Snow House Newsletter



House Leader Julian Konigkramer and the Form 2s

The first afternoon saw the boys getting to know each other. After a 4km hike and a brief rest they were divided into houses and took each other on in friendly bouts of touch rugby and tug of war. It was remarkable to see how quickly boys who had met only hours before, developed a sense of camaraderie and house spirit. After an evening braai, the boys headed off for some well-deserved rest. An intense downpour at 1.30am saw the boys and prefects bonding as a group as individual tents were abandoned and everyone was forced to share the hall.

This year all of our house staff remained the same, bringing a sense of continuity and stability to the house. Beyond mentoring they have contributed in other areas including going on camps, choreographing house singing and arranging the various House sporting events.

The start of this year has been one of growth and development for Snow House. Even before the seniors returned for the year, the Borvers and their peers embarked on their "Rite of Passage" camp. It was a resounding success. Hosted in the bush at Tala and led by the prefects under the guidance and supervision of staff from "Spirit of Adventure" the new boys took on 24 hours of activities over two days.



Form 2 work together to overcome obstacles

The boys were woken early that morning and went on a circular 'hike' of activities and challenges. It was a moving experience to see the boys and their house leaders persevering through the water and mud created by that morning's rain, to create bonds and relationships that will last for years to come.

By breakfast they were wet and muddy, but glowing with a sense of pride in their achievements. Our House leader Julian Konigkramer was actively involved in leading and encouraging the boys over the course. Jordan Mumford played an active role in the overall leadership of the camp in his role as a prefect. We trust that seeds of character were planted into the lives of our future College leaders over this time.

The end of the week saw the "Tie Ceremony" where our Form 2's were welcomed as fully fledged College boys for the first time when they were handed their ties by their mentors and House Leaders.

The Virtus Challenge took place in the second week of term. Our boys took on the various challenges with their customary spirit and fared well in the cross-country run, tug of war and pool dash.



Most importantly a great deal of fun was had by all, as the boys bonded over the various activities.



The 5th Form Leadership Camp affords the Housemasters or Assistant Housemasters an opportunity to test the character and leadership skills of those who aspire to be prefects or leaders in their Matric year. Held in the Umkomaas Valley, the camp borrowed aspects of "Survivor" as the boys built



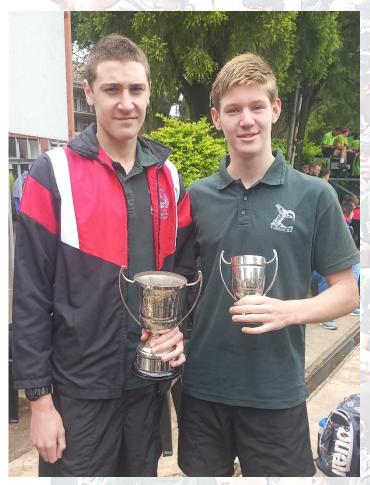
shelters, competing for rewards in a number of

challenges. The boys of Snow rose to the occasion and acquitted themselves well. One of the undoubted highlights was when the boys were provided with a whole Nyala, which they were required to skin, prepare and cook. A number of skills acquired in their lives outside of school came to the fore and it was extraordinary to see how teams of people arose and tasks were delegated according to knowledge or skill. Blaze le Roux

played a prominent role in the skinning and dividing up of the animal. A good time was had by all and firm foundations were laid for future leadership.

On the House sports front, Snow acquitted themselves well in the Athletics and featured prominently in the Spirit Cup. Snow fielded a competitor in every event and maintained a high level of enthusiasm. The Gala was met with a similar level of involvement and two of our swimmers were awarded trophies in their respective age groups. Jason Mumford won the U15 Victor Ludorum and Patrick Lamb was crowned U17 Victor Ludorum.

Patrick Lamb and Jason Mumford with their trophies



Other areas of contribution by members of Snow include involvement in the RCL and various cultural activities including "Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" which is directed by our Assistant Housemaster, Mr Orton and costumed by one of our mentors, Mrs Sanders. The show will be staged from 8 – 10 April. They are deep in rehearsal and we look forward to seeing what they achieve in this modern staging of the original Shakesperean text.

On the academic front, a number of our boys featured prominently in the top 10 in each grade in last year's end of year exams and were acknowledged at the good report tea held earlier this term.

Jonathan Orton: Assistant Housemaster