

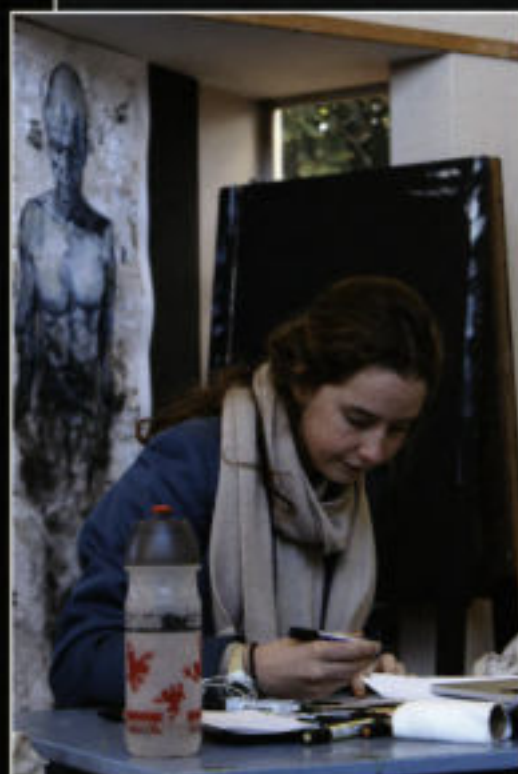


# THE HERSCHELIAN

## 2016







THE MARY MULLER PRIZE FOR ARTWORK OF THE YEAR  
**EMMA LESLIE**





# The **HERSCHELIAN**

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## PREPARATORY SCHOOL 121







*Dedication*





# Chairman's Report

BY PROF. ALEX WATSON

**R**eflecting on the 12 months since I last wrote a message for the Herschel magazine, makes me appreciate the value of a community in which open debate and communication are encouraged. As I write this, our tertiary education system is in a state of significant disruption which is likely to permanently change its landscape. The lack of rational and considered debate, clear and transparent communication and consideration of the bigger picture on our campuses stands in stark contrast to the way in which Herschel has approached issues in 2016.

Herschel has faced its share of challenges this year, but has worked together as a team and probably ended up stronger as a result. The importance of open and honest communication at all levels has been stressed, and strong leadership been demonstrated. I thank all those who have played a role in ensuring that diversity and tolerance are demonstrated and understood while the school's ethos as an independent Anglican girls' school is retained. Extraordinary levels of support have been provided by fellow council members to the school leadership, from staff to

our girls who may have felt vulnerable, unheard or confused and amongst and between the staff and pupils.

Herschel staff continue to work with our girls to get outstanding results in so many different spheres. Once again, our Matric results reflected the quality education our girls get, our sport teams and individual participants continue to bring pride to the school, as does the high level of performance in arts, music and drama. I am pleased to see the increased focus on developing critical thinking skills throughout the school, as well as the attention being paid to the pastoral care of our girls. Herschel has the potential to be a pressurised environment with some girls feeling over committed and others feeling unnoticed - we have to continue to work with our girls, staff and their families to ensure that each girl is able to find the balance that is right for her.

The council appointed Andrew Bearne as the school business manager following the retirement of Roger Ramsbottom, who served the school so well. Andrew has settled in quickly and we are delighted that he is already making his mark as a valuable member of the

executive team. We appointed one new council member this year, Rob Dow, who brings with him both financial acumen and considerable experience of serving on governing bodies of independent girls' schools. The Old Herschelians appointed a new council member as their representative this year. We welcome Kris Erlank (nee Millar) who has added a more youthful perspective to our deliberations. Both Kris and Rob have quickly added depth, wisdom and insight to our deliberations.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Stuart West, Lin Heidmann and their 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:** Mr L Barlow, Mr S West, Prof. A Watson, Mrs B Heidmann, Dr A Ndhluni

**SECOND ROW:** Mr L Govender, Dr N Wellington, Ms R Boucher, Mrs K Erlank, Mrs D Paul-Diemont, Mr A Scott

**BACK ROW:** Mr A Bearne, Mr D Gordon, Mr R Gamble, Mr S Harrison, Mr R Dow

**ABSENT:** Adv. M Angeliniadis, Adv. T Dicker, Ms T Skwambane





# Adieu

**DENISE BAWS**  
BY NICKY KARSTENS

The most fitting way to begin a tribute to Miss Denise Baws is to state that she is a legend and will be greatly missed. In a career spanning over forty years, 20 of which have been at Herschel, she has established a legacy and it will be near impossible to replace her. In turn, she has been an educator, mentor, disciplinarian, friend and confidante – a role model in terms of her professional and personal life.

Girls who have passed through Denise's hands will testify to her extensive knowledge and the breadth of her scholarship. One of her favourite expressions is "academic rigour" and in her teaching she demonstrates this,



providing an example for the girls of what they can aspire to know and to be. Balanced with this intellectual erudition are entertaining anecdotes about literary figures, tales of her travel experiences and wisdom about life.

Not many of those who do not know Denise well, guess at the witty, "wicked" sense of humour that lurks beneath her exterior. One of her previous pupils wrote, "English was a breath of fresh air in a stuffy timetable" – perhaps providing a glimpse into the playful sense of humour with which Denise always challenged the pupils' perceptions and which she used to elicit debate and discussion.

"Bawsisms" are what her pupils referred to when they quoted the expressions she uses often. Among them are "Sloppy language means sloppy minds", "Look for beauty, girls" or "Flippertigibbit. Isn't that a nice word?" But there are some that reveal her unbounded love

for more literary heroes, such as Shakespeare: "He has so much to teach: we still love, we still hate, we are still jealous, we still want to take revenge. We are, in essence, still human." Food for thought.

Of course, everyone knows that Jane Austen is Denise's all-time favourite writer, so much so that we can call her, without fear of contradiction, a "Janeite". What a pleasure it must have been for her to teach "Pride and Prejudice" at Grade 12 level! Far from being a trivial book about marriage, the heroine of the novel, Elizabeth Bennet, embodies some of Miss Baws's own characteristics: independence, initiative and resourcefulness, a love of reading and self-realisation.

Miss Baws: the disciplinarian. How many Grade 8s have been intimidated by the concentrated glare in their direction? It is a role Denise revels in – the chance to regulate the girls' conduct so that they take pride in their

appearance and their behaviour. Such is her love of Herschel, that she performs this unpleasant, yet important, task with a sound sense of responsibility and accountability. It has been one of her many duties as Deputy Head of our school – a role she has filled admirably.

As a colleague, Denise has led the English Department with aplomb. Guided by a sense of fairness, mindful of the differences that each member brings to our partnership, and integrity, Denise has led by example. It has been under her stewardship that the English Department has been, for over a decade, the top Department in the Province – a testimony to her skill and expertise.

Most of all, Denise has been a good friend to me and I know, offered her empathy and guidance to many staff and girls over the years. Underneath the tough exterior, she is a deeply compassionate, kind and sensitive person.

So, we bid a fond farewell to a very special human being. We will miss the sparkle in your eye and the example you provided of high standards of behaviour, as well as the sound of your pumps in the corridor! Our loss is Herschel's loss, but we know that wherever you go you will reflect a sense of what is right, true and just. ■



**MIA VAN ZYL**  
BY BETSIE LUREMAN

For the past three years, Mia van Zyl has been an invaluable member of the Afrikaans Department. Her enthusiasm and dedication have endeared her to her students. She has an obvious love for teaching and inspires her students who enjoy her lively and well-planned lessons. She has also found the balance between caring for her students, while simultaneously instilling the necessary discipline.

During her time at Herschel, Mia has involved herself with

Ballroom Dancing and was also part of the Umfolozi experience.

As a colleague, we have appreciated her cheerful outlook and her willingness to share new ideas. Her exceptional creativity was reflected in the examination and test papers she set. She also played a prominent role in the creativity programme of the Grade 9 Enrichment team.

Mia's decision to leave our school was very difficult for her but the daily travelling distance between Herschel and Stellenbosch was the deciding

factor. She will indeed be missed as colleague and friend. We wish her well as she takes up a post as Subject Head of the Afrikaans Department at Curro in Somerset West. Comments from past Matrics in their Memories booklets:

- *Juffrou van Zyl gave me insight into life and myself beyond the school walls.*  
**Natasha Brooks, 2016**
- *I thank Juffrou van Zyl for being a breath of fresh air.*  
**Ruby Lapid, 2015**
- *My aspiration after school is to have swag like Juffrou van Zyl.*  
**Jordan Barkai, 2014**





## ROGER RAMSBOTTOM

### BY MADELEEN WELMAN

In June 2004, Roger Ramsbottom accepted an appointment as Business Manager of Herschel. His extensive experience in the commercial sector became a valuable asset to the school, but it was soon apparent that Roger is not your archetypal money man; he has wide interests in sport, loves the

outdoors, is an intrepid traveller with a staggering general knowledge and is known for his boundless generosity.

His colleague of many years, Mary-Anne Posthumus, delivered the address at his farewell and said:

I first met Roger in 2004 and discovered that we had quite a lot in common: we both had sons, we both loved sport and knew many of the same people. Roger, as most of you are aware, is an amazing husband, father and most of all grandfather. His care and love for his family is very obvious and I can't tell you how many times we mentioned in our office about the fantastic grandfather he is.

"Roger loved, and still loves Herschel and enjoyed every minute of his working career here. We saw that in his

commitment to Stepout and any Grade hike and, of course, his constant eye over any building activity at the school.

"Believe it or not, but Roger was the more lenient or softer of the two of us, with me – typical accountant – in my little box with everything black and white. Absolutely no grey areas. Roger was the complete opposite. It is his kindness that I will always remember. One year at a Bursars' conference, they did some personality profiling and, after the results came out, they put us into groups, based on the results, into the four corners of the venue. As the bursars were mostly all accountants, 90% of us landed up in the one corner, but one of the few exceptions was Roger with his caring nature and non-accountant personality.

"Roger's sport enthusiasm

includes rugby, cricket, tennis and golf and I don't think Roger ever missed a French Open or Wimbledon game – let alone the nights he sat up watching a golf playoff!

He was not just a TV athlete, though. Roger cycled to work from Constantia every day – up the Victoria Hospital Hill come rain or shine – and accompanied the Grade 10 girls on the annual Stepout cycle leg, proving that youth does not always outlast experience and fitness.

At the 2015 Prize-Giving, our Chairman, Prof Alex Watson, thanked Roger for "his close scrutiny of expenses, financial expertise and devotion to Herschel." Those of us who worked with him on a daily basis, would also like to thank him for his sense of humour, his willingness to help and for looking after us on so many levels.



## SUZANNE DE VILLIERS

### BY KAREN VAN DER MERWE AND SANDY RULE

How does one say farewell to such a wonderful colleague and very special friend after so many years? The Herschel family will be left with a great big hole without Suzanne. Dynamite really does come in small packages; this is so true of our feisty 'rookoppie'.

Suzanne is a dedicated and professional teacher who has single-handedly run a thriving Consumer Studies department for 17 years. She spends hours preparing for her lessons and meticulously planning her practicals, as well as extending her pupils with inspiring

cooking demonstrations and taking them on outings to broaden their knowledge. She is an outstanding and passionate teacher who has gone way beyond the call of duty to ensure that her pupils enjoy her subject.

In her time at Herschel, Suzanne was heavily involved in putting the Herschel Interact club on the map. She spent hours and hours on Interact activities for 12 years. She received a Paul Harris fellow award, from the Claremont Rotary club, in recognition of her dedicated service to the community. This is a fitting testament to Suzanne's social conscience and her huge, God-filled, servant heart. She is presently involved in community service, co-ordinating catering classes for Thandokhulu High School students.

Apart from school and family responsibilities, Suzanne has been involved in Textbook writing, formulating the Consumer Studies Olympiad and marking and setting National Senior Certificate examinations.

She has established herself as a respected leader in her field, and Herschel pupils have benefitted from her expertise and wealth of knowledge. We are extremely proud that she has been part of our school.

Many of us have benefitted from her generosity of spirit. Who will ever forget the hundreds of neon-coloured cupcakes that Suzanne's team produced for Herschel's 90th birthday celebrations? Open evenings with 'Ready, Steady Cook' competitions? Her behind-the-scenes help with Stepout? Her role as staff representative and initiator of the staff fund? To mention but a few.

Everything that Suzanne does is based on her steadfast faith and unwavering moral code. She is a firm but fair and kind teacher to her pupils and the most wonderful friend to so many of us on the staff. We adore Suzanne for her forthright honesty, and for her ability to say exactly what is on her mind and how she feels. She is always keen to listen and offer genuine, caring and

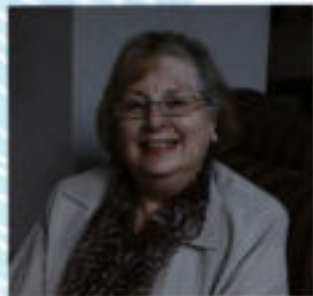
kind advice. One is often left enlightened and amused after a chat with Suzanne. She is caring and thoughtful, leaving no birthday forgotten, and she has often provided comfort and advice in others' trying times. The 'Afrikaanse hoekie' will just not be the same without her.

Apart from everything that Suzanne has accomplished, she will be most proud of her daughter, Alida, son, Jean, and her husband, Jannie. She is a loving mom and wife and we completely support her decision to move to Knysna where Jannie will take up the position as headmaster of Oakhill Private School.

We say goodbye with mixed feelings – with excitement and anticipation for what her future holds and with sadness that her energetic warmth will no longer brighten our days at Herschel. We, her Biology buddies, cannot imagine walking past her kitchen and not popping in for a greeting and a chat.

We want to send Knysna a 'heads-up' that a treasure is on its way...





## ALTA DIEDERICHS

We bid a sad Auf Wiedersehen to Frau Alta Diederichs, our German teacher, who has had a long relationship with Herschel since her daughter, Carina, was our Deputy Head Girl in 1995. Alta, who drove through from

Stellenbosch to teach "her girls", was recently honoured by the German Consulate General "for your loyal support of the German language at your school over the past years. We appreciate all your hard work." Alta is an avid reader who devours anything from cookery books and film star biographies to whodunnits and her daily newspaper and we wish her well in her retirement and many happy hours of what she likes doing most: working for the donkey sanctuary and reading, with her cat on her lap.



## ADIEU, HERSCHELIAN

The first printed issue of The Herschel appeared in 1927, making this the 90th edition. It has evolved from a modest, dark green volume, with the iconic trees on the front cover, to what it is today. Paging through back copies, it is remarkable how little has changed: we find the first time girls and staff knitted for a community purpose (in 1946, for babies left destitute in the War), as they have done this year for The 67 Blankets project. The yellowed pages of old magazines feature letters from Old Herschelians working abroad, especially during the second World War, just as Katie Christie is waging a war for women's health in Tanzania. Since 1927 there has always been a page praising the academic prowess of the students. We may no longer play lacrosse or cricket, but we celebrate all the sporting activities of our girls. House events were highlights back then, too. Our choirs, the first one started in 1933, by Miss

Willis, remain a joy to all who have heard them – see Kit Tustin's letter in the OH News. "Staging a play" and all the excitement that goes with it, took root in the 1920s and our Drama girls still carry on with this tradition.

The Herschel may have grown and become colourful, but inside, the core focus is still on our girls, reflecting their lives. I am privileged to have been associated with The Herschel for the past nine years, to have contributed to the compilation of each year's history between two covers, because history is what we make, every day, every year. On my retirement, I would like to thank Alison Bodenstein for her sharp eye, especially for commas and spelling, and Joyce Goldschmidt for her meticulous collation of the Preparatory pages. I would not have been able to deliver this magazine without their support and good humour. And to all my colleagues who endured the constant cajoling for content with good grace: thank you.

**MADELEEN WELMAN**



## ANGELA UPSHON BY INGRID SADLER

Many years ago, whilst travelling from England across Africa, Angela Upshon stopped off in Zimbabwe. There she met and fell in love with Conrad and Africa became home.

Herschel is privileged to have had someone of Angela's calibre rise through the ranks, beginning as a volunteer Mom in the library for the five years that her daughter, Aimee, attended Herschel. She became assistant librarian on a part-time basis, finally progressing to full-time Librarian, wearing many different hats to suit the daily requirements. Her vision for the development of the library into an all-inclusive Resource Centre has been

Angela's project and baby. With enthusiastic research and far-reaching ideas, the first phase of the Resource Centre has finally taken off with the re-design of the library space. It is proving to be a resounding success.

Angela has endeared herself to all at Herschel with her positive, non-judgemental outlook on life. She has been a confidante to many of us, staff and library monitors alike in times of need, possessing the insight to see a problem from all sides. Her warmth, wisdom and encouragement will be sorely missed. To quote one of her monitors: "We have our mom at home and at school we have Mrs Upshon".

Conrad's illness and sudden passing was a devastating blow to Angela who gave her all to nurse him to the end. Her obvious love for him and personal sacrifice is an example to us all of the meaning of love and selfless dedication.

Life's journey has now come full circle for Angela as she plans to return to England to spend some quality time with her parents. Go well.



## FAREWELL TO ANETTE ROSSOUW

**BY DEBBIE MAIN**

After many years of teaching at St Catherine's in Johannesburg, Anette Rossouw joined the Herschel Mathematics department in January. During this time she has shown herself to be a hardworking and extremely professional colleague. She

works quietly and quickly through tasks with a high degree of accuracy. Anette is a highly skilled mathematician and is a ready source of input when a Mathematics discussion arises around a particular problem. She has a clear and insightful mind and a passion for her subject.

Her pupils know her for her excellent preparation of her lessons and her willingness to go the extra mile. Anette has always made herself available during her lunch breaks and after school in order to help those who are struggling. This has been greatly appreciated. We congratulate her on her new position as Head of Mathematics at the Curro School and wish her well.



# ACADEMIC STAFF



**FRONT ROW:** Mr B Sopam, Mrs A Bodenstein, Mr C Karstens, Mrs S Grové, Mrs M v Schalkyk, Ms R Bouwer, Mr S West, Mr A Scott, Miss D Baws, Mrs S Taylor, Ms J Taylor, Mrs H Botha, Mrs T Venter **SECOND ROW:** Mrs C Lacerda, Mrs H Oelofse, Mrs H Marais, Miss J Cameron, Mrs A Rossouw, Mrs T Harding, Ms B Parker, Ms D Main, Ms W Walter, Miss T Rousseau, Ms R Klassen, Mrs S de Villiers, Mrs S Rule, Mrs S Gordon **THIRD ROW:** Mrs T Thomson, Mrs N Karstens, Mrs K van der Merwe, Ms N Jordan, Mrs S McArthur, Miss H Basson, Mrs N Hughes, Ms N Barendse, Mrs M Barry, Mrs M Nyback, Mrs C Sharp, Mme M Cassuto, Ms S Scarola **BACK ROW:** Mrs C Alpert, Mr B Merckel, Ms J Wesson, Mrs B Lureman, Miss M van Zyl, Mme S Macfarlane, Mr J Gouws, Mrs A Golding, Ms H de Bruijn, Mr M Bräsler, Miss C Brown, Miss K Burden, Mrs S Stein



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**Mr DJ Gordon**

**Mr S Harrison**

**Mrs K Erlank**

**Dr A Ndiluni**

**Mrs D Paul-Diement**

**Miss T Skwambane**

**Dr N Wellington**

**Mr R Dow**





## ADMINISTRATION

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs M Welman, Mr S Levey, Mrs Z Cripps, Mr S West, Mrs H Vaughan, Mr A Scott, Mrs D Griffiths

**BACK ROW:** Mr A Fataar, Mr B Odendaal, Mrs J Buffkins, Mrs N Moolman, Mr E Terblanche, Mr F Fataar, Mrs G van Blerk, Mr C Jacobs, Ms M Nothnagel **Absent:** Mr U Cengani



## ESTATE

**FRONT ROW:** Messrs N Mde, D Feketa (Foreman Preparatory), E Terblanche (Manager), P Kwezi (Foreman Senior), N Solomons **BACK ROW:** Messrs A Blom, I Shortl, S Nqenqa, T Songelwa, D Nomsobo



## MAINTENANCE

**FRONT ROW:** Messrs R Johnston, C Jacobs (Manager), N Daniels

**BACK ROW:** Messrs A Boko, G Jones, T Lukwe





*Celebration*





## Message from the Head PRIZE-GIVING 2016

BY MR STUART WEST

**AT** the beginning of 2016 I announced my theme for the year: "The joy of learning." Looking back at this year, I guess it was not the year of learning I had envisaged in January. I had envisaged debates on classroom methodology, the dangers of over-assessment, the value and purpose of homework, the growing levels of anxiety in our girls and how we could help our girls engage more critically with current global and national issues. I wanted our staff and girls to be released from having to treat the pleasure of academic curiosity, and joy of learning, as the enemies of competence and achievement.

This year has involved the learning of a very different kind.

The book of Ecclesiastes, poetically and powerfully, argues that we live in a world of change, and that we are continually pulled between differing seasons and conditions of human life. It is up to us to know the seasons and then make sense of the winds of change.

For everything there is a season,  
a time for every activity under heaven.  
A time to be born and a time to die.  
A time to plant and a time to harvest.  
A time to kill and a time to heal.

A time to tear down and a time to build up.

A time to cry and a time to laugh.

A time to grieve and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones.

A time to embrace and a time to turn away.

A time to search and a time to quit searching.

A time to keep and a time to throw away.

A time to tear and a time to mend.

A time to be quiet and a time to speak.

There is no doubt that we have been tested, challenged and shaped by a set of tsunamis that we could not have predicted in January 2016. These have forced us to stand as the Herschel family in the eye of each storm and find, with God's grace and the resolute insight of wise councillors, a way - often rather scary and tenuous at times - through the storm to the other side.

During the height of the unspeakable allegations that tore at our hearts in the second term, a Grade 9 girl asked me: "Mr West, how do we protect the reputation of Herschel at this time?" I was deeply moved and challenged by the simple,

yet profound question. For it went to the heart of who we are as a Herschel family. I remember answering something like this: This is not the time to be looking to protect our reputation. This is a time when we lean on our reputation, that reputation which has been so carefully built and so thoughtfully and passionately cherished by the many generations of Herschel staff, girls and leaders over the last 94 years. We need to walk through the storm as best we can, for now.

And the way that we navigate this storm as the Herschel family will become part of our reputation in the years that lie ahead.

Haruki Murakami, a contemporary Japanese writer, comments: "And once the storm is over, you won't remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won't even be sure, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm, you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what this storm's all about."

And so the joy of learning gave way to the necessity of learning, the learning about life and about ourselves as a school community and Herschel family. We have learnt what it means to be a family in the midst of unspeakable allegations, in the midst of deep hurt, in the midst of personal tragedy, in the midst of relentless diseases that take hold of loved ones, and in the midst of complex and challenging storms.

We have begun critical conversations about racism, racial prejudice, what it means to be a multi-faith community within an Anglican Church School and the importance of identity and being valued and acknowledged here at Herschel. We have learnt, and are still learning, that to be a family we need to see each other more clearly and we need to listen to each other more carefully. We are learning to be honest and open and engage with each other with less fear and to challenge each other with more courage, boldness and vulnerability. Above all, we want a school where our girls can say: "At Herschel, it is okay to be me."

We have learnt, and will never stop learning, that we have to transform and adapt to a changing world. A family must learn to listen for those voices, often silent and unheard, as they find confidence and maturity, and begin to express themselves in fragile and profound ways. A Herschel Grade 10 girl, speaking at the recent Heads' conference in Cape Town, said the



following: *"Transformation and tradition do not belong in the same place, unless transformation is the new tradition."*

Another speaker at the conference, Toni Stewart, said that we have to learn to become comfortable with being uncomfortable. We need to become comfortable with listening, listening for the hurt and the invisibility of others.

And so we have been challenged this year, through both unwarranted and necessary storms, to grow as a family, to listen as a family, to transform as a family and, most importantly, to be that family - for all. It was Benjamin Disraeli who wisely said: *There is no education like adversity.*

And there will be trials that will continue to challenge us, for which we may feel ill-prepared. A current concern of all the staff, is just how do we prepare our matric girls to leave the safe and cloistered walls of Herschel, confident and equipped to engage and thrive in the now infinitely more complex, uncertain and transforming university arenas.

Part of the reason that I chose the theme The Joy of Learning at the start of the year, was because Council had very generously agreed for me to attend the first-ever Global Forum on Girls' Education, hosted in New York, in February this year. I was so excited to be part of a conference of 950 delegates, which would focus on the strength, benefit and best practice of girls' schools around the world. I returned to Herschel with bold ideas and affirmations of how we are, and yet could be more of a world-class girls' school. Here are some of my reflections from that conference:

Firstly, independent schools in America manifest their independence by designing and implementing a uniquely-tailored liberal arts type curriculum for their students designed to be highly relevant, enriching and to intentionally move away from a reliance on standardised testing. They want their girls to engage with contemporary issues, to be academically articulate, and to confidently present their learning and understanding, in a variety of creative and relevant ways. I have returned convinced, that while we certainly do challenge our girls academically, the nature of the South African national senior curriculum, and its dependence on standardised testing, often limits the engaging work we could achieve, as an independent school.

We have begun that journey. We have challenged ourselves to find new ways in Grade 8 to 10, to redefine the curriculum we teach, to find creative ways to present and assess learning, and to entrench the expectation of critical thinking skills and thoughtful, robust academic discourse so that the next generation of Herschel girls go out from these walls as strong, caring, risk-taking, relevant and articulate young women.

I have been thrilled to see a remarkably similar and challenging journey this year in our preparatory school, as Mrs Heidmann, Mrs Balkoff and their teaching teams have created new learning environments, which incorporate critical questioning and the pursuit of academic curiosity, that translate into project-based learning opportunities, and passionate, purposeful work among their girls.

## WE HAVE LEARNT, AND WILL NEVER STOP LEARNING, THAT WE HAVE TO TRANSFORM AND ADAPT TO A CHANGING WORLD

The reason that we can even contemplate these academic shifts, is because of the high calibre, expertise and professionalism of our academic staff here at Herschel, whose years of experience and intuitive standards, have long guaranteed the academic success of our girls.

A second consistent and urgent theme of the conference was the importance of prioritising the inner lives of girls. The opening speaker, Gloria Steinem, implored us to continue with the intentional and strategic empowerment of young women across the globe. Gloria said that we live in a time of maximum hope, but also in a time of maximum danger and that while there are major shifts towards democracy and equality around the world, globally, violence and discrimination against women, especially in their fight for reproductive freedom and justice, remain the greatest threats to our society.

Arianna Huffington, of the Huffington Post, pleaded with schools to equip young women to fight against the continued, bewildering silent casualties of women in the workplace, and the dysfunctional

equation between burnout and success for many career women. She said we have to teach our girls, while they are still young, how to purposefully manage their lives and find that critical balance between their driven work ethic, their desire for relentless achievement and their personal wellbeing.

This was supported by the most profound talk of the conference, The Myth of Effortless Perfection. Suffice it to say that we have to help our girls face the monster of this myth, a myth that seduces girls into thinking that consistent success and uber-achievement are attainable for all, effortless for some. So they slave away behind the scenes, working unbearable hours across multiple commitments, competing for honours, comparing themselves against peers, ruthlessly driving themselves to achieve at all costs, all the time trying to maintain the mask and pretence of effortless perfection, all the while, fighting the growing anxiety within.

This must not be confused with grit. Grit is a key part of the antidote to perfectionism. Grit is possessing the stamina, passion and perseverance for long-term goals. Grit is sticking with your future, day in, day out, not just for the week, not just for the month, but for years, and working really hard to make that future a reality. We, as schools and parents, must teach our girls the value and necessity of grit.

At Herschel, we must create opportunities for our girls to find balance within the complexity of their inner lives. We must prioritise the opportunities, skills and times for reflection and self-care. We must teach them to regularly look behind the mask, assess their inner lives, demand of themselves, balance, and, if necessary, have the ability and permission to ask for help. We have to review how we as a school, intentionally and unintentionally, define success for our girls. We have to build an environment where it is okay to say: *"I don't have to be perfect. I won't expect that of myself any longer."*

And so, 2016 has indeed been a year of considerable learning. It has been a year of considerable achievement. Our girls have once again attained incredible successes, across the whole range of school activities and beyond. Tonight we will celebrate just the tip of the iceberg, within an ocean of success and achievement. ■

**AD DEI GLORIAM**



# PRIZE-GIVING

## 2016 SUBJECT AWARDS

### GRADE 8

#### AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Vitske van Zyl

ART ELECTIVE: Hannah Gonera

DRAMA ELECTIVE: Raine Halvorsen

ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT

SCIENCES: Anna von Willingh,

Sobaagh Zoutenberg

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:

Hannah Gonera

FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Georgla Nel

MATHEMATICS: Anna von Willingh

MUSIC ELECTIVE *Subject Music*:

Sumin Lee

MUSIC ELECTIVE *Arts and Culture*:

Vitske van Zyl

NATURAL SCIENCES: Alexa Mesham

SOCIAL SCIENCES: Mia Versfeld

TECHNOLOGY: Anna von Willingh

XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Anna von Willingh

THIRD PLACE: Blue Thorpe

SECOND PLACE: Mia Versfeld

FIRST PLACE: Anna von Willingh

### GRADE 9

#### AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:

Ammaarah Ebrahim

#### AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Kitty Fisher

ART ELECTIVE: Mariam Goolam Mahomed

DRAMA ELECTIVE: Traci Hurling,

Jemma Morris

ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT

SCIENCES: Mariam Goolam Mahomed

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:

Jemma Morris

FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Anna Mason

GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Katinka Wilkinson

MATHEMATICS: Sunmin Im

MUSIC ELECTIVE – *Subject Music*:

Anna Grieve

MUSIC ELECTIVE – *Arts and Culture*:

Gina-Rose Bolligello

NATURAL SCIENCES: Lauren Ebell

SOCIAL SCIENCES:

Mariam Goolam Mahomed

TECHNOLOGY: Juliet Neethling

XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Aphiwe Matiso

THIRD PLACE: Traci Hurling

SECOND PLACE: Kitty Fisher

FIRST PLACE: Mariam Goolam Mahomed

### GRADE 10

ACCOUNTING: Kyra Meyer

AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:

Nur-Ayn Mohamed

AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Ameerah Saban

BUSINESS STUDIES: Emma Ford,

Jessica Austin

CONSUMER STUDIES: Gemma Earl

DESIGN: Olivia Proudfoot

DRAMATIC ARTS: Megan Collings

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:

Nur-Ayn Mohamed

FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Margaux Verspioren

GEOGRAPHY: Nur-Ayn Mohamed

GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Sophie Dyason

HISTORY: Emma Ford

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Angela Welham

LIFE ORIENTATION: Charlotte Louw

LIFE SCIENCES: Amber de Decker

MATHEMATICS: Nur-Ayn Mohamed

ADVANCED PROGRAMME

MATHEMATICS: Nur-Ayn Mohamed

MUSIC: Amber de Decker

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: Charlotte Louw

VISUAL ARTS: Charlotte Louw

THIRD PLACE: Charlotte Louw

SECOND PLACE: Amber de Decker

FIRST PLACE: Nur-Ayn Mohamed

### GRADE 11

ACCOUNTING: Kiran Abbas

AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:

Caroline Robertson

AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Alexandra-Naledi

Holtman

BUSINESS STUDIES: Meg Chesterton,

Rachel Searle

CONSUMER STUDIES: Allison King

DRAMATIC ARTS: Adrienne Hendricks,

Gita Brief

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE:

Caroline Robertson

ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH:

Caroline Robertson

### FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Clemence Kacedan

GEOGRAPHY: Chelsea Voegt, Allison King

HISTORY: Holly Judge

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Holly Judge

LIFE ORIENTATION: Paige Inglis

LIFE SCIENCES: Anna Midgley

MATHEMATICS: Kiran Abbas

ADVANCED PROGRAMME

MATHEMATICS: Caroline Robertson

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY:

Kira Badroodien

MUSIC: Caroline Robertson

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: Anna Midgley

VISUAL ARTS: Caroline Koen

XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Lithamsanga Jacobs

THIRD PLACE: Kiran Abbas

SECOND PLACE: Lara Sebesteny

FIRST PLACE: Caroline Robertson

### GRADE 12

ACCOUNTING: Alisa Malindi

AFRIKAANS HOME LANGUAGE:

Emma Leslie

AFRIKAANS FIRST ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Victoria Sharples

BUSINESS STUDIES: Jenna von Bulow

CONSUMER STUDIES: Georgla Grobler

DRAMATIC ARTS: Olivia Burton

ENGLISH (LADY WOOLLEY PRIZE):

Victoria Sharples

GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Jemma Wright

ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH:

Jessica Gleeson

FRENCH SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Stephanie Wild

GEOGRAPHY: Jessica Gleeson

GERMAN SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Léa-Elisa Weimann

HISTORY: Victoria Sharples

LIFE ORIENTATION: Emma Leslie

LIFE SCIENCES: Jenna von Bulow

MATHEMATICS (LIZ GIBBONS PRIZE):

Chéri Laudien

ADVANCED PROGRAMME

MATHEMATICS: Zashidah Razzak

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY: Bianca Gray,

Eleanor Lesbirel

MUSIC: Megan Cunnington

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: Jessica Gleeson

VISUAL ARTS: Emma Leslie

VISUAL ARTS – PRACTICAL:

Jessica Macleod Smith

XHOSA SECOND ADDITIONAL

LANGUAGE: Alisa Malindi





### PREMIER ACADEMIC AWARDS: GRADE 12 ORDER OF MERIT

THIRD PLACE: Chéri Laudien

SECOND PLACE: (Proxime Accessit)

Jessica Gleeson

THE DESMOND LOCH DAVIS AWARD

FOR DUX OF THE SCHOOL: Emma Leslie

## SPECIAL AWARDS

### PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS:

#### ACCOUNTING AND MATHEMATICS:

Zaahidah Razzak

#### ENTHUSIASM IN AFRIKAANS HOME

LANGUAGE: Emma Leslie

#### ETHEL HILL CUP FOR SPOKEN

ENGLISH: Jean Marr

#### BILINGUAL ORAL PROFICIENCY AT

HOME LANGUAGE LEVEL: Emma Leslie

#### ABE BAILEY PRIZE FOR

BILINGUALISM: Victoria Sharples,

Alexandra Parks

#### MRS MCCORMICK'S PRIZE FOR

SPOKEN FRENCH: Victoria Sharples

#### SONIA BECK ESSAY PRIZE:

Josephine Rey

#### JANET STEYN PRIZE FOR INTEREST

IN THE HUMANITIES: Tanweer Kerbelker

#### MISS MCLEAN'S PRIZE FOR

MATHEMATICS: Zaahidah Razzak

#### DR SILBERBAUER PRIZE FOR

INTEREST IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES:

Abigail Russell

#### LINK TO GROW PRIZE FOR

PERSEVERANCE IN THE SCIENCES:

Abulele Dlova

#### DAPHNE BEAMES AEQUA MENTE CUP:

Emma Leslie

#### DR HENDRICKSE TROPHY FOR

ENTREPRENEURSHIP:

Alexandra Miszewski

#### THE ALICIA WILKINSON SILWOOD

PRIZE FOR PRACTICAL COOKERY:

Jenna Garbers, Ammaarah Abrahams

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR ART:

Mariam Goolam Mahomed

#### BURNETT FAMILY PRIZE FOR ART:

Paballo Makgoba

### MARY MULLER PICTURE OF THE YEAR:

Emma Leslie

### MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIZE FOR MUSIC:

Anna Grieve

### MONIQUE ZURICH TROPHY

FOR MUSIC: Uliana Alekseev

### STOBIE MUSICIANSHIP PRIZE:

Uliana Alekseev

### CHORAL PRIZE: Jessica Scott

### FRITH TROPHY FOR PUBLIC

SPEAKING: Marica Caldis

### JENNIFER SALE DRAMA TROPHY

FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE:

Khanya Gubangxa

### ANNETTE HARTMANN TROPHY

FOR THE DRAMATIC ARTS: Jean Marr,

Olivia Burton

### MCCLURG TROPHY FOR THE

THEATRE ARTS: Daniëlle Blignaut,

Jessica Gleeson

### ISABELLA TROPHY FOR

PERFORMANCE IN A SECOND

LANGUAGE: Alexandra-Naledi Holtman

### WATERFIELD PRIZE FOR

COMMITMENT, INITIATIVE AND

FELLOWSHIP IN THE CREATIVE ARTS:

Jessica Scott

### ERASMUS COMMUNITY SERVICE

TROPHY: Zaahidah Razzak

### CLAREMONT ROTARY CLUB PRIZE:

Chéri Laudien

### PAUL LEE FLOATING TROPHY:

Beth Postings

### PARENTS' DANCE TROPHY:

Isla Sutherland, Caitlin Brooks

### MRS STOCKWELL'S PRIZE FOR

ALL-ROUND PARTICIPATION AND

ACHIEVEMENT: Jessica Gleeson

### CHAMBERS TROPHY FOR GOOD

SPORTSMANSHIP: Stephanie Malherbe

### CLEGG AWARD: OUTSTANDING

ACADEMIC AND SPORTING

ACHIEVEMENT: Georgia Grobler

### HANNATH TROPHY FOR THE

MOST OUTSTANDING SPORTING

ACHIEVEMENT OF THE YEAR:

Hayley Preen

### THERESA BRIDGMAN TROPHY FOR

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR:

Georgia Grobler

### ARDERNE HOUSE FELLOWSHIP

AWARD: Mika Gerryts, Eva Da Costa

### KIRSTEN LOCKE FELLOWSHIP AWARD:

Eva Da Costa

### SANDRA WINGFIELD FELLOWSHIP

PRIZE: Victoria Sharples

### THE JENNA LOWE TROPHY:

Stephanie Malherbe and Tessa Revell

### SCHÖNBORN TROPHY FOR

EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT:

Caroline Robertson

### PIETAS TROPHY FROM THE

LABIA FAMILY: Luciana Graham

### MISS GELDARD'S PRIZE

FOR COURTESY: Nastassja Hardenberg,

Jodie Adams

### PAMELA DUFF AWARD FOR

AN ENQUIRING MIND: Jessica Gleeson

### THE DI VAN ZYL AWARD:

Lée-Elisa Weimann

### THE HEAD'S AWARD FOR

PARTICIPATIVE AND SUPPORTIVE

LEADERSHIP: Jean Marr,

Victoria Sharples

### THE HEAD'S AWARD FOR DEDICATED

SERVANT LEADERSHIP: Emma Leslie

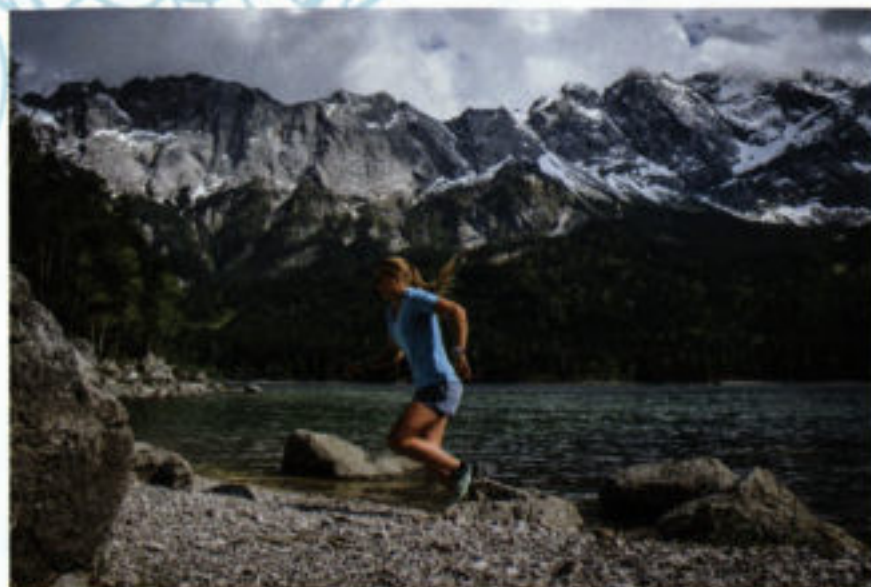
### THE OLD HERSCHELIAN AWARD FOR

SERVICE, LOYALTY AND LEADERSHIP

(TROPHY): Emma Leslie



# ACHIEVEMENTS



**HAYLEY PREEN**, representing South Africa, has returned from Italy, where she won the silver medal in her age category during the Youth World Skyrunning Championship. She was also part of the combined Western Cape/ Eastern Cape junior Show Jumping team that took the SA Team title earlier this year and won the XTerra Triathlon in Grabouw against stiff international competition.



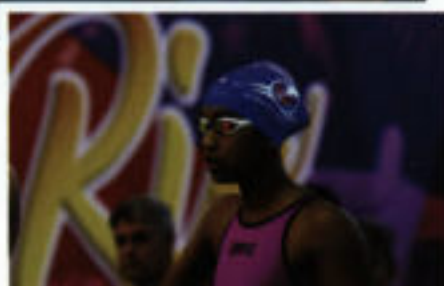
**ALYSSA MEYER** was chosen to represent South Africa for the Youth Sport Climbing team. She represented her country at the IFSC Youth World Championships in China in November.



**LILY BERTISH** attended the SA Lifesaving Championships and is now ranked the top Under 14 for Board in South Africa.



Two sets of sisters have excelled in the pool this year: twin sisters **OLIVIA** (left) and **GEORGIA NEL** and sisters **HÄNIM** and **AMMAARAH ABRAHAMS**. At the SA Level 3 Championships, Olivia broke two SA records (U13) and recorded the fastest time across all age groups in two events, for which she won Gold medals. Georgia won four Gold medals at the Level 2 Championships. Also at the Level 3 Championships, Hänim won three Gold medals and set a new SA record in the 50m breaststroke. Ammaarah, made the finals in three events in the 17- to 18-year-old group.



Hänim, who is in Grade 8, has subsequently been selected to represent the senior South African Swimming Team for the XII CANA African Swimming Championships. Over 23 countries participated at this competition, where Hänim won three silver medals.



**KARI STEYN**, our U16 swimming champion, was included in the U16 SA Schools Water Polo squad.





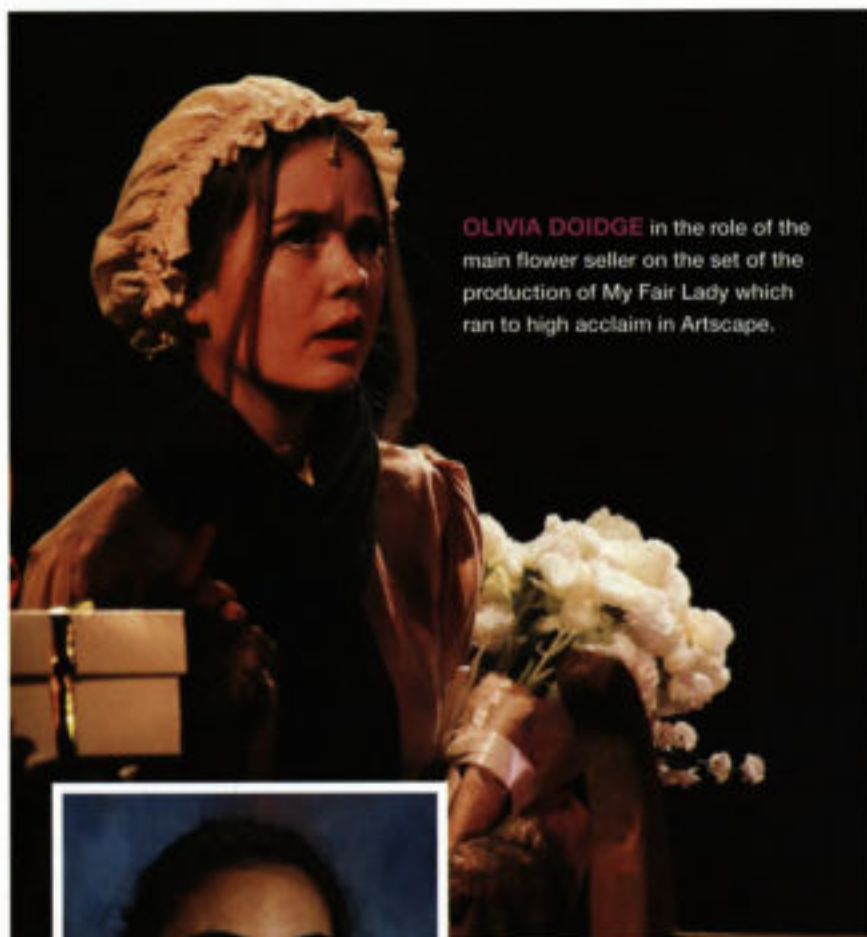
In her Grade 10 year, **CAROLINE ROBERTSON** was placed in the Top 100 of the De Beers English Olympiad. It was an exceptional performance from such a young participant. This year, Caroline once again wrote and was placed 5th out of almost 8000 participants. As part of her prize, Caroline received a first-year, free tuition scholarship from Rhodes University. Caroline (on cello) is a gifted musician, too. She reached the semi-final round of the prestigious National Youth Music Competition, a showcase for the very best of South Africa's young musical talent in the 14-19-year age group. At the final awards gala evening she was presented with the award for most promising string player.



**BRITTANY JOHNSON** and her partner achieved first place at the South African Ballroom and Latin Dance Sport Championships in Johannesburg.



Five of our 2015 Matriculants were invited to the Premier of the Western Cape's home for the Top Achievers Award Ceremony. **KATE VAN DER MERWE** made the Top Achievers list with eight distinctions, while **SHANDUKANI MULAUDZI** with nine distinctions was also named a Top Achiever and received an award for 100% in Mathematics. **HELEN ACTON** was named a Top Achiever (she had eight distinctions and 100% for History), **SAMANTHA HEARN** received nine distinctions and was on the Top Achievers List and **NICOLE LANCEFIELD** (eight distinctions), received an award for Excellence in Accounting (100%). The entire class of 104 girls did exceptionally well, with 78 of them achieving aggregates over 80% and 24 girls scoring averages of over 90%.



**OLIVIA DOIDGE** in the role of the main flower seller on the set of the production of *My Fair Lady* which ran to high acclaim in Artscape.

**SAMEEAH AHMED-ARAI** came first in the country (Grade 11 category), in the annual Concours de la Francophonie organised by the French Embassy. Sameeah won her prize on the strength of a 300-word essay, in French, on the importance of Art.





English Alive is the South African Council for English Education's annual anthology of writing from high schools and secondary colleges in southern Africa and has been published since 1967. Approximately 70 pieces of poetry and prose, about anything, are selected for publication each year and over the years many Herschel girls' work has featured in the publication. This year, two Herschelians' work was featured. One piece is by **HELEN ACTON** (Matric 2015) and the other by **DANIELLE BLIGNAUT** (Grade 12), who was in Grade 11 when her piece was written. Danielle was also chosen to represent South Africa at the Fencing Junior World Championships in Bourges, France.



It was double gold for **AMMAARAH HENDRICKS**, who participated in the Goju Kai (karate) South African Championships in Bloemfontein and came home with five gold medals including one as a member of the SA team that won gold against Botswana for Kumite and Kata. Ammaarah is a keen hockey player, too, and was included in the South Africa U16 hockey side.



**KAYLA DE WAAL** was awarded her South African colours for U16 hockey. She is also an excellent cross country runner and won both the Western Province and Western Cape races in the U16 group. Kayla came second in the U16 event at the South African Cross Country Championships.



**MRS MICHÈLE CASSUTO** has been awarded the Ordre des Palmes académiques (Order of the Academic Palms), a national order awarded by the French government. Originally a decoration founded by Napoleon to honour eminent members of the University of Paris, the order is now awarded to distinguished academics in the world of culture and education, including French expatriates who make major contributions to the expansion of French and the French culture in other parts of the world.



**KATINKA WILKINSON** won Gold at the regional Eskom Science Expo and represented the Western Cape at the Nationals in Gauteng where she won a Gold medal, an award for the Best Renewable Energy Project (Junior) and the Eskom Best Energy Award. Katinka has made the second round of interviews to attend the International Science Fair of 2017.



**ANNA MIDGLEY**, who attended the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh, last year, was understandably surprised when informed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's (MIT) Lincoln Laboratory that they have named a minor planet in her honour as recognition for being a top award winner in the 2015 Fair. Anna received the news of her planet in a letter from the head of the Aerospace Division of the MIT. Enclosed was a certificate identifying her planet, called (31935) Midgley, an orbital plot showing the location of her planet and

instructions on how she may keep track of it.



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



## EISTEDDFOD 2016



**CAITLIN DICKER** was cast as Annie for the musical of that name and performed in both the Cape Town and Johannesburg runs.



| CATEGORY/SECTION                                                | JUNIOR                                                  | SENIOR                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PHOTOGRAPHY                                                     | RAINE HALVORSEN                                         | NUR-AYN MOHAMED                                                    |
| ART                                                             | SUMIN IM                                                | MARGOT DOWER                                                       |
| DRAMA                                                           | CAITLIN DICKER                                          | KHANYA GUBANGXA/<br>JEAN MARR                                      |
| DANCE: SOLO                                                     | KHANYISILE KOTSI                                        | LUCIANA GRAHAM                                                     |
| DANCE: GROUP                                                    | HANNAH GONERA,<br>SHANNAH STOCKEN,<br>ISABELLA TSINONIS | STEPHANIE MALHERBE,<br>SARA KIRK,<br>NINA HICKMAN,<br>JADE LANFEAR |
| MUSIC                                                           | ABBY DE WAAL                                            | ULIANA ALEKSEEV                                                    |
| ENGLISH: PUBLIC SPEAKING                                        | ANNA VON WILLINGH                                       | VICTORIA SHARPLES                                                  |
| ENGLISH: READING                                                |                                                         | LELUTHU BAVUMA                                                     |
| ENGLISH: WRITING - PROSE                                        | JOSEPHINE REY                                           | SOBAAGH ZOUTENBERG                                                 |
| ENGLISH: WRITING - POETRY                                       | PAIGE INGLIS                                            | EMMA THERON                                                        |
| AFRIKAANS: PUBLIC SPEAKING                                      | AMMAARAH EBRAHIM                                        |                                                                    |
| AFRIKAANS: READING (LEES) FAL                                   |                                                         | VICTORIA SHARPLES                                                  |
| AFRIKAANS: CREATIVE WRITING (SKRYF): HOME LANGUAGE              |                                                         | NUR-AYN MOHAMED                                                    |
| AFRIKAANS: CREATIVE WRITING (SKRYF): FAL                        |                                                         | KIRAN ABBAS                                                        |
| FRENCH: WRITING                                                 |                                                         | STEPHANIE WILD                                                     |
| GERMAN: READING                                                 |                                                         | LEA WEIMANN                                                        |
| BRUCE RILEY TROPHY FOR THE BEST ALL-ROUNDER (MIN 3 CATEGORIES): |                                                         | KHANYA GUBANGXA                                                    |
| LOUIS KAROL TROPHY FOR THE WINNING HOUSE FOR THE EISTEDDFOD:    |                                                         | JAGGER                                                             |



**ERIN ROOS** was awarded her Protea colours in Mounted Games in recognition of her achievements as a member of the U17 team that represented South Africa in the World Team Championships in Ireland.



**ALESSANDRIA BAYLY** and **SIBABALWE DE WET** were chosen for the South African U17 Water Polo team that participated at the Women's Youth Water Polo Championships in Durban.





**MRS SANDY RULE** (Life Sciences), received a special medal from the organisers of the Cape Town Cycle Tour (previously the Cape Argus) for having completed 21 races. Her first race was in 1995, around the time her daughter turned one year old. Her husband, Mark, has also done 21 "Arguses" and their children have joined them in the last four races. Sandy, who has no intentions of stopping now, is entitled to a purple number and a Club 21 cycle jersey. "It's a wonderful, challenging, feel-good day in South Africa which makes me feel I can complete anything I put my mind to and also that this country can work so well when good, positive feelings shine through."



**AMBER DE DECKER** (Grade 10) travelled to Phoenix, Arizona, as one of seven South African students chosen to attend the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair on the strength of their Eskom Science Expo projects. The Fair is the world's largest and most prestigious international pre-college science competition with students from 77 countries participating. On her return, Amber was asked to address the 2017 participants at UCT.

At the Western Cape Schools Awards for Achievement in Language and Mathematics, Herschel won two Awards for Overall Excellence in Language and Mathematics in Independent schools. The Preparatory School won the award based on the systemic tests for Grades 3 and 6 and the Senior School Award was based on the Grade 9 tests. This is the third consecutive year that the school has won the award.



### WESTERN PROVINCE AND SOUTH AFRICAN COLOURS

**FRONT ROW:** A Glaum (Hockey), D Swales (Skating), M Planting (Water Polo), S Lumb (Water Polo), D Blignaut (SA Fencing), N Haller (Water Polo), J Gleeson (Squash and Basketball), C Charles (Water Polo), P Allen (Water Polo), N Giesemann (Skating), H Preen (SA Trail Running, Equestrian, Cross Country), G van Heerden (Water Polo), N du Plessis (Hockey)

**SECOND ROW:** R Ndhluni (Hockey), A Hendricks (Karate, Hockey), G Grobler (Hockey), C Golding (Hockey),

R Ritchie-Roux (Water Polo), S Malherbe (Water Polo), A Abrahams (Swimming), J Venter (Hockey), A Hendricks (Hockey)

**THIRD ROW:** M Versveld (Hockey), A Meyer (Climbing), R Dawson (Hockey), A Goodwin (Hockey), K Steyn (Lifesaving and Water Polo),

L Ebell (Equestrian), S Kirk (Water Polo), S Dyason (Hockey), J Turpin (Squash), N Lewis (Highland Dancing), A Scott (Hockey),

A Welham (Hockey), N Lin (Basketball), A Stirk (Hockey) **FOURTH ROW:** K Orton (Tennis), I Wright (Squash), H Abrahams (Swimming),

K Rose-Powell (Athletics), C Moyle (Equestrian), A Bayley (Lifesaving and Water Polo), B Passmore (Water Polo), K da Luz (Basketball),

S Ebell (Equestrian), T Hutcheson (Rhythmic Gymnastics), C Hudson (Hockey), E Roos (Mounted Games), H Glanville (Squash),

C Smith (Hockey and Basketball), **BACK ROW:** A Faustmann (Netball), B Pera (Swimming), C Slabber (Hockey), L du Preez (Water Polo),

J Wright (Swimming), G Nel (Swimming), O Nel (Swimming), A Collins (Water Polo, Hockey), L Miszewski (Netball), L Bertish (Lifesaving),

K Charles (Water Polo), N Ebrahim (Hockey) I Hardie (Hockey), I Roberts (Lifesaving), A Charles (Water Polo)





*Tradition*



# FOUNDER'S DAY

Our theme for Founder's Day at the Senior School, Generations, was inspired by the school production, *My Mother Said I Never Should*, a story about four generations of women. During the Founder's Day Assembly, Herschelians with a long history at the school, recounted their memories of their time at Herschel. Seated in the sand of the set are (from left) Mrs Pam Duff, ex-Head of the school, with her daughter, Mrs Fiona Cochrane and granddaughter, Dr Bridget Cochrane. On the right are Mrs Jean Bradshaw with her daughter, Jenny Lange and granddaughter, Abigail (who seemed very happy on the sandy stage), all direct descendants of one of our founders, the Hon. J. W. Jagger. In the audience was Emma Ford, great great granddaughter of Jagger.

At the Preparatory School, the service was led by the Grade 4s who did a lovely presentation on the history of Herschel and, as is tradition, the Grade R girls all wore birthday crowns to the assembly.

After tea and cake for the entire school, the senior girls and staff attended the Founder's Day service at St Saviour's Church. It is debatable whether the Grade 8s and other new girls would have been so eager to get back to campus, had they known about the welcoming tunnel through which they had to walk;

with 500 girls in the school, the tunnel stretches a very long way nowadays. The singing of the school song around the fountain, linking arms with the other girls, however, was a moving moment for the new girls. They were now, without doubt, all Herschelians and part of a greater sisterhood.

While the girls went home early, staff and Old Herschelians moved to the Mary Jagger Hall, beautifully decorated by Lucy Bailey, OHA Secretary, for the Reunion Lunch. ■







# Old Herschelian

## REPORT

BY PRUE CRAWLEY  
CHAIRMAN, OH COMMITTEE

**O**ur Old Herschelian year started with the cocktail party and Founder's Day. We were blessed with glorious weather and had a wonderful representation of old girls at both the cocktail party, held on the Thursday evening on the matric lawn, and Founder's Day on the Friday. There was a lot of excitement and catching up, especially amongst the reunion groups. For me, one of the highlights of Founder's Day, is being a special guest at the Preparatory School Founder's Day service which is held in their hall. The service was led by the Grade 4s who did a presentation on the history of Herschel. Lin Heidmann made it such an exciting event for everyone and the girls were so enthusiastic.

We held our 88th AGM in the dining room before meeting in the Mary Jagger Hall for lunch. The excellent matric results of 2015 were noted at the meeting. Our academic results prove that Herschel is a positive yardstick for education in South Africa, which is one of the main reasons why Herschel continues to write the Senior Certificate examination.

We welcome Kris Miller as our new Old Herschelian representative on the School Council. Kris is a member of the OHA committee and runs a very successful NGO. She has taken over from Justine Macdonald (née Peters) who represented the old girls on the Council for the last five years.

### OUR ACADEMIC RESULTS PROVE THAT HERSCHEL IS A POSITIVE YARDSTICK FOR EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

We had a delicious lunch prepared by the new catering company, Origin, and everyone enjoyed the recollections of the various reunion groups. The prefects took groups of guests on a tour around the school after the lunch.

The Golden Girls tea was held in March in the Archives. It was moved this year to the second term as the first term is a busy

one with the Founder's Day celebrations. The attendance was less than in previous years but it was a happy occasion with much reconnecting with old friends, and wonderful to see the love the old girls have for Herschel.

Our Winter Dinner was held on the 18th of May in the Mary Jagger Hall. The guest speaker was Katie Christie who works as a midwife in East Africa. Katie had a very successful midwifery practice in Cape Town which she gave up in order to work in Africa. She is part of Maternity Africa with her main interest in Fistula Obstetrics and the training of midwives. The attendance at the dinner this year was the most we have had with nearly 100 people being there. Katie talked about her experiences and various case histories. She is so passionate and inspiring and received a standing ovation. It was a magical evening.

We will be having a circle secretary meeting later on this year where we will discuss our plans going forward as we start preparing for the 100th anniversary. ■



# OH NEWS



Two Herschelians, who started their music careers here at school, have done exceptionally well in recent competitions.

**Alice Clegg** (Matric 2011), who is currently completing her fourth year as a BMus. student at UCT, won the Lionel Bowman competition and a recital at the Baxter. **Emma Luyendijk** (Matric 2009) was the winner of the Laura Searle Prize for Concerto Playing.



Emma completed her Honours in Music Performance with distinction and is the recipient of the University of Cape Town's Grant Pulvermacher Prize for her research into the role of music in peace building and the incitement of violence. She recently returned from Japan where she gave a recital with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra's principal violist, Richard Elegino.



**Jessica Steyn** (Matric 2014), has been awarded a Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarship for the continuation of her studies. It is a

remarkable achievement, as she competed against 11 000 applicants globally for one of five scholarships available. Jessica, from Somerset West, is a full-time second-year Stellenbosch University student, studying a BA Language and Culture, focusing on Psychology and English. She matriculated from Herschel with seven distinctions.

**Charné Sampson** will be remembered for being the driving force behind icing over 1000 cupcakes for the school's 90th birthday in her Matric year. Charné, who has been studying at Silwood, recently won the Inter Cookery School competition, much to the delight of Alicia Wilkinson, head of Silwood, and an Old Herschelian.



**Suzanne Ackerman-Berman** (1960) delivered the commencement address to an audience of 2 000 people at Rutgers University in the USA in May, when her father, Old Herschelian, Raymond Ackerman, was awarded his seventh honorary doctorate. At the ceremony, Ackerman was "widely recognised as one of South Africa's foremost philanthropists." Suzanne is head of transformation at Pick n Pay and a generous donor to Herschel community service.



