



Hudson's Herald

Term 3/ 2019

'Confido et Conquiesco'— Rest in Confidence.



FROM THE HOUSEMASTER

The third term has a reputation for being a bit of a quieter term as the winter sports programme comes to a halt. However, this didn't seem to be the case this year. It has been a busy one with lots of activity and hard to believe that we are deep into Spring already!

At the start of the term we acknowledged the top academic achievers after the June exams, and congratulated those boys had had shown marked improvement. Many of the boys admitted they had under-performed, and we placed an emphasis on academic diligence this term. As we head into term 4 and edge closer to the November exams, it is vital that they learn from these mistakes and that all boys plan their time effectively and start to revise early enough. Looking at the 4th term calendar, examinations begin after just 4 weeks! Some serious thought needs to be given and action needs to take place with regards to the pending examinations.

The highlight of the term for me was the Hudson House Mother's and Son's Spring Day Tea. This was an exciting idea my wife and I had off the back of Women's Month in August and Woman's Day. More about that later...

Another focus in the House was that of mentorship and well-being. I would say for the majority, and for most of the time, Hudson House is a happy place with a friendly environment. There are, at times, a few that seem to spoil it for the majority and we are committed to making College and the BE a happy place for all boys. As per my recent communications, we encountered an issue in the school and BE with drugs. There are a few boys who were expelled from the BE and the school in the past few weeks. It is clear that the Governing Body has a zero-tolerance for dagga and similar substances and the warning has been given. Please speak to your sons about the decisions they make and what they are being exposed to. We continue to do sweeps of the BE for any contraband.

The party/social influence is probably one of the more prevalent concerns in raising teenagers today. Be aware of what your sons are doing, where they are going and who they are with during their 'social time'. Our goal, and I'm sure yours too, is to raise young men with integrity, empathy and those who are able to show responsibility. In doing this it is important that during these formative years we 'protective them from themselves.'

One of the themes in Hudson House this term has been *HONESTY*. Whilst this may sound like a simple and straightforward principle/value, it is something that teenage boys struggle with at times. The default for a boy who

has been caught out is to be on the defensive, and we are all certainly protective of ourselves and this would be normal. The thing that concerns me is when a boy takes to being dishonest and telling lies to defend his position or actions when he knows he is in the wrong. After all, the very reason he feels the need to tell a lie is cover what he has actually done. One of the values we try and teach the boys in Hudson House is to own up and take responsibility for their actions. To make a mistake or to get something wrong is okay, it happens. But to then make a decision to be untruthful is not okay. And so it happens that boys have to learn the hard way, that when they lie and get caught out, there is a further punishment for that dishonesty. So in essence we want to teach them that if they front up and tell the truth, it will be easier on them. Without trying to make you feel like you can't trust your sons, I urge you to scrutinise what they say and not always take it at face value – especially when it comes to them getting into trouble. Something my father taught me from a young age is, "There are always two sides to a story."

I hope you enjoy the short, yet much needed, holiday with your family!

Sincerely,

Kyle

A message from the Head of House

The third term has lived up to its name of the "Silly Season" and its reputation of being a busy term. The boys have had some restless energy and excitement, which is fuelled by the rugby and hockey. There is a buzz in the House as the new Acting Prefects were announced and they start their duties. I am personally looking forward to the next term ahead with them, many of whom I am close with, and I am confident they will uphold the strong traditions and culture that exists in Hudson House. Most College boys know, but few will admit, that the College BE is the backbone of the school and us Hudson's boys know that Hudson House certainly allows the heart of the school to beat strongly.

The 3rd form boys have just one more term to carry out their important duties in the House, thank you for how you have conducted yourselves during the course of the year. The 5th form have only one term left to be as a group before some depart for Elliot House. Enjoy your last few weeks living under the Hudson's roof. And to the 4th form, you carry the culture on into next year as the seniors of the House so ensure that you lead by example.

Thank you to my team of prefects who have made this year enjoyable as we have faced various challenges together and learnt lots along the way.

Kei Raw

ACTING PREFECTS

Congratulations to these fine young men who will lead the school and our Boarding Establishment. They have been doing duties for the past 2 weeks and have brought a fresh energy and enthusiasm into the running of the House. I look forward to working with them as they learn many valuable skills and lessons in a leadership role.



From left to Right: R Anderson, H Askew, O Beauclerk, A Heydenrych, N Mndaweni, K Morsink, J Muggleton, M Smith, C Stubbs, H Trodd, C van Rooyen, M Veenstra

Academic Achievers, from the June Exams

I had the top 5 achievers in each form around to my house for a hot chocolate and Krispy Kreme donut treat at the start of the term to celebrate their achievement in the June examinations. I was also impressed with many boys who climbed quite a few places in their Grade, which shows they knuckled down and put in the hard work last term.

The Top Achievers were as follows;

FORM 3

Ngubo
Glynn-Cuthbert
Marais
Westerdale
Madide

FORM 4 (all in top 20 of the form)

Lalor
Beauclerk
Maphumulo
Whyte
van der Merwe
Cotterrell

FORM 5

Smith
Muggleton
Price
Beauclerk
Veenstra

Prefect

Dlamini came 2nd in form.



