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22 February 2019

From the Head's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians

Recently Craig Wilkinson addressed parents on the topic of "Parenting". This is the essence of his address with those who could not attend.

Motherhood, fatherhood, parenthood - it's a parallel journey that it starts with how we are as men and women. We can only give to our children what we have inside, and what we do have inside we are going to impart whether we like it or not. If we have a heart full of love and compassion and goodness and godliness we will impart that. If we have a heart full of bitterness and anger and racism that will filter through. Therefore, the journey of being a father and being a mom starts with me as a man and you as a woman looking at ourselves. Men and women are absolutely equal but stunningly different – men and women are of equal value equal respect - equal value in terms of our roles as parents our roles in society our roles as parents but there's a difference. The greatest role model for your child is their same gender parent. A boy will look to his father as a man to see how he ought to be as a man. John Eldridge talks about the three desires core to the heart of every man, every boy: a desire for a battle to fight an adventure to live and a beauty to pursue. Do I have what it takes to fight the battles I need to fight? Do I have what it takes to live the adventures to actually win the heart of the beauty out there? That is a deep, deep question and many men have grown up without this question ever being answered

Older men imparting to their son's their wisdom and saying to their sons, "You've got what it takes! You can do this thing!" is essential. There are men who grow up uninitiated into manhood without a man showing them what it means to be a man. This is a major problem as there are many young men who have absent fathers or no father at all and therefore they require a suitable male role model or mentor to take their place. Ideally you want your son to become a man that you want your daughter to marry and at the same time raising them to be the man you want them to be and the woman you want them to be.

There four great gifts that we as parents can give our children:

The first of these great gifts is the gift of seeing and calling out your child. We have to have the capacity as parents to see what our kids are and who they are. We don't write the script for our kids hearts as its already written on their hearts and their souls. Our job as parents is to read that script it's to help them to read what's already written on their souls and call out who they are because who they are is who they're meant to be and if we try and make them what they're not and it could be a disaster. Do you know what your son's favourite colour, meal, dessert, hero, movie, game and friends are?

The second great gift is the gift of validation. If our greatest desire is to be seen our second greatest desire is to be told that you're okay and you're good. Psychologists talk about two kinds of validation. The first kind is being validated the second kind is doing. We as people need validation of who we are not what we do. If you take your son and daughter aside and you say you know you're just such a great kid and they say why? Why? You just are. That's the greatest gift you can give someone – Dad believes the world's a better place because you're here. Who you are is good and you have my blessing. It's the most amazing gift that you can give your child and when do that they go out into the world being seen and known and being validated. More on page 2...



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Focus on Parents & Boys

Journey of Parenting cont

The third great gift is creating a sanctuary in which they can flourish and thrive. One of the words in the whole issue of creating a sanctuary is the father needs to nurture. There's something so powerful about masculine nurturing. When a man creates what I call a lap of grace it's this area around him which is area of grace – it means when your child comes into that territory, that area around you, he or she feels safe: they feel emotionally safe; they feel physically safe; they feel spiritually safe. The question what environment do I create when I walk into the house? What kind of environment do I create when my child comes near me? Is it an environment of love, affirmation, seeing, getting, understanding, grace, forgiveness? If it's that kind of environment, they'll want to hang out with you; that's the kind of environment that nurtures their soul. It allows a boy to cry.

Sigmund Freud said that there is no greater need in childhood than the protection of the father. The father's role is one to protect and to provide an environment of safety. Furthermore, we need to actually get into the lives of our children and understand their world because it's a different world to the one we grew up in. We need to understand the dangers. At all times know where your kids are, have them round and have a backup and have another look at their friends. The final gift is the gift of equipping them for life and this is sometimes where moms struggle a bit more than dads - the whole empty nest syndrome. Our role as parents, our role, is to equip our children so that they don't need us. That's the bottom line. To equip them so much that they actually do not need us at all. And sometimes parents fail in it - you see a lot of parents and this is where teachers and schools come up - a lot of parents - fail to teach their children the character and a spiritual and emotional intelligence that they need to survive; not just survive, but to thrive in life.