While at the University of Stellenbosch where she studied Drama, **Ilse-Lee van Niekerk** (Deputy Head Girl in 2011) featured in several productions. She also staged her own production at the annual Woodfees. We are thrilled to see that she is currently featuring in the series "Getroud met Rugby" on DSTV.

After the Matric Lunch, Alison Von Bulow sent us this note:

*I felt nostalgic, sad and grateful all at the same time as Jenna's time at the school is coming to an end and so too, my daily contact with the school. We have both enjoyed exceptionally happy and fulfilling times at Herschel. I matriculated in 1995, which means our ten year reunions will fall in the*



*same year so we will always attend the lunch at school together, only with me sitting at the "oldies" table!*  
Kind Regards  
Alison Von Bulow (Day)



**Carina Diedericks-Hugo**, Deputy Head Girl at Herschel in 1995, released another of her best-seller youth novels earlier this year. After Matric, Carina read International Studies (BA), Afrikaans and Dutch (BA Hons) and Journalism (MPhil) at Stellenbosch University. In 2001 she wrote the first

Thomas@ youth novel. The book was so popular that it developed into a series. The latest, Thomas@skaduwee.net (and the tenth in the series) was published this year. Carina has been the recipient of several awards for youth literature and Thomas@sms is a national network for Grade 9 Home Language students. She is currently working on the next novel in the series.



We were absolutely delighted that OH, **Emily van Heerden**, has been nominated as the 2016 Bishops Rhodes Scholar. Emily, who matriculated in 2010, had an outstanding matric year; she was Head Girl, won the Schönborn Trophy, the Proxime Accessit Award as well as Leadership and Sportsmanship awards. She obtained nine distinctions and was placed 10th overall in the Western

Cape. Emily went on to study Law at Stellenbosch University and is currently a Candidate Attorney at a Johannesburg firm. She will read for her Master's degree in Law at Oxford University. "I am forever grateful for the world-class education I received at Herschel and at Stellenbosch University and I hope to be an ambassador for both Herschel and South Africa whilst at Oxford. My days at Herschel taught me to always strive for excellence and to learn in order to make a difference," said Emily.





**Margaret de Villiers** (née Diemont), who matriculated from Herschel in 1956 and graduated in Fine Arts from Rhodes University, won gold for her watercolour paintings of Ericas at the prestigious Royal Horticultural Society Botanical Art

Show in London this year. Margaret was the only artist representing South Africa and was one of 13 gold medallists chosen from artists from Japan, UK, Thailand, China, South Korea, Switzerland, Australia, Italy, the US and the Netherlands.



**Dominique Scott** who attended Herschel for some years and is the daughter of former geography teacher at Herschel, Renée Scott, was selected to represent South Africa at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games. She is the first SA woman to qualify for the Olympics in the 10 000m since Elana Meyer in 2000.



**Katie Christie** (1987) recently visited Cape Town and was the guest speaker at the Old Girls' annual Winter Dinner. She is a midwife and works for Maternity Africa in Arusha, Tanzania, where she is involved in the training of midwives and saving lives. She says "I want my life to be something that counts. I learn far more than I can ever teach anyone. The will to survive and the strength of African

women is awesome. Midwives, mothers and babies are my passion. My longing for them all to feel encouraged, supported and safe is my motivation."

Katie has done extensive work in both West and East Africa. She also travels to the other Maternity Africa projects in Africa to train and mentor local midwives, and give support to the ex-pat medical volunteers working in those units. She has a Masters in midwifery and has presented at International Midwifery conferences and spoken widely in South Africa and Australia on the role and skill of midwives. Katie also shared her story in assembly with the senior girls and staff.

**Kit Tustin** wrote to us from England. (Her full letter is available on the website, under the Alumni section.)

*My sister and I were both pupils at Herschel during the war: 1942 – 45. Happy years at a school I loved. First of all I must tell you that our names were Patricia and Kathleen (Kit) Layard. My sister Pat was 15 and I was 13 when we joined Herschel. We had made a rapid exit from Ceylon shortly after Singapore fell. As many as possible were advised to leave Ceylon before an expected Japanese raid on the island. We narrowly missed the raid.*

*I see Herschel has nearly 1000 girls now. There were 250 when I was there. The uniform looks the same – the blue cotton dress. I remember the big hall where we gathered every morning for assembly. It had a raised stage at one end and a balcony upstairs at the other end from which the*



*choir sang. I can still hear them singing descant – so lovely. There was also a big hall where we went for gym. I remember climbing up ropes to the ceiling. I loved the way sports were treated with such enthusiasm and competitiveness. I used the swimming pool and the smaller shallow pool at the end where we practised our racing dives. My swimming improved so much that I was chosen for the team in an inter-school contest. Herschel won and we were all given silver-coloured medals. I still have mine and it is attached to my key ring. Pat and I left Herschel in 1945, shortly before VE Day, to return to Ceylon.*



It was such fun meeting you and amazing to be back at Herschel and not standing outside the Head's study waiting for a summons, writes renowned sculptor, **Rosie Sturgis**, who was on holiday in South Africa and stopped by to give the school a copy of her first and delightful book, *The Mammals That Moved Mankind*. Rosie was born at The Hill (now the Preparatory School) 64 years ago, but this artist, photographer and intrepid traveller still vividly remembers The Hill, the wild cranes (named Peter and Sarah) that freely roamed the gardens and even the names of their two Jersey cows, Margot and Piggy. Rosie matriculated from Herschel in 1946, studied at St Andrew's University and learned the art of bronze casting in Italy. (She was commissioned to sculpt our Dux Trophy, of a bird in flight, by Mr Desmond Loch Davies, Chairman of the Herschel Trust.) Rosie and her husband, John, live in the United Kingdom.



**Kirsten Pienaar** (2015) started at Cornell University in the USA, at the beginning of their new academic year, studying engineering. Kirsten was included in their first field hockey side and in the game against Yale, she scored the only goal. She was named Ivy League Rookie of the Week – the first Cornell student to achieve that honour since 2015.





#### GRADE 1 TO 12 AT HERSCHEL

**FRONT ROW:** G Bensch, P Allen, A Parks, N Haller, Mr S West, J Gleeson, A Tapanlis, H Oelz, E Hampton

**SECOND ROW:** G van Heerden, J Joubert, S Malandrinos, L Graham, R Ritchie-Roux, A Miszewski, T Giesemann, C Madella, G Topat **THIRD ROW:** C Golding, L Musselwhite, R Ndhluni, E Hodgson, A Lorenz, N du Plessis, J Macleod-Smith, G Grobler **BACK ROW:** S Garniet, C Biebuyck, Z Razzak, J Marr, S Malherbe, K Pettit, I Marine **ABSENT:** A Haggiyannes



#### OLD HERSCELIAN MOTHERS AND GRADE 12 DAUGHTERS

Seated are Clementine Golding, Georgie van Heerden, Emma Leslie, Zaahidah Razzak, Hannah Oelz and Jenna von Bulow, with their mothers, Tanya Golding, Monique (Biebuyck) Dokter, Kathy Leslie, Rehana Loghdey. Kerry Oelz and Alison (Day) von Bulow standing behind them.





Service





# CHAPEL

BY REV'D SUE TAYLOR

**IT** may not be too dramatic to say that this has been a watershed year for Herschel – we have certainly faced crises that have defined us in a new way.

The year began with the vocalisation of deep pain and anger regarding racism and diversity in our community and as we sought to address this during Lent we adopted a theme of 'water'. We focused on Jesus who not only washed the feet of his disciples but offers the water of life. We were challenged to lay down the "dust" we gather from the hurtful things that people say and do, and to be washed in grace and forgiveness; and to wash one another with the honour of listening, of deeply respecting each other. Our water

theme took on a practical challenge for us too as we sought ways to respond to the seriously low levels in our dams and one of the driest winters on record.

Our Founder's Day service was addressed by the Reverend Rene August who reminded us that healing comes when we learn to walk in the shoes of others, and that refusing to forgive is like swallowing poison and hoping our enemy will die. The Grade 7s welcomed the WPPS Grade 7s at a Valentine

Service and the Prep and Senior Easter services were moving, anchoring our spiritual life in the death and resurrection of Christ.

The second term began with the 'Engaging with God' Week led by Scripture Union's team of enthusiastic young people

who challenged our girls to consider their personal faith journey in a fresh way. This formed a firm foundation on which we then faced a time of real darkness in which the relationship of trust between pupil and teacher was called into question. As we struggled in sadness and confusion we clung to the promise of God who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," discovering that we are "never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed." (2 Corinthians 4: 6 – 10) The term ended with a very healing service in which staff and girls joined in giving testimony to God's goodness in the midst of our troubles.

We were privileged to have Bishop Garth conduct our service at the beginning of the third term and our Confirmation candidates this year felt honoured to have their service in the majestic St George's Cathedral. A special event each year is when the Grade 7 girls attend their first Senior School Eucharist on All Saints Day at the beginning of November. We are all looking forward to our glorious Carol Services which celebrate Christmas in word and music.

A wonderful gift to the Divinity classes this year has been the involvement of Cath Baytopp two days a week. Seconded from a local church where she is a Youth Pastor, Cath has added value particularly in the weekly Grade Chapel Services where her ability to identify with teenage issues has connected with the girls – while her warmth and gentleness have endeared her to the Prep girls.

An important development in the Pre-Prep is the introduction of weekly Bible Stories. Where previously we had Little Prayers for the combined Pre-Prep two or three times a term, I now also regularly visit the little girls in their own classrooms.

Of great joy is that the relationship with St Michael's Primary School in Khayelitsha is growing in a significant way. The Grade 9 Enrichment Programme saw our girls interacting with the Grade 4 – 7 pupils, engaging in creative activities and painting colourful murals in their classrooms. Many of our girls are keen to explore possible weekend and holiday engagement.

As we review this year, I believe one of the big lessons we are learning may be captured in the words of Henri Nouwen: "Care is being with, crying out with, suffering with, feeling with. Care is compassion. It is claiming the truth that the other person is my brother or sister, human, mortal, vulnerable like I am." ■

"WHEN IT'S  
DARK, LOOK FOR  
THE STARS"



## LAY MINISTERS

**FRONT ROW:** Mr S West, A Ngwendu, Rev'd S Taylor, T Buis, Miss D Baws

**SECOND ROW:** A Hendricks, K Schwartz, Mrs A Bodenstein, A Malindi, E Da Costa, I Sutherland **BACK ROW:** L Mali, K Brookes, B Postings



# FISH

BY KAYLYN FABING

**F**ISH (Faithful In Serving Him) is Herschel's Christian Union which meets every Wednesday at second break. This is where girls can come together to strengthen their relationships with God and with each other, in a relaxed environment.

2016 has been a monumental year. We started Term 1 with the theme "Leave a Little Sparkle Wherever You Go". This theme explored ways in which we live differently and how we can make a positive impact in our social environment for God's glory. A definite highlight of this term was our FISH sleepover where the girls could have fun and relax. After a deeply moving testimony by Siobhan on 'The Power of

**THIS IS WHERE GIRLS  
CAN COME TOGETHER  
TO STRENGTHEN  
THEIR RELATIONSHIPS  
WITH GOD AND WITH  
EACH OTHER**

Words', we ended the memorable night with pizza and a movie. However, Term 1 was far from just fun and games. The issue of racism was brought to light, and this was a very emotional time for many girls. In response to this, we played a video in FISH about how to respond to racism. In summary, the video addressed the fact that we must treat each other as fellow human beings created and loved equally by God, and in order to move forward we need to show empathy towards others. This led to encouraging discussions on tackling issues in the future.

After a busy Term 1, Term 2 was our shortest term due to exams. We had two talks held by guest speakers (both from Christ Church). The first one, titled 'The Bible: Fact or Fiction?', was given by Mark Russell which explored the historical evidence that supported the validity of the Bible. The second talk was given by Jarrod Ruttenburg on depression and how we can support those around us who suffer with it.

For Term 3, our theme is currently "Keeping It Real", in which we are



exploring what it means to live authentically for Christ. Mr Braslér shared his testimony with us on how a period of suffering in his life deepened his relationship with Christ.

Throughout the year, FISH has also participated in Schools United which is "the gathering of southern suburbs schools' Christian unions" which meets with the CUs of other schools in the area, such as Bishops, Rustenburg, Wynberg and many others. These worship-filled evenings are wonderful opportunities to grow in fellowship with people from other schools and to hear powerful talks from relatable speakers.

There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes of FISH every term, and none of it would be possible without the committee: Georgie Grobler, Josie Joubert, Tayo Croza, Aimée Souchon, Chelsey Voegt, Caitlin Brooks, Isla Sutherland, Jade Lanfear and Hannah Fleming. As for our teachers, Mrs Oelofse and Mrs Thomson, their wisdom and guidance has been invaluable to our planning process throughout the year. It is these amazing women that have made leading FISH an unforgettable experience, and I look forward to serving God alongside them next year. ■



## FISH

**FRONT ROW:** I Sutherland, Mrs T Thomson, K Fabing, Mrs H Oelofse, H Fleming **SECOND ROW:** A Souchon, C Brooks, C Voegt, J Lanfear, J Joubert, G Grobler, T Croza





## PREFECTS

**FRONT ROW:** Kanya Gubangxa, Jessica Macleod Smith, Jean Marr (Deputy Head Girl), Emma Leslie (Head Girl), Victoria Sharples (Deputy Head Girl), Eva Da Costa, Georgia Grobler **SECOND ROW:** Madeleine Silver, Erin Hampton, Philippa Allen, Jessica Gleeson, Verushka Snyders, Nicola du Plessis **BACK ROW:** Stephanie Malherbe, Josie Joubert, Rufaro Ndhuni, Luciana Graham, Danelle Plaatjies

# Pastoral Care

BY MRS MICHELLE VAN SCHALKWYK

*Connection is why we are here. We are hardwired to connect with others. It is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives and without it there is suffering.*

- BRENÉ BROWN.

Central to our work in pastoral care at Herschel, is assisting and encouraging girls to build connections with each other, the staff and in their home lives. We try to support them through their friendship issues, career choices, academic pressures and the tumultuous time of adolescence.

The grade system is the structure around which pupil care at Herschel is centred. The work of the Grade Heads of 2016, namely Toni Harding, Bronwen Parker, Bongani Sopam, Alison Bodenstein and Craig Karstens and their tutors, provide girls with a wonderful support system. We have endeavoured to start streamlining procedures and

decentralising information so that the tutors become more central in the lives of their tutor groups. As a Grade Head group we meet weekly to discuss matters that affect the girls as a group. We are also working our way through a book called "Untangled" by Lisa Damour, in an effort to help us better understand how girls function in the stage of adolescence within the distractions of a busy Herschel day. "Untangled" details the seven stages of adolescence, with relevant case studies, and has provided much food for thought and discussion.

Ms 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 to 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 she feels that a girl is at risk. Mrs Monique Nyback has had a busy year in her role as Academic Support Teacher and also as the Careers Counsellor. She sees many girls each day and they value her support and generosity of spirit.

Paula Sellmeyer and I have enjoyed interacting with the girls on a variety of topics relating to emotional health. We have tried to impress upon the girls that emotional health is not about being happy all the time. All our interventions with girls aim at nurturing and promoting good mental health which means:

- Being able to manage one's emotions and feelings in a way that is healthy
- Having good and strong relationships with others
- Being able to cope with life's inevitable challenges
- Being able to recover from setbacks and continue to lead a happy life
- Having a productive and fulfilling life



*"Only through our connectedness to others can we really know and enhance the self. Only in working on the self can we begin to enhance the connectedness to others"*

- **HARRIET LERNIER.**

Our focus is on learning about the self from Grade 8 and culminates in the Grade 11 camp which has self-development as the theme. Mrs Alison Bodenstein plans a wonderful camp with speakers who touch the girls' hearts with their own stories and so promote reflection and self-awareness. Ms Sellmeyer works with the girls in this special space away from home and the girls go home with a greater depth of understanding of who they are in the world. In her last year as a Grade 11 head, I must pay tribute to Alison Bodenstein for all the energy and heart she has given to so many girls over many years.

The "Myth of effortless perfection" has become a familiar term coined for the approach many girls adopt in giving of their best in pursuit of excellence. Over the last two years we have been introducing mindfulness as a tool to assist girls in slowing down and being kind to themselves. Mindfulness is a way of paying attention to what is happening now, by observing what is going on inside (your thoughts, feelings and physical sensations) and outside (your interactions and surroundings) with an open mind and without judging. In essence, STOP, BREATHE AND THINK. Grade 10's and 11's have had four sessions each, this year, in developing themselves in mindfulness.

We have endeavoured to connect with parents and draw them into our interventions by offering parent talks on topics like drugs and alcohol, as well as unpacking the relationship that adolescents have with their cell phones. The support we have received paves the way for many more opportunities of this type in 2017.

2016 will be remembered for its deep conversations on a range of issues. Our part in facilitating the sharing of ideas and promoting open conversations on difficult topics has certainly fashioned our days as a pastoral unit and we have learnt that we can never be too inflexible in planning our programme. Conversations lead to other conversations which must not be stopped or censured if we want real connections and a true understanding of each other. ■



## SENIOR SCHOOL FORUM

BY STEPHANIE MALHERBE, FORUM PREFECT

Filling the role of Forum Prefect has been the highlight of my Herschel career. Being able to meet up with a strong body of girls, throughout the grades, and discuss major issues (not merely silly suggestions) within the school, has been enlightening. The girls engaged in every discussion and gave a variety of different perspectives on all topics, while respecting the opinions of others. Forum is one of the most important parts of Herschel's make-up as it is the only way for students' concerns and suggestions to be directly passed on to the executive staff of the school. It is a platform for girls in all grades to participate in important conversations and determine the shape of many aspects within Herschel. Matters which were discussed this year, show the openness and concern about important matters on campus. Below are just four of the many topics that were debated.

Early in the year, a new Hair policy, was discussed and implemented afterwards. This took into account all hair types and clearly states that Afro hair styles, conforming to the rules of hair being out of the face, or tied up when it is below the collar, are allowed. Addressing this matter early ensured that Herschel was not implicated in "hair racism".

The Engaging with God week was discussed in depth at the Forum meeting following the event. It was acknowledged that the week started conversations that do not usually happen at school, but also that it was important to remember that everyone worships in different ways. It was made clear that many of the Forum Representatives believed that we should be engaging with everyone's god.

It was requested that the top girls in each grade should no longer be announced at Final Assembly as it often disregards those girls who have worked hard to make big improvements.

In the light of the many different cultures at school, it was decided to have a Cultural Day, where girls could wear their traditional/cultural outfits and opportunities were created for girls to talk about their diverse cultures. It was a great success, highlighting the diversity at Herschel, with girls proudly wearing outfits indicating their heritage: a variety of African dresses, Indian saris, dimdis, Springbok jerseys and even a kilt transformed our campus to a kaleidoscope of colour.

We would like to thank Miss Baws for her level-headed input and congratulate Phindiwe Ngalonkulu for her service on Forum from Grade 8 to Matric. ■



# COMMUNITY Service

It has been a pleasure leading the dedicated Community Service Committee as they zestfully planned their activities. Many Herschel girls have taken time out of their schedules to participate in at least one programme: they have imparted their academic knowledge with the keen learners of JUMP HI, S.M.I.L.E, Outreach Science, Maths, History and Computers to develop the learners' skills. The learners explored their creativity along with the girls, discovering their uniqueness in the more artistic programmes. Interact, Red Nose Chicken Club and Happy Hands have been fantastic programmes that have encouraged girls to help underprivileged youth outside the comfort of Herschel's white walls.

We would not, however, have been able to enrich so many young lives without Mrs van Blerk, whom I would like to thank for her guidance and support.

**ZAAHIDAH RAZZAK,  
COMMUNITY SERVICE  
HEAD**

Herschel's community service portfolio never rests, and I have loved every second of being a part of the weekly programmes and of the annual events. In a school full to the brim with academics and sports, it is amazing to see how many girls volunteer their time and energy to community service.

Thank you to Mrs van Blerk, teachers, community service committee members and volunteers who helped make 2016 such a successful year. Community service at Herschel has always been performed with high levels of enthusiasm and enjoyment and this is clear in the ever-growing Service portfolio. I have found that Herschel girls have huge hearts and really do live up to Gandhi's saying: *"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."*

**LUCIANA GRAHAM,  
SERVICE PREFECT**

## CATERING

On Wednesdays a group of Herschel's Consumer Studies girls welcome 16 Grade 12 learners from Thandokhulu High School to Mrs De Villiers's classroom. We teach them the basic knowledge and skills of the kitchen and this year we made chocolates for Valentine's Day, pancakes, crumpets, waffles with caramel sauce, choc-chip cookies and many more treats. The wonderful aromas of baking and cooking are enhanced by the constant chatter of excitement and new friendships forming. **LAUREN GARBERS**



## CARING FOR KIDS

There are 30 Herschel girls who volunteer their time to make this project a success. This year we made colourful play dough, educational posters, bean bags and crafts for the Mamelusi Educare Centre in Khayelitsha. We are also active members of the Sisanda Fundaytion and this year we hosted our third consecutive Funday.

Here we were responsible for organising a jam-packed programme consisting of 'Market Day' themed activities for children from the Amy Biehl Foundation. It was such a privilege for us to be able to work with their children. Overall, it was an enriching day for both the children and Herschel volunteers and we created lasting, impactful memories.

**RACHEL SEARLE**

## DRAMA CLASSES

20 Learners from Heathfield High School attend our lessons at Herschel. The learners have a yearning to learn more about the world of theatre. This enthusiasm totally transforms the atmosphere, making it more interactive and therefore fostering a bond between all the learners that attend. This year has been an exploration of our own home-grown theatre,

specifically the play District Six. It was a play chosen by the Heathfield High learners because of the accessible quality that it has. Throughout the year, whilst working on the play, learners have mastered various acting techniques such as chorus work and the art of speech, which are not only useful within the theatrical realm, but also in real life.

**ADRIENNE HENDRICKS**







## RED NOSE CHICKENS

For every person in the world, two things remain constant: everyone wants to be loved, and everyone wants to be happy. As Red Nose Chickens, our goal is to spread our version of this love and joy to the ill and injured children at Maitland Cottage Home.

On Fridays, with the end of the school day at 2:30pm, we sprint to Madame Macfarlane, our mother hen's classroom and exchange our uniforms for unicorn onesies, pencil cases for puppets and research essay deadlines for painted-on red noses. Although the ritual of preparing for a Maitland visit is unchanging, the time spent with the children is always different and unique. If asked, a Chicken will tell many a tale of how a

little child stopped crying when she appeared at the foot of his bed, or how much the boys love to receive piggybacks or how, with a little help from other Chickens, a ward can turn into a stadium hosting rock stars, or an unstoppable dance party. This year, we assembled, decorated and distributed activity books and made play dough that kept the children busy for hours. Given freely, widely and joyfully, the many smiles of every Chicken, nurse, parent and doctor are equally given and received by the others when the Herschel Red Nose Chickens arrive. The atmosphere of fun is contagious and, upon leaving, the girls are elated. We feel loved by our fellows and the children and are, above all, deeply happy.

**JOSEPHINE REY**

## BIG SISTERS

Big Sisters takes place every Tuesday with a bunch of energetic and loving Grade 6 girls from Rosmead Primary School. The aim of Big Sisters is to allow girls from our school to interact with the younger girls from Rosmead Primary and to provide them with Big Sisterly love each week. This is a good way for girls to mix with different age groups, to learn and share new things about one another, as well as to learn new things from one another. We kick-started our first session with Valentine's Day gifts: freshly baked heart-shaped cookies, placed in hand-made boxes. For Mother's Day, the girls decorated a silver/gold sprayed

picture frame with macaroni and we then took an individual photo of each of them and inserted them into their beautiful frames for them to give to their mother or a special woman in their life.

We also had the famous fashion show, where they create their own unique couture designs, using nothing but newspaper, tape, glue and scissors and the models were able to show off their fabulous creativity on our "runway" as we all cheered them on. It has been another successful year of sharing special bonds, big smiles and copious amounts of love. These Rosmead Grade 6s will be dearly missed.

**TABASSUM SULAIMAN**

## SCIENCE, MATHS, HISTORY

Every Tuesday, a group of Herschel matrices spent their afternoon tutoring the matrices of Thandokhulu High School. The Grade 11s of 2015 from Thandokhulu found this science session so helpful that they requested to come back in place of the new Grade 11s. Ms Walter organised the materials needed and the science teachers each gave of their afternoons to supervise us. We covered much of the matric syllabus, explained difficult concepts and worked through NSC papers for consolidation. These sessions have not only helped the Thandokhulu matrices, but also the Herschel matrices, with revision for exams.

History lessons were run by Mrs Grové. Under the guidance of Mrs Grové, Ms Wesson and Mrs Harding we spent

these sessions participating in insightful discussions about the topics that are required to be covered for matric, as well as learning vital essay skills. They put in lots of practice to cement these newly developed skills and their better understanding of the work. These sessions proved to be enriching for all learners, as they delved deeper into how the events of the past affect us, shared their opinions and learned from others.

The Maths peer-teaching programme was run in a similar manner to Science and History. Mr Sopam organised these sessions on Friday afternoons. 45 Grade 10 learners from Heathfield High School attended the maths lessons with Herschel Grade 10 learners. The highlight for the Herschel girls was getting to know learners from a different background.



## SCHOOL SLEEPOUT

The Sun International Schools SleepOut is an initiative to help learners understand the plight of homeless people and give back to those less fortunate. Herschel, Rustenburg Girls, St Cyprian's and Wynberg Girls High School took part in the SleepOut at Rustenburg High. The Herschel turnout tallied to 49 girls and five staff members. The guest speakers were from U-Turn, an organisation benefitting homeless people.

Soup and bread were provided to the girls and staff and fires were lit while the participants settled down in sleeping bags on layers of cardboard. Although it rained slightly everyone managed to sleep outside and we experienced a little of what it is like to sleep on the streets. Better yet, it motivated three of our Grade 8 girls to have a bake sale and they bought U-Turn and Night Haven vouchers with the large amount they collected.



## REACH FOR A DREAM

Reach for a Dream is an organisation that helps turn terminally ill girls' and boys' dreams into memories. We were lucky enough to fulfill some of their dreams.

We have held two successful events: 'Queen for a Day' was held at a Herschel girl's home, where we pampered and interacted with little girls, making sure their day would be unforgettable. After welcoming them on the red carpet and watching them eagerly dig into the table filled with delicious treats, we pampered them to their hearts' content. This event was rewarding and our hearts were warmed by the sounds of laughter and the smiles on their faces. We allowed the girls to escape for one day and from their daily lives usually surrounded by medical staff and painful procedures. This was most rewarding.

Our most recent event involved a group of boys. We took them to the MTN Science Centre in Observatory. As soon as the boys entered the centre, they were gone. The excitement was incredible. Luckily we had done a head count and every Herschel Reach for a Dream volunteer had her eye on a little boy. They were absolutely ecstatic as they got to try out so many science stations and the interactive TV to play Xbox. After watching the boys tuck into cupcakes, they were taken to a coding course where they had fun with Scratch that Mrs Calana organised for us. Very generously, she supplied more party packs for the little boys and at the end of the day the boys went home laden with sweets and party packs that we knew would be enjoyed! This event was unbelievably busy but, watching the excitement unfold, we were happy that they had had a spectacular day.



## JUMPI HI (JUNIOR UNDISCOVERED MATHS PRODIGES HERSCHEL INITIATIVE)

Every Thursday afternoon Herschel volunteers from Grades 10 to 12 meet in the dining room to assist learners from Regina Coeli Primary School in Athlone with Mathematics. The children are provided with all the necessary resources, including question booklets for them to work through. We aim to help them understand Mathematics better and teach them quicker and easier methods of solving mathematical problems and building a strong foundation in the subject. The bonds that we form with these children

are truly special. It is also a time that they enjoy and look forward to very much. A tradition which we have established is to have a small party for the children at the end of every term. Jump Hi is a heart-warming service activity which is fun but also beneficial to the learners that we help. Their maths results have improved so much during the year and Mr Alie, the head at the school, thanked Herschel staff and girls for making a difference in their learners' lives. **RA'EESAH BANDERKER**



## HAPPY HANDS

Every Tuesday afternoon the Happy Hands group of 16 Herschel girls go to Heatherdale Children's Home in Athlone to interact with the children. We play and entertain the children on the jungle gym and in the sandpit. We also help run the seminars, which include talks and discussions on drug abuse, gender equality and human rights. Often, we are involved in heated debates with the older children, as we discuss women abuse and gender equality.

At the annual Fun-Frenzy event, 30 children from Heatherdale Children's Home were invited to join the Herschel girls for a day of carnival fun. For the girls who regularly attend Happy Hands it was fantastic to see the children with whom we had created bonds. It is amazing that, when we arrive, the children run out and greet us with hugs and smiles. For many girls it is the highlight of their week and we formed close relationships with many of the children. **LUCIANA GRAHAM**

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Habitat for Humanity's 25 Hour Cyclathon was organised by the BRIC Committee, made up of learners from Herschel, Rustenburg, Westerford, Rondebosch and Bishops, all of whom worked together to ensure that this year's

event was a huge success. We raised a record total of R91 000! The money will be used to build a house for a family in need of a home. The Habitat for Humanity Cyclathon was a wonderful experience and a real honour to have been involved in.

**CAROLINE KOEN**





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

Every Tuesday afternoon, Herschel girls from Grade 9 to 12 taught learners from Kewtown Primary School in Athlone, English. The children go into their groups of eight where they practise and improve their reading, speaking, and writing skills. The learners also play educational games and take part in various activities with the Herschel learners. Not

only did this programme enrich the Kewtown Primary School learners' young minds, the Herschel girls form special bonds with these children. We all learn something from each other, one way or the other. I would like to thank the facilitators, Ms Bev Labia (ex-parent) and Ms Karen Levett for their contribution in making this programme a success. **JODIE ADAMS**

### ART CLASSES

Through the Monday Art programme, Herschel has been able to provide a place of artistic exploration and a creative outlet for the Kewtown learners who only practise core subjects during their school day. The preteens are always initially sceptical to express themselves in such bold ways, but as the Herschel girls begin to

work with their buddies, they really begin to show themselves in their work. The talent that has filled the classroom is astounding and we have been fortunate enough to organise the portraits created in these sessions to go on display at Kewtown Primary, so that their school can celebrate and encourage their very own talent. **ATHENA HAGGIYANNES**

### COMPUTER CLASSES

Community Service

Computers is run once a week for 27 matric learners from Thandokhulu High School. A team of Herschel girls helps them to learn basic computer skills such as Powerpoint,

Excel and Word. The girls also help them to write CVs, do research and apply for university. Computers uplifts the community in educating learners in order for them to stay in touch with the developments of technology. **ALESSANDRA BIELICH**



### 67 BLANKETS FOR NELSON MANDELA DAY

We began a knitting drive in association with the 67 Blankets for Mandela Day organisation. We aimed to make blankets by knitting squares and stitching the squares together. The knitting was so popular that now the entire school, including staff,

are knitting squares. Mrs Sandi King (a parent) organised two knitting workshops where mums came in to teach the girls how to knit. It was fantastic to arrive at school and see students, teachers and family members alike getting actively involved in this drive. It certainly has taken the school by storm. The blankets were donated to Welverdiend home.



### THANK YOU

We have had a busy year with new projects and lots of collections for various organisations and schools. I would like to thank the Community Service Committee, the Service prefect, the Herschel girls and the staff that have volunteered their time to make our community service programmes a success this past year. I thank them for their dedication and commitment. **GILLIAN VAN BLERK, COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTOR.**





# INTERACT

BY CHÉRIE LAUDIEN

**T**his year has been very full and rewarding for Interact members.

Our committee consists of a group of enthusiastic girls who help plan and carry out events which are proposed by Rotary Claremont and Rotaract (Rotary's youth component). Interact is responsible for informing the school about the various events with the aim of recruiting volunteers to help. We also organise our own smaller projects within the school.

Our committee attends weekly meetings. The teacher in charge is Mrs van der Merwe and she has led Interact with dedication, helping us organise various events and giving up her time to join us on the day to make sure everything runs smoothly.

Throughout the year, we help uplift people in our community by assisting children, the disabled and the elderly. Our year started off with the annual Fun Frenzy held at Bishops. Schools in the Claremont area are invited to use the Bishops' field to host a fun day for children from underprivileged schools. We played games with donuts on string, face painting and bean-bag throwing. The day ended with lunch for everyone, and all in all it was a success with the children enjoying their day.

Our next big project was helping out at the Cape Town Cycle Tour in March. We were invited by Rotary to help check in cyclists at the starting gates. Interact created signup lists so that girls from

Herschel could volunteer. The event was quite a daunting prospect for some girls, as we had to wake up at the crack of dawn to prepare for the arrival of the cyclists. The day was long, but it was ultimately very rewarding as we were part of this very special Cape Town event. We really felt the passion and determination of the cyclists as we ushered them in.

In April, Rondebosch Boys High School hosted an event called 'Sunfest'. This was in aid of The Sunflower Fund, a non-profit organisation dedicated to educating the public and raising funds to aid people with diseases such as leukaemia. Local bands performed and there were many food stalls for people to enjoy. Our Interact committee was responsible for the décor of the hall and we made hundreds of sunflowers using coffee filters. We also helped sell tickets for the event and sold raffle tickets at the actual event itself. It was a very enjoyable evening as we were able to see bands such as Beatenberg, while raising funds for a worthy cause.

Last year we completed our annual project for this year, where we painted two Grade 1 classrooms at Kewtown Primary School. We really had to get our hands dirty to get the job done, but in the end we managed to finish painting the classrooms. The new coat of paint made learning for children at the school that little bit brighter, so we were happy to be involved with a



project like this.

In August, Herschel Interact participated in the ONE-TO-ONE day. This involves collaborating with services clubs from all over the province to entertain disabled individuals, giving them a fun-filled day of activities and lots of goodies to take home.

In the midst of planning all of these events, we also continued with smaller projects, such as making play dough to donate to nearby schools, collecting bread tags to raise funds for the Bread tags for Wheelchairs Foundation and doing a cupcake collection for Grannies at the old age home on Mother's Day. We also sold stickers for 'Slipper Day' at Herschel in support of the Reach for a Dream organisation.

The most amazing thing about Interact is that it provides a platform for Herschel girls to make a tangible difference to the community around them through their dedication and hard work. I hope that the Interact club grows throughout the years so that more girls can be involved in uplifting our community. ■





*In the  
classroom*





# Afrikaans

BY MRS TILLY VENTER, SUBJECT HEAD

**2016** has been an enjoyable year for the Afrikaans department. It kicked off with the LOK-Symposium in February. The main aim of this annual event is to support the teaching of Grade 12 literature but there is also a focus on other disciplines, such as writing and grammar.

A few weeks later, Ms Betsie Klopper from Pearson Publishers addressed the Afrikaans department on the effective teaching of comprehension strategies in the senior phase. This was a very worthwhile session during which we learned how to assist and guide our students when answering a comprehension test.

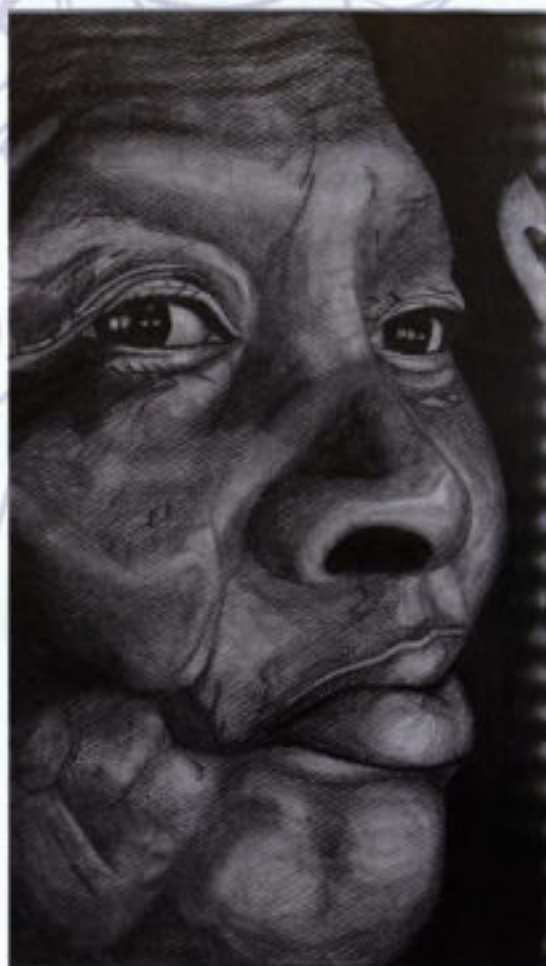
In March, Nanette van Rooyen, a well-known Afrikaans author, was invited to Herschel to address our Grade 10 students. Her novel *Ons was hier* is one of the prescribed texts for this year and the

girls were given the opportunity to hear how the story came about.

The second term started with the SA Taalbond bilingual examination. This gives our Afrikaans Home Language students the opportunity to participate in an examination that is written across the country and in Namibia.

The senior girls impressed with their fine achievements in the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod. Alexandra-Naledi Holtman was awarded a Diploma and Kiran Abbas, Honours.

The most exciting aspects of teaching Afrikaans are to instill a love for this language and to teach our pupils how to use it in a creative and constructive manner. With this in mind we have decided to develop new syllabi for the Grade 8 and 9 girls next year. We look forward to another fulfilling year in 2017.



▲ CHRISTIN CHARLES (DETAIL)

## Baiesukkel

Maande lank het ek vir hierdie dag voorberei. Soos die tyd naderkom, verander die skoeklappers in my maag in bose, wriemelende slange. Ek toets my remme vir die hoeveelste keer om my senuweeagtige energie weg te steek.

"Op julle merke!"

Die massa fietsryers dein stadig na die beginstreep – 'n golf van Lycra en gespanne gesigte.

"KNAL!"

Wat? Wie? Nou? Wat het geword van "Gereed"? Die massa fietsryers verander in 'n massiewe masjien met elke mens in beheer van sy eie deel. My energietenk is vol en, met 'n vasberade druk, kliek my Cannondale in rat.

...

Een en twintig kilometer is verby. Nog 89 oor. Op die sypaadjie staan 'n toeskouer met 'n draagbare braaier. Die reuk van sappige vleis verlei my om te stop vir 'n gratis boereworsrol. Nee, Emmal Onthou die doel.

Vier en vyftig kilometer later is ek by die ergste opdraand van die wedren. My bene is uitgeput, my bouse pyn en daar is 'n onwelkome knop onder my regterskouerblad – voor die helling nog begin het! Met 'n gradiënt van 40 grade is dit geen wonder die professioneles noem dit "Hercules se helling" nie. Terwyl ek die opdraand aandurf, is my energie op 'n afdraand. Net soos my bene, is die piesangs wat ek tot nou in die sak van my wedrenhemp gedra het, pap. Die bleek vlees klou teen my tande. Daar is geen plek vir asemhaal nie, maar ek sluk hard en begin klim.

My dyspiere roep om hulp. Halfpad teen die helling is daar 'n waterpunt. Ek ry met my fiets na die sypaadjie en sit dit teen 'n "Vallende rotse"-waarskuwingstek. Twee middeljarige tannies staan, hande op heupe, onder 'n gazebo met 'n plastiek-uitvoutafel.

"Jy lyk asof jy 'n koppie Powerade nodig het." Die vloelstaf is soet teen my lippe.

Ek wikkel my sonbril onder my helm uit en kyk in die gekapte lense om my gesig te ondersoek. My weerkaatsing wys twee beetwange en 'n rooigebrande voorkop

met 'n brilmerk. Mooi. Tussen die maroen dele sien ek twee vonkelende oë. Ek het so ver gekom en ek hét nog energie! Soos Nike sê: Just do it!

Ek gooi my leë koppie terug na die tannies en vat my fiets by die padteken.

Die tweede helfte van die wedren vlieg verby. Op die afdraandes hou ek my liggaam agteruit en die wind waai deur my wimpers. Op die opdraandes hou ek my liggaam vorentoe en stry teen die wind. (Ek weet nou hoekom hulle 'n fiets soms 'n "baiesukkel" noem...)

Met sewe kilometer oor benodig ek 'n bietjie motivering, want my energievlaakke is amper so leeg soos my Powerade-koppie. Ek steek my hand in my sak. 'n Energiestafie – die sjokoladelaag gesmelt – is my laaste energiehupstoot.

Een kilometer...500 meter...200 meter... tien meter...

Die eindstreep! My betroubare Cannondale sukkel oor die streep en dra my uitgeputte liggaam saam. My energietenk is dolleeg.

Nie 'n groot sprong vir die mensdom nie, maar een groot sprong vir my!

EMMA LESLIE - GRAAD 12



## SARAH VERDIEN MY RESPEK

Sarah is nie volmaak nie, maar sy weet dat sy foute het. Dit is een van die redes hoekom ek haar so baie respekteer.

Sy lyk nie altyd netjies nie, maar dis net wie sy is. Wanneer sy die skooluniform dra, lyk sy gemaklik.

Sy beoefen duisende sportsoorte. Sy's baie toegewyd aan haar sport.

Sport is nie haar enigste talent nie. Sy werk hard en behaal goeie punte. As sy met 'n projek besig is, gee sy altyd 100%.

Sy het 'n passie vir haar naaste, maar haar belangstelling gaan ook wyer na sosiale geregtigheid en diereregte. Sy is entoesiasies oor alles waaraan sy deelneem.

Sy is 'n baie optimistiese mens. Wanneer dinge moeilik of ongemaklik of teleurstellend is, staan sy sterk. Sy kyk verby die probleme en maak planne.

Haar leierskapvaardighede is ongelooflik. Dit kom by haar outomaties na vore. Sy's een van die beste leiers wat ek ooit ontmoet het.

Sy is betroubaar en altyd gaaf. Mense respekteer haar en sy respekteer hulle. Sy is opreg en vrygewig. Sy is fluks en selfstandig, maar nie perfek nie. Sarah is ook luidrugtig en 'n grapjas. Sy kan irriterend en 'n bietjie lomp wees, maar sy is soveel meer as dit.

Sarah is 'n goeie persoon, nee, eerder... 'n wonderlike mens. Dit is hoekom ek haar respekteer.

**ANNA VON WILLINGH - GRAAD 8**

▼ JESSICA MCLEOD SMITH (DETAIL)



## LEEF VOLUIT! WAT BETEKEN DIT?

Wat word met 'n waardevolle lewe geassosieer? Rykdom? Gewildheid? Prestasie? Vir my word die lewe bepaal deur die manier waarop jy dit deurbring.

Orals rondom my kan ek agterkom hoe die algemene gehalte van die lewe agteruitgaan.

In die laerskool is desperate kinders alreeds besig om elke woordeboek wat hulle in die hande kan kry, te verslind, in die hoop dat hulle oor meer as 'n dekade by 'n universiteit sal inkom. Akademie is op skool belangrik, ja, maar wat van sport, vriende en (durf ek dit noem) genot? Elke geleentheid om 'n regte kind te wees moet nou aangegryp word, want die nêwiteit van ons jeug is besig om uit te sterf.

Volwassenes is ook skuldig hieraan! Die mense wat 'n voorbeeld vir ons stel, is besig om die verkeerde saadjies in ons verbeelding van 'n waardevolle lewe te plant. Terwyl hulle paradeer in duur klere, luukse motors en vervelige beroepe, met 'n masker van geluk wat deur hul bankbalans bepaal word, het hulle vergeet om vir ons te wys hoe 'n lewe wat voluit gemik is, lyk.

Die ergste van alles is dat ek ook skuldig aan hierdie oppervlakkige manier van leef was.

Vir jare het ek toegelaat dat die wind my in die rigting van die norm waai. Ek het vriendskaplike afsprake gekanselleer vir vergaderings met boeke. Ek het my stokperdjies en belangstellings vervang met dinge wat meer baskies op my skoolbaadjie sou kry en ek het menslike kommunikasie vir sosiale media verruil.

Totdat ek die ware realiteit van die lewe en die gebrek aan mening in myne besef het.

Ek het besluit dat ek nie meer gaan probeer om in 'n samelewing aan te pas wat

nie die ware "ek" aanvaar nie. Ek het die waarde gevind in die kuns van dinge doen omdat ek net wil. Ek het gelukkig betyds geleer dat ek teenwoordig in elke oomblik moet wees. Ek het geleer dat ek net voluit myself moet wees. Ek moet net "wees".

Nou waai die wind vir my, anders as voorheen, in die rigting wat ek kies.

Ek het vertrou dat my lewe 'n waardevolle een gaan wees, en dit is die grootste troos wat ek al ooit ervaar het.

**LARA SEBESTÉNY  
- GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL**

"Jy moet elke dag lewe asof dit jou laaste dag op aarde is", het my pa altyd gesê, maar... wat het hy regtig bedoel?

Moet ek my lewe elke dag in gevaar stel om onkonvensionele, maar eintlik absurde dinge te doen? As ek saam met haaië swem en van die Bloukransbrug afspring, leef ek dan voluit? Baie mense dink dat om voluit te leef, moet jy op die nippertjie leef. Wat doen jy as jou ergste nagmerrie is om saam met haaië te swem en jy is een van daardie mense wat flou val wanneer jy hoër as 10m van die grond af is?

Of beteken dit dat die wêreld my moet onthou vir iets wat ek gedoen het wanneer ek sterf? Was ek 'n Moeder Theresa of Mahatma Ghandi? Het ek ongelooflik baie mense gehelp of hulle in my lewe versorg? Moet my naam na honderde jare nog steeds op almal se lippe wees- 'n tipe ikoon? Op die oomblik sweer ek dat die enigste mense wat my ken, my gesin en vriende is.

Miskien beteken dit dat ek moet elke lieue ding op my emmerskophysie doen of eintlik het ek nie regtig gelewe nie. So ek moet min of meer na sestien lande reis voor ek sterf, oor die rooi mat in Hollywood stap en en en...

Nee.

Dit beteken dat, wanneer jy eendag terugkyk op jou lewe, jy tevrede is. Maak nie saak wat jou prestasies of jou toekennings was nie, jy het jou lewe geniet. Jy het gelag, vreeslik baie gelag. Jy het vriende vir altyd gemaak wat jy weet daar tot die bittereinde toe sal wees. Jy het iemand liefgehad met alles wat jy het en jy het jou lewe 'n fees gemaak op jou eie manier.

Vir my beteken dit dat wanneer jy in die spieël kyk, jy gelukkig is met wie jy is of was. Dit gaan oor die tipe mens wat jy was en hóé mense jou gaan onthou wanneer jy die aarde verlaat, nie hóéveel mense jou gaan onthou nie.

**KAMRON VAN SCHALKWYK  
- GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL**



## DIE GELEENTHEID

Ek dink terug aan daardie Ouersdag toe ek voor die winkelvenster gaan staan en ewe skielik iemand met my hoor praat. Dit het my lewe verander...

Dit was bitter koud daardie dag. Die wind het sterk gewaai en die reën was in my oë. My vingers en tone was besig om stadig te vries.

Rondom my het mense heen en weer geskarrel. Niemand wil in hierdie weer staan en gesels nie.

Ek wonder hoe ander kinders hierdie dag sou deurgebring het. Dalk met familie en mense wat vir hulle omgee. Ma se laaste woorde was: "Moenie te vroeg huis toe kom nie." Eintlik wou sy gesê het: "Moenie terugkom nie". Al waarin sy belangstel, is haar werk, en haar mans.

Ek stop voor 'n winkelvenster en loer

verlangend deur die glas. Ek wens ek het 'n paar munte om 'n lekker koppie koffie te koop, maar my sakke is soos altyd leeg. Ek kyk hoe die tannies met mekaar klets oor die klein tafeltjies met hul rooi-en-wit katoentafeldoekke.

Ek was net besig om weg te loop, toe ek iemand hoor praat: "Wil jy nie 'n koppie koffie hê nie, Liefie?" 'n Ou tannie met wit hare en gawe oë glimlag vir my. My verbasing laat my stotter: "Er, Tannie, ... ek ... ek het nie genoeg geld nie," stamel ek verleë.

"Ek sal betaal. Jy kan my help deur hierdie musiekbladsye vir my om te blaai."

"Ek kan nie musiek lees nie. Jammer."

"Ek sal vir jou wys wanneer jy die bladsye moet omblaai."

"Uhm.... Oukei."

Ek volg die tannie tot by die blou deurtjie. Terwyl sy die deur oopstoot, maak ek my hare plat.

Die heerlike reuk van koffie laat my maag grom terwyl ons binne loop. Die tannie wys vir my 'n stoel langs die klavier en ek wag vir haar om my koffie te bestel en haar musiekbladsye uit te sit. Ek voel skaam en verleë, maar al my emosies verdwyn toe sy begin speel. Ek het nog nooit so iets gehoor nie. Die musieknote dans onder haar lang vingers. Elke nou en dan krik sy en ek moet opspring om die bladsye om te blaai.

Nadat sy klaar gespeel het, kan ek nie my bewondering inhou nie. "Kan Tannie my leer om klavier te speel?" basuin ek dit uit. Die ou dame kyk in my ernstige gesig en lag.

"Miskien, as jy my musiek elke dag so goed omblaai, kan ek jou 'n paar deuntjies leer!"

'n Geleentheid wat ek met beide hande aangegryp het.

**CAROLINE ROBERTSON**  
- GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL

# Hoop

Bedrieërs.

Dit is wat hulle is. Hulle sê: "Ons glo in jou, in jou bekwaamhede. Ons glo dat jy enigiets kan doen." Dis wat hulle vir my gesê het, wat ek altyd geglo het.

Maar nie meer nie.

Vrydagaand het ek finaal besluit om dit vir hulle te sê. Om te sê: "Ek neem nie meer hierdie verpeste vak nie." Dit was maande lank wat ek hulle probeer oortuig het. Vrydagaand het 'n brander van sekerheid oor my gespoel.

Ek het gehoop die gesprek sou anders as die gewone wees. Maar, ek was té hoopvol. Hulle het my met dieselfde moet-ons-dit-nie-vra-nie gesigte aangekyk. Maar niks kon my keer nie, en toe het ek hulle van my 58-persent-toets vertel.

"Watter verskil maak dit as ek nie weet dat die muur terug na my druk nie? Iemand anders kan dit uitwerk, maar nie ek nie." Hulle het nie bes gegee nie.

My ma het voortgegaan: "Ek ken jou, jy kan enigiets doen wat jy wil, jy moet net harder werk."

"Dis juis dit. Ek wil dit nie doen nie. Ek het dit nie nodig nie. Ek het dit nie nodig vir argitektuur of modeontwerp of kuns nie." Wanneer gaan hulle dit aanvaar? Wanneer gaan hulle my aanvaar?

Die keer was my pa se antwoord anders. "Modeontwerpers en kunstenaars en wat

ook al is gewoonlik nie suksesvol in hulle lewens nie."

Skielik het ek die waarheid oor my ouers se geloof in my beseef. Hulle glo in my solank dit is wat hulle wil hê; hulle glo in my nie oor wat ek wil wees nie. Toe het my ma se frons op haar gesig verdiep. Sy was woedend. "Die gesprek is verby," het sy gesê en die kombuis verlaat.

Dit was Vrydagaand, en vandag besluit ek: ek stry nie meer nie. Ek doen wat ek

▲ JESSICA MCLEOD SMITH (DETAIL)

wil met die moed en hoop wat ek graag wil bereik. Ek sal nie moed opgee nie. Dis wat my ouers gedoen het. Dis hoekom hulle hul eie drome op my wil afdwing, want hulle het dit nie in hul eie lewens bereik nie. Maar dit is my lewe, en ek sal vir ewig in hoop glo.

**SAMEEAH AHMED-ARAI**  
- GRAAD 11 HUISTAAL





# Bo-op Tafelberg

Dit is 'n koel herfsaand en die rooi, oranje en bruin blare lê op die grond. My familie staan bo-op Tafelberg. Kaapstad se trotse baken. Ons het met die kabelkarretjie ogery en die uitsig is asemrowend.

Dit is mistig as ons by die kabelkarretjie uitstap, en ek kan net my ma se voete voor my sien. Op die kant van die berg, kan ons deur die mis sien. Ek neem foto's en gou is daar honderde nuwe beelde op film vasgelê.

Die eerste ding wat ek ruik, is die sterk reuk van fynbos. Dit is 'n verfrissende reuk van nuwe blomme gemeng met die mosserige reuk nadat dit pas gereën het. Die heerlike geur van vars koffie vanuit die geskenkwinkel verwelkom ons.

Om my babbel die toeriste opgewonde, maar as ons verder wegloop, verander dit na die sagte geselsies van die natuurlewe. Die gedruis van die stadslewe is ver weg en onbelangrik. Ek sug... dis so ontspannend.

Te gou sny die indringende sirene dwarsdeur die vrede en stilte en ons gaan terug na die kabelkarretjie. As ons afgaan, is die son besig om te sak. Die vonkelende ligte van Kaapstad maak my trots op my land, veral die mooi bakens soos

**HANNAH GONERA - GRAAD 8**

Al draaiend en rukkend word ons stadig by die berg opgeheys.

Uiteindelik kom ons met 'n ruk tot stilstand. Soos n pyl uit 'n boog, spring ek uit en snol na die badkamer. Die naardeid voel soos 'n groen monster wat sy pad uit my keel probeer klou. Ek skiet verby die peperduur, beknoppte toeristewinkeltjie.

n Rukkie later bars ek behoorlik by die sydeur van die gebou uit. Die wind is 'n yskoue, geniepsige rottang wat die naardeid wegslaan. My neus begin oortyd werk soos ek soveel moontlik van die onbesoedelde lug probeer inasem.

Stadig loop ek na die rand van die berg. Ek deins verbaas terug wanneer ek die gapende afgrond sien. Die angs wat my oorweldig, laat my ongemaklik voel; daarom kyk ek maar lewens na iets anders. Die stad lê soos 'n miershoop voor my. Die getoet van taxi's en verergde motoriste klink soos die sagte getik van 'n naaldwerk-masjien soos dit twee stukke lap aanmekaarwerk.

Die potblou watermassa aan my linkerkant blink soos 'n nuut-gepoleerde skoën. Die stuk rots onder my voete verseker my dat ek nie sal val nie.

Ek sluit my oë en dank die Here dat ek nou hier kan wees.

**VITSKE VAN ZYL - GRAAD 8**

Dis Sondagoggend en ek sit op die kruin van Tafelberg. Ek het nog nooit 'n berg uitgeklim nie en ek het nog nooit in my lewe so hemelhoog gevoel nie.

Die wind waai 'n klein bietjie deur my hare en die vars lug in my neus laat my lewendig voel. Daar is geen wolke in die lug nie en ek kan twaalf valskernspringers tel wat in die lug hang.

Ek sluk die yskoue aarbeisap – dit smaak hemels. My bene pyn omdat die staproete baie steil was. Die vriendelike toeriste gesels rondom my, maar verder is alles doodstil. Ek sluit my hande om die koue koppie en dink hoe perfek die oggend is.

Ek kyk na die kabelkarretjie wat stadig teen die berg opbeur. Onder my sien ek die hele Kaapstad en mense op die strand. Die groot blou see glinster in the sonlig. In die middel van die see is die beroemde Robbeneiland – daar is nie 'n mooier uitsig nie. Maar ek wonder hoe dikwels Madiba na Tafelberg gekyk het en hoe hy moes gevoel het....

Ek kan die hele dag hier bly. Maar die oggend verdwyn en ons moet ongelukkig huis toe gaan. Ek was baie gelukkig om my Sondagoggend bo-op Tafelberg deur te bring.

**ALEXA MESHAM - GRAAD 8**

▼ EMMA LESLIE





# Grade 12 Art



▲ KIRSTEN PETTIT



▲ EMMA LESLIE





▲ SHANNI MEEZRACI









▲ CHRISTIN CHARLES



▲ OLIVIA BURTON



▲ JESSICA MACLEOD SMITH





▲ SOPHIE MALANDRINOS



▲ DANELLE PLAATJES



▲ MEGAN GESSLER





▲ ATHENA HAGGIYANES



▲ ERIN HAMPTON



▲ CLEMENTINE GOLDING





▲ GEORGINA VAN HEERDEN



▲ HANNAH OELZ





## COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

**THE** commerce girls at Herschel will agree that our subjects strike a good balance between the theoretical and practical learning process. Business Studies and Accounting often involve a lot of case-based learning which is so useful in developing problem-solving skills and decision-making abilities. Broadening students' perspectives on issues in the business arena is one of our department's main goals, as well as enabling them to make everyday decisions that can

improve their quality of life.

It has been a busy year in the commerce department. The Grade 8 EMS students designed and developed a retail business idea along with all the trimmings such as the store logo and advertisement. The Grade 9 girls applied their creativity while compiling a miniature business plan for a product made out of recycled materials. This tested their ability to identify a gap in the market and to produce something trendy, in demand and inexpensive.

The Grade 11 Business girls went on an outing to Grabouw. Here they visited the Two-a-Day apple pack shed to learn about local and international distribution of fruit, as well as the packaging, standardisation and sorting of fruit. Another interesting visit that day was to the flower production plant where they learned about how flowers are grown, packaged and marketed differently, according to the needs of the target market. The girls also produced 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 the amazing creative talent they have for marketing and advertising.

The Accounting and Business girls visited the exciting Coca-Cola factory in Parow where they were shown the production line and were introduced to the concept behind the Coke brand. The Grade 10 Accounting girls always enjoy interacting with the community which was one element of their project based on informal businesses.

The Grade 10s, on their entrepreneurial journey, created comprehensive Business Plans and have embarked on the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation's Blue Helix Challenge. Here, the girls are registered with the programme and complete several entrepreneurial challenges across a number of months. Each challenge wins points for their team and there are prizes to be won. We look forward to our girls thriving on this exciting opportunity. ■

**BY MS N BARENDSE**



Congratulations to Ammaarah Abrahams, Georgie Grobler and Taliya Rubin who were placed in the Top 100 out of the 4071 entrants that participated in the Consumer Studies Olympiad.

## 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.

This year we had the opportunity to learn from chefs from different cooking schools. In March, lecturers from the South African Chef's Academy demonstrated how to make various types of chutney and explained the art of making nougat. Lecturers from the Institute of Culinary Arts came in April to treat the Grade 11s and 12s to a scientific and interactive

sensory experience. Chefs from the Silwood School of Cookery taught the Grade 11s how to make choux pastry in May.

In order to learn more about entrepreneurship, the Grade 10 and 11 girls went on an outing to the Pesto Princess in September. The story of Kathleen Quillinan, the founder and owner of Pesto Princess, was very inspirational and informative. The girls enjoyed listening to her and going on a tour through the factory. Each girl was sent home with pesto, which was a treat. ■

**BY MRS SUZANNE DE VILLIERS**





BY MRS SARAH MCARTHUR

## SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The annual highlight for our Grade 10 Drama students, is the Shakespeare Schools Festival at the Baxter Theatre. The girls work hard at creating their interpretations of the classic plays and benefit from the opportunity to be on a professional stage, with the support of professional theatre staff.

The two, Grade 10 Drama classes strutted the Baxter Theatre boards with two very different takes on Hamlet.

The first performance embodied the dramatic theme of Hamlet's fractured psyche as a house of mirrors, reflecting the Prince of Denmark's dementia and this, in turn, mirrored the horrors of our own times. The second production turned Hamlet on his head and played with a devised performance, inspired by the Reduced Shakespeare Company's rendition of a very 'irreverent' and condensed comical performance of the play in 15 minutes, then in two minutes and then backwards!

Much fun was had by all and our Herschel actresses received not one, not two, but three standing ovations. Three cheers for our Grade 10 Drama Queens and three cheers for Hamlet!





