

NICHOLSON'S



MARITZBURG COLLEGE | NEWSLETTER – 2021

TERM 4 – DECEMBER 2021

HOUSEMASTER'S REPORT

The fourth term of 2021 saw a semblance of normalcy returning to schools across the country, in general, and to Maritzburg College, in particular. Summer sports and Cultural activities returned. Academically, the fourth term is always a relatively quick term at Maritzburg College as the school is generally used as a matric marking venue. The four weeks of teaching can often feel pressured for staff and boys who have to complete the syllabus and revise adequately before the, at times, dreaded exams begin ('Control Tests' is a more accurate term in these 'Covid' times). Either way, we always find a way to make it work. As I write, the boys have completed their final Control Tests, the matrics are done and we are all very ready for a well-earned break.

Many of the Nicholson House boys got to relish in the camaraderie of sport once again. Finally, our 1st Team Basketball in the Alan Paton Hall again, finally our Waterpolo 1st Team in the pool again and finally our 1st XI Cricket Team on Goldstones again. Many could feel the excitement of the College sporting culture.

Culturally, some of our Nicholson House gentleman were involved in a dramatic production, and many other musical performances were enjoyed during various functions throughout the term. The Christmas Carols being the most recent one. What a joy it is to see these young men all filling their niches at school. They truly shine when performing within their passions.

Covid gave us a few scares this term, but the school management team did an outstanding job at managing the Covid concerns. The boys, and staff, have grown rather wary of this blasted pandemic, but we must remain vigilant. Fulfilling Covid regulations is essential if we hope to overcome this "challenge". Let us be safe and mindful in the holidays.

The matric boys of Nicholson House have now completed their high school years. They were all told that these years would fly by, and I am sure that, as we all did, no one believed how quickly their school years would pass. But now, they are done. I want to thank Callum Lee, the House Captain, J van der Merwe, Vice-Captain, R Crookes, L Mcoyi, D Ferrar, B Raw and O Cele for their sterling leadership. Their involvement helped propel Nicholson House from fifth place to second place in the house competition standings. In fact, we were three points away from



clinching the title of Champion House. Aided by incredible performances by many of our young men in various sporting, cultural and academic contests. I wish the matrics boys well for their respective futures and want to remind them that what you put in is what you will get out. Go well, boys. Aim high.

Our new leadership team stepped into their roles in a more serious way and I want to congratulate B Luthuli for being nominated as House Captain, and K Kisten for being nominated as House Vice-Captain. T Koller was named as one of the Shouting Captains for 2022. Well done, gentleman, and good luck.

We must take a moment to say a congratulations to the various prize winners this term. K Kisten won a Merit Certificate and O Mlambo won the award for the most merits received during the year.

As far as my involvement in Nicholson House is concerned, my short stint with the house has come to

an end. I was incredibly privileged to be associated with a house of such high calibre learners and staff. A very big thank you must go to Mrs Deyzel for all her assistance and guidance over the past five months. To the mentors, Mr Tshabalala, Mr Zuma, Ms Gumede, Mrs Couperthwaite and Mrs Maistry, thank you all once again for our two terms together. I cannot express my gratitude enough. You folks are brave souls and constantly apply yourselves wholeheartedly in your role as mentors. Each of the young men in your care are privileged to have you all as their mentors. All the best for the years ahead. I go now to take over Nathan House, the grade 8 boarding house. I want to wish Mr Barbour, the new Housemaster of Nicholson House for 2022, the very best for his tenure. To all the parents, thank you, and may you all relish the festive season with your families.

Take care. Until we meet again....

“Phambili. Phezulu.”

Mr M-J Smit



FROM THE BOYS

The fourth term proved to test our boys as these final year exams were a first experience for many, due to the pandemic.

The interhouse competitions were slowly brought back to the curriculum and as a result of this our house proved to be competitive and ended up in 2nd place overall. This has ended the year off on a positive note and hopefully as Nicholson's house we will carry this energy into 2022. With the arrival of the new grade 8 boys next year, we will carry the Nicholson's house way and strive to sustain the high standard that our house has built.

B Luthuli and G Cooke

LEADERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

B LUTHULI – HOUSE CAPTAIN 2022



K KISTEN – VICE CAPTAIN 2022



T KOLLER – SHOUTING CAPTAIN, 2022.



FINAL ASSEMBLY 2021 – TERM 4

PRIZE WINNERS

O MLAMBO – MOST MERITS FOR THE YEAR IN NICHOLSON HOUSE



K KISTEN - NICHOLSON HOUSE TERM 4 MERIT AWARD



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

S KADIRA - U16 SHARKS CAPTAIN



CULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS

M CHAPMAN - INTERACT CAPTAIN, 2022

