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# THE SHEPSTONE HOUSE FOYER

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MARCH 18

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Mr. Chirengende

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## ISSUE #3 2020



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*Whew!!!*

What a term! From water cuts, threatening storms, load shedding/generator problems and now the corona virus, 2020 really has been a test of our resilience and resolve. I have to say however that we have passed this test. Our BE has stood strong and the youngest boarding house- our darling Shepstone House continues to grow each day and continues to earn its place in this biggest state school boarding establishment. Credit goes to the boys that walk and sleep within its walls, boys that continue to contribute to the school from the classroom, to the stage and sporting fields.

Unfortunately, our end of term dinner scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> of March was cancelled and my message to the boys then was going to be, in the main, the contents of this newsletter. However, the dinner might still happen and the message will be passed on to the boys and yourselves. I see this young man every day and I look at potential, potential that has not been realized and it pains me that amongst these boys there are individual that are not making full value of the space they occupy. There are boys not making the leap or plunge to stretch themselves and try something new. College like the world is their oyster, please encourage your sons, to delve and try something new, to audition for that production, or trial for that sport and join that cultural club. There is a lot these young men have not realized about themselves and this can only be done by extending and stretching themselves.

Onto some in- house issues, Mrs. Pope and Mr. Thembela have come up with a few ideas to fundraise funds we can use to improve our house. Unfortunately, with the premature closure of the school, it interfered with some of the plans, however the drive will still be on to improve the general look of the house. Any parents with ideas or who are willing to help should get in touch with Mr. Thembela on our Shepstone house email address. We are looking to get the school crest in the foyer amongst other improvements, any ideas regarding this and any suggestions on areas of improvement are also welcomed. Big thanks to Mrs. Pope for availing herself to spearhead our fundraising from the parent's side.

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On the achievements side it is worth noting that our house had three of the age group champions at our annual athletics championships. Chirengende, Kayembe and Mosebi proved to be the boys that amassed the most points in their age groups, what a feat from our boys! We also had boys in the Dusi, a proper test of skill and endurance, well done to Sharpe and Hodgkinson and the boys that helped as well. During this extended period away from school, I urge all boys to stay fit and strong as the winter season will hopefully go back into full swing as soon as we get back.

Please keep yourselves and your families healthy during this time, we all pray and hope that this blows over and our country will be left unscathed. The school teachers will ensure work will be provided via online platforms so boys should have their well-earned break but once the two-week holiday has ended, they need to start getting back to business and ensure their days are productive with school work. God help us all during this time and I look forward to second term with great enthusiasm. Enjoy the much deserved break and time with your family

To end off, I have had a few comments from people that think the country is over reacting and I am no expert of this pandemic or any other one for that matter but a quote I read recently rang true to me. These were the words of a school superintendent as he shut down school for three weeks;

***“In the end, it will be impossible to know if we overreacted or did too much, but it will be QUITE apparent if we under reacted or did too little.”***

God Bless.

Mr. Chirengende.

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