A Few Sport Achievements;

Grant Pio (current prefect) picked up 2 awards at the 1st XI Hockey Dinner. He earned 1st XI Player of the Year for his massive contribution on the field and the Fellowship Award for the manner in which he captained the 1st XI.

Tiaan Prinsloo, former Hudson's boy and current Head of House of Shepstone House, won the Most Committed Player in the 1st XI Award.



Mother's & Son's Spring Day Tea

On the 1st of September, the first day of Spring, we hosted the first ever Hudson House Mother's & Son's Spring Day Tea. I think it is safe to say that if you missed it, you certainly missed out! It was a lovely afternoon which included a delicious tea, an encouraging and stirring speech from Ingrid Roberts, a few lucky draw prizes, and most importantly a moment to push pause and honour and celebrate the special ladies in our boys' lives. We do hope that next year we will see more moms join us and we build on this event, so look out for it on the calendar. A big thank you to Granny Macs (Heather Lawson) for her generosity and delicious eats, and to my wife, Stacey, for the huge effort she put into ensuring that it was an enjoyable afternoon.



The Lucky Draw prizes were Emthunzini Sun hat, won by Mrs Marais, a R300 Sorbet pamper voucher, won by Mrs Westerdale, a R500 Woolworths voucher, won by Mrs Stubbs, and a cake from Brenelle Quality Deserts, won by Mrs Patterson.



Mentor Group Bonfires

We enjoyed having the 5th and 4th form boys around to our house for a Bonfire evening in their mentor groups. The boys enjoyed some hot chocolate, biscuits and roasted marshmallows, and it allowed the boys to break the normal routine for the week. The 3rd form will come around early in the 4th term.



MCOBA Engagement Evenings



The MCOBA, together with One Life Church, have started an initiative which has been well received by most of the boys. We have had a few Engagement Evenings this term where there have been guest speakers who have shared their life story with the boys, and through this we have hoped to create dialogue and lessons for the boys to learn. The more recent one, on Thursday 13th September, focused on drugs which is a very relevant topic. We were joined by a Police Officer who specialises in Narcotics and a recovering cocaine addict, who has been 'clean' for many years. The honesty and vulnerability of these two gentlemen was most encouraging and eye-opening, and hopefully the boys were able to learn from and take heed from their experiences.

Hudson House Outreach

During the soccer season, we invited some boys and girls from the Kenosis Community Trust to play a soccer match against the College U15C soccer team. Kenosis provides foster care for up to 18 children with three foster mothers. These are vulnerable children often orphaned by HIV/AIDS. They are given a home and schooling and are supported by a governmental foster care grant. The reason for this was to give the children of Kenosis an opportunity to play a fun, yet competitive, soccer match and have the opportunity to bring them onto campus.

Further to this, I am wanting to create an Outreach Program for our House, starting in January 2020. I believe it is important for our boys to look outwardly, and not just worry about themselves, even at a young age. I would like to create a few easy opportunities for the boys to interact with the kids from Kenosis, whose ages range from 8 to 20, and opportunities to contribute or serve the Kenosis Community.



"The best way to
FIND YOURSELF
is to lose yourself
in the **SERVICE** of others."
-Gandhi



Sport & Cultural Awards

The following Hudson House boys excelled in Sport & Culture this year and were recognised for their efforts at the Sport & Cultural Awards Ceremony;



Douglas Comrie Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to the Choir
SS Dlamini



Lance Dobeyn Trophy for the Junior Champion Canoeist
KW Rhodes



Maritzburg College Trophy for the Most Promising Canoeist
JW Cumming



Luyanda Ntshangase Memorial Shield for the Most Improved Player in the 1st Soccer XI
B Brooks



Matt Kemp Trophy for the Most Improved Water Polo Goalkeeper
L Lenz



Sean Burgoyne Fellowship Trophy for Water Polo
KD Raw



Roy Foster Memorial Trophy for the Most Improved Water Polo Player in Form Five
&
Oscar Servant Trophy for the Most Committed Water Polo Player
Q Lupton-Smith



Oscar Servant Trophy for Fellowship in Hockey
&
Carr Trophy for Player of the Year in the 1st Hockey XI
&
Wayne Lofthouse Memorial Prize for Courage and Tenacity in Sport
GO Pio

GENERAL

Please could parents note the following:

- The second term starts on Tuesday 1st October 2019.
All Boarders must return on **Monday evening, 30th September, by 19:30.**
- Final Examinations begin on the 28th of October. There are only 4 weeks of school before they start writing. Please impress on your sons the need to start revision for these exams and ensure academic focus.
- Summer Sports continue next term.
- Boarders will be provided with ONE optional weekend next term, as it is a very much shortened term. The good news is that (i) boys whose parents vote at the AGM will get another, and (ii) break-up day for the boys is Friday, 22 November.
- Please use my personal email address for any communication with me, including special leave, and not the Hudson House address. I ask that you please do not use Whatsapp as a means of communication, except as a last resort or if you need to get hold of me on the weekend. I find it difficult to keep track of this medium but will always get back to you timeously over email.