



# Hudson's Herald

Term 2/ 2019

*'Confido et Conquiesco' — Rest in Confidence.*



## FROM THE HOUSEMASTER

Term 2 is always remembered as the term that encompasses the most passion and enthusiasm from College boys. This is mainly due to the fact that rugby and hockey take centre stage and Saturday's are consumed by the atmosphere around Goldstones and Papes. Term 2 also sees the Cultural scene heat up with the Funk Dance Production and this year we were treated to a rendition of "Fawlty Towers" by the College boys and GHS girls. The most dreaded part of term 2, more so than the inevitable cold Pietermaritzburg mornings and hot afternoons, is when the exams begin! Evenings, mornings and weekends become full of academic revision for the studious boys. I truly hope that there will be little regret with most of the boys and that they have done the exam process justice.

This term was the first time we separated our usual Formal House Dinners and instead, had a Junior and Senior House Dinner. The Form 3's from the various Houses joined with the boys from Nathan House for the Junior Dinner and the Elliot House boys were joined by the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> formers for the Senior Dinner. There were various humorous Awards that were given out on both evenings which created much laughter and banter amongst the boys. The customary Good Fellowship Awards were also handed out to one boy in each Form from Hudson House which are coveted awards, voted for by the boys. More about that can be found later on.

I would like to share the thoughts I shared with the boys at the Senior Formal Dinner. It is something that has challenged me and it has been a focus of ours in Hudson House this year. Our attempt is to mould these impressionable boys into fine young men when they leave Hudson House at the end of 5<sup>th</sup> form, or take up office as a prefect in one of the Boarding Houses. This is by no means an easy task, and the boys face many challenges along the way. But I firmly believe that it is these challenges that are the key to developing the character of these boys.

## Extract from my Speech

"I was watching a program the other day on TV, and there was a line said by one of the actors speaking to a bunch of boys that grabbed my attention. I wanted to share it with you tonight;

"Fine young men don't suddenly become fine young men. They start by being fine young boys. They need to learn to listen, learn to show respect, learn to understand consequences, and need to learn to be considerate of others."

What does it mean to be a fine young boy? It is what we hope this school, and our BE produces. Ultimately we want you boys to leave here, as fine young men of influence. Our desire is for you to be able to develop into men with characters that we can be proud of. There are many internal and external factors affecting this character. Your friends, your parents, your teachers, social media, movies, the music you listen to...I could go on and on. I'm not here to tell you the difference between right and wrong and what you should or shouldn't be doing... but rather I want to encourage you to embrace this journey that we, the Boarding Staff, want for you.

I am a big soccer fan. You all know I love Liverpool. Need I remind you of the Champions League final... #6. You should all know Pep Guardiola? If you don't, he is the Man City coach, he is one of the most successful coaches in the modern game. But if I were to ask Pep his philosophy and what you need to focus on, I believe he would say focus on the small things. I am currently reading his book titled a 'New Way of Winning'. I think he is one of the most brilliant coaches, less so because of his soccer skills and soccer mentality, but more so on the way he manages and deals with personalities. You think about some of the big personalities he has had to manage; Messi, Pique, Henry, Ibrahimovic, Aguero.... In his book, he says this; "Be a coach who cares for the smallest detail, who can see them (the players) for who they are, and communicate the small secrets of the game." Something that was said of Pep is, "He is an obsessive professional, who pays attention to the detail, knowing that the smallest details can decide a game." I am a passionate coach and I try and apply this to my coaching, but even more so to you boys in the BE. "Tuck in your shirt." "Those are the wrong shoes you are wearing." "You need a haircut." "That's not how we do things here...." You may have heard these words many times from me or another Master during your time here. Don't get frustrated by them, embrace and understand that we see the bigger picture and realise that these small details have an influence on you becoming a fine young man. Because once you get the small things right, you can focus on some of the bigger things.

If I were to ask Jurgen Klopp his opinion... Now this is a man who needs no introduction. He coached one of the greatest teams to European success this year. Klopp is a successful coach and before he joined Liverpool he previously managed Borussia Dortmund, a club with one of the biggest fan bases in Europe. Klopp said this, "when I left Dortmund, I said, it's not important what people think of you when you come in, but what they think of you when you leave." Each one of you, have an opinion and a feeling of the person sitting next to you, or opposite to you. Each one of you will have an opinion of a teacher or a boarder master. The reputation you build, and the way other people feel about you, is largely up to you. You are responsible for your reputation. You cannot always control whether people want to feel positively or negatively about you, but you can certainly shape the reputation you have by your actions and how you make them feel. We hope, that when you leave the form you are in, or the Boarding House you are in at the end of the year, or for those of you in Elliot's and the prefects, when you depart College in a few months' time, we hope that what people think of your character is greater than when you first arrived. Hopefully you have empowered others and added value in many areas of school life. One of the biggest ways to make a good impression is to take responsibility for your actions, take it on the chin when you make a mistake. And make sure that you are not making it harder for others to form their reputation, by being someone that drags other people down. Consider what other people's perceptions are of you, based on how you make them feel when you interact with them. We all deserve second chances, we all make mistakes, but in order to become a fine young man, it is important that we learn from our mistakes and allow that to shape our character when we are young boys."

I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday, and some much needed rest. Enjoy catching up on what has been happening around the House.