## THE ACTRESSES HAD THIS TO SAY

*'The cast became a family. We worked intensively with each other, unlocking and expressing deep emotions that we did not know were there. There was much laughter and so many tears, binding us together and helping us with authenticity in our character relationships on stage. The journey of 'My Mother Said I Never Should' is one I will never forget.'* – **Jean Marr**

*'As clichéd as this sounds, it was such an incredible experience – both in terms of what I learned about acting, but also in the bonds I formed with my cast because of how much we went through together.'*

– **Hannah Oelz**

*'We all became very close, helping us to develop our character relationships. The play challenged me as an actor because of the range of ages I had to play. The set was beautiful and we all had a lot of laughs playing in the sand. Overall, it was an incredible experience which I will always carry with me.'* – **Olivia Burton**

*'I loved every minute of it: the late nights, early mornings and even the roughest of times seemed okay because I was doing what I love, with the most amazing group of women. I have made friendships that I will cherish forever.'* – **Jemma Wilensky**

# My Mother Said I Never Should

This year's production of 'My Mother Said I Never Should' was a beautifully-wrought play that told a story about family, connections and the desire to love and be loved. Weaving in and out of the past, present and future, the play focused on the lives of four women and how important it is to listen to and learn from the mistakes of the past. The Herschel Theatre was transformed into a magical, sandy playground that brought the lives of four generations of mothers and daughters together.



## INTERHOUSE PLAYS

The annual Interhouse Plays are an opportunity for the Grade 11 girls to write, cast, design, perform in and direct their own theatre productions. A highlight in the calendar for all involved, The Interhouse Plays are an opportunity for the Grade 11 girls to grow and learn through the process. Girls across all grades were invited to be involved onstage and backstage.

The theme this year was "Rebels with a Cause." Each house interpreted this message in their own way, from standing up against racism and showing that men and women are equal, to telling people that they should just be themselves and showing how dangerous social media can be. The plays were filled with Pokemon addicts, boys who never got their first kiss, missing batteries, crazy librarians, rappers, Kanye West, Cinderella and a tribute to Ms Baws. All in all it was an amazing sight to see, of which the girls could be very proud. The competition was fierce and it was a tough decision that had to be made, and in the end, Carter took home the trophy for best play.



# English

## THE WAR OF POP AND PIANO

If any a time has weighted itself so firmly in the memories of my adolescence, it is ten minutes and seventeen seconds. It is a figure noted by only by the most devout, dedicated or, in my case, traumatized: the duration of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto, opus eighteen, number two.

For the first few days after initial exposure, I considered it the most beautiful piece of music ever composed. As suddenly as I loved it, every rhythmic motive, every swaying beat and every melodic lift became second nature.

Like a God, I could summon the piece to mind whenever in a situation of boredom. Eucharist? Hymns became silent in the face of the Concerto. I sang with the congregation, but heard none of their voices. For blissful days, the piano's melody echoed through my mind's corridors. The wall of arpeggios and orchestral grandeur the Concerto conjured was impermeable.

Weeks passed but the Concerto was constant presence. Now, its existence in my mentality is severely less pleasant.

Whenever a geometry problem faces me, the haunting oboe solo rises and obscures my analytical mind. If in mind-composition of a transactional or creative piece, the piano's runs and rolls will begin to tremor, inhibiting my hands from writing. Now, as I speak, the Concerto scrapes my words; the opening chords diffusing across every intake of breath.

I wake at night and the Concerto blares through the darkness, taunting me with its complexity. My eyes, darkened with lack of sleep, are contrasted like piano keys against my pale cheeks. The Concerto is

endless. Overpowering.

I need to forget it.

Somehow.

I rush to Youtube. Frantically, I browse the 'Top ten most popular mainstream pop songs' playlist. There is a wide selection. Justin Bieber? Mike Posner? I click one and wait for the music video to load. Then, the war begins.

Is it too late now to say sorry?

The strings enter the conflict immediately, clashing with the electronic beats. The artificial sound engineering responds to the attack with a fervour. The piano's rolling arpeggios answer...

The fray lasted three minutes and twenty-five seconds. Upon its conclusion, The Concerto emerged victorious, but severely damaged. Its force had entered a diminuendo: it starts to fade.

And so the 'Plague of Rachmaninoff's Contagion' concluded, having been slowly eroded over the weeks by a combination of my lessening opinion of it and YouTube's pop music playlist.

I can now move into the realm of the future with a mercifully empty mind! I pull off my headphones and gaze out the window into the garden. The grass is fresh and green after the rain. The sky, although mildly populated with clouds, is a brilliant blue. I step out of my chair and begin to walk to the kitchen.

The radio is on, the tune unmistakable.

I freeze as waves of unwanted remembrance envelop me, and the ghosts of a forgotten music rise.

BY JOSEPHINE REY - GRADE 11

▼ EMMA LESLIE (DETAIL)



## RAIN

The rain sprang  
Off the patterned roof.  
Deep base notes  
Rattling my ears.

The rain painted  
Matuka's dam's surface,  
Blending all that was reflected.  
Clouds masterfully  
Created the abstract watercolour.

The rain gave life  
Bluegum, pine, veld  
All embraced  
The clouds' gift.

The rain soaked  
Hide and skin,  
As the mountain melted  
Into the artists  
Background leaving a natural hue.

The rain slowly  
Trickled through,  
Down roots and roads  
Losing part of itself with every  
Turn made.

BY EMMA THERON - GRADE 8

## COLOMBIA

Hola mis amigos  
My brother did tell me  
Yellow hair, blue eyes  
Red lips smiling

He wants to travel to Colombia  
to teach English after school

"I want to make a change"  
he said, and I smiled, because we all  
do.

Adiós mis amigos  
He breaks my embrace and steps  
behind  
The airport security line

Khawundinike isonka?  
'n ietsie vir my brood?

His city softly cries

But my brother's in Colombia  
Busy changing lives.

BY JOSEPHINE REY - GRADE 11



# Staring into the Abyss of Failure

Today is The Day. The day on which I am to justify the past 9 years of expensive musical education. This evening, at six o'clock, I am to perform in the final round of the National Youth Music Competition. I am terrified.

I woke with a tense feeling in my stomach and limbs. They are wrong in what they say – it doesn't feel like butterflies in your stomach. It feels like an iron fist squeezing your chest, compressing your airways. I wish it were butterflies – they are completely harmless.

For the past few weeks I have been working tirelessly on my repertoire. My fingers blistered at first from practising, but now they are hard and secure. Or are they? Have I really done enough? The dark abyss of failure is staring me in the face.

Dina, my accompanist, arrives at two o'clock for the appointed final run through. Everyone is bright and jovial and confident. I struggle to rise to the occasion. My face hurts from the plastered smile I am contorting my face into.

Nobody seems to notice my inner

turmoil. I am unfocused throughout the entire rehearsal, my fingers mechanically moving from string to string, hardly noticing the notes I am playing. I feel numb and clumsy. I want it all to be over, and it has not yet begun.

We eat supper at four o'clock. The earliness of the meal does not soothe my tense nerves. After supper, it is time for the ritual dressing up, the conversion of the pale and nervous girl into a beautiful, confident young woman. First, the smooth new stockings, followed by the floor-length skirt. The taffeta rustles musically as I walk. Next the clean white shirt and riotous jacket. The jacket is covered in blue and purple-pink flowers. I remember the shock I felt when my mother brought it home, but I have to admit that it contrasts well with the pale lilac skirt. Lastly comes the make-up. My mother paints on layer after layer of mysterious powders and creams until I can hardly recognise myself in the mirror. Perhaps this mask makes things easier. I am no longer myself. I have transformed into someone else. This person's failures

aren't my failures. Or are they?

Face powdered and smartly dressed, it is time to don sensible clothes, over my finery. A warm jacket and gloves to protect me from the icy wind that is blowing outside are put on. I am ready.

The last preparations have been made, my books, end pin stopper and cello are packed and standing, ready at the door. Despite their undeniable presence, my mother still asks, "Are you sure you've got everything". Cello, books, end pin stopper: my weapons on stage.

Dina arrives. She is travelling with us to Hugo Lambrecht's Music school. Mum and Dina chat amicably and make pleasantries about the weather and each other's health. I cannot join in. In an hour's time, I will face my fate.

We have arrived. The music school is twinkling with lights as we ease into our parking bay. Everybody seems to be here. I recognise many faces from previous competitions and other music events. Dina and I wait in the passage near the stage entrance. My palms are sweating, and I am worried I will make marks on my cello from holding it. The first two competitors have already performed. I am fifth up. Fifth is a good position to play in – it is early in the programme, so I will not have to endure this endless waiting and anticipation for much longer.

The stage doors swing open. A tiny girl, clutching a violin and wearing a bright pink fairy dress prances out. She is so confident! All of a sudden I feel old. She is half my age, with many more years of competing left ahead of her, while I am reaching the end of my competitive career. I am sixteen, how can I possibly feel old! I need to pull myself together – after the next performer, it is my turn.

The time has come. Even now, I can hear the announcer pronouncing my name and repertoire. A round of applause sounds and I step onto the stage. The bright stage lights glare down on me. The audience is a mere blur of dark shapes. It is as if a curtain is separating me from them. I prefer it this way. There is something strangely comforting in that darkness. I will not see the enemy. But I know it is there. Somewhere in that darkness, four adjudicators are sitting, waiting to pounce.

My leg is shaking as I sit down. A strange silence fills the hall as I begin to tune. There is nothing more I can do.

**BY CAROLINE ROBERTSON**  
- GRADE 11

## SOME REMINDERS FOR MYSELF

I have to walk in a line  
that I don't want to walk in  
and make sure it's the correct line  
that I don't want to walk in  
and sit up straight  
and look forward  
and not touch my face  
and not talk to the people sitting next  
to me  
who are sitting up straight  
and looking forward  
and not touching their faces  
and sing the same words  
that I don't believe in  
and not sing too softly  
as I'm not making an effort  
and not sing too loudly  
as I might be HEARD  
and sing at the same pitch  
in the same way  
as everyone else  
- the right way

I have to rule lines  
and structure my work  
I have to be taught how to structure  
my work

and how to get the pathetic specifics  
correct  
or I might lose marks

I have to be taught what to write  
I have to be taught what to think  
or I might lose marks  
I MIGHT LOSE MARKS?

we're living in a liberal time  
no question is a stupid question  
but I can't ask stupid questions if I'm in  
the top set

we're living in a liberal time  
I'm told to be creative  
but of course they don't mean too  
creative  
or people might not get it  
people will think I'm weird  
I will be TOO different  
and not be GOOD kind of different  
you'd probably lose marks, if you did  
that...

I MIGHT LOSE MARKS?!

**BY PAIGE INGLIS**  
- GRADE 11



## MAGNOLIA CRESCENT RETIREMENT VILLAGE FOR THE ELDERLY

I never thought I would end up in an old age home. I used to look at people my age who were moving into them with complete disdain. I was invincible. I was going to ride around on my Harley Davidson midlife crisis with Maude strapped to my back until God decided it was my time to evacuate and head upstairs.

One thing I've learned during my 75 years on earth is that life is unpredictable and, to put it bluntly, disappointing. That's not to be negative and say that my life has been a wasted endeavour. It really hasn't been. However, let me put it this way: no one plans that they are going to lose their wife at 63 to cancer, that they will be the victim of a stroke twelve years later and that their own children will force them, against their own will, into a sterile retirement village with the corny name of 'Magnolia Crescent'.

It was never my plan to end up living in a poky complex where I am barely able to swing a mouse, let alone a cat. I never planned to consume nine hours of television a day (mostly game shows and cheesy infomercials), nor acquire a menu alternating between boiled chicken (with mushy peas) and congealed Macaroni and Cheese for dinner every night. I most certainly did not plan to own a panic button in order to notify a fleet of nurses in case anything 'untoward' may occur. Euphemism after bloody euphemism in this place, I tell you.

A month ago, as part of a programme, the residents at Magnolia Crescent were "encouraged" to take part in an activity or hobby. I did not envision myself spending my Tuesday mornings crocheting or arranging flowers with a bunch of gossiping geriatrics – so I signed up for the more exotic-sounding Spanish dancing.

At first the classes were rather awkward. We all fumbled about on our hip replacements and tripped over each other's Zimmer-frames whilst learning the steps to a dumbed-down Flamenco that the passionate Madame Martinez had patiently choreographed. Needless to say, like the rest, I felt extremely out of place.

That is, until Sylvie Worthington arrived.

It was as if the room got lighter when Sylvie glided into the class for the first time. Sylvie had cascading white hair. She wore a satin scarf and wore a delightful paisley frock. Her piercing (sans cataracts)

eyes were intensified by her olive green glasses, and a hint of a hearing aid cord could only vaguely be seen. She was perfect. Even Mr Kripley had to be escorted out for some fresh air as his heart rate had increased to an alarming rate after her arrival.

That is why I was startled when she started to move in the direction that I was standing, nursing my gammy leg. After she made the necessary introductions to the class, she moved closer to my red, perspiring face and whispered into my ear, "Well, this ought to be quite a laugh". My heart melted.

The relationship sped up considerably over the next few days and by the following Friday, we were already exchanging stories about our grandchildren. This might sound quite forward – to be involved in such an intimate discussion at such an early stage of relationship – but you see, when you are ripe in age, one has to speed things up quite dramatically. A few more days down the line and I felt proud to announce that everything was going swimmingly between us. We met for tea every afternoon and to share our stories. I told her about all my escapades during the Great War (although I failed to mention that I was on the road maintenance team rather than an actual soldier), and she told me stories about her grandchildren's talents. Apparently 7-year-old Susie could burp the alphabet backwards and Henry could put his entire fist in his mouth! What I enjoyed most about Sylvie is that she never failed to tell me her stories a second time round and often even a third (or fourth...). She really was a firm believer in repetition. How utterly alluring!

And then it came to me like a wave. My last duty on earth was to make this ravishing woman my wife.

I charged into Galaxy & Co that very afternoon and spent a long time picking out the perfect ring for this perfect woman. I envisioned doves and a bouquet of red roses... but I knew I had no time to lose. I strutted, proud as a rooster, passed the Recreation Hall down to 41B Daffodil Way in order to claim my expectant bride to be.

And there she was. Nonchalantly, watering her herb garden, her white gown billowing in the breeze as if she were Mother Nature herself. Our eyes locked and I floated to my true love on a cloud of euphoria.



▲ JESSICA MACLEOD SMITH (DETAIL)

As I got down onto one knee and reached into my pocket, something extremely unexpected occurred... Instead of accepting my wonderful offer to spend the rest of her days with me, Sylvie aimed her hose pipe at my face and gave an almighty blast!

Within moments, a lady in white coat had appeared out of thin air and rapidly proceeded to guide Sylvie back indoors whilst I was left kneeling in a pool of water, my Sunday best dripping wet.

The white-robed-woman came out a few moments later to console me and reassure me that I had merely "startled" Sylvie. The woman went on to say that in her old age, Sylvie had a habit of forgetting newly-learned information and often forgot faces... "that I shouldn't take it personally".

I read between the lines. Deep down, I knew what she was implying.

My heart was utterly broken. After eight days of dedicated courtship, Sylvie had decided to forget me. All of our fond memories had been totally obliterated. All our passionate moments on the dance floor – gone. My last wish – unfulfilled. Had I not been enough for her? Did she desire a more preserved fossil? These questions I will never know and will continue to haunt me for the rest of my life. Every time I see her, I will contemplate the life we could have had... the love we could have shared...

So I quit Spanish dancing and took up yoga instead.

And you'll never believe my luck – an enchanting lady by the name of Gwendolyn Appleby joined our class today...

BY NICOLE DU PLESSIS - GRADE 12



# The Portfolio

I've always loved art. I can still remember how in Pre-School I would spend hour and hours drawing, fat black marker gripped lightly in my hand. My rigid, controlled pencil-grip was the despair of my physiotherapist, Pam, who had a voice like a thundercloud and toes that twisted over each other. We spent years trying to correct the way I held a pen but I would always come back to my stiff, tight grip. Now I can see how that grip has caused me to become the kind of artist I am today.

The freedom I feel when I am creating art is like nothing else I can imagine. I draw constantly, like a nervous tic that will never be soothed - faces and plants and shapes on serviettes and scraps, worksheets and skin. Making art is exhilarating. With just a paintbrush, some

ink and a surface, I can create worlds.

But my subconscious drawings need to take a back seat for the foreseeable future. My portfolio application for Central St Martins, the art school of my dreams for five years now, is due in one week. In that week I need to create three original works, and catalogue and photograph five more from the past year. I become a painted hermit, pausing my furious activity only for meals, and showers. When I sleep, the smell of turpentine wraps around me like a thick, cloying blanket, making me dream of dark felted depths. I devour albums whole going through phases - free jazz, early British hardcore breakbeat, Debussy. My parents joke that it's training for when (not if, their words not mine) I leave for the English art school. I laugh, and think about the benefits of crimson over vermilion for the background.

The night before portfolio is due

arrives. I look grimly upon the mess of my room. Half drunk, abandoned mugs of tea around every surface, some with a paintbrush balancing rakishly across the top. My desk, usually ordered and neat has swelled to the size of a large trestle table from all the canvasses piled on top. My blue painting shirt is no longer blue, but a fetching colour what that could only be described as "mould green". I have no idea how, as I haven't touched the green paint. All of these minor annoyances are momentarily forgotten as I gaze lovingly upon my last painting, the *pièce de résistance* of my portfolio - a massive white canvas, speckled with block areas of colour and swirls of black ink.

I smile approvingly as I package the pieces, ready to be dropped off in the morning. That night, I clean my room and dream of pitch-black Indian ink, pooling and swirling.

**BY MARGOT DOWER - GRADE 11**

## THE PAINS OF CHILDHOOD

Pepe had been sick for a while. Almost for a year, I think? I didn't really know what that meant at the time when I was just six or seven. My mum managed to visit him every Thursday, when I was at my ballet classes. She usually went alone.

It was a cold and crisp day in July and the dusty ballet studio was filled with clumsy pliés and unbalanced arabesques. The stocky pianist was as jolly as ever and my teacher just as strict and precise. My little legs stretched as far as they could and my feet were aching as usual. There was a girl named Ruthy, who always managed to dance in front of me and that day, she had been throwing me more angry looks than usual. I'm still not sure why that was, but I didn't ask her afterwards. I never really got the chance.

At the moment the piano stopped, abruptly, in the middle of the piece, it became clear that the woman standing weakly in the doorway of the studio was my mother, and she was crying. She looked greyer than usual and her eyes were puffy and red. I remember Ruthy looking over at me and, for the first time in her life, her tone wasn't judgemental or mean. She spoke softly and said, "Is she okay?" as my instructor held my mum in her boney arms. "Well my grandpa has cancer, but I think he's fine," I replied, trying to convince myself that the dark pit

in my stomach was wrong. "Oh," she said, carefully, "I'm sorry, Livvy."

I don't remember leaving the studio, but I remember the pianist and my teacher holding my mother and me in the changing room, telling us that they were so sorry and that he would be "deeply missed". I still didn't know what that meant.

My mom held my small hand and on the way to the car, she told me.

"I'm sorry, Livvy, but Pepe died; I'm so sorry..."

She was stuttering and sobbing and there was nothing that my little child mind could think of to console her, so I just cried with her. The iced tea that the nurse gave me tasted bitter and the hospital seemed small and stuffy. I didn't get to see him again, but my mum did.

Back then, I couldn't quite comprehend the idea that Pepe wouldn't be telling me bedtime stories anymore, or that I wouldn't

be able to sit on his lap or the back of his bike whilst he told me to keep my mouth closed or I would end up eating a bug. I couldn't play with him in the park outside the church anymore. I couldn't comprehend that he would not write his journals or feed me the foam from his coffee or cut up my food into little pieces before I ate it.

I remember Pepe in little fragments of blissful memories, hand-written birthday and Christmas cards and warm mugs from his days of the printing press factories. Nobody has let go completely. We just learn how to live with a gap in the family pictures.

My Pepe, who loved me so much and had a heart that could hardly fit in his body, is gone, but there are pieces of him everywhere, and I will never forget my lovely Pep.

**BY OLIVIA STRAUSS - GRADE 9**



▲ ATHENA HAGGIYANES (DETAIL)



## THAT FEELING

You told me today. And I cried tears of joy. Tears of sadness. Tears of fear of the future. But right then, though, at that very moment, I cried mostly tears of joy.

I cried mainly because I could not believe I heard you say that. I even asked you to repeat what you said, for fear of not having heard you properly. I only heard you say it again. You then went into an almost-trance, repeating yourself. Your beautiful warm brown eyes started to twinkle mischievously and your adoring grin grew wider and wider, as if you were chanting a special magic spell that only you and I could understand.

I did not sleep a wink that night. My mind was restless with the sensation of soaring up in the night sky, where downy navy clouds provided a place to rest on my journey to a brilliant moon. I must have looked a sight whilst lying in my bed: my dark mass of curls a knotty mess and a smile that would never leave my face, like those china dolls typical of horror films. And all of that because of what you said.

In the spirit of being a childishly mature adolescent, I did not tell a soul. I knew for a fact that I would immediately be dismissed, at any rate, even from my closest friends' point of view. It was then that I realised how foolish you were to say such things at such an awfully awkward age. No matter, I, too, was the guilty party. Every human being was, at one stage, I should think.

I wondered how you felt, lying in your own bed that evening. Was the adrenalin from a few hours ago still pumping throughout your body? Were you smiling that smirk, "I-did-it" smile whenever you thought of me?

Or were you upset? Annoyed that I did not respond the way you thought I would? The supposedly "correct" way to answer?

Is there a correct way to answer the phrase that means a million places? The response so commonly used is thrown around like a beanbag in gym classes. It has almost lost its meaning.

That night, lying in my bed, staring at the ceiling, I decided to change what I thought of the situation. I would make what you said have meaning to me, because feelings like these simply cannot be left to eat away at our beings and souls, as young as we might be. I knew then how I felt about you.

I grabbed my phone, went straight to your contact and sent you my "correct", real answer: "I love you too".

BY KELSEY BROOKES - GRADE 10



▲ CLEMENTINE GOLDING

## YOU HAVE NOT WON

They don't like me.

I know they don't.

Why are they looking at me like that? It's the suit, it's too small. I told my mother but she refused to listen. Stop fiddling with it, they'll see it's not mine.

Focus.

They're asking for my name. Alright, that's an easy one to start with.

"Angie." Wait, what? Cover up! "It's a nickname given to me by my friends." Oh! Who am I kidding? No one would believe that.

What was that? What experience do I have? None.

"I just finished high school and I've never had a job before."

They're rolling their eyes. They're definitely not going to take me. Come on, do something to impress them. Say something!

"I can type." Yes, like the majority of the people in world. Way to win them over. Wait, they're talking again.

Where do I live?

"In Langa Township." Is that important?

Yes I always speak like this. Is that a problem? Quickly, say something posh. Talk about food. Everyone loves food, right?

"Caviar...um, I like caviar."

They're not listening. What was that?

"I don't diet." Should I diet? Are they telling me I need to?

They're whispering. What are they whispering about? Don't fit the image of the company? What image? Too big? Clients would get annoyed and feel threatened by my accent? What's wrong with my accent?

It's over. They don't want me.

Don't cry.

"Look at her. She'll stand out too much."

Excuse me?

Don't lose it.

Keep it in.

Stay professional.

They're laughing.

...No. They need to hear this.

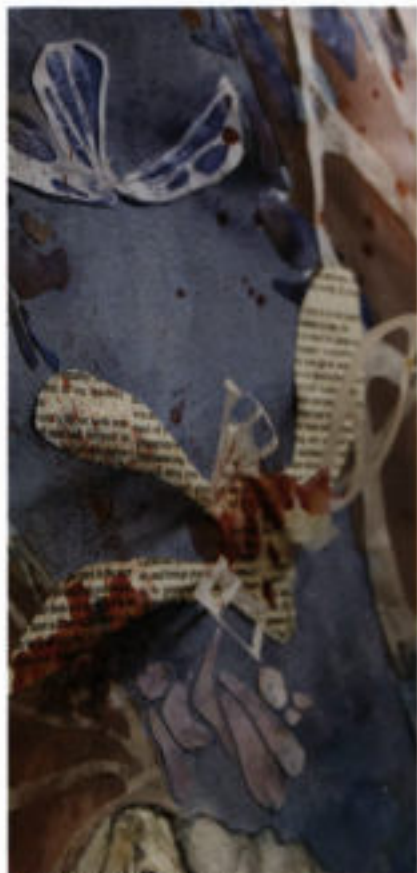
"Don't think you've won. I see what you do, but let me tell you, you have not won. Even though I didn't get this job, I won't walk out of here thinking any less of myself than when I walked in. Instead of sitting in a professional, ten minute job interview, I sat in a ten minute period of ridicule and prejudice. Yes, I admit I did try to look the part that you want and do what I could to impress you, but, if you expect me to stop eating to be the weight you want me to be, to change the way I speak so clients won't feel threatened by me or to basically change my entire being to suit you, then give the job to someone else because I do not want it. You should know that all the characteristics that make you turn away from me are my best qualities. Yes I live in a township: that has taught me lessons I would have never learnt anywhere else. Yes I have an accent: that is what gives me character. Yes I am a big woman: that makes me more noticeable in a group of people. Therefore, I am remembered. I stand strong and love myself so what you say won't damage or break me. I am my own unique and individual person, you cannot change that. You have not won. You won't ever win."

Great! Now make a dramatic exit.

Leave!

BY ABULELE DLOVA - GRADE 12





▲ EMMA LESLIE (DETAIL)

## THE PAST IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY

Is the past really a foreign country? We tell ourselves this every day. We tell ourselves to "move on", the "rainbow nation is alive and well", "I don't see colour" and to "just get over it". The past is not the past. In fact, it is not even past because things don't just disappear. Events of the past have affected the present day. This is something that is beyond our control but in our capacity of influence.

On countless occasions we see the past, present in today's society. A prevalent example of this would be the ideological conflict known as the Cold War. Although the War ended in 1991, we see that it still influences decision-making in the international community, political bargaining and conflicts today such as in the Middle East and Asia. Its prevalence is especially present in pop culture where we see many films centred on espionage that feature the two world superpowers: Russia and the United States of America. Although this example has very little to do with South Africa today, it serves as an example of how much the past is still very

much a part of society today.

Bringing it back home, many of my peers and I are faced with the question: 'Have South Africa and South Africans really moved on from the past?' In fact many South Africans are faced with this question. The answer is no. Not "no" because there hasn't been effort put in to change as a nation or because South Africans are too deeply rooted in underlying hatred for one another. The truth is that the institutionalisation of racism under Apartheid has left a framework too difficult to dismantle in just 22 years. The truth is to describe the past as "foreign" in South Africa and the world today would be a conclusion based on ignorance or isolation. As a person of colour, from a young age I questioned my self-worth. I did this not because I grew up under Apartheid – because that is not the case, nor did I grow up in an unhappy household but because I grew up in the modern world (21st Century) where I was exposed to images from the media for as long as I can remember. In the media I saw girls with long, straight, blonde hair, fair skin and blue eyes, all of which I do not possess. To be represented I had to look a certain way. As a result I tried to stay outside of the sun as much as possible, used hazardous chemicals on my hair and denied everything that made me African.

The past is not a foreign country, because I find myself seeing the effects of Apartheid in the hallways at school. It leaves me feeling like being a cinnamon stick in a pool of milk. Not because people are racist but because somehow I will always feel out of place. The past is not a foreign country; the past is reality.

**BY DANIELLE PLAATJIES - GRADE 12**

## THE LAST LESSON

I fought a losing battle with my eyelids. I had gone to bed at 11 o'clock the night before, trying to finish my homework. Needless to say, my body was getting its revenge.

"And so we can see that the coefficient of x-squared is positive and therefore the graph will face upwards..." The teacher prattled on. Her words rolled over me like a wave, hardly any information sinking in.

It was always like this in the last lesson on a Friday. Everybody was drained from the busy week and eager to go home. We all felt victim to either restlessness or, the most common, apathy.

Oblivious, she ploughed on. "... So you see that we have a trinomial that we have to factorize..." Her words dissolved in my mind.

My father had mentioned in the car that morning that it was going to be hot that day. He was not joking. The thermometer read 30 degrees Celsius. My body felt like a toddler's hand after it has eaten an ice-cream... sticky. Very sticky.

My brain had been turned into scrambled egg from the heat. Concentration was impossible.

My gaze drifted to the window. I saw the trees towering out beyond the walls that separated our school from the Ardenne Garden. How I longed to lie down on the grass in the shade of the trees and let the coolness embrace me. I could feel the prickly-soft sensation on my skin, the small splashes of sunlight on my face that escaped through the leaves...

The teacher's voice jerked me back into reality. "Do exercises 2 to 3 on page 19."

My fingers flipped lazily to page 19. The numbers and letters stood in rows upon rows upon rows... an army of sums. The deceptively easy-looking ones with small numbers taunted me, but I knew I lacked the brain-power even for those. This was a battle I would not win.

I glanced at the clock. There were only 20 minutes left! But I knew this was a false hope. The 5 minutes that had just passed felt like a decade. As if sensing my desperation, the clock slowed down, taunting me. Tick. Tick... Tick... Tick... Tick... Tick... Ha... Ha... Ha...

The war that could never be won was not quite finished yet. The lesson was far from over.

**BY KAYLYN FABING - GRADE 11**



▲ ERIN HAMPTON (DETAIL)





◀ CHRISTIN CHARLES (DETAIL)

## The Mind of an Interviewee

Good morning. My name is Jane and I need this job.

Is that too pushy? I should probably wait for them to talk to me first.

Hello. My name is Jane.

(Wave. No, shake his hand- clammy.)

My name is Jane and I need this job. My past experience? Well, you see, I haven't exactly had a proper job ... in a while.

How long is a while, you ask? Well, you see -

oh, please give me this job! I know I look like every other applicant and the truth is,

I'm probably not much better than them at anything, really.

But, oh, I just need this job.

Please choose me.

I promise I won't let you down.

I promise.

I'll answer every telephone call.

I will.

Won't let a single client slip through the cracks;

I'll take down every message and

I promise to never, ever forget my Gmail password.

I'll bring you coffee every morning.

I make a mean cup of coffee.

I do. Well,

unless you're a tea person...

I make good tea, too.

I'll give you backrubs - footrubs even! Please, oh please, oh PLEASE, just give it to me.

I'm very average-looking, I know,

but I swear you won't regret it.

You don't have to pay me much.

I don't even need holidays.

I'll work all year round and

I'll never ask for raises.

You won't even know I'm there -

I'll just slip in and out, and

I'll never forget to lock up,

ever. Please.

This pencil skirt isn't even mine;

I borrowed it from my hairdresser.

I can't face the shame of returning it, still unemployed.

I found this briefcase at the station.

I mean,

I didn't steal it, of course. Just,

I needed it.

And I don't even wear glasses.

Please.

I know big words and I can count to a hundred in French.

I used to be able to say "thank you" in Shona but it's slipped my mind.

It must be the nerves.

(Is the briefcase too much?)

I have very neat handwriting.

Honestly, I do.

If you'd prefer fast to neat, I can do that, too.

Or I could type if you'd like;

I'll do anything.

Oh yes, and I'm organised

- very.

I have a diary and a calendar and post-its and a whiteboard and...

Please choose me.

And I'm very good at handling stress:

I do yoga every other day and I keep a stress ball in my drawer.

I do.

I'm never late. I swear.

In fact, I'm almost always early

(unless, of course, you don't like that).

Well, I'll just be on time then,

always. Truly, I will.

Please choose me, oh please.

I'll tell you jokes (if you like jokes)

and I won't ever call you on weekends.

I could walk your dogs.

You might be a cat person. Well,

I can come over and stroke your cats.

(No, don't say that.)

I'm very good with people. Well,

actually, I struggle not to make things awkward...

(Definitely don't say that.)

Yes, very good with people.

Oh and

I don't ever get sick;

my immune system is a rock

and I'm very diligent about taking my vitamins.

I am.

I take as many as I can, whenever I can.

Well,

not that I'm a drug addict.

You know what I mean, don't you?

My family life?

Why on earth... well, you see, it's like this:

I still live with my mother.

(Don't mention that.)

I sleep on her couch. Actually,

it's more like a pull-out couch - very similar to a bed.

Well, yes I am 42. I know that. I just...

Please.

You have to give it to me.

You have to choose me.

Please.

BY JEAN MARR - GRADE 12



# french

Chère Lucy

le 20 Avril 2016

Bonjour, ma sœur! Seul est très magnifique. Je passe 17 jours en Corée. Je passe une semaine en Seoul et après je vais à Busan et Daegu.

Il fait beau, mais il fait très chaud. Je visite les temples et les bords publics et c'est très intéressant! Je mange aussi de la cuisine traditionnelle comme le kimchi et le samakji.

C'est un beau pays, mais tu me manques! À bientôt!

Olivia ♥



TO:

Lucy Stairs

7 Albert Rd, Mowbray

Cape Town, 7700

Afrique du Sud

## EST-CE QUE LES PARENTS SONT TROP PARANOS?

Aujourd'hui, beaucoup d'adolescents se plaignent de leurs parents, qu'ils sont trop stricts et paranos! Mais est-ce qu'il y a une raison pour cela?

Moi et mes parents, nous avons une bonne relation, parce que nous parlons de tout. En général ils ne sont pas trop stricts et je suis autorisée à sortir - si je dis où et avec qui, et j'ai mon portable toujours si mes parents ont besoin de me contacter, et je peux les contacter. À mon avis, la liberté vient avec l'honnêteté. Parfois je sens que mes parents sont un peu irritants, parce qu'ils veulent savoir tout ce que je fais, ce qui est un peu agaçant. Mais je sais qu'ils veulent le meilleur pour moi, et que je ne sois pas en danger.

Aujourd'hui c'est vrai qu'il y a beaucoup de criminalité, et naturellement les parents veulent que leurs enfants soient sans danger - je peux comprendre cela. Pourtant, il y a aussi le risque d'être trop paranos, et selon moi, ce n'est pas sain de toujours s'inquiéter. Donc je pense que les parents doivent être conscients de la sécurité de leurs enfants, bien sûr, mais ils n'ont pas besoin de s'inquiéter tout le temps.

Quand j'ai l'impression que mes parents deviennent trop paranos ou trop stricts, je pense que c'est important de parler avec eux. J'essaie de voir comme eux et de comprendre pourquoi ils s'inquiètent, et aussi j'essaie de justifier mon avis, ainsi

ils me comprennent. C'est plus facile de trouver une solution quand tout le monde est compréhensif!

En somme, c'est vrai que les parents peuvent être trop stricts. Mais les enfants doivent essayer de comprendre pourquoi, parce que vraiment nos parents veulent le meilleur pour nous!

MEGAN CUNNINGTON - GRADE 12

## PENDANT LES VACANCES MON AMIE

Pendant les vacances mon amie, Lenka est arrivée ici d'Australie. Elle a habité avec moi pendant quatre semaines. Le week-end dernier, nous avons fait des activités amusantes.

D'abord, nous avons visité le V&A. Nous avons acheté des glaces; moi, j'ai choisi la glace au chocolat et elle, elle a choisi la glace à l'Oreo. Nous avons aussi regardé les poissons de l'aquarium. Ensuite nous avons bu un café au lait à Truth parce que Lenka avait soif. Lenka pense que le café de Truth est le café le plus fantastique!

Un dimanche, nous avons fait une promenade à Sea Point. Nous avons photographié la belle plage et beaucoup d'oiseaux. Bien sûr, nous avons aussi été sur Table Mountain.

Nous sommes également allées à Robin Island un samedi et nous avons regardé 'Me Before You' au cinéma un dimanche parce que nous avons lu le livre.

J'aime Lenka! Elle est très sympathique et j'aimais faire toutes ces activités avec elle.

GEORGIA DE SOUSA - GRADE 10

## LES REGLES DE L'ART

L'art et les règles? Est-ce qu'ils vont bien ensemble?

Pour comprendre l'art, il faut comprendre le naturel humain. Chacun est différent, donc il n'y a rien qui a la capacité de dire ce que l'art est et ce que l'art sera.

L'art vient de notre monde. Le monde réel et le monde conceptuel. Nous vivons dans les deux. Le monde réel est la vérité, et le monde conceptuel est les pensées dans nos têtes - les vérités que nous croyons de nous-mêmes et des autres gens.

L'histoire de l'art montre comment les règles, en suivant les traditions, arrêtent la liberté d'exprimer la vérité et les sentiments cachés. Gustave Courbet et Vincent van Gogh sont des artistes qui ont suivi ce qu'ils sentaient, plutôt que suivre ce que les autres voulaient. Ils ont changé la technique et le sens de l'art, mais en plus, ils ont changé la perception que les gens ont eu de monde. Courbet défie la société et son style de vie - pourquoi est-ce que nous vivons sans nous souvenir qu'un jour nous allons mourir? Est-ce que c'est pourquoi nous n'essayons pas d'être le mieux que nous pouvons être?

Van Gogh a exposé la difficulté de la vie des paysans - avant lui, personne n'a montré cela. La société était dans une colère féroce, mais van Gogh ne s'est pas arrêté. Il n'a pas respecté le règlement de ce qu'on peut et on ne peut pas peindre, mais il nous a montré la vérité sur le travail des paysans. Il était entiché des couleurs, des formes et du monde. Beaucoup de gens peignent avec des techniques qui viennent de lui. Il a créé une révolution dans l'art.

Quand je peins ou je dessine, mes sentiments et mes pensées sont dans mes mains et à la fin, ils sont sur le papier ou la toile. Selon moi, l'art n'a pas de règles. Il y a seulement les règles de la société. Si on crée l'art pendant qu'on les suit, c'est presque impossible de les respecter, comme l'histoire le montre. L'art dont on se souvient le plus souvent est le plus l'art qui viole les règles.

L'art est tangible et intangible. L'art est le monde. Il est vos yeux, vos oreilles, vos pensées, vos sentiments, vos rêves bizarres. Vous êtes l'art.

SAMEEAH AHMED-ARAI



# Geography

BY MS BRONWEN PARKER

**G**eography at Herschel is not only dynamic, up-to-date and relevant, it is one of the most exciting, adventurous and valuable subjects to teach and to study in the 21st Century. So many of the world's current problems boil down to Geography and therefore we need good Geographers to help us understand them.

Global warming, sustainable food production, natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, the spread of disease, the reasons for migration and the future of energy resources are just some of the great challenges facing the next generation. At Herschel, we infuse our teaching and learning with relevant and worthwhile content that is practical and which will provide our girls with meaningful context.

An important feature of our

department is the invaluable excursions which we undertake and which consequently consolidate and enrich the content taught in the classroom. Our Grade 11 group spent a wonderful day at the Paarl Mountain Nature Reserve studying the giant granite batholith and the economic value of Paarl as a central place town. The day was topped off as we scaled Bretagne rock using chains. There was a lot of pushing and shoving to get staff up the mountain to see the breathtaking view from the top.

The Grade 12s spent an amazing day at Beau Constantia Wine estate hosted by Pierre du Preez, the estate owner and a parent of Herschel. Pierre graciously gave of his time to explain the unique microclimate of the estate and its impact on the 'terroir' of the wine. We were thoroughly

spoiled with sushi and golf in the vineyards as a treat.

The Grade 10 excursion, which studies the geomorphology of the Western Cape, was joined by our exchange girls this year. They hailed from the United Kingdom, Australia, Spain, and America. In addition, we were privileged to host a fellow geography teacher-in-training, Mr Steven Shaw from King's College, Taunton in the United Kingdom. We had hoped for a sunny day to show off our spectacular city, but the Cape winter ensued. This did not, however, dampen our day and we were able to showcase our wonderful Atlantic seaboard to our visitors.

A unique feature of 2016, has been the design of a Grade 8 cross-curricular Social Science Research Essay. The girls were required to choose one of eight research essay topics to explore. In preparation for this, they have been guided through the research process through Six Steps to Research and Referencing and were

taught to use EBSCOHOST. All Geography and History lessons were dedicated to this process for Term 3 and carefully benchmarked and facilitated by the staff. It has been an extremely beneficial process, teaching the girls life-long research skills.

So many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying Geography can provide, be it knowing how the world works, planning research and report writing, working in a team, using new technologies and communication skills and so much more. For this reason, we constantly redesign our curriculum to keep up with international trends. Learning and innovation skills increasingly are being recognised as the skills that separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments in the 21st century, and those who are not.

As 2017 approaches, our department looks forward to an exciting year with innovations in Grade 8 and 9 in particular. ■

## GERMAN

### MEIN LIEBLINGSBUCH

Bücher sind so vielgestaltig wie die Menschen, die sie lesen. Sie wecken Assoziationen, sie erzählen Geschichten, sie eröffnen uns in fremde Welten

Mein Lieblingsbuch heißt Macbeth. Macbeth ist geschrieben worden von dem berühmtesten Autor der Welt, William Shakespeare. Er ist am 23. April 1564 geboren in Stratford-upon-Avon, England.

Diese Geschichte handelt sich über einen tapferen Soldat, der Macbeth heißt. Drei Hexen gaben ihm drei Prophezeiungen: Er würde Thane von Glamis, dann Thane von Cawdor, und dann würde er König sein.

Er war so ehrgeizig, dass er den König getötet hat. Als König war er voll Angst und Schuld. Er leidet an Verfolgungswahn, und ermordete alle, die ihm als König bedrohten.

Seine Frau, Lady Macbeth, hat sich selbst aus Angst getötet. Am Ende der Tragödie tötete Macduff, ein braver Soldat, den König Macbeth, und rettete Schottland vor ihm.

Obwohl dieses Werk in Altenglisch geschrieben ist, bleibt es spannend und interessant und schön zu lesen. Shakespeare war ein unglaublich guter Autor, der Menschen und ihre Leidenschaften so gut verstanden hat.

**EMILY WILKINSON**  
- GRADE 11

### AUSTAUSCH-SCHÜLERIN IN DEUTSCHLAND

Jetzt bin ich wieder zurück in Südafrika nach meiner Zeit in Deutschland als Austauschschülerin. Was für ein wunderbares Erlebnis! Ich bin mit der Fluggesellschaft Lufthansa hin und her geflogen und typisch Deutsch war das prima.

Danach muss ich noch mit dem Zug fahren und am Bahnhof hatten meine Gastfamilie mich getroffen. Die Eltern sind streng, doch freundlich und die Töchter heißen Julia und Lisa. Sie akzeptierten mich bald als Schwester.

Sie sind alle so nett und freundlich. Wir hatten so viele interessanten Dingen mitgemacht. Wir sind radgefahren, und besuchten viele schönen kleinen Dörfer mit unglaublichen Schlössern und Sehenswürdigkeiten. Es gibt auch einen

Themenpark in der Nähe von ihrer Wohnung. Wir besuchten auch Berlin und das war Spitzel! Berlin ist offiziell meine Lieblingsstadt. Dort haben wir u.a. den Babelsberg Filmpark und Phantasiland besucht. War das toll! Dann gibt es natürlich auch die Mauer, Frauenkirche und K'dammstraße. Wunderbare Einkäufe!

Ich bin in einer Realschule gegangen. Es gab nur graue Wände und altmodische Klassenzimmer. Ganz anders als Herschel.

Das Essen war so schmackhaft! Es gibt verschiedene Süßigkeiten wie Kräpfen und das Brot und die Wurst – das kann man nicht verbessern.

Na ja. Nur noch das Abitur und danach muß ich wieder zurückkehren.

**JEMMA WRIGHT**  
- GRADE 12





BY MRS SUE GROVÉ

**O**ur department started off the year on a celebratory high as we acknowledged the outstanding results of the History class of 2015. Not only did the girls achieve a 100% pass and a group average of over 80%, but the entire group achieved distinctions. They did themselves proud. We were delighted to recognise the talent of top achievers in the group, but also the improvement of so many girls to reach their full potential. This is most gratifying.

Our focus this year has been on the development of historical skills in Grade 8 and 9. Our lessons and activities have been shaped around the integration of specific practices that have guided the girls to become more competent and

informed historians. Visual literacy has, for example, been developed through the interpretation and analysis of cartoons, illustrations, photographs, paintings and posters. The detection of bias is an important skill to use when interpreting sources and girls have been trained to critically examine the attribution of each source they interrogate, before studying the content in all sources of evidence and testing sources for reliability and usefulness. The practising of skills in the formative years of being a History student is crucial, we believe, to achieving success in History at the senior level.

We have been impressed with the resilience of our Grade 8 girls as they have tackled researching a topic for

their Social Science essay. They have developed a range of skills that will be beneficial in the future. The girls have learnt how to evaluate resources, read widely, summarisation skills and how to engage meaningfully with texts. Girls were guided through the process of referencing sources. Draft essays were submitted to Turnitin to avoid plagiarism. We commend all the Grade 8 girls for being so positive and enthusiastic about the process. We would like to acknowledge Mrs M. Paton-Ash for her guidance, Mrs Angela Upshon for her administrative assistance and all the staff in the ICT, Geography and History departments for their support and guidance of the girls.

As a department we believe in extending learning beyond the classroom. The Grade 8s visited the Titanic Artefact Exhibition in March while the Grade 9s visited communities in Khayelitsha, Woodstock and Bo-Kaap during Enrichment Week to increase their understanding of the history of communities in and around Cape Town. The Grade 11s visited Parliament while the Grade 12s were privileged to be addressed by Mr Thierry Cassuto on the role of political satire in a democracy. Another innovation this year was the introduction of interactive workshops.

The Grade 10s found the presentation by Prof. Bill Nasson from the University of Stellenbosch stimulating. The girls were encouraged to develop informed opinions on the South African War, historiography and the legacy of Cecil John Rhodes. A workshop on truth, justice and reconciliation was organised for the Grade 12s. Stanley Henkeman, the Executive Director of the Institute of Justice and Reconciliation, and Pippa Green, a journalist, led discussions on racism, amnesty, forgiveness and current debates on betrayal and the legacies of past injustices.

We would like to thank those Grade 12 History students who willingly interacted with their peers from Thandokhulu High School to revise content and develop skills for their examinations. The support of Ms Jenny Wesson, Mrs Toni Harding and Ms Klara Aizupitis in these sessions is truly valued.

Our girls have learnt about the past, but have also related these discussions to the present events in the world. Our aim remains to equip our girls with skills, knowledge, empathy, compassion and understanding, so that they can make better decisions and build solid relationships. ■

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Herschel Girls School prides itself in preparing the girls to be technologically confident. The girls are encouraged to become responsible digital citizens and are equipped with 21st Century skills to prepare them for working life. The teachers make use of platforms such as Google Classroom and Edmodo to create virtual classrooms where the girls can access and submit tasks with ease from anywhere using any device. Technology is integrated into their everyday learning with the girls balancing the use of paper, writing, typing to create digital and paper-based presentations. 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.

The Baxter Resource Centre has been restructured to allow the girls access to information, assistants and collaborative spaces. Research tasks have been set to upskill 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.

The combination of the correct software, infrastructure and a strong technical support team, has allowed the teachers and students to experience seamless digital usage.

BY MRS SUE STEIN



# LifeSCIENCES

BY MS SILVANA SCAROLA

We are all on this present world roller coaster ride and life seems to pass by so quickly. It seems just a short while ago that I was writing the 2015 Life Sciences report for the magazine. In that report I referred to our department as the "Bio" department - which we still like to think of ourselves as. I also alluded to the fact that the "Bio" department is a very happy and balanced ecosystem with all the role players contributing to ensure that we move forward in a harmonious manner.

There are, however, a few challenges which we are grappling with as a department and hopefully adapting to. There is no doubt that students of today function in a very different way because of the impact of technology. The "Bio" department is therefore constantly reflecting and updating both the content and the teaching thereof. Another big challenge is

in the realms of assessment. Over-testing appears to be a problem globally. While Life Sciences is a science, to be successful in the subject, one needs to understand and recall the detailed content to apply it in a scientific way - hence the importance of regular tests. As a department, however, we are trying to develop some meaningful and creative assessment tasks to alleviate the burden of tests, although testing will always remain an integral part of the overall assessment of progress.

Due to the exciting nature of the content of this dynamic subject, we are able to continue to place a strong emphasis on the practical component. It is always gratifying as a teacher to witness the girls' genuine excitement and enthusiasm to participate in the various practical activities as the subject comes 'alive'.

We also pride ourselves in the excursions on which we have taken the

students. The Grade 12s and 9s went on their regular trips to the Tygerberg Medical museum and the Heart Transplant museum. We tried something new with our Grade 10s as we changed the emphasis in the Biodiversity module and so we visited the Save Our Seas Education Foundation in Kalk Bay. The girls were exposed to very practical and real field work and current trends in the world of Marine Biology. The Grade 11s went on a plant biodiversity workshop hosted by Kirstenbosch. Some of our Grade 11s attended two workshops offered by UCT. The one was on Forensic Science and the other on Human Genetics. These are very exciting fields in Life Sciences and the girls came back feeling inspired and realising that there is so much more out there. We also managed to take each of our four Grade 11 classes to the world exhibition, Body World Vital, which proved to be exciting and worthwhile.

2016 has been a very interesting year on so many levels, with challenges and achievements. The "Bio" department, together with their students, continues to happily occupy their niche and adapt to the many world changes that are necessary to move forward. ■

## ISIXHOSA

BY MRS CORINNE SHARPE

isiXhosa 2016 has been a year of new beginnings and energy for both learners and the teacher! The girls who enjoy studying a new language will know that it entails determination, effort and resilience. I am so proud of the isiXhosa learners who have been working hard to produce very pleasing outcomes in the process of mastering the basic skills of the language structures and honing their communicative skills in a variety of contexts.

Learning isiXhosa furthers multilingualism and intercultural communication and underpins mutual understanding and respect for all groups in our diverse country. It also offers a distinct advantage for pupils who have their sights set on a career in the fields of Health Sciences, Human Resource Management, Medicine, Law, Business, Communication, Teaching and more.

On Open Day, the isiXhosa learners from Grades 8 to 12 rallied around to make contributions and/or to provide traditional treats for the isiXhosa Display. This isiXhosa Corner was indeed a hive of activity as learners were inviting all

the visitors and passers-by to come and sample some of the culinary treats.

Wishing all the best to the Matrics with their final examinations!

I anticipate more forthcoming communicative participation amongst the isiXhosa learners on campus in 2017. Masiphakamise umgangatho wolwimi lwenzi sikhube phambili ku-2017 siphumelele emagqabini! Phambili zintombi! (Let us raise the bar of our language and move forward in 2017 in order to excel.)  
Thethani isiXhosa nathi!  
Speak Xhosa with us!  
Enkosi kakhulu.

### IZITHUTHI

Abantu baya kuzo zonke iindawo. Bahamba ngemoto, ngetreyini, ngebhasi, ngesithuthuthu nangebhayisekile.

Ndihamba ngemoto emhlophe esikolweni. Imoto yam ibaleka ngamendu. Imoto inzima kakhulu epetrolini. Imoto endala ayivumi ukuhamba. Yinto yokuba ibhetri etshiphu ifile. Ndimele ukuba ndithathe imoto enzima epetrolini egaraji. Ndimele ukuba ndicele uncedo. Andithandi ukucothisa. Sii, imoto ayintle nje!

Ndiyakwazi ukuyikhwela ibhayisekile

enkulu. Andikhweli bhayisekile esikolweni. Ibhayisekile yam ibomvu. Ndithanda ukukhwela ibhayisekile kakhulu. Amavili mabini. Amavili athambile, afuna ukumpontshwa. Izibane zisalungile. Sii, ibhayisekile yam ayintle nje!

Nditha ipetroli eninzi emotweni. Izala zilitha ezingama-50. Ndisula iifestile ezindaka. Imoto ilayisha abantu abane. Utata uqhuba imoto ezindala eBhayi.

Ubhuti wam uhamba ngetreyini esikolweni. Uthenga amatikiti amabini. Isiporo sibanzi ngokwaneleyo. Itreyini inde. Iikhareji zintandathu. Ndimele ukuba ndiye ngetreyini elwandle. Yinto yokuba imoto iphukile. Itreyini ithutha izinto nabantu. Itreyini imnyama. Sii, itreyini ayinkulu nje!

Ndoyika ukukhwela isithuthuthu esikhulu. Andikwazi ukukhwela isithuthuthu. Isithuthuthu siblowu. Amavili alukhuni. Isithuthuthu sibaleka ngamendu. Umama akathandi isithuthuthu.

Izithuthi zininzi. Ndithanda ukuya ngemoto kodwa abantu bathanda ukuya ngemoto, ngetreyini, ngebhasi, ngesithuthuthu nangebhayisekile kuzo zonke iindawo.

BY BRITTANY JOHNSON GRADE 10





# Mathematics

BY MS DEBBIE MAIN

**AT** the beginning of the year Mrs Michelle van Schaikwyk handed over the reins of the Mathematics Department. I must start by thanking her for all her years of tireless input and enthusiasm as our leader. One of Michelle's

goals has always been to develop a strong sense of team and she certainly handed over a team that is energetic and that certainly works as a unit.

We started the year with the news that Amy Chung and Shandukani Malaudzi had

been placed in the top ten Mathematics students in the 2015 Matriculation examinations. The good news continued with several of our Grade 8 and 9 pairs achieving in the top three scores in the Living Maths competition that they wrote at the end of last year.

The first term was certainly a flurry of competitions and preparation for competitions. Five enthusiastic squads attended four evening sessions of training for the UCT Mathematics Competition. Herschel were placed ninth overall and we are especially proud of Jade Lanfear and Emma Ford who came first in the Grade 10 pairs section. The first term also saw the entire school participate in the first round of the National Mathematics Olympiad. We appreciate the time being made for us to do this and it is clear that, as a school, we value the importance of problem solving and critical thinking – skills that are honed through this type of competition.

As part of the efforts by Epoch and Optima Trust, to improve the quality of Mathematics education in South Africa, Wynberg Boys High School hosted two evenings of fun competition. Four teams, each consisting of four Grade 8 girls, attended and four Grade 9 to 11 teams attended the Winter Maths Challenge. The first term ended with frenetic Pi Day activities. Each class held Maths Relays. Fast-paced, interactive and chaotic, they were a great deal of fun. To add to our celebrations this year we have decorated the top Mathematics corridor with the first 500 digits of pi. It certainly brightens up the space.

After many years of working alongside Langa High School in our Mathematics Outreach Programme, we have now changed to supporting Heathfield High School. Each Friday afternoon approximately sixty Grade 10 students join some of our Grade 10 girls and they work together on improving their skills in this subject. The new affiliation is working well and our girls who participate, find it greatly rewarding. The aim is to continue working with the same group of students through to Grade 11 and then Grade 12.

My first year as the Head of Subject has certainly been run at a frantic pace. We are working on some exciting changes in the Grade 8 curriculum for next year and I look forward to our implementing them. We have already had such a positive response to the modules that we have trialled with this year's class. ■

# PHYSICAL Science

BY MR MICHAEL BRÄSLER

2016 was an eventful year for the Herschel Science department. Kathy Burden, who has headed up the department very capably for several years, graciously stepped aside to head the growing Advanced Programme Mathematics department. This allowed the very experienced Ms Wendy Walter to step into her shoes. She has had to deal with a number of unusual challenges in her first six months in the role.

Mrs Candice Lacerda shared the good news of the imminent arrival of her son, Daniel, with us, which necessitated the appointment of a substitute teacher for six months. Fortunately we could persuade Mrs Rene Toerien, who was nearing the end of writing up her doctorate in science education, to step in. She has added value to the department, sharing her enthusiasm, experience and knowledge with staff and girls.

Mrs Fiona Cochrane, our very capable and experienced laboratory technician,

left when she was persuaded by her husband to assist him in his factory. She felt that her training of her assistant, Warren Johnson, had reached the point where she could let him fly on his own. Mr Johnson has responded in typical Herschel fashion, impressing with his attention to detail, his sense of responsibility and his desire to go the extra mile. We have been able to call on Mrs Cochrane to step in at crisis times, including moderating the Grade 9 EXPO projects and assisting with marking when we were short staffed, for which we thank her. Another former staff member, also working on her doctorate, Ms Jenna Johnson, deserves thanks for helping us by taking a few classes and assisting with marking when we were in need.

The Grade 9 EXPO of 2014 culminated in Anna Midgley being invited to an international Science Fair in the USA in 2015. We were proud to congratulate her in 2016, on her success. Not only did she earn a second prize in her category and the substantial cash sum that that carried, but she had a minor planet named after her by NASA. Amber de Decker, now in Grade 10, also represented South Africa at a Science Fair in the USA. ■



# Music

BY MS JOS TAYLOR

**C**ommunication and mutual respect go such a long way to creating harmony. The music girls (guided by the amazing music staff) have embodied this in so many ways this year - supporting each other, rehearsing together and performing for the common good. Creating music together grounds us with its calming energy, transforms us from a fractured society into one of cohesion. I would like to thank them all for the joy of all the music that has suffused our lives this year.

On the staffing front, we welcomed Mrs Marian Lewin to the Cello department, Mrs Janna Thomas to the Violin department and Mr Angus Petersen to the Brass department.

As always, our musicians continue to excel in eisteddfods, examinations and competitions.

## PRIZE WINNERS EISTEDDFODS:

### CAPE TOWN EISTEDDFOD:

**Caroline Robertson:** BERNFIELD Trophy for the Best Cellist 13-19 years  
And the VICTORIA LEAGUE Trophy for the Best Cello Recital 13-18 years  
**Anna Grieve (Voice):** R300 Cape Town Eisteddfod Award for the Most Diplomas 13yrs & over. R400 Victoria League Award for Most Promising Vocal Entrant

### AFRIKAANS EISTEDDFOD:

**Abby de Waal (Flute):** Silver medal for Woodwind U13; Gold medal for Senior Woodwind  
**Vitske van Zyl (Piano):** Silver medal for Senior Piano U13  
**Anna Grieve (Piano and Voice):** Three Silver medals in the categories of JS Bach

(Senior Piano), Piano 14 years and Baroque Aria (Girls 13-14 years); Gold medals for both Piano and Singing

**Caroline Robertson (Cello):** Two Silver medals for Strings 15-16 years and the Recital category; Gold medal for Senior Strings

## ABRSM AND TRINITY EXAM RESULTS:

We had our usual, large number of entries for theory and practical exams. Results below are from **October 2015 - September 2016**. Distinctions (over 87%) were achieved by: **Kiran Abbas** (Piano 7); **Uliana Alekseev** (Violin 8); **Juliette Bennie** (Singing 3); **Helena Comititis** (Singing 3); **Josephine Cunningham** (Singing 4); **Abby de Waal** (Piano 3); **Margot Dower** (Singing 6); **Kitty Fisher** (Piano 6, Theory 5); **Adrienne Hendricks** (Singing 5); **Anathi Mngxekeza** (Singing 3); **Sophia Rabie** (Violin 6, Violin 7); **Semane Reddy-Mbewu** (Violin 4); **Lucy Schiebusch** (Singing 2, Piano 3); **Emily Turnbull** (Singing 6); **Jemma Wilensky** (Singing 4); **Katinka Wilkinson** (Singing 2)

## MUSIC COMPETITIONS AND FESTIVALS:

Congratulations to **Jessica Scott** who was the winner of the Fishhoek Music Bursary Competition for 2016 and to **Amber de Decker**, who was selected to play with the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra in their annual Concerto Festival. Amber de Decker and Anna Grieve reached the finals of the Pieter Kooij Music Competition and **Vitske van Zyl** reached the finals of the Johann Vos piano competition this year.

Musical performances continue as always at Founder's Day and Open Day, as well as at services throughout the year. The Herschel Eisteddfod and Interhouse Singing were once again massively successful. The subject music students attended a very interesting workshop at Bishops in the second term on auditory (hearing) matters with a specific emphasis on how musicians are affected. It made us all very aware of protecting our ears! We have had an unprecedented number of concerts this year and the Ensemble reports below will give more details of those. The Matric Music Recital took place just before the end of the third term, with proceeds this year going to Bridges for Music, an NGO which helps to facilitate the study of electronic music in underprivileged communities. The annual lunchtime concert by Scholarship Students wowed the audience. As usual the year will end off with the Choir and Chorale adding to the joy of the Carol Service and Fusion adding joyous voices to the annual Christmas Celebration.



