

# #RED BLACK WHITE

Directing potential since 1863



31 May 2019

18-2019

## From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear Parents and Guardians

The following is a summary of a presentation to staff at the recent Staff Professional Development session on single-sex school education. A recent study conducted by the "gender-neutral" independent New Zealand Council for Educational Research on the "Achievement in Boys' Schools, 2010-2012 found higher achievement in test scores, University entrance, and graduation rates for all boys, no matter ethnicity or income levels, who attend single-sex boys' schools. In every conceivable category of differentiation, boys in New Zealand single-sex schools outperformed boys in co-educational schools. Of course, the results beg the question, "Why?" The International Boys' Schools Coalition [IBSC] was founded in 1995 to look at what is best for boys. They aim to be the leading voice in boys' education world-wide, committed to sharing knowledge and expertise with educators of boys everywhere. At the heart of their work is guiding boys on the journey to manhood through its activities and programs. They strive to support and celebrate boys' schools as learning environments uniquely focused on the achievement, engagement, character and well-being of all boys for lives of achievement and fulfilment, compassion and justice, and service and leadership. Recent biological and pedagogical research shows that there are differences in the way boys and girls learn, as well as the way they interact with one another in the early adolescent years. There are differences between boys and girls that cannot be ignored or wished away. These differences, in turn, manifest themselves in the structure of schools and in the way in which individual disciplines are taught and learned.

In addressing education with boys in mind, there are a number of approaches that College has introduced. Our academic day is designed with boys in mind; classes are forty-five minutes in length and teaching styles provide for interaction and active engagement. Boys do everything here; there is no subject that is thought of as "masculine" or "feminine." We have worked hard to encourage our boys to go beyond stereotypes of masculinity, while still providing the greatest opportunities for sportsmen. The boys at College have the opportunity to witness a number of different positive male role models and strong female role models. The development of lifelong friendships and brotherhood amongst the boys is one of the characteristics for which College is known. There are many challenges boys will encounter at schools and it is suggested that the answer lies in strengthening the links to good men within the immediate circle of young men's lives and in empowering fathers to continue to play a positive role in their sons' lives as they move from boyhood into adolescence. The definition of a good man- "While identifying there is no right answer...definite themes emerge... and on almost every occasion... honesty, loyalty and a good sense of humour stood out above others..."

Chris Luman  
Headmaster



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## Academic Achievements

## Focus on...Geography

The Geography department in 2019 is well-staffed with 10 enthusiastic educators continuing to inspire and guide the young Geographers in order to gain an appreciation of our environment. We are fortunate to have experienced teachers who worked very hard last year to ensure brilliant Geography results, especially in Form 6. The following matric results were achieved: 11 A symbols; 47 B symbols and an average of 65% in the National Senior Certificate examinations.

We were fortunate to replace Mr Collocott, who took early retirement, with Mrs Harris, an experienced teacher who has been in the field for 11 years. She has also taken over the reins from Mr Dorling as Subject Head from Term 2.

Like all subjects at College, we offer learner support with resources available on the Moodle for boys to use. Senior forms are encouraged to make use of the past papers that are available to them on all government websites. All boys will be doing research projects during the year and this certainly helps to expand their knowledge in certain fields. All scopes for exams will be put onto the Moodle for the boys to use to prepare for the examinations that lie ahead.

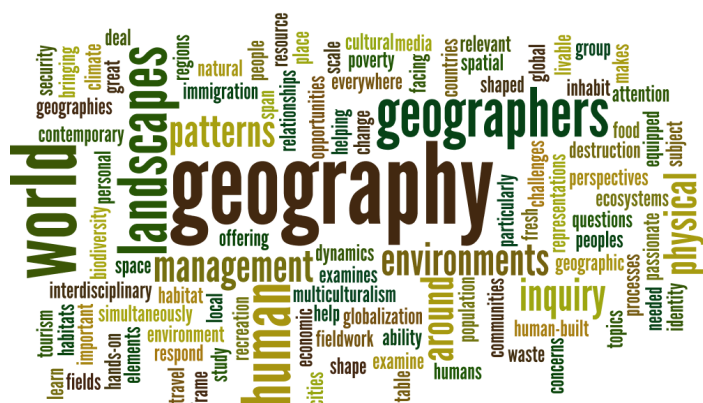
Nevertheless, assessment is a significant part of the learning process both at a school level and at a tertiary level. In order for the assessment process to have educational value over and above that of a mark collecting exercise, boys need to reflect on their examinations.