One of the biggest problems that modern parents have is that we put being friends with our children above being parents to our children and sometimes being a parent works against your friendship with your child. Sometimes you have to make the hard decisions. You know what the good news is if you get it right: they don't need you but they'll always want you. As you are equipping them for life there is the need to model. You see ultimately it's not what we say to our children is it it's what we do. You want your child to be disciplined, respectful of and to others, amongst men and others. These are the things that we need to model.

CONCLUSION: BE THERE!

For us as dads our job is to be there. Be there in the boring moments, in the day to day moments. Be there emotionally; be there spiritually; be there physically; be there for the highlights for the plays and the school plays and when they hit the home run or the six and they're run out and they realise that they're terrible at cricket – it's to be there. And that's really our job. And if we get that right we're 90% on the way to being a great father. The start of it is to be there.

Chris Luman Headmaster

Focus on...Our Boys Focus Group

Understanding the feelings and behaviours of the Middle School Child

Parents are often worried or confused by changes in their teenagers. The following information should help parents understand this phase of development. Each teenage is an individual with a unique personality and special interests, likes and dislikes. However, there are also numerous developmental issues that everyone faces during the adolescent years. The normal feelings and behaviours of the middle school and early high school adolescent are described below.

Movement towards independence

- Struggle with sense of identity
- Feeling awkward or strange about one's self and one's body
- Focus on self, alternating between high expectations and poor self-concept
- Interests and clothing style influenced by peer group
- Moodiness
- Improved ability to use speech to express one's self
- Realisation that parents are not perfect, identification of their faults
- Less overt affection shown to parents, with occasional rudeness
- Complaints that parents interfere with independence
- Tendency to return to childish behaviour, particularly when stressed

Future interests and cognitive changes

- Mostly interested in present, limited thoughts of future
- Intellectual interests expand and gain in importance
- Greater ability to do work (physical, mental, emotional)

Sexuality

- Display shyness, blushing, and modesty
- Girls develop physically sooner than boys
- Increased interest in the opposite sex
- Movement towards heterosexuality with fears of homosexuality
- Concerns regarding physical and sexual attractiveness to others
- Frequently changing relationships
- Worries about being normal

Morals, values and self-direction

- Rule and limit testing
- Capacity for abstract thought
- Development of ideals and selection of role models
- More consistent evidence of conscience
- Experimentation with sex and drugs (cigarettes and alcohol)





Focus on...Visual Art



The Visual Art Department hosted a wonderful threeday workshop with Jeff Rankin recently. It was extremely intense, running from 8.00am until after 5.00pm each day, and participants learned print techniques while creating artworks of their own. The workshop focussed on woodcuts using reduction print and copper-plate etching, including aquatint and marbling. Monotypes in watercolour and oil were also covered. Delegates learned so much from Jeff's insight and years of experience as an artist and lecturer. The workshop was very well supported. Participants came from schools around the province, there were some private artists, as well as a delegate from Centre for Visual Arts (CVA) at UKZN. Many of the techniques learned can be used in schools, even without a printing press and do not require expensive materials. We are privileged at College to have a well-equipped dedicated print room and printing press and large enough art rooms to facilitate and host a workshop of this size.

Comments from delegates included: "loved the workshop"; "loved making art all weekend"; "It was a great 3 days"; "a wonderful weekend"; "it was fantastic". There was discussion about the possibility of a follow-up workshop next year at the same time, as we couldn't cover all the techniques we had hoped to in the given time.

I certainly think the event has put College on the map in terms of art, and it has strengthened our ties with other schools, the Visual Arts Department at UKZN and the wider South African artworld.



