



Founded 1922

HERSCHEL
GIRLS SCHOOL

observer



Grade 11: What makes me a woman?

Habitat for Humanity South Africa (HFHSA) is a non-profit, Christian housing organization that seeks to provide simple, decent and affordable housing to communities. During Enrichment Week, Grade 11 girls partnered with the Old Mutual Investment Group (OMIGSA) to help improve the life of Mr Sibongile Mbazo - the recipient of the house we helped build in Mfuleni.

Talks and films, complemented by outings to centres for the disabled, participation in activities together with deaf people and learning wheel chair dancing certainly made the Grade 10 girls realize that they have to BE the change.

ENRICHMENT WEEK

The Enrichment Programme at Herschel was introduced to extend learning beyond the classroom. It has been designed to include opportunities for critical thinking that are based on asking appropriate questions in a range of contexts. We aimed to emphasise the need for connectedness between ourselves and others in the greater Cape Town area. Our girls were challenged to show moral leadership and to take responsibility.

You can't be human
all by yourself –

Desmond Tutu



Grade 10: How is another heart changed because of me?

Learning to make a difference



Grade 9: What can I do to add value to my community?



Grade 8 : If not me, then who?

The day visiting and interacting with small children at crèches in Vrygrond, Lakeside, Oceanview and Masiphumelele gave us an opportunity to make a difference and to grow personally from the experience. The visit to the Bo-Kaap and a Kramat added another perspective on the cultures of South Africa.

The Grade 8 talks and activities centred around sustainability. Talks included carbon footprinting, endangered animals, green buildings and the girls were involved in outreach activities, which is an essential part of Enrichment.

OUTREACH

The Preparatory School girls were asked to bring a recycled vase, such as yoghurt or cool drink containers, filled with flowers to school on 1 September to celebrate the start of Spring. The flower arrangements were taken to the Red Cross Children's Hospital patients.



SOUP COLLECTION

Olivia Warren and Alice Steytler, President and Deputy President of Herschel Preparatory School's Outreach, had their work cut out for them when they requested donations of soup for charity. Parents and girls donated 2 830 packets and tins to distribute to the various homes for the aged, children's homes and shelters for mothers and children, supported by Herschel.



FROM
MEGABYTES ...

On Wednesdays, Outreach Computers offers 20 Grade 11 learners from Thandokhulu High School the opportunity to learn how to use a computer efficiently. Every week, a different aspect of the computer is covered and by the end of the programme we hope learners feel confident to utilize their newly acquired skills.



TO TASTY
REWARDS

At the same time, Herschel girls join sixteen girls and boys from Thandokhulu and spend time cooking together. This hour and a half is greatly enjoyed by all, not only due to the tasty rewards but also because of the interaction with students from a different background.



It was an emotional day for the staff of Kewtown Primary in Athlone when a long-held dream to have their own library was fulfilled. Kewtown principal, Cecil Balie, and his staff worked tirelessly for many years to start the



A DREAM FULLILLED

library. Herschel, which works in close partnership with Kewtown Primary with regard to reading and literacy projects, decided to give the project a boost and the new library was opened in July.

SPORT

Jennifer van Heerden (*below*) excelled in the pool recently. At the SA Schools Swimming Championships in Bloemfontein she won 2 gold medals in the freestyle and a silver medal in butterfly and came 4th in the 100m butterfly. At the SA Age Group Championships (Level 3) in East London, Jennifer won two silver and two bronze medals.



Dominique Dryding (*top left*) has been awarded her Senior SA Colours in yet another swimming discipline. She will represent South Africa in the Rescue 2010 Lifesaving World Championships in Egypt later this year

Lara Dendy Young (*top right*) is as much at home in the swimming pool as next to it. She has been included in the South African water polo team to take part in the Under 18 Tri-Nations tournament in Auckland, New Zealand in December 2010. Lara's older sister, Jemma, who matriculated from Herschel last year, also plays water polo for South Africa.



INTER-SCHOOLS

CROSS-COUNTRY COMPETITION

Herschel won the annual PGSGU Inter-schools Cross-Country competition for the twelfth consecutive year. At a ceremony where the trophies and medals for the Cross-Country season (Southern Zone) were handed out, Herschel walked away with some of the top awards.

Nicole Erasmus (*left*) won the Silver medal for the U16 age group, **Meredith Forbes** received a silver medal for the U19 team relay and **Candice Murray** is holding the trophy awarded to Herschel as the Top Girls School.

Micky Parker (*second right*) who was named the Top Senior Girl, won a gold medal for her performance in the U19 age group and a silver for the U19 team relay and **Celeste Renaud** (*right*) was awarded a bronze medal for her third overall place in the U15 group.

HOCKEY: **Rhoni Gericke** (*left*) and **Tayla Karsten** (*right*) have been included in the U16 South African hockey squad.

INTER-HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY:

The Preparatory School's Inter-house Cross-Country was a great success due to the fact that our girls ran with determination and were supported all the way by their peers. Merriman won the competition with Jagger second and Rolt third.





WINTER SPORT

These Preparatory girls are winter sport Zonal, Regional and Provincial representatives.

