HOUSEMASTER'S REPORT

As the new Housemaster at Shepstone House, we as a house had a great start to the year. With this said, along with myself and one new additions of a boarder masters along with a new prefect group who have been very keen to assist the masters in running the house and supporting the boys.

We have made some significant changes, but not drastic changes in the house. We have upgraded the Common Room, which was something special for the boys as they have been longing for a modern type of area where they can have fun and relax with other boarders as well as their friends. We have installed a brand new kitchenette for the proud owners of the 'tuckshop', a brand new pool table, table tennis, as well as a 65' Smart TV, all for the boys to enjoy and "chill."



We had a successful year with our boys with them achieving in various sporting and cultural codes. This includes two full sets of summer sport, namely cricket, waterpolo, basketball and athletics. We have also thrived and excelled within our winter sport season. We are truly gifted to have such talented young men under our care, and it has been very exciting to see them grow in their various sporting and cultural codes.

We are proud to say that we have 5 pupils in our house who have represented South Africa in different sporting codes; as well as more than 10 of our boarders that have went on to represent KZN in their sporting codes as well. The gentlemen that went on to don the Green and Gold: Aiden Botha (SA Schools – Rugby), Kamva Sibankulu (SA U18 – Basketball), Ethan Fabre (SA U16 – Hockey), Matthew Smith (SA U16 – Hockey) and Damon Garrell (SA Juniors – MotoX). We as a house are proud of these fine young men for what they have achieved over the past year and we are rooting for them to make a difference wherever they set foot. We are truly blessed with exceptional talent in the House.

On this note, I want to congratulate our prefects on an outstanding year where they have showed commitment, courage, unity and lastly something that we call "College Dog Fight." Our head of house (head prefect in the house), Jake Jansen flourished

this year in his sporting disciplines. A key figure of the 1st XV rugby team as well as the waterpolo captain. He signed a professional contract with The Sharks as well as represented the province at this years Craven Week, along with Aiden Botha who went on to don the Green and Gold for the SA u18 (SA Schools) rugby team. He too will continue his career at The Sharks. Bothlale Maphisa – also known as Soso (boarder prefect) missed out on Craven Week selection due to injuries, but his stellar performances for the



Red, Black and White has earned him a professional contract at the Toyota Cheetahs and a full bursary at the University of Free State. Siya Nyathi and Katleho Jele played a prominent part for the 1st XV and 2nd/3rd team this year – he is also part of the first team athletics team that have made us proud this year. We are extremely blessed with talented sportsmen that can lead diligently as well.

Throughout the year did we encounter massive challenges in the House as well, but we can look back and say that we have overcame the challenges that we faced and we can be proud of where we were, as to where we are now. I have seen these young men grow from throughout the year, we had many battles – where we had Form meetings to figure out how are we going to get the best out of the House and where do we see this house in the next 5 years and the response from these young men were exceptional.



Not only did the boys buy into the vision that we have set out, they have gone one better and started to implement it during the year. We have lacked DNA, we have lacked identity, but the boys stood up and said that they need to leave a great legacy for themselves and for those to come – a house that they can be proud of.

While we as educators do our best to provide a supportive and stimulating learning environment, ultimately, it is your child's effort and dedication that will determine their success during the exam season (that has already started and going in full swing). That is why we need your help in motivating them to work hard and stay focused in the latter part of their end-of-year exams.

I would like to thank the Shepstone House team of Boarder Masters, their dedication and passion for our boys and their wellbeing is unequalled. They regularly go beyond the call of duty, and their care for the boys is truly genuine. I would also like to show my appreciation for my Deputy Head of Shepstone House, Mr. Mark Sanders, who has supported me throughout this year to make sure that our boys enjoy their house as well as to reach their full potential. Thank you to the SAN sisters, to the Granny Mac's, our catering team and to the estates staff without all of whom this great boarding establishment cannot function.

Finally, to the Shepstone House boys, always endeavour to hope. Zama, Themba.



"UNITED IN OLD AND NEW" ZAMA TEMBA

P.S. – Please use the link to download the photographs.

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