds have passed  
And the sizzling sun is a beauty  
in contrast.

**Mia Versfeld - Grade 7A**



## HAIKU

Flashing bright colours,  
Their sweet songs echo softly  
As leaves gently fall

**Jacqueline Dow**  
- Grade 7al

The cold winter wind  
That sent a chill down my spine  
Has waved me goodbye

**Olivia Cresswell-Turner**  
- Grade 7al

## IT WAS YOUR MISTAKE

You were my favourite hello,  
And my hardest good-bye,  
I held you so tight,  
That I didn't let you fly.

When I loosened my grip,  
I still had your hand in mine,  
Though you were looking  
around,  
Oblivious that you weren't  
fine.

I never let you go,  
Until the night with the  
glossy snow,

Where you went on a train,  
To a place you could "grow."

You started making bad  
choices,  
Thinking it was "cool,"  
But every morning when you  
woke up,  
Your head was screaming.  
You were out of fuel.

That night was your choice,  
And you let yourself fall.

**Ruby Paton**  
- Grade 7A

## I'M SORRY

I saw the light  
Shine out of you  
I wonder sometimes  
If you knew it too

I couldn't look  
My words were gone  
I slowly turned away  
As if the sun had finally gone

I'm sorry I couldn't look  
I couldn't bear  
To hear your final words  
Or cries of despair

You looked so peaceful  
sleeping there  
All curled up in a ball  
Covered from tail to ear  
By your favourite blanket of  
course

Just so you know  
(All curled up in the sky)  
I cried all day  
When you were gone  
**Jessica Keeton - Grade 7al**

## MY PLACE

Children playing in a park  
Their vast, faint voices,  
Were echoes in the trees,  
Like an untold secret  
Waiting to be shared

Then that loud, BOOM crash,  
And a siren  
Cars hooting  
People screaming

Dangerous drivers  
Scream explicit language  
The sound of their horns  
Like gongs in my ears

But there are also those,  
Suspicious subways, where you  
Suffocate in the hot thin air.  
Trains running buskers playing  
Breaks screeching

SILENCE!

The bleak, barren backstreets  
Are a blur to my vision.  
But there it is,  
Again,  
A house so lonely  
Lit with one light.

**Lucy Miszewski - Grade 7al**

## THE EAGLE

A wide-winged eagle  
Mighty, confident and strong  
Soaring through the sky  
**Georgina Bromley - G 7al**

## THE OWL

Soaring through the air  
His eyes as big as rosebuds  
The mouse had no chance  
**Chiara Williams-Wynn**  
- Grade 7A

## TREES

Swishing in the wind  
Nature's home to many things  
To me, a playground  
**Aerin Stirk - Grade 7A**

**HELP!**

Help!  
Mamma en Pappa,  
My sussie is 'n vampier sy  
het twee lang tande in haar  
mond.  
Sy hardloop blitsvinnig in  
die huis.  
Sy slaap in 'n kis. Haar  
kis is swart en dit is onder  
haar bed.  
Haar vriend is spierwit en  
sy mond is rooi. En sy het  
vis geëet.  
Mamma ek dink ek sal  
doodgaan.  
Pappa ek is baie lief vir jou.  
Ek is doodbang.

Oooohhhh ek het vergeet  
dit is Halloween.

**Chumisa Dornford-May**  
- Grade 7A

**DIE BRAAI  
IN STILBAAI**

Die mense in Stilbaai  
Het gister groot gebraai  
Hulle het geëet en gedrink  
Niemand het gedink  
aan 'n bietjie slaai  
**Maxine Cadiz**  
- Grade 7al

**THE COLOUR  
OF SILENCE**

If you could paint a picture of  
silence,  
What colour would it be?

Would it be a shade of green?  
A forest thick of muted breeze  
No sound to scare the birds  
from trees  
No broken branches but fallen  
leaves

Would silence be as black as  
night?  
A cave too deep for any light  
Or would silence be of many  
colours?  
A rainbow shade of  
multicolours

If you could paint a picture of  
silence,  
What colour would be?  
**Shannon Pitman**  
- Grade 7al

**GRIEF**

Grief finds you at a tragic  
time.  
It gets to know you.  
Meets you,  
Greets you,  
Sees you every day.  
It clings to you,  
Slowly breaking you each  
day.  
It mocks you,  
Scares you!  
It swallows you up,  
Never letting go.  
Tires you out,  
Breaks you down.  
It drains you!

Drives you into madness.  
Turns you insane!  
Until there is nothing left,  
But skin and bones...  
But  
Someone, something,  
anything  
Can pull you out of the  
darkness.  
Rip you out of grief's grasp.  
Until grief is only your past.  
But there will always be the  
lingering feeling,  
Of the person that was  
once there.

**Rebecca Dix-Peek**  
- Grade 7al

**MY SISTER**

My sister is a mountain  
Standing tall and strong  
Not disturbed by the wind or  
the rain  
Or the moon shining all night long

My sister is a friend  
As close as a friend can be  
She's a friend when I am having  
fun  
And a friend when I'm lonely

My sister is a gem  
That sparkles through the night  
Something so precious  
That you glisten at the sight

My sister is a puzzle  
It takes years to figure her out  
But once you've put the pieces  
together  
There will never be a doubt

My sister is a million dollars  
Everyone's desire

I'm so lucky that she is mine  
And from this she'll never retire  
**Gabrielle Lanfear - Grade 7A**

**THE WARRIOR**

Through the green valleys,  
Is where you will find,  
An ancient stone castle,  
With its ruins left behind.

People say there'll be no one,  
No one in sight,  
But linger, and if you are lucky,  
You may encounter a wandering  
knight.

His armour is silver,  
It gleams in the moonlight,  
Clink, clank, eerily tapping,  
His sword ready to fight.

He'll hide in the shadows,  
He'll move in the dark,  
But if you were wise,  
You'd keep out of the park.

**Alexa Mesham - Grade 7al**

**THE WIND**

The wind is meaningless  
talk  
But not if you listen

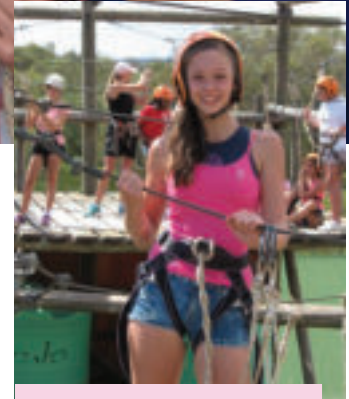
She can play the strings of  
the guitars  
Strumming gently, then  
leaves  
She blows an expressive  
sound  
Down the mountain  
Strongly plays the flute

She blows what we need  
But if she doesn't get her  
way  
A new person is who she  
becomes

Hitting on the drums in  
despair  
Splashing down the shore  
Raging through the town  
In circles creating emotion  
typhoons

She could throw us off the  
face the face of the earth  
But she doesn't  
She could blow us out of  
her life  
But she chooses not to

The wind is strong  
I am the wind  
**Namreen Ebrahim**  
- Grade 7A





## GRADE 6



### GRADE 6A

**FRONT ROW:** J Ovendale, L Frater, A de Villiers, I Nicholson, F Simmonds, A Mondry, E Hillary, C Fisher, L Mohamed **MIDDLE ROW:** H Meyer, K Pillay, M Ameen, O Sieff, M de Villiers, I McAdam, A van Graan, P Govan, S Floquet, Mrs C Billett **BACK ROW:** I Peters, T Spencer, S Miszewski, J Mundy, C Hooper, H Osrin, R Williams, R Glanvill



### GRADE 6 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** H Fraser, I Gruber, G Wellington, L Berman, C Romano, R Bagus, J Lancefield, E Halle, S Osman **MIDDLE ROW:** Mr D Williams, C Wilson Trollip, K Rowell, J Godfrey, N Duckitt, J Collins, G Colyn, R Dower, L Formby, Ms L Cowie **BACK ROW:** L Burke, L Koopman, E Manthorp, C Rumbelow, H Ebrahim, J Levett, S Wilensky, I Khan **ABSENT:** G Horrigan





▲ EMMA HILLARY



▲ KENDAL PILLAY



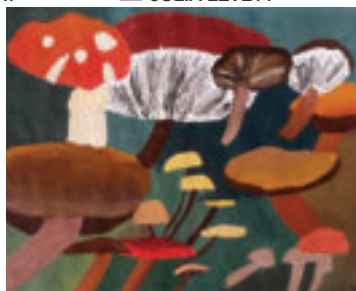
▲ JULIA LEVETT



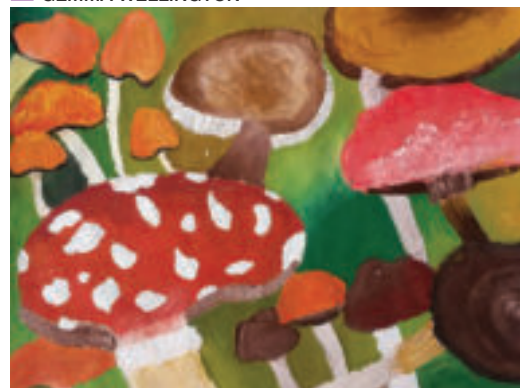
▲ GEMMA WELLINGTON



▲ ISABELLA GRUBER



▲ KAYLA CASEWELL



▲ HANNAH MEYER



▲ JESSICA OVENDALE



▲ LUCY FRATER



▲ CHLOË RUMBELOW



▲ EVA HALLE



▲ ELLA MANTHORP



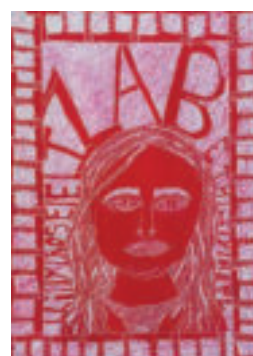
▲ ANASTASIA MONDRY



▲ MARYAM AMEEN



▲ LAYAAN MOHAMED



▲ LILY BURKE



▲ SAMANTHA WILENSKY



GRADE 6A

# MY favourite THINGS

■ The sight of a city at night covered in a blanket of light,  
Fluffy clouds like unsheared sheep airily floating in the sky,  
The warm smell of fresh baked scones on a cold winter's morning,  
The loud and encouraging sound of a booming crowd,  
The relaxing sound of angry waves letting out emotions on the rocks,  
The summery taste of freshly picked raspberries,  
The mouth-watering smell of sizzling bacon for breakfast,  
The tremendously terrific taste of a cold ice-lolly freezing your teeth,  
The easing touch of crusty sand between your toes,  
The cozy comforting feel of a fluffy dogs' thick fur and cold wet nose. - **Caroline Hooper**

■ A twinkle in the eye of a sweet silent puppy,  
The gleeful giggle from a mischievous girl,  
The taste of warm melted chocolate,  
The touch of drizzling, dripping foamy shampoo,  
A silvery sky on a cold winter's night,  
The pitter patter of a toddler's footsteps,  
The smell of a flower filled garden, bright and alive,  
The taste of sugar like a burst of fireworks,  
The feeling of a heartbeat leaping in and out of my chest. - **Olivia Sieff**

■ The early morning scent of fresh dewdrops on grass,  
The sight of glistening light on the foot prints of early risers,  
The feel of a cool breeze while watching autumn leaves dancing in the wind,  
The sound of birds merrily chirping in a nearby tree,  
The sight of white clouds drifting like sheep in the sky,  
The taste of chocolate as it melts in your mouth,  
The smell of freshly baked bread as it wafts through the house,  
The sight of the moon as it looms over the earth. - **Sarah Floquet**

■ The sight of sparkly city lights that brighten up the night,  
The sound of whooshing waves crashing onto bouldering rocks,  
The perfume like scent of a newly picked bunch of roses,  
The taste of tea rocking down your throat like a boat in the wind,  
The sight of a river flowing furiously in the breeze,  
The soft touch of a feathery pillow like lying on a cloud,  
The smell of freshly baked bread as it seeps out the oven,  
The sound of a snowy owl hooting high above the ground. - **Lucy Frater**



## ROOMYS

Op die tafel en in 'n bak  
Links van die kaste, regs van  
my hand  
Is heerlike roomys waarvan ek  
droom

Dit ruik so lekker  
dit proe so heerlik  
dit voel so glad  
dit lyk so soet.

**Marayam Ameen**

## MY DROOM

My droom is vol vreugde  
waar niemand se glas het 'n  
halwe leegte.

Almal is altyd optimisties  
Waar kinders hul nie  
doodverveel  
en daar is nie 'n reël.  
Daar is nie skool  
en niemand sit op 'n stoel;  
Hulle lewens is vol van 'n  
goeie dag  
En jy kan altyd kinders  
hoor lag.

Ek droom en droom dat my  
droom waar kom  
en as dit onwaar kom  
dan het ek 'n potlood om my  
huiswerk te doen.

**Sarah Floquet**



## GRADE 6 ALPHA



## MY DROOM

Ek droom daar is 'n Oreokoekie  
so groot soos die winkel  
Snoekie  
Ek droom ek het drie  
verjaarsdae in 'n jaar  
En 'n boom met 'n Candy  
Cane-blaar  
Ek droom ek het superkragte  
Veral onsigbare magte  
Maar ek kan nie  
Want dit is 'n droom  
**Noa Duckitt**

## MY DROOM

Ek droom my bed is 'n seilskip  
Wanneer ek ingestek is,  
gaan ek op reis.  
Ek verlaat my besige dag  
En seil in die nag  
Ek seil langs ver strande,  
blinkwit  
Met palmbome wat swaai en  
ek sit  
Ek kyk na die golwe wat  
breek op die strande  
Dan sien ek my eie hande.  
Dit was alles my droom  
Maar eendag  
In die nag  
Sal dit werlik wees.  
**Laura Formby**

## MY FAVOURITE THINGS

■ The wind in a sail like clouds  
in the sky  
The chirp of a bird singing  
way up high  
The crashing of waves that  
splash all day  
The flap of birds flying over  
the bay  
The smell of a rose in your  
nose

The scent of the sea sand in  
your toes  
The creamiest of chocolate  
that melts in your mouth  
The love that is shared from  
north to south  
- **Chloë Rumbelow**

■ The sparkle of surrounded  
city lights  
The scary bang in the night.  
Hearing the sweet soft  
afternoon breeze  
The sound of a voice that  
was meant to be.  
The scent of a new cars  
potent petrol  
The smell of the freshly new  
baked bread roll.  
The sizzle of sherbet sugar  
sweets  
Fluffy wool on a new born  
sheep.  
The scent of brand new  
super glue  
The dancing of slithery, slimy  
goo. - **Lily Burke**

■ The curious colours of life  
A slice of cake cut with a  
knife.  
The smell of cooking when I  
arrive home  
My warm blanket imported

from Rome.