## CHORALE

**FRONT ROW:** A Dlova, J Marr, Mrs M Barry, J Scott, Mr J Gouws, A Malindi, U Alekseev **SECOND ROW:** A Mngxekeza, L Plaatjies, J Wilensky, K Gubangxa, M Cunningham, E Da Costa, A Pepler, A de Decker, A Mangxola, A Cader  
**BACK ROW:** R Mollee, A Hendricks, M Meyer, G Alpert, I Sutherland, M Dower, K Fisher, E Turnbull, C Melville, J Cunningham **ABSENT:** A Grieve





## CHOIR

**Conductor and Trainer:** Ms Margie Barlow  
**Pupil Leaders:** Jessica Scott and Alison Malindi

This year the Choir has had a very successful year – we have worked hard at rehearsals, sung our hearts out at the Ensemble Concert and will be doing the same at Prize-Giving and the Carol Service in the fourth term. The choir seems to get better every year and we would like to thank Mrs Barry for all her guidance and support. Without her and the rest of the music staff we would not be as successful as we are. The matrices, especially, have really enjoyed their last year of Choir and will treasure the memories and experiences of this year: most of us have been singing in the choir since Grade 8. Making music has brought us closer and we will miss those Monday breaks when we could take time to just be and sing.

## CHORALE

**Conductor and Trainer:** Ms Margie Barlow  
**Pupil Leader:** Jessica Scott

The chorale is an advanced choral group trained by Mrs Barry and accompanied by Mr Gouws. Every year we welcome a new batch of girls into this group of talented young ladies. The Chorale plays a huge role in the culture of the school, singing, in addition to concerts, at Eucharists, Assemblies, at Prize-Giving and the Valedictory Service. We have had so much fun this year. Our performances have included two very successful collaborations, one with the Epworth Cantabile Choir (from Pietermaritzburg) and Evensong with the Bishops Choir. In the September holidays we will be performing at a concert of music by Grant McLachlan – including a recently composed work for SSA, Of Light. Look out for our very own CD that will be coming out at the end of this year.

## FUSION

**Trainer:** Mr Kevin Smuts  
**Pupil Leader:** Khanya Gubangxa

Fusion has continued to showcase some extraordinary music with our voices (and sometimes even body percussion). Herschel's a cappella group scurries around to the music block after school on a Friday in anticipation of an afternoon filled with music and a good time amongst friends. Under the guidance of Kevin Smuts, our musical director and genius behind all of our arrangements, we have been fortunate enough to expand our music abilities. Our group of ten has formed a little family who can do cool things with their mouths and vocal cords, and, as a result, have had a successful year with performances in the Herschel Eisteddfod, collaborating with Simply Blue on the Bishops stage, various dinners and, of course, our annual Supper Show.



## FUSION

**FRONT ROW:** A Dlova, K Gubangxa, Mr K Smuts, J Marr, M Dower  
**SECOND ROW:** A Grieve, M Meyer, A Hendricks, R Moliea







## WIND BAND

**Trainer:** Ms Rochelle Klassen

**Pupil Leader:** Jessica Gleeson

The Wind Band has gone from strength to strength this year, perfecting old pieces and adding new ones to our repertoire. The Wind Band performed in both the Herschel Eisteddfod (our strong performances resulted in our achieving an Honours) and the Ensemble concert. This year we have played pieces such as Grove for Madiba, Pink Panther, Star Wars, Happy and Hawaii Five O, as well as collaborating with the String Ensemble to play the Downton Abbey Suite and a piece composed by Megan Cunningham, a matric music student, Primrose Path. The Wind Band offers girls an opportunity to play upbeat, modern music, as well as some of the classics. We have made excellent progress this year, recruited many new members and we hope to continue challenging even more wind players to join us to play together and improve their music skills.



## FLUTE ENSEMBLE

**Trainer:** Mrs Elsabé Pretorius

**Pupil Leader:** Alexandra-Naledi Holtmann

It has been a pleasure to play with the Herschel Flute Ensemble this year. We have had a successful year playing many pieces together and performing Morning Has Broken and Rag Doll at the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod, Herschel Eisteddfod and Ensemble concert, where we received consistently high results. Ensemble playing has not only ensured musical interaction but has resulted in new friendships across the grades and it has been a privilege to play together.



## STRING ENSEMBLE

**FRONT ROW:** A Grieve, K Fisher, J Scott, U Alekseev, M Cunningham, S Rabie, M Meyer **SECOND ROW:** G Angeliniadis, A Angeliniadis, V van Zyl, A de Decker, J Cunningham, C Robertson, K Abbas, S Reddy-Mbewu, S Lee

## STRING ENSEMBLE/ ORCHESTRA

**Trainer:** Mr Kevin Cook

**Pupil Leader:** Uliana Alekseev

The Herschel String Ensemble is a music group which caters for the more advanced string players of the school. The aim this year was to increase the size of the group, and extend our musical skills and repertoire. This year, we tackled some challenging pieces of music such as the Bach Double Violin Concerto (performed by Uliana Alekseev and Amber de Decker), and fun pieces such as the Mission Impossible Theme. The String Ensemble performed in the Afrikaans Eisteddfod and achieved a distinction which is a fantastic achievement. It has been a successful year for our string pupils.



In the third term, the String Ensemble and the Wind Band coalesced into the Orchestra for the Ensemble Concert, where they performed the theme from Downton Abbey and Primrose Path (a composition by Matric music student, Megan Cunningham). Having sectional rehearsals throughout the year has really improved our techniques and quality of sound and this bore fruit in the concert!

## WORLD PERCUSSION GROUP

**Trainer:** Dr Linda Muller

The World Percussion Group is a great way to explore different cultures from around the world. It is always fun to engage in the many music styles from various places around the globe, mostly on traditional instruments or on substitute percussion instruments. We have played music from around the African continent such as Zimbabwe marimba pieces arranged from mbira music, the amadinda log xylophone from Uganda, multi-layered drumming pieces from West Africa on djembes and music that we arranged from Latin America, especially the Bossa Nova and Samba. We performed a Brazilian Batucada for the Herschel Eisteddfod which brought us an Honours certificate. We are growing tighter rhythmically and musically. The music lights up a room with our lively sound and the smiles on our faces as we play.

## GUITAR ENSEMBLE

**Trainer:** Mrs Elizabeth Dickinson

**Pupil Leader:** Abulele Dlova

Under the leadership of Mrs Dickinson and Mr Craig the guitar girls have had such fun this year. We started the second term off with our annual Guitar Unplugged concert at Knead which, once again, was a great success. The girls, many of whom are in the Guitar Ensemble, were able to show off more of their contemporary playing and singing in a warm, open mic, environment. The Guitar Ensemble has played classical as well as contemporary music, broadening our sound. This was heard at the Herschel Eisteddfod and the Ensemble concert where the girls really rose to the occasion. To close off the year, we held the Guitar Concert in the Chapel which focuses more on the girls' classical work, showcasing their technical ability. This concert was enjoyed by friends and family and a huge 'well done' goes out to the girls who played. I am sure the guitar department will go from strength to strength as the girls continue to develop as performers.



## WIND BAND

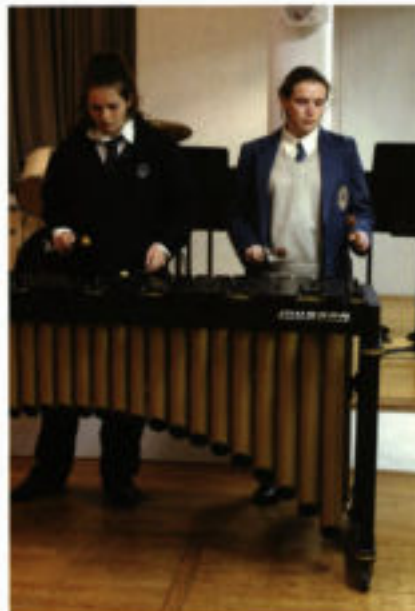
**FRONT ROW:** A Holtman, C Oaker, J Gleeson, Ms R Klassen, P Inglis, J Turpin, N Moolla **SECOND ROW:** C Lillie, Q Triegaardt, G Cotchobos, E Ingram, M Dower, G Topat, J Blanckensee, F Murphy, A De Waal **ABSENT:** K Noordien, G Earl, J She

## MARIMBAS

**Trainer:** Mr Gavin Bolton

**Pupil Leader:** Luciana Graham

This year has been extremely successful for the Marimba Bands. As all the members in the Senior Band are in matric, we were determined to make the best of our final year and tackled more complex pieces. A new Junior Band, for Grade 8-10s, was formed, and it is amazing to see the progress they have made in a few short weeks. The Senior and Intermediate bands performed at the Baxter theatre, in the annual Marimba Festival, Interhouse Singing and the Ensemble Concert. I am proud of the Senior Band for receiving distinctions for both their pieces in the school eisteddfod and to the intermediate band for the improvement they have made.

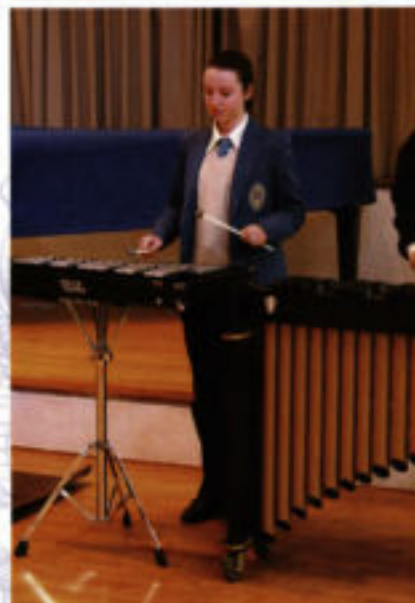


## THE SAXOPHONE TRIO

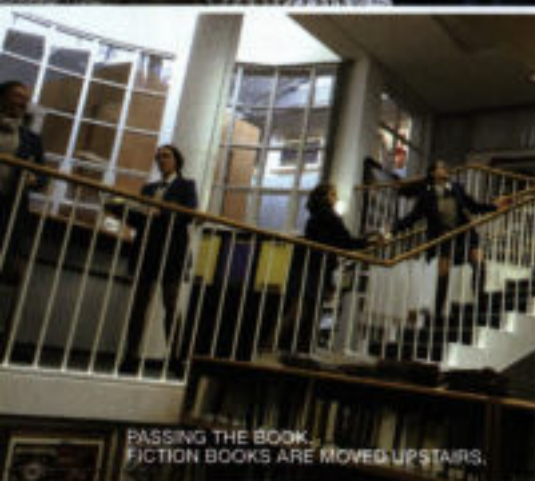
**Trainer:** Mr Ron Franchitti

**Pupil Leader:** Jessica Gleeson

The Saxophone Quartet has had an excellent year, welcoming a new member. We have expanded our repertoire to include, not only our old classics, but also newer pieces such as Yesterday by the Beatles and Groovy Kind of Love, as well as extending into the Latino music realm with our most challenging piece yet, Latin Smile. The Saxophone Quartet has really grown to a new strength this year; we have performed in both the Eisteddfod (receiving our best result to date) and Ensemble concert. The Quartet allows one to play ensemble music in a more modern and jazzy way and to have fun doing so.







# BAXTER RESOURCE CENTRE

BY DANIELLE BLIGNAUT, HEAD MONITOR

**THE** Baxter Resource Centre (our library) has always represented different things to different people. For some, it is a quiet place to recover after a busy day, spending time enveloped by its calm atmosphere. For others, it is only the beginning of a long, stressful night as they gather the materials that they will need to finish the essay that they left too late. Some question its reason for existing, whilst others cannot imagine a life without it. One thing is for certain though: none of us would be the same if we had been deprived of the Baxter.

This library is, and always will be, a place of excitement. A place of adventure. A place to call home. As someone who was privileged enough to grow up surrounded both by books and the stories they contained, any place with that much printed paper was bound to draw me to it. On my very first day of school, I went looking for the school library and – despite the fact that I barely even knew where the fountain was – I found it. It was right there, in the Atrium. The very heart of the school. Hundreds upon hundreds of books greeted me, and the quiet space provided a welcome contrast to the activity of the Atrium outside. I saw beanbag chairs for reading, desks with computers for working, and shelves housing some of the world's greatest treasures.

A lot has changed since: from the

location of the books to the mood of their surroundings. But the most important change has been a change in approach to learning. The Baxter has adapted to Herschel's new, modernised teaching style, and has made room for the transformations it has brought. To allow for an influx in group work and projects, the noise policy is no longer one of 'deathly quiet', but rather a buzzing space where ideas can be exchanged and developed. Non-fiction works have been moved downstairs, so that girls will have an easier time utilising them in their school tasks, and so that help will be only a knock away. Fiction has moved up a floor into the relative quiet of the upstairs area. The space is wonderfully calm, and the massive windows allow for a flood of natural light, so that girls can read and get their daily dose of Vitamin D at the same time. The Hub, which was established last year as a 'quiet reading space', is being fully utilised by all the students, and many are grateful to have a place which they know will always allow for quiet work.

As many changes as there have been in the Baxter Resource Centre this year, it maintains its welcoming air of warmth and wonder, as well as its devotion to reading and extending the world of every person who steps through its doors. It may look different, but we all know never to judge a book by its cover. ■

▼ LIBRARY MONITORS WITH MRS UPSHON







Beyond books



# Enrichment

BY SUE GROVÉ



GRADE 8

Our annual Enrichment programme for all girls in Grades 8 – 11, from 5 – 9 September 2016, was another highlight of the year.

**FOR THE GRADE 8S,** Enrichment Week was aimed at creating a more considered awareness of the environment among the girls, thereby fostering a sensitivity to and care for it as so passionately implored by Dr Seuss: 'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.'

The girls were very positive about their experiences:

*'At Soetwater, we were taught that we have a huge effect on the ecosystem and the food chain, and if we take one animal out of the food chain or ecosystem, it will completely distort the balance, and the results could be catastrophic.'*

**(ABBY DE WAAL)**

*'The visit to the Waste Control site in Kraaifontein taught me lots of things. It made me aware of how carelessly I put rubbish in the bin, not thinking about*

*what is going to happen to the garbage next. I was amazed by how the garbage was recycled and also how much effort the workers have to put in to recycle it.'*

**(JEEYOO KIM)**

*'Save Our Seas in Kalk Bay was one of my favourite places to visit because of the fantastic talk that was given to us about our sharks and how we need them to keep the balance in our world.'*

**(KIM HALLÉ)**

*'I really enjoyed making the bird feeders because I liked getting messy and I love animals so it was nice to do something for the birds.'*

**(JESSICA KEETON)**

*'Enrichment week showed me that there is power in teamwork and that if everyone could work together, then animals wouldn't become extinct and we could stop the destructive path that we humans are on, which is destroying the planet.'*

**(HANNAH GONERA)**



What do painting classrooms, the Woodstock graphic art route and Greenpop have in common? **GRADE 9 ENRICHMENT WEEK**, of course. With the theme of "Head, Heart and Hands" and Creativity, an eager group of Grade 9s and several enthusiastic teachers, embarked on a series of activities, watched relevant short films and were given food for thought by entertaining speakers.

"Wow, what a spectacular week filled with creativity and inspiration," reacted Lucy Schiebush to the meander through the streets of Woodstock, admiring the murals painted on homes and buildings. Some of these are by well-known South African artist, Faith47, but others by artists all over the world, from Korea to China. Lucy added that it was interesting to see how "a painting can explode life and colour into a decaying street."

The Bo-Kaap with its myriad winding, steep streets offered another vision of Cape Town: a view of the vivid, vibrant houses, the way alternate cultures have been embraced in the diversity of the city, and a close-knit community bound by their faith. After morsels of Muslim koeksisters, traditional melktert and samoosas, we moved on to the authentic African beadwork of "StreetWires" and then to the Eastern Bazaar restaurant where we jostled with other ravenous patrons for the huge bowls of steaming noodles and curry!

By far the highlight of the week, however, was the visit to a little Anglican school in Khayelitsha, St Michaels. Under the stewardship of their very enthusiastic headmaster, Mr Ngcesa, this primary school is blossoming academically but was badly in need of some decorative upliftment. So, the Herschel girls set to transforming the physical space with butterflies filled with fractions, flowers sporting numerals, and an enormous "Under the sea" theme, as well as a rather alarmingly long caterpillar filled with letters

GRADE 9







## GRADE 10

of the alphabet. Performing "community service," said Anna Mason, "is something I've wanted to do for a very long time, and I got to do it!"

Many of the girls' preconceptions about the vast suburb of Khayelitsha were challenged by the tour we had of this bustling mini-city. A walk to "Lookout Point" afforded us a panoramic view and we were given statistics of the 3 million people who live there, the infrastructure and the nature of its inhabitants. Despite certain rusty, tin shacks, there were also established houses, flourishing businesses, and, as Sarah Andrews put it, "a different kind of beauty."

But, there was also time for reflection and mindfulness. A fascinating film, "The Good Ones", highlighted a number of good schools that are centres of excellence. Gina-Rose Boligello admitted that seeing children so eager to attend school, helped her to be more appreciative of the opportunities we have at Herschel. Siphwe Ngenya, a really clever artist, showed us slides of his work and explained his township entrepreneurial venture of making art profitable. While Mischa from Greenpop, a tree-planting initiative, revealed a different way of being creative, Andrew Putter provided a fascinating talk about how to become a more creative person with examples of his work in and around Cape Town.

The finale of the week was an energetic performance by the Ndoni dancers who presented mind-blowing, foot-tapping, explosion-of-the-senses dance routines, using their voices and their bodies to perfection. Who did not feel the rhythm and the heartbeat of Africa? More than that though, they proved what it is to fulfil a dream by having passion, energy and commitment.

If Enrichment was about being fulfilled and nourished, we achieved that in "one of the most inspiring weeks of the year," wrote Aphiwe Matiso. And, of course, it's about transformation. Many girls, such as

Sian Lawrenson, commented that she felt gratitude for her life, while Sophie Hudson felt that it "put her life into perspective."

**GRADE 10 ENRICHMENT 2016** was an incredible week of growth, challenges and outreach for the Grade 10s. The theme was Change of Heart and we started off the week listening to very interesting and inspiring speakers that came in to share their testimonies with us. Their stories were so motivating and really encouraged us all to see life in a new way and from many different perspectives.

On Tuesday we spent the day with students from Thandokhulu and Claremont High Schools. Under the leadership of Dylan Wray we discussed racism and various other relevant topics and learned a great deal about what is currently going on in South Africa and what we need to do as a community and a country to help it. It was so meaningful to bond with the different students and hear their opinions on the topics that were raised throughout the day.

Wednesday and Thursday were spent visiting various NGOs such as LOFOB, SADA, Ons Plek, Maitland Cottage Home, Red Cross Hospital and old age homes. This was enriching and spending the day with the people from these different communities really opened our eyes to the different circumstances and struggles that many of them face on a day-to-day basis. Spending time with them truly gave us a 'change of heart'.

Friday was the best end to a wonderful week in which we spent time making blankets for different shelters, dancing with each other, bonding and reflecting on the week's past activities. It was a very inspiring, fun and heart-warming week that left us with nothing but smiles across our faces. (HANNAH FLEMING)

**GRADE 11 ENRICHMENT.** How do I develop my own identity as a woman within the South African context?

Our programme for the two days was

filled with powerful and inspirational speakers, each offering something unique that touched on aspects of this complex question.

Marianne Thamm, challenged, provoked and engaged the girls in conversations that opened their minds to being a woman in a male-dominated world. She posed many questions around identity, race and finding the necessary inner strength to survive.

Siphokazi Jonas, a powerhouse performance poet, touched each and every person in the auditorium with the musicality her poetry holds. Siphokazi's poetry was an intimate glimpse into all aspects of being women and the struggles we face.

Alison Bodenstein presented the "Killing Me Softly" talk on the objectification of women in advertising.

Tuesday brought about a new energy as Jade Hubner an ex-Herschelian spoke to the girls and shared her story of the many struggles she encountered in her personal life and how, with determination, she succeeded in achieving her goals. Jade is currently the youngest presenter Top Billing has ever had.

Karen Dudley, head girl of Herschel in 1985 and current owner and founder of "The Kitchen", shared her delightful story of her passionate love affair with food and the humble beginnings of her dream in her kitchen in Woodstock and now living her dream making 'love sandwiches' (a favourite on the menu).

In conclusion... thank you to the girls for engaging and participating, for staff who planned and created, leaders who went beyond what was expected of them and all support staff who assisted us in presenting a programme that took girls and staff on many meaningful personal journeys.

Thank you

## GRADE 11





# LEARNING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Prof. Jonathan Jansen, education icon, visited Herschel before he left for America. He took over the Theatre with his booming voice, charm and irrepressible humour and soon had every senior school girl and staff member in the palm of his hand. Walking up and down the aisle, stopping to look girls in the eye, it felt as if he was addressing each one personally. He spoke to them about being judgmental towards other people on the basis of colour, culture and religion, illustrating each with mistakes he himself had made in his past. Prof. Jansen encouraged the girls to break out of their inherited moulds and to make concerted efforts to engage meaningfully with people from different backgrounds and religions.

Afterwards, despite Prof. Jansen's busy programme, he made time to stop and chat to the girls, who all wanted to talk to their new hero. Prof. Jansen's no-nonsense message left a lasting impression on us all.



Mr Stanley Bongwe, author of 100 Lessons in Diversity, and founder and director of The Diversity Institute, addressed the girls on issues that lead to racial tension. His talk was so impactful that he was invited later in the year again. In an open microphone session, Headmaster, Stuart West, posed questions on how to deal with racial prejudice and the concept of white privilege, to Mr Bongwe. His straight, yet sometimes unexpected responses, once again, left his audience with a great deal to think about.

## FACING HISTORY

BY MRS SUE GROVÉ

I was privileged to have been invited by Facing History to attend an international Advanced Teachers' Seminar in Chicago in July; one of twenty six teachers from Northern Ireland, the United Kingdom, Mexico, the USA, France and South Africa.

Facing History is a non-profit, international organisation that focuses on educational and professional development. This organisation develops teaching resources and pedagogy to train teachers globally to engage their students in the examination of themes such as racism, anti-Semitism, prejudice and bias. Our History department at Herschel has

been part of the teachers' training of Facing History since 2004. The historical themes and current issues that are closely examined in the classroom, guide students to make more humane and informed choices as human beings. Another aim is to educate students to become more active citizens in their own communities.

As a History teacher I am challenged to make events of the past relevant and meaningful for the girls in my classes every day. I, therefore, appreciated the emphasis on pedagogy. New methodologies inspired me to renew and be innovative in my teaching. Some examples which were

particularly enriching were developing news literacy, critical thinking skills, using poetry to develop empathy, using digital sources creatively and using survivor stories and novels more creatively.

The recent, current events in the modern world do not make it easy for young people to make sense of the world or to keep a sense of hope. I feel more empowered and trained to keep examining interesting resources and discussing many questions with the girls so that they are encouraged to question and make meaning of difficult themes such as bullying, racism, gender inequality, prejudice, crimes against humanity and genocide. By using interesting case studies, students will be guided to question, delve deeply and to

develop their own opinions on a broad range of challenges such as ethnicity, institutionalised racism, identity, cultural rights, moral choices, diversity, etc.

The seminar also had a very solid academic rigour and I enjoyed studying new historical material on themes such as refugees and migrants, international tribunals, memorialisation and starting conversations in divided communities, to name but a few.

I have returned inspired and motivated to do more to grow and develop girls in my classes to leave a legacy of their own and never to lose hope. I acknowledge the logistical and financial contribution of Facing History in Chicago and the North West Country Day School who made this experience possible. ■



## KHANYA GUBANGXA, IN GRADE 12, WAS ASKED TO REPEAT HER DEBATING TOPIC TO THE SCHOOL DURING ASSEMBLY.

### SHOULD "COCONUT" BE CLASSIFIED AS A RACIAL SLUR?

For the purpose of this debate, the term "coconut" is defined by the BBC in 2010 as a term used to describe a person of colour who has betrayed their race or culture. This implies that, like the fruit, they are brown on the outside but white on the inside as they adhere to, or follow western, Eurocentric ideas.

It is important to understand the nature of ethnic slurs and the way in which they manifest. They are defined as allegations about members of a given ethnicity or references to them in a derogatory, contemptuous or insulting manner. What is interesting and made this a compelling topic for discussion, is the fact that this is a term

coined by and most commonly used by members of historically oppressed ethnic groups.

This is evident in 2010, when the first black Liberal Democrat elected to Bristol city council, Shirley Brown, used it against her Asian Conservative political opponent, Jay Jethwa, the year after the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade in the British Empire. Or in a South African context, in which DA councillor Zwakele Mncwango was called "too white, a coconut" and accused of "behaving like a born again Christian" by fellow councillor Bongile Mtshali.

Another such term is the word "nigger" which is traced back to the Latin "niger", meaning black. This later became the noun Negro and

by the early 1800s it was established as a derogative name that defined, limited and ridiculed Black Africans and African Americans. It remains a principal term of White racism which strengthened the stereotype of a lazy, stupid, dirty, worthless nobody.

In a South African context, the term "kaffir" is from the Arabic word translated as "nonbeliever", referencing the non-Muslim black people along the Swahili coast. It was used to describe all black people in the colonial period and then by Boer Trek farmers to describe someone who had not converted to Christianity. It did not take on obstructive connotations until the 20th century during South Africa's apartheid-era.

It was after the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and the end of apartheid in 1994 that the use of these racial slurs was

outlawed and backed up by the constitutions of the respective countries. However, it has become socially acceptable to use these slurs in colloquial conversation between ethnic groups. This is seen in social media, movies and evident in music such as rap, with the justification that they may be used freely among members of the group as they are not used as trigger words to evoke an emotional response.

One may argue that being deemed a "coconut" is not as offensive nor does it carry the disturbing connotations of "nigger" or "kaffir". Instead, one is accused of denouncing one's race and culture by pandering to Eurocentric ideas. The use of the term "coconut" is no different than that of other ethnic slurs: it groups, insults and ridicules. Only now it is used by the previously oppressed to oppress one another.

## LIFE ORIENTATION

### *Creating thinkers*

BY MRS SHARMILA GORDON

2016 has been the year of new beginnings for the Life Orientation department. Besides a new subject head and a new team of LO teachers, we also decided to remodel the framework of our junior curriculum by modularising it. Modules such as Thinking Skills, Reading for Meaning and Reading for Pleasure have ensured that our girls are well on their way to becoming critical thinkers and life-long learners, while Self-Development and Q and A sessions guarantee that our girls are aware of their emotional well-being, and in doing so, are learning to look after themselves. The module on Current Affairs ensures that girls are aware of what is happening in the world around them and that they are global citizens whose actions can and

will affect other people.

Our senior girls continue to enjoy four LO days for the year and thus far, have been exposed to sessions on Mindfulness and learned relaxation techniques in order to help them when they become over-anxious. It is hoped that by putting the techniques they have been taught into practice, it will assist them in becoming calmer and thus able to focus better, especially in the time before examinations. Our school counsellor has also had sessions about Healthy Eating Habits and the benefits of exercise, in a bid to ensure that our girls know that what they put into their bodies will have an effect on both their physical and emotional states. Girls were also afforded the opportunities of listening to



guest speakers whose real-life experiences and advice have not only made our girls aware of pitfalls, but encourage them to pursue their passions. As we look to prepare girls for life beyond Herschel, we have had sessions on Informational Interviews, CV Writing and what to expect when they embark on the life of a tertiary student.

The Physical Education component continues to be assessed on LO days for our senior girls and our IT

department's assistance to make the recording of bleep tests and the like easier and more efficient, has proved to be hugely beneficial to both girls and staff.

As a department our success stems from the diversity of skills which are brought to Life Orientation by its many staff members, all of whom teach another subject in the school, ranging from Life Sciences to Xhosa and including History and Geography. ■



# EXCHANGE



## RIJNLANDS LYCEUM, WASSENAAR, THE NETHERLANDS

I went to the Netherlands on exchange last year and it was an insightful cultural experience. As much as there are good things on exchange there are also hard times, but the wonderful part about it is that when we come back the good parts are exaggerated in our minds.

In Holland the school organises very different and exciting activities for the exchangees to participate in and I really got pushed out of

my comfort zone. For example, attending a mini United Nations where students travel from around Europe to participate in a debate about our world's well-being.

Some highlights of my exchange were not going to school every Wednesday, but rather being taken by the exchange coordinator to sightsee in The Hague, (the capital); experiencing the freedom of cycling anywhere and at any time; playing for one of their club hockey teams; taking in the full experience of Amsterdam; going on a school tour to Paris; the different foods and having a school system the complete opposite of Herschel. (It was co-ed, we wore civvies, could leave school between classes and relied on nobody for our transport)

I will never forget the time I spent in Holland. I believe it added to the all-round growth of my character and I am grateful that I was given this opportunity. **KIRSTY ORTON**

## PRESBYTERIAN LADIES COLLEGE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Our exchange to Sydney didn't only give us two months of a new culture and country, but it gave us a lifetime of opportunities. We became very close with our exchange sisters and this definitely made our exchange experience much more enjoyable. The family and friends that we made there will definitely stay a part of our lives. We all were lucky enough to get the opportunity to visit other parts of Australia. Meg visited Port Douglas in Queensland, which is along the Great Barrier Reef. Amy visited Hamilton Island and Amy (Cunninghame) travelled along the Gold Coast. These opportunities, along with the PLC formal, which took place on an evening cruise on the Sydney harbour, will definitely be experiences we will never forget.

Living away from home, on the other side of the world, was an eye-opening experience and has impacted us in many ways. PLC is a

fantastic school with lots on offer such as art, design technology, sports science and weekly golf lessons at the local driving range. All the students and teachers at PLC were very friendly and welcoming and they loved our accents! It was very rewarding to see how girls our age are growing up in another city and regardless of the different influences, we are all so similar. Our independence definitely grew as we were encouraged to use trains and buses to most places we went - it was so easy and safe. We were treated to the true Aussie experience at Tobruk sheep station where we threw boomerangs, cracked whips, drank billy tea and witnessed a sheep being sheared, along with Featherdale Wildlife park where we could hold koalas and play with kangaroos. Sydney is a beautiful city and being a part of exchange has been one of the best decisions that we have made.

**AMY PITHEY,  
AMY CUNNINGHAME  
AND MEG FISHER**





### LANCASTER COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL, PENNSYLVANIA, USA

I went on exchange to Lancaster Country Day School in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and wow, was it amazing! I got to experience the world-famous homecoming dance and a phenomenon called 'colour week', where the grades make it their duty to cover the school in as much of their grade colour as possible. Bonfires, Thanksgiving, ginormous pizzas - I got them all and more, making it a truly memorable experience.

The town of Lancaster is situated amongst the Amish

Country farms and during the 'fall' it was refreshing to walk around and see all the leaves turning beautiful shades of orange and hear the silence. But Lancaster was far from isolated. Being an hour and a half away from Philadelphia and only two and a half hours away from both Washington DC and New York City I was in reach of some of the US's biggest cities. I loved my exchange family and made wonderful friends at my school which made saying goodbye incredibly difficult, but I know that some day I will definitely let my heart find its way back to Lancaster.

**MICHAELA MEYER**

### EPISCOPAL ACADEMY, PHILADELPHIA, USA

America proved every stereotype true. Episcopal's state-of-the-art cafeteria was packed with hot food, sandwich bars, dessert tables, waffle makers, delivered pizza, a salad bar (we were shocked too) and chocolate milk. And, as if all that wasn't enough, free sweets and Dunkin' Donuts awaited you in every corridor and classroom and burgers were flung at the crowd during football games. A trip highlight has to be that we lived a walk away from the local Chipotle (a burrito takeaway that will always have a special place in our hearts). We are also proud to say that we were truly dedicated to our duty of being full-blown American tourists. The stars and stripes followed us wherever we

went (whether a 5-foot long flag or Uncle Sam hat), we were baseball players for Halloween, ate McDonalds' breakfast for dinner and wore "I heart" shirts in every city, burger pillows swung from our schoolbags and we used the words "literally", "omg" and "like" in every sentence. As proud U16C water polo reserves at Herschel, we joined the water polo team which we would later discover entailed 2 hours and 15 minutes of practice daily (including Saturdays) which was somewhat of an adjustment. However, through this and lost visas, airport interrogations, a broken nose and getting very lost in a very very big city we had the most incredible experience.

**HOLLY JUDGE AND  
MEGAN MEYER**

### THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL, INDIA

India was more amazing than we could have ever imagined. The experience was unforgettable. We met so many people that welcomed us and soon became our family. We rafted down grade four Rapids down the Ganges in Rishikesh, acted in their annual school play, visited religious sights like The Golden Temple and the world-renowned Taj Mahal and much more. We learned to be innovative by organising outings for ourselves. It taught us so many new things about India and made us question who we are. We would recommend India to anyone who



is willing to expose themselves to a completely different culture. It is the best choice either of us have ever made. We are so jealous of the girls going this year and in years to come. Our only advice is to grab every opportunity that you get.

**ANA JOSE RILEY AND  
PAIGE INGLIS**

### ST HILDA'S GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA

Gold Coast is a vibrant, alive, colourful place that I will definitely go back to. All the South African exchange girls were in the boarding house, where we made many friends that we are still in touch with. Every Thursday night was barbecue night, (for those who don't know: it was a braai night) and afterwards we would have a huge dance party outside in the quad. The boarding house staff also took us on outings every weekend. The best one was when we went to our brother school to play touch rugby.

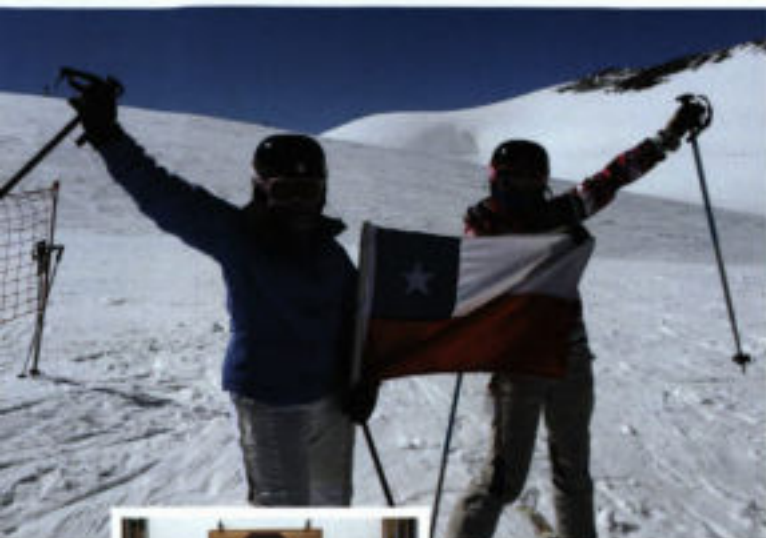
We also did unfamiliar subjects, for example, Japanese, design, media and film class and sport science, where we learned a range of new skills, such as printing a picture on a 3D printer. We were there for the St Hilda's annual year ten (grade ten) dance where every grade ten

class had to choreograph a dance and perform it for the school. Almost every day we walked to the mall after school, or to Quench, which makes the best ice-cream and milkshakes that I have ever tasted. We also went to Surfers' paradise quite often, which is the most popular beach and the water is definitely warmer in Australia. Gold Coast is known for its many different theme parks and my personal favourite turned out to be the Wet and Wild water park. Since we were in Australia during Halloween, Movie World held a 'fright night' every Friday night where they hired actors to go around scaring people. It is not for the faint hearted. The animals, of course, were amazing to see: kangaroos and koalas and really large crocodiles. If I could, I would turn back time so I could go back and do exchange again. It was an experience I will never forget.

**TAYO CROZA**







## ORCHARD COLLEGE, CHILE

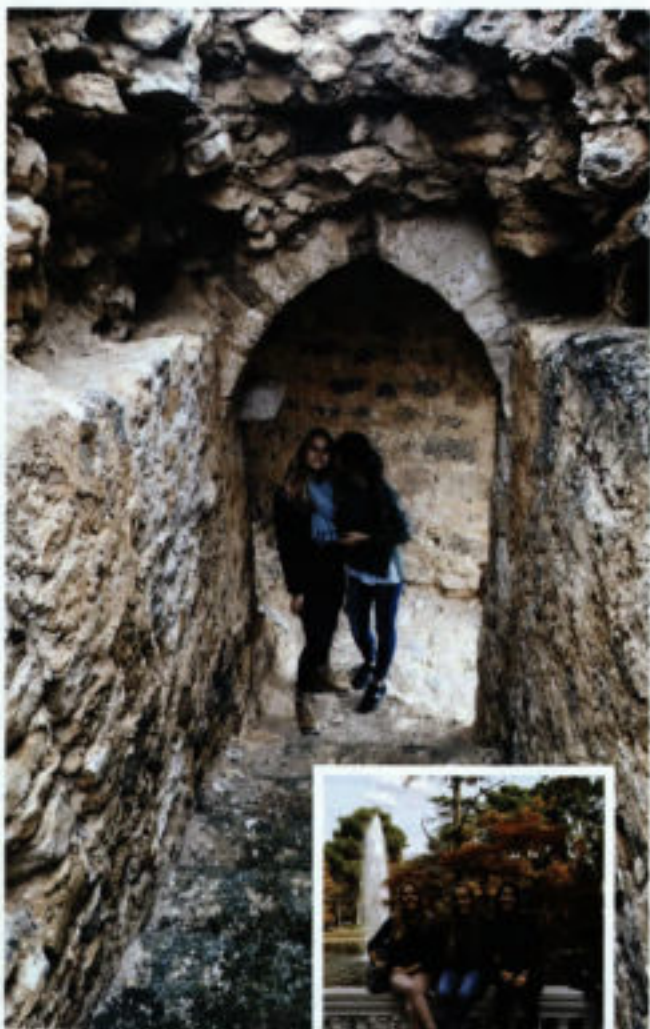
We had a phenomenal time! The first few weeks were particularly challenging where we were adjusting to the environment and finding our places in our new households. The Latin American culture is more relaxed than the Western culture that we are accustomed to in South Africa. We woke up later than usual, ate meals at different times and nighttime activities only began when South Africans would be going to sleep. Chileans are less rigid about personal space and you greet everyone with a kiss on the cheek. After a few weeks we were versed in Chilean slang and by the time we left, we could communicate to a degree in Spanish.

It was really exciting living in a small town where everyone knows everyone and you could

walk or ride a bicycle to just about everywhere. It was not a large school and our grade only had 29 people in it. We had the privilege of experiencing all of the major geographic biomes in Chile whilst there. We went skiing in the south, to the beach in central Chile and spent a week in the North in the Atacama Desert.

Going on exchange gave us a new appreciation for South Africa. Through our interactions with Chileans and their culture we grew as we were forced out of our comfort zones. It was during this period of uncertainty that the most difficult lessons were learnt. We were able to support one another and form new friendships. We appreciate this opportunity that we were given and the difference it has made in our lives.

**NANDIPA MPONDA AND  
REFILOE MOLIEA**



## COLEGIO VIRGEN DE EUROPA, MADRID, SPAIN

Looking back on exchange, it feels like a dream. Although it was almost a year ago now I can still remember exactly how I felt getting onto a plane to Madrid on my own. I was scared, excited, nervous, sad to be leaving but happy to be going to a whole new country independently. I was retrieved at the airport by four strangers, my new family. At first it was awkward and the language barriers meant very broken conversations. The first few weeks of settling in were the hardest. Finding my place in the house, learning that I can help myself to food, watch television when I liked and things like that took a bit of time to adjust to. When I met up with Anna and Maya, the other exchangees from South Africa, the familiarity of having them there made me comfortable very quickly. Soon enough my exchange partner became my sister, and the

family were as close as my own.

School was a strange mix of watching movies in the library and having misunderstood half Spanish half English conversations with other kids. Half way through exchange Anna, Maya and I decided we wanted to take a week off school and go travelling. That was the best part of exchange, you could do things like that! The independence and freedom of exchange was definitely one of the highlights. So without the help of our parents we booked accommodation and train tickets and headed off to Barcelona. We wandered around art galleries, through parks, and into and out of multiple bakeries and shops. After long days of shopping, eating and exploring the most beautiful city I have been to, we walked back through still bustling streets back to our old little air bnb apartment. Independent and happy.

**GITA BRIEL**





# CULTURAL TOUR TO *Spain & Portugal* BY KAMRON VAN SCHALKWYK

On Friday 24 June, nineteen anxious girls gathered at Cape Town International Airport, nervously clutching onto their suitcases, seeing many unfamiliar faces, asking themselves whether some of these girls even attended Herschel or not.

After a strenuous flight we were all utterly exhausted, but as soon as we arrived in the spectacular, but scorching Barcelona, we received a second wind, ready to explore the city with our travel wallets in hand, of course. In Barcelona we went on a walking tour where we were able to marvel at so many different parts of the city. We also visited the astounding La Sagrada Familia cathedral, originally designed by Antoni Gaudí, and also his Parc Guell where we were provided with the opportunity to “fan girl” (a scene from the movie *Cheetah Girls* was filmed in the park).

We then made our way to the capital of Spain: Madrid. On our first day we toured the breath-taking Royal Palace where, much to our disappointment, we discovered that the Prince, now King of

Spain, did not reside anymore. In Madrid we saw a live flamenco show, discovered the famous Spanish dessert, “churros”, (finally understanding what all the rave was about), went on a segway tour of the city and went tapas tasting.

As you can imagine, after the most eventful three days we were extremely reluctant to leave Madrid, but then it was time to embark on another adventure, exploring the countryside of Spain: Granada (the Spanish word for “pomegranate”), Córdoba, Málaga (where we stayed at a beautiful beachfront and many of us took the opportunity to develop a Mediterranean glow before we returned to the dusk of Cape Town) and Seville.

In each of these places we visited world-renowned sites such as the beautiful gardens of Al Hamra in Granada (where certain scenes of the popular series, *Game of Thrones* were filmed), the Mosque of Córdoba, where we learned that the majority of Spain’s culture, including their language, developed from the Arabians

who conquered it, Pablo Picasso’s family home, the Islamic palace, Alcázar, Gibralfaro Castle and too many stunning cathedrals to list.

After seven days of bliss, I can honestly say that many of us were not too keen to hop cheerily on a bus for an eight hour ride to Lisbon. The long ride, however, gave us time to build up our strength for the next walking tour that we knew was coming our way in the capital of Portugal, Lisbon.

After a lovely, leisurely time in Lisbon, our European adventure had come to an end and it was time to return to our family and friends in Cape Town, bearing gifts. Cultural Tour 2016 was truly an unforgettable and enriching experience where strangers became close friends who we now embrace fondly on our way to class. I personally cannot think of a better way I could have spent my holiday than with all the girls who went, not to mention Ms Karstens and Ms Bouwer, our surrogate mothers, who capably managed to put up with 19 girls for 12 days. ■





**W**ith the bare minimum, consisting of a thin foam mat, sleeping bag and a lightly packed travel bag, 30 Grade 11 girls set off with only a hazy idea of what the next few days would hold for them. After a 12-hour bus ride, we eventually arrived in the blazing heat of Namibia.

After a welcoming cooling off in the river we were briefed by our guides on what to expect and how to handle every possible situation while paddling down the Orange River.

With the highest SPF sunblock that could be found, a helmet, lifejacket and an inflatable boat carrying everything we brought (including our food and drinks) we started off on our adventure. Extremely able paddling was not necessarily required; what was important was to work

well with your partner and to communicate effectively. We encountered some robust rapids named Corkscrew, Scorpion, Mini Falls, Big Bunny and the dreaded Dolly Parton, where extreme focus and teamwork was needed.

At other times we sang our way down the river, belting out every possible song that popped into our heads - despite having a few rather less talented singers. We also had great fun jumping into the river at any time to cool off even though it was rather difficult to climb back onto the boats!

Rocks and cliffs along the way made for both entertainment and lessons in teamwork. At the Beach Camp rock jumping/kloofing kept us well entertained. This took a lot of courage for some (as it was pretty high) but adrenalin carried us

through and the only casualty was a GoPro!

On day two our teamwork ability was severely tested when we had to, with extreme effort and in the 40 degree heat, carry our boats to the edge of a cliff so that we could avoid the spectacular and infamous waterfall at the Gorge. The boats were lowered by ropes to the water below as we formed a long chain all the way down the cliff.

We were so impressed with our guides and were continually questioning their credentials as they were so professional and skilled both as guides and chefs: we were spoiled with delicious meals which they seemed to prepare from next to nothing and their detailed but caring supervision on the river kept us safe. They also managed to entertain us with the most hilarious games around the campfire. You almost had to be a contortionist to succeed in the "paddle game"!

We stopped along the river bank to camp each night, either sleeping on a rocky terrain or a beach surrounded by the sandy desert environment. In the evenings we had the freedom to relax, chat with friends, swim or even catch a few

## ROCKS AND CLIFFS ALONG THE WAY MADE FOR BOTH ENTERTAINMENT AND LESSONS IN TEAMWORK

tips about fishing from Mr Scott. It was a special experience to bathe in the river - a truly unfamiliar way of living to us all.

The third night at the Beach Camp was one of our highlights as we entertained ourselves with shadow puppet shows. We acted out different stories using our hands as characters whilst our shadows reflected on the cliff face on the opposite side of the river as our friends shone their torches from behind us.

We sometimes capsized, had annoying insects continuously surrounding us and typical little disagreements, but with the support and bonds we created, we all experienced a truly unique and amazing adventure with memories we will cherish for a lifetime. What I can say with confidence, is that each and every girl on this trip carried something positive home with her, whether it was a new friendship or simply feeling at peace. We could not have done it without the endless support and enthusiasm from Miss Steyn, Mr Scott and our guides and we thank them. ■





# Strange visitings of nature

BY JOSEPHINE REY

**U**mfoloji is an experience enhanced by interaction with the 'strangeness' of nature. As two groups of Grade 11 girls soon realised, that which had seemed so strange before, suddenly became beautifully familiar and these days and nights in the bush, although spent without ceilings or showers, showed just how easily one can reconnect with the earth and its inhabitants. For example...

## BUFFALOS

Infamously dangerous to people on foot, the large buffalo herds were immediately intimidating. Bravely, and with our backpack belts strategically unclasped so that we could easily drop them and then retreat if needed, we approached them (often to cross a river in which they wallowed). They scattered! Their fear of the group was clearly greater than our fear of them and, as we were later told, this balance of respect and apprehension is essential for survival.

With this in mind, we were ready when we encountered...

## RHINOS

The Umfolozi trail follows the natural paths created by the white rhino. Being a member of the Big Five, this animal became a hazard as soon as it was spotted and bushes were quickly selected as 'safe zones' to retreat behind in case of emergency. However, our encounters with members of this critically endangered species were incredible and never threatening. In fact, the only animal that threatened us in some way did so by threatening our food...

## ANTS

Status: Everywhere. Annoyingly, they crawled over our backpacks and between the food items we carried. Particularly attracted by the campfire, these substantially larger than usual insects became an unwanted and unavoidable extra ingredient to tea during night watch - water for which was gathered from...

## THE RIVER

Aligning with natural time and exposure to the elements initially proved difficult,

but the Umfolozi River brought swift relief. It became a source of life from which water was collected for drinking and washing. Our reliance on it for survival only increased our appreciation of plumbing at home! The day's heavy heat encouraged long wallowing sessions in the river's shallows before sunset, where we marvelled at...

## THE LIGHT

Nothing is more beautiful than an evening's progression. As the orange sky smeared and dripped behind the horizon, the most beautiful stars rose from behind the camp. Night watch was mostly spent in spellbound wonder of the night sky. Sunrise became a natural alarm clock and the daylight, although unbearably warm, only intensified the beauty of our surroundings.

On our return, as our plane descended over Cape Town and its own scattered lights, the strangest visitings of nature was the stirring in our souls. "When you arrived here, your body was clean and your souls dirty," Rodney, one of our guides, told us as we prepared to re-enter civilisation. "Now, as you leave, your body may be dirty but your souls are clean."

This purification of the soul characterises the Umfolozi experience: unforgettable, inerasable and absolutely incredible. ■



# CLUBS & SOCIETIES



## Ballroom

The Ballroom Society, in cooperation with Bishops, kicked off with flair this year. The Grade 11 girls had the opportunity to learn new dances and practise some of their moves on the dance floor with the dashing young men from Bishops. There were three meetings a term where everyone not only learnt how to dance, but also made some new friends in the process. We thank Mr Phil Court and Miss Van Zyl for their unwavering enthusiasm with every meeting, trying to teach us to make our two left feet move to the beat. The highlight was the final meeting, where the boys wore black and the girls donned their formal dresses. We could hardly believe how much we had all improved since that first, unnerving lesson.



## DEBATING SOCIETY

This year has been an exciting one for the Herschel Debating Society: we have had the expertise of two splendid coaches, Josh Broomborg and Saadiyah Mayet, who have made a positive impact on the girls' speaking styles, as well as the organisation of the team. We are very

grateful for their input – Saadiyah currently coaches the South African School Debating team, so it is a real honour to have her investment.

We took part in the annual Rotary inter-school debate, arguing against schools like Wynberg Boys' High School, Norman Henshilwood and Bergvliet. We did not make it through to the final rounds this year, but look forward to improving our performances in 2017.

Especially exciting for us is the establishment of a smaller, focused 'squad', consisting of girls from Grades 8 – 12. This will ensure that we can compete at a national and even international level! The squad will be spending longer hours and adopt a tactical approach to improving, while the regular group will concentrate on improving confidence, argumentation and content. The development of two teams means that there will be both an element of rigour and fun involved in the society.

Thank you to all the girls who take part in this splendid club – I look forward to our continued development and progress next year! **MISS JANICE CAMERON**







# EARTH MATTERS

BY LÉA ELISA WEIMANN

*"We are the first generation who will experience the impact of Climate Change and the last one who can do something about it." – Barack Obama*

Our Herschel school motto says: "Learning to make a difference" and this is one of the core messages that the environmental movement teaches one. The responsibility to protect the things we love is not only a bare necessity, but also leads to a truly enriching and fulfilling lifestyle. As Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai demonstrated: improving the environment

also means uplifting people.

Our eco-year kicked off with speeches about eco-activism, Earth Matters club promotions and sessions, excitement for all the activities ahead and the launch of food waste recycling to reduce Herschel's carbon footprint. The food waste recycling was implemented towards the end of the first term and now runs successfully in the school kitchen.

The Green Week at Herschel disseminated the very much needed passion among Herschel girls to become eco-activists. The Solar Farm outing to

Constantia was one of the most enjoyable outings during my years at Herschel and I will never forget the laughs and excitement as we got to test the functioning of solar panels by lifting them up at different angles to the sun and watching the energy efficiency increase as we succeeded. It made us realise how little solar energy is harnessed, even at schools where it could be used for hot water geysers.

Other highlights of the Green Week were our guest speaker, Carolyn McGibbon from UCT Green campus, who talked about her experiences of how climate change affects polar bears in the Antarctic, the "Connect to Nature Session" with transformation coach, Tracy Russell in the gardens and our Herschel rhino frame that was decorated with messages about eco-activism.

Term 2 was packed with interesting Earth Matters club sessions ranging from plastic pollution, the waste water contamination of our coastline, beach clean-ups, deforestation, the disastrous impact of palm oil plantations, natural resource depletion, veganism and consumerism. We spent another breathtaking and informative afternoon watching the documentary "Cowspiracy" in the Herschel theatre and viewed lifestyle choices from a new angle. The world would be a different place if everyone would be aware of how our daily actions affect, not only us, but the biosphere and its population as a whole.

Our beaches are filled with litter and we are so used to walking past washed-up dead seals, empty plastic packages and bottle rings. As a group of eco-activists, the club took the opportunity to pick up the things that destroy our natural habitat because we love to care and to care is to do. The beach clean-up Mulzenberg beach reinforced the saying that the hope for our future is in our own hands and I could not have wished for more enriching hours on the beach.

Whether it was a "Meat-free day" at Herschel, a cake sale for the Jane Goodall institute, magazine collection, beach clean-up, awareness raising initiatives, plans for a greener school campus or food waste recycling, I could not have achieved it without Ms Scarola, the other dedicated Environment Committee members and the opportunities that Herschel as a school provides and supports. You are what you do, not what you say and the future of tomorrow lies in your hands today - so Herschel girls, keep up the spirit and become eco-activists.



## EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE CLUB

The Emotional Intelligence Club has remained particularly active this year, with two separate groups of Grade Elevens meeting on a weekly basis at lunch break. The course material we use is that of Dr Marianne Roux, an industrial psychologist, who has run a few courses for the staff over the years. It includes incredibly pertinent topics such as self awareness, inter and intrapersonal skills, stress management, amongst others. We have also had a lot of discussion this year about the need to distinguish between

different emotions such as depression, sadness, bitterness, envy, frustration and many others. We have also watched TED talks on Stress, by Kelly McGonigal and Introversion, by Susan Cain, both of which have led to much discussion. I would like to thank all the Grade Eleven girls who, in the midst of such a busy year, arrive faithfully each week. I would also like to thank my two colleagues, Michelle van Schalkwyk and Jenny Wesson, for their meaningful input to our sessions. **BY ALISON BODENSTEIN**





# STEPOUT

BY MRS SANDY RULE

**A**fter much planning by Sandy Rule and the Stepout team, and much anticipation by all the Grade 10s, we embarked on Stepout 2016. The girls were divided into three groups and each group did a 2-day, 28km hike from Genadendal through Greyton to Die Gaig, a hiker's hut near McGregor. From there the groups set off on a 2-day, 80km cycle, up and down farm roads, to the Breede River. They overnighted in railway coaches near Robertson. The final leg of the Stepout involved a 2-day canoe down the river. The girls all enjoyed the experience, although some were challenged more than others. It was a privilege to experience this outdoor activity with the Grade 10s. Each group was accompanied by three Herschel staff members and professional guides. The base camps of Greyton and McGregor were manned by Herschel staff too.

On their return the girls wrote a reflection on Stepout and, by all accounts, had an amazing experience. Some delightful extracts are quoted below.

"I was so excited for the new experiences, like sleeping outside on a yoga mat, but at the same time, the fear

of getting my toes nibbled by a hungry cow, which may have escaped from some nearby farm, ensured that most nights I didn't sleep. The amazing friendships I made and the bonds created, I will always be thankful for. Everyone was so supportive all the time; through tears, laughter, hunger, sleepless nights etc. Every second was special, and I will never forget it. Would I do it again? Probably not, but I can't say I didn't love it." *Allegra Simoni*

"Luckily, it did not rain last night, but the mosquitoes were a problem. They wouldn't stop buzzing in my ear at 02h00 when I was trying to sleep. I woke up with massive itchy bites on my face. But it's our first day of canoeing today and not even the mosquitoes can ruin my excitement. We had bacon and toast for breakfast - my favourite. This was a good start to the day. In about 30 minutes we will be on the river ready to canoe. Let's hope my arms don't fall off. This is going to be so much fun." *Abbi Lorenz*

"I've been reflecting on Stepout since we returned and I'm still surprised at how quickly it passed. I honestly thought it would last longer. I've also come to the conclusion that, although I loved the fact

that I had so many of my close friends with me, maybe I would have appreciated it more if I had been forced to spend more time with some different people. I was still very much in my comfort zone in that regard. However, saying that, I still think that the experience strengthened the friendships between my friends and me, and I did still make new friends. On another note, I think my biggest accomplishment was the cycling, especially when I cycled up a two kilometre hill without stopping. I never thought I would be able to do that - mentally and physically!" *Mia Manthorp*

"I have finished day one of Stepout! I am so happy right now! The place that we are staying at looks like a block of flats. My dorm have already settled in and we have gathered our sweet treats. Our hike today was hard. The sun shone brightly and the hills were high. I am, however, very glad and relieved that I managed to complete everything. I was surprised at how hot it got, especially considering how cold it was this morning. I am very proud of myself and hope I cope the next five days with these physical challenges, including being away from my phone." *Nabila Moolle*





SUPER ROOKIES OF 2016

# CARTER

BY DANELLE PLAATJIES, HEAD OF HOUSE

It has been an incredible year for our house and the journey we took this year definitely assured us of our place in the Herschel Family. As the still relatively new kids in the family, the journey we took this year made us a force to be reckoned with. Through laughter, teamwork, tears, hard work and talent we were able to create the 2016 Carter Story, one we could look back on longingly and proudly.

We started off the house year with incredible memories made at house braais. Following the welcoming of our Grade 8 girls joining the family, the house engaged in various group activities including a 99-man game of 'Stuck in the Mud'. The afternoon was absolutely lovely with smiles all around and delicious homemade braai-kos.

After house braais it was time for the always exciting Interhouse Swimming Gala where we cheered to the top of our lungs while covered in blue paint and glitter. Our swimmer-sisters did us proud with the Abrahams-sisters never failing

to disappoint. Still being the new kids on the block, this house event set the tune for what was to come later in the year: a sense of sisterhood that would lead to the establishment of our 'Super rookies' title.

During the tiresome rehearsals in preparation for Interhouse Singing we were able to power through it all with a "Tea and Biscuits" session, my awfully dry jokes and house spirit. We were able to tackle all the harmonies and even a key change! We also grew closer as a house and genuinely enjoyed working together. On the night, we shone brightly on stage, like the fully charged flashlights we were and could walk away from the stage being proud of what we had shown everyone.

The final house event was the House Plays. The Grade 11 drama girls displayed their superb creative skills and took home the gold. Their victory, however, was not the achievement that made me proud as House Captain but rather the genuine respect, house pride, work ethic and sense

of teamwork amongst all the girls that was so evident. Not only did all the girls, backstage and onstage, showcase their talents, but they also touched on important topics that concern our society today. In their production, the girls spoke about pressing racial issues in schools today with compassion and sensitivity, and really captivated the audience with the sincerity evident in all of the characters and just the right amount of humour. I could see the sense of pride in the girls when they spoke about what they had created on stage and nothing warmed my heart more than that.

A special 'shoutout' goes to all the girls and teachers in our Carter family who were always willing to help, give advice, cheer to the top of their lungs and wear their blue carter-shirts with pride. You are all so special, talented, beautiful and bold! I hope that this year has been as special to you as it has to me and that you can consider Carter not just as a house but as a home to you all. ■





# JAGGER

BY KHANYA GUBANGXA, HEAD OF HOUSE

**W**ow, what a year of Jagger domination 2016 has been! Jam-packed with various interhouse activities to get every single Jagger hippo involved, it has made me the proudest Hippo Mamma that ever lived.

The year opened with the "Grade 8 Welcome" during which Taliya Rubin and I could meet the so-called trembling littlies, but boy did they prove us wrong. It was an afternoon spent with laughs, a lot of chocolate and one-minute games and by the time the sky had darkened, we were exchanging cheers to shake up the surrounding houses. Their enthusiasm and sheer excitement about being a part of the family solidified that Jagger had been the perfect fit and in those hours I knew we were going to achieve greatness once more.

The annual house braais brought the whole herd together with the promise of food, green-coloured treats and the bellowing of the Jagger pledge. This allowed us to warmly welcome the Grade 8s to the rest of the house, properly initiate them (minus the use of a pool) and learn as many cheers to frighten the neighbours. In the February evening we got our green blood nice and warm with an obstacle course on the tennis court and finished the evening with our arms linked, reciting

the Jagger Pledge, ready for the upcoming gala.

While it is common knowledge that the gala is more for us to showcase our house spirit than to attain awards in the swimming events, like our spirit animal, we like to leisurely swim about. That is not to say that we did not swim our hearts out; instead we cheered for every swimmer in her green cap and that is what makes us a family, joined together in love and support for one another.

The second term kicked off with our feet running with the impending exams, eisteddfod and the much anticipated, interhouse singing. Now what we may lack in sporting abilities, we make up for tenfold in culture. I have never been so proud in my life as the day of the eisteddfod as I roamed the school and found so many sisters in green, exhibiting their excellence, whether it be dancing on the stage or tickling the ivory in the Mary Jagger. Never in my high school career had I seen so many Grade 8s involved in the festivities and I would like to thank them for their commitment and talent which aided in Jagger winning the eisteddfod, once again.

This brought us to the interhouse singing and its preparations. I can honestly say that the prospect of teaching an entire house two songs and standing

before them to conduct had scared me a little. The rehearsals after the June exams brought the house together, once again, and it was in that time that I was reminded of how special this family was. My music committees were beyond this earth, helping me every step of the way and the girls who cooperated everyday allowed us to bring back a golden oldie, Africa. Together we stole hearts with the ensemble and made it rain in the Sport Centre, making us the reigning champions of interhouse singing.