During this process, it is vital for students to:


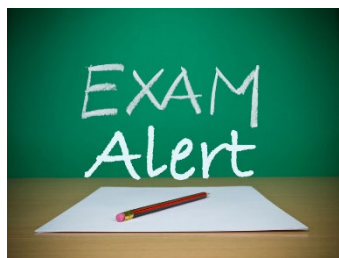
- Take ownership and responsibility for their learning as well as their results;
- Actively reflect on their study methods and academic discipline both in class and in their own time preparing for the exams;
- Consider steps that may be taken to improve on their performance if that is required;
- Set realistic and attainable goals for the next cycle of assessment.

Housemasters, Mentor teachers, subject teachers as well as the Subject Heads of the various departments will all be involved in guiding this process in the coming weeks. For many boys re-doing their exam papers over the holidays and working through problem areas, is a worthwhile exercise. There are many options available to boys who feel that they need to improve. The first place to start, is for your son to approach his subject teacher directly. His teacher needs to know that he is trying to improve and he or she will advise him how best to do so. The school's Moodle ([www.moodle.mcollege.co.za](http://www.moodle.mcollege.co.za)) contains a wealth of academic resources, including past question papers and memos, links to our YouTube channel with tutorials, power-points and worksheets etc. All boys should be familiar with this invaluable resource. Your son's Housemaster can provide him with a Peer Tutor who will assist him where necessary. This is a successful way of providing support from our top academics. There is also academic support available at the school given by our teachers, and this is offered free of charge to diligent boys who are serious about wanting to improve. For the most part, the academic support programme does not involve re-teaching of the syllabus, but rather it provides a forum in which the pupil can engage with a teacher on a more personal level, pursuing his areas of weakness or difficulty. For the academic support programme to bear fruit, boys must attend at least once or twice a week and must display an eagerness to address their shortcomings. This approach once again serves to put the ball back into the boy's court, making him accountable for his own success. This move towards independent learning is a vital tool in developing the skills needed to perform at a tertiary level.

Parents who wish to discuss their son's academic progress further, are welcome to contact his subject teacher, the Subject Head, or if the matter is of a more general academic nature, the Housemaster concerned. Parent-teacher evenings will be held next term, for forms 4-6.



### ***June exams and academic remediation***



We are as you know in the midst of the mid-year examinations, and it is a good opportunity to reflect on the academic merits of assessment. The examination period lasts for approximately three weeks, and it can be a time of great pressure and anxiety for boys and staff alike.



## Focus on... Fuller House

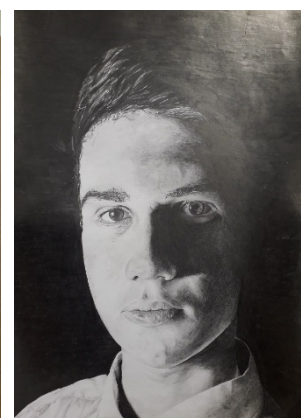
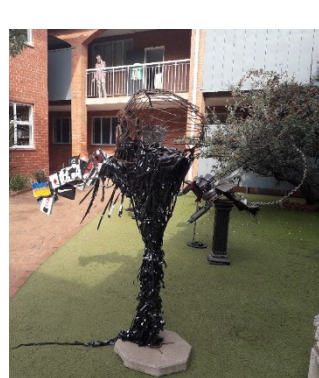
Fuller House has continued its good start to the year under the leadership of Housemaster, Mr Sparrow.

In term 2, we are still on top of the house rankings and are hoping for continued good performance from our boys in the inter-house rugby and hockey in the last week of this term to keep us on top. Thank you to all of the boys who have represented the house so far this term - your contributions have been invaluable.

The mentor lessons this term have seen some really good topics being discussed with two of the sessions being run by our own house leaders. This has led to some very good input from our boys.

There has been one stand-out sporting performance in the house this term. Hemal Heeralal has again been at the top of his game. He is currently ranked number 1 in the country in the U/21 age group for karate and has again obtained his SA colours. He has been selected for the South African Team that will take part in UFAK, Botswana: 9 – 15 July 2019 and WKF World Cup: Croatia – July 2019. He recently took part in the Arnold Classic Tournament at the Sandton Convention Centre, where he took part against competitors from around the world and took home double bronze. We wish him well for his next tournaments. Keep flying the Fuller House and Maritzburg College flags high, Hemal!

Our boys are all in the throes of June exams and we would like to wish them well for the rest of their exams. We would also like to wish all of our 6<sup>th</sup> Form boys well for term 3 as they enter their last stretch as College boys.



## Focus on...Art

The senior art boys have completed their second term practical art and their creations can be found in front of the courtyard and in the art suites.

Featured artwork includes work by 6th Form Niall Stevenson's arc-welded sculpture "Chaos"; 4th Form collaborative welded sculpture about mass media entitled "What we consume"; 6th Form Jordan Collocott, self-portrait in pencil and graphite; 6th Form Brent Jamieson, linocut double print entitled "Your fear versus mine"; 6th Form Ndumiso Zakwe, etching, "I am not you"; 6th Form Mondli Khumalo, etching "I am not you"; 6th Form Shahir Singh, "I am not you", oil on canvas. 5th Form art linocut double print on theme "Organic and Inorganic"; Uyanda Kweyama, Van Dam, Bryn Emms, Siphesihle Tshabalala, Callum Shaw.



# Sporting Spotlight

This weekend saw Maritzburg College play Westville Boys High at home in hockey and rugby fixtures with the #RedBlackWhite teams winning most of the encounters.

## Rugby

The weekend saw College play 18 rugby matches against Westville with some excellent results winning 13 of their games, drawing 1 and losing 4. Overall we played 26 rugby matches, winning 16, losing 8 and drawing 2. The mighty 1<sup>st</sup> XV lost narrowly 26-28.

## Hockey

College's hockey teams played 15 matches against Westville Boys High with outstanding results, as they won 10 games, drew 3, and losing 2. Our RedArmy 1<sup>st</sup> IX drew their game 1-1.

## Soccer

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI ran out 3-2 winners against Haythorne in the MTN UI9A PMBHSFA Second Term League. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI produced one of the performances of the season against Eastwood 1st XI, coming out 2-1 victors.

## Cycling

In the latest lap challenge College boys placed in the A & B batches of the Youth category.

## E-Sport

College's Dota 2 team beat Grace College

## Cross Country

From the last meet at Cascades, College had 8 boys finish in the top 20 in the Junior league and are lying 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. We had 6 boys finish in the top 10 places of the senior league, which we are currently leading.

## Chess

College A finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the A section of the recent Chess interschool competition, while College B team came 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the B section College's C team finished in top spot.

## Action Cricket

Three Maritzburg College pupils have been selected to represent the KZN Action Cricket U/18 team; Dean Dyer, Chad Fortmann and Taine Cloete. They will represent KZN in the Juniors Inter-Provincial Tournament hosted by the South African Indoor Cricket Federation, at the Zambezi Action Sports Arena in Pretoria from 4-8 July 2019.



Full details of our Sporting Results and Fixtures are available on D6 and on the school website [www.maritzburgcollege.co.za/sport](http://www.maritzburgcollege.co.za/sport)





### **Focus on...MCOBA**



Many of our College Old Boys have gone on to achieve great things since leaving the school in the cultural and sporting arenas.

Jarryd Nurden (2009) will be performing as "Rocky" in Richard-O'Brien's, Rocky Horror Show, the World Tour 2019/2020 production at the end of this year. Jarryd is a talented young performer who

has performed in many musicals, locally and abroad; including Chicago the Musical, Priscilla Queen of the Desert, Joseph & his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Cats and West Side Story.



Congratulations to Tyron Maher (2012) who competed in the 52km Molokai surfski race in Hawaii and finished in 14th place amongst some of the top paddlers in the world.

### **Foundation Feel-Good Friday**

Last week we received such a heartwarming letter from a donor sharing his reason for giving back and today we are blessed once again with a show of generosity.

One of our College Old Boys, himself an avid cricketer, sent us his "pre-loved" cricket kit all the way from Johannesburg to pass on to a young College lad in need.

What a lovely gesture and such a wonderful start to some lucky boy's cricketing story.

Thank you for this show of generosity, sir!

Should any member of our College community wish to make a donation, either financial or a gift-in-kind, please don't hesitate to contact the College Foundation Office via email on [admin@collegefoundation.co.za](mailto:admin@collegefoundation.co.za) or just pop in and see us personally.



### **Dads & Lads @ College vs Michaelhouse 8 June**

#### **Celebrating #RedBlackWhite Dads & Lads...**

After our very successful celebration of Mother's Day on campus this year, we are calling on dads, grandads, brothers, uncles and guardians to celebrate Father's Day on 8 June for our special "Dads & Lads" occasion. This is a chance to come and watch your boy play his match against Michaelhouse and enjoy some special "Dads & Lads" bonding. You are invited to form a tunnel to welcome your sons onto the field at the start of his game, and join him for a team photo afterwards. Come and build a treasured memory and share the #RedBlackWhite moment.

# Campus Roundup

## Focus on...the Skonkmobile

At the time of his death in February 2011, College's beloved former coach and Deputy Headmaster, Mr JM "Skonk" Nicholson owned two Ford Valiants, which he reverently referred to as his "wagons" – one, a sky blue version and the other one a deep navy blue in colour.

For decades, either of the Fords could be seen chugging slowly around Maritzburg, especially during Skonk's latter years, as he and his younger Diana slowly made the short journey from their home in Jesmond Road down Alexandra and College Roads to the College Archives, where they both rendered invaluable service.

Sometimes, unexpected challenges arose en route that interrupted their smooth passage, like the time in about 2006, when Skonk's hefty Valiant failed to negotiate the deep gutters around the Forder Oval. Dozens of College volunteered with gusto to manhandle the great blue beast out of its tricky situation!

The reality was that by 2011 the one "wagon" – the navy blue version – was in slightly better condition than the other one. And so it was that when Skonk's family very generously offered one of the "wagons" up for auction as part of the school's 150th birthday celebrations, it was the navy blue "Skonkmobile" that went under the auctioneer's hammer, being sold to a syndicate of devoted Old Collegians for a substantial sum of money during the 150th Reunion Dinner attended by hundreds of OCs.

But that amount was insignificant when compared to the costs incurred in restoring Skonk's beloved Valiant over the two years that followed, with every nook and cranny of the old car enjoying the loving attention of its restorers, who brought it back to mint condition.

It will no doubt gladden the hearts of his thousands of admirers to hear that Skonk's old wagon not only is again "King of the Road", but that it remains a much-admired occasional visitor to College – and a lasting, purring tribute to College's beloved "Grand Old Man".



## Important Dates

### JUNE

- 01 Hockey & Rugby vs Hilton (away)
- 02 Cycling: Sappi Karkloof
- 03 MC Board Meeting
- 04 Soccer: 2<sup>nd</sup> Term league semi final
- 05 Cross Country League: Linpark
- 06 MC Ink – Words@Kearsney
- 07 Rugby Tour Dinner
- 08 Hockey & Rugby vs MHS (home)  
Compulsory attendance

## College

### Wall of Remembrance

College's Wall of Remembrance is an initiative of the school's Archive Committee and was inaugurated on the school's 150<sup>th</sup> Reunion Day, 25 May 2013.

Any person can be included on the wall who has enjoyed a link to College – whether as an Old Collegian, staff member, parent or simply loyal friend of the school - and can be remembered and honored through the addition of plaque on the wall.

Each plaque has the same format and design and includes name, relevant dates and a short personal message.

For more information or to order a plaque contact Mrs Kathy Roberts (robertsk@mcollege.co.za)

The deadline for the next order of plaques is 1 July 2019 and these will be unveiled at Reunion Day 2019 on Saturday 3 August. Friends and family are encouraged to attend and say a few words.

Contact: Sally Upfold (Marketing Manager)

marketing@mcollege.co.za



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