Back Row: **S Henderson** (U11 Wynberg South Cross-Country); **N Haller** (U13 W Province Squash); **C Golding** (Wynberg WP-B Falsebay Hockey); **R Ndhuni** (W Cape U12 Netball); **C Walters** (U13 W Cape A Hockey); **E Morley** (U13 W Cape A Hockey); **N du Plessis** (WP-A Southernns Hockey);
Front Row: **S McGregor** (U13 Wynberg South Cross-Country); **G Grobler** (Wynberg WP-A Southernns Hockey); **A Midgley** (U11 W P Cross-Country)



Marie-Claire Pierce received a bronze medal at the Western Province U18 Women's Gymnastics Championships and has been awarded full Western Province colours for the sport. She will represent Western Province at the South African Games in October.

SQUASH PLAYERS **Megan Russell, Christina van der Merwe, Hannah Knight** (captain), **Chanel Erasmus, Natasha Krumbock** and **Inge Rist** again played their way to the top of the Schools Squash log in the Western Cape. This is the second year that Herschel has won the Top Schools title. Herschel also won the recent PGSGU Inter-schools squash tournament. Chanel Erasmus has once again been named as one of the Top 10 squash players in her age group (U19) in the country. She has made the top 10 in South Africa every year since her U14 year.



U11 CROSS-COUNTRY:

In the Inter-schools Cross-Country competition, Herschel Preparatory was placed second overall out of the 8 participating junior schools. This U11 group won their section.

OUT AND ABOUT



AGE OF AQUARIA

THE ECOKIDS simply love their annual Aquarium sleepover. Apart from the lectures and craft activities, they all look forward to lying in their sleeping bags watching the sharks, manta rays and huge fish gliding silently past in the dimmed tank .



The Grade 1s went on a day outing to the Aquarium where they were given a lesson called Sounds of the Sea and watched an entertaining puppet show.



The Grade 6 classes enjoyed an outing to the Iziko Planetarium. They observed the galaxy we live in and saw stars such as Alpha Centauri and Orion's belt. Afterwards they shared their lunches with the many pigeons in the Company Gardens.

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake Baker man, Bake me a cake as fast as you can. What fun the Nursery girls had. Wearing their decorated chef's hats, armed with bowls, spoons and ingredients, they were ready for a fun morning of baking at Silwood kitchens. Of course the best part was licking the wooden spoon!



KILLING THE BLAZE ...



... or running the fire engine – our Nursery girls handled their visit to the fire station with style.



The Christian Union committees from Bishops and Herschel organised a camp at Rocklands (Simonstown) for their members. They were joined by pupils from Thandokhulu and the Leap School, which are Bishops' and Herschel's outreach schools.



The grade 10 Business Studies girls enjoyed the opportunity to drink as much Coke as they wished during an outing to the Coca Cola plant. They were learned about the history of Coke as well as the production processes.

HOLA ARGENTINA!

Twenty-six Herschel girls experienced a memorable History-Geography tour to Argentina. A visit to the Iguaza waterfalls, and the subsequent drive through the jungle, was a highlight for all of them.



Learning to make a difference



GET THE 'GEES'

This year's MADD evening had a World Cup theme to highlight the passion and 'gees' of our nation (and our school) shortly after hosting such a successful event. The evening was a showcase of the abundant talent of the girls in the genres of music, art, dance and drama.

This magical event is a highlight in the school calendar when staff, family and friends are invited to come and witness an evening of pure enjoyment.



We continue to create opportunities to encourage our pupils to perform in public. Our Music Evening, once again, offered a varied programme coupled with a very high standard of musicianship. The Choir Evening was a treat, especially having our Junior and Senior Choirs share the stage.

Alexandra Benjamin (Grade 3) in concert





SPECIAL TIMES WITH SPECIAL PEOPLE

WOMEN'S DAY at the Pre-Preparatory was celebrated in style. Each little Pre-Prep girl invited a special woman to school to join in some creative fun. It was a lovely morning celebrating the special relationships between the girls and their guests.



THE GRADE 5 GIRLS took over as teachers, teaching their moms what they had learnt in Technology. It was a fun, industrious evening with the girls and their moms making decorative candles and cards. To add to the enjoyment of the evening, the girls were treated to hot chocolate and melted meringues.



REAL BOYS can drive pink scooters, too. The Western Province Preparatory (Wetpups) Nursery boys came on a play date with the Herschel Nursery girls. The boys took full advantage of the new bicycle track and zoomed around on the little bicycles.

TO MARKET, TO MARKET.

The theme for this year's Pre-Prep Market Day was Biomimicry, with nature as inspiration. The girls worked together at the tables and took great delight in the fruit of their labour. They counted money and used the shopping manners discussed in their classes prior to Market Day. The Grade 1 and 2 classes joined the shopping throng and all the girls' products were sold out in record time.



Learning to make a difference



Lize-Mari Doubell (Grade 10) was a member of the group that represented South Africa at the International ESA Science Expo in Reunion. Her project, Mozart vs Lady Gaga, won the first prize in the Social and Psychological Science category. The project, which she did in Grade 9, tested the effect of different music genres on the brain.