Finally, came the interhouse plays that, for the first time in my high school career, I had the privilege of enjoying as an audience member. Being a drama student myself, I could not have been prouder of the Grade 11 girls and what they produced. I laughed until my sides were sore and squeezed the hand of my fellow Jagger matric. There I saw something spectacular: a mixture of girls with one common goal: to represent their house in the best way possible - so much so that I ordered my own copy of Mein Kampf.

Calling the last five years as a Jagger girl an honour would be an understatement. It sounds clichéd, but being able to say that I am one of the herd makes my chest warm and not just because of our successes, but because of the amazing family of women that we are. I have made the best of friends within my house and have shared the true abilities of a good hug accompanied with a green Fizzer. Shay'zandla, I've got that spirit and no one can ever take that away from me. ■





# MERRIMAN

BY RUFARO NDHLUNI, HEAD OF HOUSE

From the outset we, as Merriman captains, decided not to focus on winning but instead hone in on enhancing Merriman's true fiery team-spirit.

Our mission commenced at Interhouse Braais where the Grade 8s were welcomed, and after some mild physical activity, earned their place in the Merriman family. Every grade was then treated to tasty food and drinks as well as groovy music. We concluded the night with some exuberant cheers and celebrated as the matrics received their custom-made Merriman crewnecks.

Our success story began unexpectedly early at the Interhouse Swimming Gala where Merriman managed to walk away with BOTH cups in hand. We were exceptionally honoured to accept the trophies on behalf of our talented swimmers and the zesty Merriman girls who revealed their camaraderie. Our victorious streak was unfortunately short-lived. However, we persisted in maintaining our blazing spirit and were often complimented on our aesthetic pizzazz.

Interhouse singing followed and proved challenging but delightful. The intense singing practices and the band's tremendous efforts proved worthwhile as Merriman were said to have performed the best Chosen Song. I'm sure even Michael Jackson himself would have appreciated the performance!

Our year ended with Interhouse plays

and I think everyone can agree that they just keep getting better and better each year. This year, we were amazed as we watched every Merriman girl, being the lead or an extra, really get into her character. Events like these are constant reminders of how talented our Merriman girls are. A big well done to Carter for winning their first ever Interhouse plays: you ladies deserved it!

We would like to say a huge well done to the other Heads of House, Josie, Khanya and Danelle. The four of us worked together almost all the day, even in events that were supposed to be super competitive like Interhouse singing. I think we can all agree that we would not have made it through the year without each other's advice and constant support.

Our biggest thank you goes to Mrs Hughes, our house mother, who was always there when we needed advice about anything and everything, be it early in the morning or late at night. Thank you Mrs Hughes for all your help and support. We really appreciated it.

Overall, this year has been memorable and, as house captains we are truly thankful for each Merrimanite's input in making this year a phenomenal one. We wish the future heads of Merriman all the best as they continue to keep the Merriman house gees going! To each Merrimanite: keep your fiery spirit up and good luck for the upcoming years! ■







# ROLT

BY JOSIE JOUBERT, HEAD OF HOUSE

**B**eing Head of Rolt was an unforgettable experience. I loved working with people who were so passionate. I will never forget the hours of screaming, stressing, eating and laughing that the Rolties experienced together this year. Each and every one of them gave 110% every minute of every day and inspired me to do the same. It was such an honour to lead you, Rolties. Upon reflection, I am not sure how we fitted everything in...

We ended off last year in 2015 with a day filled with karaoke and sports, otherwise known as Spunday. Although all the girls were tired from exams and were more excited about going on holiday than coming to school, we soon managed to get them onto their feet. Together we clapped our hands and sang our hearts out to Avril Lavigne, albeit quite off key. With each grade competing against each other, the houses all competing against each other and the house captains and deputies all releasing their inner rock stars, the theatre was quickly filled with laughter, enthusiasm and spirit. After a short break to restore their voices, it was "Sports day" time. The sports centre was soon filled with screams, cheers and spirit as each house supported their sisters. The sports centre was also filled with lots of laughter as girls tried to eat donuts off string and had a wheeling chair relay race. Needless to say, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all the girls, all of whom went home with no voices.

After a long and well deserved December holiday, Term 1 of 2016 started. Naturally this could only mean one thing: house gala. But before we could begin anything, we first needed to meet our new Roltie Grade 8s. Clem and I spent an evening with all the new Rolties and spent time discussing

their worries about high school, their experiences so far, getting to know them, teaching them our cheers and being taught some new cheers in return. The very next weekend we introduced our new Rolties to the rest of that house at house braais. On passing initiation and becoming official Rolties, the house tucked into the food, signed up for swimming events and was ready to take on the gala, head first.

I have never heard girls scream so hard or passionately in my life. The gala was a huge success and each and every Roltie there gave 110%. Many girls went home without voices. Together we cheered and encouraged our fellow Rolties on, screaming and clapping from the very first race to the very last swimmer. Naturally our swimmers swam amazingly and won countless races and even won some trophies. I especially want to thank my matrics for their tireless efforts, painting faces and arms and helping us cheer when we no longer had voices. I was so proud of my Rolties for all their spirit and support for their fellow sisters.

Having screamed their lungs out, the girls needed some time to recover. But before we knew it, it was eisteddfod time. Almost every girl signed up for at least one event and it was so amazing to watch them show off their talents, whether it be in singing, dancing, acting, music, drama, art, public speaking or writing. The Rolt girls seemed to have every aspect covered and perfected. I was also so amazed at the outstanding hidden talents that some girls had, such as rapping or rhythmic gymnastics. The Rolties once again performed their best and took away many people's breath in sheer awe.

Although the term was coming to an end, the preparations for inter-house singing had just begun. This year Clem and I really tried to choose a song that everyone would know and would remind the girls of road trips, the "old days" and better times. We finally settled on "Come

on Eileen' by Dexy's Midnight Runners. The girls loved this choice and knew the words in no time. During the day you could often hear girls singing the chorus on the way to classes. It was actually so catchy that some of the girls in other houses began to sing it as well. The girls loved singing to a song that they could dance and move to without having to force anything. Our set song this year was "Flashlight" by Jessie J. It was quite a difficult song at first, using a 4 part harmony instead of the usual 2 part. However, through determination, hard work and sisterhood we managed to pull it off perfectly, actually winning the category on the night. And on top of all this, our ensemble piece was incredible. It was a 'mashup' of three different songs that were often being sung at the same time. But our girls were highly intelligent and quickly caught on. It sounded so incredible, with superb diction and vocal dynamics, which were mentioned by the judges. I was so proud of all the girls and the long hours that they put in and all the extra effort all the Rolties went to, to make an absolutely unforgettable night. I would like to thank my team of music helpers as well, because without them we would have been completely lost. I could not have done it without them.

Lastly, but certainly not least, while the matrics were all preparing for exams, the rest of the Rolties were dedicating themselves to House Plays. The Grade 11s did an excellent job in producing the house plays. Our play was so polished, relevant and cleverly scripted and directed. It certainly looked as if they had been rehearsing for a year.

But this year could not have been possible without a few people. So firstly to my matrics: from Grade 8s to girl power to 'garments' we made it. Thank you so much for your support this year. I could not have asked to be in a better year of Rolties. Secondly, to Mrs Oelofse: you were the best house mother that I ever could have asked for. You always supported me when I was in doubt, you gave me crucial advice and you calmed me down when I needed it. I don't think that I could ever thank you enough. And lastly, to Clem: at the beginning of this all I didn't think that it was possible. But you have supported me throughout. You have cheered when I lost my voice. You stayed optimistic when I thought everything would go wrong. You always managed to stay realistic when I had some crazy idea. I honestly would never have been able to achieve anything without you. Your blood is truly golden. ■





*Senior girls*





# PRIZE-GIVING ADDRESS

BY HEAD GIRL, EMMA LESLIE

**T**his year, Herschel has dealt with many difficult situations as controversial issues have risen to the surface. Because of this, our school has come back stronger, more knowledgeable and more open. We as students are enormously privileged to be in an environment such as this; one that encourages discussion and deliberation and where our student voices are heard and have an impact. We are more mature and more aware as a result of this and we know that the Herschel bubble is not the be all and end all. In the midst of tackling these issues Herschel girls have continued to produce the high standard of work that epitomises our school. Debates around societal and school issues and open class discussions have broadened our minds and opened up new avenues of thinking – all resulting in a positive impact on our school work.

Although tonight's focus is on Herschel's academic achievements and the consistently excellent standard of education that our school provides, Herschel is by no means one dimensional. Herschel prides itself on creating highly capable, well-rounded young women who excel not only academically, but in numerous disciplines.

On the sports front, 2016 has once again been a significantly successful year. And no, I'm not talking about those two weeks in August when, thanks to the Olympics, we all became expert gymnast critics and could "definitely do a better swan dive than that". Herschel has won eight out of the 12 PGSGU Interscholar competitions, including the cross country for the 17th year in a row and dominated the Herschel/Springfield derby this year. Along

with the sporting success came the loyal hours of cheering and constant motivation from the Spirit Committee. Without those inspiring shouts of encouragement and half-time pep talks our Herschel teams wouldn't do nearly as well.

Culturally, I also have to mention a few notable highlights. We began the year with the deeply moving, albeit controversial, school play, "My Mother said I never should", by Charlotte Kestley, which showcased our very talented drama students. Another commendable cultural

## OUT OF THE CHAOS THAT HAS CATEGORISED THIS YEAR, **STRONG WOMEN** HAVE EMERGED

feat was the selection of Uliana Alekseev, Jessica Scott and Amber de Decker to the National Youth Orchestra and we are so proud of them for this accomplishment. Lastly, I have to mention the Matric Art exhibition, which was up in the Mary Jagger Hall and elicited high praise.

Globally, we have seen many major events and changes taking place. Out of the chaos that has categorised this year, strong women have emerged and tonight I want to touch on these powerful female figures as I feel we have a lot to learn from them all.

- In mid-January, Taiwan elected its first female president, Tsai Ing-wen.
- Two of the Nigerian schoolgirls abducted by Boko Haram, more than two years ago, were found in May.
- In June, Virginia Raggi was elected

as Rome's first female mayor. She won the vote with a sweeping victory against her political opponent.

- As of July, Theresa May is the new prime minister of Britain.
- Pope Francis canonised Mother Teresa, officially making her Saint Teresa, in September. An Indian woman, from the region where Mother Teresa lived, commented: "We are proud of her, all of India is proud. She may no longer be there, but we still feel her spirit around us."

These are by no means the only women that have made a global impact this year but they serve to represent the steadily transforming nature of women's progress in society. From schoolgirls to saints, role models such as these play a meaningful part – especially in the lives of young women. Although tonight we honour those girls who have succeeded in the academic field, every single one of you deserves to be recognised for your talents and exceptional abilities. You have made Herschel and hopefully yourselves proud.

When your school days have ended, like they are about to for the Matrics, remember the words of the Indian woman: "She may no longer be there, but we still feel her spirit around us". Promise yourselves that you will keep working hard, that you will remain dedicated so that you go on to do great things like the strong women who came before you and pave the way for women who come after you so that they, too, may have the chance to thrive as capable, driven and resilient members of a progressive and accepting modern society. ■

**AD DEI GLORIAM**





# VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

BY MISS DENISE BAWS

There are so many clichés that can be spoken of in such a speech “Carpe Diem, Seize the Day; You can be anything you want to be; Be the change you want to make”. Whilst there is truth to these clichés, I do not want to send you out with the belief that the world will not challenge you in many different ways.

We tend to think of feminism as a modern concept but there is a historical bulwark supporting you as you move to the next phase of life. An 1841 poem of the New Hampton literary society proclaimed:

**Be WOMAN: not a simple, simpering toy/made up of nothing.**

**Be WOMAN: in all aims, and ranks, and stations.**

**NOT a fantastic medley of flirtations.**

I cannot think of one Grade 12 here who is “simpering” or made up of nothing. You will feel indignation being described as a “toy” because you are independent and strong-minded women. Even in 1841 women were told to be “something”; to give up a set of values described as material, childish and superficial and instead to cultivate their minds. Philanthropist, Matthew Vassar, who founded a higher educational institute for women, stated: “It occurred to me that woman having received from her creator the same intellectual constitution as a man, has the same right as man to intellectual culture or development”.

Even as late as 1922 Herschel’s first Head, Miss Ralph, did not feel the need to educate women for careers, but rather

wives and mothers. When a Mrs Spilhaus, enrolled her daughter, hoping that the headmistress would be a graduate, Miss Ralph told her this was unnecessary as “our girls won’t have to work for their living”. “Mine will,” said Mrs Spilhaus. “They will have careers”.

I remember my first contact with the Grade 8 class of 2012, they were waiting in silence: no doubt, my reputation had preceded me. The art of being quiet is not a description that comes to mind when describing them. As I began to speak, I noticed on their faces expressions of anxiety, expectation, eagerness and, on some, excitement. I am certain all of them over five years have experienced moments of anxiety and pressure (waiting for examinations, marks to be announced, orals to be delivered and so on). All of them will remember the times when they looked forward to some Herschel event, be it the Grade 8 camp, the Grade 10 Dance or the Matric Dance. I would also like to think that all of you at some stage in your high school career entered a subject classroom with excitement and expectation, if only once, but hopefully more. Otherwise we have failed you.

One of the questions you need to ask yourselves as you leave is this: “Has my school provided me with the tools and passion to create and fulfil the vision that Matthew Vassar, Mrs Spilhaus and many others had and still do have for the education of women”? Hopefully you can answer that question by acknowledging

the sound characteristics and values which you have gained through your involvement in your time at Herschel. Values such as self-discipline; the ability to question, to think, to be honest, independent, confident yet caring. This Grade has demonstrated a very strong sense of fair play and justice for all, characteristics essential to take into an unsettled world, so we know you will stand up for what is right, good and pure.

The Community Service programme, together with Enrichment, has undoubtedly made you aware of a world beyond your sheltered school life, and has awakened your responsibilities to the disadvantaged. The Eucharist and Praise Services have provided you with spiritual guidance and strength, even if for some, the certainty of God is not there. The ability afforded you in debating religious issues, can only strengthen a thinking mind and fill the soul.

As one leaves, there are invariably a variety of feelings: sadness at leaving familiar faces, of saying goodbye to friends; feelings of escaping from routine and hard work; scared feelings at the thought of an unknown future but also excitement in anticipation of new experiences. All will be relieved at not having to follow Herschel’s Code of Conduct, not having to worry about whether to wear blue or fawn socks. There will, however, be other codes of conduct which you will have to follow, consciously or unconsciously as you journey through life. Remember too that you will never stop learning as long as you live.

I turn to William Shakespeare, who, in *Hamlet*, has a father, Polonius giving his son, Laertes, advice before leaving home for the first time. He cautions:

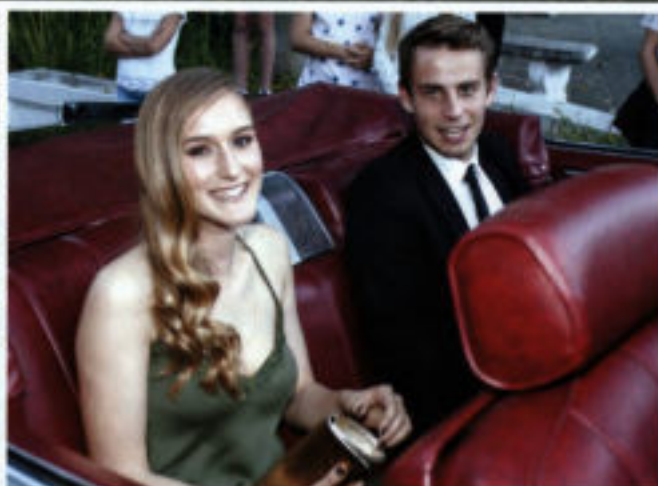
“... Give thy thoughts no tongue...  
Be thou familiar but by no means vulgar...  
Beware of entrance to a quarrel...  
Give every man thy ear but few thy voice...  
Take each man’s censure but reserve thy judgement...

Neither a borrower nor a lender be...  
This above all: to thine own self be true  
and it must follow as the night the day.  
Thou canst not then be false to any man’  
(or any woman).

When John Proctor from *The Crucible* uttered the words, “It is my name” he understood what it meant to be true to oneself, to keep his integrity when many around him were being false to their true selves. I pray that wherever you go or whatever you do, you will be true to yourself.

**AD DEI GLORIAM ■**











## MATRIC



### GRADE 12 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** A Abrahams, Mrs N Barendse, C Biebuyck, Mr C Karstens, J Adams, Mrs S Macfarlane, S Gamiet

**SECOND ROW:** E Da Costa, L Garbers, A Glaum, A de Villiers, N Brooks, T Buis, F Farista, R Banderker

**THIRD ROW:** M Caldis, N du Plessis, M Cunningham, A Bird, O Burton, U Alekseev, J Garbers

**BACK ROW:** A Dlova, G Bensch, C Charles, D Blignaut, A Bieich, M Gessler, P Allen, N Giesemann



### GRADE 12 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** A Malindi, Mrs S MacArthur, J Gleeson, Mr C Karstens, N Haller, Mrs H Oelofse, E Leslie

**SECOND ROW:** K Gubangxa, S Malherbe, C Laudien, J Macleod Smith, C Golding, E Lesbirel, B Gray

**THIRD ROW:** N Hardenberg, E Hodgson, C Madella, E Hampton, S Malandrinos, A Ismail, A Lorenz

**BACK ROW:** J Joubert, A Malindi, L Graham, S Lumb, A Haggiyannes, T Harris, S Kahn, T Kerbelker





#### GRADE 12 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** M Planting, Mrs S Gordon, R Ritchie-Roux, Mr C Karstens, H Oelz, Ms H de Bruijn, N Mayman  
**SECOND ROW:** A Ngwendu, Z Razzak, K Pettit, A Russell, K Schwarz, I Marine, S Meezraci **THIRD ROW:** J Marr, P Ngalonkulu, T Revell, V Sharples, J O'Brien, E Rowand, R Nduni **BACK ROW:** M Silver, H Preen, J Scott, A Parks, T Rubin, A Miszewski, G Pera, D Plaatjes



#### GRADE 12 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** V Snyders, E Wilmans, Mr C Karstens, A Tapanlis, Ms W Walter, L Weimann, J von Bulow  
**SECOND ROW:** B Snider, I Ventura, G van Heerden **BACK ROW:** J Wright, O Wallace, D Turnbull, G Topat, T Sulaiman, D Swales, S Wild



## GRADE 11



### GRADE 11 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** A Chigwida, Mrs N Hughes, K Badroodien, Mrs A Bodenstein, Q Bhawoodien, Mrs A Rossouw, N Bonadei **SECOND ROW:** A Cassim, N Calana, S Ahmed-Arai, T Croza, T Dayaram, N Alley, K Abbas, T Abdullah **THIRD ROW:** R Bateman, C Barnard, M Chesterton, J Barends, R Booth, M Aberts, A Cuninghame, L Bavuma **BACK ROW:** J Blanckensee, G Briel, J Brand, N Alberts, C Blignaut, H Baba, I Cooper, A Bayly



### GRADE 11 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** S Hendricks, Mrs S de Villiers, T Esack, Mrs A Bodenstein, A Hendricks, Ms K Burden, N Holtman **SECOND ROW:** M Gerrits, Y Dollie, M Fisher, S Kirk, L Jacobs, Z Khan, I Jarre **THIRD ROW:** V Holding, C Diemont, H Judge, M Dower, K Els, A Hendricks, C Ferreira **BACK ROW:** P Inglis, A Ebrahim, S Henderson, K Fabing, S de Wet, C Kacedan, A King, S Franco





#### GRADE 11 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** D Lee, Ms S Scarola, S Naidoo, Mrs A Bodenstein, A Scott, Mrs C Sharp, N Lin

**SECOND ROW:** S Kuphe, N Mponda, R Norsworthy, S King, N Louw, L Mali, C Robertson, A Aviles, R Mollea, S Odendal **THIRD ROW:** A-J Riley, P Makgoba, L Sebesteny, B Postings, J Rey, M Meyer, A Midgley, K Orton, A Pepler **BACK ROW:** A-L Pithey, C Koen, B Pera, O Lowe, R Searle, G Mitchell, L Salie, M Meyer



#### GRADE 11 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** A Souchon, K v Schalkwyk, Ms D Main, A Wilson, Mrs A Bodenstein, J Wilensky, E Wilkinson

**SECOND ROW:** A Sidiyo, A Sherrell, A Su, C Smith **BACK ROW:** C Spokes, C van Collier, E Turnbull, L von Alvensleben, C v d Burgh, C Voegt, M Viljoen





# Grade 11

BY JOSEPHINE REY

## MANY GIRLS FOUND THEMSELVES AT THE FOREFRONT OF EXCITING SERVICE INITIATIVES

**THE** Grade 11 experience is characterised by many things: an even deeper-rooted love of sleep, bountiful 30 Second challenges and, above all, the joy that comes with (almost) finding one's self at the top of the high school ladder.

The sunny January morning arrived, along with a grade of girls as enthusiastic as possible for a year that generations of older grades had spent much time deeming the most difficult of all. Indeed, Term One lived up to this expectation. Everyone was soon catapulted into a whirlpool of new deadlines, coursework and the responsibilities of being a senior.

While the strenuous academic programme pressed on, many girls found themselves at the forefront of exciting service initiatives and other extramural activities. Groups of girls thrived on the forum stage while others showed unparalleled athleticism as they competed at provincial and even national levels for their sports. Our singers, musicians,

dancers and actresses excelled on the stage and in the practice rooms. Many triple-threats emerged, particularly in *All Shook Up*, the Bishops production, and *My Mother Said I Never Should*.

April beamed with the promise of the Matric Dance: an opportunity to admire the long-awaited proceedings and, as a special privilege of our year, deliver food and drinks to Matrics at their tables. It was really wonderful to share in this celebration of the Class of 2016.

The term soon ended, marking the beginnings of a new challenge for a few adventurous girls. Having travelled to the heart of Umfolozi Game Reserve in KwaZulu-Natal, forming connections with nature was the order of the day for the group. Time was forgotten, and a day's normal structure merged with nature's rhythm. Ultimately, everyone safely returned to civilisation with many photographs and fascinating stories.

Although both expected and anticipated, the mid-year examinations still proved stressful. During the session, corridors filled with study files that,





with the completion of another subject, mysteriously disappeared. When the final sentence was scrawled and paper handed in, we left the venues with an ecstasy of relief as obvious as the contents of our pencil cases.

Term Three brought the shocking recognition that only one year in the secondary education system remains. This thought's truth only strengthened as the term progressed, with the biggest realisation of our grade's seniority being made with the arrival of House Plays.

Written, produced and directed by the Grade 11s, this year's House Plays followed the theme of 'Rebel with a Cause'. The result was four stunning and meaningful productions that entertained the school community while creating awareness of important causes in our own context.

Indeed, the social conscience of this grade is something to be admired. Herschel's first Social Justice Club was founded this year by girls in this grade. Since this, hugely important discussions about relevant issues such as race, sexuality and feminism have been introduced.

These concepts have become even more essential for people to understand and empathise with, especially in the wake of our nation's current climate.

Together, we have stood for the girls of Pretoria Girls High School and San Souci in their pursuit of justice. We have created meaningful conversation about significant issues relating to our lives, South Africa and the world as a whole. Above all, we have supported each other in the face of our own challenges and tragedies this year.

Therefore, the theme of our Enrichment



Week was rendered more relevant. The week of incredible speakers not only widened our perspectives, but also provided huge insight into how one can develop one's identity as a woman in the South African Context.

It would be impossible to report back on 2016 without mentioning two women who made it even more special: Mrs Bodenstein and Phi Allen. Phi's help, advice, kindness and encouragement as the Grade 11 Prefect was instrumental in making this year even more transformative.

As our Grade Head, Mrs Bodenstein has also been an invaluable support throughout the year. Her guidance, encouragement, empathy and kindness will always be remembered and appreciated. Her involvement in planning Enrichment Week, alongside Mrs Carol Alpert, was hugely valued and found semblance in the growth this contribution created in the minds and hearts of the grade.

The camp proved a catalyst for not

only personal development, but also an enlarged sense of enthusiasm for 2017. These attitudes were beautifully summarised on the evening of the 'Not the Herschel Eisteddfod' through the enthusiastic dancing, singing and teacher lice checks, which had girls in stitches. One of the performances, a rap with a beat created with a bottle, a stick and mouth-made sound effects, presented this phrase, which has become a mantra for our year:

*"We're lit, we're fresh, we're ready to serve."*

Yes, 2016 may have been the year of Frank Ocean's new album release, Pokémon Go and a possible Trump presidency, but it was so much more. 2016 was the year that Grade 11 unified and aligned towards the anticipation of a truly successful and exciting Matric year. These words only reflect our excitement and dedication to making our final year one to remember. ■



## GRADE 10



### GRADE 10 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** K Brookes, Mrs C Lacerda, J Cooper, Mr B Sopam, J Bennie, Miss K Alzupitis, A Adams  
**SECOND ROW:** S Ahmed, H Comitis, J Bleekers, M Collings, A de Decker, C Brooks, G de Sousa, N Ebrahim  
**THIRD ROW:** C Dawes, G Earl, A Affleck, A Collins, L Blyth, C Borain, S Dyason **BACK ROW:** K da Luz, J Austin, H Dennis, Z Booth, S Ebrahim, G Alpert, N Ebrahim, S Ebell



### GRADE 10 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** S Jenkins, Mrs B Lureman, Z Khan, Mr B Sopam, M Khan, B Merkel, M Kalassa  
**SECOND ROW:** K Hofmeyr, D Hollingum, N Elliott, N Hickman, E Johnston, B Johnson, A Hodgkinson  
**THIRD ROW:** A Faure, E Jafta, E Ford, A Green, J Joubert, F Harris, I Khaki **BACK ROW:** I Hardie, G Edwards, H Fleming, S Erasmus, A Goff, C Glenn-Dicks, S Ingram, T Hatherill





#### GRADE 10 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** A Mngxekeza, Mrs N Karstens, N Moolia, Mr B Sopam, N Mohamed, Mrs T Thomson, N Mandindi  
**SECOND ROW:** D Moore, A Malik, A Lorenz, C Oaker, O Proudfoot, K Noordien, I Kuttel  
**THIRD ROW:** S Petousis, E Low, A Piotrowski, I Michau, E Munro, B Moxley, S Oschmann  
**BACK ROW:** C Melville, K Meyer, T Lillie, C Louw, M Manthorp, L Mulaudzi, L Moolia, J Lanfear



#### GRADE 10 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** A Roshan, Mrs S Rule, Z Zalganik, Mr B Sopam, Z van der Vent, Ms N Jordan, A Saban  
**SECOND ROW:** A Welham, C Tennis, C Zimmermann, S Ruiters, C Schippers, K Steyn, Z Zoutenberg  
**THIRD ROW:** K Rice, N Skinner, E Roos, I Sutherland, C Wigston, J Wickens, A Thompson  
**BACK ROW:** H Schuhbauer, J Shé, S Truswell, J Wright, M Verspieren, S Rabie, A Simoni, E Richardson





# Grade 10

BY VERUSHKA SNYDERS, GRADE 10 PREFECT





The average Herschel past pupil, matric or Grade 11 will answer the question, "which year would you describe as your best year?", with the simple answer - Grade 10. The year demands that they girls take on new challenges and experiences such as their subject choices, rigorous and uniting StepOut journey, Enrichment week, the Dads' and Daughters' Dinner, Exchange and many more.

Term 1 ends on the six-day physical challenge that is StepOut. The annual programme, which is at first met with hesitation but later nostalgia, involves rowing, cycling and hiking through Greyton and surrounding areas. StepOut reaches beyond its physical aspects as it encourages girls to persevere through adversity together. In doing so laughs and memories are shared between girls who previously would not have considered themselves to be "friends."

Another loved highlight of the year, is the Grade 10 Enrichment week. The theme "Change of Heart" allows the girls to gain new perspectives and insight on each other, their communities and the experiences of individuals who face less fortunate circumstances. Empathy, compassion and respect are some of the few qualities congruent with the week of community service outings - such as visits to the soup kitchen, and homes for children and the elderly.

The Dads' and Daughters' Dinner, in the third term, is an opportunity for the grade to celebrate their fathers and special people who have shaped who they are through guidance and support over the years. The quirky "Hats & Heels" themed night was enjoyed with the performances of a few girls and fun-filled dancing.

The adventurous exchange opportunities offered to the Grade 10s is always a favourite amongst those fortunate enough to travel to countries all around the world. After becoming tourists themselves as they travelled around Cape Town with their exchange partners, they are then able to experience and appreciate foreign cultures, languages and surroundings.

Being the grade prefect of a grade who I have come to know to be strong, resilient and compassionate has been a privilege. Their enthusiasm and the immense unity amongst the grade has made my job so much more enjoyable and rewarding. I wish them nothing but the best as they conquer their high school career at Herschel. Thank you Grade 10s of 2016. ■



*Grade 10 has been such an amazing year with so many highlights. We started out the year with our Grade 10 dance which was great fun and really brought our grade together. Then it was StepOut which was a tough, but extremely rewarding, six days where we all pushed ourselves to our limit while learning extremely important life lessons of persistence and teamwork. One of the best parts of this (for me) was the self-reflection we did in the mountains, between Greyton and McGregor, when we walked in absolute silence.*

*Another great highlight was all the cheerful, international exchange students who arrived with big smiles to a new school and new country. It was fascinating to get to know some of these girls and find out about their different cultures, countries and traditions.*

*Enrichment week was also a truly enriching experience: from a diversity talk with girls and boys from other schools in Cape Town, to talks about kindness and perception. A personal highlight was going to Red Cross Children's hospital and playing with a young girl there and when I left she made me promise that I would come back, which I do hope to do soon.*

*Although we have gone through some hard times this year, with heart-rending losses and unpredictable situations, we got through these together and I can, with no doubt, say that we have one of the closest and most loving grades in the school.*

**EMMA FORD**

*The most memorable event of 2016 for me was enrichment week. The speaker who introduced us to the current issues in South Africa was especially powerful. Speaking to students from Claremont and Thandokhulu gave me an idea of what being South African really means, outside the Herschel bubble. It inspired me to*

*look at the situation with a change of heart and gave me hope, hope that our generation will make a difference.*

**ZIYAAN ZOUTENBERG**

*Grade 10 began as a year of exciting uncertainty that eventually progressed to the best year of my school career so far. StepOut has taught me how to push myself and motivate others, through treacherous and exhausting circumstances. It was a huge grade bonding through mountains, rivers and hills.*

**NAI'LAH EBRAHIM**

*StepOut was an incredible experience where I was able to grow as a person and bonded with others in my grade.*

**ZARA VAN DER VENT**

*The highlight has definitely been enrichment, because it was a huge learning experience and it really opened my eyes to so much.*

**SAVANNAH VIUFF**

*The best was choosing your subjects and the fact that classes become so much smaller when everyone leaves on exchange. StepOut allowed us to bond with different people, mostly because of shared aches and pains.*

**JESS AUSTIN**

*The best part was getting to choose my own subjects.*

**CAITLIN BROOKS**

*The highlight of my school career so far has been StepOut. It was a life-changing experience. It also brought me closer to people I never thought I would be friends with.*

**ABIGAIL GREEN**

*Wonderful. You can't use a single word to describe Grade 10. It was beyond any adjectives.*

**FAHIMA HARRIS**

*I loved the dance and the togetherness of our grade.*

**CANDICE BORAIN**

**KELSEY BROOKES**

*StepOut. Many new friendships were formed over the six days, as were fond memories and scars.*

**KAUTHAR NOORDIEN**



## GRADE 9



### GRADE 9 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** A Hendricks, Mrs K van der Merwe, R Dawson, Ms B Parker, S Andrews, Ms R Klassens, H Ismail

**SECOND ROW:** E Judge, A Goodwin, H Hennesy, R de Kock, M Gopal, E Hayes, T Geyer, C Julie

**THIRD ROW:** C Judge, C Ferreira, T Rose, A Benjamin, J Lander, C Hudson, C Ewan **BACK ROW:** G Bulmer, P Elliot, I McKay, L Maslin, L du Preez, A Charles, B Passmore, J Brown



### GRADE 9 ERICA

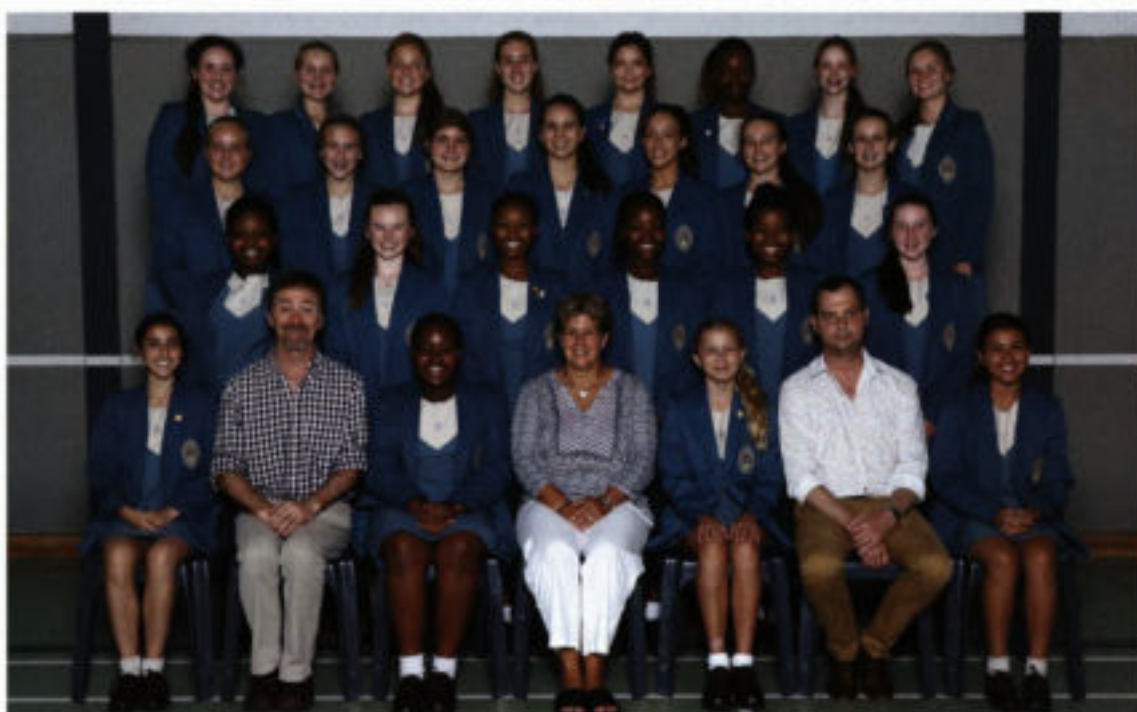
**FRONT ROW:** S Matthews, M Goolam Mahomed, Miss C Brown, O Strauss, Ms B Parker, A Cader, A Ebrahim

**SECOND ROW:** S Im, F Guy, S O'Shea, Z Erasmus, L Schiebusch, G Angeliniadis, K Wilkinson

**THIRD ROW:** O Masekela, L Ebell, G Bolligello, K Fisher, K Wood, M Darsot, B Murinda

**BACK ROW:** G Cotchobos, J Cunningham, A Palfaman, Z Desai, S Longworth, C Moyle, T Hutcheson, H Glanvill





#### GRADE 9 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** A Angeliniadis, Mr M Bräsler, A Mangxola, Ms B Parker, C Dicker, Mr J Gouws, T Hurling  
**SECOND ROW:** P Dube, C Dyer, A Matiso, A Mnyamana, M Williams, L Kingston **THIRD ROW:** K Wallace, I Wright, A Mason, C Joubert, M Stanley, S Hudson, S Lawrenson **BACK ROW:** G Koury, K Johnstone, A Grieve, J Neethling, G Gibbs, M Tshivhase, K Powell, K Levett **ABSENT:** J Beare, N Hablutzal



#### GRADE 9 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** K Vlok, Mrs H Marais, B Waner, Ms B Parker, J Tate, Miss H Basson, A Chagan  
**SECOND ROW:** T Tsinonis, M Stewart, T Pema, G Schmiedeke, D Schultz, L Plaatjes **THIRD ROW:** J Morris, S Williams, B Massey, G Michlo, A Falconer, B Pistorius, E Norton **BACK ROW:** V Robertson, D Prout-Jones, E Romano, C Vine, K Charles, C Slabber, I Pargiter, S Naidoo



# Grade 9

BY MS BRONWEN PARKER, GRADE HEAD





**G**rade 9 is always such an interesting year as our girls are no longer the 'new kids on the block' and they begin to flex their independence and uniqueness as a group. This year has been no exception. This talented, creative, sporty, driven and kind bunch of girls have made the most of the opportunities provided this year.

In the smaller tutor groups of approximately 14 girls, they have committed themselves to 'Making a Difference' this year. Each tutor group undertook to give of their time or expertise to make a difference to somebody, be it visiting a hospital or making play dough for children without toys.

Academically, culturally and on the sports field, the Grade 9s have made their presence felt. At the Herschfield hockey event, they were a vocal force to be reckoned with.

Nicky du Plessis, the Grade 12 Prefect in charge of the Grade 9s, has done a superb job of bonding the grade through various grade events. The successful movie evening and the Mad Hatter's tea party are among the highlights and innovations instituted by Nicky this year.

Underpinning the harmony and cohesiveness in the Grade this year, was the success of their Leadership Camp in the first term. The following reflection of the camp was written by Sarah Andrews, with the assistance of Courtney Julie:

Leaving behind the stress of our Science expos, the Grade 9s happily headed off to our camp at Gouda to spend the next three days away from school.

Finally, after two hours, we reached the campsite and were greeted by a stunning view and clear skies. We couldn't have been happier to spend our next few days there. We were then told to move into our dorms, which was quite a feat, as there were about 35 people per dorm, and several sets of Queen size luggage in each. The idea of being in a dorm with so many people seemed daunting at first, but we all ended up feeling more comfortable around more people.

At the crack of dawn, 104 sleepy-eyed girls were woken by the shrill whistle of the leaders. Both mornings, we set off on a morning run in order to earn our breakfast, which was very motivational, as it got us to wake up with a goal in mind, and as a plus, we got to see the sun rise over the rows of growing watermelons.

The activities that followed,



encouraged teamwork and helped to build leadership qualities in each person. The team leaders didn't make us do anything we really weren't comfortable with, but did encourage us to step out of our comfort zones to make us grow as better leaders. Other things the camp opened doors for were creativity and thinking outside the box. No matter how doubtful we were in ourselves, we all did very well, and the support and encouragement of our teams helped bring out the best skills of everyone.

The best part of the whole camp was building trust with people we didn't necessarily know very well before camp. That trust has never gone away: it has become a permanently implanted lesson for all of us, and we are each becoming

closer to each other every day. I've learnt that camps always have more than activities in store for us: we learn more about ourselves and about others than we thought we would. Camps always have opportunities for every single person to shine in, no matter how unusual their talents are. Everyone will come together with the talents they possess and make a really strong and interesting team.

A big thank you is needed for the leaders and the teachers who made the whole thing happen, and for supplying us with important leadership skills that we still continue to build on. Thanks to our Grade Head, Ms Parker, and the Grade 9 tutors for organising such a fun camp.

To the girls and the tutors, thank you for making this a magical year. ■



## GRADE 8



### GRADE 8 DISA

**FRONT ROW:** O Sopam, Mrs T Steyn, K Kotsi, Mrs T Harding, J Keeton, Mrs C Alpert, I Tsinonis

**SECOND ROW:** S Lee, A de Waal, Q Triegaardt, O Fernandes, V Van Zyl, J Dow, G Jacobs, O Scott

**THIRD ROW:** C Lillie, I Roberts, H Abrahams, E Willis, L Miszewski, A Von Willingh, O Davis, B Thorpe,

S Reddy-Mbewu **BACK ROW:** F Murphy, G Bromley, J Hickman, E Alberts, S Pitman, C Baker, L Johnson, O Doidge



### GRADE 8 ERICA

**FRONT ROW:** T Sebokedi, Mrs M Cassuto, G Perdakis, Mrs T Harding, J le Roux, Mrs J Wesson, S Govender

**SECOND ROW:** T Smith, S Koyana, J Venter, J Quinlan, N Lewis, Z Isaac, M Versfeld, S Zoutenberg

**THIRD ROW:** A Furlong, F Khan, S Turner-Orton, G Lanfear, T Rossouw, C Fleming, O Creswell-Turner

**BACK ROW:** E Theron, C Dornford-May, B Ingram, T Brown, R Meyer, A Walker, K Hallé, N Mehlomakulu





#### GRADE 8 ILEX

**FRONT ROW:** J Wilson, Mrs T Venter, R Ndhuni, Mrs T Harding, E Richardson, Miss M van Zyl, D Crabtree

**SECOND ROW:** N Bisset, C Netto, G Shellys, K Els, T Tinney, C Basnett, C Overmeyer, A Stirk, N Ebrahim

**THIRD ROW:** T Cresswell-Turner, S Sale, H Goneru, O Nel, O Lascaris, G Drabbe, J Davidson

**BACK ROW:** C Broadley, L Leach-Lewis, M Cadiz, K Rumbelow, S Stocken, L Nair, G Searson, A Mesham



#### GRADE 8 PROTEA

**FRONT ROW:** G Clark, Miss T Rousseau, A Waja, Mrs T Harding, J Kim, Miss J Cameron, L Weldon

**SECOND ROW:** V Cresswell-Turner, R Dix-Peek, J Moxley, O Nel, A Meyer, M Efsthathiou, K Joshua

**THIRD ROW:** A Gihlot Ducray, S Slauck, M Todd, R Halvorsen, L Bertish, A Ramsbottom, C Kode, J Turpin,

E Frater **BACK ROW:** L Barends, F Johnstone, A Faustmann, R Pedegana, T Aspinall, L Naude, R Sparg, S Booth







# Grade 8

BY MRS TONI HARDING, GRADE HEAD

**THE** year started with throngs of matric mentors eagerly awaiting the arrival of our Grade 8 girls, followed by a packed Theatre of girls and parents who were initiated into the 'whys', 'whens' and 'wherefores' of Herschel life. I am sure it was a baffling time but all responded with enthusiasm and energy – our new girls were guided by Jess Gleeson, their prefect, and their tutors. Buddies engaged with each other but in the beginning it was a case of 'the blind leading the blind' as they fumbled their way ahead. When all else failed, our girls quickly learned that direction could be secured at the fountain.

All too quickly the end of the first term loomed and camp frenzy set in. "Where are we going? Who are we going to share with? What will we be doing there? What clothes must I wear? What food will be provided? Must I bring a sleeping bag?" This was the barrage of unknowns that the girls had to negotiate their way through before the long awaited day arrived. At camp, our girls launched themselves into activities with great vitality and it

was delightful to observe them working together and experiencing the tough and challenging group tasks. A highlight of the camp was waking up at the crack of dawn and climbing the mountain to watch the lead riders in the Cape Epic Cycle Race. It was an entirely unexpected, gleeful, girly cheer group in the middle of nowhere and one could see how it motivated the riders. Despite the early start, energetic activities throughout the day and creative evening performances kept Mr West up, about and on duty.

Term two heralded the first high school exams. It must be noted that the 2016 Grade 8 girls responded incredibly well to the demands. They heeded warnings about avoiding the dreaded 's' word and coped with the gruelling time table and the delivery of their results. I have been so impressed with the composure of our girls and their kindness towards each other. Having survived admirably the first half-year of high school, found friends and emerged successful from exams, our beautiful little girls came back to school in the third term, transformed into

teenagers – much to the consternation of many parents. Parties and boys have taken precedence over school, family and work. Developmentally, this is what we expect and we would be worried if this transformation did not occur but it does not make it any easier, especially for parents. Michelle van Schalkwyk organised an informative talk for Grade 8 and 9 parents and girls on the use of alcohol and drugs by teenagers. The talk provoked much thought and discussion among the girls and it is hoped that the door has been opened for further discussion at home. At school, Jess organised a fun bonding evening for the girls. Although the grade is filled with budding teenagers, they enjoyed the games and pizza with child-like spontaneity.

As a group, our girls are extremely talented sportswomen and have achieved amazingly well in a variety of sports. I mention a few of their achievements: they brought home the U/14 Ultima Cup for water polo, won the PGSGU Inter Schools netball and our U/14 swimmers won every race at the league galas this year. Four girls participated in South African Short Course Swimming Champs recently and represented Herschel superbly. We play in the Inter Schools Hockey on Friday and wish our girls the best of luck.

It has been a joy getting to know the 2016 Grade 8 girls. There is every reason to believe that this well balanced, talented and vibrant grade will continue to develop into 'pink' young women of great worth. ■







# ARDERNE HOUSE

BY TISEAN BUIS, HEAD OF BOARDING

Reflecting on the past year as head of boarding is not an easy task. However, spending five years of my school career in the boarding house, it is evident that the boarding house has become - as clichéd as it sounds - my home away from home as well as the safe haven for many other girls and staff. Thus it makes the task of reflection easier.

Arderne House is a home to 34 girls who come from a diverse set of backgrounds.

Besides the new faces in Grade 8, we also welcomed Ms Klara Aizupitua who has contributed effortlessly to the atmosphere in the house with her humour, as well as love. This year, we have had girls from within the borders of South Africa, as well as exchangees from all over the world. However, theme nights allowed the girls to travel to India, Portugal and New York - within the barriers of the dining hall. These nights were filled with delicious cuisine and

warm atmospheres.

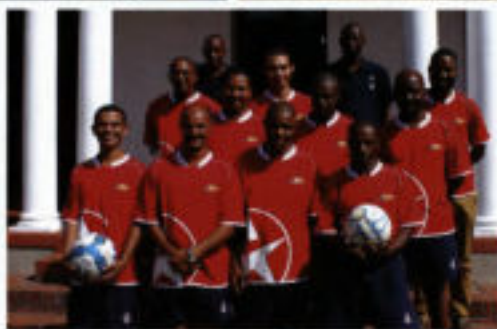
Over the years, new faces came and went but the unconditional love and care within the boarding house remained constant. No matter with what difficulty the girls are faced, they always seem to overcome it with great ease and determination, in order to maintain that sisterly bond between them.

From entering the boarding house as vulnerable little Grade 8s, to leaving as new, confident young women who are ready to take on the world in Grade 12, the girls in the boarding house flourish when they become leaders, as they diffuse conflict, organise events and juggle commitments. Most importantly, they gain a certain integrity and confidence whilst always being respectful and considerate of others as a result of living in such close proximity to each other.

The values and life lessons one gains as a result of the experience as a boarder cannot be compared to anything else. Within the boarding house, the empathy and compassion gained are essential values that the girls - as well as myself - will cherish forever. I will always be grateful to my sisters in the boarding house, as well as our mother away from home, Mrs Cornish. **AD DEI GLORIAM**







Sport





# Hockey

BY GEORGIA GROBLER, CAPTAIN

The 2016 Hockey season will certainly be one for the memory bank. It started off with the first team touring Johannesburg, to participate in the annual St Mary's festival. Thirty-six schools from all around Southern Africa competed in this tournament, in order to achieve the title of being the best girls' hockey school. 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 up winning our pool and then narrowly losing a match needed to secure our place in the semi-final. Nevertheless, we walked away from the tournament feeling confident for the season ahead by gaining unforgettable

learning experiences and becoming a close knit team. We are very thankful for our extremely experienced and dedicated coach, Ms Cindy Brown, to our mother away from home, Mrs Botha, and to our exuberant host of parents and Mr West who came all the way up to Johannesburg to support us.

The season kicked off in the second term for all the other teams, from U14 right through to the firsts. Western Province trials were already well underway by April, and in June, Herschel had one Western Province Women representative, four U18A Western Province representatives, seven Western Province U16A representatives, one Western Province U16B representative and eight zonal representatives. Ammaarah Hendricks was selected for the U16 South African team and Kayla de Waal was selected for

the U16B South African team.

At the beginning of the 3rd term the first team set off on yet another hockey tour to Oranje Meisieskool in the Free State. We were very privileged to be invited to this tournament as it is called the Super 12 to which only the top 12 hockey schools in the country are invited. The three days were gruelling, entailing a maximum of three full hockey matches in one day. We ended up coming 6th which meant we were the 6th best hockey school in the country. We were absolutely exhausted after the tour but proud of ourselves and what we had achieved. The highlight was definitely the narrow loss of 1-2 against Oranje who won the entire tournament.

The highlight of the season, however, was the annual Springfield-Herschel (Herschfield) Derby. Being able to play a sport that you love in front of 300 cheering schoolmates is something I will never forget. Although we won after a closely fought game, the camaraderie and energy that we felt from the school was worth more than the match itself. I would like to thank the Spirit Head, Georgina van Heerden, her team and all the Herschel girls who really made the event worthwhile and were true to the name - the Pink Army.

Twelve schools competed in our grand challenge league, with Herschel being unbeaten and ending top of our league for the 4th consecutive year. We scored 52 goals and only conceded eight. This was strengthened by the incredibly mature hockey that was demonstrated by the U14s and U16s. The U16s had an unbeaten season which enabled them to win their league as well. The U14s won or drew all but one of their matches and really showed guts throughout the entire season!

The inter-schools' tournament, played against Springfield, Rustenburg, Wynberg and St Cyprians, rounded off the season for all our teams. The U14s won bronze, the U16s won gold and the first team won gold after two years of coming 2nd.

Hockey plays an important role in the sporting lives of many and ensures that girls gain interpersonal skills as they learn to work in a team, as well as benefitting physically. Our coaches are essential to the success of hockey as well as making it enjoyable and unforgettable. The passion and dedication is evident in every one of the coaches and this has contributed to the extraordinary success in hockey this year. I wish all the girls good luck for the coming years! ■



## HOCKEY FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** A Scott, A Russell, G Grobler (Capt), Miss C Brown, C Golding, N Du Plessis, A Glaum **SECOND ROW:** A Hendricks, S Dyason, J Blanckensee, S Franco, I Hardie, A Pithey, C Smith, A Welham





# INDOOR HOCKEY

BY GEORGIA GROBLER, CAPTAIN



The first indoor team started with a bang as Herschel's indoor matches began on the first day back at school. All 11 teams were ready and rearing to go. The participation for 2016 has been greater than any other year at Herschel. Having as many teams as we did, some had to double-up in leagues and this meant teams both made up of Herschelians had to play against each other. This was great fun and was filled with laughter and lined with underlying competitiveness.

The commitment of the players and supporters has been incredible. Girls would stay after their own match to watch and cheer on a fellow classmate and friend. The indoor centre was always filled with players, parents and friends during the week. The cheering and laughter could be heard booming out of the indoor centre. This clearly showed that the H-factor was alive and well within our community. Each Wednesday girls would help do table duty from 3:30-9pm. This helped people get to know each other and helped create support that was needed to keep the good vibe up. People were always willing to sign up and gain community service hours for either their President's Award or just out of the goodness of their heart.

Indoor hockey is one of the only sports at Herschel that has inter-grade teams from the start. This means that girls have the opportunity to make new friends and build bonds with people they may not have had the opportunity to get to know otherwise. Indoor hockey has not only been a great way to make friends but has enhanced my ability as a player. This sport also prepares one very well for the upcoming outdoor season.

Of course, this could not have been a success without the many hours put in

by the coaches and managers of indoor hockey. Both the first team and the second team won their leagues, as well as the first indoor side winning inter schools. Huge thanks must be given to Mr Scott, Ms Cindy Brown and Mr Merkel for their dedication, commitment and passion for the indoor game. This has definitely rubbed off on the girls in a positive way.

## A word from Mr Andrew Scott, 1st Team Indoor Hockey Coach

Indoor Hockey at Herschel is an exciting experience! Whilst we take it seriously, the emphasis is on fun, enhancing one's talent and improving the skills of the players so that we can transfer this knowledge to our Outdoor Hockey. Make no mistake, it is still very competitive but our training involves mini games between one another once we have mastered the skills which

are unique to Indoor Hockey. Indoor at Herschel comprises 10 teams and this ensures that girls of all abilities and ages are able to participate in this sport.

The no-age-group rule guarantees that the girls make friends outside of their grades. The success of the senior teams is evident from the consistent results that they achieve every year. We have won the league six out of the last seven years and in the one we did not win, we came second because of goal difference. This year, besides winning the league, we achieved the double by also winning the PGSGU Interscholarship Tournament.

Our captain, Georgie Grobler, has led from the front and I cannot recall a more fit, energetic and "give it your all" player so committed to Herschel hockey! Her contribution, especially, will be sorely missed, as will that of our other matrics.



## INDOOR HOCKEY FIRST TEAM

FRONT ROW: A Russel, G Grobler, Mr A Scott, C Golding, N du Plessis

SECOND ROW: A Welham, S Franco, A Hendricks





# Swimming

BY PHILIPPA ALLEN, CAPTAIN

**T**he swimming season of 2015/16 was one of our most successful yet.

This year, we were blown away with the talent brought to the team by the new U14s. We were also lucky enough to have two unstoppable sister-duos in the team, the Nel twins and Abrahams sisters, who never ceased to impress us with their equally strong swimming genes.

The season started off with a bang, as we brought home gold from the annual PGSGU Gala at Springfield. This kicked us into gear for the rest of the season. For this, as well as for our many victories (and general strength as a team), we have our extremely talented coach, old girl, Caitlin van Niekerk, to thank.

The inter-house gala was a chance for girls to show off their talents and hard work, while they enjoyed an afternoon of friendly competition, spirit and sun. It was amazing, once again, to see the U14s break so many records. Moments before the inter-grade race, as each grade approached the starting blocks, tension rose rapidly between the power houses: the U14s, and the rather worried matrices. The whole school was on the edges of their seats as the U14s and matrices swam neck-on-neck towards the finish line... For the first time in years, the matrices claimed gold. Congratulations to Merriman for winning overall.

A special mention goes to the very enthusiastic Caryn Biebuyck, who - although she was not a part of the swimming team - did her rather culturally-

gifted house proud, by entering the individual medley, every year, since Grade 8, never being recognised for her selfless deeds.

Unfortunately, we ended the season by narrowly coming third to Rustenburg and Rhenish in the Newlands A-League Gala. This, however, did not take away from the enjoyment of swimming alongside such excellent swimmers, nor from the valuable lessons we learned, both in and out the pool.

The girls can be very proud of what they have achieved. ■



## SWIMMING TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** G Pera, G Nel, P Allen (captain), C van Niekerk (coach), O Nel, L Miszewski, B Pera **SECOND ROW:** J Dow, H Abrahams, P Elliott, L Bertish, B Passmore, O Wallace, G Earl **BACK ROW:** H Ismail, C Basnett, K Steyn, S Turner-Orton, E Norton, A Goodwin, F Guy, D Schultz **ABSENT:** A Abrahams, A Bayly





# WATER POLO

BY CHRISTIN CHARLES, CAPTAIN

**W**ater polo at Herschel continues to grow and 2016 saw some great performances across the age groups.

The 1st Team, coached by Megan Schooling, started the season with a trip up to the annual St Peter's tournament. The girls gave it their all and played with courage and dedication. There was some very good polo at the tournament and our girls narrowly lost in the final of the Shield. The girls worked hard in the league matches and earned a spot in the semi-finals of the annual Waller Cup. They gave a spirited effort in the match but couldn't hold off the eventual league winners. The

girls always displayed great team spirit and always remembered to have fun out in the pool.

The U16A team had a very successful year and the team built good momentum for the years ahead. They started the season with a visit to Alexander Road High School in Port Elizabeth where they competed against the local 1st teams. This is a great tournament for building confidence ahead of the league. The girls did very well and only lost one game. Coached by Matt Stringer, the girls were motivated for the league and were set on making the final of the Waller Cup. The

A team were unbeaten during the pool rounds of the league. This set them up for the final against Reddam at Waller Cup. After full time, scores were tied two all and the game had to be decided by a penalty shootout. It was not meant to be as Reddam went on to claim the trophy, but these girls are now well set to challenge for trophy honours in the years ahead.

The U14A girls, coached by Megan Schooling, also had a very successful season, starting off with a solid early win at the Pitcairn tournament held at Reddam where they brought home the gold medal and were also the first Herschel side to win this tournament.

At the Roedean U14 tournament they trounced all opposition, scoring 99 goals with only four goals scored against them.

It was encouraging to see the depth of talent coming through the age groups as well as in the B and C teams. It is inspiring to see so many girls giving their all and playing the game with such positive spirit - a very successful and spirited season from all the water polo girls. A big thank you to all the coaches who pushed and helped all of the players to have an enjoyable season. ■



**WATER POLO FIRST TEAM**

**FRONT ROW:** N Alberts, R Ritchie-Roux (Vice-Captain), C Charles (Captain), N Haller, S Lumb **BACK ROW:** S Malherbe, T Revell, T Rubin, P Allen, M Planting, S Kirk







# BASKETBALL

BY ABULELE DLOVA, CAPTAIN

2015/16's basketball was, once again, highly successful. The U16A and 1st team entered the season with a hint of nervousness as we did not know what to expect in our first season without the incredible Mrs Bev Ashworth, our previous coach. When we started with our current coach, a Western Province girls' basketball coach, Miss Ann Siyoyo - who brought a fresh new take on basketball, drilling us to our optimum points - our

nerves turned into confident excitement.

Without the Grade 11s, who were on exchange, the first team thought we would struggle. On the contrary, we developed a unity that strengthened us and lead us to victory, as we managed to beat our toughest rival, Western Cape Sports School.

Other teams also thrived all season, especially the U14As, led by their coach, Imtyaz Rahim. Being new to the sport, they



played exceptionally well and managed to win their Top Schools league, as well as remaining unbeaten.

Under the new guidance of Ann, the U16s also played brilliantly and, in the tough Top Schools final, managed to bring home the gold.

The 1st Team, along with two U16 players, went on tour to the AIS Basketball tournament in Johannesburg. Here we were met with the toughest teams from around Africa and were put in the strongest pool. Needless to say we fought hard, despite not being able to breathe Johannesburg air, but unfortunately didn't advance to the next round. But not all was lost. We were then put in the bottom pool where we still had a chance to win a trophy. However, after winning our semi-final game, we had to rush to the airport to catch our flight and didn't play in the final. Regardless of this, we all had great fun on this tour and certainly learned a lot from playing against such strong teams.

With regards to the Top Schools league, the 1st Team unfortunately lost by two points in a gruelling semi-final game and didn't advance to the final.

Overall, the basketball season was great fun and I am excited to see some very strong younger players coming up. I can't wait to see what the next season has to hold. ■



## BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** D Swales, H Oelz, A Dlova (captain), J Gleeson, V Sharples

**BACK ROW:** S Hendricks, M Geryts, C Diemont, C Spokes, C Smith, A Scott, N Lin





# Netball

BY PHILIPPA ALLEN,  
CAPTAIN

**T**he netball girls can be extremely proud of what was achieved this season. Each team displayed different skills and showed tremendous growth and perseverance.

Although the first team took a while to gel, we gained experience and confidence from each match and strengthened in each

practice and, once we found our feet (and received our much-awaited dresses), we became a force to be reckoned with.

The game that turned it all around was against Rustenburg - our first game of the third term. As they have been one of our biggest competitors throughout our school careers, the pressure was on from the start. After a highly nerve-racking game, the final score was 21-20 to us.

We ended the season with a successful PGSGU interschools tournament, with the U14A and U16A winning their respective tournaments and Herschel winning the overall trophy for the most goals scored. Unfortunately, Rustenburg was determined to get even with the first team and ended up beating us 9-10, leaving us in second place.

During the season every team across the age groups played in a round-robin, which brought us closer together and enabled us to share our skills and tactics.