Focus on... Visit by English Author

This week our English Department was privileged to host author, Edyth Bulbring. Mrs Bulbring is the author of The Mark, a Grade 10 set-work which we read in Term 3. As the host school of the presentation we extended an invitation to schools in the Umgungundlovu and Midlands Districts to attend. Schools who attended the presentation included Maritzburg College, Eastwood Secondary, Alex High, Faithway College, Northbury Park, Thornhill and Capulum College, Voortrekker High School, Howick High School, Weston Agricultural College and Kharina The presentation was wonderful and Secondary. informative. Mrs Bulbring is a natural story-teller and the audience was in awe of her and her accomplishments. Many of the attendees could not wait to find her other novels to devour them over the next few nights/weeks. What a wonderful experience!



College Culture



Focus on...Lamond House

Lamond House is named after the legendary Mr Sholto Erroll Lamond, who was a member of staff from 1911 – 1950 and Vice-Principal from 1924-1950. He is also an Old Collegian and was DUX of Maritzburg College in 1908 and 1909. He knew generations of schoolboys by name and often amazed everyone by being able to give a detailed account of a boy's history at College.

Lamond House lives by the motto: "By serving we live". The house is led by the extremely passionate Mrs Alisa Greyling and she is ably assisted by Mr C Dutton, the Assistant Housemaster. Mentor teachers include Miss Mhlongo, Mrs Moula, Mr Tyler, Mr Mkhwanazi and Mr Warr. Mr Ngema left at the end of the year to join the staff of St David's in Johannesburg, but we are pleased to announce that Mr Swelihle Mkhwanazi, a College Old Boy has joined the Lamond family. We congratulate Mr Mkhwanazi who recently became the proud dad of a healthy little boy. Lamond boys are truly blessed to have such caring mentors who ensure that the mentor programme runs successfully.

We are very proud of Nhlanhla Lushozi who is one of the Senior Deputy prefects of 2019. Four Lamond House boys are serving as prefects this year, namely S Little, D Godleman, S Zunckel, and L Lenz. Our House Leaders are R Bennett, S Gounder, W Mazwi, K Naidoo and L Zondo. Lamond boys approach all they do with spirit and so far this year we are placed 7th in the inter-house competition. Our 2nd Formers have settled in well and have contributed hugely to all House competitions so far this year. This bodes well for the future of Lamond's House.

Focus on...Interact Knitting

Interact has started an exciting project this term where our Interact boys are knitting red, black and white squares as part of 67 blankets for the Nelson Mandela Day drive. These squares will be joined together to make blankets and distributed during winter to the less fortunate. Our boys were in action knitting squares earlier this week, and will be knitting

every Wednesday Friday. and We are calling on the College Community to support us in this exciting initiative! We need volunteers to come in and help teach boys how to knit as well as helping us by



knitting red, black and white squares at home, and/or donating of cherry red, white and black double knit wool. Contact Mrs Tamaryn Schofield (schofieldt@mcollege.co.za)





Sporting Spotlight

Although this was a free weekend without the usual formal sporting fixtures, there were some exceptional performances for College's sportsmen in a range of sporting codes; canoeing, basketball, athletics, squash and rugby.

Canoeing

Traditionally a canoeing powerhouse, Maritzburg College did not disappoint at this year's FNB Dusi Canoe Marathon. The school won the coveted Top Schools trophy awarded to the four highest placed junior positions. Dave Evans finished the race in an outstanding 7th place overall and was the 1st junior paddler home. This is the highest place junior result in the race's history. Fellow 6th former Scott Little was the 3rd Junior home in 37th position overall.

Basketball

Two of our teams played St Nicholas in mid-week fixtures; winning both games. Our 2nd team beat St Nicholas 1st team 36-33, and the U14B team beat St Nicholas U14A team.

Maritzburg College's U16 basketball team took part in the St Stithians tournament over the weekend, finishing in 7th place.

Rugby

College's 1st XV rugby team took part in the Sarel Cilliers High School tournament playing against Vryheid's 1st XV. Despite the team missing a number of its players due to other summer sport commitments, the side had a convincing victory winning 52-24, which bodes well for the season ahead.