**Kyle Emerson**

# Good Fellowship Awards

The Good Fellowship Award is an award given to one boy in each form. It is voted for by the boys and the citation read to the boys before they vote is as follows;

For an individual in the House who displays the characteristics that are the essence of a Hudson's boy. Someone who promotes friendship and camaraderie, looks out for his friends and encourages those around him. A boy who has a strong moral compass and strives to do the right thing by striving to live by the Hudson House DNA. The person you vote for is a 'good mate', a 'solid bloke' and someone you and others in your form can look up to.



Something that really encouraged me was the amount of boys that were voted for and that in some cases it was quite a close race. This, clearly showing, that the Hudson House boys are displaying good character and are fine young men.

The worthy recipients of the Award were;

Form 3: Matthew Ponter

Form 4: Hayden Kemp

Form 5: Henry Trodd

## Cheers for now...

Just before the end of term, actually just before exams started (and I'm sure it was well planned), Craig Brummer in Form 4 left the College and Hudson House family to immigrate to the USA. As excited as Craig and his family were for the new adventure, he was sad to be leaving the friends he had made and the place he had known as home.

Craig was handed an Old Boys' Tie the night he departed, and is pictured below with Kei Raw, Head of House. The Brummer family will be missed and we wish them all the best on their exciting new season.





Our Hockey Boys continue to make us proud. We have 9 boys from Hudson's who were selected for IPT teams or as non-travelling reserves;

R Marais, R Dobeyn, D van Niekerk, G Pio, B Jackson, H Askew, J Lalor, M Veenstra and G Winlock

D Botha, H Trodd, C Dlamini and C Morsink were selected for various KZN rugby teams and will be representing their province in the holidays.



It is great to see our boys getting involved in the Cultural side of life at College. I encourage our boys to step out of their comfort zone and immerse themselves in all that College has to offer. They may be surprised by the talents they have.

Sibahle Hlatshwayo (pictured in the middle) was a part of the Funk Dance Production.



Liam Sinclair and Sphephelo Mbonambi (pictured on the left) were part of the School Production 'Fawlty Towers', which was hugely successful.

Opportunities are waiting our boys in many different areas if they just seize them!

# Around the House...

Some of our 5<sup>th</sup> form boys in Mr Nevay's Mentor Group enjoyed a braai at his house to celebrate the end of exams! The steaks and wors were quickly consumed and the delicious pudding which Mrs Nevay made apparently didn't last too long either....



The latest addition to Bester's Quad is the new 46-inch TV. The couches have been turned to face it and the boys enjoyed watching the some of the SA U20 World Cup, after having being 'starved' of their TV rights during exams... The upgrading of Bester's Quad is on the cards for the 3<sup>rd</sup> term, watch this space...

The House tuckshop. One of the busiest corners in the House...



One of my favourite sights is seeing the boarders congregate on the tennis courts in the afternoon, where we have put some of the old astro turf down, and play soccer and touch rugby. The games of 'soccer tennis' and 'rugby tennis' they have created are interesting to watch. It is a great way for them build friendship, maybe solve a conflict of "the ball was out!" or just relax on the court with their pillows and blankets on a colder Winter's day. Seeing the boys interacting in this way is what boarding is all about!



# BURGER BRAAI !!

On one of the many public holidays this term, we organised a 'burger braai' for the boys that were staying in. A break of routine was welcomed and their burger making skills were put to the test. Please notice that there was plenty of salad on offer too.... A few spontaneous games of soccer and touch rugby took place on the tennis courts, and the little Emerson's never give up an opportunity to take the boys on in a game of foosball or touch!



## Some Old Boy News...

Three of our past Hudson House boys are currently in Odisha, India, playing at the FIH Series Finals. Tevin Kok, Peabo Lembethe and Tyson Dlungwana, all of whom matriculated in 2015, have continued to chase their dreams and do what they love.



## GENERAL

Please could parents note the following:

- The third term starts on Tuesday 9 July and all boarders are to return the night before, **Monday 8 July 2019**. The House will be opened from 13h00 for those of you travelling from further away, and all boys must have returned by 19:30.
- COMMUNICATION: Please note that preferred communication is via email. Please use my personal email address: [emersonk@mcollege.co.za](mailto:emersonk@mcollege.co.za) for any Hudson House matter. The use of Whatsapp to communicate is not reliable and I find it quite difficult to keep tabs on and ensure I reply. I ask that you do not use this unless it is urgent and you cannot get hold of me on my cell phone.
- Please ensure that boy's hair is according to school regulation upon their return – boys who return with incorrect hair will be punished.
- Please read Mr Marwick's BE Newsletter which will be sent out as it contains necessary information regarding next term. It is a busy start to the term with three big out-of-province Exchanges and Reunion day on the fourth weekend. Further, please consult the Term Calendar for various weekend fixtures etc. and plan OPTIONALS accordingly.

## Bester's Quad Upgrade

In 2015 Bester's Quad was revamped. It is now the main Common Room in the House and the area is enjoyed by boys in all forms and is where they are able to relax and play pool, table tennis and foosball and we have recently put in a TV so that we have two TV's in the House. We are wanting to spruce it up further by putting up photos and some framed jerseys of past pupils to make it feel homelier.

**BEFORE in 2014**



**AFTER in 2015**



We have also ear-marked an area at the back of the House which we want to develop and upgrade so that our boys have an area where they can relax with their friends outside. Our vision is to make a braai and bonfire area that the boys can use. The idea is to create an area that they can relax with their friends and in their mentor groups when the opportunity presents itself.

If any parent can help in any way with donations of any kind; be it monetary, furniture, building supplies etc. it would be much appreciated. Please contact Mr Emerson.