A huge thank you goes to our coach, Zee, from the matric members of the first team. She has been an incredible mentor to us over the last couple of years and we would be nowhere without her. Our true appreciation is inexpressible and we will miss her guidance and knowledge of this beautiful game. ■



## NETBALL FIRST TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** A Parks, P Allen, N Blyela, R Ndhuni, N Haller

**BACK ROW:** R Ritchie-Roux, A Dlova, K van Schalkwyk, C Spokes, K Da Luz





# SQUASH

BY JESSICA GLEESON, CAPTAIN



## SQUASH

FRONT ROW: I Wright, J Gleeson, L Graham

BACK ROW: J Turpin, H Glanvill

Squash, this year, has been a time for running, challenging oneself and forming close team bonds. Once again our first team played in the boys' league and although initially this seemed daunting to many girls, it was soon proved to raise the stakes as it became a battle of the sexes, with the girls often coming out on top. This has drastically improved many of our girls' games and it allows our second and third teams to play in the girls' first league, also with a great deal of success. Herschel came 3rd at the PGSGU Interschools tournament and each of the top five players who participated ran their hearts out! The girls have really given their all this year with the team girls training off and on the courts and the social girls attending many a practice and improving in leaps and bounds. We are also proud of our four provincial representatives: Jamie Turpin, Hannah Glanvill, Isabella Wright and Jessica Gleeson who flew the flag of Herschel high in their respective interprovincial tournaments.

It has truly been an incredible year that would not have been possible without the expert coaching and support from Ms Scarola, Kim Commings and Dean Nortier. It has been a privilege to be a member of this amazing team and take part in a sport that one can play for life. ■





# TENNIS

BY SABEEHA KHAN, CAPTAIN

Our tennis season started off with a bang with almost all our teams winning by a landslide. As the season progressed, each team appeared to be improving greatly and we are extremely proud of our incredibly talented first team which has, yet again, brought home the coveted trophy from the annual PGSGU Interschools tournament. This year it was held at Sans Souci and even though the

weather was against us, the girls soldiered on and played their hearts out with the support of Herschel's very own Spirit team. The support that our teams received was encouraging for the girls, which made winning all the more sweet. They played incredibly well and displayed perfect sportsmanship on and off the field.

Term 1 proved yet again to be exciting as the top seven players in the school represented Herschel at the annual Independent Schools Tennis Festival. Our girls played well, as always, and ended top of their pool, narrowly losing to St Anne's in the final.

In the third term, the top six players got the opportunity to travel to Pietermaritzburg to compete in the St Anne's/Hilton College co-educational doubles and mixed doubles tournament. The format of this tournament pairs each boys' school with a girls' school and Herschel got paired with Michaelhouse. Not surprisingly, our girls played really well, coming 3rd in the girls' doubles and ending 4th in the mixed doubles tournament.

A special mention has to go to Herschel's top tennis player, Kirsty Orton, who has been selected to play for the U19 Western Province team this year. Kirsty, we could not be more proud of you! In fact, I could not be more proud of every single member of the tennis family. Their dedication, passion, love and commitment to tennis as a sport, is what has enabled us to rise to the level that we have. I'd also like to thank our incredible coach, Miss Cindy Brown, who has guided and supervised us with such encouragement and dedication throughout the entire season. It has been an honour to play alongside such talented and wonderful young ladies! ■



## TENNIS

**FRONT ROW:** C Borain, K Orton, Miss C Brown, C Smith, E Hayes

**BACK ROW:** L Johnson, C Hudson, C Slabber, C Wigston, G Cotchobos, S Slauck





BY HAYLEY PREEN, CAPTAIN

# CROSS COUNTRY



The 2016 cross country season has been a very successful and fun-filled one. Tuesday afternoons are when the runners get into the group suited to their capabilities and set off on a route of their own choice, led by a Matric. There are always many girls from all the grades.

The training sessions, led by Mrs Harding and Mrs Sellmeyer, are not just for the keen, cross country runners, but also for the hockey players, netball players and those just wanting to keep fit.

A few of the enthusiastic runners took part in the Wednesday league races each week. These races are not just about winning or coming in the top places, but rather about having fun, supporting our teammates and pushing ourselves to do the best we can do. Mr Cengani always makes the bus trips more enjoyable (with good music) and lots of laughter. Apart from getting us to the races on time and safely, he is our number one supporter, alongside our very dedicated Miss Rousseau, who supports us in all weather conditions every Wednesday afternoon.

We had a few girls who took part in the WP Championships this year and a special mention to our new member to the Herschel team, Kayla de Waal, in the U16 age group, who has done us proud from the beginning and went on to win the WP and Western Cape Champs.

Herschel dominated, once again, at

the PGSGU Interschools cross country, having age group winners in most of the age groups and then proceeded to take the victory for the 17th consecutive year. I would like to congratulate everyone who took part in the interschools competition and a big thank you for your commitment to cross country. It has been an incredible season and I have made some memories that I will always remember. Cross country never seems to disappoint, so I encourage more of you to participate next year. ■







Preparatory





# PREPARATORY School

BY MRS BELINDA HEIDMANN, HEAD OF PREPARATORY

This year has been one in which our country has been challenged on every front: socially, economically, technologically, environmentally and politically. These challenges translate directly into the educational landscape, impacting on the way in which our girls interact and engage with each other and how we choose to teach the precious young women in our care. The # phenomenon has caused an ever-increasing platform for freedom of thought and expression, particularly within our youth. Due to the nature of social media our girls are exposed to these challenges in a very real manner, allowing them little protection from the reality of our current situation. The # has encouraged dialogue, conversation and action and in so doing has impacted on every area of life.

Lebogang Montjane, the Executive Director of the ISASA, emphasised at the recent SAHISA Conference that many challenges lie before us and that we should be mindful of the youth we are educating, ensuring that we are growing global citizens, teaching them to take calculated and necessary risks and building a culture that is devoid of complacency because if we do not, our beloved country will continue to be in crisis. As Heads we need to ensure that diversity in all its forms is a priority in our schools and that we focus on ensuring that ethics are taught as a purposeful part of the curriculum. As Heads we have been challenged, as well as affirmed, in the important task of leading the schools that make up the most vibrant education sector in our country. We need to purposefully create space for meaningful conversation so that our youth are able to learn to express themselves in

an appropriate manner, feeling that what they have to say is meaningful, important and recognised, but at the same time, that we teach the necessary skills of accountability and responsibility for our actions and words. We need to embrace the present challenges and seek to gain a better understanding of the present environment in which our pupils are living. New methods of teaching and new learning environments will be critical to a meaningful and significant education for our girls.

In order for our girls to thrive, we need to ensure that they are equipped to deal with the stresses of the ever-changing landscape. Arianna Huffington's book, 'Thrive', speaks about the fact that without the necessary tools we will become a society that is tired and fed up, unable to live life positively and to the full. The balance between success and leading a balanced life, which allows for us to feel joy and significance, is elusive. In our schools we are finding that stress, sleep deprivation and burnout are the order of the day. The use of technology often means that our children are never able to switch off, instead they are engaged 24/7 in a habit of over-connectivity. If they are not constantly engaged they fear exclusion and this in turn translates to heightened anxiety and unhealthy levels of stress.

At our first assembly this year, I introduced our theme for 2016: SPARK. I shared different definitions of the word spark, from various sources, with the girls and staff. Our school song makes reference to sparks: "Everyone's a spark and in the night together we make a light a fire burning bright!" My hope for this year was that each 'spark' is noticed and grown into the fire that burns bright, strong and true. We have

the ability as a staff to develop and grow the passion of our girls and we should be encouraging them to dream, hope and wish.

We need to develop and grow the skills that Arianna Huffington speaks of in 'Thrive': wellbeing, wisdom and wonder, in order to lead fulfilled, meaningful and happy lives. Relationships suffer when we do not purposefully create the space to connect to those around us, we need to listen to their wisdom and our own inner wisdom. We need to allow ourselves the space to fail, to be compassionate and empathetic. This opportunity ensures that we feel a sense of worth and belonging, success and significance.

Connecting meaningfully with those we love will enable our girls to have continued success in the years to come. They will lead lives that are sustainable and significant and realise that they have a greater role to play and a responsibility to care for others and not only themselves. The Community Service Programmes and initiatives that we run together with the vital Eco-Schools Programme are so much a part of these. Deliberate opportunities are created to make a difference in the lives of others. One of the most significant opportunities this year was when the PA Outreach Team made the decision to revamp an old stone building at Grassy Park EC Preparatory School, turning it into a bright and inspirational library for pupils. This project was a resounding success and would not have been possible without the very generous donations of books, shelving, furniture, carpets, computers and time from Herschel Preparatory parents and girls.

In Term 2 we focused on the 'P' from 'SPARK': perseverance, persistence and passion. We explained to the girls that



very often the difference between success and failure, is the ability to persevere and persist, even in the most difficult and challenging of circumstances. In Term 3 we took the 'A' from the letter 'SPARK' and focused on the attitudes and values of empathy, compassion and integrity. Through various social responsibility and outreach projects, we focused on making a significant difference in the lives of the communities around Herschel.

In the final term of the year, as we took the letters 'R' and 'K', girls continued to experience and explore the concepts of empathy and compassion. We encouraged honest communication and attempted to build a sense of integrity in all that they do. Acts of generosity should be done to uplift others and not in order to gain exposure or compliments for ourselves.

We implemented a number of new initiatives this year. On an academic front we are focusing on integrated teaching and the development of question-driven learning. The position of Head of the Knowledge Centre was created in order to ensure authentic integration and effective planning across all phases and all subjects, utilising a multi-media approach, whilst ensuring that effective research skills are inculcated from a young age. We have encouraged the girls through Thinking Skills, the Kagan Methodology, reflectiveness and creativity to explore their passions this year. We have also focused on encouraging them to discover what really makes them happy, as well as analyse their individual strengths and weaknesses. The Grade 4-7s embarked on creating individual 'passion projects', based on the concept used by Google.

The Herschel staff are encouraged to attend workshops, conferences and courses, ensuring that they too are extending and developing themselves professionally and engaging in life-long learning and new skill acquisition. Parent workshops have been run this year to empower parents with knowledge with regard to the emotional, social and academic development of their girls.

As we reach the end of 2016, I have no doubt that the girls have gained from the creative and stimulating environment at the Preparatory. I believe that they have grown enormously and that the opportunities that they have encountered have changed them forever. I also believe that they look to the future from a position of strength and are able to contribute more positively to the future of South Africa. **AD DEI GLORIAM** ■

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# PREP STAFF



**FRONT ROW:** Mrs C Levitt, Mrs L Gibb, Mrs K Ndhlala, Mrs C Guercio, Mrs L Martin, Mrs B Heidmann, Mrs A Baikoff, Mrs H Bailey, Mrs J Brock, Mrs L van der Westhuizen  
**SECOND ROW:** Ms D Smith, Mrs Z Mrasi, Mrs S Gobey, Mrs A Walsh, Ms L Karsten, Ms M Martin, Mrs T Brogan, Mrs P Hay, Ms K Muzzell **THIRD ROW:** Mrs P Vundla, Mrs B Julies, Mrs C Blencowe, Mrs G Barrett, Mrs N Macala, Mrs A Lewis, Mrs I Fisher, Mrs L Codd, Ms L Cowie **FOURTH ROW:** Mrs L Arendse, Ms I Gauche, Ms E Webster, Mrs K Rutgers, Mrs K Norman, Mrs V Johannes, Mrs J Nel, Mrs J Goldschmidt, Ms C Harrington, Mrs A Mozley, Mrs S Bräsler, Mrs A Foale-Price **BACK ROW:** Mrs C Moritz, Mr M Visagie, Mrs M Laubscher, Mrs S Blake, Ms H King, Mr D Williams, Mrs C Billett, Mr R Rhoda, Mrs K Jackson, Ms J Ward, Mrs T Aubin **ABSENT:** Mrs R Stakemire, Mrs M Roebert, Mrs T Davids, Mrs A Malefane



PREP

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## 2016

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Mrs C Guercio, PA to the Head of  
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Mrs C Levitt, Pre-Preparatory Secretary

Mrs K Ndhlala, Admissions and  
Public Relations

Mr R Rhoda, ICT Network Technician

Mr M Visagie, ICT Technician



# Adieu

## ESTHER ODENDAL BY CAROLINE BLENCOWE

In 2002, Herschel Pre-Preparatory started a second Nursery Class and Esther Odendal became the first Bouncing Bunny teacher. Much changed at the Pre-Prep during the time Esther was there, including the opening of two Pre-Nursery Classes and the addition of a second floor. One of Esther's portfolios was Community Service and she worked closely with Gillian van Blerk, arranging various initiatives, including the annual Pre-Prep Christmas party. She also served as the Pre-Prep representative on the



Spirituality Committee, helping to plan Chapel visits and Little Prayers. Esther applied her significant creative talents in the classroom and also through making many beautiful greeting cards for a variety of occasions and events in the Pre-Prep. Esther retired from teaching in order to spend more time with her family, and to pursue her dream of opening her own coffee shop. She has been a loyal and generous teacher, colleague and friend and will be missed.



## SHEILA DAU BY CHRISTINE MORITZ

It is with much sadness that we say goodbye to Sheila, a friend and respected colleague, who has been a valued member of the Herschel Preparatory School, running the Aftercare Centre, for the last 16 years. Most people retire at 62 or 63 but not Sheila who turned 67 this year and has now decided to, as she puts it, 'quit while she's ahead'. Sheila has nurtured, entertained, inspired and loved our Herschel girls to the moon and back. This, she says, will be the part of her life that she will miss the

most. Children have always been her passion but, for now, she is looking forward to spending quality time with her four-legged doggy rascals. She nurtures her container garden and enjoys cooking and creating innovative dishes. Sheila has been a regular volunteer in the Prep Library for many years. She undertook to assist with mending library books and dedicated many hours of her time each Thursday morning to helping in the library. She is a skilled creator of teddy bears, loves building puzzles and is looking forward to spending time reading the books which have always had to be put on the back burner. With two of her three children close by, she is also excited at the prospect of spending more time with them and her grandchildren. As much as she will miss us, we will MISS HER MORE. We wish her happiness and fulfilment as she embarks on the next exciting phase of her life.

## LINDSEY VERSTER BY MARGOT ROEBERT

Lindsey Verster and her family relocated to Johannesburg in April this year when her husband, Chris, took up a position as deputy head at the Ridge School. Lindsey joined Herschel in January 2003 as a Grade 4 teacher when she was still Miss Vlok. During her time at Herschel, Lindsey proved to be an excellent teacher. She had the wonderful capacity to accept and love each and every individual who was placed in her care. The girls felt genuine interest and support and they were able to blossom and shine in her classes. She truly had a magnificent ability to combine firm boundaries with fairness and fun.

It was Lindsey's belief in



each child's potential that led her to study for her Advanced Certificate in Remedial Education through UNISA. In 2014 she left class teaching to become a member of the Sparkle Centre. Lindsey will always be remembered for her integrity, loyal friendship, passion for Herschel and for the love she has for her family. We wish her, Chris, Joshua and Kyra well in this next phase of their lives. Lindsey has a permanent position from next year at St Catherine's School. Herschel's loss is their gain.



## LARA THOMAS BY JENNI BROCK

Lara Thomas has been an integral part of the Pre-Prep since she began teaching in the Little Lambs in 2008. In 2015 she moved to the Nursery Busy Bees for a year and then returned to Pre-Nursery to teach the Cuddly Kittens and assist Mrs Blencowe with the implementation of the newly introduced Open Plan Curriculum. Lara is a wonderfully warm, caring and nurturing teacher. Her class always resonated with laughter and happy noise

as she expertly guided 22 energetic and demanding little girls through the school day. As a colleague, she will be remembered for her mischievous sense of humour, her willingness to be involved in any aspect of the Herschel environment and her passion for teaching. Lara also supervised the visiting students and our in-house learnerships. She selflessly gave of her time and energy as she spent many hours ensuring study books were ordered and registrations were correctly submitted. It is with great sadness that we bid Mrs Thomas farewell as she and her family fulfil their long-held dream and relocate to the United Kingdom. As they leave the sunny shores of South Africa for the damper ones of England, we wish them everything of the best and hope that they will soon settle and find happiness in their new environment.





# INTEGRATED STUDIES

BY MRS ALISON BAIKOFF, MRS JOYCE GOLDSCHMIDT,  
MRS CHRISTINE MORITZ AND MRS ROBYN STAKEMIRE.

**T**his year, in order to facilitate a more integrated approach to teaching and learning, the timetable was changed significantly and each class now spends extended time in the Library and ICT Centre working collaboratively across subject disciplines. These changes have allowed the girls to work on integrated projects using inquiry-based structures and using printed media, desktop computers and iPads. This makes for flexible and creative learning.

The skills taught to each grade include computer, library, research, and study skills. The girls are taught various tools such as higher order thinking, problem-solving skills and various cooperative learning techniques. The programme is underpinned by the Habits of Mind which, as an ethos, is carried throughout the school.

The Grade 1 girls spent the first two terms becoming familiar with the mouse and keyboard and using the iPad touch screen, with the basics of Microsoft Word as well as a variety of Apps on the iPads. The Grade 2s created many colourful and interesting worksheets on the desktop

computers and were thrilled when they discovered that they were going to be using iPads. The Grade 3s did some challenging activities using MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publisher. They, too, loved using iPads and created and published many books using Book Creator and iBooks. Much of the work done in Integrated Studies is curriculum-based, reinforcing classroom teaching. The Foundation Phase girls all completed beautiful bookmarks and made worksheets on the various symbols of the Olympic Games. They also used the online encyclopaedia Encarta Kids to research various projects, watch videos and play educational games. A number of worksheets were created which taught the girls about the Dewey System in the Library. They implemented these skills by borrowing books from their special interest areas.

The Intermediate and Senior Phase girls worked on projects based on content-specific material during Term 1. We started the second term with lessons on how to conduct an effective Google search and discussed how to refine an online search using and, or and not Boolean Search

operators. We introduced Genius Hour and the girls created individual 'passion projects'. The idea for these projects is based on 20% time, a concept used by Google, which encourages employees to use 20% of their time at work on projects completely of their own choosing. The outcome is effective engagement, creativity and real learning. The girls responded with enthusiasm. For some, the hardest part was selecting a topic that they really were passionate about and so we explored ideas like: 'I wonder ...' and 'I would like to learn'... Their mindmaps make fascinating reading. There were only three rules for Genius Hour; each girl had to research, create and present something. The final projects were wonderful and topics ranged from information about wolves to friendship tips; from Mars One and film editing with fractions to cooking and blogging. Some girls created real books of stories or artwork while others made models or posters. Many of the girls presented their work on iPads in Book Creator or as a PowerPoint Presentation.

In Term 3, the Grade 4 – 7 girls worked on a selection of themes linked to the Olympic Games. Using co-operative structures, the girls learned about different sports and countries involved in the Olympics and also asked questions and discussed issues around this topic. Various worksheets were shared with the girls using Google Classroom and the Grade 4s and 5s worked collaboratively using Google Docs and created a project on randomly selected countries participating in the Olympics. The Grade 6s and 7s focused on issues around the Olympics and, once again, working collaboratively, created projects on topics like the impact of Zika on the Rio Olympics, doping allegations and whether or not South Africa should host the Olympic Games.

In Term 4 the focus was on study skills and using Bloom's taxonomy to analyse and encourage in-depth questioning. The Grade 6 and 7 girls also completed a module on computer coding with Mrs Sue Stein, our ICT co-ordinator from the Senior School.

The girls are exposed to a wide variety of media platforms in order to enable them to make wise choices when preparing projects or orals. By learning to use printed media with discernment and competence and using both Windows-based desktop computers and Apple iPads, they are becoming comfortable integrating all technologies and using them effectively in their learning. ■





# ECO CLUB

BY MRS LORAIN Codd AND MRS JUDY NEL

**T**he Eco Club has been actively involved this year. Mrs Codd and Mrs Nel, along with the Cape Leopard Trust Organisation, enjoyed many interesting and informative outings. We had Eco Warriors from all Grades as, for the first time this year, the Foundation Phase was invited to attend.

The Cape Leopard Trust's team ran our first Herschel Eco Club session of the year on the Greenbelt in Constantia. The enthusiasm was clearly evident in the way the girls enthusiastically took off their shoes and waded into the river to catch river biota. The girls were given the task of using nets to look for and catch insects and crustaceans. These creatures were then scored according to their sensitivity to pollution using the South African Scoring System (SASS) to establish the health of the river. The girls learned about the harmful impact of litter and pollution and the importance of keeping places like

these as clean as possible.

In April, the Eco Club went to Intaka Island. The girls watched an ornithologist and some of her students catch birds and ring them. The birds were measured and weighed. The information was sent to the Animal Demography Unit. Everyone was fascinated and we were able to touch some of the birds.

Another wonderful experience was having four Herschel Eco Club families travel to participate in Bird Life South Africa, the Cape Bird Club and the City of Cape Town's fourth annual False Bay Nature Reserve Birdathon, Fun Walk and Festival at the False Bay Nature Reserve. The weather was beautiful and many birds were ticked off on the girls' check list on the 5km walk. After the walk, the girls enjoyed looking at the exhibits of snakes and birds. Mrs Codd was amazed at some of the girls who were brave enough to have the mole snake hung around their neck.



In May, the Eco Club visited the Arderne gardens and spent the afternoon appreciating this wonderful green space. The girls had so much fun learning about special plants and trees. Catherine spoke about the importance of having these green spaces in suburbia for people to relax in and for the birds to have trees to nest in. The girls learned about invasive alien plants and animals versus indigenous plants and animals.

Also in May, the Eco Club went on the Cape Leopard Trust bus to Kirstenbosch Gardens for an afternoon of new experiences. This excursion started in the Garden of Extinction to emphasise the fact that some plants are no longer found in their natural environment. We then moved into the fragrance garden where the girls really enjoyed smelling the different fragrances and were delighted to find little spiders and lizards hiding in amongst

**ALL THESE  
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the leaves. Mrs Nel and Mrs Codd also assisted the girls to put on blindfolds and walk along the Braille Trail holding onto the rope. Time was also spent in the top areas of the garden to look for the spotted eagle owls and the dinosaur sculptures. We saw different kinds of trees and learned about Cycads. We finished the afternoon with a walk along the Boomslang Bridge and the girls enjoyed every moment of the outing.

The Eco Club made sea creatures using plastic bottle tops which were glued onto large square plastic sheets and then displayed in the library during Readathon using the theme "Under the Sea". One of the favourite Eco Club afternoons was spent showing the girls how to make bird feeders out of plastic water bottles and wooden spoons. They were thrilled with the end products and we know they were enjoyed by the birds once hanging in the gardens at home.

The enthusiasm of the girls has been such a special experience to observe during all our Eco Club outings and all these experiences count in inspiring a future generation of individuals who really care about our precious planet. ■







# COMMUNITY *Service*

BY MRS LINDA MARTIN

**C**ommunity Service projects continue to offer wonderful opportunities for the girls to make a difference to the lives of others and our Herschel Family has continued to support our Community Service Programme this year. Ice-cream sales and our weekly sandwich collections continue throughout the year and all the grades were involved in bringing items for the Grade 7 Fair. The Fair, which was held

cares for people with mental disabilities. Each term we hold a collection drive which, this year, saw a new record of over 20 000 cans being collected in Term 2. This recycling project is also a project which generates an income for Primrose Park Primary in Manenberg.

To lift the hearts of many sick children on Valentine's Day, we organised the making and distribution of over 300 Valentine cards

THE PURPOSE OF THIS IS TO **ACTIVELY INVOLVE** THE GIRLS AS OPPOSED TO THEM SIMPLY ASKING THEIR PARENTS TO DONATE MONEY.

on 21 April, was a huge success. This year saw a record amount of R39 824.50 being raised for our Outreach fund.

Our Oasis Recycling initiative was well-supported with families collecting and dropping off recyclables at school every Tuesday. It is a job creation and income generator for the Oasis Association which

made by the Prep girls to Red Cross and Tygerberg Hospitals. In addition, Sweetie Pies were handed out to children at the Plumstead Childhood Cancer Foundation of South Africa (CHOC) and to the Cancer Ward of the Red Cross. CHOC was also supported by a monetary contribution as the girls all purchased a choc bracelet for R10 and these funds were given to the CHOC Foundation.

Many boxes of chocolate marshmallow Easter eggs were donated by the girls. These were sent 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 and the Constantia Village trolley folk. An amount of R3000 was used to purchase vests for the SA Clothing Guild.

Term 2 saw the whole school supporting Rural Child and St Luke's Hospice. Once again, the response from our Herschel families for clothing items and blankets was overwhelming. Our annual 'Chores for a Cause' project was launched at the end of Term 2. For this initiative, the girls were encouraged to raise R60, by doing various chores around the home. The purpose of this is to actively involve the girls as opposed to them simply asking their parents to donate money. This is always a success. The money raised from this appeal goes to purchasing stationery items for Kewtown Primary. This enables us to purchase stationery packs for each and every pupil in Kewtown Primary, so that they start the school year with a new stationery pack.

On the 5 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 toward this worthy cause and to wear their slippers to school for the day. This enabled us to contribute R5 300 towards the Reach for a Dream fund. As part of our Spring Day celebrations on the 2 September we again visited Red Cross Children's Hospital. Together with flowers, which the Prep girls brought in decorated containers, we were able to give all the children that we visited a fluffy teddy bear or toy.

On Friday 16 September, the Preparatory School supported Sunflower Day. This year, instead of buying bandanas, the girls purchased topees (Tubes of Hope) and these proved to be a very popular fashion accessory. Term 3 ended with our Civvies day appeal and this money was used to support the SPCA by participating in their ribbon day.

Term 4 started with our annual Blisters for Bread walk. This once again, was a most enjoyable morning and we were able to make a huge contribution to the Peninsula Feeding Scheme.

Toward the end of the term, the Grade 7 girls hosted Glenbridge to a Christmas party. This is a popular occasion and is always thoroughly enjoyed by all the children.

In keeping with our theme, which is to demonstrate an attitude of empathy and compassion through our actions and to make a difference in the lives of our community we made the decision to focus on raising funds to support the purchase,



training and sponsorship of a Guide Dog for the blind. We began our Guide Dog drive at the end of term two when the girls paid for Blind Buddy Day and the Civvies Day on the last day of the term. With these two initiatives and a contribution from our Grade 7 Community Service fund and R5 000 from the Pre-Prep Market day we raised a total of R15 000, which enabled us to provide for the training of a puppy for one year. This was our aim! The project was explained to the girls as well as Class Representatives and PA members. A number of girls and families indicated that they would also like to contribute to this worthy cause. The feeling was that it would be wonderful to increase the sponsorship level to make an even greater and more significant difference in the life of a blind person. With this in mind, an appeal was made to parents and girls to add to our fund in their personal capacity. The aim was to see if we could reach the Platinum Sponsorship. The support from families and girls, some of whom donated their own pocket money, was overwhelming.

Aside from our whole school projects, each Grade at the Preparatory chose to support a cause close to their heart. Grade 1s made up winter care hampers together with the Grade 5s which were donated to the elderly who are in desperate need. The Grade 5s also knitted squares for blankets which were added to the care packs. In September the Grade 2s visited DARG with fleece blankets, tinned food and pellets. The Grade 3s came to school bare foot for the day at the end of Term 3. The idea was that the girls experience what it felt like to have no school shoes for the day, which is something many children in South Africa face each day. The girls then donated a pair of good quality second hand shoes, which was given to those in need. The Grade 4s hosted a tea to recognise and show their appreciation to Security, Ground, Maintenance and Cleaning staff at Herschel. Girls each made a card for the staff with personal messages of thanks and appreciation. The Grade 6s decided to help a church crèche in KZN by knitting warm winter scarves, while the Grade 7s had a sandwich drive and made sandwiches to give to the needy.

2016 has, once again, shown what a difference our Community Service initiatives make in the lives of so many less fortunate than ourselves. We would not be able to make such a valuable contribution to our community if it was not for the generous support of our girls and families and we thank them all for their continued support. ■





# GRADE 6 UK EXCHANGE ST. JOHN'S-ON-THE-HILL

BY MS ILOUISE GAUCHE

**ON** 13 March 2016 five excited Grade 6 girls, accompanied by Ms Karsten and Ms Gauche, embarked on a trip of a lifetime.

After quick good-byes at the airport the girls bravely started their journey as independent young ladies ready to discover the world.

The first part of the trip was a school exchange, together with fifteen boys from Rondebosch Boys' Preparatory School, at St John's-on-the-Hill. The school is located on the border of England and Wales. The girls were hosted by families from the school and also had the opportunity to spend a night or two in the boarding house. Exciting excursions, attending some lessons and even participating in netball matches were part of their experience. The activities consisted of a variety of historic, scientific and cultural outings around Wales and England.

A highlight was definitely the day spent at 'Bristol' a two-storey science-centre packed with a variety of activities based on a large range of topics. The girls were actively involved and definitely developed a new love for science.

The dry-slope skiing in Gloucester was great fun, visiting the Roman Baths in Bath was an unforgettable experience and attending a rugby match between Cardiff Blues and Munster at Cardiff Arms Park resulted in plenty of shouting, hugging and high fives.

The second part of the trip was spent in London. What an experience! Every minute was packed with exploring, shopping, laughter and Starbucks. The girls grabbed every opportunity and eagerly visited as many sights as possible. Some of the sights included the London Eye, Madame Tussauds, London Dungeon, Natural History Museum, viewing the changing of the guards, Wimbledon, Hampton Court Palace, Borough Market, Hyde Park and Piccadilly Circus. Walking and dancing over Tower Bridge at night resulted in plenty of 'group selfies', fits of laughter and sheer joy.

Dining and shopping formed an integral part of this cultural experience. A variety



of restaurants were visited and supper at Jamie Oliver's Italian Restaurant was memorable. London provides opportunities for endless shopping – and the girls made full use of this: Hamleys with toys of every sort, for every taste, age, interest and dream and the sports clothes and equipment in Lillywhites were definite favourites.

The UK exchange is a trip that will always be remembered by everyone involved. It was more than just a cultural experience, it was an experience of living life to the full, learning about budgeting, choices and consequences, of problem solving and ultimately having the time of your life. ■



*"The daytrips in Wales were so much fun. London was my best! We explored the city from 08:00 in the morning to 22:00 at night. London Dungeon was my most favourite place to visit! I wouldn't have had so much fun if it wasn't for Juffrou Gauche and Ms Karsten."*

**SARAH VAN WYNGAARDEN**

*"The best time of my life, I will never forget it! Everything was amazing and fun. I learnt so much and experienced amazing things."*

**NINA VERMAAK**

*"I especially loved London but the whole trip changed my life!"*

**JEMMA SAINSBURY**

*"My favourite part was the new friends we made and the fun that we had."*

**DIYARA GOVENDER**

*"Exchange was a blast but of course it went too fast. I loved the skiing and all the sightseeing! The hotel was a great bonus and the hosts were wonderful!"*

**GEORGINA STEWART**



# GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

BY MRS AMANDA MOZLEY

Girls from Grade 4 to 7 complete a General Knowledge quiz each week and General Knowledge Champs in each class are announced at the end of each term in assembly. Questions in these weekly quizzes cover a variety of topics including current affairs, history, geography, biology, sport, literature etc. During the first term the girls also complete a 50 question Interhouse Founder's Day Quiz in which the top girls in each class earn points for their house.

General Knowledge teams are selected based on the results of these quizzes. This year we have had two teams competing in the Inter-school General Knowledge Quiz, both of which have acquitted themselves very well against some stiff competition.

Girls selected for the teams this year were Maryam Ameen, Leah Berman, Rozanna Clarke, Anna Cousins, Rosemary Dower, Kate Forrest, Lucy Frater, Prisha Govan, Sarah Gutuza, Cally Hooper, Ruby Möller, Sarah True and Julia Wellington.

At the end of the third term, we will be holding Interhouse General Knowledge Quizzes for Grade 4 and 5 and Grade 6 and 7. These will follow the format of the Inter-schools General Knowledge Quiz where teams will represent each house with the girls in the team working together to answer questions in various categories.

We hope that by encouraging general knowledge at all levels, our girls will improve their knowledge of the world around them. ■



## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** M Ameen, K Forrest, P Govan, A Cousins, S True, L Frater, J Wellington **BACK ROW:** S Gutuza, L Berman, R Dower, C Hooper, R Möller, Mrs A Mozley

# LITERATURE *quiz*

BY MRS SHELAGH BLAKE



## LITERATURE QUIZ

**FRONT ROW:** S True, R Dower, K Forest, G Wellington, M Ameen, S Osman **BACK ROW:** Mrs S Blake, V Barton, H Ebrahim, A van Graan, J Dore **ABSENT:** C Howie

At the time of going to press, we have, thus far, participated in two Literature Quiz competitions: the Kids Lit Quiz in Term 1 and our Inter-Schools 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 9 February 2016. The quiz master was 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. In the Cape Town Regional competition there were 33 teams from about 18 schools from all over Cape Town. We entered two teams, each made up of four Grade 6 and 7 girls. Girls faced many tough rounds of challenging questions, but had an enjoyable afternoon of literature.

Two Lit Quiz teams took part in the Inter-Schools Lit Quiz at Springfield on Friday 22 April. In spite of stormy weather, girls had a lovely afternoon. Special mention must be made of Herschel Team 2, who came 4th out of 24 teams. This was especially pleasing considering that our girls were competing against mixed teams, who as a result of having boys on their teams, have a broader base of reading genres.

We congratulate the girls for being 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 benefit from hearing about books that are newly published. ■





# THE PREP Library REPORT

BY ALISON BAIKOFF



**2016** has been another year of growth and innovation in the Library. The wonderful open spaces are conducive to a variety of different learning situations and are always busy with groups of girls reading or taking out books, learning library skills or working on integrated projects and doing homework.

We celebrated World Read Aloud Day in February. In order to encourage reading, classes joined each other for reading aloud. The Grade 7s joined their 'little sisters' in Grade 1. The Grade 6s paired with Grade 3s and the Grade 5s with the Grade 2s. The Grade 4s used this time to explore the newly acquired programme called *Reading Eggs*. This is a fantastic online English resource which promises to be very useful.

The highlight of the year in the Library was undoubtedly the Readathon. This year, our Readathon ran from Monday 20 June to Friday 22 July which included the July school holidays to give the girls more time to really focus on reading. Each girl received a reading record card on which

they recorded their books and the number of pages they had read. Our focus was on a school total, which was over 240 000 pages! The class teachers encouraged the girls to set reading goals and focused on encouraging individual reading challenges.

The theme for Readathon was *Sea the World*, with a deliberate play on the word 'sea'. The library was decorated in a sea theme, and was spectacular. The moms and dads outdid themselves and every girl also created something with which to decorate the library. We had a tent which was an under-the-sea cave. It had comfy cushions and blankets and fairy lights creating a cosy reading space. We had coral reefs, ships wheels, mermaid corners, submarines, beautiful glowing jellyfish, shoals and shoals of fish... some 2D, some 3D, large orange octopi, treasure chests, fish tanks, shells, a bridge to a beach scene, seagulls and beach balls... stepping stones across shark (fin) infested waters, fishing nets and a real rowing boat... and more. The favourite part for many was the beautiful jellyfish in the foyer and the huge



shark's mouth over the door to the library. This wonderful construction, made with wire and paper mâché by one of our dads, has been donated to the Save our Seas Foundation in Kalk Bay. Stepping through the shark's mouth into the library was truly magical. The attention to detail in every corner of the library was amazing and the delight on the girls' faces as they spent time in the library made it all worthwhile.

The special programme for the two school weeks of Readathon included dedicated reading time at the start of each day and an hilarious adaptation of *The Little Mermaid* presented by the staff. Some of the speakers during this time were John Lucas, an environmentalist, who gave us a fascinating perspective on Biodiversity and the Sea; Helen Brain, an author, and Christien Naser, an Afrikaans author. As usual, girls brought in books for the very popular Bookswap. All the books which were not swapped, were donated to charity. The girls used iPads to access video clips on book reviews and answer questions via QR codes. They also had the opportunity to create personalised bookmarks on computer, which were then printed and laminated. Dress-up day on the last day of the term was a delight as the girls enthusiastically portrayed their favourite book characters or something related to the sea theme.

The library has also organised some wonderful productions this year. The SA National Theatre Group presented Roald Dahl's popular *BFG*. The Hooked on Books team entertained us all with their dramatic selection of new books which always leads to a surge of interest in the selected books and in reading in general, and the Puppet World exploration of diversity issues in society was thought-provoking.

The work in a busy, vibrant library like ours, never ends and there are always books to pack away and cover.

Both Mrs Moritz and I are hugely appreciative of the assistance that we receive in the library from moms and our dedicated team of monitors led by Maryam Ameen and Aaliyah van Graan.

The Space as a venue in the library, has become a much sought-after place for classes to work in as it allows for flexibility in seating and grouping and the girls can move about when necessary. The positive engagement of the girls as they work co-operatively on various projects is wonderful to see. It really does facilitate the kind of learning that we know is essential in the 21st century. ■



#### LIBRARY MONITORS

**FRONT ROW:** A Mohamed, P Moodaley, M Ameen, G Wellington, D Govender, T Orgill, D Jähnig **BACK ROW:** Mrs A Baikoff, R Tudhope, S Mayekiso, C Rumbelow, A van Graan, J Dore, Mrs C Moritz **ABSENT:** C Howie



# Music

MRS LIZA VAN DER WESTHUIZEN

**T**he Preparatory Music Department is a vibrant and happy place with approximately 270 girls receiving tuition on a wide range of instruments under the tutelage of three full-time and 14 part-time staff.

The ensembles and choirs performed at a number of events throughout the year of which the annual Music Evening, held in the Senior School Theatre, was without a doubt, the highlight.

The Music Assemblies held in the first three terms this year were a highlight, as it truly showcased the diversity of the Music Department.

Music Workshops were held twice this year and were well attended by both parents and staff and the girls performed beautifully as always.

The Cape Town Eisteddfod took place in June. A number of girls were entered in the voice and piano categories with Noa Duckitt (voice) performing exceptionally well. She was awarded a medal for the most

Diplomas received in her age category. A large number of girls were also entered for the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod that took place in the third term. Girls participated in the piano, violin, voice and recorder categories with Emily van Heerden and Kaylin Seymour being awarded silver medals in their respective categories. Almost 130 girls were entered for ABRSM and Trinity practical and theory examinations over the course of 2016. The girls are commended on their hard work and dedication towards preparing for these examinations.

## INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMME

The annual Instrumental Programme's goal is for girls to discover an interest in and an aptitude for a particular instrument, thereby allowing them to begin individual lessons and so become active members of our Music Department.

The girls received lessons on

the recorder, violin, cello and percussion instruments for the Grade 1s, and the flute, clarinet, saxophone and trumpet for the Grade 4s. **MS JULIE WARD**

## ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra plays a significant role in the musical life of the Preparatory School. As well as accompanying the singing at important occasions and services such as Founder's Day, Ash Wednesday, Easter and Christmas, the Orchestra also performed specially prepared pieces at the annual Music Evening. This year, we had an exceptionally large orchestra of more than 50 young players drawn from Grades 4 to 7. We thank all our girls, their parents and all the specialist teachers - in particular, Ms Ayliffe (violin), who attended all rehearsals - for their loyal support throughout the year. For this reason, we had a thriving and enthusiastic orchestra.

**MS JULIE WARD**

## STRING ENSEMBLE

This year the String Ensemble has grown to include 28 members. The purpose of the String Ensemble is twofold: firstly to allow the girls to work in sectionals on their orchestral music and also to focus on polishing pieces to be

performed at the annual Music Evening. The pieces presented at the Music Evening this year were both of Irish background and included Ayesha Mohamed as soloist on the recorder.

**MS ANNAMARIE VAN DER VYFER**

## PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

The Percussion Ensemble became formalised this year with six members from Grade 4 to 7. Over the past number of years, the Ensemble has gradually built up a collection of percussion instruments other than the drum kit, such as the timpani, in order to be able to participate as a full percussion section in the Orchestra and Wind Ensemble.

**DR LINDA MULLER**

## WIND BAND

The Wind Band is a young ensemble, consisting of girls predominantly in Grade 5 and 6 playing the flute, clarinet, saxophone and trumpet with piano and percussion accompaniment. The Wind Band provides a platform for the girls to learn to play together with various instrumental groups whilst striving towards making music enjoyable. **MR ANGUS PETERSEN**



### WIND BAND

**FIRST ROW:** Mr A Petersen, E van Heerden, S Jensen, K Hodgson, L Burns, J Jensen, E Du **SECOND ROW:** E Sales, S True, J Paine, D Govender, M Harrison



### PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

**FRONT ROW:** H Mackay, J Paine, K Hodgson  
**BACK ROW:** N Vermaak, J Collins, A Van Graan



# Junior choir

BY MRS SONJA BRÄSLER

The Junior Choir gave their first performance this year at the Ascension Day service with *I Will Sing With The Spirit* (J Rutter). They also set the tone for a festive occasion by opening the Foundation Phase Spring Bonanza with *The Looth Tooth Song* before pulling out all stops for the annual Music Evening with the vibrant African song, *In The Jungle* (S Linda). The Junior Choir was very honoured to be invited to join the boys of the Western Province Preparatory School at their Junior Concert at the end of Term 3. The Junior Choir concluded the academic year with a beautiful performance of excerpts from *The Mystic Nativity* (D Campbell), as part of the Preparatory School Carol Service.



## JUNIOR CHOIR

**KNEELING:** C Ratcliffe, M Pickering, A Ovendale, E Stodel, G Dube, S Holwill **FIRST ROW:** G Fürst, J Koller, A Bailey, I Rautenbach, Z Bhorey, M Dahya, I Kepelele, L Rothschild, Z Abrahams, R Teixeira, S Ashbolt, K Rowland-Smuts, Z Douglas, T Rycroft **SECOND ROW:** T Sontange, S Mohammed, C Jacobs, A Moonda, S Harrison, S Leinberger, S Griffiths, G Mulder, L Macleod Smith, R Murray, M Coquelle, A Keers, C Seymour **THIRD ROW:** Mrs S Bräsler, E Mills, S Nimb, A Efstathiou, J Mahabeer, A Tresfon, A Böttger, A Murray, C Kleve, R Bhagoo, Mrs L van der Westhuizen **FOURTH ROW:** C Walker, K Cadiz, S Rinquest, C Hughes, O Currie, E Magrath, G Ovenstone, S Vickers, A Lashbrooke, S Dore, O Emmerich **FIFTH ROW:** S Flint, O Sparks, M Govender, L Schuhbauer, I Barbour, P Dower, J Lückhoff, A Coquelle, Z Böttger, I Lindsay **ABSENT:** K Buissinne, I Dearlove, C Morkel, N Heyns, N Wides



## ORCHESTRA

**FRONT ROW:** A de Villiers, J Ratcliffe, S Essa, E Floquet, L Edelstein, J Jensen, E Parker-Forsyth, A Bräsler, T Pillay, J Houwing, S Sondag **SECOND ROW:** E Sales, H Mackay, A Badenhorst, C Coutts-Trotter, K Pillay, R Dower, S van Veen, D Jähnig, K Hodgson, S Jensen, M Sonnenberg **THIRD ROW:** P Duckitt, A Mohamed, C Boyd, M Harrison, R Clark, S True, E Faure, L Frater, P Moodaley, R Ebrahim, Ms Ayliffe, S Gutuza **FOURTH ROW:** Ms Ward, K Swain, A de Villiers, G Stewart, J Paine, A Martin, D Govender, R Shortt, P Govan **BACK ROW:** N Vermaak, J Hutcheson, C Wilson-Trollip, I McAdam, J Collins, C Rumbelow, N Duckitt, A van Graan, L Berman, R Tudhope **ABSENT:** H MacRobert



## STRING ENSEMBLE

**FRONT ROW:** A de Villiers, T Pillay, S Essa, E Floquet, C Coutts-Trotter, R Ebrahim, A Badenhorst, A Bräsler, E Clarke, S Sunday **MIDDLE ROW:** Ms R Ayliffe, S Gutuza, C Boyd, K Swain, A de Villiers, R Shortt, P Govan, E Faure, P Duckitt, J Houwing **BACK ROW:** J Hutcheson, R Dower, C Wilson-Trollip, N Duckitt, C Rumbelow, I McAdam, K Pillay, L Berman, G Stewart **ABSENT:** Ms A Dall



# Senior choir

BY MRS SONJA BRÄSLER

The Senior Choir's first performance of the year was the Easter service where the girls sang an up-beat version of Amazing Grace. The Choir had the opportunity to sing this fun arrangement again in the Bishops Memorial Chapel during the service marking

the start of the Eikestad-Bishops-Herschel derby weekend. At the annual Music Evening the Choir sang two Russian folk songs; the first a slow, thoughtful lullaby, was beautifully accompanied by Georgina Stewart and Chloe Boyd on their cellos whilst

the second piece was a lively arrangement of Kalinka, involving some rowdy Russian stomping and clapping. The Choir concluded the year with a moving arrangement of Bethlehem Skies sung at the Carol service.

MRS BRONWEN LEITH



## SENIOR CHOIR

**KNEELING:** S Sonday, J Houwing, A Moonda, A de Villiers, S Ebrahim **FIRST ROW:** J Ratcliffe, S Dearnaley, A Bräslar, M Erasmus, E Parker-Forsyth, Caitlin Macleod-Smith, G Finlayson, E Aspinall, L van der Merwe, E Vermaak, N de Bruyn, H Mackay, K Mills, A Searson, O Sherren, H Wright **SECOND ROW:** A Badenhorst, J Hatherill, K Hodgson, D Jähnig, C Williams, K Formby, E Du, G Weir, C Coutts-Trotter, J Wellington, J Rutgers, G Antrobus, G Horrigan, K Farrell, J Petersen, B Stewart, N Starke, L Mangxola **THIRD ROW:** O Hill, S Pearce, K Webb, K Mahabeer, J Searli, M Harrison, Eva Halle, L Frater, K Casewell, S True, P Moodaley, G Wellington, P Kossowski, S Gonsenhauser, C Lennett, J Owendale, S Macready, P Duckitt, A Mohamed, O Dearnaley, N Macey, Y Rawoot **FOURTH ROW:** Mrs A Meyer, D Varney, D Govender, S Floquet, J Lancefield, T Spencer, O Sieff, R Tudhope, E Hillary, L Berman, C Fisher, A Cousins, G Stewart, A de Villiers, Mrs B Leith **FIFTH ROW:** D Kaye, A Mondry, S Angeliniadis, A Dowling, R Dower, A Martin, C de Gouveia, G North, C Laubscher, J Finlayson, C Maharaj, J Paine, R Shortt, J Dore **SIXTH ROW:** C Park, C Wilson-Trollip, R Williams, L Koopman, G Horrigan, S Wilensky, C Rumbelow, M de Villiers, C Hooper, N Duckitt, T Bagg, E McAdam, L Formby, S Mayekiso, R Moller **ABSENT:** Jessica Kirsten



## SENIOR MARIMBA BAND

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs L van der Westhuizen, J Owendale, I Nicholson, C Lennett, S Osman **BACK ROW:** I McAdam, J Collins, R Williams, A van Graan



## JUNIOR MARIMBA BAND

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs L van der Westhuizen, J Houwing, C Tsinonis, N Starke, A de Villiers **BACK ROW:** S Gonsenhauser, N Vermaak, S Angeliniadis, S Gutuza



# TECHNOLOGY

BY MRS MARGOT ROEBERT

The 2016 Grade 6 Dads and Daughters evening was a huge success. The girls and their fathers built an overnight shelter out of green garden bags. This had to protect them against stormy weather. The girls absolutely love being with their friends and dads and once again there was a happy buzz of competitive energy. The winners for this year were Katherine Webb and Alexa Martin and dads. Our thanks as always to Mervin Walsh from Bishops and Fiona Cochrane for their judging on the night.

The Grade 5 Moms and Daughters evening is a special night where the girls and their moms spend time together doing crafts. This year card making and bookmarks were the activities set. Some truly striking and creative work was completed.

Each year, during the First term, a portion of the Grade 7 lesson time is set aside to manufacture the craft items needed for the Grade 7 Fair. The girls pay close attention to detail and produced and packaged some superb products that sold out in moments on the day.

This year our girls were entered into the FACETS Science and Technology competition and the Culinary competition. The team of Rachel Williams, Caroline Hooper, Saarah Osman and Maryam Ameen were placed first in the Science



and Technology competition. The team of Anastasia Mondry and Olivia Sieff were placed third in the Culinary competition. Both groups enjoyed the experience and did their school proud! Thank you to Sans Souci for providing the opportunity.

The Grade 4s always work hard on their set projects. One that they particularly enjoyed this year was making a structure that used triangulation and could support a tin of condensed milk.

The girls first come to the classroom in Grade 3. The emphasis during this year is to practise fine motor skills whilst tackling a variety of projects. They learn to thread a



needle, sew on a button and to do running stitch and back stitch. They use these newly learnt abilities to design and make a finger puppet.

A huge thank you to my assistant Mrs Julies, without whom the smooth running of the lessons would not be possible! ■

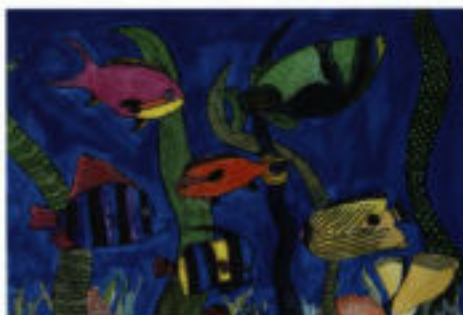
## Art Club

BY MRS ANNE FOALE-PRICE

"There is an energy in the creative process which can unify and harmonise all of us." Corita Kent.

In Art Club we have completed projects using a variety of different media. This included a still life of flowers, fish inspired by Paul Klee, pencil self-portraits, a still life with glass bottles and plants, Kirstenbosch mixed media and a painting of Jonathan Livingstone Seagull.

In an environment which arouses the child's interest and curiosity we open their eyes, stir their imagination, stimulate fantasy and trigger them into creative activity. ■





## GRADE 7



### GRADE 7 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** I Nicholson, T Spencer, R Glanvill, J Godfrey, R Dower, I Khan, L Omar, A Mondry, L Mohamed

**MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs C Billett, J Ovendale, L Frater, K Casewell, O Sieff, C Fisher, E Hillary, E Halle, H Fraser, H Meyer

**BACK ROW:** S Miszewski, I Peters, G Horrigan, C Rumbelow, M de Villiers, H Ebrahim, C Hooper, L Koopman, J Collins



### GRADE 7A

**FRONT ROW:** J Lancefield, M Ameen, L Berman, K Pillay, C Wilson-Trollip, I McAdam, C Romano, R Bagus, P Govan

**MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs I Fisher, C Howie, G Wellington, S Floquet, A de Villiers, C Carter, C Lennett, S Osman

**BACK ROW:** A van Graan, K Rowell, N Duckitt, E Manthorp, J Levett, S Wilensky, H Osrin, R Williams, L Formby

**ABSENT:** L Butler





▲ ROSEMARY DOWER



▲ CAITLIN HOWIE



▲ PRISHA GOVAN



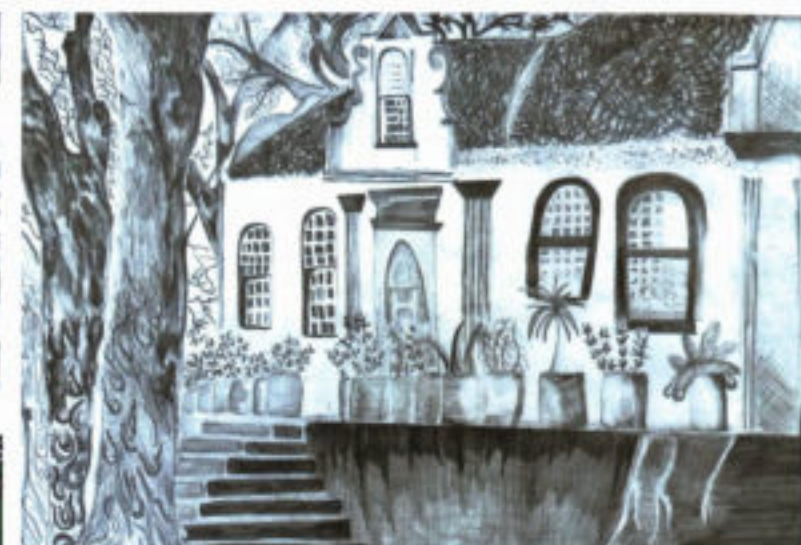
▲ SARAH FLOQUET



▲ CARA FISHER



▲ GEORGIA HERRIGAN



▲ HAADIYAH EBRAHIM



▲ OLIVIA SIEFF



▲ JESSICA OVENDALE



▲ GEMMA WELLINGTON



▲ LYNDALL KOOPMAN



▲ LAUREN BUTLER





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE

## Grade 7 Year

BY MRS INGRID FISHER

**2016** has been a fun-filled and busy year for the Grade 7 girls. It has been one of variety and commitments. The Grade 7 girls are the leaders of the school and they really rise to every challenge presented to them.

At the beginning of the year, each girl was asked to choose two out of the four portfolios and spent six months serving in each of their chosen portfolios. The Monitors assist teachers in supervising the younger girls and the Mentors listen to the reading of the Foundation Phase girls. The girls in Public Relations represent the School at functions and those in Outreach organise events for charity.

The girls started the year with a Leadership Day where the different leadership styles were discussed, leadership games were played and there were presentations by Stuart West and Emma Leslie, Head Girl of the Senior School. This day forms a springboard for the girls to confidently step into their roles as leaders of the Prep for 2016. They have also had the opportunity to experience more than one aspect of leadership as many were chosen as House Captains, Sports Captains, Library Monitors, Ensemble, Choir and Orchestra Leaders, Heads of Eco and Class Captains.

The girls enjoyed Valentine's Day with the Grade 7 boys of Western Province Prep. The boys came to Herschel and were given juice and biscuits followed by organised games and then a social time outside.

The camp to High Africa was a huge success. The girls had to face their fears,

demonstrate leadership qualities as well as co-operate in groups. All coped well with the challenges, living conditions and being away from home.

The Grade 7 Fair was a fun day for the whole school. The girls worked extremely hard on their crafts, making goods during Technology and at home. They also had delicious eats as well as a special tea garden for the parents. The Haunted House remains a favourite, but all the games and activities were enjoyed.

There was a 'dads and daughters' hike in Silvermine, which was enjoyed by all the girls and their dads. They hiked in the early morning and then stopped at the dam for a swim, while the dads made breakfast.

The girls have been on two outings this year. The first one was to the Castle of Good Hope, which many had not been to before. There was a guided tour by a member of the SANDF which was entertaining and very informative. Because they were studying slavery, the second outing, The Slave Walk, had meaning for the girls. They began their walk at the Castle, went past the Flower Sellers, Slave Murals and the Slave Church up to the Slave Lodge where they had a talk by a District Six Resident.

The Grade 7 girls have been big sisters to the Grade 1 girls this year. The little girls have loved their big sisters and in return the Grade 7s have so enjoyed guiding and nurturing these little ones.

All in all, 2016 has been a wonderful, busy, challenging and thoroughly enjoyable year for all the Grade 7 girls. ■





# High Africa Camp

BY RACHEL WILLIAMS

## DAY 1:

It had been a long, hot bus drive but finally we arrived at High Africa Camp and we all scattered off to our cabins. There were four houses, each with a wall dividing it into half which made up the cabins, each cabin with six beds. The cabins were spacious and each of them had a bathroom connected to it. After lunch they split us into three groups for our activities. The first set of activities was rock climbing, go-karting and constructing a raft. Rock climbing, for some people, was a big challenge. People afraid of heights had to face their fear and climb up a large climbing-wall. We all encouraged each other to do the best we could. To make go-karting harder, instead of just pushing people in the go-kart, they added a fun riddle to it. We had to get our team from one side of the field to the other and the trick was that not everyone could push the kart or ride in the kart. Some people weren't allowed to push it at all, some could do both and others could only push. To build the raft we had to use the equipment they gave us and we only had a certain amount of time. Once we had successfully built it we had to race the other team while

pushing it through the water. Two of these three activities were done on the first day and the remaining one of them the next. After dinner we went on a night hike. For most of us the highlight of the hike was going to a pile of rocks which caused a spark when two rocks collided. We all were allowed to pick up one rock and throw it at the pile. It was amazing to see all the sparks light up at once. Back in camp we roasted marshmallows over the fire.

## DAY 2:

After delicious flapjacks and eggs we did our third activity to finish the first set that we had started the day before. When we had finished we headed off on a walk. In the middle of the walk we stopped and Julie, the manager of High Africa Camp, taught us a lot about snakes. After lunch we did our next set of activities, the leap of faith, teamwork activities and puzzles. For lots of people the leap of faith was their highlight and for others it was the most dreaded activity of all. We had to climb up a ladder and stand on a platform, all while strapped in a safety harness, and it is exactly like the name, you take a leap of faith. The aim was

to jump off the pole and grab onto a bar hanging about a metre away from you. It was amazing to see how we all encouraged each other and how, even though it might be their greatest fear, everyone managed to at least try. In the teamwork activities we had to complete fun courses as a team. We had to all work together and help each other otherwise we wouldn't have been able to complete the task. We did the puzzles inside, there were many different puzzles we had to solve or complete. For this activity we also had to help each other and use everyone's knowledge to help complete the puzzle. Some had a refreshing swim in the river while others stayed in their cabins and relaxed. They announced that we were going to cook our own dinner, potjies, that night and that there would be a prize for the best one.

## DAY 3:

On the third day, instead of being in our three groups for activities, we were in our classes. That day we did the high obstacle course and the canoeing. We went on a 5km canoe trip on the Breede River. In each canoe there were two people. We stopped twice, once to swim and the next to have biscuits and juice. My favourite part was going through the Rapids. The high obstacle course was also lots of fun. We were on a harness eleven metres off the ground. We had to pass many different obstacles in the air. We all encouraged each other to go and in the end every girl did it. After our last dinner at Grade 7 camp we had to complete a treasure hunt.

## DAY 4:

We woke up and had our last breakfast at High Africa Camp. It was very sad packing up all our things and getting ready to leave. After we played some games on the grass we got everything ready to go. They announced the winners of the potjie competition and also handed out extra prizes for people who had done something extra to deserve one.

We have learnt so much from this amazing experience. We learned a lot about leadership skills and Grade 7 Camp gave us a chance to bond with everyone and make new friends. We all encouraged one another to do things we didn't know we were capable of. Lots of the girls had to face their fears and I think it is amazing how well they did that. We all tried so many new things. The teachers made us feel safe and comforted us as if we were their own and we thank them. ■





# Lone Lacy

She runs across the sandy shore, no one to tell her, "No", no one to tell her, "Stop". She runs wild and free chasing all bits of prey that happen to come her way. Ears as soft as the clouds, tongue as slobbery as a wet towel, she's running, running, running, running. A pink nose that shines like a diamond in the morning sun. Her body so very thin and weak you could see her ribs from a mile away. Fur dusted and wet, eyes hungry and tired. Every step she is running, running, running in hope of catching a late lunch as she races across the beach. When the sun sets she returns to her den in the long grass, blending in to her surroundings. She returns to her litter, hungry and waiting. Waiting for the following day.

**Harleigh Fraser**

## RELISHING DAYS OF REST

Hats blow in the warm, windy sun  
So calm are the cows  
And young, small children feast  
On juicy clementines

Lambs leap over fields of golden honey hay  
And the clouds are gentle giants  
Flossy and soft  
Sailing across the bright sun

Two star-crossed lovers lie in the grass  
The tall green grass  
Lying in the shade  
Of a withering, weary, weathered oak tree

Hats blow as fields of wheat, soft as snow,  
Shiver in the wind  
And an aura of calm is blessed upon the land  
The people are relishing their days of rest.