The final round of the Johann Vos piano competition for high school pupils in the Western Cape took place in the Hugo Lamprechts Music Centre. Mr Johann Vos, sponsor of the competition for the last 20 years, handed over the cheque for the first place in the senior section to **Ann Kim**, a Grade 12 pupil at Herschel. This is the second consecutive year that a Herschel pupil has won the competition.

MUSIC RESULTS FOR THE CAPE TOWN & AFRIKAANS EISTEDDFODS

- **Alice Clegg** Lily Savitz prize for J S Bach 16 years and under
- **Sophie Scott** Orbit Motors Cup for Sight-reading 15 years and under; Steinmetz Cup for the most Diplomas 15 and 16 years; Cape Town Eisteddfod prize for most promising in piano 15 and under
- **Seiren Wi** Steinmetz Cup for Most Diplomas 15 and 16 years; Doris Lardner Prize for most promising pianist 15 and under; Dorothy Lazarus cup for piano recital 16 and under; Victoria League prize for the best all-round in piano; Nine Club Voucher for the most promising performer
- **Samantha Hayward** Cape Town Eisteddfod prize for the best overall recorder player; Gillian Oxtoby trophy for the most promising recorder player 13-18 years
- **Olivia Clegg** Cape Town Eisteddfod prize for the best woodwind performer 14 years. She also won a silver medal (Woodwind players 13-14 years) and a gold medal (Junior Woodwind) at the Afrikaans Eisteddfod
- **Caitlin Harvey** Silver medal (String players 13-14 years), Afrikaans Eisteddfod



Preparatory music pupils were very successful in this year's Cape Town Eisteddfod. The Senior Choir received a Diploma as well as the Arnold Lorie Philomel Trophy. **Sophie Chung** was awarded a medal for Most Promising Recorder Player in the Junior Category and was selected to perform at the Cape Town Eisteddfod's Junior Prize Winners' Concert.



Chetna Patel (Grade 9) was selected for the South African Chess team which participated in the World Schools Chess Championships 2010 in Kayseri, Turkey.



Aimee Morris (Grade 12), with the latest copy of English Alive, an annual anthology of poems by South African pupils. Three Herschel girls, Victoria Wilkinson, Camilla Craven and Amy Paterson, have their work included in the volume and Aimee's art work is featured on the cover.



Seven Herschel Preparatory Grade 7 girls entered the recent MTN Science Expo, and all received awards.
Back Row: Emma Heidmann, Mrs R Strauss, Georgina Elliot, Lara Barnard, Kyra Scott
Front Row: Megan Allardice, Alice Smith, Kate van der Merwe

Herschel, once again, excelled in the Consumer Studies Olympiad. The school has been informed that **Vicky Delbridge** and **Tamsin Eddy** are amongst the overall winners and **Dominique Dryding** and **Rachel Stein** are amongst the Top 20 learners. Herschel is also one of the six prize-winning schools. The final positions will be announced at a gala evening in December.



OLD HERSCHELIANS

"I am an Old Herschelian," admitted **Mr Raymond Ackerman**, entrepreneur extraordinaire, when he visited Herschel as the guest of honour at the launch of Enrichment Week. Mr Ackerman attended Herschel Nursery School as a pre-schooler. His daughter, Suzanne (*left*), matriculated from Herschel and his granddaughter, Nikita Montlake, completes Grade 12 at the end of this year.



"I think a lot of the students in South Africa think that Oxford is out of reach, but it really is not," said Old Herschelian **Liora Lazarus** when she visited the school to talk to parents and girls. "My passion is to get bright young Herschelians to come to Oxford." Liora, who matriculated



at Herschel in 1986, studied Economics and Politics at UCT, Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science and she was a Fellow of the Max Planck Institute in Freiburg, Germany. She went to Oxford in 1995 to write her doctorate at Balliol College, after which she went on to become a law fellow at St Anne's College.



"We had a Head who believed that fresh air in the dormitory was good for growing girls but meanwhile it was freezing up there," said **Dorothy McDonald** (née Hudson-Beck) when she visited Herschel. Although this was her first visit in 63 years, Dorothy has lovely memories of the school and still has close ties with some of the friends she made here. Dorothy, who was accompanied by her husband and daughter on the trip, lives near Winchester in Hampshire.



"It would be safe to say that if I knew what I was getting myself into before I went, I wouldn't have gone!" says **Destiny Gagiano** (Herschel matriculant of 1998) of her ascent of Mont Blanc. Destiny climbed the 4,810m Mont Blanc to raise money for participants from Africa to attend the Caux Forum in Switzerland.

Jessica Gwynne-Evans of Micklefield has been awarded the Brendalyn Tyers Stempel Old Herschelian Scholarship to attend Herschel Girls School next year, and not the Old Herschelian Scholarship as reported in the previous edition. This is one of the scholarships made possible through the generosity of Old Herschelian Brendalyn Tyers Stempel.



ALUMNI EVENTS 2011

Thursday 17 February

Reunion Cocktail party

Friday 18 February

Founder's Day Service and Lunch
Old Herschelian AGM

Alumni are welcome to contact us at
info@herschel.org.za



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