Golf League

College's Golf team comprising S Paxton, L Barnard, N Trodd and E Gough, won the Nomads team championship at Mount Edgecombe and will represent KwaZulu-Natal in the South African Champs in Limpopo in July. In the Golf league, College's 1st team beat Hilton 5.5 - 2.5, while the 2nd team lost 1-7.

Squash

Our squash team took part in the KZN pre-season tournament this weekend with the boys placing in three age categories.

Swimming

College hosted an invitation gala midweek, and finished 2nd in both A and B gala events.









Full details of our Sporting Results and Fixtures are available on D6 and on the school website www.maritzburgcollege.co.za/sport

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Maritzburg College **Old Boys Association**



Maritzburg College



Foundation

Bashers off to Buth (Michael) Arbuthnot (1950), who is one of the founding members of the Midmar Mile - he has successfully completed yet another mile! Swimming with Buth, was OC Tony Bath (1988). Congratulations to Buth, Tony and to all the other OC's who participated in this annual event.

Tony Bath has swum the Midmar Mile 8 times in the 8 Mile Challenge to raise money for the Cancer Foundation in Durban...what champions!

Photo credit: Bonnie Godfrey Niemand Jones



First CollegeConnect breakfast for PMB

Thursday 21st February saw the first CollegeCollege breakfast being hosted in Pietermaritzburg, and what better venue than the Kent Pavilion at Maritzburg College!

CollegeConnect is an initiative aimed at linking College Old Boys together from a business and networking perspective, providing a forum for young, recently graduated OCs to be mentored by fellow Old Boys and also to actively provide a platform for the employment of College Old Boys within the Old Boys' network. The events provide guests with the opportunity to share a "30second CV" on their businesses or professions and to connect, network and share business ideas and opportunities.





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Support our Fundraisers

Support our College Fundraisers

A reminder to please support our current fundraising initiatives...

Buy one of the limited number of **2019 Rugby Season tickets**, an initiative of the Maritzburg College Club.



We are extending our **College 150 Club** to members at a cost of R900 until the end of July or R150 a month from the end of February to the end of July. This will get you into the R1500 draw monthly as well as eligible for the R7000 draw and R5000 attendance draw at the end of July.

To join - contact Linda Webster on 0834655018 or linda@towerevents.co.za



Join us for a special evening organised by the *Canoeing* group on 1 March featuring supper with Rob Caskie, as well as lucky draw prizes and an exciting auction including the once in a lifetime opportunity to bid for 2019 Dusi Champion & OC Andy Birkett's boat and paddle!



Please support our *Easter Egg Rugby 2019 UK Tour* fundraiser – by purchasing one of these delicious gift packs; a portion of the funds raised goes to the Rugby 2019 UK Tour. Orders: Nicci Morsink

mceastereggs@gmail.com or 083 324 4559.



Campus Roundup



Drak Descent 2019

A number of the Maritzburg College cross country runners and cylists took part in the Drak Descent, taking place from the 19th to the 20th of January.

The Drak Descent is a two-day stage race where our cyclists rode 45km each day and our runners ran a total of 22km.

Many thanks to all our sponsors who



second place in the cross country.

College support the Blood Bank Drive

Saving lives...

Our #RedBlackWhite boys showed their courage and commitment today when many of them donated blood at the Blood Bank Drive at College.



made it possible for us to attend this fantastic event! And congratulations to B Symons for coming second in the Junior category and N Msiya for also obtaining a

Important Dates

February

27 Anti-discrimination Policy Workshop Hockey Staff Xi vs 16A
28 MC Ink Writing Workshop

March

01 HC Athletics Champs Golf vs MHS Tennis: Inter-District Trials Water polo: KES 1st & Jeppe U14 Festivals Supper Theatre: Canoeing Fundraiser

02 Founders Day Hockey and Rugby trials Tennis Inter-District Trials Waterpolo KES 1st and Jeppe U/14 Festivals 03 Boarders' Excursion



Contact: Sally Upfold (Marketing Manager) marketing@mcollege.co.za



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