**Rosemary Dower**

## VOLCANO

Disguised as an ordinary mountain, a volcano is an identity thief. Do not be deceived by its fearsome beauty, for it is quiet like a criminal just before a crime. It keeps all of its feelings bottled up, hatred, fury and ire, until it finally explodes. The eruption is like a natural fireworks show, with bright oranges and reds. The bubbling, boiling anger pours down its rocky edge. It destroys everything in its path- good things and bad. You cannot escape the liquid magma. No-one ever has. **Georgia Horrigan**

## MOUNTAIN MONSTER

Animals play, they  
are happy, God bless  
But soon to flee as the sky rhino runs  
A red raging monster below leaps  
across the mountain side, destroying  
as it goes.  
Shrieks, shrills and screams  
A hustle and bustle  
to get to the freeway  
The rhino gets bigger swallowing the  
sky  
The golden beast below cackling on.  
Spitting flames as the fiery butterfly  
gets bigger  
But then a wave of purity strikes it like  
a cobra  
It whimpers away getting smaller and  
smaller  
Leaving a black path as it turns to run.  
No sign of life, just vast empty plains  
An empty black wasteland  
where silence is unusual  
It haunts you like a ghost  
The mountain monster will rise again.  
**Noa Duckitt**

## THE WAITING VOLCANO

It stands, motionless in the silvery moonlight,  
A haunting shadow of luminous black;  
A black shape in the darkening horizon,  
A still, shimmering reflection on the glassy  
lake.  
It explodes with a violent force of energy,  
Like a ton of bursting dynamite;  
A popping cork from fizzing champagne,  
Engulfing the land in its spluttering flame.  
Devouring the land's life,  
A raging bull, charging across the wasteland;  
Like a hissing cobra, slithering its path  
down the mountain,  
Lava lapping at the life of the land.  
The air white with ash,  
Falling down like a pleasant snowfall after  
a storm;  
But now it sits and waits,  
Waiting for the time to take its revenge on  
the land;  
The waiting volcano, waiting, waiting.  
**Sarah Floquet**



## MY SISTER

Autumn leaves fall and in the distance  
a tall, slim figure moves towards  
her goals. She set them through  
determination and strength. Her long  
legs glide as her arms swing beside  
her hips, swaying to the rhythm of  
the autumn breeze. The silent breeze  
blows her long, layered coco-brown  
hair, sending loose strands across her  
jaw. As she nears, willpower is radiated  
off her body. Her cloudy pink lips move  
into an embracing smile that sends  
a jolt up your body. Her firm fingers  
clutch your hand tightly. Her desire  
and perseverance is an energy force  
on its own, like a lightning bolt. Her  
outer beauty, inner elegance and true  
leadership is only a fraction of her true  
self. Her humorous soul leaves you  
captured. Her tanned skin, clear as a  
pearl, suddenly vanishes and you're left  
mesmerised, looking into graceful dark  
Lindt chocolate eyes. Her outer beauty  
fades like a shadow and you're left  
with a confident bubbly personality. A  
unique constellation among thousands  
of stars. My sister Sabriyyah.

**Haadiyah Ebrahim**



**THE SEA**

Crash against the shore  
Shimmering under the sun  
Home of the unknown  
**Anastasia Mondry**

**LIMERICK**

There was a young fellow from  
Springs,  
Who attempted to fly without wings.  
He jumped off a roof,  
He can show you the proof,  
For his body now aches when he sings.  
**Lucy Frater**

**DANDELIONS**

Long Dandelions  
In the beautiful garden  
Swaying the wind  
**Aaliyah van Graan**

**THE MOUNTAIN**

He looks over the city  
Full of confidence and pride  
The sturdy mountain  
**Isabella McAdam**

**LIONS**

Hungry Fierce  
Waiting for prey  
King of the reserve  
Danger  
**Emma Hillary**

**ELEPHANT**

Giant monster feet  
Two terrible taunting tusks  
One big loving heart  
**Jessica Ovendale**

**SUN**

Harmful rays  
Hot and fiery  
Boils, burns, sizzles, fries  
Fire  
**Caroline Hooper**

**SUNRISE**

Sunshine breaks the sky  
All nature is awoken  
But night will still come  
**Caitlin Howie**

**LIMERICK**

I rode on my bike to school,  
Nobody thought I was cool,  
I fell on my head,  
They laughed instead,  
And now I look like a fool.  
**Samantha Wilensky**

**SEASIDE HOLIDAY**

The wind was blowing, howling this cold  
and frosty night  
The windows rattled and shook, and gave  
me such a fright  
I sat warm, cosy with best book ever  
written  
Cuddled up in bed, with my sleeping kitten

But my mind was out and wandering, far  
and away  
To my special vacation trip, a seaside holiday  
I would swim and splash, a fish in the sea  
The activities would be fun, I'd be as busy  
as a bee

But right now I'm at home, dreaming,  
wishing, bored

Drinking some tea before bed, warm and  
freshly poured  
Its school tomorrow and I'd better do my  
homework  
If my paradise doesn't come soon, I know  
I'll go berserk!

I was like a tired dog, settling in for the  
night  
Resting my head, closing my eyes, guided  
by the moon's bright light  
Dreaming, dreaming, dreaming of the  
bright summer sun  
Wishing, wishing, wishing for my holiday  
fun

**Saarah Osman**

**GELUK**

Die prent stel al die geluk in die wêreld  
voor. Daar is 'n seun op sy fiets. Hy  
spring met sy fiets hoog in die lug en  
hy kyk na die avontuur in die stad.  
Die skaduwee op die geboue lyk soos  
Kersvader op sy slee en dus al die  
kinders se geluk. Die voëltjies sing vrolik  
in die grasgroen bome. Die vuurwarm  
son skyn deur die lang geboue en  
verwelkom 'n nuwe dag. Daar is  
kronkelpaaie wat langs die groot geboue  
afgaan. Dit is die vroe more en die  
sonsopkoms skyn met pragtige kleure.  
Dit is die prent van geluk en maak almal  
gelukkig.

**Sarah Floquet**

**'N LEWENSREIS**

Hy ry met die pragtige sonsondergang  
in die afstand. Hy is vry en hy voel asof  
hy alleen in die wêreld is. Daar is hoë  
geboue in 'n groot stad en alles is stil en  
rustig. Hy ry vining op 'n hobbelrige pad  
met 'n bries in die lug. Hy jaag die geel  
en helder son. Gemengde gevoelens op  
sy gesig, met 'n kasteel langs die pad.  
Groen bome en groen heuwels. Hy ry, ry,  
ry. More kom met die mooiste sonop in  
die wêreld. Mense word wakker om na  
hulle werk toe te gaan. Die vry man is  
nie meer alleen nie.

**Eva Halle**

Sonsopkoms of sonsondergang, ek  
weet nie. Die man is gelukkig, hy is  
bevry, hy is op 'n epiese reis en dit  
is lekker. Kyk na die lang, grys en  
towernde geboue in die verte. Die bome  
en blomme is groen soos gras. Die lug

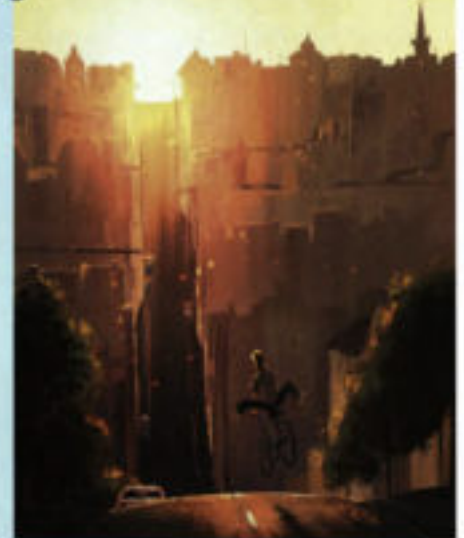
is 'n bars van goue lig. Die sorgvrye  
fietsryer is vinnig soos 'n koeël. Hy het  
geen bekommernisse in die wêreld nie.  
Die verlate paaie is stil, maar jy kan  
die sagte geruis van die wind in die  
skouspelagtige bome en blomme hoor.  
Hy gly energiek af met die straat.

**Kayla Casewell**

Die man ry van die skaduryke,  
vreesaanjaende, donker en gevaarlike  
plek waar hy woon. Hy is oppad na 'n  
sonnige, helder en gelukkige plek toe.  
Almal is gelukkig daar. Die sonnige plek  
is 'n plek waar hy gelukkig, rustig en  
opgewonde sal wees. Maar dit is 'n lang  
pad, 'n avontuur, opwindend, vreemd,  
steil en moeilik. Hy hou aan om die  
verligte pad te soek.

**Julia Levett**

# Afrikaans





## GRADE 6



### GRADE 6 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** H Judge, T Orgill, R Tudhope, O Johnstone, C de Gouveia, J Finlayson, A Dowling, K Forrest, K Farrell **MIDDLE ROW:** Ms L Cowie, M Erasmus, D Jähnig, C Williams, A Mohamed, S Macready, B Wilson, J Searle, K Webb **BACK ROW:** I Robb-Quinlan, G North, H MacRobert, S Mayekiso, T Bagg, R Moller, S Angeliniadis, A Martin, C Maharajh



### GRADE 6A

**FRONT ROW:** C Tsinonis, S van Veen, O Dearnaley, J Kirsten, R Turck, S Pearce, T May, H Mackay, J Hutcheson **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs A Lewis, S van Wyngaarden, C Boyd, J van der Merwe, J Bagus, D Govender, P Moodaley, G Quinlan, S True, Mr D Williams **BACK ROW:** A Cousins, G Stewart, C Laubscher, J Sainsbury, K Theron, V Barton, N Vermaak, E Parker, J Dore





▲ KIRSTEN FARRELL



▲ CATHERINE LAUBSCHER



▲ JENNA VAN DER MERWE



▲ KATE FORREST



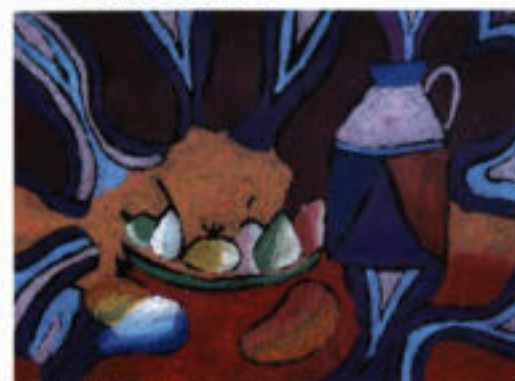
▲ AMBER DOWLING



▲ JESSICA DORE



▲ ALEXIA MARTIN



▲ KATHERINE WEBB



▲ JULIETTE SEARLL



▲ JAIMÉ FINLAYSON



▲ SARAH VAN WYNGAARDEN



# Grade 6

## LITTLE DREAMER

I flew to the moon  
people called me a loon.  
I flew in a rocket  
with some chocolate in my pocket.  
I held the moon dust in my hand  
but when I let go it floated far from land.  
I could see the view from far above  
the stars, the sun, everything I love.  
But when I was away...  
my mother would say...  
Wake up little dreamer, it's time to start a  
new day. **Sarah van Wyngaarden**

## THE SENSES OF LOVE

I love my beautiful family  
That I see around a fire  
The crackle of a blaze filled with pride  
The rumble and roar of a raging storm outside  
The smell of my mother as I stroke her hair  
The scent of fresh rain like fog in the air  
The taste of soup as it warms my heart  
The sweet fruity taste of a blueberry tart  
On my lap is my dog's fluffy head  
The feeling of love as I go to bed.

**Sarah True**

## SUMMER

The radiant sunset as it hides behind the  
mountains.  
And the pink clouds that rise at the  
beginning of the day.  
The sound of laughter pouring like fountains.  
And the soft, sweet singing of a child's  
voice faraway.  
The wonderful aroma of freshly baked cakes.  
And flowers that have just bloomed in spring.  
The melting feeling of chocolate flakes.  
And the taste of fresh donuts that come  
out in rings.  
The warm sun as it brightens all things.  
And the cold night air that blows on my  
wings! **Diyara Govender**

## EVERYTHING

The sight of the sparkly, spraying sea  
The sound of the birds, chirping happily in  
the mornings  
The smell of red, radiant roses  
The taste of poppy, woppy popcorn  
The touch of heavy, angry rain  
The sight of the dark, deserted forests  
The sound of the rushing, gushing water  
The smell of lovely, lavish lavender  
The taste of Nutella, forever  
The touch of the angry, determined winter  
**Alexia Martin**

## MURRY AND GEORGE

One day in the blazing hot grasslands,  
there was a simple mouse named Murry  
who was minding his own business, when  
he felt huge, crinkly, knobby feet push  
him over! After lying there for a while,  
eventually Murry got up. There in front of  
him was George, the tallest giraffe in the  
grasslands. "Hello," squeaked Murry, "I'm  
terribly sorry about tripping you." George  
leaned down and said, "You shall pay for  
what you have done!"

"What do you mean?" shivered Murry.  
"I mean that I challenge you to a race, to  
see if you are worthy to live!" "Okay," said  
Murry nervously, "What is the challenge?"  
George replied after thinking for a while.  
"We have to run across the grassy plain  
towards the tallest of the tall Umbrella  
Thorn Acacia Tree. We then have to get  
to the tippy top of the tree and get the  
juiciest, green leaves and bring them  
down, then run across the grassy plain  
back to the rocky plain. Whoever gets  
there first wins!" exclaimed George "Oh  
and I forgot, there is one rule, you're not  
allowed to climb up the tree!" he said with

a smirky grin on his face.

"WHAT!" screeched Murry, "How am  
I supposed to get the leaves without  
climbing up the tree?" "That's your  
problem!" said George, "Not mine." "See  
you tomorrow morning," and off he went.

Murry woke up at the crack of dawn  
and scurried off to the rocky plain. George  
arrived, knowing that he was without a  
doubt going to win.

"Take your marks, get set, GO!"  
screamed George. Murry scampered as  
fast as he could with George right beside  
him. After a while George looked around to  
see where Murry was. He had disappeared!  
The long dry grass covered him up! He  
stopped, and looked everywhere until he  
realised Murry could be ahead. He was  
right Murry was ahead, on HIS head!  
George reached out for the leaves, but  
Murry quickly grabbed them and slid down  
George's back. Murry sprinted back across  
to the rocky plain. "I WON!" cheered Murry.  
George was very upset, until he realised  
that it's not size that counts, it's how you  
use it! **Moral = Don't judge a book by its  
cover. Rachel Turck**

## WAAR IS JY NOU, CHAD LE CLOS?

Die hele stadion hou hul dop  
Chad sit sy swembril op  
Die laaitie langsaan (van Singapore) kyk  
en sluk  
Want Michael Phelps maak hom skrik  
Op die blokkies staan hulle nou  
On your marks, get set, GO!  
Swem nou Swem Chad le Clos  
Schooling is ver voor jou!  
Die einde kom  
Schooling is klaar!  
Michael, Chad en Laszlo na...

**Catherine Laubscher en Rachel Turck**

## DIE OLIMPIESE SPELE IS HIER!

Al die lande kom na Rio se strande  
Die Olimpiese Spele het begin!  
Ons sien en ons kyk na die swem en die duik  
Die water is warm... Spring in!  
Al die sportsoorte kan ons boei  
Alles behalwe die stoei  
Olimpiese Spele is nie vir amateurs.  
Bronze is nie vir ons  
En goud is defintief nie vir oud  
Usain Bolt is my maat  
Maar toe is hy laat.  
Ek het die rekord gebreek  
Ek so begin my wenstreek.  
**Kirsten Farrell, Sofia Angeliniadis  
en Amber Dowling**



## ATLETE

Olimpiese Spele is baie bekend  
dit het atlete met baie talent.  
Een, twee, drie die fluitjie blaas  
dis tyd om te sien wie is die baas.  
Die toeskouers is vol moed  
die atlete is doodmoeg.  
Suid-Afrika het die goud gewen  
en nou sal die wêreld ons ken.  
**Caitlin Maharajh, Michaela Erasmus  
en Ayesha Mohamed**



I love...

The luscious smell of Lush as I walk by,  
The soothing sound of water dripping  
down a frosty wall,  
The sight of a waking waterfall crashing  
onto the rocks below making foam as  
white as snow,  
The touch of the summer sun as it wraps  
itself warmly around my legs,  
The taste of creamy ice-cream as it melts  
on my curling tongue,  
The touch of bubbling bubble bath on my  
skin making it feel fresh and young,  
The dark deep sky with shining stars  
dancing in the night,  
The sound of girls laughing like gagging  
geese,  
The joyful chirps of birds in the silent still  
meadow  
The bursting fresh flavours of lemonade  
bursting in my mouth. **Skye Macready**

A droplet of dew like a small glass bead,  
The clear scent of fresh air that your lungs  
often need.  
The wondrous smell of self-baked buns,  
The rich, homely taste of warm milk on the  
tongue.  
A rushing waterfall, where you can drink  
your fill,  
A baby's first laugh like a small, ringing bell.  
The red armor of a ladybird, who is never  
feared,  
The soft touch of sheep wool like a soft,  
fluffy beard.  
A perfectly cooked pastry, a crunchy slice,  
And smooth, cold marble, your fingers like  
ice. **Jessica Dore**

The magnificent misty morning sun that  
brightens up my day;  
The giggling smile of a wild child who  
misbehaves.  
The glorious scent of oh so fresh coffee;  
The terrific taste of candy floss,  
disappearing like mist in my mouth.  
The wonderful taste of an ice-cream as  
freezing as the sea;  
The touch of the ocean's waves, crashing  
down on me.  
The sound of girls cheering, YAY, WOW  
and YIPPEE!  
The scent of a sweet summertime  
smoothie as fruity as can be.  
The touch of warm water flowing in the heat,  
The sight of the midnight moonlight  
shining beneath my feet!  
**Camryn Williams**



I love the smell of freshly baked, brown,  
banana bread,  
And the sound of water dripping; drip...  
drip... drip...  
I love the sight of babies smiling,  
Like a picture worth a thousand words.  
I love the taste of soft cupcakes,  
The touch of the sun, whilst we were  
playing together on the grass.  
I love the sight of a rainbow, like I love the  
sight of an angel with her halo,  
The smell of sizzling bacon, sizzle...  
sizzle...sizzle.  
I love the taste of light and right soft candy  
floss delight,  
And the touch of someone's soft golden  
hair...  
Whilst dancing in the air.  
I love my favourite things...  
**Juliette Searll**

The sight of the beautiful, bright, blue sky,  
The colour of leaves as green as grass.  
The sound of crazy, cool laughs,  
The pitter, patter of rain.  
The scent of ruby, red roses.  
The smell of pretty, purple lavender.  
The taste of chocolate melting on your  
tongue,  
The sweetness of candy floss, as sweet  
as syrup.  
The feel of bright, light, white snow,  
The splash, splash of water touching your  
hand. **Kirsten Farrell**

The sight of a summer sunset  
The sound of chirp, chirp, chirping birds  
The scent of freshly cut flowers



The touch of rushing waves  
The sight of the midnight moon  
The sound of flowing waterfalls, rushing by  
The taste as tangy as toffee  
The scent of newly brewed vanilla beans  
The touch of a warm bath, as warm as the  
summer sun touching my skin  
**Michaela Erasmus**

The orange oh so heavenly setting sun  
The clip of hooves  
The rain sliding off my leather shoes  
The delightful smell of rain  
The drops slowly dripping off my window  
pane  
The breath of a horse tickling my palm  
The warmth of the sun creeping up my arm  
The taste of chocolate in my mouth,  
melting like ice  
The smoky fire crackling away would suffice  
But baking cookies could be quite nice.  
**Priya Moodaley**

The big, beautiful smile across your face  
The pitter patter of rain drops falling  
The sweet smell of lavender blooming  
The crunchy crunch of chewy cookies  
The tender touch of tiny puppies  
The sight of the worlds wondrous wonders  
The "roar" of the cheering crowd  
The vanilla scented bubble bath floating  
like clouds in the sky  
The creamy chocolate that melts on my  
tongue  
The warm touch of exciting summer fun.  
**Chloe de Gouveia**



## GRADE 5



### GRADE 5 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** C Thompson, S Gutuza, G Dillon, O Hill, P Kossowski, R Ebrahim, K Mahabeer, C Coutts-Trotter, N Dahya **MIDDLE ROW:** Ms E Webster, A de Villiers, E Parker-Forsyth, J Jensen, E Dix, Y Rawoot, E Sales, E Floquet, J Houwing **BACK ROW:** R Clark, E Faure, D Kaye, J Paine, C Park, S Danpoulo-Baba, Z Lujabe, K Swain, S Gonsenhauser



### GRADE 5A

**FRONT ROW:** L MacFarlane, L Burns, S O'Shea, J Wellington, G Weir, M de Graaf, C Le Roux, I Weldon, K Lawrenson, N Starke, M Sonnenberg **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs S Blake, S Searl, S Jensen, H Govan, L Edelstein, E Clarke **BACK ROW:** P Duckitt, K Buissinne, R Howie, R Shortt, D Varney, G Neethling, R Cuninghame, K Benade, M Harrison **ABSENT:** Z Roshan





▲ EMILY FLOQUET



▲ ELLA SALES



▲ KATHERINE SWAIN



▲ DANIELLA KAYE



▲ KIARA MAHABEER



▲ KELSIE LAWRENSON



▲ LUCY MACFARLAINE



▲ SIENNA O'SHEA



▲ GEORGINA NEETHLING



▲ YUMNAA RAWOOT



▲ LUCY EDELSTEIN



# Grade 5

## WAR

(based on a story of an orphaned girl)

I am lonely and sad  
I wonder about people and how the  
world war started  
I hear screams and gun-shots  
I see heartbroken people and  
homeless children  
I want peace and love  
I am lonely and sad

I pretend to not be heard  
I feel scared and hungry  
I touch broken plates and smashed  
glass  
I worry I will die  
I cry for my pretty mother and kind  
father  
I am lonely and sad

I understand it is not a nice time  
I say I wish I had my older brother and  
younger sister  
I dream of happiness  
I try to not cry  
I hope for peace  
I am lonely and sad  
**GRACE DILLON**



## IT'S COLD

It's cold, It's cold  
The breeze, it's freezing as it wraps its  
arms around you,  
your coat and scarf are keeping you warm  
by holding you tight.  
It's cold, It's cold  
Sip your coffee, it will rush down your  
throat  
and make you warm  
by swimming around all wonderfully warm.  
It's cold, It's cold  
Make a fire, it will eat away the darkness  
and glow  
while heating you up as it crackles and  
laughs.  
It's cold, It's cold  
But now the sun is shining and everything  
is bright and warm  
**SHOUT HOORAY!**  
It's warm, It's warm.

**LEAH BURNS**

## A COLD DAY

An icy, nippy breeze comes past  
Blows the warm summer away.  
A snow storm is coming fast,

It slowly starts to thunder  
Just like any old day.  
We sit and wrap ourselves in blankets  
And have a hot chocolate too.  
It feels like we have been put in a freezer  
And suddenly I look at you;  
You have frost growing on your nose and  
ears  
And look it is happening to me too.

**GENEVIEVE WEIR**

## MY FAMILY IS A CAR

My dog is the steering wheel  
because she drives me crazy.  
My sister, Sarah, is the window, because  
she looks at every opportunity.  
My dad is the spare tyre, because he's  
always there when you need him.  
My mom is the hooter, because if I stop  
she will tell me to carry on.  
My cat Ali is the radio, because she never  
stops talking.  
My cat Minerva is the pipes under the car,  
because you never see her.  
And I am the engine, because I am the  
energy in the family.

**JESSICA JENSEN**



## BOOK REVIEW: RACE BETWEEN JACKAL AND CRAB

Have you ever tried to walk sideways? Crab can but it seems that boastful Jackal can't. This beautiful story, titled *The Race between Jackal and Crab*, starts in the heart of Africa by a river where two animals meet. This is a well written story by Gert le Grange who has brought the animals to life with attitude and humour. This story tells how silly Jackal says that Crab is lazy and to prove his point he challenges Crab to a race. Jackal knows he will win as he can run very fast, but will he fall for Crab's clever plan?

Children aged 7 to about 11 will love this book as it teaches you many things. There are beautiful illustrations and writing, which interested me the most. I hope you will read this exciting and funny African tale and enjoy it just as much as I did.

**LUCY EDELSTEIN**



## A BOOK REVIEW

# The Richest Crocodile in the World

The African plains is where the richest crocodile in the world once lived. Daniel Postgate wrote *The Richest Crocodile in the World* in 2003. He explains about how Crocodile feels lonely and invites all the animals to his crumbly old mansion, helped by his butler, Jenkins the giraffe who is kind, thoughtful and a helpful friend.

Crocodile asks if all the animals want

to live in the mansion with him. But do they really want to? You'll have to read the story to find out. We all learnt that life isn't always easy, but that is what makes it so good. Every day is an adventure.

I think it is a very cute story and has beautiful pictures, but it is a bit babyish. The target audience is probably five to eight years. **GEORGINA NEETHLING**

## CURIOUS AND KIND

I am curious and kind  
I wonder if I am like you?  
I hear many small voices, I see dancing light too  
I want the world to be just perfect: no fighting or hurting.  
I am curious and kind  
I pretend I am flying,  
I feel the rain tapping on my back  
And I touch the clouds as I swoop past them.  
I worry about what will happen in the future  
And I cry when I think about animals being hurt.  
I am curious and kind,  
I understand why the wind blows  
And I say just follow your dreams it's that simple,  
I dream about riding a Pegasus.  
I hope the world will become a better place  
I am curious and kind,  
**NINA STARKE**

## WHAT MAKES ME, ME

I am like the waves of the deep blue sea,  
I wonder what people think of me,  
I hear the sea turning and rumbling,  
I see the waves calmly tumbling,  
I want to find what makes me, me,  
I am like the waves of the deep blue sea.  
I pretend that I can see the light,  
I feel the sun shining bright,  
I touch the dancing beams up high,  
I worry about things that make me sigh,  
I cry when I feel weak and wee,  
I am like the waves of the deep blue sea.  
I understand things might not be right,  
I say I look up to the light,  
I dream my sins will be forgiven,  
I hope that I will go to Heaven,  
I hope someday I'll understand me,  
For I am like the waves of the deep blue sea!

**RACHEL SHORTT**

**DIE SON:** Ek was in 'n stryery met Wind. Ek is sterker as Wind. Wind kom op met 'n plan, dat ons 'n kompetisie moes hê, om te sien wie die sterkste was. Wind het gesê dat ons sou probeer om 'n man se peperduur baadjie van sy lyf af te kry! Ek het die kompetisie gewen! Ek was doodgelukkig.

**BOBBIE:** My naam is Bobbie. Ek het gister Tafelberg geklim. Dit was 'n koel dag, en die wind het gewaai. Ek het my baadjie styf vasgehou. Skielik dit was vuurwarm! Ek het naderhand sô warm gekry, dat ek het my klere uitgetrek het. Ek was baie verward.  
**KELSIE LAWRENSON**

## HOE OM 'N GEMENGDE SLAAI TE MAAK

Spoel die groente af en maak hulle mooi droog. Ek neem 'n halwe kropslaai en breek dit op in stukkies met my hande. Dan sry ek 'n halwe rooi ui in ringe. Voeg heel, vars babatamaties by. Daarna sny ek 'n geel rissie in repies. Meng die groente. Neem een knoffel huisie en smeer 'n hout slaabak met dit. Gooi die groente in die slaabak. Vir die slaaisous, neem ek drie eetlepels olie, twee eetlepels asyn en een eetlepel suiker. Voeg 'n bietjie sout en peper by. Meng en gooi oor die slaai. 'n Heerlike, gesonde, ligte ete. **YUMNAA RAWOOT**

## EK EN MAMMA BAK SJOKOLADEKOEK

Ek en Mamma gaan 'n lekker sjokoladekoek bak. Ons het saam Ouma se tradisionele sjokoladekoek resep deurgelees. Eerstens moes ons al die bestanddele ulthaal. Toe het ons die melk, botter, eiers en suiker saam in 'n groot mengbak gemeng. Ek het net gou stil-stil die mengsel geproe om seker te maak dit smaak reg. Mamma het die baksel in die oond gesit en ek het gekyk hoe dit rys. Na 25 minute het Mamma die koek uitgehaal. Sy het die pienk versiersuiker uit die kas uitgehaal. Ek en Mamma het die hele koek met pienk versiersuiker versier. Ek het laastens 'n paar sjokolade balletjies bo-op gesit.

Dit was soveel pret!  
**ALIDA DE VILLIERS**





## GRADE 4



### GRADE 4 ALPHA

**BACK ROW:** L van der Merwe, A Badenhorst, G Antrobus, K Formby, N Macey, C Barton, A de Villiers, K Hodgson, S Baker **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs A Mozley, S Sondag, T Pillay, S Essa, G Prinsloo, S Dearnaley, A Bräslar, T Katz, O Sherren **FRONT ROW:** D Kleingeld, R Verspielen, N de Bruyn, B Stewart, E Aspinall, C Macleod Smith, J Hatherill, M Sainsbury, K Mills **ABSENT:** A van Breda



### GRADE 4A

**BACK ROW:** E van Heerden, E Vermaak, T Delliperi, E Du, H Thomas, J Rutgers, H Saith, J Petersen, G Finlayson **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs Centurion-Harris, S Ebrahim, H Wright, R Parker, O Copeland, A Moonda, S Lund, A Ashbolt, I Stodel **FRONT ROW:** R Boyd, L Gross, N Kahn, R Joshua, L Mangxola, A Searson, Z Esack, F Hathorn, J Ratcliffe, Miss D Smith





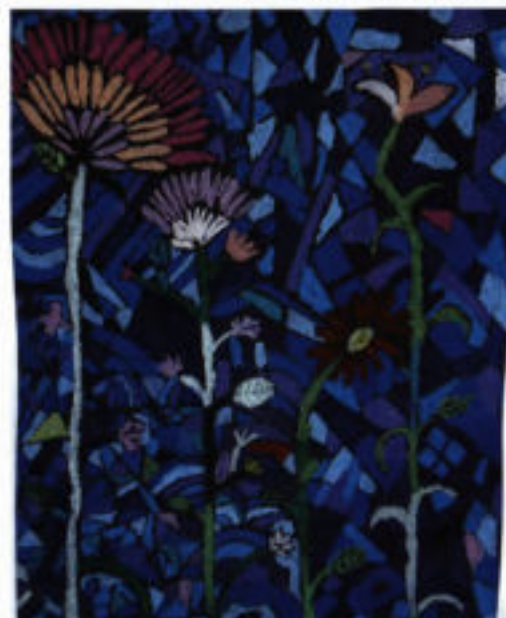
▲ EMILY VAN HEERDEN



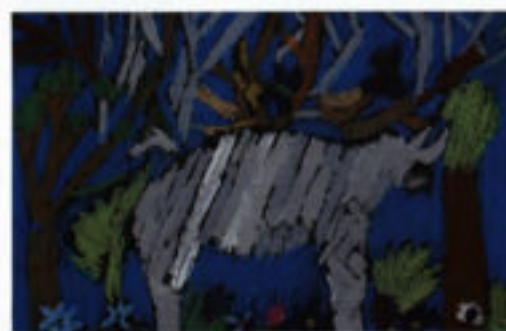
▲ ANJA BRÄSLER



▲ TIA DELIPERI



▲ ROSALIE VERSPIËREN



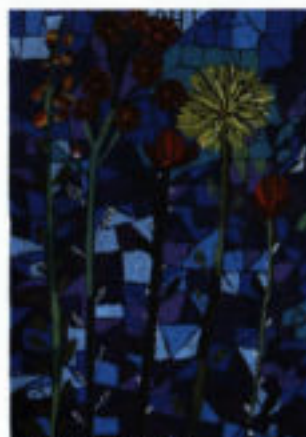
▲ REBECCA JOSHUA



▲ CATHERINE BARTON



▲ SOFIA LUND



▲ ELEN VERMAAK



▲ ELYSIA ASPINALL



▲ KATIE MILLS



▲ GEMMA PRINSLOO



▲ ANNA SEARSON



# Grade 4

## THE WOLF AND FOX

There was once a wolf and fox. They lived in the wood but they were not the best of friends.

There were lots of different animals living in the woods, but the cleverest of them all was the Owl. One day Owl was sitting in a tree when he heard shouts and yells. It was Wolf and Fox. They were arguing about who was better than whom. Owl sighed, Wolf and Fox were always arguing about something or other.

The next day Owl heard Wolf muttering something under his breath. Owl heard a few of the words. Owl suddenly knew what he was planning to do, so Owl flew off to find Fox. When he found him, Owl told Fox what Wolf was planning to do. When Owl was finished, Fox thought for a moment, said thank you, and went on his merry way.

In the dead of the night, Fox

crept to Wolf's house and listened beneath the window. Wolf was saying that he had gotten everything ready and that he would wait for Fox on the edge of the path and trap him when he came back from his evening swim. So the next evening, Fox crept around the side of the path, when he had finished his swim, and there he saw the trap, a net covered in leaves and sticks. He waited and then saw Wolf's ears sticking out of the bush. So he crept around the bush and pushed Wolf with all of his might. Wolf tumbled out of the bush and fell into the trap. Wolf felt bad and humiliated. Fox made him promise that he would not do a thing like that again. I think he learned his lesson, don't you?

**MORAL:** No one can be better than everyone.

**EMILY VAN HEERDEN**

### MY FAVOURITE ASPECT ABOUT GRADE FOUR IS...

**SHARIFA EBRAHIM:** The friends new and old, the teachers and the fun Drama projects.

**ROXANNE BOYD:** Art, definitely Art!

**FRANCIS HATHORN:**

Reading, oh what fun it is!

**EMILY VAN HEERDEN:** Technology, we have so much fun!

**REBECCA JOSHUA:** Making new friends.

**GEORGIA FINLAYSON:** Most definitely the class, friends and teachers.

**ISABELLA STODEL:** Doing projects on the computer.

**RAZEENAH PARKER:** All the cool activities we do!

**HANNA WRIGHT:** Everything! Because we have so much fun!

**JAIME RUTGERS:** Getting to go to Integrated Studies!

**ELEN VERMAAK:** The raffle and different classes.

**OLIVIA COPELAND:** Trying new things.

**ANNA ASHBOLT:** Art and Natural Sciences, I love nature!

**JESSICA PETERSEN:** Having fun with all my friends.

**HANAAN SAITH:** My teacher!

**JESSICA RATCLIFFE:** Art, simply Art!

**ZAHRA ESACK:** The General Knowledge Quiz every Friday!



### MY FAVOURITE ASPECT OF THE OLYMPICS 2016 IS...

**ENQI DU:** To see Suin Yang win a silver medal.

**LUCIA GROSS:** Watching Dom Scott

**TIA DELIPERI:** Also watching Dom Scott

**ANNA SEARSON:** Listening to Dom Scott in Assembly.

**AZRA MOONDA:** Synchronised swimming.

**LIPHELO MANGXOLA:** Gymnastics.

**SOFIA LUND:** The running.

**NADHIRA KHAN:** Watching all the different sports.



## WHAT HAVE I LOVED MOST ABOUT GRADE FOUR?

**SABIHA SONDAY:** Making new friends and the music programme.

**KATE FORMBY:** I loved taking part in the Interhouse Hockey.

**OLIVIA SHERREN:** I am in a better team for netball.

**NICOLA DE BRUYN:** I loved the music workshop and I loved playing hockey.

**AMELIA BADENHORST:** I have made five new best friends.

**ROSALIE VERSPIEREN:** I have started playing hockey.

**SUFIAH ESSA:** I loved the instrumental music programme.

**DANA KLEINGELD:** I loved it when our class went on the Victorian times outing.

**AMY VAN BRED:** I loved playing netball for the first time in the Interhouse Netball.

**MIA SAINSBURY:** I have loved making new friends.

**GEMMA PRINSLOO:** I have loved everything about Grade Four.

**KATE HODGSON:** I loved being in the A team for hockey.

**NICOLE MACEY:** I loved swimming in the Interschool Gala for the first time.



## Adverbs

Baby buck runs fast;  
Sprinting  
Fast lion hunts stealthily  
Hungry  
Looking for buck

**CATHERINE BARTON**

Grizzly bear licks his paws  
hungrily;  
Yawning  
Little rabbit hops quickly  
Frightened  
Of the hungry bear.

**BIANCA STEWART**

Black cat walks stealthily;  
Waiting  
Blue bird eats happily  
Singing  
In the trees.

**LEAH VAN DER MERWE**

Excited crowd cheers wildly  
Watching  
Talented dancer dances  
gracefully  
Leaping  
Beautifully on the stage.

**KATIE MILLS**

Pretty Queen Kate smiles  
happily  
Waving  
Servant cleans carefully  
Polishing  
The beautiful crown.

**TAYLA KATZ**

Violent tiger growls  
ferociously  
Hunting  
Tasty buck hears tiger  
Running  
Fears for his life.

**TASKYA PILLAY**

Little child watches silently  
Loving  
Dog runs happily  
Playing  
Trying to catch a butterfly.

**GEORGINA ANTROBUS**

A tiny fish splashes joyfully  
Blowing bubbles  
Cat crawls stealthily  
Waiting  
To catch its prey.

**SOFIA DEARNALEY**

Horse gallops speedily;  
Neighing  
Pony trots up  
cheerfully;  
Hopeful  
Wanting to play

**ANJA BRÄSLER**

Stingray swims fast  
Stinging  
People snorkel  
anxiously  
Seeing  
The hungry stingray.

**STEPHANIE BAKER**





## GRADE 3



### GRADE 3 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** G Fürst, M Brey, Z Abrahams, E Swart, K Vester, J Koller, G Currie, Z Douglas

**MIDDLE ROW:** I Kepelele, E Scott, C Kleye, S Dore, O Emmerich, A Tresfon, H Rajie, K Seymour, K Buissinne, Ms H King **BACK ROW:** G Mulder, E Magrath, O Sparks, P Dower, L Schuhbauer, J Lückhoff, G Sierra Rubia, A Coquelle, K Cadiz

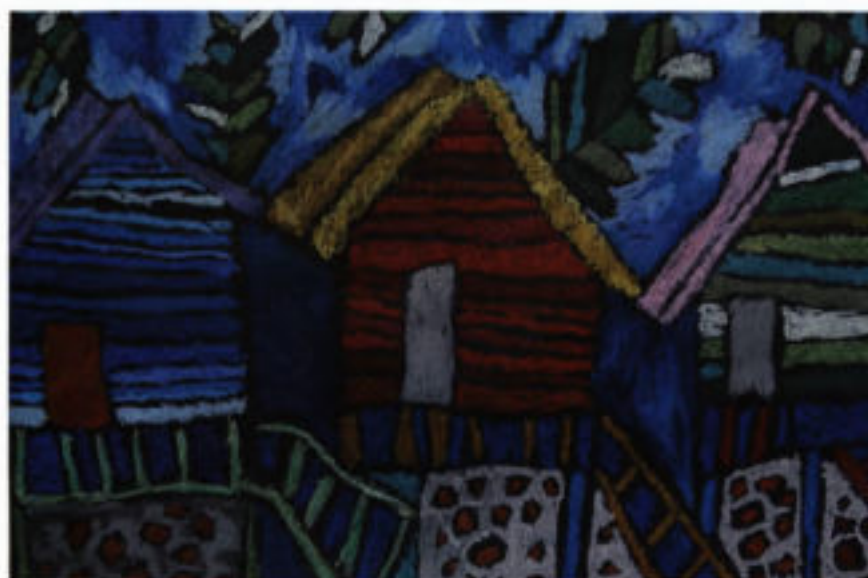


### GRADE 3A

**FRONT ROW:** K Van Schaikwyk, J Turck, C Walker, C Hughes, S Rinquest, Z Böttger, K Böttger, I Lappin,

S Sierra Rubia **MIDDLE ROW:** L Sherwood, S Rossouw, E Brodziak, S Griffiths, E Van Zyl, S Mohamed, Z Bhorey, L Rothschild **BACK ROW:** Mrs C Zevenster, S Vickers, G Ovenstone, S Flint, M Govender, I Barbour, G Sales, M Else, O Currie, I Lindsay





▲ KELLY CADIZ



▲ SOFIA SIERRA RUBIA



▲ EMILY SWART



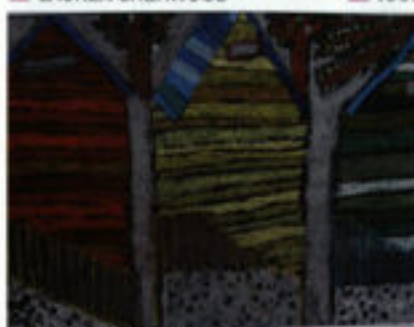
▲ LAUREN SHERWOOD



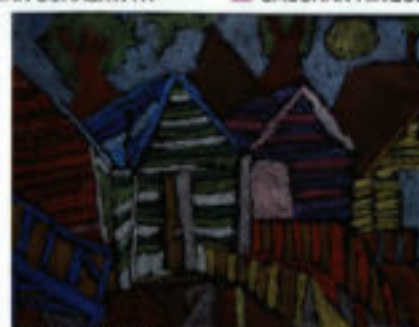
▲ KARLY VAN SCHALKWYK



▲ SAUSHAN RINQUEST



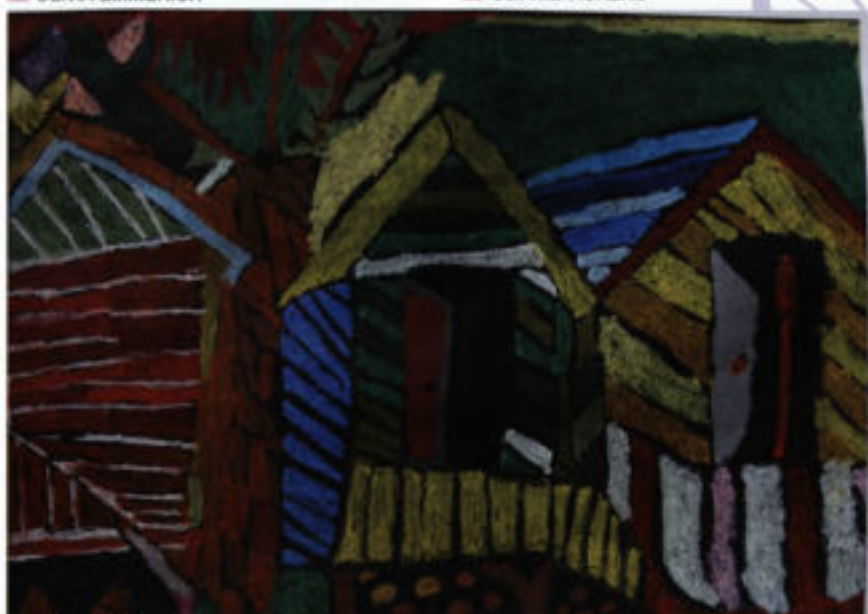
▲ OLIVIA EMMERICH



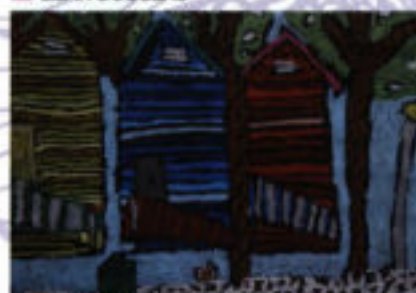
▲ SOPHIE VICKERS



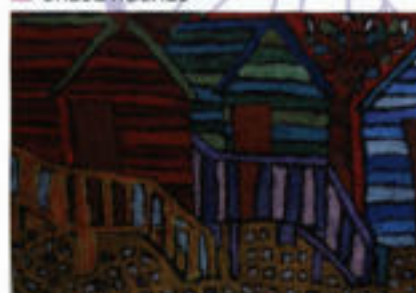
▲ ZEAH DOUGLAS



▲ GEMMA FÜRST



▲ CHLOE HUGHES



▲ SAMANTHA DORE



# Grade 3

## I'D LIKE TO INVENT A MACHINE THAT...

- will do your orals and projects. You just need to say "Butterfly project" or whatever it is about and it will do the project for you. **SYRIANA MOHAMED**
- will give you any book you want by pressing a button. It also has a lamp, so when you read you have a lamp. **EMILY VAN ZYL**
- will help people who cannot see or hear. It will help them learn how to live their life, without being able to see or hear. **CHARLIZE KARIMI-TABESH**
- if you are stuck in lots of traffic or tired, it can take you into a hole in the ground where there are tunnels. You can go wherever you want and no-one will find you. **SAMANTHA FLINT**
- will tell you anything you want to know, so that moms, dads and teachers don't have to learn things when they are young. **GRACE SALES**
- will teach every child in the world everything they need to know about spelling, maths, music and technology. It is made to help children that can't afford education. **ISABEL LAPPIN**
- will feed us when we are babies. I think it will make life easier for some moms. Plus moms make dinner, so all they have to do is make dinner. **SIENNA ROSSOUW**
- will clean the house, babysit make the food and be the house security guard. It will be waterproof so it can clean the pool and fish tank. **SAUSHAN RINQUEST**
- can help people do things perfectly. This machine will control your body and make you perfect at some things. **JULIA TURCK**
- will pick up dog poo, make food, take you and fetch you from school and look after you. I call it a Nanny-Bot. **ISABELLA LINDSAY**
- is a computer. You can see whoever you want to by going inside the computer screen. **GABRIELLA OVENSTONE**
- does whatever you say. Like "Make me rich" BOOM you are rich. It gets you birthday and Christmas presents. It also loves you so, so, so much. **ZARA BÖTTGER**
- is a switch and it goes on your skin to make you swim faster. You will be the best. **SOPHIE VICKERS**



- makes me time travel and see what happens in the future and fix it. Then nothing bad would happen in the future. **SOFIA SIERRA RUBIA**
- will do hair. It will help because then my mum doesn't have to do my hair. Then my mum will have double the time to get ready. **LAUREN SHERWOOD**
- does everything that we want it to do, so my family doesn't have to. He can drive us to school on time and fetch us from anywhere. **SIENNA GRIFFITHS**
- will do the garden. This will make your garden look very nice when people come to visit. You don't need to mow the lawn. **KIRSTEN BÖTTGER**
- would let you go back in time. It will help you if you made a mistake you can go back in time so that you can fix it. **KARLY VAN SCHALKWYK**
- would be called the Partynator. It would be awesome, put it on a setting from slumber party to dress up and more! Thanks to this parents will rest easy, not having to plan a party for their child. **LEAH ROTHSCHILD**
- can do your homework, make you food when you are hungry. It can teleport you anywhere too. **CHLOË HUGHES**
- will give you money when run out of money. It will help your parents pay the school fees and you won't ever have to go to the bank. **ZAKIYA BHOREY**
- will help people who are broke. It is a cube that you draw fake money and put it into the cube and it turns into real money. **MEGAN ELSE**
- does cool hairstyles. Every day I will have a different hairstyle. It will also wash my hair and give me head massages too. **MIRA GOVENDER**
- cleans the house. This machine will help you make your bed and do much more for you. It is called the Housebot. **OLIVIA CURRIE**
- will teleport you anywhere, even to the moon. You can use it if you are late for a meeting, a party or anything. **ISLA BARBOUR**
- would clean the house, cook meals and pack lunch boxes with sweets. It can also do your homework and your hair. **EMMA BRODZIAK**
- will clean your house or do anything, like brush the dogs, wash the dishes and make my bed. It is very helpful. **CATHERINE WALKER**



## I'D LIKE TO INVENT A MACHINE THAT...

- turns garbage into money so that I can be very rich. **ZEAH DOUGLAS**
- can do all your homework and makes brownies. **GEORGIA CURRIE**
- turns garbage and scraps into different things. It will run off solar power. **ERIN SCOTT**
- can create a horse for you. A Horse-o-maker. You can chose the colour and it will be trained already. **JENNA KOLLER**
- you can put in a shop and it will change all the cigarettes into good or healthy cigarettes instead. Cigarettes are very bad for you. **GRACE MULDER**
- can take you all around the world. The first place I would visit is France. **JULIA LÜCKHOFF**
- can make a carpet fly. It would be a magic carpet that I can control. **INGA KEPELELE**
- would make anything you wish for. Like when it is freezing cold, it would make all the flowers still grow. **MAARYAH BREY**
- makes banana bread with thick smeared butter on top. It makes it warm and it tastes delicious. I would call it the Banana Toaster. **OLIVIA EMMERICH**
- has ear plugs that plug into it and into your ears. Then when you think of anything that it want, it magically appears, but only if you say "activate." **AIMEE TRESFON**
- makes cupcakes whenever I want. It would be able to read my mind. So I wouldn't ever have to tell it what flavour. **PHILIPPA DOWER**
- can create monsters that are silly, fun and crazy. They would be fluffy and colourful. **KAYLIN SEYMOUR**
- creates Lego. You just type in at the top what Lego you want, and it comes out of the bottom of the machine in its box. **SAMANTHA DORE**
- could make any kind of milkshake. Then we wouldn't have to go to restaurants for them anymore. I could even have a secret bedtime snack. **CYANNE KLEYE**
- allows time travel. I would go into the future, and back to the past to fix my mistakes. The future would be so cool and I could know what is going to happen. **GRETA SIERRA RUBIA**
- looks like hair clip and will tell you all the answers in class and while you do your homework. **KIRSTY BUISSINNE**
- secretly does my homework for me. It would be called the Homework-eliminator. **GEMMA FÜRST**



- makes an invisibility potion. When people are bad in the city and try to kill people I would sprinkle the potion over the city and it would turn invisible **KELLY CADIZ**
- helps you get ready for school. I would call it the Ready machine **OLIVIA SPARKS**
- would do my homework for me, in less than half an hour **LEILA PITHEY**
- makes meatballs fly out the sky. I would call it the Meatball Flyer. **ZAHRA ABRAHAMS**
- makes sweets. I would tell the machine what kind of sweets and they would magically come out. I would eat sweets the whole day. **AVA COQUELLE**
- will make you smart. When you do an exam you will get all the answers right. **HANNAH RAJIE**
- is a jetpack made out of marshmallows. When you press a button it can squirt out melted chocolate. **LILY SCHUHBAUER**
- answers all the questions in the world. It would only work for me. I would ask it hard maths sums like  $12 \times 12$ . **EMILY SWART**
- does your homework. You put your homework in the machine and push a button which says go. **EVA MAGRATH**





## GRADE 2



### GRADE 2A

**FRONT ROW:** K Rowland-Smuts, S Ashbolt, K Slingers, A Bailey, S Lobert, I Dearlove, A Owendale, T Rycroft, T-Y Ebrahim **MIDDLE ROW:** Ms K Muzzell, I Moolia, S Holwill, E Stodel, K Koch, K Totaram-Jacobs, G Dube, C Ratcliffe, J Bassa **BACK ROW:** A Janoodien, A Moonda, R Murray, S Leinberger, S Peters, G Meyer, J Mahabeer, A Efsthathiou, E Mills



### GRADE 2 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** G Stodel, G Morkel, A Böttger, S Nimb, A Keers, C Morkel, R Bhagoo, G Efsthathiou, N Heyns **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs J Nel, T Toll, I Rautenbach, T Sontange, M Dahya, N Harnekar, I Parring, M Pickering **BACK ROW:** C Jacobs, M Coquelle, T Varney, S Harrison, K Dube, A Lashbrooke, M Gessler, L Macleod Smith, A Murray **ABSENT:** R Teixeira, N Wides

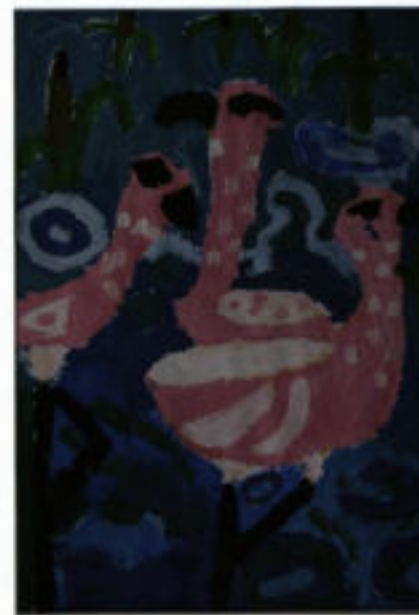




▲ ALICE KEERS



▲ SARAH HOLWILL



▲ RIO TEIXEIRA



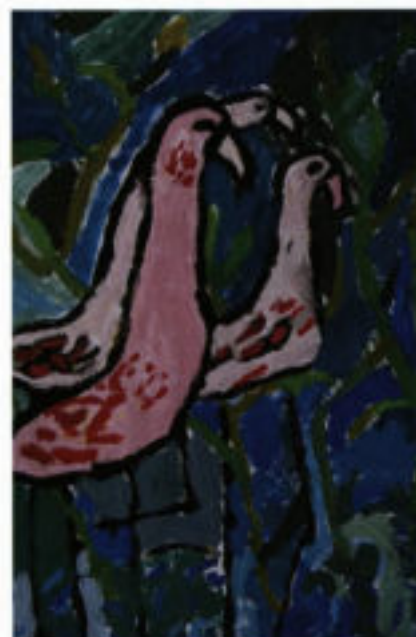
▲ IMAAN MOOLLA



▲ INDIA RAUTENBACH



▲ ANGELIKI EFSTATHIOU



▲ THANDOLWAMI SONTANGE



▲ GABRIELLE MEYER



▲ CHARLOTTE JACOBS



# Grade 2



## THE PROBLEM WITH GROWN-UPS IS THAT THEY...

- never want to do the hoola hoop because they think that they are too big. **SARAH ASHBOLT**
- stop us from having fun when they tell us that we have to go and bath. **ALICE BAILEY**
- are always on their phones! **IMOGEN DEARLOVE**
- I sometimes ask my Mom for a toy and when she says no it annoys me to death! **TAY-YIBAH EBRAHIM**
- give you food that you don't like – like lettuce, peppers and tomatoes. **AZRA JANOODIEN**
- are so much taller than children. **KRISTIN KOCH**
- are funny when they snore especially the dads. **GABRIELLE MEYER**
- forget stuff when they get old and then they mix up our names. **SOPHIA LOBERT**
- fall asleep when they are at Woolworths. **CAITLIN RATCLIFFE**
- drink lots of wine and then they chat a lot and dance for a long time. **KATHERINE ROWLAND-SMUTS**
- My mom buys beautiful clothes and then takes them back to the shop. **TESS RYCROFT**
- My dad eats the biltong and blames it on me so that he doesn't get into trouble with my mom. **ALEX OVENDALE**

## I am fascinated by...

- How gymnasts are so flexible and how they can go on the beam without falling. **JUWAIIRYA BASSA**
- Space. How did all the planets get into place? How was it formed? **GRACE DUBE**
- How sugar keeps you awake and makes you want to run around the garden. **ANGELIKI EFSTATHIOU**
- God and how He has all those powers to help people. **SARAH HOLWILL**
- How they make things for a car like the steering wheel, brakes and the seats. **JIYA MAHABEER**
- How people can be so bendy. **ELLA MILLS**
- How Usain Bolt can run so fast and beat so many people in a race. **IMAN MOOLLA**
- How some people fall asleep in the bank if they have to wait for too long. **AMAN MOONDA**
- How they know how much fuel to use to get to Space and back. **RACHEL MURRAY**
- The Wild and how nobody knows what is out there. **SCARLET PETERS**
- The mysteries that are under the sea because so little can be seen. **KATHERINE SLINGERS**
- Gymnastics. How do they do cartwheels on a beam without falling off? **EMILY STODEL**
- How ships and aeroplanes get lost in the Bermuda Triangle. It is a real mystery! **KIRA TOTARAM-JACOBS**





## I AM FASCINATED BY...

- how the sun spins round the earth and we don't feel it. The mountains just get taller and taller and you can't see the stars and moon in the day.

**AMY LASHBROOKE**

- magic and the moon, the sun and the earth and how the colours go together in a sunset. **ABIGAIL BÖTTGER**
- insects because they are nearly every shape and size. I think it is very cool to have four or more legs. I could not imagine a human with more than two legs. **CARYS MORKEL**
- how giraffes don't get scratched in their mouths when they eat leaves off a thorn bush. And, how do the waves lift up by themselves? **LILY MACLEOD SMITH**
- how a plane can fly if it is so heavy. It is a lot heavier than me, so why can't I fly? **ALICE KEERS**
- how God made himself and how did He make the world? **KELELLO DUBE**
- what it was like before the world began. Will the earth still exist in 3030? **GABRIELLA STODEL**
- how does the world turn around in circles and we don't feel it? **INDIA RAUTENBACH**
- why ice cream gives you a brain freeze. **NURAH HARNEKAR**
- how the stars are not in the sky in the day, like in the afternoon. **SAMANTHA NIMB**
- how the stars and planets can float in the sky. **RIO TEIXEIRA**



## The problem with grown-ups is...

- they stay up until 11 o'clock and eat popcorn and watch movies. They use their iPhones and Computers and sometimes go out. **MINAL DAHYA**
- they don't get what you want. They also don't let you eat chocolate in the week. **MADISON GESSLER**
- they are sometimes a bit too annoying and bossy! They are so busy at work they don't have enough time to help or play with us. **GABRIELLA EFSTATHIOU**
- they always talk a lot and they laugh while they play games. **TAHLIA TOLL**
- they tell me what to do but how come I can't tell them what to do. It's so annoying! **THANDOLWAMI SONTANGE**
- they get to do what they want and tell you what to do. Why can't we tell them what to do? **RAANIA BHAGOO**
- they make us busy and they like everything so perfect. They like to make you do everything that they are meant to do. **NATHALIE HEYNS**
- that in the evenings they are so tired that they get grumpy and cranky. And

as they get older they are a bit deaf and it's so tiring having to repeat yourself.

**ALEXANDRA MURRAY**

- they don't let you do what you want and you have to go everywhere with them. **TARA MAE VARNEY**
- they are too clean and are huge chatter-boxes. They always make you eat healthily. **NINA WIDES**
- they only sometimes get what we want and they always make you rush. **MIMI PICKERING**
- they make us do our homework and make us...wait for a dramatic pause...tidy our room! **SARAH-JANE HARRISON**
- they make you eat healthy food and when you want stuff they won't give it to you. And, you should be cleaning out the bunny cage. **MIA COQUELLE**
- they can be very bossy when they are young grown-ups, like my big sister. **ISHIKAH PARRING**
- they get worked up quickly and sometimes they are bossy. **CHARLOTTE JACOBS**



## GRADE 1



### GRADE 1 ALPHA

**FRONT ROW:** B West, C Swart, S Lashbrooke, L Calana, J Formby, J Martin, J Fair, C Antrobus, C Emmerich, D Naidoo **MIDDLE ROW:** A Sherren, M Moodaley, L Mulder, I Thompson, Z Sirkot, Z Douglas, L van der Spuy **BACK ROW:** Mrs K Rutgers, S Boshoff, K du Plooy, J Swain, T Mozley, A Collins, L Adonis, A Wareham, L Böttger, A Deering **Absent:** S Padoa



### GRADE 1A

**FRONT ROW:** C Fürst, C Plenge-Mantell, R Koller, T Todd, T Nair, C Petersen, F Leinberger, N Brogan, L Mandindi, Ms T Macala **MIDDLE ROW:** Mrs H Bailey, G Nicklin, C Lobert, J Marshall, T Daniels, E van Lierop, A Hendricks **BACK ROW:** R Omar-Allies, T Tutu, S Turner, A Dillon, A Bassett, J Bosch, A Van Sittert, E Carter, L Watson





▲ JENNA FORMBY



▲ TEAGAN MOZLEY



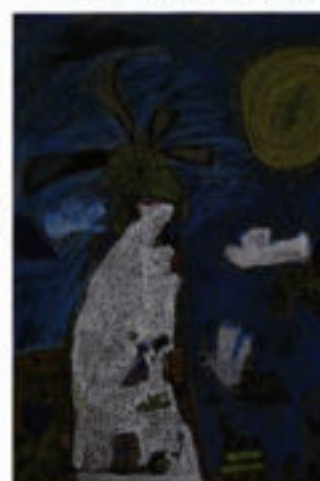
▲ JESSICA BOSCH



▲ ANNA COLLINS



▲ ANNA SHERREN



▲ SOPHIA TURNER



▲ FRANCES LEINBERGER



▲ TAMIKA NAIR



▲ JOSEPHINE FAIR



▲ ZAYAAN SIRKOT



▲ CHELSEA PETERSEN



▲ LAUREN VAN DER SPUY



## Grade 1

WHAT THE TOOTH FAIRY  
DOES WITH OUR  
TEETH

**LIQHAMILE ADONIS:** She turns the teeth into fairy dust and when their wands run out they can sprinkle it on.

**CAROLINE ANTROBUS:** She takes my tooth and she makes it into bubbles. The bubbles pop and it turns into a pillow and it is very soft.

**STELLA BOSHOFF:** She takes my teeth and makes them into a pillow for her. She gives me money in return. I like that very much.

**LOLA BÖTTGER:** I think my fairy keeps my teeth as treasures. She always gives me a hundred money. I put my teeth in a little box.