The sight of the bright moon  
The taste of a macaroon  
from Cameroon.  
The touch of a baby born  
The pop of popping popcorn.  
The crash of the wild waves  
The crunch of lovely Lays  
- **Janet Lancefield**

■ The colourful colours in the  
corner of my eye,  
The sweet sound of singing  
birds in the sky.  
The scent of new paint on a  
clean slate,  
Chewy, chunky, chocolate on  
a plate.  
The touch of my tiptoes in  
my new shoes,  
The morning sight of the  
sunrise blues.  
The dropping of dewdrops in  
the morning light,  
The smell of shampoo like  
the morning bright.  
Blueberries as they touch my  
lips every day,  
And the ice cold water as it  
sizzles away - **Eva Halle**

■ The sight of the splashing  
soothing sea,  
The crunchy crunch of  
biscuits at tea.  
The breath of fresh air,  
The feel of long, silky hair.  
The beauty of nature within  
a mile,  
The warmth of a baby's  
smile.  
The yummy taste of ice-cream,  
The thought of dreamy  
dreams. - **Leah Berman**



## GRADE 5



### GRADE 5A

**FRONT ROW:** D Jähnig, N Tsinonis, M Erasmus, S Pearce, S van Wyngaarden, J Kirsten, K Webb, C Williams, S van Veen **MIDDLE ROW:** R Tudhope, T May, P Moodaley, J Dore, J Hutcheson, O Johnstone, G Quinlan, J Searll, S Macready, Mrs A Lewis **BACK ROW:** G Stewart, E Townsend, H Mac Robert, R Moller, T Bagg, J Sainsbury, A Martin, C Maharajh



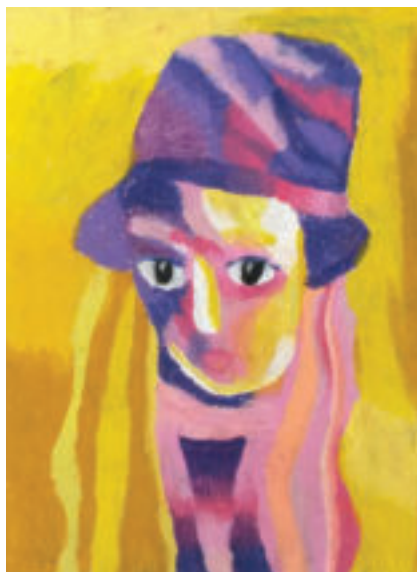
### GRADE 5 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** S True, R Turck, J Bagus, B Wilson, D Govender, O Dearnaley, A Mohamed, H Mackay  
**MIDDLE ROW:** K Forrest, C Boyd, A Cousins, J Finlayson, T Orgill, C Laubscher, G North, A Dowling, Ms E Webster  
**BACK ROW:** N Vermaak, C de Gouveia, S Angeliniadis, V Barton, R Boyd, S Mayekiso, E Parker, J van der Merwe  
**ABSENT:** K Farrell, I Robb-Quinlan





▲ TIA ORGILL



▲ SOPHIA ANGELINIADIS



▲ MICHAELA ERASMUS



▲ ALEXIA MARTIN



▲ OLIVIA JOHNSTONE



▲ ELLA PARKER



▲ JULIETTE SEARLL



▲ CONSTANDINA TSINONIS



▲ VICTORIA BARTON



▲ HANNAH MACKAY



▲ KIRSTEN FARRELL



▲ OLIVIA DEARNALEY



## GRADE 5A

## LENTE IN DIE PARK

Sjoe, wat 'n dag  
 Almal sing en speel en lag  
 Soos hulle lekkerkry  
 En die wipplank ry  
 Dit is naby die middag  
 Ek gaan na die park gou  
 Ek sal spring, klim en lag  
 Dit is tyd en ek gaan nou  
 Dit was 'n lekker dag  
 Maar ek moet gaan slaap  
 Die son het gesê goeienag  
 Ek hoop ek droom van die hele  
 Kaap. - **Jessica Kirsten**

Sjoe, wat 'n lekker dag!  
 Almal sing en speel en lag  
 Soos hulle lekkerkry  
 En die geel wipplank ry.  
 Dit is Lente  
 Daar is n lekker ruik van blomme  
 En die park het baie mense  
 Hulle sal terugkom in die Somer.  
 Die park het n swaai  
 In 'n baie groot boom  
 Wat jy kan klim en draai  
 En jy kan swem in die stroom.  
**Jessica Dore**

SUGAR & SPICE  
& ALL THINGS NICE

Cherries running on the treadmill  
 Bananas doing splits  
 Strawberries doing yoga  
 And  
 Lollipops holding weights  
 Jelly Beans are swimming  
 as fast as they can  
 While most other foods  
 are sizzling in the pan!  
**Sarah Pearce**

## IN DIE PARK

Sjoe, wat 'n dag!  
 almal sing en speel  
 soos hulle lekkerkry  
 en wipplank ry  
 Dis soos pret  
 in die Lente  
 maar met  
 baie mense

**Sarah van Wyngaarden**

JUMP JUMP  
SUGAR LUMP

The cheese sticks were playing  
 soccer,  
 with a meatball as their ball.  
 The meatballs were being used  
 as soccerballs,  
 The banana was watching the  
 soccer  
 while stretching,  
 and then the blueberry,  
 who was just peacefully resting.  
 All as busy as a bee!

**Camryn Williams**

## THE FOODY GYM

Eggs exercising  
 Walnuts lifting weights  
 Strawberries swimming  
 This doesn't sound right  
 Tangerines playing tennis  
 Sage spinning  
 Beetroots boxing  
 What is happening?  
 Gem squash playing squash  
 Carrots doing Kung fu  
 Radishes running!  
 But according to Mr Pea  
 This is happening inside of me!  
**Grace Quinlan**

EARLY FARMERS OF  
SOUTHERN AFRICA WRITING

Today was a very exciting day.  
 We moved from the North  
 down to this beautiful land.  
 Unfortunately my husband,  
 who was leading the village  
 through some long grass,  
 got bitten by a snake. The  
 Sangoma and the headmen of  
 the village had to go and get  
 some buchu and Sickle bush  
 leaves by the mountain far  
 away for him.

While they were gone I was  
 left to look after the whole  
 village. Everyone was hungry  
 after the long journey, so we  
 made some food with the crops  
 from the old village. Some of  
 the children and I went to go  
 and look for water for the cattle  
 and the villagers. We found a  
 small river near where the cattle  
 were resting.

Finally the men came back.  
 We walked a little further until  
 my husband and the headmen  
 found the perfect location with  
 rich black soil and the right  
 climate with a river nearby.

The first thing we did was  
 check on our cattle. I noticed  
 that one of the cows was  
 slower and bigger than the  
 other cows. Soon afterwards  
 the cow gave birth to a little  
 calf. Then we started collecting  
 wood for the fire whilst the men  
 hunted for dinner. We collected  
 some clay for our huts and  
 planted crops. We worked for  
 a long time trying to finish the  
 cattle kraal and huts before  
 dark. We finished the last  
 touches the next day and our  
 village was beautiful!

**Ruby Moller**

## THE CHIEF

"I lost another cow!" I  
 thought I saw my sister and  
 mother walk by carrying  
 pots of water on their heads.  
 A cow nudged me for some  
 water but I stared into the  
 distance. A boy came up to  
 me and counted the cattle.  
 "Uh Oh!" I thought.  
 "We are missing one!" said  
 the boy. I shrugged and went  
 to go and find my father.  
 "This will make you better,"  
 said the herbalist.  
 "Father, I want to be chief!"  
 He stared at me and told me  
 to hunt. I frowned at him and  
 went to hunt.  
 "When the sun went down

and when we had our  
 evening meal, I would grab  
 some cattle and trade with  
 the nearest village. I did that  
 and got a spear. I entered  
 the chief's room, I held the  
 spear near him...and then  
 my father grabbed me and  
 threw me out of the village! I  
 walked until I found another  
 village. From that day I lied  
 my way to be chief.

A few years later, during  
 the night, I heard it, a raid! I  
 rushed outside to my people  
 but it was too late! They are  
 ancestors now, like I was to  
 become...

**Jenna Hutcheson**



## GRADE 5 ALPHA

WAT 'N  
LEKKER DAG!

Sjoe, wat 'n lekker dag.  
Almal sing en speel en lag.  
Soos hulle lekker kyk  
En vrolik wipplank ry...

...Kinders op die  
wipplank, ry  
en op die glyplank gly.  
Hulle lag en hulle sing!  
Hulle kan baie geluk bring.

Hulle klim op die  
klimraam en speel elke  
dag saam.  
Ja, die kinders het  
'n goeie dag  
En slaap lekker  
in die nag.

**Anna Cousins**

...Watter groot pret  
Op die draaimeul  
met 'n tred.  
Dit is merkwaardig  
Om met die swaai op  
te vlieg.

Dit voel goed  
op die heks se hoed  
En die son skyn  
al oor die tuin.

**Sarah True**

## MY MYSTICAL FAMILY

My dad is a Yeti, because  
he's hairy and REALLY strong.  
My mom is a unicorn  
because she is beautiful and  
majestic.  
My older brother is a  
Minotaur. Because he is tall  
and strong.  
My sister is a fairy because  
she is gentle and delicate.  
My little brother is Dobby  
from Harry Potter because he  
is small and cute and funny!!!

**Rachel Turck**

## MY JEWELLERY BOX

My family's a Jewellery box!  
My dad the watchmaker watches  
our every move.  
My mum is the charm  
maker, hugs your arm  
when you feel sad.  
My brother is the obsidian  
amulet stone: cold and  
unbreakable.  
Me? I'm simple. I'm  
my mother's charm  
bracelet – keeps  
memories living for ever.

**Blaiquey Wilson**

A FRENCH LUNCH  
AFTER-PARTY

My onion soup is racing down  
my throat.  
Frogs' legs hopping down too.  
Éclairs doing grand jetés!  
I need to go to the ...  
My croissant is skipping hand  
in hand  
with the thick cream, butter and  
jam.  
Escargots inching up, up, up!  
I shouldn't have eaten that ham!  
Please, please tell me it's over  
soon!

The French loaf won't stay still.  
Let's just say when I ate that tart,  
I should have used a spoon!

**Catherine Laubscher**

THE WRETCHED  
ROAST DINNER

Mashed potatoes being lazy  
Swimming in a pool of gravy.  
Carrots doing aquarobics  
And turnips on the side,  
Wishing they could do  
gymnastics.  
Peas whizzing round like shoals  
of green fish.  
Broccoli playing water-polo in a  
silverware dish.  
Food is alive!  
It's a complete and utter fluke!  
Mummy, I think I'm about to ...

**Grace North**

## MY NEW VILLAGE

We were so happy when we  
found this beautiful spot. It has  
fertile soil, a river nearby to get

fresh water from and summer  
rainfall for my family's crops!  
I am so excited to start a new  
life here. We will have lots of  
crops and many more cattle!

First we need to make pots  
to store our food and water in  
(they will be made, of course.  
Since I am a woman, it is my  
job). I need to prepare the soil  
for sowing the seeds and grow  
some crops. We also need  
to build my household in my  
husband's new homestead.  
My husband is the chief and  
our homestead will have the  
most cattle. My husband will  
send out all his men to hunt so  
we can get hides, furs, skins  
and ivory to trade. The women  
need to collect water from  
the river, for our families and  
crops.

Our life will be better here and  
I am ready to make a new start!

**Amber Dowling**

## TONGKNOPERS

**AMBER DOWLING:** Mary,

Mia en Mikaela maak 'n  
malvakoek vir hulle mooi  
ma's.

**VICTORIA BARTON:** Klein  
Kim kam Katherine se kameel  
op Kersfees.

**ELLA PARKER:** Pragtige  
perde pak perfekte  
pynappels.

**JENNA VAN DER MERWE:**

Hannah het haar hondjie hier;  
hy het 'n hoender as sy maat.

**AYESHA MOHAMED:** Marie  
maak lekker melktert met  
mieliepap.

**DIYARA GOVENDER:** Liam  
loop, lees en lag in 'n lang lyn.

**OLIVIA DEARNALEY:** Liam  
lees oor lieweheersbesies.





## GRADE 4



### GRADE 4A

**FRONT ROW:** A de Villiers, S Jensen, L Edelstein, E Dix, E Sales, N Barkai, L MacFarlane, E Parker-Forsyth, E Clarke **MIDDLE ROW:** Z Roshan, N Dahya, M De Graaf, O Hill, K Benade, M Harrison, C Thompson, Y Rawoot, Mrs S Centurion-Harris **BACK ROW:** S Gutuza, R Clark, E Faure, H Lee, C Park, D Varney, R Cuninghame, K Buissinne, M Wright



### GRADE 4 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** J Houwing, M Sonnenberg, S O'Shea, K Lawrenson, L Burns, J Jensen, N Starke, H Govan, E Floquet **MIDDLE ROW:** J Wellington, I Weldon, C le Roux, G Dillon, R Ebrahim, C Coutts-Trotter, G Weir, K Mahabeer, Mrs A Mozley **BACK ROW:** P Duckitt, G Neethling, D Kaye, J Paine, S Danpoulo-Baba, R Shortt, K Swain, S Gonsenhauser **ABSENT:** S Searll





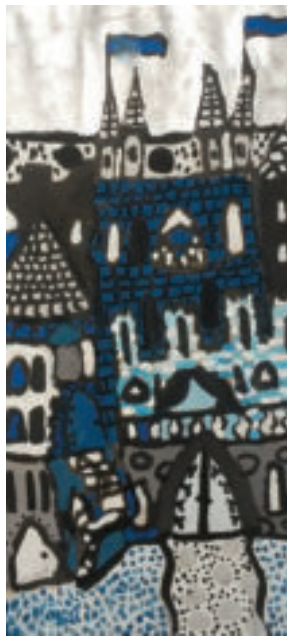
▲ KATHERINE SWAIN



▲ KIARA MAHABEER



▲ SOPHIA SEARLL



▲ OLIVIA HILL



▲ DANA ROSE VARNEY



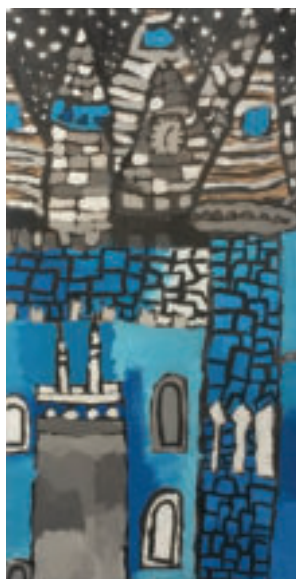
▲ SIENNA O'SHEA



▲ LEAH BURNS



▲ EMILY FLOQUET



▲ YUMNAA RAWOOT



▲ LUCY EDELSTEIN



## GRADE 4A



## GRADE FOUR IS...

**ELLA DIX:** awesome and cool  
**KERRY BENADE:** hard, fun and I learn so many things. I do not want to leave.

**ALIDA DE VILLIERS:** lots of fun and educational. We do nice things like worksheets and reading

**HAMIN LEE:** lots of fun when you get used to it

**DANA ROSE VARNEY:** lots of fun, but very hard. Grade 4 is a hoot

**KERRY BUISSINNE:** sometimes the best and sometimes just hard work

**NEHAL DAHYA:** fun and exciting and I think it is my best year

**LUCY EDELSTEIN:** fun, awesome, amazing and exciting

**EMILY FAURE:** the best year I have been in

**MEGAN HARRISON:** fun, exciting and I learn lots from Mrs CH

**SARAH GUTUZA:** awesomely fun and we learn a lot of new things. We have mice teachers and lots of laughs

**MIA DE GRAAF:** fun, happy, awesome and exciting

**CHELSEA THOMPSON:** awesome, and amazing

**LUCY MACFARLAINE:** fun, cool, the best class ever

**EMMA CLARKE:** fun, exciting, hard and very awesome

**ROBYN CUNINGHAME:** fun, exciting and an awesome learning experience

**CHELSEA PARK:** fun and exciting. I have enjoyed learning new things

**NEVE BARKAI:** exciting and full of thrills

# Poems

## BALLOONS

Up,up,up out of my hand  
 Over the hill  
 Above the ground  
 In the sky  
 Into the cloud  
**Yumnaa Rawoot**

## CAVE

Around the mountain  
 Up the steep path  
 Into the cave that's very dark  
 Through the darkness as I creep  
 Behind the barrel is the treasure I seek!  
**Sarah Jensen**

## THE ROCKET

Above the ground  
 Through the atmosphere  
 Up in space  
 Towards Mars  
 In a spacesuit  
 Out we go  
**Ella Sales**

## HAMSTERS

Through your tubes,  
 Under the shavings,  
 On your wheel,  
 Next to your food,  
 In your house,  
 On my hands,  
 In your little plastic ball.  
**Rozanna Clark**

## COCO MY KITTEN

Down the stairs my kitty goes.  
 Up the tree on her tippy toes.  
 Into my room she closes  
 her eyes  
 Until she smells the  
 chicken pie.  
 In my heart she is my friend  
 and we'll always be friends  
 until the end.  
**Olivia Hill**

## ROLLERCOASTER

Up and down twirl around  
 Into the breezy sky  
 Up and Up and Up we go  
 To the people down below  
 Stuck to the seat and glued  
 to the floor  
 Down and down and  
 down we go  
**Michaela Wright**

## BIRD

In the sky,  
 Above the ground  
 Out the grass  
 On their nest  
 In the tree  
 With her little babies.  
**Ella Parker-Forsyth**



## GRADE 4 ALPHA

**THE SQUIRREL**

Under the tree  
In the shade  
It sleeps  
Between the leaves  
In its hole  
It lives  
On the branch  
With an acorn  
It eats  
The greedy little squirrel  
**Jemima Houwing**

**LEOPARD**

Through the safari  
Past the trees  
It runs  
Through the grass  
Near its prey  
It creeps  
In the trees  
On the branches  
It sleeps  
The sneaky leopard  
**Julia Wellington**

**THE SHOOTING STAR**

In the sky  
Above sleeping children  
It dreams  
At amazing heights  
In the middle of the night  
It delivers wishes  
From the great view  
Of the loving children  
It glides  
The shining shooting star  
**Kelsie Lawerson**

**THE GOLDFISH**

Around the reeds  
Through the shipwreck  
It swims  
In the coral  
Under a rock  
It hides  
In the water  
With the tide  
It sleeps  
The beautiful goldfish  
**Leah Burns**

**THE KING**

In the bushveld  
Under a tree  
It roars  
Across the savannah  
Near the buck  
It hunts  
With his pride  
Around his territory  
It rules  
The fierce king  
**Emily Floquet**

**THE RUNNER**

Over the hill  
Towards the sights  
She runs  
In pain  
With deep breaths  
She jogs  
Between gulps of air  
Beside a lake  
She drinks  
The fast runner  
**Grace Dillon**

**THE TENNIS BALL**

Into the air  
Towards the sun  
It's tossed  
Off the racquet  
Onto the court  
It bounces  
Over the net  
At a speed  
It scores  
The brilliant tennis ball  
**Jessica Jensen**



## THE THING WE LOVE MOST ABOUT GRADE FOUR

**CHLOË COUTTS-TROTTER:**

All the fun stories we have written

**NINA STARKE:** Going to Groot Constantia and seeing all the carts there

**KATIE SWAIN:** The Victorian outing because it was fun dressing up

**RACHEL SHORTT:** I have got two best friends and they understand me

**SONIA DANPOULO-BABA:** All the outings, Hooked on Books and the Science Fair

**RAABI'AH EBRAHIM:** All the new subjects we have learnt and the new things we have done

**KIARA MAHABEER:** The Victorian School outing because I dressed as a boy and the teacher was very strict

**PETA DUCKITT:** My wonderful new friends and my awesome teacher

**MEGAN SONNENBERG:** The Science Fair because it was lots of fun and we got to do a poster and an experiment

**GENEVIEVE WEIR:** I have a nice teacher who teaches us awesome things

**SARAH GONSENHAUSER:** Playing netball because it is the first time I have played in the A team

**HASHNA GOVAN:** Hooked on Books because it was very funny and showed me what books I like

**JORDI PAINE:** The projects and orals we do, group work and the shows we watch

**DANIELLA KAYE:** Maths which we have everyday, because it is fun

**GEORGINA NEETHLING:** Having Mrs Mozley as a teacher as she is loving and caring

**SOPHIA SEARLL:** All the new things I have learnt through outings and projects

**CHELSEA LE ROUX:** Hooked on Books – my favourite book was Granny

**INDIAH WELDON:** My wonderful teacher that has helped me so much

**SIENNA O'SHEA:** All the friends I have made



## GRADE 3



### GRADE 3A

**FRONT ROW:** S Ebrahim, S Sonday, J Ratcliffe, R Boyd, G Prinsloo, S Dearnaley, Z Esack, F Hathorn, O Sherren, I Stodel **MIDDLE ROW:** N de Bruyn, G Finlayson, E van Heerden, E Vermaak, H Thomas, B Stewart, L van der Merwe, D Kleingeld, M Sainsbury, Mrs C Zevenster **BACK ROW:** A Badenhorst, H Saith, A de Villiers, J Rutgers, K Formby, S Gruber, S Baker



### GRADE 3 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** S Lund, N Khan, R Parker, K Mills, H Wright, T Pillay, A Moonda, T Katz, A Bräsler, A Ashbolt **MIDDLE ROW:** O Copeland, A Searson, J Hatherill, J Petersen, E Du, E Aspinall, L Gross, S Essa, Ms H King **BACK ROW:** C Macleod Smith, T Deliperi, K Hodgson, A van Breda, N Macey, C Barton, G Antrobus, L Mangxola





▲ KATE HODGSON



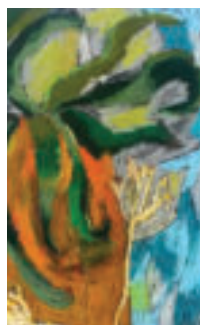
▲ CATHERINE BARTON



▲ GEORGIA FINLAYSON



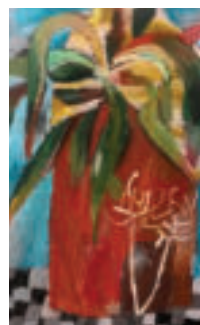
▲ SOPHIA GRUBER



▲ ANJA BRÄSLER



▲ BIANCA STEWART



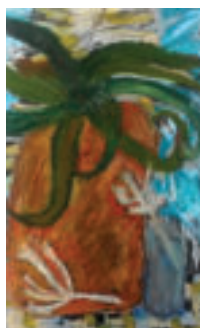
▲ HANAAN SAITH



▲ ANNA ASHBOLT



▲ SHARIFA EBRAHIM



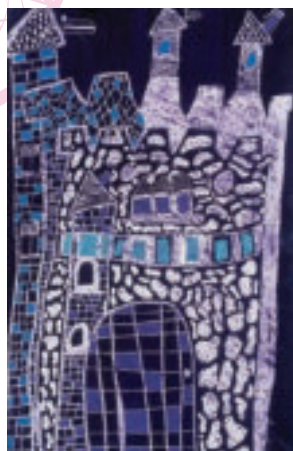
▲ AZRA MOONDA



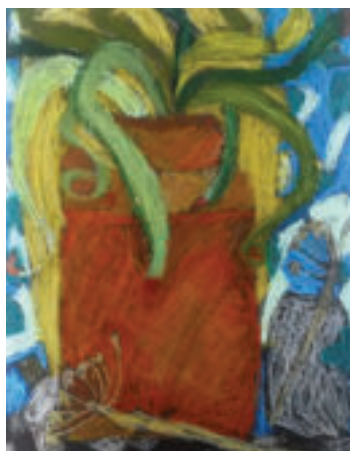
▲ AMY VAN BREDA



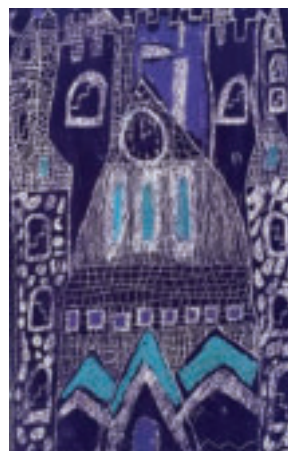
▲ ELEN VERMAAK



▲ HELEN THOMAS



▲ CAITLIN MACLEOD-SMITH



▲ TIA DELIPERI



▲ NADHIRA KHAN



## GRADE 3A

### ALICE

Sweet, kind  
Runs, sings, looks  
She is very curious  
Fun - **Jessica Ratcliffe**

### WHITE RABBIT

Hurried, rushed  
Runs, hops, worries  
Always in a rush  
Vamoose - **Bianca Stewart**

### MAD HATTER

Fun, crazy  
Paces, rushes, bosses  
He has a big hat  
Jazzy - **Gemma Prinsloo**

### LEWIS CARROL

Clever, kind  
Talks, hurries, snaps  
Likes to tell stories  
Quick - **Emily van Heerden**

### QUEEN

Bossy, funny  
Shouting, laughing, hitting  
Telling people what to do  
Gorgeous! - **Sharifa Ebrahim**

### ALICE

Curious, lost  
Walks, smiles, sleeps  
Always walking about  
Fun - **Jamie Rutgers**

### MAD HATTER

Hat, crazy  
Rushes, paces, shouts  
Bosses people around  
Dormouse - **Leah van Der Merwe**

### QUEEN

Bossy, wicked  
Parades, shouts, commands  
Chops people's heads off  
Help! - **Zahra Esack**

### LEWIS CARROL

Kind, cool  
Talking, snapping, singing  
He runs around a lot  
Snap! - **Olivia Sherren**

### ALICE

Kind, sweet  
Sings, walks, talks  
She is very curious  
Wonderland - **Kate Formby**

### MAD HATTER

Funny, interrupting  
Talks, shouts, bosses  
Talks too loud  
Annoying - **Mia Sainsbury**

### WHITE RABBIT

Crazy, late  
Hop, hop, hop  
His watch is wrong  
Gone! - **Elen Vermaak**



### CHESHIRE CAT

Sneaky, quiet  
Walks, wags, crawls  
A funny cat  
Meow - **Dana Kleingeld**

### MAD HATTER

Crazy, weird  
Drinks, rushes, sings  
Drinks tea all day  
Party - **Georgia Finlayson**



### QUEEN OF HEARTS

Bossy, pretty  
Speaks, walks, commands  
She's the ruler of  
Wonderland  
Flamingos - **Francis Hathorn**

### CATERPILLAR

Slow, wise  
Talks, slithers, slides  
Wise and mysterious and green  
Fly - **Isabella Stodel**

### QUEEN

Loud, bossy  
Shouts, walks, talks  
Off with her head  
Dead - **Alexa de Villiers**

### CATERPILLAR

Arrogant, sneaky  
Slow, slithers, slides  
He is very wise  
Puff - **Sophia Gruber**

### QUEEN

Bossy, arrogant  
Parades, screams, walks  
Off with her head  
Dead - **Hanaan Saith**

### CHESHIRE CAT

Creepy, smiley  
Saunters, sneaky, wags  
Disappears in broad daylight  
Meow - **Sofia Dearnaley**

### QUEEN

Mean, rude  
Shouts, walks, laughs  
The queen is bossy  
Funny - **Helen Thomas**

### CATERPILLAR

Rude, slow  
Creep, crawls, hides  
Does not listen to someone  
Grumpy - **Amelia Badenhorst**

### QUEEN

Bossy, loud  
Marches, shouts, orders  
She chops off heads  
Aaaaah! - **Stephanie Baker**

### QUEEN

Bossy, rude  
Runs, talks, shouts  
Off with her head  
Uuuuhhhhh - **Sabiha Sondag**

### DORMOUSE

Silly, sleepy  
Singing, squeaking,  
day-dreaming  
Not very bright  
Squeak! - **Roxanne Boyd**

### PIGEON

Feathery, funny  
Flies, talks, worries  
Shouts a lot  
Serpent - **Nicola de Bruyn**



Cinquine Poems

# Alice in



## GRADE 3 ALPHA

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Nasty, brutal  
Threatening, beastly, loud  
Loves to make others  
unhappy.  
Lady - **Anja Bräsler**

**CATERPILLAR**

Wise, mysterious  
Squirm, twist, shuffle  
Rather strict and unfriendly.  
Worm - **Nadhira Khan**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Rude, nasty  
Shout, unkind, mean  
She is brutal and nasty.  
Queen - **Nicole Macey**

**ALICE**

Sweet, curious  
Imaginative,  
Knowledgeable, confident  
Heroine of the story.  
Girl - **Tayla Katz**

**MAD HATTER**

Bossy, rude  
Talkative, shouts, busy  
Bossy towards everyone.  
Man - **Katie Mills**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Bossy, mean  
Nasty, brutal, loud  
Nasty to other people.  
Ruler - **Elysia Aspinall**

**PIGEON**

Bossy, judgmental  
Sulky, angry, rude  
Loud and bossy bird.  
Bird - **Liphelo Mangxola**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Nasty, loud  
Brutal, troubled, tempered  
The royal threatening  
Queen.  
Lady - **Taskya Pillay**

**CHESHIRE CAT**

Logical, smart  
Relaxed, grinning, funny  
He smiles and is funny.  
Animal - **Lucia Gross**

**MAD HATTER**

Impolite, crazy  
Frustrating, nervous,  
temper  
He is mad and funny.  
Host - **Azra Moonda**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Bossy, bratty  
Rude, commanding, shouts  
She is a bratty lady.  
Royal - **Olivia Copeland**

**DORMOUSE**

Lazy, sleepy  
Sweet, tired, silly  
Tries to stay awake.  
Animal - **Anna Ashbolt**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Demanding, loud  
Nasty, brutal, terrifying  
Has a large temper.  
Ruler - **Razeenah Parker**

**MAD HATTER**

Crazy, fun  
Running, laughing, chatty  
It is always tea time.  
Hatter - **Georgina Antrobus**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Nasty, loud  
Troubled, temper, terrifying  
A nasty rude ruler.  
Commander  
Sufiyah Essa

**ALICE**

Cute, curious  
Imaginative, polite, brave  
Heroine of story.  
Girl - **Enqi Du**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Loud, nasty  
Threatens others, beastly  
She is the ruler.  
Woman - **Jessica Petersen**

**PETE**

Funny, silly  
Flying, playing, fighting  
Fights with his brother.  
Bird - **Amy van Breda**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Loud, bossy  
Shouting, screaming,  
chatting  
Ruler of the land.  
Royal - **Sofia Lund**

**CATERPILLAR**

Wise, mysterious  
Strict, friendly, mellow  
Giver of advice to Alice.  
Worm - **Hanna Wright**

**DORMOUSE**

Animal, funny  
Sleepy, squeaky, scuttle  
Very funny and silly.  
Mouse - **Catherine Barton**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

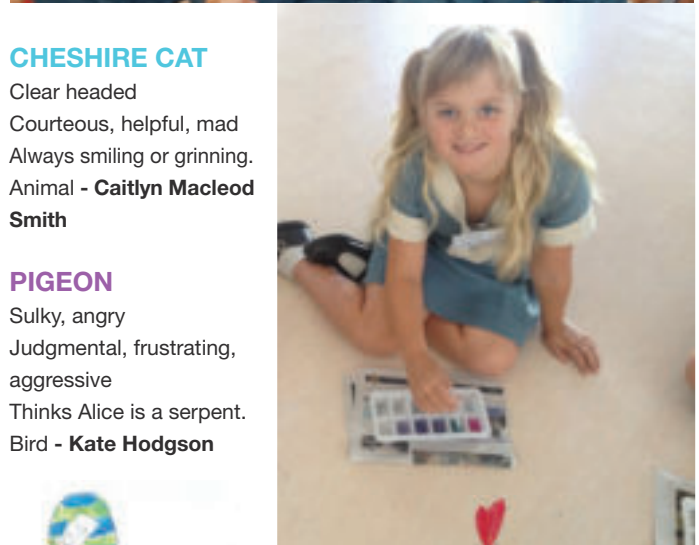
Bossy, loud  
Points, stomps, bangs  
She is very rude.  
Lady - **Jasmine Hatherill**

**PIGEON**

Mean, judging  
Fearful, gullible, quick  
Believes Alice is a serpent.  
Bird - **Anna Searson**

**QUEEN OF HEARTS**

Loud, nasty  
Threatens, scares, rules  
Likes to chop off heads.  
Ruler - **Tia Deliperi**



# Wonderland



## GRADE 2



### GRADE 2A

**FRONT ROW:** S Rossouw, S Mohamed, C Kleye, K van Schalkwyk, E Brodziak, K Seymour, L Rothschild, E Scott, Z Moakes **MIDDLE ROW:** I Kepelele, A Tresfon, J Turck, E van Zyl, G Ovenstone, O Emmerich, C Walker, TR Simmonds, H Rajie **BACK ROW:** S Rinquest, A Coquelle, I Barbour, L Schuhbauer, P Dower, G Sales, S Flint, K Cadiz **ABSENT:** G Sierra Rubia



### GRADE 2 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** G Fürst, Z Douglas, E Swart, K Verster, J Koller, S Griffiths, K Buissinne, L Sherwood, Z Bhorey, G Currie **MIDDLE ROW:** E Magrath, S Dore, I Lindsay, I Lappin, G Mulder, O Currie, C Hughes, K Böttger, Mrs J Nel **BACK ROW:** S Vickers, Z Colyn, Z Böttger, J Lückhoff, M Govender, K Dube, M Else, O Sparks





▲ INGA KEPELELE



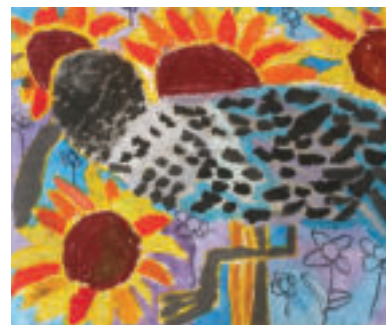
▲ JULIA LÜCKHOFF



▲ OLIVIA CURRIE



▲ LILY SCHUHBAUER



▲ EMILY VAN ZYL



▲ MEGAN ELSE



▲ GRACE MULDER



▲ ZAHRA ABRAHAMS



▲ ISABELLA LINDSAY



▲ LAUREN SHERWOOD



▲ SOPHIE VICKERS



▲ EMILY SWART



▲ KELLY CADIZ



▲ SAMANTHA DORE



▲ JULIA TURCK



## GRADE 2A

## I WONDER...

**ZAHRA ABRAHAMS:** I wonder why grass is green

**ISLA BARBOUR:** I wonder why bugs are small

**KELLY CADIZ:** I wonder why Jupiter is the biggest planet and why Saturn has rings

**EMMA BRODZIAK:** I wonder why chocolate is so good and stars are so bright

**AVA COUELLE:** I wonder who made God and why space is so interesting

**PHILIPPA DOWER:** I wonder why people boast and why everybody chooses to hate more than they love

**OLIVIA EMMERICH:** I wonder how rocks grow

**SAMANTHA FLINT:** I wonder why bees have six legs and not two

**INGA KEPELELE:** I wonder why I like sharpening so much

**JULIA TURCK:** I wonder why we have hair and toes

**CYANNE KLEYE:** I wonder why the sun is so big and why animals can't talk like humans

**SYRIANA MOHAMED:** I wonder why a peacock's feathers are so colourful

**GRACE SALES:** I wonder how did God get there and where is Heaven

**HANNAH RAJIE:** I wonder why the mountain is tall and why I don't like juice

**GRETA SIERRA RUBIA:** I wonder why cats have fur

**EMILY VAN ZYL:** I wonder where balloons go when you let go of them

**SIENNA ROSSOUW:** I wonder why trees are green and why clouds are in the sky

**LEAH ROTHSCHILD:** I wonder why there was the American Revolution

**GABY OVENSTONE:** I wonder who was the first king or queen and what is in the very middle of earth

**AIMEE TRESFON:** I wonder why cows have four stomachs when they only eat grass and we only have one when we eat all sorts of food

**ERIN SCOTT:** I wonder when does space end and why I can't see real live mermaids

**KAYLIN SEYMOUR:** I wonder how did the mountains form and how did the world form

**LILY SCHUHBAUER:** I wonder why lava is red and orange and water is blue

**KARLY VAN SCHALKWYK:** I wonder why Mrs Bailey is so pretty and why my name is Karly

**SAUSHAN RINQUEST:** I wonder why rainbows are colourful and why tigers have stripes

**CATHERINE WALKER:** I wonder why tsunami waves have to happen and why poor people are poor



## Imagine if...

**ZAHRA ABRAHAMS:** Imagine if we could wear high-heels to school

**ISLA BARBOUR:** Imagine if trees were the size of ants

**EMMA BRODZIAK:** Imagine if dogs poop sweets

**KELLY CADIZ:** Imagine if animals could talk to us and we could slide on Rainbows

**AVA COUELLE:** Imagine if nobody had manners and zebras had stars

**PHILIPPA DOWER:** Imagine if stories came to life

**OLIVIA EMMERICH:** Imagine if cats could fly

**SAMANTHA FLINT:** Imagine if we could eat chocolates all day and we were thin

**INGA KEPELELE:** Imagine if I had one wish I would wish for all my wishes to never end

**CYANNE KLEYE:** Imagine if a dog could talk like a human and the sun can change colours

**SYRIANA MOHAMED:** Imagine if I could walk on waves

**GABY OVENSTONE:** Imagine if humans could fly

**HANNAH RAJIE:** Imagine if you could eat soap - you would never eat Candy

**SAUSHAN RINQUEST:** Imagine if boys wore make-up

**SIENNA ROSSOUW:** Imagine if One Direction came over to our school

**LEAH ROTHSCHILD:** Imagine if the world was made of Candy

**GRACE SALES:** Imagine if a horse had polka dots and every year there was a day called naked day

**LILY SCHUHBAUER:** Imagine if buildings were made out of chocolate

**ERIN SCOTT:** Imagine if I could explore space

**KAYLIN SEYMOUR:** Imagine if I was a princess

**GRETA SIERRA RUBIA:** Imagine if a cat could fly and talk

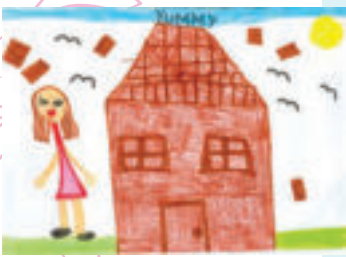
**AIMEE TRESFON:** Imagine if I turned into a pig

**JULIA TURCK:** Imagine if Mrs Bailey was not pretty that would be crazy

**KARLY VAN SCHALKWYK:** Imagine if I was a princess with a real crown

**EMILY VAN ZYL:** Imagine if the world was made of chocolate and the sky was green and the grass was blow

**CATHERINE WALKER:** Imagine if I had magical powers



## GRADE 2 ALPHA

## I wonder...

**ZEAH DOUGLAS:** why we don't know everything and why some things are difficult for us

**GEMMA FÜRST:** why there is more water than land and why the grass is so green

**MEGAN ELSE:** where babies come from and why space is black

**SIENNA GRIFFITHS:** why a rainbow has colours and why a chair is made out of wood

**EMILY SWART:** why space is so far and the world has to end

**CHLOË HUGHES:** where people get their names and how they made the first person

**JENNA KOLLER:** why teachers know so much and why we look so different

**ISABEL LAPPIN:** why stars only come out at night and why dogs howl at the moon

**EVA MAGRATH:** why we have surnames and why we have groups

**GRACE MULDER:** what the Bermuda Triangle is and how volcanoes erupt

**LAUREN SHERWOOD:** why we have to sleep and why we die

**OLIVIA-JANE SPARKS:** why mosquitoes bite without you knowing about it

**SOPHIE VICKERS:** why my name is Sophie and why we live in South Africa

**KELELLO DUBE:** why people are rude to other people

**ZARA BÖTTGER:** why bulls charge and cows don't



## IMAGINE IF...

**SOFIA SIERRA RUBIA:** the moms and dads were kids and the kids were the moms

**ISABELLA LINDSAY:** it was your birthday every day

**JULIA LÜCKHOFF:** I had two heads and seven eyes

**KIRSTEN BÖTTGER:** you wore shoes on your hands

**KIRSTY BUISSINNE:** everyone looked the same

**GEORGIA CURRIE:** the sea was made out of chocolate

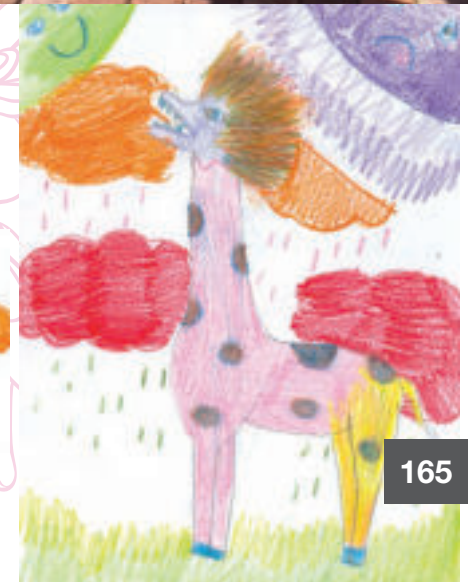
**OLIVIA CURRIE:** green was pink

**SAMANTHA DORE:** sweets were healthy and the world was square

**KYRA VERSTER:** I was flying all over the world

**ZAKIYA BHOREY:** We had big ears just the size of a small hill

**MIRA GOVENDER:** Easter was at the end of the year and Christmas at the beginning





## GRADE 1



### GRADE 1A

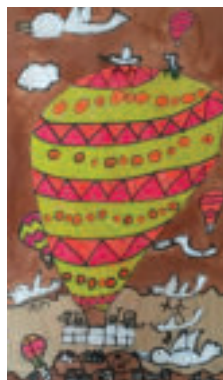
**FRONT ROW:** I Moolla, S Holwill, S Ashbolt, K Koch, I Dearlove, T Toll, K Totaram-Jacobs, K Rowland Smuts, J Bassa **MIDDLE ROW:** S Lobert, I Rautenbach, S Nimb, J Mahabeer, A Janoodien, N Harnekar, C Gruber, N Heyns, G Morkel, Miss C Harrington **BACK ROW:** C Jacobs, G Stodel, G Meyer, S Peters, S Leinberger, G Efstathiou, R Murray, A Keers



### GRADE 1 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** C Ratcliffe, M Pickering, A Ovendale, T Sontange, K Slingers, G Dube, T Rycroft, T Ebrahim, E Stodel, R Teixeira **MIDDLE ROW:** E Mills, A Bailey, A Böttger, A Murray, M Dahya, A Efstathiou, T-M Varney, I Parrington, Mrs K Rutgers **BACK ROW:** M Coquella, A Moonda, A Lashbrooke, C Morkel, M Gessler, L Macleod-Smith, R Bhagoo, S Harrison

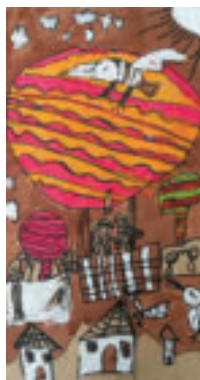




▲ JIYA MAHABEER



▲ ABIGAIL BÖTTGER



▲ SCARLET PETERS



▲ GABRIELLA STODEL



▲ IMAAN MOOLLA



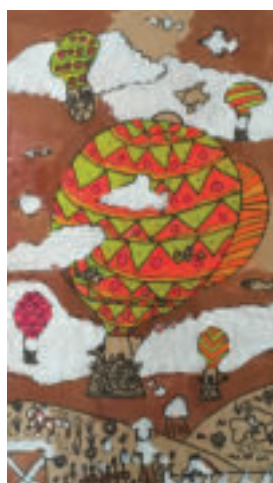
▲ SOPHIA LOBERT



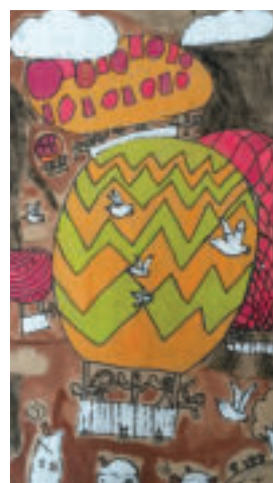
▲ CARA GRUBER



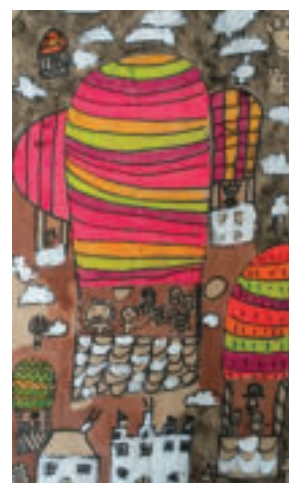
▲ ALEXANDRA MURRAY



▲ RACHEL MURRAY



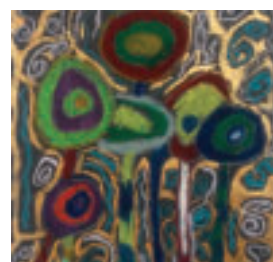
▲ EMILY STODEL



▲ TAY'IBAH EBRAHIM



▲ LILY MACLEOD-SMITH



▲ SARAH ASHBOLT



▲ ALICE BAILEY



## GRADE 1A



▲ ABIGAIL BÖTTGER



▲ LILY MACLEOD-SMITH



▲ RAANIA BHAGOO



▲ RIO TEIXEIRA



▲ SARAH-JANE HARRISON



▲ TESS RYCROFT

# 52 things we should



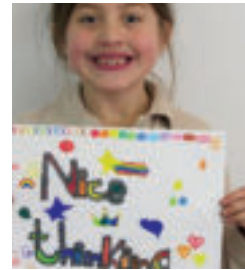
▲ CAITLIN RATCLIFFE



▲ ALEXANDRA MURRAY



▲ KATHERINE SLINGERS



▲ MADISON GESSLER



▲ MINAL DAHYA



▲ ISHIKAH PARRING



▲ GRACE DUBE



▲ ALEXANDRA OVENDALE



▲ ANGELIKI EFSTATHIOU



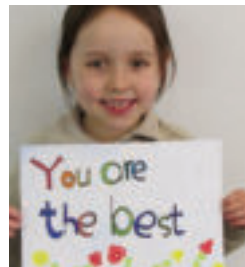
▲ AMAN MOONDA



▲ AMY LASHBROOKE



▲ ELLA MILLS



▲ EMILY STODEL



▲ ALICE BAILEY



▲ CARYS MORKEL



▲ MIA COQUELLE



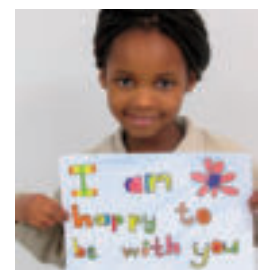
▲ MIMI PICKERING



▲ TARA MAE VARNEY



▲ TAY-YIBAH EBRAHIM



▲ THANDOLWAMI SONTANGE

## GRADE 1 ALPHA



▲ ALICE KEERS



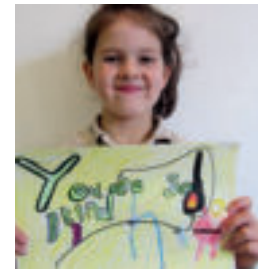
▲ TAHLIA TOLL



▲ CARA GRUBER



▲ SARAH HOLWILL



▲ SCARLET PETERS

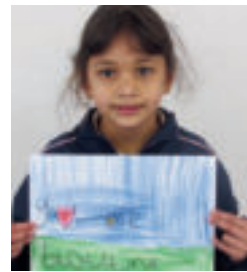
say more often... ♥



▲ RACHEL MURRAY



▲ NATHALIE HEYNS



▲ AZRA JANOODIEN



▲ KIRA TOTARAM-JACOBS



▲ JUWAIIRYA BASSA



▲ KATHERINE ROWLAND SMUTS



▲ GABRIELLA EFSTATHIOU



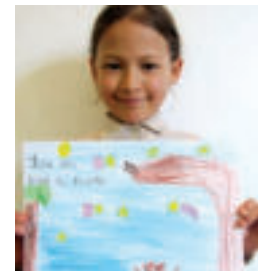
▲ NURAH HARNEKAR



▲ GEORGIA MORKEL



▲ INDIA RAUTENBACH



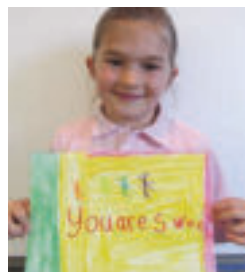
▲ GABRIELLE MEYER



▲ KRISTEN KOCH



▲ IMOGEN DEARLOVE



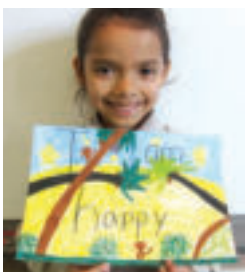
▲ SAMANTHA NIMB



▲ CHARLOTTE JACOBS



▲ SOPHIA LOBERT



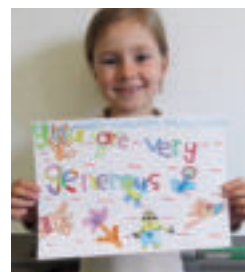
▲ IMAAN MOOLLA



▲ SOPHIE LEINBERGER



▲ GABRIELLA STODEL



▲ SARAH ASHBOLT



▲ JIYA MAHABEER



# Carter

BY ISABELLA TSINONIS AND  
TATIANA CRESWELL-TURNER

We are extremely proud of Carter as the girls have poured their hearts and souls into every event this year. Every Carter girl swam with enthusiasm at the Interhouse gala. The girls listened and co-operated very well. Hānim Abrahams broke several records and we were all very proud of her. Interhouse Cross Country was an amazing day for everyone, especially for

the Grade 7 girls as it was their final run. Carter placed second overall in this event. Interhouse Netball was a great success and Carter also claimed second place and the girls enjoyed the fun afternoon. It was great to see everyone working so well in their teams. Carter again came second in the Interhouse Hockey. Carter house works as a team and we wish only the best for Carter.



# Jagger

BY LEAH WELDON AND GEORGIA CLARK

This year Team Jagger has been phenomenal. The encouragement, participation and enthusiasm led to us winning the Spirit Trophy at the Interhouse Swimming Gala where we placed second overall. We also came second overall in the Interhouse Tennis competition. The Jagger girls once again showed their spirit at Interhouse Cross Country where they cheered their house mates throughout the race and especially at the finish line coming third overall. Our girls

constantly worked hard to get house points and as a result Jagger won the prize for the most house points in Term 1. Our girls placed third overall in the Interhouse Netball and we were extremely proud to come first overall in the Interhouse Hockey. We would like to thank the Jagger girls for their effort and dedication throughout the year as well as Mrs Centurion-Harris, our house mistress, for her support. We wish Jagger great success for the years ahead. Go Jagger!





# Merriman

BY MIA VERSFELD AND ELIZABETH INGRAM

We are very proud of Merriman this year. The girls have shown true spirit, love and dedication to their house throughout the year. We enjoyed the numerous Interhouse events that we participated in. Our theme Minnie Mouse was loved by all the girls and we all now have rose-tinted memories of our favourite Disney character. The Gala was thoroughly enjoyed and achieving third place at the end of the day did not dampen our spirits. Merriman won the Interhouse Spelling competition and we were very proud of all our girls

who took part. We dominated the Interhouse Tennis winning both the A and B couple and, therefore, the overall trophy. Well done girls! We are extremely proud of these girls. Although we came fourth in Interhouse Cross Country, Netball and Hockey, our girls never gave up and constantly encouraged and supported one another. The Grade Seven girls are sad to be leaving Merriman at the Preparatory School, but we wish the girls everything of the best for next year. Our blood will run red forever.



# Rolt

BY EMMA RICHARDSON  
AND SHANNON PITMAN

Rolt started the year on a high note when we won the Interhouse Swimming Gala. Our girls swam their hearts out to win the coveted trophy. Rolt continued their good form to win first place in both the Interhouse Cross Country and Interhouse Netball. We are very proud of our Rolt girls and we would like to thank them

for a great year. The spirit and enthusiasm in the house was amazing. Thank you to Miss Cowie, our house mistress, for encouraging us and always showing true Rolt spirit. All the girls improved and thrived during the year. We are going to miss them dearly next year and are very excited to see how they do.







## WP, ZONAL AND SA REPRESENTATIVES

**FRONT ROW:** L Edelstein (Gymnastics), G Clark (Zonal A Hockey), R Ndhuni (WP Hockey), G Stewart (Zonal Cross Country), J Hutcheson (Rhythmic Gymnastics), O Johnstone (Zonal Cross Country), A Jones (Zonal A Hockey), E Sales (Zonal Cross Country)

**MIDDLE ROW:** Miss L Karsten (Zonal A Hockey Coach), M Versfeld (Zonal B Hockey, Zonal Tennis), A Stirk (WP Hockey), L Miszewski (WP Schools Swimming), S Miszewski (WP Equestrian), R Glanvill (WP Squash), S Slauck (WP A Tennis) **BACK ROW:** J Quinlan (WP Equestrian), H Abrahams (WP Schools Swimming, SA Junior Swimming), L Johnson (WP A Tennis), G Lanfear (WP B Tennis), G Bromley (Zonal A Hockey), A Mesham (WP Cross Country). Subsequently the following girls were selected for U13 WP Water Polo teams: Tayla Brown and Hanim Abrahams (WP A), Lucy Miszewski and Jodie Collins (WP B).

## WATER POLO



### U13A WATER POLO

**FRONT ROW:** E Richardson, B Ingram, T Brown (vice-captain), J Dow (captain), J Collins, M Versfeld, A Jones

**BACK ROW:** G Bromley, K Halle, G Lanfear, L Miszewski, J Hickman, H Abrahams, Miss L Karsten (manager)

When one considers the achievements of our Herschel Junior Water Polo teams over the past three years, it is undeniable that there is immense talent at Herschel. Term 1 of 2015 saw the introduction of water polo as an official Herschel Preparatory Sport. For the first time Grade 5s took part in the sport and Grade 6s and 7s trained separately. We have a total of 70 girls from Grade 5 -7 who play. These changes have allowed Herschel to be more competitive which was demonstrated in the U13A's 15 - 1 win over rivals Springfield in their first league match of the season. We continue to implement the rule that girls who are playing polo attend either A, B1 or B2 squad swimming to ensure that we remain a competitive swimming school and to help with the fitness required for water polo.

The Grade 5s thoroughly impressed us with their commitment and enthusiasm towards this new and very difficult sport. The Grade 6s and 7s continued to train hard in the morning and afternoon sessions and produced good league results. The U13A team had a phenomenal season and placed fourth in the Reddam U13 Girls' Tournament and third out of the Cape Town schools. This was the highest ranking ever achieved by the Herschel Preparatory girls in water polo and ensured them a place in the Western Province Schools Water Polo League semi-finals.

Thank you to the dedicated and passionate coaches, Nicole Haird and Caity van Niekerk.

We look forward to continue growing our numbers, increasing our skills and having great fun whilst doing it! ■





**H**erschel continued to participate in the fun Friday galas hosted by different schools in our PGSGU union. Herschel also hosted a very successful gala at the High School pool. Hosting this event allowed us to enter more than one team and also allowed an opportunity for all the girls in our A squad to swim in a Gala.

Our swimming team took part in the Reddam Night Gala and, despite our Grade 7s being away on camp, along with some of our top swimmers, Herschel came second out of the 11 schools.

Our Interhouse galas were wonderful events, well supported by our parents. At the Grade 4 – 7 Interhouse gala numerous records were broken by Hānim Abrahams (3), Honey Osrin (3) and Calli Basnett (1). The event encourages healthy competition as well as the enjoyment of the friendly fun relays. The Foundation Phase gala was lots of fun and a great opportunity for the girls to demonstrate their improved skills and swimming strokes.

Hānim Abrahams, Calli Basnett and Honey Osrin were all chosen to participate in the Level 3 National Swimming Championships. Hānim Abrahams claimed 3 gold, 2

silver and 3 bronze medals in her individual events and 1 gold relay medal. Honey Osrin claimed 1 bronze and 1 gold medal in her individual races and 1 gold in a relay event. Calli Basnett won 1 bronze medal in a relay event. Lucy Miszewski and Michaela de Villiers both took part in the Level 2 Regional Age Group Swimming Championships and both girls improved on their personal best times. Hānim Abrahams was also selected by Swim South Africa to be part of the Junior South African Swimming Team to participate in the Junior African Swimming Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Hānim was awarded full WP colours at the Western Province Aquatics awards and she received an award for top FINA points scored in the 13-year age category. She also received awards for breaking the 50m breaststroke, 100m breaststroke and 400m medley relay records.

The annual PGSGU Interschool Gala was a strongly contested event again this year but Herschel claimed a convincing first place ahead of Rustenburg. This was testament to the girls' hard work as they have tied 1st place with Springfield for the

last 2 years. Our U9, U12 and U14 teams placed first in their age groups whilst our U8 team came 2nd. Records were broken by Hānim Abrahams and Honey Osrin and 2 relay records were broken by our U14 team. The captains would like to commend the young swimmers for their enthusiastic attitude towards swimming this season. They also want to thank the A squad

coach, Mrs Osrin, for her encouragement and coaching that helped them win the cup. A big thank you too to Mrs Partridge, the B squad coach and social swimming coach, for her efforts in helping girls to improve their strokes and times and to Miss Karsten for her organisation and support at all the galas.

We wish the swimmers a successful 2016. ■



#### PGSGU INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** S Dore, L Sherwood **SECOND ROW:** K Cadiz, S Vickers, E Parker-Forsyth, C Basnett (vice-captain), H Abrahams (captain), L van der Merwe, E van Heerden, G Finlayson **THIRD ROW:** J Lückoff, K Formby, R Turck, A van Breda, C Coutts-Trotter **FOURTH ROW:** J Kirsten, P Duckitt, C Fisher, A Martin, J van der Merwe, R Shortt, S van Wyngaarden, Miss L Karsten (manager) **BACK ROW:** L Formby, J Dow, M de Villiers, L Miszewski, B Ingram, H Osrin, D Rose Varney **ABSENT:** J Mundy, Mrs S Osrin (coach)



# NETBALL

**T**he 2015 Netball season has been busy, with our teams playing league matches, friendlies, tournaments and going on tour. The girls have displayed resilience, enthusiasm and outstanding sportsmanship.

This season the U9s had a fantastic fun-filled two terms of netball. The girls' enthusiasm was clearly evident in their attendance at practices and the fact that the coaches were never short of players on match days. Miss Bradley and Miss King taught the girls a number of different ball skills including catching, throwing and foot techniques while teaching them the rules and strategies of the game. Everyone became more proficient over the term and the girls were soon ready to play matches. They were fortunate enough to play in a number of tournaments and matches against a few different schools during the third term. The girls benefitted from the strong competition despite the limited game time.

They ended their season with the Fish Hoek Derby Day and with the girls finally playing a number of desired positions in self-chosen teams on our last afternoon. Much fun was had and the girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves, showing the coaches all they have learned during the season, especially their growth in team work.

THE GIRLS' PROGRESS THROUGH THE SEASON SAW THEM DEVELOP INTO A **COHESIVE TEAM** THAT HELD THEIR OWN TOWARDS THE END OF A BUSY SEASON.

We had a big group of U10 girls playing netball. They were coached by Mrs Berdine Uys and Miss Paula Macnab. The girls' progress through the season saw them develop into a cohesive team that held their own towards the end of a busy season. There was quite a bit of movement amongst the teams to ensure that all the girls played some matches.

The U10 teams notched up some significant wins: U10 A vs Reddam, won 3-1, U10 B vs Kirstenhof, won 3-2 and U10 B vs Zwaanswyk, won 3-1. The U10 C and U10 D teams had the opportunity to play in a Development Tournament hosted by Kenridge. This was a very worthwhile experience for all who participated.

The U11 teams, coached by Mrs Margot Roebert, Mrs Bernie Julies and Miss Chloe Bradley finished fifth in their league. The girls showed commitment and enthusiasm, remaining positive throughout the season. This year there was no Interschool tournament for the U11 team, but we attended a number of tournaments during the

season. The St Cyprian's Derby Day, as well as the Fish Hoek Derby Day for the A sides, were a fantastic learning experience. The Kenridge Development Tournament gave our B and C teams the chance to play in a tournament environment, which the girls relished.

Our U12 girls had a fantastic season. The U12 teams did exceptionally well and were narrowly beaten into fourth position in the league, by one point. Their coaches, Mrs Janet Roots and Chloe Bradley worked hard on positional play and improving skills. This was evident by the outstanding netball the U12A team played at the Interschool Tournament held at St Cyprian's School. They were placed second in the Tournament. We also attended both the St Cyprian's and Fish Hoek Derby Days, as well as the Paul Greyling Netball Tournament. Our girls did Herschel proud at all the events.

Congratulations to Michaela de Villiers on progressing as far as the District South Trials.

The U13 girls made up 4 teams. They were coached by Mrs Anne Lewis and Miss Paula Macnab. The commitment and enthusiasm was reflected in some outstanding results. We were



**PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN A NETBALL**  
**FRONT ROW:** E Richardson, O Fernandes (vice-captain), L Miszewski (captain), G Bromley, A Jones  
**BACK ROW:** H Abrahams, T Brown, G Lanfear, K Hallé, Mrs A Lewis (coach)



**PGSGU INTERSCHOOL U12A NETBALL**  
**FRONT ROW:** C Carter, S Miszewski, L Burke, R Glanvill  
**BACK ROW:** J Collins, C Rumbelow, Mrs J Roots (coach), M de Villiers, R Williams



placed 3rd in the league and five girls were chosen to take part in the District South Trials.

The U13 girls also took part in many tournaments during the season. They played exceptional netball and won the Paul Greyling Tournament with the most goals scored. The highlight of the season was recapturing the U13 Interschool Netball Trophy. The girls

dominated the U13 section with excellent play.

Both the U12A and U13A teams took part in the Eikestad Derby Day. Exposure to different teams from strong Netball playing schools was of huge benefit to our girls. A convincing win for the U13 A team was very encouraging.

Another highlight of the season was the Netball Tour

to Knysna. Mrs Laubscher, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Roots accompanied 21 girls to Knysna. Before playing matches each morning, the girls were put through their paces by Eastern Province Netball players which gave them a new perspective on the drills and skills they have learned. The netball was of an extremely high standard, with

our girls playing against teams from our Northern Suburbs as well as teams from the Eastern Cape.

All in all a very busy and successful season. A big 'Thank You' to the netball captains, Lucy Miszewski and Olivia Fernandes, who maintained their enthusiasm and willingness to help throughout the season. ■



#### U11A NETBALL

**FRONT ROW:** C Tsinonis, R Moller, C Williams

**BACK ROW:** J Kirsten, O Johnstone, Mrs M Roebert (coach) **ABSENT:** S Angeliniadis, V Barton



#### U10A NETBALL

**FRONT ROW:** E Sales, E Dix, J Wellington, M Wright

**BACK ROW:** Miss P Macnab (assistant coach), C le Roux, D Kaye, P Duckitt, S Gutuza

## Tennis



#### PGSGU INTERSCHOOL TENNIS TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** M Versfeld, L Johnson (captain), Mrs M Laubscher (manager)

**BACK ROW:** I Nicholson, S Slauck (vice-captain)

The tennis at Herschel has been outstanding this year as both an individual and team sport. We have had an increase in the number of girls playing tennis. We have 5 Open teams and 2 U11 teams which play league matches on a Thursday. There is also a group of social tennis girls.

Our Open A team participated in the PGSGU Interschool doubles tournament held at Rustenburg. We are very proud of our B couple, Mia Versfeld and Shay Slauck, who played exceptionally well to win their section. Our A couple, Lauren Johnson and Isabella Nicholson, did well to come third.

This year we had 4 Western Province Tennis representatives.

Lauren Johnson and Shay Slauck were chosen to represent the WP U13A team and Isabella Nicolson the U12A team that took part in the South Interprovincial tournament. Gabi Lanfear represented the Western Province U13B team in the Western Province/Boland Festival.

Well done to all the girls who participated in tennis this year. Thank you to Mrs Laubscher for everything she does for tennis at Herschel, and thank you to our coaches from the Dean Botha Tennis Academy.

Mrs Laubscher would also like to thank Lauren Johnson and Shay Slauck for all their help and the outstanding job they did as tennis captains. ■

# HOCKEY

**H**erschel Hockey continues to grow and thrive at the Preparatory School and we have 4 U10 teams, 3 U11 teams, Open A and B full field teams and 3 Open 8-a-side teams entered in the league. Our Grade 3 Hockey has 37 girls regularly attending practices on a Monday. We worked hard instilling a good grounding of the basic skills before they began playing their first matches. Our goal keepers improved immensely with the new goal keeper coach, Olu NcuKana, along with their extra sessions.

Our season started with our Open A tour to Knysna. We selected 16 girls, the most ever, to take part in this tour as we felt the opportunity for as many as possible was important. They played 13 matches; won 11 and drew 2. The team scored 33 goals and they had only 2 scored against them. As usual it was a fantastic tour of making friends, playing lots of exciting

hockey, having afternoon activities and non-stop fun!

We participated in many tournaments and festivals in Term 2. Our U13A team played in the U13 Walton's Hockey Festival hosted by Somerset House and performed exceptionally well against top Northern Suburbs schools, coming second. They continued their

festivals are important as every girl who plays in a hockey team has had a chance to attend a festival or tournament where they gain valuable experience and foster their love for the game through a fun and festive environment. For the Eikestad Derby with Bishops we travelled to Stellenbosch one Friday afternoon on two Springbok Atlas busses. The

## HOCKEY CONTINUES TO GROW AND THRIVE AT THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

good form as they won the inaugural Wynberg Super 8s tournament, beating 10 other top girls' schools from both the Southern and Northern suburbs. Other events that our teams enjoyed were the St Cyprian's U10, U11 and Open B/C Derby Day, Eikestad Derby Day, U10A Festival hosted by Rustenburg, U11 A/B festival hosted by Sweet Valley, St George's U11 and Open C/D/E festival. These

girls thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and it was a great opportunity for a lot of our Grade 6 and 7 girls, who don't go on tour to Knysna, to experience the camaraderie of travelling to play in a Derby Day.

We were very proud of our U13 Hockey girls who were selected for WP and Zonal teams this year. Two of our girls, Rutendo Ndhluni and Aerin Stirk, made the WP U13

team and they won bronze at Nationals. Georgina Bromley, Anna Jones and Georgia Clark made the WP U13A Zonal team and won gold at their tournament with the team being coached by Miss Karsten. Georgina Bromley captained the team. Mia Versfeld also captained her B Zonal team which won gold at their Inter Zonal tournament.

Our eager U9 girls started playing matches in Term 3. Every girl got an opportunity to play a match and already we have very passionate hockey players. They ended the season with a fun afternoon of round robin matches with St Cyprian's.

All of our U10 girls had the opportunity to play in matches and tournaments. The girls' skills and understanding of the game improved tremendously as the season progressed. The girls have all grown in confidence and work well together as a team, always showing great team spirit.

The U11 season was challenging for the girls, but they worked together and came out stronger. The girls showed great enthusiasm and progressed well in all areas. With emphasis on the basics, they worked hard and showed



**PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN  
A HOCKEY TEAM**

**FRONT:** R Dix-Peek **FRONT ROW:** G Clark, R Ndhluni, G Bromley (vice-captain), A Jones (captain), J Collins, E Richardson, C Williams-Wynn, L Formby  
**BACK ROW:** Miss L Karsten (coach), M Versfeld, J Dow, L Johnson, S Pitman, A Stirk



**PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN  
B HOCKEY TEAM**

**FRONT ROW:** Miss C Dugmore (coach), E Halle, E Hillary, G Stewart, N Vermaak, J le Roux, C Fisher, J Ovendale  
**BACK ROW:** L Burke, O Fernandes, G Lanfear, T Brown, S Wilensky, R Glanvill



improvement in hitting and stopping and other field drills. The girls developed some new skills during the season and began to read the game well, all of which will put them in good stead for full field hockey. They also had a good attitude towards fitness, which was apparent in their matches.

The Open D and E team girls were enthusiastic despite not having opposition to play against each week. The girls improved with every game and recorded some excellent results. The Open C team had a very successful season

of hockey. They learnt a lot as a team and their hockey improved hugely throughout the season. They learnt to play "thinking" hockey, to maintain their positions, to look up before passing and to use each other effectively. It resulted in a well-oiled team which remained unbeaten throughout the season. Congratulations to the girls on a very committed effort. Our U12 girls participated in the Bishops Day/Night tournament where the A team came 3rd. Our Open B team were also unbeaten this season

and carried on their good form to convincingly win the Interschool trophy.

Lastly, our Open A team had a great season but not without some challenges and nail-biting experiences. They continued to fight hard and work as a team earning themselves a place in the U13 WP Top Schools tournament as one of the top 4 teams in our zone. They played well and finished 5th overall which was still an incredible achievement out of 100 hockey-playing schools in the province. They went into the PGSGU

Interschool Tournament as "underdogs" to St Cyprian's and Springfield but defended the Herschel title and claimed the trophy with consistent performances and brilliant finishes. A wonderful result to win the trophy and very well deserved. Our Hockey captains were excellent and we thank Anna Jones and Georgina Bromley for their hard work, organisation and leadership. Thank you to all our dedicated coaches, umpires and parents who faithfully support Herschel hockey. ■



#### U10A HOCKEY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** L Edelstein, J Jensen, E Floquet, Mrs A Mozley (coach)

**BACK ROW:** C Coutts-Trotter, D Varney, R Shortt, P Duckitt



#### U11A HOCKEY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Miss C Dodds (coach), C Williams, R Turck, J Sainsbury, S van Wyngaarden, K Webb

**BACK ROW:** O Dearnaley, G Quinlan, J Finlayson, C Laubscher, J Kirsten

# Squash

This year has seen a significant growth in the number of girls playing Squash. Herschel entered two teams into the league this season, with matches being played on a Friday afternoon. This year saw the grade 5 girls joining the Squash team

for the first time. For most players squash is a second sport and a good way to maintain fitness throughout the year. Thank you to the squash captain, Namreen Ebrahim, who assisted both Mrs Partridge and coach, Kim Commins, this year. ■



#### A SQUASH TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs K Commins (coach), N Ebrahim (captain), R Glanvill **BACK ROW:** O Fernandes, G Bromley, S Pitman



## PRE-PREPARATORY REPORT

BY MRS JENNI BROCK



**EVERY** morning, as I climb the steps to the Pre-Preparatory, I walk past the original 'growing' teepee that has been created from a climbing shrub, trained over a frame of sticks and wire. While this green tent has been there for a few years, this year we added to it by laying a floor of foot-shaped cement pavers and white pebbles, and hanging strings of beads and interesting items at the entrance and inside. A guinea fowl made of recycled plastic also appeared in it one day, as did a toy horse, both presumably donated by a child or parent. The children love the special secret space inside the bower of leaves and occasional flowers, and are often to be found playing there or hiding inside, escaping their parents or au pairs and delighting in being discovered after a search.

Creating areas such as this, that encourage fantasy play, is an important aspect of our Pre-Prep. Children need to be encouraged to express their ideas and feelings freely and imaginatively. I recently attended a conference where one of the speakers spoke about the importance of play and emphasised the need for children to be encouraged to use their imaginations. They also need the time to spin out their inner stories and engage verbally and creatively with their peers and their parents. While our Pre-Prep does have a busy curriculum and the normal day is filled with activities and events, there are

still many opportunities for free play and spaces where the girls can explore this vital aspect of their development.

The Pre-Nursery and Nursery classes each have a Fantasy Corner, where miniature kitchen furniture, beds, dolls and other items encourage role play as the girls pretend to be mummies and daddies and

*"Children use fantasy,  
not to get out of, but to  
get into the real world."  
John Holt*

babies. The Grade Rs have the opportunity to play in a miniature doctor's surgery, a hairdresser, or other theme-based spaces, set up outside their classes.

Dress-up days and celebrations also encourage this role play and little girls just love dressing up! On Women's Day this year, our Nursery and Pre-Nursery girls were encouraged to come to school dressed as a very important person and woman: their mommy. It was delightful to see the girls arriving at the Pre-Prep beautifully dressed up in their outfits as mini-mommies, most of them also either carrying a 'baby' or pushing one in a toy pram or pushchair. Do children still play with dolls? Yes, they definitely do! On the same day, the Grade R girls were invited to wear an outfit showing what profession

they would choose when they grow up. The top choice was a doctor, followed by a number of pop stars, singers, dancers, a few vets and one scientist.

Our construction kits provide opportunities to build imaginative towers and cities; in the reading corners the girls create their own stories from the pictures in the books; and outdoors, in the sand pit, at the water play and on and under all the climbing apparatus and swings, wonderful conversations can be overheard as the girls play out their ideas. Even our reading programme is based on an imaginary land filled with colourful characters who teach the children all about phonics, letters and sounds.

Over the past year, while observing the Pre-Prep girls engaging in their play, it has been encouraging for me to see that, in spite of the flood of ready-created fantasy that they are exposed to today via television, films, tablets and other media and technology, they are still able and eager to use their imaginations to create games and fantasies that are truly their own.

As the school year draws to an end, I am again so thankful for the very special environment that I work in, the skilled and dedicated colleagues with whom I work, and the ongoing support of the parents who have entrusted us with educating their daughters.

"Children use fantasy, not to get out of, but to get into the real world." John Holt ■



# PRE-PREP market day



The much anticipated Pre-Preparatory Annual Market Day was held at the beginning of the third term. The girls, with their parents, had such fun at home creating and designing their 20 items to sell. They were allowed to bring in these items during the lead-up to Market Day, and went around to all the classrooms marketing their goods. On the day, the moms set up the tables in the hall and created colourful displays of all the wonderful items that the girls had for sale.



There was great excitement as the girls gathered in the hall with their shopping baskets and little trolleys, ready to shop and spend all the R1 coins in their purses. It was a busy morning with the red, blue and green groups of girls taking turns to shop. Sisters happily greeted each other as the Grade 1 and 2 classes arrived to join the shopping spree. At the end of the morning, Market Day 2015 was declared a sell-out! It was a most successful day, thoroughly enjoyed by all. ■



## WHEN I GROW UP...

The Grade R girls dressed up in outfits which portrayed a profession they would possibly follow as grown-ups. Popular choices were teachers, mummies, rock stars and hair stylists. A discussion was held in the classrooms about their various choices and the reasons they were made. ■



## NURSERY CLASSES OUTING TO OTTERY FIRE STATION

The Bouncing Bunnies and Busy Bees Classes went on an exciting outing to the Ottery Fire Station. The girls were shown the control room, where fires are reported and saw where the staff slept when they were on duty. They were in awe of the speed at which the firemen could come down the fireman's pole. They also saw how fast a fireman has to get dressed into his kit if there is a fire. The two highlights of the morning were riding in a fire-truck with the sirens going and spraying water from a fire-hose onto a building. This was a thoroughly enjoyable and very informative outing. ■

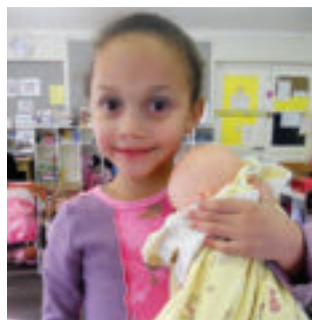




## NURSERY SPECIAL

# Women's day

On Friday 7 August the Nursery girls celebrated Women's Day by dressing up as a very special woman in their life – their mommy. They came to school dressed up in an array of outfits from their mothers' wardrobes – from actual tops (worn as dresses), to high heels, handbags and lipsticks. The girls were also allowed to bring their baby dolls, some arriving in beautiful prams with all the accessories included. As much as it was an exciting day for the girls to dress up and bring in their babies, there was also an important message that we were trying to convey. We took the time to make the girls aware that all women, including mommies, are important, and that they should be valued and treated with respect. We emphasised that they should appreciate their moms, who are important women and who should be shown lots of love, respect and kindness. ■



## ROSEN CASTLE



The Grade R girls enjoyed an interactive outing at Rosen Castle. They were allowed to depict and participate in real life experiences by shopping at Checkers, baking at Little Chef, interviewing and filming at the eTV studios and visiting Intercare hospital. ■



## INCREDIBLE DOG SHOW

In April, Lloyd Bristow and his Incredible Dog Show visited our school. Lloyd chatted to the girls about basic care of dogs as well as showing off the skills of his award-winning pets. They enjoyed seeing a variety of dogs which included border collies, a toy poodle and a German pointer. ■



# Baking

## FOR HEALTH

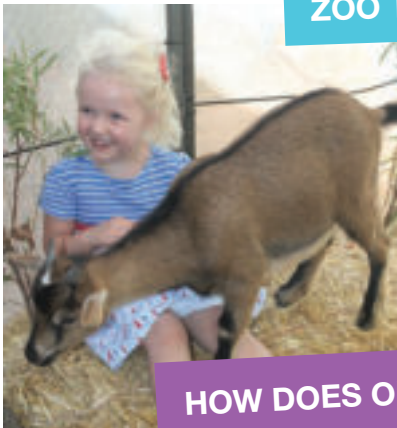


### NELSON MANDELA

The Grade R girls celebrated Nelson Mandela's birth month by watching a puppet show depicting the life and struggles of his journey to freedom. They learned about apartheid and what racism is. The girls participated in the puppet show by demonstrating with the use of placards and sitting in demarcated areas for specific races. ■



### ZOO TO YOU



In March this year, there was great excitement when Farmer Mark set up his mobile petting zoo in the Pre-Preparatory garden. All the animals are young, hand-reared and tame. The girls and staff had an opportunity to feed and cuddle a variety of animals including dwarf goats, kittens, bunnies, guinea pigs, a piglet and a lamb. ■

### HOW DOES OUR GARDEN GROW?



After months of planning, designing, hard work and preparation, the little garden on the east side of the Pre-Prep was transformed from an uninspiring patch of grass into a lush, magical, green space.

Under the expert guidance and supervision of Mrs Candice Noakes-Dobson and her mom Marilyn Noakes, Mr Ivan Shorti, the Pre-Prep gardener, laid out and prepared the garden area for planting.

Once the planter boxes were ready, each girl in the Pre-Prep had a chance to plant either a spring flower bulb, herbs or a vegetable. During the course of the term, the classes visited the garden regularly and the girls kept an eye on their growing plants and watered and cared for them. Each class will continue to take



care of their designated box and ensure the plants are regularly replaced with seasonal varieties.

Apart from the wonderful educational experience that this garden is providing for the girls at the Pre-Prep, it is also a quiet and beautiful space where one can sit and enjoy the peace and beauty of a growing garden.

"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness, it teaches industry and thrift, above all it teaches entire trust.

"The lesson I have thoroughly learnt, and wish to pass on to others, is to know the enduring happiness that the love of a garden gives." (Gertrude Jekyll) ■



## GRADE R



### GRADE R BUTTERFLIES

**FRONT ROW:** A Hendricks, L van der Spuy, Z Sirkot, I Thompson, C Noli, C Lobert, A Sherren, J Fair

**MIDDLE ROW:** A van Sittert, B West, L Watson, T Tutu, K du Plooy, S Turner, A Wareham, A Dillon, J Bosch, C Petersen **BACK ROW:** Mrs E Odendal, E van Lierop, M Moodaley, L Calana, S Lashbrooke, R Omar-Allies, N Brogan, S Boshoff, Mrs V Johannes



### GRADE R LADYBIRDS

**FRONT ROW:** L Mandindi, C Fürst, G Nicklin, D Naidoo, L Mulder, S O'Connor, Z Douglas, T Daniels

**MIDDLE ROW:** J Formby, F Leinberger, C Swart, J Koller, F Boyd, C Antrobus, J Martin, C Emmerich, C Plenge-Mantell, J Marshall **BACK ROW:** Mrs T Davids, K Lin, E Carter, L Adonis, A Collins, T Mozley, A Bassett, L Böttger, J Swain, Mrs T Brogan



# I LOVE market day

**JESSICA BOSCH:** So we can have fun and get nice toys.

**STELLA BOSHOFF:** Because we have fun and its fun because you can buy things and if you have a cousin, you can say "hello."

**NEVE BROGAN:** Because it's a nice big area. So you make stuff and you sell it.

**LANDA CALANA:** It's fun for children, because there is sweets and lots of nice things for children.

**ANNA DILLON:** So I can have some fun. When I buy my candyfloss and bubble bath.

**KERYN DU PLOOY:** We get to buy new stuff and they very pretty stuff that we would like to buy.

**JOSEPHINE FAIR:** I can have fun and it is nice to give money to the poor children.

**AISHA HENDRICKS:** Because we can buy something with my money. Like fairy pom poms and lemonade.

**SOPHIE LASHBROOKE:** So we can get stuff. We make it and then we sell it.

**COCO LOBERT:** We buy things. Like candy floss and necklaces. And bracelets.

**MAYA MOODALEY:** There is so much sweets there. The best thing is that I went shopping for cupcakes in a jar and lemonade. It was so delicious.

**RUBI OMAR-ALLIES:** We shop and I liked it when everybody bought my bookmarks. I loved the candyfloss and lollipops.

**CHELSEA PETERSEN:** It is fun. Shopping is fun. We got to wear our clothes that we wear at home.

**ANNA SHERREN:** When I got my earrings and that butterfly cookie.

**ZAYAAN SIRKOT:** I could buy whatever I wanted to. I could buy a cupcake and an aliceband. Market day is a good thing because I can shop on my own.

**ISABELLA THOMPSON:** I can buy stuff. All the stuff is in the same place. I loved the horse necklace.

**SOPHIA TURNER:** Market day is good because it is very fun. I get to buy 1 thing, then 2 things, then anything you like. It is the funnest day in my life.

**TIFFANY TUTU:** Because it is my favourite. I like the toys that they make. I spent most of my money.

**LAUREN VAN DER SPUY:** Its good thing because you can make money when you let people buy things.

**EMILY VAN LIEROP:** You get lots of toys. You buy them with money. I got a pretty fan.

**ABIGAIL VAN SITTERT:** It is good and fun. There is lots of little things you can buy.

**ALEXIS WAREHAM:** I liked watching people buy my stress balls. I also liked buying the hot chocolate. The best for me was to go around and see my mom at the table.

**LILY WATSON:** I love Market Day. There are so many pretty pink things to buy for girls.

**BAILEY WEST:** Everybody was selling stuff. It's not the same as other shops because the real shops are bigger.

**ANNABELLE DEERING:** Because it is fun shopping. The best was when girls buyed my cookies.







▲ ABIGAIL VAN SITTERT



▲ LAUREN VAN DER SPUY



▲ JOSEPHINE FAIR



▲ LILY WATSON



▲ NEVE BROGAN



▲ KERYN DU PLOOY



▲ LANDA CALANA



▲ JESSICA BOSCH



▲ AISHA HENDRICKS



▲ MAYA MOODALEY



▲ ISABELLA THOMPSON



▲ ALEXIS WAREHAM

# Girls love to shop

— especially at Market Day!



▲ ANNA DILLON



▲ RUBI OMAR-ALLIES



▲ CHELSEA PETERSEN



▲ ANNABELLE DEERING



▲ SOPHIE LASHBROOKE



▲ EMILY VAN LIEROP



▲ STELLA BOSHOFF



▲ COCO LOBERT



▲ SOPHIA TURNER



▲ TIFFANY TUTU



▲ ZAYAAN SIRKOT



▲ ANNA SHERREN



▲ BAILEY WEST



# WHAT MAKES ME *happy?*



Going swimming and playing at the beach.

• LIQHAMILE ADONIS

When my sister plays with me.

• CAROLINE ANTROBUS



Planting vegetables. • ASHLEY BASSETT

My family and friends. I like going to Ratanga with my family. • LOLA BÖTTGER

Drawing pictures for my mom.

• FLEUR BOYD

Going on holiday with my family.

• ELLA CARTER

Having a milkshake. • ANNA COLLINS

My birthday. • TALIA DANIELS

Playing with my sister. • ZARNA DOUGLAS

Going to the super tubes.

• CHLOË EMMERICH

Cuddling with my whole family.

• JENNA FORMBY

My friends. I like to play Uno with them.

• CAMRYN FÜRST



Going to the beach with my family and having an ice-lollie and ice-cream.

• REBECCA KOLLER

Playing with my dogs.

• FRANCES LEINBERGER

Eating ice-cream. • KADYN LIN

Getting presents. • LIHLOMBE MANDINDI

When people are kind to me.

• JAMIE MARSHALL



Going to Ratanga with my brother and riding my bike with my brother. • JESSICA MARTIN

My friends. We like to play Mermaids.

• TEAGAN MOZLEY

Going on holiday. And having an ice-cream.

• LUCY MULDER

When my cousin comes over.

• DEVANYA NAIDOO

Going on special holidays.

• GEORGIA NICKLIN

Having an ice-cream. • SINÉAD O'CONNOR

Playing with Zarna and having a playdate.

• CARLA PLENCE-MANTELL

Seeing my mum, my dad, my brother and my sister.

• JULIA SWAIN

Having a party. • CHARLOTTE SWART







▲ ASHLEY BASSETT



▲ SINEAD O'CONNOR



▲ JENNA FORMBY



▲ JAMIE MARSHALL



▲ GEORGIA NICKLIN



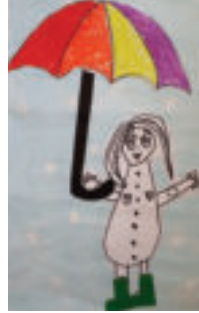
▲ FRANCES LEINBERGER



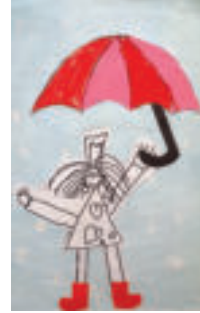
▲ ELLA CARTER



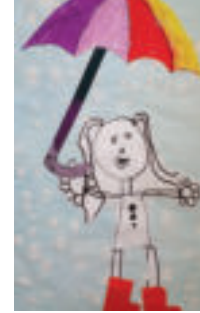
▲ LIHLOMBE MANDINDI



▲ KADYN LIN



▲ JULIA SWAIN



▲ TALIA DANIELS



▲ CAMRYN FURST

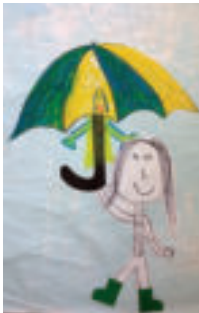


▲ FLEUR BOYD

# We love dancing in the rain



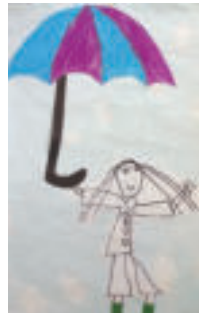
▲ LOLA BOTTGER



▲ CARLA PLENGE-MANTELL



▲ DEVANYA NAIDOO



▲ REBECCA KOLLER



▲ LUCY MULDER



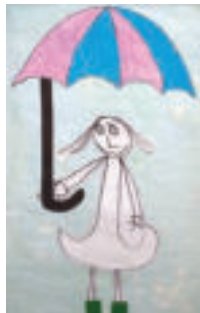
▲ JESSICA MARTIN



▲ LISA ADONIS



▲ ANNA COLLINS



▲ CHARLOTTE SWART



▲ CHLOE EMMERICH



▲ CROLINE ANTROBUS



▲ ZARNA DOUGLAS



▲ TEAGAN MOZLEY



## BEES AND BUNNIES



### BUSY BEES

**FRONT ROW:** L Arnold, E Floquet, C Prain, R Watson, K Millar, A Chagan, H Mustapha **MIDDLE ROW:** H Koor, R Liddell, G Wessels, A Bhattacharya, S Du Plessis, C Henriques, **BACK ROW:** Mrs L Thomas, R Lumb, A Thacker, Z Dornford-May, S Adams, J Collins, Ms M Martin **ABSENT:** S Keers, L Pickering, F Janoodien, R Watson



### BOUNCING BUNNIES

**FRONT ROW:** A Ngayi, J Naidoo, R Boyes, D McIvor, C Heinemann, I Manuel, G Ludlam, A Jacobs  
**MIDDLE ROW:** G Bosini, J O'Brien, A Tresfon, H Potgieter, D Land, A Weir, C Campbell  
**BACK ROW:** Mrs S Gobey, M Petersen, E Raubenheimer, I Ganyeka, A Cloete-Hopkins, R Rinquest, I Saville, L van Zyl, Mrs C van der Spek





▲ HANNAN KOOR



▲ RUBY WATSON



▲ KATE ANNA MILLAR



▲ SOFIA ADAMS



▲ FARHEEN JANOODIEN



▲ STELLA KEERS

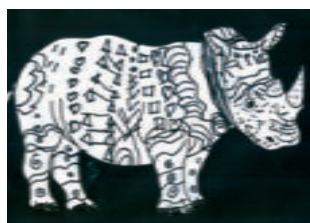


▲ ARYA CHAGAN

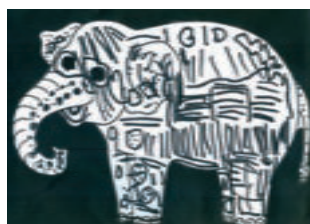


▲ JESSICA COLLINS

WONDERFUL,  
WONKY  
*wildlife*



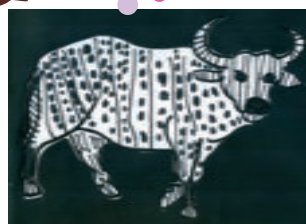
▲ ARANYA BHATTACHARYA



▲ CARA-GRACE HENRIQUES



▲ GEORGIA WESSELS



▲ RUBY LUMB



▲ AMY THACKER



▲ LAYYAH ARNOLD



▲ SCARLET DU PLESSIS



▲ REBECCA LIDDELL



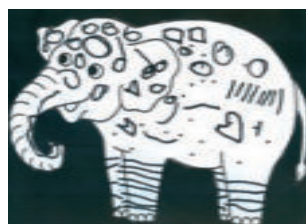
▲ NURAH KERBELKER



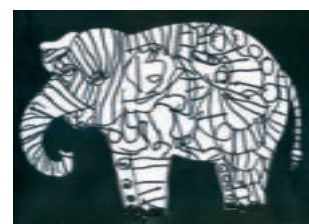
▲ RILEY WATSON



▲ ZAZI DORNFORF-MAY



▲ HUDA MUSTAPHA



▲ ELLA FLOQUET



# IF I WERE A Fairy Princess I WOULD WISH FOR

**RILEY WATSON:** a tortoise

**LAYYAH ARNOLD:** Pixie Dust

**ARANYA BHATTACHARYA:** Pink Pixie Dust

**GEORGIA WESSELS:** a fairy dress.

**STELLA KEERS:** cuddles

**ZAZI DORNFORD-MAY:** a sparkly bracelet

**HANNAN KOOR:** to cuddle with a pet.

**RUBY WATSON:** baby kittens.

**RUBY LUMB:** having a brand new dog.

**REBECCA LIDDELL:** a magical wand, talking to animals and to have courage.

**SCARLET DU PLESSIS:** a golden star.

**ELLA FLOQUET:** a wand.

**AMY THACKER:** two kittens and one beautiful dress.

**CARA-GRACE HENRIQUES:** a fairy wand and some fairy magic.

**HUDA MUSTAPHA:** a Queen.

**FARHEEN JANOODIEN:** a wand and magic powers

**NURAH KERBELKER:** toys, a bike and wings

**SOFIA ADAMS:** to be a queen and a ballerina.

**JESSICA COLLINS:** wings

**ARYA CHAGAN:** to have tea with the Queen and Princess Kate.

**KATE ANNA MILLAR:** a mermaid toy.

**CHLOE PRAIN:** hundreds of cakes.

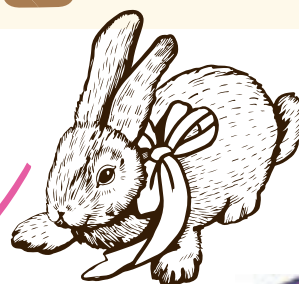






Pat a

# cake



▲ MICAELA PETERSEN



▲ ABIGAIL JACOBS



▲ RANA RINQUEST



▲ ARYANA CLOETE-HOPKINS



▲ GRACE LUDLAM



▲ CAITLIN CAMPBELL



▲ DANIELA MCIVOR



▲ AMELIA WEIR



▲ JADE O'BRIEN



▲ AVA TRESFON



▲ LIAH VAN ZYL



▲ ISABELLA SAVILLE



▲ DYLAN LAND



▲ HANNAH POTGIETER



▲ AYANA NQAYI



▲ ISABELLE GANYEKA



▲ CHLOE HEINAMANN



▲ IMAAN MANUEL



▲ JASMIYA NAIDOO

Pat a cake,  
Pat a cake,  
baker's man  
Bake me a cake  
as fast as you can;  
Pat it and prick it  
and mark it with a 'B',  
And put it in the oven  
for Baby and me.  
Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake,  
baker's man  
Bake me a cake  
as fast as you can;  
Roll it up Roll it up  
Roll it up in a pan  
Pat a cake, Pat a cake,  
baker's man.



▲ RUBY BOYES







# When I grow up I want to be...



**GABRIELLA BOSINI:** I want to be a vet as I really like pets and want to keep them safe. I also really love seeing cute dogs.

**CAITLIN CAMPBELL:** I want to be a mommy because then I can do things I want to do, like buy my own stuff and look after children. I can also tell the children what to do, what is right for them.

**ARYANA CLOETE-HOPKINS:** I want to be a vet because I want to fix animals and take care of them. I really like animals and want to work with them all day long.

**ISABELLE GANYEKA:** I want to be a vet because they take care of animals and I can make them better.

**CHLOE HEINAMANN:** I want to be a horse-riding teacher because I like horse-riding. My favourite horse is called Spirit.

**ABIGAIL JACOBS:** I want to be a hairdresser because I will get to wash and cut peoples hair. I like cutting bobs.

**DYLAN LAND:** I want to be a vet because I love animals and want to help them feel better.

**GRACE LUDLAM:** I want to be a builder because I like building things, like a house. I have lots of lego at home and always build with it.

**IMAMMAN MANUEL:** I want to be a hairdresser so I can cut peoples hair. I really like washing hair.

**DANIELA MCIVOR:** I want to be a vet because I want to look after animals, like horses, cows and chickens.

**HANNAH POTGIETER:** I want to be a gardener because I like to plant things and grow things to eat. Then when the gardening is done I can bring vegetables to other people.

**JASMIYA NAIDOO:** I want to be a chef because they cook and make special food like pizza and cakes.

**AYANA NQAYI:** I want to be a teacher because I want to teach people how to play with puzzles and also how to draw pictures of a house.

**RUBY BOYES:** I want to be a doctor so that I can help all the sick people when they are very very sick. I can help them when they have a tummy bug and will wear nice clothes.

**JADE O'BRIEN:** I want to be an artist because I like painting and it is lots of fun painting. That would be my favourite job to do.

**MICAELA PETERSEN:** I want to be a spy because I like finding clues.

**EMILY RAUBENHEIMER:** I want to be a mom because it's nice. They get to buy things and they love children. Moms get to go to the playground and the shops.

**RANA RINQUEST:** I want to be a teacher because I like teaching children how to do new spelling. They get to teach children all day long which is really nice.

**ISABELLA SAVILLE:** I want to be a nurse because they take care of people and I like what they wear. They wear white clothes.

**AVA TRESFON:** I want to be a queen because I can get to wear fancy dresses and pretty crowns. I will get to sleep in the comfiest bed in the whole kingdom and have gown fittings.

**LIAH VAN ZYL:** I want to be a hairdresser so I can cut and wash people's hair. They get to brush people's hair which is so nice.

**AMELIA WEIR:** I want to be a mother because I want to look after kids, make supper and go to the shops. They can also get married.





## CUDDLY KITTENS AND LITTLE LAMBS



### CUDDLY KITTENS

**FRONT ROW:** M Pharo, E Buckham, I Brogan, H Mohamood, C Plummer, C Koen, M Rahim, A Mohamed

**MIDDLE ROW:** M van der Spuy, A Noakes-Dobson, R Shaboodien, O van Sittert, J Durrant, A Hardres-Williams

**BACK ROW:** Mrs L Codd, Z Govender, N Baloyi, A Grey, N Ross-De Villiers, E Warner, R Read, C Böttger, Miss K Kula

**ABSENT:** K Lowther



### LITTLE LAMBS

**FRONT ROW:** K Daya-Feasey, K Kalil, L Devlin, D Naidoo, A Daniels, O Mundy, Z O'Connor, H Rahiman

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Louw de Wet, E Capper, A Wareham, L Costa, I Slingsby, J Smit, S van Zyl

**BACK ROW:** Mrs C Blencowe, S von Seidel, S Govender, D Campbell, R Khan, I Levy, S Ebrahim, S Wallace, Ms A Bossr





# LITTLE Lambs







▲ DANA CAMPBELL



▲ SIENNA WALLACE



▲ SOPHIE VAN SEIDEL



▲ SOPHIE VAN ZYL



▲ ANNA LOUW DE WET



▲ SAFIYA EBRAHIM



▲ KAREENA DAYA-FEASEY



▲ ARIANA DANIELS



▲ SATARA GOVENDER



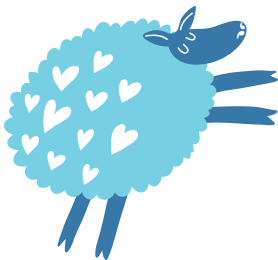
▲ KRISTINA KALIL



▲ ALANA WAREHAM

## FIVE GREEN SPECKLED FROGS

Five green speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating the most delicious bugs  
(yum, yum)  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Then there were four green  
speckled frogs (glub, glub)



▲ ZARA O'CONNOR



▲ DARIA NAIDOO



▲ OLIVIA MUNDY



▲ LILY COSTA



▲ EMILY CAPPER



▲ HANAH RAHIMAN



▲ RANA KHAN



▲ JAIME SMIT



▲ IMAN LEVY



▲ IONA SLINGSBY



▲ LILAH DEVLIN



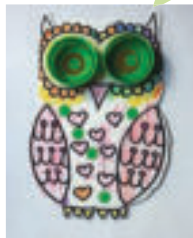


# Kittens

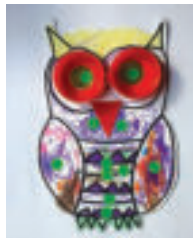
CUDDLY



# The Owl & the Pussy-Cat



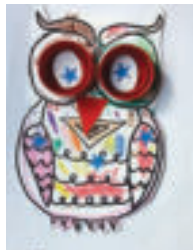
▲ IMOGEN BROGAN



▲ RAYA SHABOODIEN



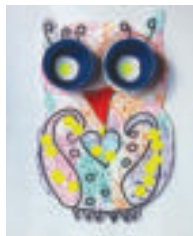
▲ NSOVO BALOYI



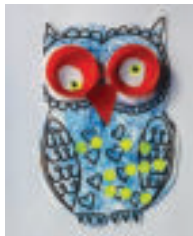
▲ MEGAN VAN DER SPUY



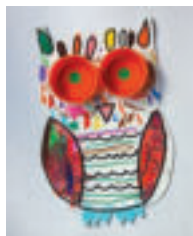
▲ ZARA GOVENDER



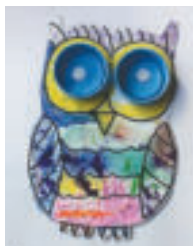
▲ CLAUDIA BÖTTGER



▲ ANNABEL NOAKES-DOBSON



▲ EMMA WARNER



▲ NINA ROSS-DE VILLIERS



▲ KATINKA LOWTHER

The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea  
In a beautiful pea-green boat,  
They took some honey, and plenty of money,  
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.  
The Owl looked up to the stars above,  
And sang to a small guitar,  
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy, my love,  
What a beautiful Pussy you are,  
You are, You are!  
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"

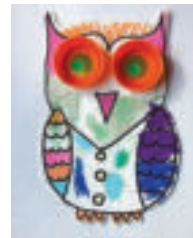
Pussy said to the Owl, "You elegant fowl!  
How charmingly sweet you sing!  
O let us be married! too long we have tarried:  
But what shall we do for a ring?"  
They sailed away, for a year and a day,  
To the land where the Bong-Tree grows  
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood  
With a ring at the end of his nose,  
His nose,  
His nose,  
With a ring at the end of his nose.

"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling  
Your ring?" Said the Piggy, "I will."  
So they took it away,  
and were married next day  
By the Turkey who lives on the hill.  
They dined on mince, and slices of quince,  
Which they ate with a runcible spoon;  
And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand,  
They danced by the light of the moon,  
The moon,  
The moon,  
They danced by the light of the moon.

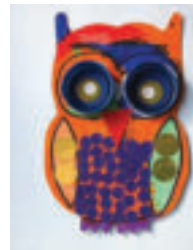
BY EDWARD LEAR



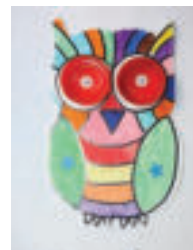
▲ EMMA BUCKHAM



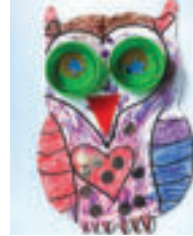
▲ MEESHA RAHIM



▲ OLIVIA VAN SITTERT



▲ MICHELA PHARO



▲ JESSICA DURRANT



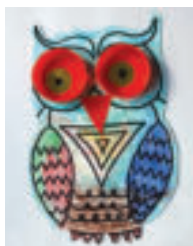
▲ AZRA MOHAMED



▲ HANAA MOHAMOOD



▲ ANNABEL GREY



▲ CHARLOTTE PLUMMER



▲ AMÉLIE HARDRES-WILLIAMS



▲ CHARLOTTE KOEN



▲ RUBY READ