**LANDA CALANA:** She collects my teeth and mixes my teeth and she mixes it with fairy dust and then it becomes tooth fairy money.

**ANNA COLLINS:** My tooth fairy's name is Annabelle. She takes my tooth and grinds it to fairy dust. She blows it onto a flower to make it grow.

**ANNABELLE DEERING:** I think my tooth fairy makes tooth necklaces. She uses the tooth necklaces for birthday presents for her fairy friends. I think the fairies really like that.

**ZARNA DOUGLAS:** She takes my tooth and uses my tooth as a pillow and she sleeps all day because she collects teeth at night.

**CHLOË EMMERICH:** I think she takes my tooth and she puts it in a special case that has a spot for each and every one of them.

**JOSEPHINE FAIR:** She takes the tooth and turns it into diamonds and sometimes she sends me letters and sometimes she brings me sweets.

**JENNA FORMBY:** My tooth fairy's name is Ella and whenever she collects a tooth she flies back to her castle and then she grinds all the magic out of the tooth to get pixie dust and whenever I put a tooth under my pillow I get a little box of pixie dust.

**SOPHIE LASHBROOKE:** My fairy takes my teeth for a necklace and she has it today. My fairy is with me at night. She is Silverdust.

**JESSICA MARTIN:** She makes my tooth into a fridge and cup holders for her cups. She uses the fridge for her eggs.

**MAYA MOODALEY:** She needs to make a tooth fairy house and the best part of her is she is kind and sweet. And I can't see her because I am still asleep.



▲ SOPHIE PADOA



▲ LUCY MULDER



▲ LANDA CALANA



▲ TEAGAN MOZLEY

**TEAGAN MOZLEY:** My tooth fairy makes my tooth into a chandelier and a castle and my fairy's name is Loretta and she leaves me money and sometimes I write to her and sometimes she writes back.

**LUCY MULDER:** She makes my tooth into an umbrella so she doesn't get wet in winter but I haven't lost a tooth yet.

**DEVANYA NAIDOO:** She uses my tooth as money. She uses the money to buy necklaces and she gives some to her friends.

**SOPHIE PADOA:** My tooth fairy puts a hole in my tooth and makes it into a tooth necklace. And she makes 1000s of them and gives some of them to her friends. And I have a glow in the dark tooth shaped tooth holder. And my first tooth is still in my tooth holder.

**ANNA SHERREN:** I put my tooth under my pillow and the tooth fairy takes my tooth and I think she makes it into a hotel. My tooth fairy's name is Rosey.

**JULIA SWAIN:** I think that my tooth fairy takes my teeth and turns them into fairy dust. She takes them to fairy land which is very small.

**ZAYAAN SIRKOT:** I think she does lots of things with our teeth. Even towers. If they did then that would be so cool and then I would want to do that to, woohoo. I would always want to but I don't know how.

**CHARLOTTE SWART:** My tooth fairy makes it into fairy dust and she puts it on her wings so that she can fly.

**ISABELLA THOMPSON:** I think when I get a tooth fairy she will give me money. I have not even lost a tooth. I think she will look very shiny.

**LAUREN VAN DER SPUY:** I have lost two teeth and I have a ninka tooth box. And I think my tooth fairy makes it into a pillow. And she uses it for a pillow when her friend comes for a sleepover.

**ALEXIS WAREHAM:** My fairy crushes my teeth into pixie dust that's what I think. I think that she sprinkles pixie dust over me when I sleep. Her name is Lily.

**BAILEY WEST:** My tooth fairy collects my tooth and then she brings it back. I don't know why she brings it back. I put my tooth in a bottle.





## WHAT THE TOOTH FAIRY DOES WITH OUR

# teeth

**ASHLEY BASSETT:** I think that the Tooth Fairy keeps them as memories.

**JESSICA BOSCH:** She takes them to the Fairy Kingdom and turns them into stars.

**FLEUR BOYD:** She cleans them and delivers them to the Fairy Queen.

**NEVE BROGAN:** I definitely know that they make a tooth palace for the Queens!

**ELLA CARTER:** She takes the teeth and makes them into a bracelet.

**TALIA DANIELS:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes my teeth to make them into a palace for her family.

**ANNA DILLON:** She turns them into stars because every time I lose a tooth I see a bright twinkling star in the sky!

**CAMRYN FÜRST:** She builds a tooth castle.

**AISHA HENDRICKS:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes my tooth and gives it to the Elves!

**REBECCA KOLLER:** I think that she makes a necklace out of them.

**FRANCES LEINBERGER:** When the Tooth Fairy comes to my house and takes my tooth she leaves some money and takes the tooth to the Fairy Queen for her crown.

**KADYN LIN:** She takes it to her house.

**COCO LOBERT:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes the teeth to make stuff like crowns!

**LIHLOMBE MANDINDI:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes our teeth to the castle and wears them as a necklace.



**JAMIE MARSHALL:** So she takes the teeth to the Fairy shop and uses them as money.

**TAMIKA NAIR:** They take the teeth to a Magic Forest and use the teeth as decorations at a Fairy Ball.

**GEORGIA NICKLIN:** She cleans them and sells them as little fairy bows.

**RUBI OMAR-ALLIES:** When the Tooth Fairy comes to my house and collects my tooth she takes it to the fairy dressmaker and she puts it on fairy dresses.

**CHELSEA PETERSEN:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes the tooth and with all the teeth they build a palace for the Queen Fairy to live in.

**CARLA PLENGE-MANTELL:** I know that she is not real --- it is actually my Mom and Dad!

**TAIYA TODD:** I think that the Tooth Fairy takes the teeth and gives us money - and I have no idea what she does with them!

**SOPHIA TURNER:** I think that the Tooth Fairy uses my tooth to make a tooth palace.

**TIFFANY TUTU:** She takes it to her Palace.

**EMILY VAN LIEROP:** I think that she takes our teeth and then she makes them into necklaces and bracelets and ear rings.

**ABIGAIL VAN SITTERT:** I think that she turns all the teeth in to a magic castle.

**LILY WATSON:** I think that the Tooth Fairy makes a throne for the castle out of the teeth.



▲ TIFFANY TUTU



▲ JESSICA BOSCH



▲ REBECCA KOLLER



▲ ANNA DILLON



# Carter

BY SAM WILENSKY  
AND LUCY FRATER

Carter won the Spelling Bee this year and has been very close to getting other trophies. Our house was very motivated and energetic. Everyone showed a lot of spirit at the Interhouse Gala and swam very well. All girls tried their best and had fun. Every week Carter had lots of house points and each member was enthusiastic and worked hard. We have swum well, run fast, played excellent hockey, netball and swimming, we can spell incredibly well and have shown lots of spirit. We are all proud to be a part of Carter and want to keep up the effort for all the years to come. We would like to thank our house mistress, Mrs Blake, for her support. We've really enjoyed being house captains and won't forget the memories we have made and the leadership skills we have learnt.



# JAGGER

BY LEAH BERMAN  
AND EMMA HILLIARY

We are very proud of the Jagger girls this year. We succeeded in all our events and the team always had fantastic spirit. The Grade 7s were great leaders who helped at every event and our Grade 6s were definitely the loudest when it came to spirit. The Grade 5s did incredibly well in the Interhouse Cross-Country as most of the top 10 girls in the grade were Jagger girls. We are also very proud of the Grade 4s who did extremely well in their first interhouse events.

We would like to thank Mrs Centurion-Harris for being a fabulous house mistress. Even though we came 2nd in the Interhouse Gala we worked together, and as a team we had lots of fun. The Jagger girls have been getting lots of house points to get first place for the assembly house point announcements! We wish next year's Jagger team lots of luck! **LET'S GO JAGGER**  
**LET'S GO!** ■



# MERRIMAN

BY CHLOË RUMBELOW  
AND RACHEL WILLIAMS

We are very proud of the Merriman girls this year as they have poured their hearts and souls into each house event and have shown great spirit. We have noticed that in Merriman every girl has tried their hardest to do the best they can. We have all worked together as a house to accomplish our goals. Merriman's sisterhood and camaraderie is extremely special. Every girl in Merriman has fulfilled their role. We are proud of our house and we think that Merriman has worked extremely hard this year, showing great dedication and spirit. Leading this house has been an amazing experience for both of us. We have learnt a lot about leadership and we have had lots of fun, especially when making up our war-cries. We are proud to say that we won the Spirit Trophy at the Interhouse Swimming Gala. Even though we haven't won every interhouse event the girls never gave up and we have enjoyed every minute of our time as House Captains. ■



# Rolt

BY CALLY HOOPER  
AND SAARAH OSMAN

We are extremely proud of the Rolt girls this year. We would like to thank them for the enthusiasm and dedication that they have shown towards their house. Their hard work and effort is really appreciated, as Rolt has managed to win many events this year. The Minion theme was really loved by the girls, who had fun cheering for Rolt at the top of their voices. At the Interhouse Swimming Gala, Rolt was placed first as well as in the Interhouse Netball and Hockey, where they played their hearts out. Our Rolt girls have worked very hard this year to receive as many house points as they could, and we would like to thank them for their commitment and co-operation. We would also like to thank our house mistress, Miss Cowie for showing us much love, support and encouragement. She is always so positive and enthusiastic. We are going to miss the Rolt girls tremendously next year, but we wish them luck for the years ahead.

GO ROLT! ■







### WP, ZONAL AND SA REPRESENTATIVES

**FRONT ROW:** L Edelstein (WP Level 4 Gymnastics), C Howie (WP U13B Squash), L Burns (WP U11A Squash), R Howie (WP U11A Squash), H Meyer (Zonal U13C Hockey), N Vermaak (Zonal U13A Hockey), I Nicholson (WP U13B Tennis), C Lennett (WP U13A Tennis, Zonal U13B Hockey, Zonal U13 Cross Country), E Floquet (Zonal U11 Cross Country), S Dearnaley (Zonal U10 Cross Country) **MIDDLE ROW:** Miss L Karsten (Zonal U13A Hockey coach), R Glanvill (WP U13A Squash), R Tudhope (WP U13B Squash), M de Villiers (Level 2 Swimming), G Quinlan (WP Equestrian), C Fisher (Zonal U13 Cross Country), J Ovendale (Zonal U13 Cross Country), K Webb (Zonal U12 Cross Country), E Sales (Zonal U11 Cross Country) **BACK ROW:** L Formby (Zonal U13A Hockey), J Collins (Zonal U13A Hockey), S Miszewski (WP Equestrian), G Stewart (Zonal U13 Cross Country), O Johnstone (Zonal U12 Cross Country), E Hillary (Zonal U13 Cross Country)

## WATER POLO

Water Polo continues to go from strength to strength as the number of girls participating increases. The five teams that took part in league matches did extremely well, with a particularly strong U10 age group. Our U13A and B teams took part in the Reddam U13 Girls' Tournament and our U10A and U11A teams took part in a round robin festival hosted by Sun Valley.

The U10 practices started by teaching the girls how to tread water. They also learnt the water polo rules. When the day came for the girls to participate in their first game they found it challenging to try and stay afloat and score goals. Their passion and love for the sport grew tremendously and this was evident in the matches they played each week. Early in the season, they encountered good opponents and towards the end of the season, ended up beating many of the teams they had previously lost against. The Sun Valley Tournament was one of the highlights of the

season where they entered an U11 tournament and won three out of the six matches and drew against the U11 Herschel Water Polo team. They are without a doubt an age group to be reckoned with.

Our U11 season was filled with new experiences, learning and fun. As this was their first season in the polo pool, they spent the early part of the season getting to know the game and the basics needed for a good water polo foundation. The girls showed endless energy in learning and trying new things. Our games were tough, as they were mostly against girls who had been playing for longer, but that did not dampen the spirit of the girls. They took each game in their stride, win or lose, and came out as more knowledgeable players. The tournaments and festivals were definitely the girls' favourite part of the season.

The U12s had a fantastic season of water polo this year.

This bunch of energetic girls have been dedicated to trying their best at practices and their improvement as players throughout the season has been impressive. When playing matches they are looking more like a team unit; learning the power of teamwork, giving compliments when a teammate plays well and helping each other out during games. I am very proud of how much these girls have grown throughout the season as water polo players and as young ladies. Both U12 and U13 teams played in the league. Though we were not undefeated, these girls always

finished a game with grace and big smiles.

The U13A Water Polo team had an exciting and successful season. With opportunities to play in many tournaments in Cape Town, and travel up to DSG to play at the All-Girls Festival, we can safely say that polo this year has been a great experience for all the girls involved. We are hoping to have a strong showing at the Western Province trials this year. Thank you to our Captain, Jodie Collins, and Vice-Captain, Tallulah Spencer, for all they have done to organise and promote the sport.



### U13A WATER POLO TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** J Ovendale, I Nicholson, S Miszewski, L Formby, N Vermaak, T Spencer (vice-captain) **BACK ROW:** Miss N Haird (coach), R Williams, J Collins (captain), M de Villiers, S Wilensky, H Osrin



# SWIMMING

The Herschel Swimming team is a group of very committed and enthusiastic swimmers. This is clearly visible in their results this season. Herschel placed 3rd out of 10 schools at the Reddam Night Gala despite our Grade 7s being away on camp. We were very proud of our U8, U9, U10, U11 and U12 swimmers. The annual PGSGU Interscholar Gala was only for U10 – Open girls this year. Herschel placed 2nd overall out of the eight participating schools, losing narrowly to Springfield and winning the age group trophies for U10 and U13. Herschel continues to achieve top results in swimming.

The Grade 1 – 3 Fun Gala is always an enjoyable event with the emphasis on the girls demonstrating their growth and stroke development in a relaxed and supportive environment. This year was no exception as we saw a lot less girls having to swim widths as more and more

girls were able to swim lengths in the different strokes. The Grade 4 – 7 Interhouse Gala was once again a wonderful morning of participation and competition. Honey Osrin broke second records on the day.

## The trophy winners:

Golding Cup: Most Improved Junior Swimmer

Leah van der Merwe

de Nobrega Cup: Most Improved Senior Swimmer

Kerryn Benade

McLean Trophy: Under 10

Champion Emily van Heerden

Evans Trophy: Under 11

Champion Dana Rose Varney

Williams Trophy: U12 Victrix

Ludorum Ella Parker

Mallett Trophy: Open Victrix

Ludorum Honey Osrin

Emily van Heerden: Individual

Medley Honey Osrin

Winners of the 2016 Spirit

Trophy Merriman

Winners of the 2016 Interhouse

Gala Roll

Honey Osrin was the youngest competitor at the Invitational Swimming Grand Prix Gala, and she also took part in the Level 3 National Championships where she swam in the U14 age group. Honey also competed at the South African Senior Swimming Nationals in KZN where she ended up 5th in the final. Michaela de Villiers

swam in the Level 2 National Swimming Championships and did extremely well.

Thank you to our captain, Honey Osrin, and vice-captain, Michaela de Villiers, for their help, organisation and support of the younger swimmers.

We thank Mrs Osrin for her dedication, passion and inspiration over the years. ■



## A SQUAD SWIMMING TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** S Dore, S Vickers, L Sherwood **SECOND ROW:**

K Cadiz, E Parker-Forsyth, J Lückoff, C Coutts-Trotter, H Osrin (captain), M de Villiers (vice-captain), L van der Merwe, E Van Heerden, G Finlayson, S Flint, K Böttger **THIRD ROW:** Mrs S Osrin (coach), K Formby, A van Breda, J Kirsten, H Judge, K Benade, M Harrison, S van Wyngaarden, P Duckitt, N Macey, A de Villiers

**BACK ROW:** C Carter, C Fisher, J van der Merwe, E Parker, L Formby, C Rumbelow, S Wilensky, R Williams, D-R Varney, A Martin, J Finlayson **ABSENT:** R Turck, E Faure, R Moller

# CROSS COUNTRY



## PGSGU INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** S Dearnaley, E Floquet, L van der Merwe, J Ovendale (captain), C Fisher (captain), G Finlayson, E Clarke, I Stodel, Miss N Haird (coach) **MIDDLE ROW:** Miss C van Niekerk (coach), I Weldon, J Wellington, C le Roux, A van Breda, G Antrobus, K Webb, E Sales **BACK ROW:** S van Wyngaarden, J Kirsten, J Finlayson, G Stewart, S Miszewski, O Johnstone, E Hillary, G Quinlan, C Lennett

## JUNIOR REPORT

We have had a big group of very enthusiastic junior Cross Country runners this year. For many of them it was the first time that they had participated in any formal school sport. Wednesday afternoon practices were well attended and there was always a cry of disappointment when the training session was over. There was a good turnout of runners for the Friday afternoon races. Some girls were a bit nervous but once they got one race under their belt, they were very keen to run again to try and improve their personal best time. Cross Country is a great opportunity to run at your own pace but still be part of a team, while at the same time having fun and getting fit.

## SENIOR REPORT

Our 2016 Cross Country season was extremely successful and

can be likened to our final race of the term – the Interscholar competition at Springfield. All the girls who ran at this event know how tough, yet beautiful, the route is. The long and tiring uphill draw parallels with the many hours spent training, doing hill sprints and lap after lap to increase mileage. The treacherous downhill can be compared with the obstacle course of Western Province Champs that a few of our girls had the privilege of competing in, where they were expected to jump over logs, climb under fences and wade through a mud patch on their way to the finish line. Ultimately, winning the Interscholar event highlights the successes of our season, from girls who are at every practice trying their hardest, to the girls winning races every week. It's safe to say, Herschel Cross Country had a very impressive season!



# NETBALL

**WE** have had a very busy Netball season. Our teams have been involved in league fixtures as well as festivals, tournaments, an All-Girls Tour and even some friendlies against touring teams. The enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship displayed by our girls is to be commended.

The Netball season this year included a number of tournaments and festivals. A squad of girls from the Open age group toured to Grahamstown for the All-Girls Festival hosted by DSG. Our girls played a number of matches on a rotational basis.

Herschel participated in the Eikestad Derby Day, the St Cyprian's Derby Day, the Kenridge U9 Festival, Reddam Festival, Fish Hoek Sports Festival, Cannons Creek and Paul Greyling Festivals. We also played touring teams from Collegiate and Somerset House.

The Interhouse Netball was won by Rolt.

The U12A and U13A teams participated in the PGSGU Interschool Tournament. They did Herschel proud being placed 4th and 3rd respectively.

This year the U9s had a vigorous and fun filled season of netball. The girls' enthusiasm was clearly evident in their attendance at practices and everyone was always eager to be part of a team and to play on match days. Mrs Robbertze, Ms Schroeder and Miss King taught the girls the basic rules and strategies of the game in the beginning of the season. As the girls developed in skill set, they taught them a number of different ball skills including catching, throwing and foot techniques. Everyone grew in strength over the season and were exposed to playing matches weekly. They were

fortunate enough to play in a number of tournaments against a few different schools. The girls benefitted from the strong competition and the exposure to game time. They ended their season with the Fish Hoek Winter Sports Festival and all who were involved thoroughly

enjoyed themselves. Much fun was had over the two terms and the girls had great fun at our weekly practices, showing the

coaches all they had learnt during the season, especially their growth in team work and the development of their skills.

The U10 age group went from strength to strength this season, with teams developing into a good cohesive group. Mrs Uys, Mrs Robbertze and, joining the coaching team later in the season, Ms Jansen, were responsible for ensuring that the U10s notched up

some good results towards the end of the season, beating Springfield, Reddam and Sweet Valley.

There was a large group of girls playing U11 team netball this year, enough to field four teams. Their footwork, ball-handling skills, knowledge and understanding of the game increases exponentially in this age group. Thank you to the girls who were so committed to the practices and who played with such heart and courage from beginning to end of the season. Once again there was no Interschool Tournament for the U11s, but we sincerely hope that this will change next year. Grateful thanks to the assistant coaches, Miss Julies and Ms Jackson.

Mrs Robbertze and Ms Macnab coached the U12 girls this year. Both coaches agree that there are some extremely talented players who have worked very hard and made the coaches and Herschel as a whole very proud. Their positional play and skills have improved significantly throughout the season, and their love for netball was both visible and admirable. They are commended on their great sportsmanship, passion and always encouraging each other.

## THE NETBALL SEASON THIS YEAR INCLUDED A NUMBER OF TOURNAMENTS AND FESTIVALS



### PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN A NETBALL

**FRONT ROW:** C Fisher, C Carter (vice-captain), S Miszewski (captain), I Nicholson, Mrs A Lewis (coach)

**BACK ROW:** H Meyer, C Hooper, M de Villiers, C Rumbelow, R Williams



### PGSGU INTERSCHOOL U12A NETBALL TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** C Tsinonis, C Williams, J Kirsten, Mrs N Robbertze (coach)

**BACK ROW:** S Angeliniadis, R Moller, O Johnstone, V Barton  
**ABSENT:** K Theron, T Orgill



The U13 Netball season started off with Circuit trials for the South Zone. Michaela de Villiers, Isabella Nicholson, Carly Carter, Rachel Williams, Chloë Rumbelow and Caroline Hooper took part in the first round. Michaela, Isabella, Rachel, Chloë and Caroline progressed to the 3rd round of trials. We congratulate them on their achievement. Our U13 Netball

team has grown in strength during the season and the girls have played excellent netball. During the league games, they managed to win six out of the seven games, placing us tied first on points. The league winners were then determined on goal average and Herschel was placed second to Sweet Valley. As coach, Mrs Lewis has been very proud of the

girls, as they have shown much resilience and determination during some tough matches. The participation and numbers of girls playing netball show their love for the game. It was wonderful to have most of the girls playing weekly matches as this allowed every girl an opportunity to engage with girls from other schools and have fun whilst exercising. The

two Netball captains, Carly Carter and Sophie Miszewski, led the team well and showed excellent leadership skills, organising and motivating the girls. Thank you to Ms Schroeder who assisted in coaching the U13 age group. We wish the U13 girls well and many more happy hours of netball, as they enter the Senior School. ■



#### U10A NETBALL TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** G Prinsloo, T Deliperi, E van Heerden, H Wright  
**BACK ROW:** A de Villiers, J Rutgers, K Formby,  
 Mrs N Robbertze (coach) **ABSENT:** D Kleingeld



#### U11A NETBALL TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs M Laubscher (head of netball), E Sales,  
 L MacFarlane, I Weldon, M Sonnenberg  
**BACK ROW:** J Wellington, P Duckitt, Z Lujabe, C le Roux  
**ABSENT:** Mrs M Roebert (coach)

# TENNIS



#### PGSGU INTERSCHOOL TENNIS TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs M Laubscher (head of tennis),  
 J Levett (vice-captain), I Nicholson (captain)  
**BACK ROW:** C Lennett, C Hooper

This season saw a change in the Tennis service provider at Herschel. Chris Potterton from The Tim Armstrong School of Tennis, together with his assistant coaches, took over the coaching, slightly restructuring the coaching times to allow for smaller groups. We entered seven teams into the league, and have a large number of young players who will move up into the league age group next season.

Herschel again participated in the Top Schools Tournament held at Somerset College and was placed 4th overall.

Isabella Nicholson, Chelsea Lennett, Julia Levett and Caroline Hooper represented Herschel at the PGSGU Interschool Tennis Tournament where Isabella and Chelsea won their section, with Kate

and Caroline placed 4th in their section. Isabella and Chelsea have both represented WP at various tournaments this season.

We took a number of tennis players on tour to the All-Girls Festival in Grahamstown. This is the first time for quite a while that our tennis players have been on tour. The girls benefitted hugely from the exposure to teams from schools in other parts of the country.

Our tennis girls played the Howick touring team from KwaZulu-Natal. It was a wonderful afternoon of tennis, with the girls partnering up with their Howick counterparts to play the final round.

Mrs Laubscher would like to thank the Tennis Captains, Isabella Nicholson and Julia Levett for all their help during the season. ■



# HOCKEY

**IT** has been an incredibly busy and successful Hockey season. In addition to the weekly fixtures, our hockey teams have all taken part in a number of festivals and tournaments. These involved hosting the Eikestad Derby Day, participating in the Fish Hoek Derby, St Cyprians and Rustenburg Festivals, the Sweet Valley and St Georges Festival as well as the Bishops Day/Night Tournament.

Interhouse Hockey, as always, was a fun afternoon with all Grade 4 – 7 hockey girls taking part.

Seventeen girls made up our touring Open Hockey Squad that attended the All Girls' Festival at DSG. We were excited to be facing some top hockey schools from around the country and were eager for the challenges that lay ahead. Our team performances improved with every match as girls implemented new skills

and learnt to understand their roles and positions in the team. Our Open A team also enjoyed hosting Collegiate for a match in Cape Town.

There has been a phenomenal improvement in the U9 teams over the last season. Their skills have developed hugely and their understanding of the game and confidence has grown. The girls have worked hard and shown great teamwork. It has been a thoroughly enjoyable season of hockey.

Approximately thirty U10 girls attended hockey practice regularly and all of these girls had the opportunity to experience playing in matches against other schools. We fielded four U10 teams, with players in the A and B teams chosen on merit, and the other girls rotating in the C and D teams. Some of the girls were lucky enough to participate in various tournaments which

were a definite highlight of the season. The girls' skills improved tremendously as the season progressed.

The U11 teams had a fantastic season. They produced very good results and learnt the value of working as a team. The girls had a great deal of fun and learnt a variety of new skills. They all came together brilliantly by the end of the season and they can be proud of what they achieved.

The Open D and E teams faced the year with enthusiasm and were an absolute pleasure to coach. The D team had an almost unbeaten season, with every match being a new challenge and each girl always giving of her best. While the Es had fewer matches there was a definite improvement in both positional play and their technical skills. The girls bring an incredible sense of fun and laughter to the field and their team spirit shines through

even in practices.

The Open C team had a very successful season winning the majority of their matches. The girls developed new skills and began to read the game well, maintain their positions, and look up before passing, thus using each other more effectively. The girls were hugely committed and very enthusiastic.

The Open B team consisted of a dynamic group of girls who always showed enthusiasm both on and off the field. The team has shown massive growth in both their understanding of the game and their ability to execute the necessary skills in pressured situations. They had a strong end to the season, being unbeaten in their last few games and going on to win the PGSGU Interschool Open B Hockey Tournament. Their determination to succeed and their love for the game was evident each time they stepped onto the turf.

Our Open A team recorded excellent results in the league beating Wynberg, Springfield, Rustenburg, Sweet Valley and St Cyprians and drawing to



## PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN A HOCKEY TEAM

**ON THE FLOOR:** N Vermaak **FRONT ROW:** J Ovendale, E Hillary, L Formby (captain), C Lennett (vice-captain), J Finlayson, C Fisher, Miss L Karsten (coach)  
**BACK ROW:** G Stewart, L Butler, J Collins, S Wilensky, H Meyer



## PGSGU INTERSCHOOL OPEN B HOCKEY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** K Webb, O Dearnaley, S van Wyngaarden, R Glanvill, J Kirsten, C Williams, K Farrell  
**BACK ROW:** R Turck, E Halle, C Laubscher, J Sainsbury, S Floquet, G Quinlan, Miss C Dugmore (coach)



Micklefield. They were selected to represent the South Zone as one of the top four schools in our league and competed at the WP Top Schools Day/Night Tournament against nine other schools. They did themselves proud and finished 7th in the WP out of over 100 hockey playing schools. They showed

their passion at the PGSGU Interscholar Tournament the following week fighting hard to finish tied with Rustenburg on points at the top of the log. Due to a goal difference they placed 2nd. We were very proud of their performance.

Laura Formby, Nina Vermaak and Jodie Collins all took part

in the U13 South Regional Hockey Tournament during the holidays. They represented the U13A WP Zonal team. Miss Karsten was the coach. They did exceptionally well, placing 1st out of the nine teams. Chelsea Lennett and Hannah Meyer took part in the B/C zonal Hockey tournament.

Chelsea Lennett was in the South Zone B team and her team came 1st overall. Hannah Meyer was in the South Zone C team and they did exceptionally well to come 2nd overall.

Thank you to our Hockey Captain, Laura Formby, and Vice-Captain, Chelsea Lennett, for a remarkable season. ■



#### U10A HOCKEY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** E van Heerden, L van der Merwe, K Hodgson, G Finlayson **BACK ROW:** K Formby, A van Breda, A de Villiers, Mrs A Mozley (coach)



#### U11A HOCKEY TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** S Searl, E Parker-Forsyth, E Floquet, E Clarke, Ms K Muzzell (coach) **BACK ROW:** J Jensen, R Howie, D-R Varney, P Duckitt, L Edelstein **ABSENT:** R Shortt

# Squash

BY MRS M LAUBSCHER

Even though we have seen a decline in the number of girls playing squash, the squash players are an enthusiastic and well-motivated group. We entered one team in the league this season, and they have acquitted themselves well in the fixtures played.

Some squash players were part of the squad on the tour to the All-Girls Festival in Grahamstown.

They played a number of matches and came back having benefitted from the exposure to a high standard of

squash being played by many of the schools at the Festival.

Rebecca Glanvill and Caitlin Howie received Western Province Colours and participated in the Inter-Provincial Squash Tournament. Rebecca played in the WP U13A squash team and did very well. She won the majority of her matches and the WP A team was placed 4th. Caitlin Howie and Rachel Tudhope played in the WP U13B team. Leah Burns and Rachel Howie also took part in the WP U11 section of this tournament.



#### SQUASH TEAM

**FRONT ROW:** Mrs M Laubscher (head of squash), L Burns, R Howie, A de Villiers (vice-captain), S van Wyngaarden **BACK ROW:** C Howie, R Tudhope, R Glanvill (captain), B Wilson **ABSENT:** Ms K Commins (coach)





# THE PRE-PREPARATORY

BY MRS JENNI BROCK,  
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



**2016** has been another busy and eventful year in the Pre-Prep. Daily curriculum activities continued as usual in the classrooms and we also welcomed a variety of visitors who presented educational shows to the girls. These included Zoo to You, Puppet World and FAMS. The Pre-Prep girls and their families enthusiastically participated in special days such as Grandparents' Day, the School Family Picnic and our annual Market Day. All these have provided wonderfully enjoyable and enriching experiences. Thanks must be extended to the class reps and moms who assisted with decorating, setting up events, lifting on outing days and generally providing much appreciated support.

One of the highlights of the year was definitely the Readathon. Held over two weeks at the end of the second and the beginning of the third terms, Readathon is a theme-based event held every second year to encourage a love of books and reading. This year, the theme was 'Under the Sea', and our enterprising Class Rep moms decorated the Pre-Prep foyer and created special areas where books could be read before and after school. During this event, many moms and dads signed up to bring a story of their choice to read to their daughter's class, and the girls watched book-themed shows and listened to authors read from their works. In order to support a reading culture in other communities, as part of our Community Service, we collected both used and new books and donated them to disadvantaged schools and children's homes.

One of the questions I am sometimes

asked by parents in the Pre-Prep during Readathon is 'When will my child learn to read?' The whole process of learning to read actually begins in infancy and is a complex process that includes the development of language and cognitive and social skills. Herschel girls are not formally taught to read until they begin Grade 1 and one of their most exciting milestones is receiving their first formal reading book. Before this can happen, a foundation must be established, and so during the early years in the Pre-Prep we focus on developing crucial pre-reading skills.

*'You're never too old,  
too whacky, too wild,  
to pick up a book and  
read to a child'*  
Dr Seuss

In Pre-Nursery, the focus is on developing the spoken language, expanding vocabularies and providing extensive opportunities for verbal expression through free play, fantasy and imaginative play. Letterland is introduced in Nursery and this programme teaches phonics, explaining letter sounds and shapes. Although the Smartboard is used to teach the characters through interactive stories and songs, movement activities are added to reinforce each letter sound.

By Grade R, the girls have progressed to word building and decoding simple words such as cat, dog, and ant. They are encouraged to create their own stories with drawings and free writing and they participate in Big Book reading which encourages listening and comprehension

and stimulates vocabulary. In order to further develop skills in listening and to strengthen those skills required for reading and writing in Grade 1, the PALS (Phonological Awareness and Listening Skills) programme was successfully implemented this year.

Within the Pre-Prep environment, various areas and activities encourage reading and a love of books. Each class has a reading corner with cosy cushions where the girls can relax and look at the picture books. This is also the spot where parents are seen in the early mornings, reading to their daughter before the start of the school day. Reading together is a powerful way in which parents can encourage a love of reading and an interest in books in their child. To further foster reading at home, each class visits the school library once a week for the girls to choose books to take home.

Inevitably, questions about technology and reading are raised. The impact of new technologies and electronic devices on reading are still being researched. It is clear that paper-based books are no longer the only medium in which we read and listen to stories. However, the focus should always be on supporting children to become readers within our modern society.

I believe that it is never too early to encourage a child to open a book, to find joy and excitement in turning the pages and discovering new worlds, meeting wonderful characters and taking journeys into fact and fiction. I hope that both in the classroom and at home, there will be many moments when we will hear those magic words from the lips of our little girls: 'Please read to me.' ■





# READATHON

BY MRS CAROLINE BLENCOWE

**THE** foyer in the Pre-Preparatory was transformed into an Under the Sea wonder world during Readathon this year. The Class Reps and a group of mothers created this beautiful space using a variety of props of ocean creatures as well as artwork from all the Pre-Prep grades. The girls thoroughly enjoyed having extra story times and parents were invited to come and read to their daughters' classes. The Grade 6 girls spent time reading to the Nursery and Pre-Nursery classes and the Grade 7 girls read to small groups of Grade Rs. As part of our Community Service Initiative during this time, each girl brought a new and a used picture book to school. The new books were donated to a school in need and the used books were swapped amongst the girls within their respective classes. This was a good opportunity to teach the girls about sharing with one another and those who are less privileged. On Pyjama Day, the

Pre-Preps enjoyed wearing their pyjamas to school and being served hot chocolate during story time. On another day they dressed up as a character from a movie or a book with an Under the Sea theme. The Grade R classes had presentations by guest speaker John Lucas and author Julia Richman, and also attended a production of Roald Dahl's book, *The BFG*. John Lucas is an educational environmentalist who is passionate about inspiring children about the importance of reading, marine biology and the impact litter is having on our oceans. Julia Richman read to the girls from her book, *The Bacon Chase*, and the illustrator drew the pictures as she read. All the classes had the opportunity to have story time with our librarian, Mrs Moritz, in the beautifully decorated library. They had particular fun entering the library through the shark's jaws and balancing on the stepping stones through the imaginary shark-infested water. ■







## OUTREACH

Outreach is close to the Pre-Prep hearts and we have a number of projects which we run throughout the year to raise funds for a variety of organisations and disadvantaged schools.

Ice-bites distributed during the summer is one of our favourite initiatives and the children eagerly await Tuesdays to enjoy their ice-bites outdoors.

Another fundraiser during the winter months is our weekly Bakeman; a cake raffle. Each Friday, after each girl put her R5 donation in the jar, two names are drawn from a hat and the girls eagerly wait to find out who gets to take home the cakes provided by the previous week's winners.

We support the Reach for a Dream Foundation in Term 3 by encouraging the

BY MRS KAREN NORMAN

children to pay R10 so that they can wear slippers for the day. It is always a day filled with fun and laughter.

Readathon week is another opportunity for the Pre-Prep to support others. We ask all the children to bring in two books, one is donated and the other is swapped with a friend. This year the books were donated to a number of worthy causes.

An initiative which is thoroughly enjoyed by the Pre-Prep children is our annual Market day. Children make and supply items and are then taught the principals of shopping by being given R60 to spend. A large portion of the funds raised is donated to charity and this year the Blind Guide Dogs Association was the beneficiary. ■



## Shows

BY MRS TESSA BROGAN

During the course of the School year, a variety of educational shows and entertainers visit the Pre-Prep to enrich and enhance the girls learning experiences. When FAMSA visited, we were taught all about Jimmy Germ and what happens during a hospital operation. The girls got the opportunity to put on masks and listen to each other's heartbeat. They each got to take home a small Plaster of Paris kit to try and trick their parents into thinking that they had broken their finger. Puppet theatre is always a big hit with the Pre-Preparatory girls. Amy and her amazing Puppet World puppets taught us about the World of the Circus, the Life of Nelson Mandela and all about the Olympic Games, to name but a few. There is always an opportunity to get involved, be it dressing up as an animal or character, doing actions or singing along to a song. ■



## OLYMPIC GAMES

BY MRS TESSA BROGAN

Once every four years the world gathers to watch the best athletes from around the world compete in a range of different sports. The Olympic Games provided a fabulous opportunity for the Grade R girls to learn about different kinds of sports and countries of the world. We started with watching a fun-filled and interactive puppet show about the Olympics. Art activities were all about the Olympic rings, flames and sporting codes. There was much discussion about what sports the girls would like to participate in if they were Olympic athletes. Gymnastics and swimming were popular choices. The girls really enjoyed watching parts of the Opening Ceremony and clips of some of the events on our Smart Boards. There was also time to learn all about Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest. Of course all the girls knew about Rio because of the movie with the same name. What an enjoyable theme this proved to be! ■





## Grandparents' Day

BY MRS TESSA BROGAN

Every year we host a Grandparents' Day in the Pre-Prep. It is a day that the girls and their grandparents or special persons look forward to. The girls start off by showing their guests their classrooms and all their wonderful creative work. This is followed by some entertainment in the form of singing and rhymes. The grandparents are then given the opportunity to get creative, helping their granddaughters with some special art activities. The girls love showing the grandparents how things are done or helping them with difficult crafts. The highlight for the girls is a picnic in the garden as they all know that grandparents love to spoil them with a special teatime treat. ■



## ZOO 2 YOU

BY MRS LORAIN CODD

Farmer Mark and his helpers brought their farm animals to the Pre-Prep again this year. This is a much anticipated annual event that brings great delight to the girls, and causes much excitement in anticipation of their arrival. However, between the children and the teachers, it is hard to say who is the most excited. Each class has their own time to enter the enclosure and interact with the farm animals, who are all gentle and accustomed to being handled. On the day



## GRADE R POETRY EISTEDDFOD

BY MRS LORAIN CODD

*"To read a poem is to hear it with our eyes;  
to hear it is to see it with our ears."*  
- Octavio Paz.

This year both Grade R classes participated in the Poetry Eisteddfod and the girls each had a turn to recite a short poem in front of their class mates and teachers. Some poems were selected by the teachers and some girls chose their own. The parents did an amazing job of helping their daughters prepare to recite in front of the class. The teachers also gave the girls a chance to practise in the class. The nervous excitement on the day was very special to see. Each girl had to be brave and overcome her shyness in order to perform. The class sat quietly watching and clapped appreciatively after each girl recited her poem. Once everyone had had a turn, Mrs Nel called each girl up individually to congratulate her and hand over a certificate. The certificates were proudly taken home to show to family and friends. ■

of their visit, Farmer Mark gets up very early in the morning to wash the sheep and pigs, ensuring that they arrive lovely and clean. The girls are shown how to sit and feed the animals, or can walk around and stroke them. Those girls who are hesitant to engage with the animals are encouraged to observe from the sidelines. The wonder reflected on their faces is delightful to observe. This enriching and worthwhile experience gives the girls a unique opportunity to interact with animals that usually live outside their familiar suburban environment.



## BUTTERFLIES AND LADYBIRDS



### GRADE R BUTTERFLIES

**FRONT ROW:** E Floquet, L Slatter, A Chagan **SECOND ROW:** S Du Plessis, S O'Connor, I Manuel, L Ahmed, C Heinemann, S Keers, F A-Razzak **MIDDLE ROW:** J Naidoo, R Lumb, I Ganyeka, A Cloete-Hopkins, E Hacking, E Raubenheimer, G Wessels, L van Zyl, G Ludlam **BACK ROW:** Mrs V Johannes, K Millar, J O'Brien, C Henriques, A Bhattacharya, H Potgieter, I Saville, A Jacobs, Mrs L Codd



### GRADE R LADYBIRDS

**SEATED ON FLOOR:** L Senol, R Boyes, E Slatter **FRONT ROW:** R Watson, C Prain, R Liddell, H Mustapha, F Janoodien, A Ngayil, R Watson **MIDDLE ROW:** C Campbell, A Tresfon, D Land, R Rinquist, Z Dornford-May, A Thacker, A Weir, M Petersen, J Collins **BACK ROW:** Mrs T Brogan, D McIvor, A Moolia, S Adams, G Bosini, A Hundermark, N Kerbelker, L Arnold, Mrs T Davids





# If I could wish...



**FATIMA A-RAZZAK:** I would wish I had a big present with all the toys from the movie Frozen in it.

**ARANYA BHATTACHARYA:** I would wish I could have a rainbow cupcake machine.

**ARYA CHAGAN:** I would wish I could be in a Disney on Ice show.

**ARYANA CLOETE-HOPKINS:** I would wish I could go to Ratanga Junction with my family.

**LAYLA DARRIES:** I would wish I could see a real mermaid.

**SCARLET DU PLESSIS:** I would wish I had a pet unicorn.

**ELLA FLOQUET:** I would wish I had wings.

**ISABELLE GANYEKA:** I would wish I could do magic.

**EVA HACKING:** I would wish I could go to Century City.

**CHLOE HEINAMANN:** I would wish I could see through walls.

**CARA-GRACE HENRIQUES:** I would wish I could skate with Elsa and Anna from Frozen.

**ABIGAIL JACOBS:** I would wish I could live in sweetie land.

**STELLA KEERS:** I would wish I had a pet Sausage dog.

**GRACE LUDLAM:** I would wish I could go to a carnival every week.

**RUBY LUMB:** I would wish I had a mermaid's tail that was blue and green.

**IMAAAN MANUEL:** I would wish I could have school on the beach.

**KATE ANNA MILLAR:** I would wish I could wish for anything and it would come true.

**JASMIYA NAIDOO:** I would wish my dad would take the training wheels off my bike.

**JADE O'BRIEN:** I would wish I could have my own horse.

**SINÉAD O'CONNOR:** I would wish I could have a huge story book about a rainbow.

**HANNAH POTGIETER:** I would wish that I could fly.

**EMILY RAUBENHEIMER:** I would wish I could visit fairy land.

**ISABELLA SAVILLE:** I would wish I could have a talking owl.

**LAYLA SLATTER:** I would wish I could live on a farm.

**LIAH VAN ZYL:** I would wish I could be at a party eating ice cream.

**GEORGIA WESSELS:** I would wish I could watch a Disney on ice show.







▲ GEORGIA WESSELS



▲ FATIMA A-RAZZAK



▲ ELLA FLOQUET



▲ GRACE LUDLAM



▲ STELLA KEERS



▲ HANNAH POTGIETER



▲ SINEAD O'CONNOR



▲ SCARLET DU PLESSIS



▲ EMILY RAUBENHEIMER



▲ EVA HACKING



▲ LIAH VAN ZYL

# Pretty Salma goes shopping



▲ RUBY LUMB



▲ IMAAN MANUEL



▲ ARANYA BHATTACHARYA



▲ ABIGAIL JACOBS



▲ CHLOE HEINAMANN



▲ CARA-GRACE HENRIQUES



▲ LAYLA SLATTER



▲ ISABELLE GANYEKA



▲ JADE O'BRIEN



▲ LAYLA DARRIES



▲ ISABELLA SAVILLE



▲ ARYANA CLOETE-HOPKINS



▲ KATE ANNA MILLAR



▲ JASMIYA NAIDOO



▲ ARYA CHAGAN



# IF YOU COULD GROW UP TO BE *famous* WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO BE FAMOUS FOR?



**SOFIA ADAMS:** I'd like to be famous for finding fossils.

**LAYYAH ARNOLD:** I'd like to be a famous ballerina.

**GABRIELLA BOSINI:** I'd like to be a famous singer.

**RUBY BOYES:** I'd like to be a world famous gymnast.

**CAITLIN CAMPBELL:** I'd like to be a famous explorer.

**JESSICA COLLINS:** For exploring the world and under the sea.

**ZAZI DORNFORD-MAY:** I'd like to be a famous fashion designer.

**ASHLEE HUNDERMARK:** For being a gymnast.

**FARHEEN JANOODIEN:** I'd like to be a singer.

**NURAH KERBELKER:** I'd like to be famous for running.

**DYLAN LAND:** Being the mayor of Cape Town.

**REBECCA LIDDELL:** Rock star singing.

**DANIELA MCIVOR:** Being a ballerina.

**AYESHA MOOLLA:** I'd like to be a famous make-up artist.

**HUDA MUSTAPHA:** I'd like to be a famous doctor.

**AYANA NQAYI:** I'd like to be a famous doctor.

**MICHAELA PETERSEN:** I'd like to be famous for riding my bike.

**CHLOE PRAIN:** I'd like to be a famous ice-skater.

**RANA RINQUEST:** I'd like to be a famous ballerina.

**LALE-RANA SENOL:** I'd like to be a famous fencer.

**EMELIA SLATTER:** I'd like to be a famous president.

**AMY THACKER:** I'd like to be a famous plant seller. That's what I've always wanted to do.

**AVA TRESFON:** I'd like to be famous for ballet dancing.

**RILEY WATSON:** For being a good horse riding teacher and a rider.

**RUBY WATSON:** For horse riding, especially jumping.

**MILLIE WEIR:** A fashion designer.







▲ DANIELA MCIVOR



▲ CHLOE PRAWN



▲ RUBY WATSON



▲ RUBY BOYES



▲ SOFIA ADAMS



▲ RILEY WATSON



▲ DYLAN LAND



▲ EMELIA SLATTER



▲ FARHEEN JANOODIEN



▲ ZAZI DORNFORD-MAY



▲ AYESHA MOOLLA

WE HAVE BEEN SHOPPING.  
*Look what we  
have bought!*



▲ CAITLIN CAMPBELL



▲ AYANA NQAYI



▲ ASHLEE HUNDERMARK



▲ AMY THACKER



▲ AVA TRESFON



▲ MICAELA PETERSEN



▲ GABRIELLA BOSINI



▲ NURAH KERBELKER



▲ JESSICA COLLINS



▲ REBECCA LIDDELL



▲ HUDA MUSTAPHA



▲ LAYYAH ARNOLD



▲ LALE-RANA SENOL



▲ MILLIE WEIR



▲ RANA RINQUEST



## BUSY BEES AND BOUNCING BUNNIES



### BUSY BEES

**FRONT ROW:** A Daniels, S von Seidel, H Rahiman, K Daya-Feasey, A Louw de Wet, S Govender, Z O'Connor, R Khan **MIDDLE ROW:** L Costa, D Naidoo, S van Zyl, E Capper, S Sickle, I Slingsby, J Smit, H Koor, S Wallace **BACK ROW:** Ms Z Mrasi, I Levy, K Kalil, O Mundy, A Wareham, S Ebrahim, L Devlin, D Campbell, Mrs E Odendal



### BOUNCING BUNNIES

**FRONT ROW:** C Koen, R Shaboodien, I Brogan, A Grey, E Buckham, H Mohamood, M Pharo **MIDDLE ROW:** K Lowther, C Böttger, N Baloyi, M van der Spuy, N De Villiers, Z Govender, M Rahim **BACK ROW:** Mrs Gobey, C Plummer, O van Sittert, A Hardres-Williams, J Durrant, A Noakes-Dobson, E Warner, Miss Harrington **ABSENT:** C Quin





## *If I were a sea creature I would be a...*



**DANA CAMPBELL:** Whale because I like it when they go up and down.

**EMILY CAPPER:** Octopus because I like orange

**LILY COSTA:** Dolphin because I like dolphins and they are friendly.

**ARIANA DANIELS:** Octopus because they have eight arms.

**KAREENA DAYA-FEASEY:** Mermaid because they have pretty hair.

**LILAH DEVLIN:** Shark because they have sharp teeth and a fin.

**SAFIYA EBRAHIM:** Dolphin because they jump very high.

**SATARA GOVENDER:** Dolphin because it is pretty and can jump.

**KRISTINA KALIL:** Dolphin because I like dolphins.

**RANA KHAN:** Shark because they are scary.

**HANNAN KOOR:** Mermaid because I like mermaids.

**IMAN LEVY:** Shark because I like them.

**ANNA LOUW DE WET:** Mermaid because I get to live in a castle.

**OLIVIA MUNDY:** Mermaid because I get to live in a castle.

**DARIA NAIDOO:** Mermaid because I get to be pretty.

**ZARA O'CONNOR:** Whale because I love blue.

**HANAH RAHIMAN:** Mermaid because they have nice hair and a tail.

**SOPHIA-ROSE SICKLE:** Dolphin because they jump out of the water.

**IONA SLINGSBY:** Angelfish because I like angelfish.

**JAIME SMIT:** Jellyfish because I like putting tinkles on and dancing around.

**SOPHIE VAN ZYL:** Dolphin because they are beautiful.

**SOPHIE VON SEIDEL:** Killer whale because I saw one at Fish Hoek Bay, I think.

**SIENNA WALLACE:** Whale because I like whales and I like going in the sea to see them.

**ALANA WAREHAM:** Whale because I don't have a whale costume.





▲ SIENNA WALLACE



▲ HANAN KOOR



▲ LILAH DEVLIN



▲ KRISTINA KALIL



▲ IMAN LEVY



▲ IONA SLINGSBY



▲ HANAH RAHIMAN



▲ SOPHIE VAN ZYL



▲ SOPHIA-ROSE SICKLE



▲ LILY COSTA



▲ SOPHIE VON SEIDEL



▲ ZARA O'CONNOR



▲ JAIME SMIT

# The Scary Great White Shark



▲ KAREENA DAYA-FEASEY



▲ SAFIYA EBRAHIM



▲ EMILY CAPPER



▲ RANA KHAN



▲ OLIVIA MUNDY



▲ SATARA GOVENDER



▲ ARIANA DANIELS



▲ ANNA LOUW DE WET



▲ DARIA NAIDOO



▲ DANA CAMPBELL



▲ ALANA WAREHAM





## I love my grandparents because...

**NSOVO BALOYI:** They let me watch TV. If I was a Granny I would wear make-up.

**CLAUDIA BÖTTGER:** We pick apples and play outside with their dogs. They give me chocolate when they stay with us.

**IMOGEN BROGAN:** They play on-on with me and bake cakes.

**EMMA BUCKHAM:** They let me swim in their pool, give me chocolates and let me hug them.

**NINA DE VILLIERS:** They like to run around outside with me and jump on the trampoline. They like to read.

**JESSICA DURRANT:** They read me books and paint with me.

**ZARA GOVENDER:** We play hide and seek together and they jump in the pool with me. They also let me watch TV inside their house.

**ANNABEL GREY:** They take me and my brother to The Greenbelt for walks and the Nursery to feed the ducks. Charlie and I hide in the big bush and we see lots of birds. My grandparents sit on the patio and drink tea.

**AMÉLIE HARDRES-WILLIAMS:** I like to swim with them. If I was a granny I would put jewellery on.

**MEESHA RAHIM:** They give me food all day and let me watch TV.

**CHARLOTTE KOEN:** They give us sweets and me and James are sometimes naughty at Grandma and Grandpa's house. They sometimes let me have stamps.

**KATINKA LOWTHER:** They turn around in the garden with me and have a park next to their house so it takes one step to get there.

**HANAA MOHAMOOD:** They take me to feed the ducks.

**ANNABEL NOAKES-DOBSON:** They take me to Kirstenbosch to look at the flowers because they have sensible ears.

**MICHELA PHARO:** I like to go to the super tubes with them. They let me swing on their swing and lie on the hammock.

**CHARLOTTE PLUMMER:** They buy me doughnuts when I am not looking and take me to the shops.

**RAYA SHABOODIEN:** They do art with me and like to paint. They also take me to Rush.

**CATALINA QUIN:** They come to visit.

**MEGAN VAN DER SPUY:** They let me play with their dogs and give me ice-creams.

**OLIVIA VAN SITTERT:** They make pancakes and like to draw with me. They also like to play outside.

**EMMA WARNER:** We do baking together and make chocolate cake or potatoes and it tastes nice. If I was a granny I would be as quiet as I can.







▲ KATINKA LOWTHER



▲ MICHELA PHARO



▲ CLAUDIA BÖTTGER

▲ ANNABEL NOAKES-  
DOBSON

▲ ZARA GOVENDER



▲ RAYA SHABOODIEN



▲ CHARLOTTE PLUMMER

▲ AMÉLIE HARDRES-  
WILLIAMS

▲ JESSICA DURRANT



▲ NSOVO BALOYI



▲ ANNABEL GREY

*I love my  
grandparents*



▲ IMOGEN BROGAN



▲ CHARLOTTE KOEN



▲ EMMA WARNER



▲ EMMA BUCKHAM



▲ MEGAN VAN DER SPUY



▲ MEESHA RAHIM



▲ NINA DE VILLIERS



▲ CATALINA QUIN



▲ HANAA MOHAMOOD



▲ OLIVIA VAN SITTERT



## CUDDLY KITTENS AND LITTLE LAMBS



### CUDDLY KITTENS

**FRONT ROW:** P Temple-Jones, H Marshall, E Wessels, F Cowan, J Potgieter, L Warncke, F Harnekar

**MIDDLE ROW:** A Rich, M Mandy-Woodcock, T Geyer, A Simpson, E Mason, E Jamieson, N Soko

**BACK ROW:** E Groenewald, J Hughes, Miss M Martin, S Conroy, I Abdulla, S Eyssen, J Boyes, Mrs L Thomas, K Plenge-Mantell



### LITTLE LAMBS

**FRONT ROW:** L Schaffler, J Manuel, A Turner, M Slatter, S Ebrahim, E Spaun, I Joannou

**MIDDLE ROW:** L Sickie, C Swartz, Z Hodge, G Spice, O Melck, M Macdonald, Z Scholtz, E Rose

**BACK ROW:** C Mills, R Sparks, L Gonsenhauser, T Seseli, I Todd, A Chenia, Mrs C Blencowe, S Ndlovu





# LITTLE Lambs







▲ MILA-BELLE SLATTER



▲ SAMIRA EBRAHIM



▲ LILY-MAE SICKLE



▲ MEGAN MACDONALD



▲ SIYANDA NDLOVU



▲ ZOE HODGE



▲ OLIVIA MELCK



▲ LILAH GONSENHAUSER



▲ TSIA SESELI

# Five green leaves

Five green leaves  
High up in the trees  
Swaying in the breeze  
Swinging as they please

Along comes a caterpillar looking for his lunch  
He bites off one leaf  
Munch, munch, munch



▲ ZARA SCHOLTZ



▲ LILA SCHAFFLER



▲ ROXY SPARKS



▲ ELECTRA ROSE



▲ GEORGIA SPICE



▲ INDIANA JOANNOU



▲ ELLA SPAUN



▲ INDIA TODD



▲ CHLOE SWARTZ



▲ ARIANA CHENIA



▲ ABIGAIL TURNER



▲ JEHAAN MANUEL



▲ CARA MILLS





# CUDDLY *Kittens*







▲ ISRA ABDULLA



▲ ELIZABETH MASON



▲ AMY RICH



▲ JESSICA HUGHES



▲ LEILA WARNCKE



▲ TORI GEYER



▲ SKY EYSEN



▲ KATINKA PLENGE-MANTELL



▲ JESSICA POTGIETER

## The Little Plant



In the heart of a seed,  
Buried deep so deep,  
A tiny plant  
Lay fast asleep.  
"Wake," said the sunshine,  
"And creep to the light."  
"Wake", said the voice  
Of the raindrops bright.  
The little plant heard  
And it rose to see,  
What the wonderful,  
Outside world might be.



▲ AMELIA MANDY-WOODCOCK



▲ LIZZY WESSELS



▲ JOSIE BOYES



▲ HANNAH MARSHALL



▲ FRANKIE COWAN



▲ FARAH HARNEKAR



▲ ALEXIA SIMPSON



▲ SARA CONROY



▲ PAIGE TEMPLE-JONES

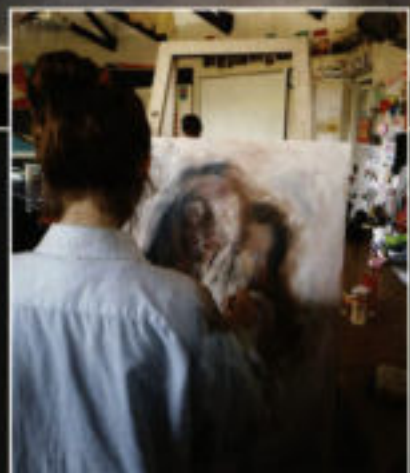


▲ LAYLA TOLL



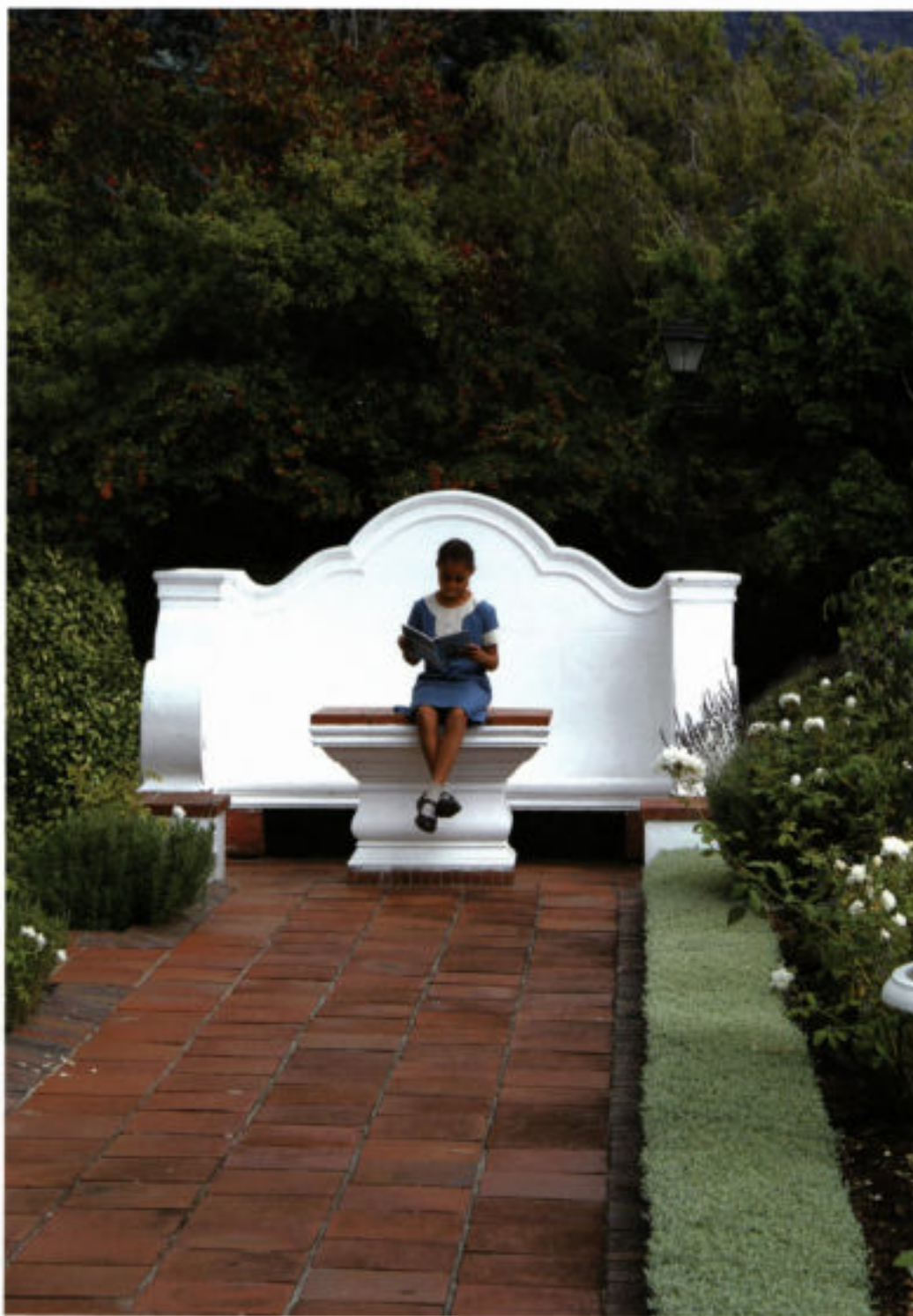
▲ NALEDI SOKO





THE VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL PRIZE  
**JESSICA MACLEOD SMITH**





**HERSCHEL GIRLS SCHOOL**  
*LEARNING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE*