



THE HERSCHELIAN



THE MARY MULLER PRIZE FOR ARTWORK OF THE YEAR



HANNAH GLANVILL



THE HERSCHELIAN

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

BY **ADV. TRACEY DICKER**

As we reflect back on 2019 and look ahead to 2020 there are a number of developments at Herschel that stand out.

The atrium extension project at the senior school is all but complete. It includes a state-of-the-art music school and three additional classrooms and will be fully utilised from the beginning of 2020. It has taken an enormous amount of planning and hard work on the part of those involved. A big thank-you to all.

Educational developments include the continued development of the vertical tutor system, which has been well received, and provides additional support to our girls in coping with their busy and demanding schedules. The new Grade 8 and 9 curriculum has also been well received and has been, on all accounts, an enormous success.

We are proud of the school's ethos as an independent Anglican school and the open and constructive debate and clear and transparent communication which has once again been evident in dealing with challenging issues that have arisen at Herschel and in the broader community.

Our council continues to work extremely effectively. Council members are involved in finance, human resources, legal aspects of the school, marketing, the bursary committee, old Herschelians, the spiritual committee, diversity and transformation, the education committee and many other areas.

We as a council welcome input and feedback from all role players, including the girls, parents and staff members and we encourage you to share your views in order to enable us to ensure that Herschel continues to lead the way in an ever-changing and challenging educational environment.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the council members for the invaluable role they play individually, on the various sub-committees and on the council itself.

Deidre Paul-Diemont retired from office during the year. Deidre provided an invaluable contribution in particular to the finance and bursary sub-committees over a 10-year period and her input will be sorely missed. Father Canon Jerome Francis and his family are moving to Melbourne, Australia in December 2019. I would like to thank him for his spiritual guidance as a member of council and as a member of the selection committee for the Head of Herschel.

Herschel has once again excelled over the past year – in all spheres – and the Grade 12 results, which every year we truly believe can't be equalled or bettered, were once again exceptional in 2018!

In reflecting back on the past year, we realise how busy the Herschel campus is for all those involved. So thank you to all the staff who give so much to make sure all aspects of the school run smoothly.

Directing a large and talented team requires strong leadership and once again

Stuart West, Lin Heidmann and their executive and management teams have managed this role incredibly well and guided the school through some challenging times.

Stuart leaves Herschel at the end of this year. He has made an enormous contribution to Herschel. There have been many innovations and developments which he has initiated and/or supported over the past year and in his tenure as Head of Herschel since 2013. These include the role he has played in the vertical tutorship system, the house system (including the introduction of Carter House), diversity and transformation, pastoral care, his support of the new Grade 8/9 curriculum, and of course the introduction of pink Herschel supporters' peaks! He has encouraged capital development and been an integral part of the overall vision of the school. His inventive thinking, strategic planning and experience in pastoral care have been invaluable to the school.

Stuart's leadership and the contribution which he has made to Herschel over the past seven years is something to celebrate and appreciate. The Council and the entire Herschel family wish Stuart and Joyanne success as they embark on a new chapter in their lives at St. John's.

Stuart's departure has resulted in Herschel embarking on an exciting journey of its own, including the appointment of Heather Goedeke as the Head of Herschel from 1 January 2020. Heather is currently the Head of Durban Girls' College. She is a passionate educator who has 30 years of experience in the field of education. We are truly privileged to have someone with Heather's passion, motivation and experience to lead Herschel.

We know that we can rely on the Herschel staff, the parent body, the old Herschelians and most importantly the girls, to embrace this change as we continue to strive for excellence and provide a well-rounded education that equips and empowers all our students for their future. ◇

Farewell TO MR WEST

BY MR ANDREW SCOTT, BUSINESS MANAGER

Stuart West arrived at Herschel in 2013, having established his credentials as a Deputy Head at Bishops, a traditional boys' school, and then as a Head of a relatively new, co-educational school in Johannesburg, Dainfern College.

A challenging task indeed, made even more daunting due to the school's number one academic status. Stuart soon allayed any doubts that staff or parents may have had when he gave his first speech to prospective parents, describing how Herschel had achieved its reputation as a leading school in South Africa. He hit a home run as one would have thought that he had been at Herschel for years, judging by the way he described the strengths of the school and why it is such a special place for the whole Herschel family. Parents left confident that they had made the right decision and prospective Grade 8s were excited about a school where they could feel a sense of belonging, and that from then on their blood would run pink!

Stuart quickly immersed himself in the life of the school, attending and supporting the full range of cultural activities on offer at Herschel. The pupils were always so appreciative when he would arrive at anything from debating competitions, to chorale recitals, to piano concerts, etc. Above all, he so enjoyed his involvement in Stepout and Grade camps, as he could interact with the girls on a more informal level. Here they would experience his energy and zest for life, epitomised by his arrival at many destinations on his Harley-Davidson. His enthusiasm to get to know them, away from the classroom, gave them a better understanding of him more personally and vice versa.

He went on numerous sports tours around the country and ensured that he attended matches in all sports. He loved the energy that was exuded at sporting events and he

was able to meet and greet numerous parents and give them his ear for a short while, in a more relaxed environment. His major claim to fame, however, was that I allowed him to be my U14A hockey umpire due to his history of being a provincial hockey coach in his earlier years. Not many players can say that their Head umpired most of their hockey matches and luckily for him, he never cost us a match!

Whilst he advocated the importance of culture, sport and service in ensuring a more holistic, all-round education for our pupils, he was acutely aware of the academic challenges and was always at the forefront of encouraging academic rigour. He embraced Information Technology and has always seen the benefits of its contribution to the classroom and the importance of devices for our pupils despite the irritations of social media. During his tenure we have remained the top academic school!

Most importantly, Stuart has also facilitated and encouraged a journey of tough conversations and has been instrumental in the establishment of platforms to ensure that the staff and pupils become sensitised to the need for Transformation and Diversity on all levels: from racism, unconscious bias and prejudice to gender identity. He has been steadfast in his commitment to create an inclusive environment, with a strong sense of belonging for every pupil that walks through our gates.

Stuart's strategic thinking is apparent in the various building projects that have occurred during his seven years. After attending the opening of the Aaron Searll building, his highlight was the development of a new Music school, to ensure that Herschel's ethos of music, as an intrinsic part of our DNA, is never lost. Music and Herschel are synonymous and this legacy will surely be one of his crowning moments.

It is not easy to lead a school and yet Stuart has done so with seemingly effortless composure. Many challenges have come his way during his tenure and he has had to face some tough situations, which many principals never face in their entire career. Yet throughout it all, he has remained calm and determined to do what is right for Herschel. His collaborative leadership has been underpinned by his sense of integrity, fairness and empathy, when dealing with these tricky situations.

Stuart has been totally dedicated to his role. The long hours and devotion that he has poured into the life of the school have earned him the respect and following of staff who admire him for his openness and his generosity of spirit. Go well Stuart!

Ad Dei Gloriam ◊





Adieu



CINDY BROWN

BY MRS HELEN BOTHA

In August of 2011, Cindy sent an email to me asking if there was a possibility of coming to coach at Herschel. I met with her and was immediately taken by this dynamic young lady. Unfortunately, at that time we did not have a space for Cindy.

Then, in 2013, my First Team coach resigned and I had the unenviable task of finding a replacement. I dug in my files and found the email and Cindy's CV from 2011. On her CV it said: Why I believe I can add value. "I am disciplined, hardworking and a team player. I believe the experience gained from competing on the international sports stage has taught me valuable lessons and skills. I am very energetic and always finish what I start. I am committed and dedicated and always give 110%."

She then went on to quote Vince Lombardi: "The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand."

Little did Cindy know that in 2011 she was writing her own tribute. Cindy started coaching Herschel First Team in 2013. In 2014, she completed her PGCE as an Intern at the Senior School and then in 2015, she was appointed as a full-time member of staff. It has been such a privilege working with Cindy. She has been a formidable force in the Sports department

heading up the hockey but also organising the tennis, indoor hockey and swimming. She has also been involved in LO teaching as well as a member of the Life Sciences department.

Her colleagues in the Life Sciences department had this to say about Cindy. "Absorbing Cindy into our Life Sciences department has been an absolute pleasure and a real gain for us in so many ways. Apart from bringing down the average age, she has brought with her an innovative and fresh approach to our lesson planning and assessments.

Cindy is a natural teacher: she is firm, but fair, with a lovely warmth and sense of humour to which the pupils have responded so positively.

We have enjoyed her calm but determined manner and her ability to think clearly and to articulate her opinion. This year, she pioneered a Sports Science elective – very interesting and well received even by couch sports fans. She has been a special colleague as she is caring, generous with her time and always ready to listen. We have had so many laughs with her. She has become a good friend to so many on our staff. This teacher who lives and teaches her passion, will be sorely missed."

It is on the hockey field that I will really miss Cindy. Her record with our First Team is simply outstanding. They have won the Premier league for six consecutive years.

It is with mixed feelings and a very sad heart that I bid Cindy farewell as she takes up the post at St Mary's Waverley, her alma mater. We have done many overseas trips and local tours together sharing both humiliation, frustrations but mostly positive and fun times. I shall miss these special times but one has to share in life and I feel blessed to have had Cindy as part of the Sports

Department for the past seven years. I know that the impact she will have at St Mary's will be as profound as the impact that she has had at Herschel. Good luck, Cindy, as you begin this new chapter in your life – may you have good health and much happiness.



LEAH NASSON

BY MRS SUE GROVÉ

It is a bitter-sweet experience to say goodbye to Leah as she embarks on a new personal and professional journey in 2020. In her time at the school she has played a significant role in the journey of diversity and transformation. Her marked and extensive participation and involvement in discussions and debates with students, staff and members of Council are evidence of her true commitment and devotion to make a difference in and beyond our school community. This has impacted on shifts in policy at Herschel. Her passion for social justice and human rights has resulted in the promotion of responsible active citizenship amongst students. Leah's role modelling and conduct have encouraged students to stand up for principles they strongly believe in and to be a voice for the voiceless. I commend her on growing the membership of the Vox Society and as a result inspiring the students to become empathetic, informed and critical thinkers. Her interest and care for her students is immeasurable and she will be sorely missed. Leah's kind, caring and true concern for her students has created a safe space for students to develop their own identity and confidence.

Leah is a great History teacher and her knowledge of History is thorough and extensive. She loves

teaching History and this passion infuses her interaction with her students. She is a passionate teacher whose astute nature and analytical ability have resulted in exceptional History lessons across the grades. This has exposed students to more than just the confines of the curriculum. Her junior electives in the Social Sciences have been expertly designed to inspire her classes through the interesting selection and development of learning materials and varied pedagogy. Current events and general knowledge have grown under her guidance. She has introduced meaningful changes in curriculum delivery and thoughtful innovative methodologies to help struggling students and to extend stronger ones. Her flexibility, independent thinking capacity and collegiality have resulted in a rich space for reform of especially the Grade 8, 9, 10 and 12 curriculum. I will miss our intellectual sharing of ideas on how to develop History as a subject and learning across the curriculum.

I wish Leah well as she starts a new journey in developing curriculum materials for History teaching and immerses herself in her further studies next year. I would like to thank her sincerely for all that she has done while she has been at Herschel. She will be sorely missed, but I know we will stay in touch.



MARSHALL APRIL

BY MS DEBBIE MAIN

Marshall joined the Mathematics Department at the start of last year. He came to us with a vast amount of experience and an excellent set of credentials. Marshall integrated quickly into our department, and we certainly

enjoyed his quiet humour. In the classroom Marshall has an incredible depth of knowledge, and the girls were lucky to receive his tuition. His gentleness could only lead to a comfort and ease in being able to ask for help. Marshall led the Mathematics Outreach in his time here, and I know that the schools on the receiving end of this assistance have been greatly appreciative. He is one to really just get on with the task at hand, and without fuss.

Marshall is planning to head abroad to teach Mathematics there and we certainly wish him all the best in his new venture. His quiet presence will be missed.



JENNI BROCK

BY MRS CORINNE LEVITT

At the Pre-Preparatory we lay the foundation for each child's design for the future. If we compare this to the foundation laid for a building it is easy to see that the most important people in that process are the architect, the foreman and the builders. The architect has the ability and foresight to bring something of great beauty and practicality together while the foreman oversees the work that is done as each brick is laid to form an indestructible foundation. For the past nine years Jenni Brock was the chief architect and foreman of the Pre-Preparatory and the teachers and assistant teachers the builders. She meticulously guided the staff in establishing the grand design which are the Pre-Preparatory girls.

Jenni joined Herschel Pre-Preparatory on 4 May 2009, bringing with her a wealth of experience in Pre-School education, leadership and administration. This most elegant

and innovative lady empowered and motivated her staff by her appreciation of their abilities and talents and encouraged them to use their many resources.

Over the years, she took time to listen to everyone whether staff, parents or children and always found the most befitting and appropriate ways of dealing with every situation. Her love of the Christian faith and her belief in the power of prayer are what inspired her to get through every single day. She instituted the wonderful concept of Little Prayers that takes place at the Pre-Preparatory bi-weekly.

Jenni's open door policy always made her office a place where we could openly share and just be. Her firm, steadfast, problem solving and warm disposition helped her to build an all-embracing rapport amongst both staff and children, thereby encouraging a great sense of team building.

The highlight of the children's day was when Jenni came to teach them Letterland, a colourful, impacting and unforgettable phonics programme where every letter is a character. Jenni would bring each letter of the alphabet alive in a completely fun and adventurous way.

Whether head of Pre-Preparatory, educator or friend she always took on her roles with the deepest sense of compassion and commitment. Her firm yet gentle presence is going to be sorely missed by all at the Pre-Preparatory. Appropriately by the words in Ecclesiastes 3: 'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens', that Jenni's time has now come to go forward into this new season of her life of living and sharing in the joys of her family in the United Kingdom.

The most important legacy that Jenni leaves at Herschel Pre-Preparatory is that our children are not merely just bricks in the wall but rather a unique foundation in progress, held together by the Herschel mortar, to form a solid structure that will indeed stand the test of time.



TESSA STEYN

BY MRS SARAH MCARTHUR

It has been difficult to imagine a Herschel without Tessa Steyn, AKA Tea Stain, AKA the Gogo to my Didi (a reference to that great play, 'Waiting for Godot' by Samuel Beckett in which Tessa and I have continued to find meaning year after year). Tessa has led the Herschel Drama department for a quarter of a century. Teachers, Heads and students have come and gone, but Tessa has kept the department the special and safe place that it is to those who make their home in the Arts and she has played mother, often more than teacher, to many of her students.

I could speak to her profound subject knowledge, or to the impeccable standard of achievement that Matriculants from the Drama department attain. She has it, and they do. But this has always been a very small part of who Tessa is and the value that she brings to Herschel.

Above all, Tessa is a warm and inclusive human being with a kind heart. Her ability to read people and to empathise with them allows her to get to know her students and colleagues well, and to know what they need and how best to support them. Always ready with a cup of tea at work, or something pink and fizzy under the shade of her pergola at home, her wisdom and her willingness to listen have helped her get to the heart of many an issue and to find solutions where they are needed.

She is a skilled communicator who always seems to have the right word at the right time, bringing things that are relevant and thoughtful into the conversations at work. She is

affirming of others and confident in herself, unafraid of having difficult conversations about things that are necessary and that is what is essential in a teacher: someone who is able to lean into places that are uncomfortable and to push through.

It has been a decade of collaborative learning with Tessa as we have conceptualised and staged theatre at Herschel. She is a visionary creative and, when she believes in an idea, she is a force to be reckoned with. These ideas are often wildly out of the box, but when put into play, have yielded incredible results.

This farewell is bittersweet. No Drama teacher, who has lived the rhythms of weekends and late-night rehearsals, who has poured so much of themselves into their students and their work (often at personal cost) would want to do this job forever. But it is sad to leave the place that you have made your home. I wish Tessa all the best in her retirement, which I hope will be filled with big dogs, family, love and lots of laughter.



ASHLEY ELKINGTON

BY MS DEBBIE MAIN

Ashley joined the Mathematics Department mid-way through last year. As an ex-Herschelian, she was quick to find her feet and it feels like she has been with us forever. Ashley is an incredible scholar, with a mindset of life-long learning. At the end of last year Ashley completed her Master's thesis and graduated from Oxford earlier this year. This depth of knowledge was certainly a strength that Ashley brought to our department. Ashley was always willing to share her insight into cognitive

learning in the Mathematics classroom. The girls have loved her empathetic, yet firm approach. She has a deep understanding of teenage girls and always made time for those under her care.

Whilst here, Ashley assisted the time-tabling team with getting the new elective system up and running and I know Mrs Grové was hugely appreciative of her logical input in this area.

Ashley will be sorely missed, but we wish her all the best for her upcoming wedding and the exciting new chapter in her life as she heads abroad.



MICHÈLE CASSUTO

BY **MRS SUSY MACFARLANE**

With Mme Cassuto's leaving, Herschel definitely has lost not only a wonderful French teacher, born and bred in Paris, but also an educator of remarkable integrity and passion. Her dedication and commitment to the Herschel ethos were exemplary.

Mme Cassuto will, without a doubt, be remembered for her energetic enthusiasm for teaching the French culture and language and for her deep caring for all of her students. Michèle was always willing to go the extra mile for all of her students and her colleagues. She started in 2001 as a part-time French teacher and worked as a full-time French teacher in 2012. In her time at Herschel she continued the Reach for a Dream Club and initiated the Brave Girl Club, a South African NGO to promote empowerment for girls from underserved communities to become advocates for themselves and others. Michèle has always highlighted the importance of giving of oneself

to communities and people.

She has welcomed numerous girls she has interacted with warmly and generously at her home. Michèle will be missed as a colleague and as a friend. Her decision to leave Herschel was in order to travel more and to spend more time with her husband, children and grandchildren. For that, we wish her much happiness in the years to come.



MICHAEL BRÄSLER

BY **MRS WENDY WALTER**

Michael Bräsler arrived at Herschel in the second term of 2008. In the years to follow his passion for working with young people soon became evident in his teaching and he has become involved in many areas of school life, giving unselfishly of his time, energy and expertise. His subject knowledge is unparalleled and he has been a senior marker and Deputy Chief Marker for Physical Science for many years. He has also run a "green team" at the school, focused on reducing our impact on the environment.

Michael's love of teaching is most evident in his classroom where the passion for his subject is evident in everything he does. Michael is a firm believer in nurturing the innate curiosity and wonder of Physical Science in learners. He encourages independent and critical thinking and aspires to high standards. He will be fondly remembered for his fun and crazy antics to demonstrate difficult concepts to the learners. From doing a headstand to demonstrate parallel resistance to running around the classroom hooting like a train to demonstrate the Doppler Effect, in everything he does he encourages a sense of

fun and love for Physical Science.

Michael will always be remembered as Mr EXPOSITION. Under his guidance and leadership, the Grade 9 learners have been guided and mentored to produce some outstanding projects. The learners have benefitted from his expertise and knowledge and many learners have gone on to achieve awards at National and International competitions.

Michael will be missed for his quirky sense of humour, sense of fun and infectious laughter. His willingness to get up on stage to act and sing saw him take part in many cultural and musical events; also always ready to be a member of a teachers' sports team and to have a fun match against the girls.

Michael leaves Herschel to join SACS as Head of Subject for Physical Science. Our loss is their gain. May God bless you as you take up this new challenge. We wish you much joy and happiness.



JULIE WARD

BY **MRS SONJA BRÄSLER**

"Ready ...?!" Ms Ward raises her arms. She holds the attention of 43 young girls with her gaze. Then, with long, sweeping gestures, she counts out a whole bar and off they go on another musical journey: the Herschel Prep Orchestra! For 25 years Julie Ward has been synonymous with the orchestra, the backbone of all of our big celebrations in the Prep School – Founder's Day and our special Easter and Carol services. As a teacher of music, she carefully managed two instrumental programmes, introducing Herschel girls to every orchestra instrument during their time at the Prep, from percussion to the

cello. But don't think 'Music with Ms Ward' has been all work and no play! Action songs, gumboot dancing, Orff instruments and individual musical greetings were also thrown in along the way.

Born in Zimbabwe in the mid-50s, Julie Ward attended Arundel School, a private girls' school in Harare. She came to Cape Town to study music at UCT and graduated in 1978 with a B Mus (Ed) in Piano and Clarinet, as well as HDE (Music and English). After two years at York High in George, the travel bug bit and she headed off to Europe and Scotland for a year. She returned briefly to Cape Town, teaching the piano at Springfield Convent School, but then decided to spread her wings to New Zealand. She finally returned to South Africa in 1994 to take up a full-time Music teaching position at Herschel Preparatory School.

But there is more to Ms Ward than instruments of the orchestra, crotchets and quavers. She is an avid hiker and Scottish country dancer. She loves nature and open spaces and she is a keen supporter of the Eco Club at school. And when she is not walking or swimming, she is attending an interesting concert. There is also her strong Christian faith which led her to serve on the Spirituality Committee and to join the Parents in Prayer group on a regular basis.

And yet, at the beginning and end of every term, we will remember Ms Ward for the School Song, because, quite simply, no one can play it quite like she does; she has a special way with extra little notes on top and extra rumbles down below! As a colleague, we will miss her hilarious, animated stories over a cup of coffee in the mornings, her sensitive, caring nature, and her incredible support at school and in our various musical endeavours.

"And when we come back after many years, we will think fondly of the things that we remember, and these will be friends..."

We will miss you, Ms Ward.

MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT STAFF



FRONT ROW: Mr E Terblanche, Mrs L Lourens, Mrs C Guercio, Mr A Bearne, Mrs B Heidmann, Mr S West, Mr A Scott, Mrs H Vaughan, Mr S Levey, Mrs C McEwen, Mr C Jacobs

SECOND ROW: Mrs G Tallaard, Mr N Solomons, Mr A Fataar, Mrs D Malouw, Mrs L Gibbs, Mr N Daniels, Mr A Boko,
Mr A Blom, Mrs S Woolman, Mrs I Sadler, Mr B Odendaal, Mrs L Jacobs, Mrs A Claassen

THIRD ROW: Mrs N Woolman, Ms M Nothnagel, Mr I Shori, Mrs C Levitt, Mr D Nomsobo, Mr T Songelwa, Mrs S Lawrence, Mr G Jones, Mr Z Dibela, Mr R Johnston, Mrs G van Blek

FOURTH ROW: Mr T Lukwe, Mr M Yarn, Mr P Kanzi, Mr P Kwezi, Mr I Kganare, Mr S Dyantyi, Mr E Plike, Mr M Visagie, Mr N Mde, Mr Z Caccambile

ABSENT: Mrs G Buffkins, Mrs G Cornish, Ms D Griffiths, Miss L Kingwill

PREPARATORY ACADEMIC STAFF



FRONT ROW: Mrs C Guercio, Mrs L Gibb, Mrs A Claasen, Mrs C Levitt, Ms Z Khan, Mrs B Heidmann, Mrs A Baikoff, Mrs L Martin, Ms P Conrads, Mrs R Stakemire, Ms L Karsten
SECOND ROW: Mrs P Vundla, Mrs C Blencowe, Ms L Steenkamp, Mr A Scheepers, Mrs C Brittain, Mrs J Bearne, Mrs N Robbertze, Mrs V Johannes, Mrs T Aubin, Mrs J Nel, Mrs N Young, Mrs K Rutgers, Mrs S Bräsler, Ms M Martin
THIRD ROW: Mrs T Davids, Ms A Sass, Ms N Ntlemenza, Mrs T Brogan, Mrs A Malefane, Ms A van der Vyver, Mrs B Julies, Mrs L Thebus, Mrs A Lewis, Ms L Cowie, Mrs A Foale-Price, Mrs S Gobey, Mrs Z Mirasi, Mrs K Parker-Muzzelli, Ms S Gobey
FOURTH ROW: Mrs A Mozley, Mrs S Centurier-Harris, Mrs M Laubscher, Mr M Yam, Mr R Rhoda, Mrs T McGee, Mrs C Billett, Ms H King, Mrs M Roebert, Mrs T Maynard, Ms J Ward, Mrs L van Eyssen, Mrs J Holtzhausen, Mrs C Moritz
ABSENT: Mrs S Blake, Mrs G Barrett

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» DEPUTY HEAD OF PREPARATORY

Mrs L Martin, TTHD (JCE)

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BEd (UNISA) Head of Department

Mrs G Barrett, BA (HDE) (UN)

Mrs C Billett, BSocSci PPE (UCT)
and PGCE (UNISA)

Mrs S Blake, HDE (CTCE)

Mrs S Bräsler, BMus Ed (UFS) BMus
Hons (UCT), LTCL

Mrs S Centurier-Harris, BEd (CTCE)
ACE Special needs (UNISA)

Ms P Conrads, BMus (UKZN) BMus
Hons (Ed) MMus (Performance) (UKZN)

Ms L Cowie, HDE (ECE),
Dip Ed Management (RAU)

Mrs A Foale-Price, Art Teacher

Mrs S Gobey, Learnership

Mrs J Holtzhausen, BA (UNISA)
and PGCE (UNISA)

Mrs B Julies, Assistant Teacher, Technology

Ms L Karsten, Dip ECD (CCT),
BEd (UNISA)

Mrs M Laubscher, BSc (US) and HDE (UCT)

Rev L Lavarello-Smith, FD Theology

Ministry & Mission, RGN, Adv Dip Counselling

Mrs A Lewis, B Prim Ed (UCT)

Mrs T McGee, BEd Stellenbosch
and BEd Hons (UNISA)

Mrs C Moritz, BA (US), PGCE (UNISA)

Mrs A Mozley, HDE (CTCE)

Mrs M Roebert, B Home Economics
(Ed) HDE (US)

Mr A Scheepers, HDE (BCE) ACE (UWC)

Ms A van der Vyver, BMus (US)

Ms P Vundla, DipEd (Cape Town College),
HDE (CTCE)

Mrs L van Eyssen, HDE Foundation
Phase (CTCE)

Mrs J Ward, BMus Ed (UCT), LRSM

» FOUNDATION PHASE STAFF

Ms Z Khan, HDE (CTCE) Head of
Department

Mrs M Kebeni, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Ms H King, BEd (CPUT)

Ms Z Mrasi, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Mrs J R Nel, DE (UPE), Dip Sp Ed (Remedial)
(UNISA)

Mrs K Parker-Muzzell, BSocSci (Psych)
(UCT) BA (SS) Hons (Psych) PGCE (UNISA)

Mrs K Rutgers, HDE (CTCE),
REM ED (RAU)

Mrs L Thebus, HDE (CTCE)

» PRE-PREPARATORY STAFF

Mrs J Bearne, HDE Foundation Phase
(CTCE), FDE Pre-Primary (UK)

Mrs C Blencowe, HDE Pre-Primary
(Barkly House) Dip Sp Ed Rem (UNISA)

Mrs C Brittain, BSS (UCT) Hons,
PGCE (UNISA)

Mrs T Davids, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Mrs T Brogan, BA (Hons) (UCT),
HDE Pre-Primary (CTCE)

Ms S Gobey, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Mrs V Johannes, Certificate in ECD

Ms A Malefane, Assistant Teacher,
ABET (UNISA)

Mrs M Martin, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Mrs T Maynard, HDE Junior & Pre Primary

Ms N Ntlemeza, Assistant Teacher,
Dip ECD

Ms A Sass, Assistant Teacher, Dip ECD

Mrs N Young, BEd ECD & FP (UNISA)

» SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs T Aubin, B Prim Ed (UCT),
BEd Hons (Inclusive Education) (UJ)

Mrs R Stakemire, Dip Ed FP (CTCE),
FDE (CTCE), Special Needs (UNISA)

Ms L Steenkamp, BA (Social Work),
MA (Child and Family Studies) (UWC)

» ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mrs A Claasen, Admissions and
Public Relations

Mrs L Gibb, Receptionist/Secretary

Mrs C Guercio, PA to the Head
of Preparatory

Mrs C Levitt, Pre-Preparatory Secretary

Mr R Rhoda, ICT Network Technician

Mr M Yam, ICT Technician

SENIOR ACADEMIC STAFF

■ STAFF



FRONT ROW: Mrs H Botha, Ms J Taylor, Mrs S McArthur, Revd. L Lavarello-Smith, Mrs S Grové, Mrs M Sylvester, Ms R Bouwer, Mr S West, Mr A Scott, Mrs A Bodenstein, Mr B Sopam, Miss T Rousseau, Mrs C Alpert, Ms H Basson
SECOND ROW: Mrs H Oelofse, Ms B Cass, Ms D Main, Mrs W Paterson, Mrs L van Wyk, Mrs C van Lieshout, Mr C Karstens, Ms J Wesson, Mr J Stegmann, Mrs N Karstens, Mrs L Nasson, Ms R Klassen, Mrs C Prins, Mrs P Sellmeyer, Mrs N Parker
THIRD ROW: Mrs N Poggenpoel, Mrs K van der Merwe, Mr W Oelofse, Mrs M Barry, Ms N Jordan, Ms S Scarola, Mr J Gouws, Ms J Euvrard, Mrs M Nyback, Mrs T Thomson, Mr Y Garnieldien, Mrs C Sharp, Ms W Walter, Mrs S Gordon, Mrs S Rule
FOURTH ROW: Ms H Lochhead, Mrs N Hughes, Ms S Stein, Mrs T Steyn, Mrs T Variawa, Ms H de Bruijn, Ms C Brown, Mrs T Harding, Mr M April, Mrs B Lureman, Ms K Burden, Mr M Brähler, Mrs T Venter, Ms A Elkington, Ms C Coetzee, Mrs N Barendse
ABSENT: Mme S Macfarlane, Mrs C Lacerda, Mr O Ncukana, Mrs M Robertson

SENIOR Staff

» HEAD

Mr S West, BA Hons (Rhodes), PGCE (UNISA)

» SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mr A Bearne, BCom (Hons), CA (SA), Business Manager: Finance

Ms R Bouwer, BCom (PUCHE), HDE (Wits), Senior Deputy Head of the Senior School

Mrs L Heidmann, HDE Intermediate and Senior Phase (CTCE), Head of the Preparatory School

Mr A Scott, BA (US), Dip IR (Damelin), HDE (UNISA), Business Manager: Operations and Human Resources

» SENIOR SCHOOL EXECUTIVE

Mrs A Bodenstein, BA (US), Hons (UNISA), HDE (UCT), Deputy Head

Mrs S Grové, BA Hons (UNISA), HDE (PU), ACE (History) UNISA, Curriculum Development

Mrs M Sylvester, HDE (Comm) Sec (UCT) B Ed (Hons) Educational Leadership (CPUT), Deputy Head

» CHAPLAIN

The Revd. L Lavarello-Smith, FD Theology Ministry & Mission, RGN, Adv. Dip. Counselling

» FULL-TIME ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs C Alpert, A.T.C.L, L.T.C.L (Trinity College), BA (UNISA) BA Hons (UCT), English

Mr M April, BSc (UCT), HDE (UCT), Certificate in Datametrics (UNISA), Mathematics

Mrs N Barendse, BEd, BTech HRD (CPUT), Business Studies

Mrs M Barry, MMus (NMMU), BMus (UCT), HDE (UCT), Music

Miss H Basson, BA, HDE (US), Afrikaans

Mrs H Botha, Dip Hons Phys Ed (Bulawayo), Sport

Mr M Bräsler, BSc (Wits), HDE (Wits), BA Hons (UNISA), Physical Science

Miss C Brown, BSc Sports Sci (US), Post Grad Dip Marketing Management (UCT), PGCE (UNISA), Natural Science

Ms K Burden, BSc Hons (UCT), HDE (JCE), Additional Mathematics

Mrs B Cass, H Dip Ed (Home Economics) (PCE), Consumer Studies

Ms C Coetzee, BA (Rhodes), PGCE (US), Afrikaans

Miss H de Bruijn, BA (US), BEd (UCT), Afrikaans

Ms A Elkington, BSc (UCT), PGCE (UCT), Mathematics

Mrs S Gordon, BA, HDE (UWC), Life Orientation and Geography

Mr J Gouws, Dip MusEd, BMus Hons (US), UPLM (UNISA), Music

Mrs A Harding, BA (UNISA), BEd (Natal), MEd University (KZN), English

Mrs N Hughes, BSc (US), PGCE (UCT), Mathematics

Ms N Jordan, BA (Fine Art), HDE (US), Visual Arts

Mr C Karstens, BCom, HDE, PGSEC (UCT), BA (UNISA), Commerce

Mrs N Karstens, BA Hons, HDE (UCT), English

Ms R Klassen, BMus (UCT), UTLM (UNISA) Dip Jazz Studies (UCT), Music

Mrs C Lacerda, BSc, PGCE and Med (UCT), Physical Science

Miss H Lochhead, BA Hons, MA, PGCE (UCT), English

Mrs E Lureman, BA, HDE (US), Afrikaans

Mrs S Macfarlane, BA Hons (Univ of Metz), French

Ms D Main, BA, HDE (UCT), Mathematics

Mrs S McArthur, BA Theatre and Performance Hons, PGCE (UCT), Dramatic Arts

Mrs L Nason, BA Hons, MA, PGCE (UCT), History

Mrs M Nyback, Careers Counsellor and Academic Support

Mr W Oelofse, BA Hons (Wits), Mention FLE Licence (Univ of Grenoble), French

Mrs N Parker, BA (UCT), HDE (UCT), Geography

Mrs W Paterson, BA (UCT), HDE (UCT), Teacher Librarian

Mrs C Prins, BLIS (UWC), Librarian

Mrs M Roebert, BHome Ec Ed (US), Design Technology

Miss T Rousseau, BCom, PGCE (US), Business Studies

Mrs S Rule, MSc (Wits), MBL (UNISA), Natural Science

Ms S Scarola, BSc (Natal), Hons (UCT), HDE (Natal), Natural Science

Mrs C Sharp, BA (Hons) HDE (UPE), isiXhosa

Mr B Sopam, BA, HDE (UCT), Mathematics

Mr J Stegmann, BSc Mathematical Sciences (RAU), PGCE (UCT), Mathematics

Mrs S Stein, HDE (Phys Ed) UPE, BEd Hons (Technology) U J, IT Integrator

Mrs T Steyn, BA, HDE (Rhodes), Dramatic Arts

Ms J Taylor, BMus, BA, RULM (Rhodes), Music

Mrs T Thomson, Dip Vis Com (AAA), PGCE (UCT), Visual Arts

Mrs K van der Merwe, BSc Hons (US), HDE (UNISA), Natural Science

Mrs L van Wyk, BA, PGCE (US), Afrikaans

Mrs T Variawa, BSocSc (Hons), Clinical Social Work, Counsellor

Mrs M Venter, BA, HDE (Bloem), Afrikaans

Ms W Walter, BSc, HDE (UJ), Physical Science

Ms J Wesson, BA, HDE (KZN), History

» PART-TIME ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs H Oelofse, BSc Hons (Wits), PGCE (UNISA), Mathematics

Mrs N Poggenpoel, BA HDE (UCT), Maitrise FLE Univ. Paul Valery, Life Orientation

Mrs M Robertson, MSocSc (Clinical Social Work, UCT), Counsellor

Mrs P Sellmeyer, MSocSci (UCT), Counsellor

» ADMINISTRATIVE

Mrs L Bailey, Old Herschelien Secretary

Mrs J Buffkins, Receptionist

Ms D Griffiths, Fees Officer

Mrs J Goldschmidt, Old Herschelien Secretary

Mr W Johnson, Laboratory Technician

Mr J Kanzi, Driver

Mrs S Lawrence, Administrative Assistant

Mr S Levey, BCom Hons (Rhodes), ICT Manager

Mrs L Lourens, Bursar

Mrs C McEwen, Marketing and Communications Manager

Mrs N Moolman, Academic Secretary

Mrs S Moolman, Counsellors'

Receptionist

Ms M Nothnagel, Admissions and Marketing Secretary

Mr B Odendaal, Printing Technician

Mrs I Sadler, Music Secretary and Care Centre Manager

Mrs G van Blerk, Community Service Coordinator

Mrs H Vaughan, Personal Assistant to the Head

» ARDERNE HOUSE

Mrs G Cornish, House Mother

Miss L Kingwill, Boarding House Assistant

Mrs L Jacobs-Louw, Housekeeper

Ms D Malouw, Housekeeper

» GROUNDS

Mr E Terblanche, Estate Manager

Mr P Kwezi, Foreman

Mr N Mde, Foreman

Mr A Blom

Mr Z Dibela

Mr D Nomsobo

Mr S Nqenqa

Mr E Phike

Mr I Shorti

Mr N Solomons

Mr T Songelwa

» MAINTENANCE

Mr C Jacobs, Maintenance Manager

Mr N Daniels, Assistant Maintenance Manager

Mr S Dyantyi

Mr A Boko

Mr G Jones

Mr R Johnston

Mr L Lukwe

» COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adv. T Dicker, Chairman

Mr L Govender, Deputy Chairman

Mrs T Baloyi

Mr S Berman

Mr R Dow

Revd. J Francis (Representative of the Archbishop)

Dr T Grimmacher

Mr S Harrison

The Most Revd Dr Thabo

Makgoba, Archbishop of Cape Town

Mrs K Miller

Mrs R Mulder

Dr A Ndhluni

Mrs D Paul-Diemont

Ms T Skwambane

Dr N Wellington

PRE-PREPARATORY

The wider the range of possibilities we offer children, the more intense will be their motivations and the richer their experiences.
– **Loris Malaguzzi**



PRE-PREPARATORY *report*

BY MRS JENNI BROCK,
HEAD: PRE-PREPARATORY SCHOOL

My favourite time of the day in the Pre-Prep has always been the early morning.

Arriving at school at the start of each day, I love the sights and sounds that

herald the beginning of another busy, happy morning. The buzz of voices that fills the main foyer, the cheerful greetings as the girls arrive and settle down to activities at the tables, the background hum of parents reading books to their daughters. Outdoors, the more active girls expend their energy on

the playground, watched over by groups of chatting parents, and Table Mountain looms above, ever present, either reflecting the rays of the early morning sun or shrouded in clouds.

Each morning, without fail, when the girls arrive, the Pre-Prep is prepared for the day. This is only possible because of the staff, the teachers, assistant teachers and others who work tirelessly as a dedicated team to ensure all is ready. The assistant teachers spend many hours cutting out paper, mixing paint and glue, and preparing the curriculum-related activities. The teachers devote time to discussions and planning and to researching

new ideas and trends in education. The cleaner, Ayesha Sias, ensures that the classrooms, bathrooms and other indoor spaces are cleaned, while Mr Shorti, the gardener, wipes down the large equipment every morning and helps the teachers set up the outdoor activities. He maintains the garden and keeps the flower beds blooming, the hedges clipped, and the Astro lawn free of leaves and twigs. Gracie Taljaard walks many steps every day, bringing the Pre-Prep staff their morning snacks, keeping the kitchen stocked with tea and coffee for the reviving cups that sustain the teachers, and setting up and clearing away refreshments at meetings and events.

This daily routine of setting up and tidying away, messing and cleaning, preparation and completion, together with the arrivals and departures of the girls, are the constants that mark the ebb and flow of the Pre-Prep. They are the things that don't change and they provide security and reassurance by their very constancy. However, while constancy is necessary, change is also vital.

This year, we made some changes to certain events, added some activities, and acquired new equipment. The annual Market Day was held in Term 2 instead of at the start of Term 3 and this proved to be very successful. In Term 3, Mom and Daughter's Days were held to mark Women's Day. This year, instead of staging individual class concerts, the Pre-Prep presented an exciting, whole school production titled *Animal Rumble Grumble*.

Using Market Day funds, a new bench swing was bought for the playground, and a set of balancing stepping stones was generously donated by a parent, Mrs Daniela Barnard. Both these items of equipment have enhanced the outdoor play area and added value to the girls' play experiences.

In my very first *Herschelian* magazine article, as the newly appointed Head of Department in 2009, I wrote about change and how it is often the catalyst to positive growth. Now, as I leave the Pre-Prep and a change of leadership takes place, it is my sincere hope that this will prove to be true.

The past ten years at Herschel have been happy and fulfilling and the highlight of my teaching career. I am going to miss every aspect of the daily life of the school, especially teaching the girls Letterland, interacting with the parents, colleagues and staff, and the stimulating, fun-filled environment of the Pre-Prep.

I feel privileged and blessed to have been part of a school that is so dynamically educating and positively shaping the lives of girls who will one day make their mark on the world. ◇

*While
constancy is
necessary,
change is
also vital.*



Mom and Daughter's Day

BY MRS VERUSCHA JOHANNES AND MRS NICOLE YOUNG

To celebrate Women's Week, there was no better opportunity than to spend quality time with the wonderful women more commonly known as 'Mom'. Each grade had their own day to invite their moms to spend a morning with their daughters.

The morning started with the shaker going, signalling the start of morning ring. The girls thought it was rather funny that their moms were sitting on the mat, and the moms were impressed with how smoothly everything ran. After songs were sung and register had been taken, the girls and their moms enjoyed taking part in art activities together. It was wonderful to see the special bond between the moms and their daughters. From puzzles and books to Duplo and the fantasy corner the buzz in the classrooms was electric.

Once all the activities were completed, moms were invited to help themselves to tea and delicious snacks and to share them with their daughters and friends. It was a really special day for everyone and we hope that the moms felt celebrated and acknowledged for the special women they are. It was a great day to be a part of the Herschel family!



VOTING DAY

BY MRS CAROLINE BLENCOWE

On Tuesday 7 May, the day before the national elections, the Nursery Classes cast their votes. A voting station was set up in one of the classrooms. Ballot papers depicting the six colours of the flag were piled on the official's table. The process of voting was explained and the girls had to vote for one of the colours. Each girl was handed their ID card (with name and photo) and they queued up outside the voting station. Once inside, they presented their ID to the officials who crossed their name off the list, made a mark on their thumbnail and handed over a stamped ballot paper. Each girl went behind a curtain to cast her vote before posting it into the ballot box. The girls were excited when some of the teachers also joined in the voting process. The votes were counted in front of them so they could observe the process and discovered that blue was the winning colour. The experience gave the girls a better understanding of what their parents would be doing on voting day.

Out-of-the-Box Day

BY MRS TRACEY-ANN MAYNARD

The beautiful weather on 19 March was perfect for the girls to explore textures, colour and anything that lights up the senses. There were shrills of excitement as shoes were taken off and toes exposed to the elements.

What a wonderful day it was for the girls to freely interact with the different stations. Why always paint seated and with a brush? Why not draw with our hands in fabric caves? Or swish our fingers through slime? The excitement of trying familiar activities with a new twist was so much fun!

During the week, the girls discussed the different textures and felt the rough, smooth, furry and spikey examples. They categorised the objects according to the different textures and researched why some items have the textures they do. The children looked at silky seeds that could blow in the wind and hard shells that protect the creatures they house.

The texture-based activities were set up in the shaded garden outdoors and the children were free to explore the different areas. To say that this was a wonderful example of 'learning through play' would be an understatement. There were smiles all round.



PRE-NURSERY LITTLE LAMBS



FRONT ROW: A Lange, N Gafoor, A Khan, L Mahabeer, E Cossie, I Meyer, A Puglia
MIDDLE ROW: I Proudfoot, A Sparks, M Thomson, H Hunt, S Akampurira, T Jakoet, A Barnard, S Sale
BACK ROW: Mrs N Young, S Freddy, I Moore, O Spice, J Miller, E Slingsby, E Edwards, Z Njana, Ms A Malefane
ABSENT: A Zondi

CUDDLY KITTENS



FRONT ROW: T Parker, M Abernethy, S Nel, J White, A Graef, A Cowling, S Joseph
MIDDLE ROW: C Buley, J Turner, A van Rensburg, C Groenewald, G Swartz, E Szabo, E Duff, S Thomalla
BACK ROW: Mrs V Johannes, A Isaacs, D Kader, S Power, M Knight, A Bam, M Gajjar, C Smit, Ms Z Mrasi



LITTLE LAMBS

I am special because...

SKYLAR AKAMPURIRA

I have new dollies from my birthday.

ALESSIA BARNARD

I tidy up and feed the cats.

ELIMYOLI COSSIE

my Gogo named me.

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

I have different clothes.

SELENA FREDDY

my daddy bought me a toy.

NABILA GAFOOR

I am a good nurse.

HANNAH HUNT

I am kind and wonderful and warm and fuzzy!

TAIAH JAKOET

I can count nicely.

AAYAH KHAN

I like my friends.

ABIGAIL LANGE

I can do things that are different.

LAYLA MAHABEER

my mom likes me.

ISABELLA-RAINN MEYER

I learned to be a special girl.

JESSICA MILLER

my mommy and daddy always give me new stuff.

ISLA MOORE

I am Abigail's friend.

ZENANDE NJANA

I am friendly.

IMOGEN PROUDFOOT

I look after Angus so beautifully.

AZURA PUGLIA

I sing beautifully.

STELLA-BELLE SALE

I love school.

ELOISE SLINGSBY

my mom thinks I look lovely.

AVA SPARKS

I am happy.

OLIVIA SPICE

I am kind to people.

MEG THOMSON

I am super kind and play Lego with my sister.

AYEVA ZONDI

I do gymnastics.



Self portrait



AAYAH KHAN



ABIGAIL LANGE



ALESSIA BARNARD



AVA SPARKS



AYEVA ZONDI



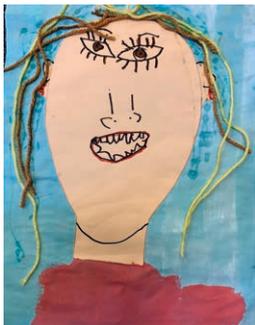
AZURA PUGLIA



ELIMYOLI COSSIE



ELIZABETH EDWARDS



ELOISE SLINGSBY



HANNAH HUNT



IMOGEN PROUDFOOT



ISABELLA-RAINN MEYER



ISLA MOORE



JESSICA MILLER



LAYLA MAHABEER



MEG THOMSON



NABILA GAFOOR



OLIVIA SPICE



SELENA FREDDY



SKYLAR AKAMPURIRA



STELLA-BELLE SALE



TAIAH JAKOET



ZENANDE NJANA



CUDDLY KITTENS



I CAN SING A

Rainbow

Red and yellow and pink and green
 Purple and orange and blue
 I can sing a rainbow,
 sing a rainbow,
 sing a rainbow too.
 Listen with your eyes,
 Listen with your ears,
 and sing everything you see,
 I can sing a rainbow,
 sing a rainbow,
 sing along with me.
 Red and yellow and pink and green,
 Purple and orange and blue,
 I can sing a rainbow,
 sing a rainbow,
 sing a rainbow too.



AMELIE GRAEF



ANNABEL COWLING



AVA VAN RENSBURG



AYAH ISAACS



CAITLIN BULEY



CHARLOTTE GROENEWALD



CHARLOTTE SMIT



ANNABELLE BAM



DEEYANA KADER



EMILY DUFF



EVA SZABO



GIA SWARTZ



JULIETTE TURNER



JULIETTE WHITE



MACKENZIE ABERNETHY



MAYA GAJJAR



MIA KNIGHT



SAARAH JOSEPH



SOPHIA NEL



SOPHIE POWER



SOPHIE-KATE THOMALLA



TALIA PARKER



NURSERY BUSY BEES



FRONT ROW: E Pryor, H Ebrahim, S van Loggerenberg, H Abdulla, A Mandy-Woodcock, H Hendricks
 MIDDLE ROW: H Daniels, S Glenday, A Baines, A Bassa, E Melck, J Boyes, A Alexander, O De Souza
 BACK ROW: A Taylor, Ms M Martin, M van Zyl, P Mototjane, S Wessels, G Little, K Neville, Mrs C Blencowe
 ABSENT: M Maggott, A Salie

BOUNCING BUNNIES



FRONT ROW: Mrs C Brittain, A Dollie, A McDonald, J Ebbs, E Wood, L Mafanya, N Ebrahim, Mrs Gobey
 MIDDLE ROW: R Daya-Feasey, Z Rinqest, M Ruffel, R Weldon, E van Lieshout
 BACK ROW: A Mohammed, S Cattell, O Watkins-Neethling, E Hamilton, S Ebrahim, E Huisamen, G Yazdanpanahi
 ABSENT: B Ross, K Morrissey, I Hassan, A Fisher



BUSY BEES

My Dad is SO good at...



HANA ABDULLA
building blocks with me.
ANABEL ALEXANDER
swimming with me.
ANNABELLE BAINES
playing soccer with me.

AMEERA BASSA
watching TV.
JESSICA BOYES
cooking chicken wings.

HANNAH DANIELS
making things like
pancakes and cupcakes.

OLIVIA DE SOUZA
giving me hugs.
HANA EBRAHIM
playing hide and seek with me.

SOPHIA GLENDAY
throwing me up in the air
and catching me.

HANAA HENDRICKS
cycling – and he goes to the
Waterfront with me.

GRACE LITTLE
fixing things like gluing Elsa's
icicle onto her plait.

MIA MAGGOTT
helping me make a cake.
ANNABELLE MANDY-WOODCOCK
playing hide and seek with me.

EMILY MELCK
doing push-ups.

PEARL MOTOTJANE
working on the computer.

KATE NEVILLE
throwing me on the bed
and giving me hugs.

ERIN PRYOR
building Lego houses with me.

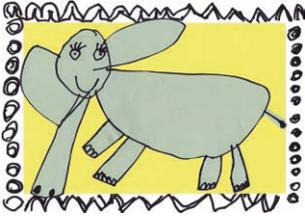
ALAYAH SALIE
laying down on his bed and watching TV.

ANNA TAYLOR
driving – when he takes us
to the bike park.

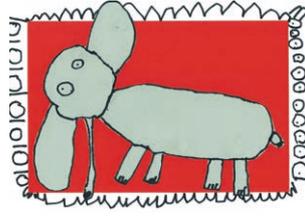
SLOANE VAN LOGGERENBERG
reading books to me. His favourite
book is *Leopards at Night*.

MOLLY VAN ZYL
building – helping my brother
build with hammers and stuff.

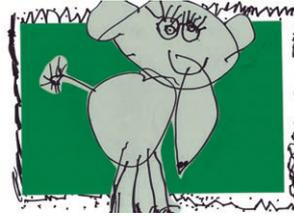
SCARLETT WESSELS
playing tricks on me.



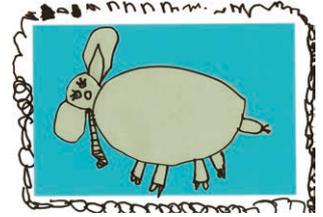
ALAYAH SALIE



AMEERA BASSA



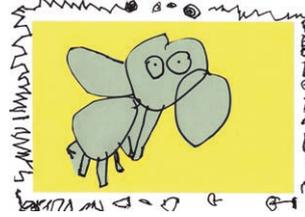
ANABEL ALEXANDER



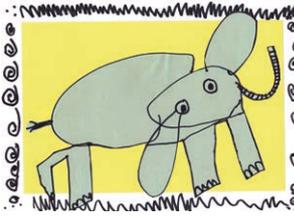
ANNA TAYLOR



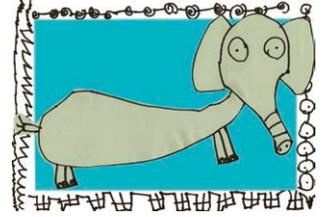
ANNABELLE BAINES



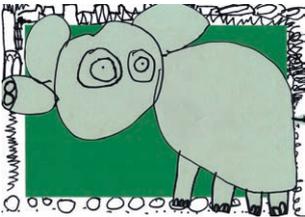
ANNABELLE MANDY-WOODCOCK



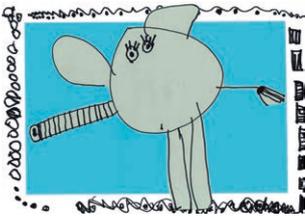
EMILY MELCK



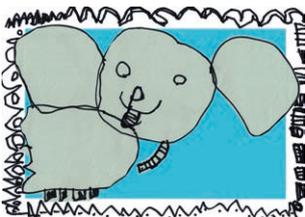
ERIN PRYOR



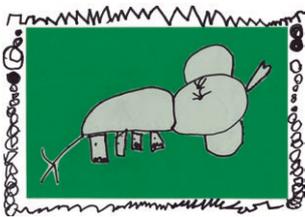
GRACE LITTLE



HANA EBRAHIM



HANNAH DANIELS



KATE NEVILLE



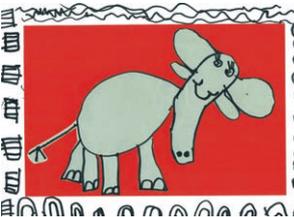
PEARL MOTOTJANE



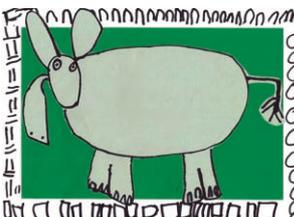
MIA MAGGOTT



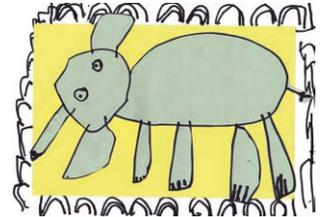
SCARLETT WESSELS



MOLLY VAN ZYL



SLOANE VAN LOGGERENBERG

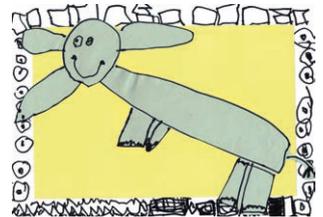


OLIVIA DE SOUZA

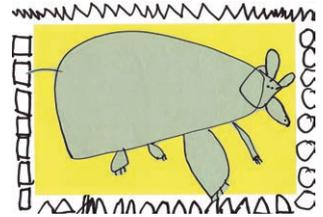


SOPHIA GLENDAY

An elephant goes
like this and that,
He's terribly big,
and terribly fat,
He has no fingers,
he has no toes
But goodness
gracious,
WHAT A NOSE!
~ KIDZONE ~



HANA ABDULLA



HANAA HENDRICKS



JESSICA BOYES

BOUNCING BUNNIES



If only I could...

SOPHIE CATTELL

surf, I don't know how to but my Dad does.

REYNA DAYA-FEASEY

fly. I would fly all around the world.

AALIYA DOLLIE

fly with my sister and eat a lot of sweets.

JESSICA EBBS

fly to the biggest swimming pool in the world and talk underwater.

NABIHA EBRAHIM

be a butterfly.

SARAH EBRAHIM

jump on the clouds and slide down the rainbows and go to Disneyland every day.

ANN FISHER

have glitter hair.

EDEN HAMILTON

hold my breath underwater at my granny's pool.

IFRAH HASSAN

be so tiny that I could go into a flower.

EVELYN HUISAMEN

be a fairy that can swim underwater, my wings would turn into a tail and I would have a little pet.

LIYANDA MAFANYA

get my brother to stop annoying me.

AMELIA MCDONALD

be a teacher.

AMAANI MOHAMMED

fly with my friends.

KATHERINE MORRISSEY

breathe underwater and play with the fish.

ZIA RINQUEST

fly. I would save anyone in trouble.

BROOKE ROSS

meet a real-life unicorn. I would make wishes with it.

MOLLY RUFFEL

be a mermaid and breathe underwater. I would swim around the sea.

EMILY VAN LIESHOUT

find the end of the rainbow.

OLIVIA WATKINS-NEETHLING

swim with dolphins.

ROSIE WELDON

be a mermaid that could breathe underwater and on land.

EMMA WOOD

fly around the mountains on a shooting star.

GIA YAZDANPANAH

be a musician. I would sing.

OUR JOLLY *giraffes*



AALIYA DOLLIE



AMAANI MOHAMMED



AMELIA MCDONALD



ANN FISHER



BROOKE ROSS



EDEN HAMILTON



EMILY VAN LIESHOUT



EMMA WOOD



EVELYN HUISAMEN



GIA YAZDANPANAHI



IFRAH HASSAN



JESSICA EBBS



KATIE MORRISSEY



LIYANDA MAFANYA



MOLLY RUFFEL



NABIHA EBRAHIM



OLIVIA WATKINS-NEETHLING



REYNA DAYA-FEASEY



ROSIE WELDON



SARAH EBRAHIM



SOPHIE CATTELL



ZIA RINQUEST

GRADE R BUTTERFLIES



FRONT ROW: R Thwaites, S Allie, E Logan, F Maree, J Louw de Wet, S Khan, I Millar, K Adams
MIDDLE ROW: K Thomson, R Milne, E Shaw, M Hansen, A Duff, C Tsitsa, O Duff, Z Khan, I Briggs, J Mundy
BACK ROW: Mrs J Bearne, S Hart, F Ismail, E Coffee, G McHarry, B Masemola, R Osler, M Parenzee-Fysh, S Slaviero, Mrs T Davids

LADYBIRDS



FRONT ROW: A Petersen, C Ratcliffe, C Williams, H Bhorey, S Sunday
MIDDLE ROW: M Barnard, A Hisham, Z Moose, P Osburn, M McGregor, M Lobert, S Graef, L Ben-Yosef, B Lehloanya, G de Vries,
Z George, A Boyes BACK ROW: Ms N Ntlemeza, G Charton, D Hadjidakis, G Schmidt, B Nienge, L Termark, M Sidaki, C Viljoen,
K Hundermark, Mrs T Brogan ABSENT: M Munga

BUTTERFLIES



When I grow up I want to be ...

KULTHUM ADAMS

a vet because I like animals.

SAFFIYAH ALLIE

a ballet teacher because you get to wear nice skirts and shoes. I love the way they dance.

ERIN COFFEE

a primary school teacher because it looks fun and you wear nice clothes.

AVA DUFF

a scientist because I do Curious Cubs.

OLIVIA DUFF

a scientist because I want to do experiments.

MAYA HANSEN

an artist because I like the art we do at school, especially drawing.

SOPHIA HART

an artist because I like that art can be anything.

FATIMAH ISMAIL

a singer because I like to sing on stage.

SOFIA KHAN

an animal rescuer because I want to help animals that are injured.

ZARIYA KHAN

a fashion designer because they make nice clothes.

EMMA LOGAN

a famous tennis player because I like playing tennis. I can hit the ball well.

JUSTINE

LOUW DE WET

a vet because I love animals. They are cute and furry.

FARRAH MAREE

a nurse because I like helping people.

ISABELLA BRIGGS

a doctor because I can help people. I like doing that.

BOMISILE

MASEMOLA

a doctor because I want to work on people.

GIORGIA MCHARRY

somebody who looks after guinea pigs.

ISABELLA MILLAR

a scientist to make experiments.

RAFAELLA MILNE

a vet because I like animals so much, especially reptiles.

JULIET MUNDY

a power ranger because they fight real live baddies.

REBECCA OSLER

a scientist and do things like we do at Curious Cubs.

EMILY SHAW

a drummer because I like to make noise.

SABRINA SLAVIERO

a teacher because it is fun. I get to wear my own clothes and not a uniform.

KATE THOMSON

a gymnast because I like what they do.

I watch them on television.

ROSE THWAITTS

a teacher because I get to keep going to school.

CWENGA TSITSA

a firefighter because I want to save people.





AVA DUFF



BOMISILE MASEMOLA



CWENGA TSITSA



EMILY SHAW



EMMA LOGAN



ERIN COFFEE

*'Owlsome'
wise owls*

THERE WAS AN OWL

*There was an owl who lived in an oak.
The more he heard, the less he spoke;
the less he spoke, the more he heard –
We all should be
like that wise old bird.*

– AUTHOR: UNKNOWN



FARRAH MAREE



FATIMAH ISMAIL



GIORGIA MCHARRY



ISABELLA BRIGGS



ISABELLA MILLAR



JULIET MUNDY



JUSTINE LOUW DE WET



KATE THOMSON



KULTHUM ADAMS



MAYA HANSEN



OLIVIA DUFF



RAFAELLA MILNE



REBECCA OSLER



ROSE THWAITES



SABRINA SLAVIERO



SAFFIYAH ALLIE



SOFIA KHAN



SOPHIA HART



ZARIYA KHAN



LADYBIRDS



If I could do magic...



MIKAYLA BARNARD

I would make a cat appear.

LUCY-ROSE BEN-YOSEF

I would make a lot of toys.

HANIYYA BHOREY

I would turn a toy into a horse.

AMELIA BOYES

I would trans myself into a lynx because I can turn myself into animals.

GRACE CHARTON

I would turn a sandwich into bread with Nutella and ice cream.

GABRIELLA DE VRIES

I would turn into a lion to scare my mom and dad into getting me stuff.

ZOE GEORGE

I would turn my brother into a tree.

SOPHIA GRAEF

I would turn my sister into a butterfly.

MAARIYAH MUNGA

I would magic my sister to the moon.

DANIELA HADJIDAKIS

I would make my baby brother stay a baby. I don't want him to grow bigger because he is so cute.

ALIAH HISHAM

I would magic a bunny in a hat.

KRISTIN HUNDERMARK

I would juggle the whole world.

BOTHO LEHLOENYA

I would pull a bunny out of my hat.

MILA LOBERT

I would pull out coins from behind people's ears.

MADDISON-ROSE

MCGREGOR

I would turn a cat into a dog.

ZAYB MOOSE

I would juggle 100 balls.

BARAKAH NIENGE

I would make my brother invisible.

PHOEBE OSBURN

I would make bunnies appear.

ARYA PETERSEN

I would turn my brother into a tortoise because he loves tortoises. And then I would turn him into a human again.

CHRISTINA RATCLIFFE

I would turn myself into a cat.

GABRIELLA SCHMIDT

I would turn a bunny into a dog.

MBALENHLE SIDAKI

I would magic my brother into his classroom.

SALMA SONDAY

I would make cupcakes appear when I click my fingers.

LETSATSI TERMARK

I would turn myself into a puppy.

CHELSEA VILJOEN

I would make my stuffed animals come alive.

CLAIRE WILLIAMS

I would turn myself into a puppy. And then I would jump on people's computers.





ALIAH HISHAM



AMELIA BOYES



ARYA PETERSEN



BARAKAH NIENGE



BOTHO LEHLOENYA



CHELSEA VILJOEN



CHRISTINA RATCLIFFE

GRADE R LADYBIRDS *creating some magic!*



CLAIRE WILLIAMS



DANIELA HADJIDAKIS



GABRIELLA DE VRIES



GABRIELLA SCHMIDT



GRACE CHARTON



HANIYYA BHOREY



KRISTIN HUNDERMARK



LETSATSI TERMARK



LUCY-ROSE BEN-YOSEF



MAARIYAH MUNGA



MADDISON-ROSE
MCGREGOR



MBALENHLE SIDAKI



MIKAYLA BARNARD



MILA LIBERT



PHOEBE OSBURN



SALMA SONDAG



SOPHIA GRAEF



ZAYB MOOSE



ZOE GEORGE

PRE-PREP production

ANIMAL RUMBLE GRUMBLE

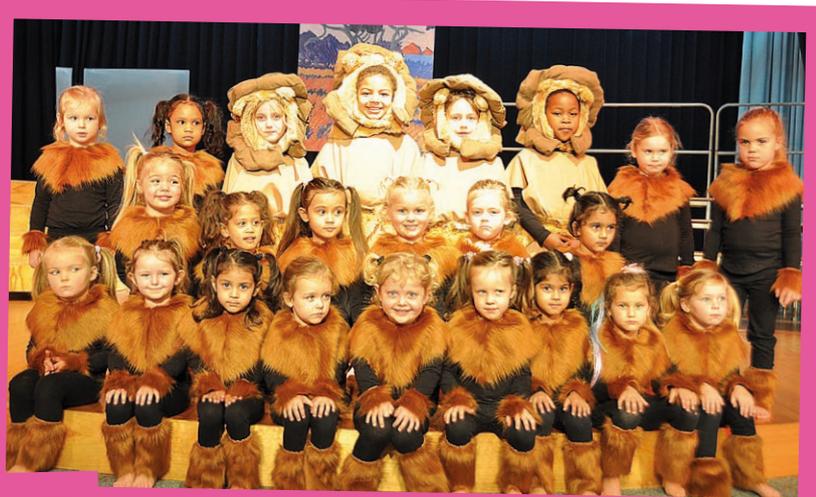
BY MRS CLAIRE BRITTAIN AND MRS CAROLINE BLENCOWE

The Pre-Prep girls had a wonderful time putting on Brendon Renwick's production *Animal Rumble Grumble*. The animals of the plain are fearful of a strange distant rumbling. "Something terrible is coming this way! It will destroy us and take over our plains." The animals quickly seek the advice of Ghubari, the wise old man who lives at the top of the acacia tree. But his wise and cryptic words confuse them. In turn, the animals find enough courage to go and

confront the terrible danger that gets even closer. The girls' beautiful voices lit up the stage as each group of animals sang a witty song guiding the audience to discover that the rumbling was a dark rain cloud bringing much-needed rain to the plains. The animals rejoice as the rain falls.

A special thanks to Mrs Brogan and Mrs Young for doing such an incredible job directing our play. Without your hard work and patience this would not have been possible. »





PREPARATORY

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PREPARATORY SCHOOL

BY MRS LIN HEIDMANN, HEAD OF PREPARATORY

This year has been a truly wonderful year for the Preparatory. The theme, Relate, was selected for the year. The theme encompassed the elements of hope, care, respect and belonging.

The intention of creating a Herschel Culture of which we can be proud is the driving force behind this focus.

In order to create a culture of belonging at Herschel, we need to be intentional about teaching the girls how to show care towards others and this, in turn, will create a culture of caring. Daniel Coyle's book, *The Culture Code*, explains that group culture is one of the most powerful forces on the planet. We want a strong culture of belonging and equity at Herschel and according to the studies done it is clear that there are three core skills that are key to ensure success. These three skills are: build safety, share vulnerability and establish purpose.

The journey that we are on as an institution has allowed for us to begin to put in place structures to develop these three skills in staff, parents and girls. Our executive workshop during the course of last year and then the continuation of this with the whole staff workshop at the start of this year, both under the incredible guidance of Dave Woods, began our process of re-establishing purpose in a collective and intentional manner by grappling with and critically evaluating what our fundamental principles, beliefs and values are as a school, as well as what our core focus and responsibility is in educating our students for a future in which they are invested, responsible, ethical citizens and leaders. A future in which they are authentic, empathetic, empowered individuals who make a significant and meaningful contribution to society. By placing intentional focus on developing the quality of relationships, becoming beacons of hope in our families, schools and communities and growing a deep, genuine sense of care for each other, this vision will become a reality.

The creation of Family Groups in the Preparatory this year has allowed for girls across the grades to begin to build inclusive and meaningful relationships across the school. Our hope is that these family groups will enable meaningful, deep relationships to form, breaking through prejudices, bias and

the damage of labels and begin to grow and develop mutual respect and genuine care. We are working towards a school culture that shows care and respect in equal measure to all. We have focused on girls and staff being vulnerable with each other and sharing stories as we have explored transformation, diversity and inclusion in different forums. The re-visioning has enabled the staff to focus on growing and developing themselves and our girls by providing them with multiple, intentional opportunities to explore their role and the impact they have as individuals, where they feel visible, empowered, appreciated and confident to express their views, behave authentically and engage and grapple with their responsibility and value as part of a broader, diverse community and society. I have so appreciated the involvement of parents in the many workshops, presentations and speakers that we have offered this year. We have specifically dealt with encouraging girls to move beyond their comfort zone when making friends and have asked parents to critically reflect on the role modelling they are doing in this regard with their own friends and those whom they invite into their homes. Daniel Coyle states that: "Culture is a set of living relationships working together toward a shared goal. It is not something you are. It's something you do." We have so much still to do to ensure that our parents, girls and staff feel that they belong and are valued equally as individuals. I look forward to continuing this process in the year ahead.

On an academic, culture and sporting front the Preparatory has continued to offer an innovative and challenging programme this year with many new and exciting additions. The Preparatory staff continuously strive to ensure that the girls are exposed to a rigorous formal and informal curriculum. Their continued commitment to encouraging each girl to strive to develop and extend herself in all areas of school life is remarkable. Innovation, dedication and passion for education is reflected on a daily basis in the creative way in which they ensure the engagement of the pupils. Integration across subjects, the development of a variety of cognitive and specific thinking and study skills and the effective use of technology, including aspects of coding, has extended the enquiry-based learning programme extremely successfully this year. The deep thinking, problem solving and creative

thinking all ensure that the girls are becoming confident, independent, critical thinkers.

I have loved seeing the variety of events, competitions, festivals, matches, tours, performances, exhibitions, eisteddfods and shows in which the girls have been involved. The enormously high levels of participation in each sphere reflects a healthy balance in the education of our pupils. I have been particularly conscious of the grit and determination within our girls when they are faced with highly competitive situations in both sporting and cultural fields.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being more involved in the Pre-Preparatory this year and was in awe of the confidence with which they performed in the *Animal Rumble Grumble* production. I love the business and zest for life that is evident as they learn through play and exploration. The programme they are following ensures that creativity, innovation, problem solving and critical thinking are at the core of all learning.

I have been extremely excited and heartened by the way in which the girls have become actively involved in debates and discussions about equity, social justice and environmental sustainability. The whole school was involved in the March for Climate Change and the senior girls also participated in the silent vigil and march in solidarity for #ENOUGH. I believe that our role in education is both enlightening our pupils and parents to the causes for which they should be taking a stand and also in providing education around the way in which such events happen, allowing the opportunity for our girls to learn how to be engaged, proactive citizens in the future. I have been extremely proud of the way in which the Herschel community have taken a united stand for justice. We have an enormous responsibility to the future of South Africa and it begins in the intentional educational experiences which we provide for our girls.

I value the sense of community that we have at the Preparatory School and have been heartened to see the way in which our girls have begun to demonstrate gratitude and appreciation to the enormously valuable and talented staff who invest in their lives in so many ways. The depth of respect for the role that each person plays has been discussed regularly and the staff have noted the way in which girls build healthy, meaningful relationships of respect and trust

with academic, administrative, grounds, maintenance, security and cleaning staff members. The sense of family can be most strongly felt in times of celebration and sadness.

The staff and girls were shocked and extremely sad to hear of the sudden passing of our Security Supervisor, Michael Dunn. Michael was an integral part of our school for over a decade and his warm greeting and cheerful smile was enjoyed and appreciated by staff, parents and girls. We relied very heavily on Michael's leadership on a daily basis, knowing that he had the safety of our girls and staff uppermost in his mind at all times. In times of crisis at the Preparatory, Michael was truly outstanding. He built positive relations with all with whom he worked and the overwhelming sadness from his team was evident as they tried to process their grief. He shall be sorely missed.



empathetic, compassionate, organised and professional at all times is enormously valued and appreciated. Together with my wonderful Admin team of three, the Preparatory school offices are warm and welcoming places, a haven for parents, pupils and staff and I know that this is valued by all.

I would like to thank Linda Martin, the Deputy Head of the Preparatory, for the way in which she has led the school in my absence. Her wonderful sense of humour, positive relationships with staff and outstanding leadership make her invaluable. I am indebted to her for this. I thank the wonderful parents of Herschel who have continued to provide support and assistance in so many ways. To the PA and Class Representatives for the outstanding work that you do, thank you. I thank our parents too for the positive way in which they have embraced the changes in all areas of the school this

“Nothing can dim the light that shines from within.” – Maya Angelou

This year has seen the retirements of both Mrs Jenni Brock and Ms Julie Ward. Ms Ward's quarter of a century of passion, dedication and commitment leaves a legacy that will live on in the many pupils who have been under her tutelage as individuals or part of one of the many ensembles she has taken over the years. We will miss her but wish her a wonderful, happy retirement.

Mrs Brock's early retirement brought with it a sense of sadness for Herschel, but joy for her and her family. Mrs Brock's love for her staff and girls in the Pre-Preparatory is legendary. We thank her for her leadership and the wonderful contribution she has made to Herschel over her 10 years of service.

As the year draws to a close and I reflect, I am aware that as a Preparatory School we have dedicated a large number of hours to critical reflection and lengthy deliberation on the way in which we can continue to grow and develop our girls effectively in 2020. We have reviewed all areas within the school and my executive have presented their strategic plans for 2020. I would like to thank them for their

leadership, continued support and pastoral care of the staff, girls and their families within their departments. I am enormously excited about what lies ahead for our pupils. I would like to acknowledge the work done by the academic staff to ensure continued excellence in all areas of delivery of the curriculum. They are continuously developing their own skills and striving to ensure that we are on the cutting edge of education and for this, I salute them. I would also like to extend my gratitude to them for their genuine care and love for the pupils whom they teach.

I am immensely grateful to our Herschel Council for their wise counsel, ongoing support and infinite wisdom. Their involvement in school life and their sacrifice of time, as well as the warmth and care that they demonstrate is something for which I am immensely grateful. I appreciate, thank and celebrate the phenomenal staff in all areas of our school with whom I have the privilege of working on a daily basis. My PA, Cindy Guercio, who enables me to execute my duties efficiently. Her incredible ability to be

year and become actively involved in our vision for a school where each girl feels a deep sense of belonging.

Finally, I would like to thank Stuart West, Head of School, for the wonderful partnership we have created. He has been innovative, courageous and inventive as a Head. I thank him for the way in which he has led the school with regard to diversity, inclusion and transformation and for ensuring that the wellbeing of the girls and staff are prioritised. I wish him all the very best as he begins his new journey and have no doubt that it will be both exciting and challenging.

I look forward to 2020, where we will continue to strive to create a school where every girl feels she belongs, experiences equity and shines from within, for it is this that will make our school a great school.

“Nothing can dim the light that shines from within.” – Maya Angelou

Ad Dei Gloriam. ◇

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR PHASE HOD REPORT

BY MRS ALISON BAIKOFF

In the Intermediate and Senior Phase, girls and staff continually strive to challenge and inspire each other as we explore interesting and diverse ways to learn. This year, we focused on learning how to code, researching appropriately and asking and answering big questions. We learned study skills and how to work effectively with each other using collaborative structures and we explored a number of topics during enrichment days. We did not write any examinations but used a system of continuous assessment, which some of the girls realise is, in many ways, more challenging than an examination. No formal examinations meant optimised learning time and reduced anxiety and stress in our girls.

Our new coding programme is run by Herschel teachers but is managed by a company called SkillUp. They are innovative IT specialists who have designed a fascinating series of lessons in which girls learn to code using HTML and CSS with an introduction to JavaScript. The girls design their own websites as they work through these modules. We are very excited by this addition to our curriculum as it extends what the girls have already learned about block coding.

Family groups are another new addition to our programme. Every second week, 14 girls and a teacher meet and engage as a vertical family to discuss selected

topics and engage in structured activities. These groups are composed of two girls from each grade. In this way, girls have the opportunity to make connections across grades and cultures and with different teachers. This gives everyone a safe space in which to share thoughts and feelings.

The Grade 4 – 7 girls have engaged in enrichment days at the end of each term to add value and depth to our academic curriculum. Some of the activities included mindfulness practice, study skills with Elevate, Thinking Skills and Maps, coding using Sphero balls and iPads, STEM activities and a Banagram competition with Games4Brains. The NSRI came to talk to us about safety on and in the water and Annalize Sainsbury entertained us with her experiences as a *Survivor* contestant. Miss Steenkamp spent time with each grade on self-reflection and exploring diversity. The Grade 6s and 7s spent a day doing selected craft activities. The Grade 6s learned how to play the marimbas with Miss Conrads. All the girls participated in an incredible rhythm workshop with Julie Blundell, where we made music together using tubes and sticks.

As another year draws to a close, I look back on the innovative lessons created by our staff, each of whom strives to create an engaging, relevant and supportive learning space for our girls. As Benjamin Franklin said: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."



FOUNDATION PHASE HOD REPORT

BY MS ZAZIE KHAN

2019 was a year we relocated at our curriculum to ensure we were extending and developing our girls through the introduction of Higher Order Thinking Skills within our language and theme work and creating more opportunities for our girls to collaborate and be creative within the classroom. The Foundation Phase staff explored new ways to bring greater creativity into our day-to-day curriculum by attending a workshop run by ErylBirds. Our Grade 2s joined the online Reading Eggs programme and have enjoyed practising their sounds, words and reading in this fun and interactive way.

We enjoyed many outings to Butterfly World, Kirstenbosch, The Planetarium, Hout Bay Museum, The Science Centre and absolutely loved going back in time to the year 1900 when we spent a Day in a Victorian Classroom to name just a few of our experiences this year.

We enjoyed any excuse to celebrate this year. We celebrated Grandparents' Day during Book Week and delighted in having our grandparents at school to read to us. We invited the special people in our lives to our Grade assemblies. The Grade 2s celebrated their

mothers and all that they do for us. The Grade 3s took a closer look at friendships and discussed what qualities made a good friend and how we could all be a better friend. We loved taking part in Enrichment Day. Both Games4Brains and Curious Cubs delighted us with science experiments and loads of new and challenging games that required us to use quick thinking and logic. We celebrated Africa Day with a fabulous Djembe Drumming Workshop in the hall.

We loved showing off our many sporting talents, with the emphasis being on fun, at our annual Swimming Gala, Cross Country race and at our Sports Day.

To my Foundation Phase colleagues – thank you for your passion, dedication, enthusiasm, care and desire to innovate and try new things. Thank you for the many roles you play in the lives of our girls. I feel privileged and honoured to be a part of such a phenomenal team.

To our Foundation Phase girls – always remain curious. Being curious is the ability to seek and acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of understanding the world. It is at the heart of what motivates us to learn and what keeps us learning throughout our lives.



LIBRARY REPORT

BY MRS CHRISTINE MORITZ

No longer is a library a quiet place. In our library we seriously do fun by celebrating the adventure of books. We conjure up reading challenges, curate quirky quizzes and facilitate fabulous visits from fantastic friends like the much-loved South African author-illustrator Niki Daly and Stacey Fru, Africa's youngest published author who wrote her first book when she was seven!

We do Story Times and Grandparents' Picnics and we excel at board games and chess, exploring and telling stories, but most of all we do reading and dreaming, meandering and mindfulness, kindness and caring.

The heart of collaborative learning, the Preparatory Library supports specialists and classroom teachers as they navigate between the computer classroom and The Space where teaching can happen seamlessly. Collaborative teaching blossoms, often with group work happening in one area, posters being painted in the table area, storytelling in the bean-bag room, and quiet corners occupied by contemplative readers. There is something for everyone. Mrs Moritz, our Librarian, and her trusted team of Grade 6 and 7 Library Monitors, do their best to not send any user away empty handed. With so many books to read, and so much fun to be had, one can only celebrate the fact that our library is no longer a quiet place! ◇



LIBRARY MONITORS

FRONT ROW: I Kepelele, T Pillay, L van der Merwe, L Rothschild, Mrs C Moritz, M Brey, N Khan

BACK ROW: G Mulder, T Deliperi, M Else, I Lappin, A Bräsler



GRADE 6

UK EXCHANGE TO ST JOHN'S ON-THE-HILL

BY MS LINDA COWIE AND MS ZAZIE KHAN

Tuesday 5 March saw five excited girls, and Mesdames Cowie and Khan all ready to leave Cape Town International. After a delayed flight we boarded the plane to Heathrow ready for the challenge of a cold, wet UK. After landing, we discovered we had arrived in London but our bags were still in Johannesburg!

We met our host Mrs Bennett, from St John's on-the-Hill and set off for the school in Chepstow on the Welsh/English border. As we had no clothing with us we stopped at a supermarket to stock up on a few items before meeting the host girls and having lunch at the school. We enjoyed walking around the beautiful Chepstow Castle, admiring the Wye River. That afternoon the girls went off with their host families.

Fearne Turner and Katie Rayner, the host girls, really looked after our girls, taking them on special outings on the weekend. The

school staff and pupils made everyone feel at home and our girls were proud Herschel ambassadors. We stayed in Wales for nine days visiting many exciting places. Some highlights were enjoying the challenge of dry slope skiing in Gloucester and the huge Gloucester Cathedral; a visit to Bristol Science Centre and a tour of the SS Great Britain, where we were able to see and have our photos taken with the World Cup Cricket trophy; visiting Cardiff for the day, enjoying the Castle, a boat trip around the harbour and shopping. We also visited Bath in the pouring rain, exploring the Roman Baths and the beautiful Abbey. After a rainy morning we ventured out to the amazing Tintern Abbey. Later in the week the girls enjoyed a day in a variety of different classes. Soon Friday and London arrived. After a tearful goodbye to our St John's family, we caught the bus up to

London was a wonderful experience for the girls, as they learned to catch the famous

Tube and hop on and off buses. We saw two West End shows *The Lion King* and *The School of Rock*. Both were spectacular. Over the weekend we visited Windsor Castle where we learnt about the history of the castle. We climbed on the Hop-on Hop-off bus to visit the sights of London. Some of the highlights included the London Eye, the scary London Dungeon, Westminster Abbey, Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge, Madame Tussauds and shopping at Westfield Shopping Mall, Covent Garden and Oxford Street. A definite highlight for all the girls was a visit to the Harry Potter Studios. The girls were transported back to Hogwarts and entertained with the magic of making the movies.

For the girls this was an unforgettable adventure. There were many awe-inspiring moments, all filled with good fun and lots of laughs. The friendships made in Wales and the experiences had will last a lifetime. ◊





GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

BY MRS AMANDA MOZLEY

Girls from Grade 4 to 7 complete a General Knowledge quiz each week and General Knowledge Champs in each class are announced at the end of each term in assembly. Questions in these weekly quizzes cover a variety of topics including current affairs, history, geography, biology, sport, literature etc. During the first term the girls also complete a 50-question Interhouse Founder's Day Quiz in which the top girls in each class earn points for their house.

A General Knowledge team is selected based on the results of these quizzes and this team participates in the Interschool General Knowledge Quiz. Our team this year has been made up of Grade 7 girls – Catherine Barton, Zaynah Darsot, Sharifa Ebrahim, Taskya Pillay, Hanaan Saith and Emily van Heerden. Herschel hosted the first round of the Interschool General Knowledge Quiz in May this year and our team did very well to finish fifth out of 20 schools.

The girls enjoy the weekly General Knowledge quizzes and we hope that by encouraging them to take an interest in improving their general knowledge, their knowledge of the world around them will increase.



LITERATURE QUIZ

BY MRS CHRISTINE MORITZ

Bookworms Unite! The heat is on when senior phase contestants take part in the Interschool Kids Lit Quiz. This friendly competition takes place once a term and participants eagerly show off their knowledge of books and reading with great enthusiasm. Questions are organised in unprepared themes, with teams eagerly hoping for their favourite genres, books, characters and publications to feature. The winning national team is invited to take part in the Annual World Final – a prize the Herschel teams have not won – YET!

Readers are leaders. And readers have fun. We hope to encourage a life-long love of reading and engagement with books beyond the curriculum. Participation in the Kids Lit Quiz adds a healthy dose of competitive spirit, and often sparks an interest in genres not previously explored. Look out World Final, you are on our itinerary!



Community service

BY MRS LINDA MARTIN

Engaging in community service projects provides our girls with the opportunity to become active members of their community, acquire life skills and knowledge, as well as provide a service to those who need it most. Community Service at the Preparatory remains one of our top priorities. Our focus on outreach activities and making a difference to others remains an important aspect in growing empathetic, caring, young women.

We have continued to support the following charities this year: St Luke's Hospice, Help the Rural Child, the CHOC Foundation, the Reach for a Dream Foundation, the Sunflower Fund, SPCA, Nazareth House and the Peninsula Feeding Scheme. In addition, we have run a number of initiatives such as collecting Easter eggs, toiletries for the homeless and posies of flowers and soft toys for the Red Cross Children's Hospital, which the Grade 7 Outreach girls deliver. Our annual Chores for a Cause collection involves the girls raising their own

money, instead of simply asking parents, by completing various chores around the house. This money is used to purchase stationery packs for 2020 for all the pupils at Kewtown Primary. The girls get the opportunity to make up these stationery bags and gift wrap them. These are then handed over as Christmas presents.

Our annual Blisters for Bread this year once again saw eager, energetic girls take to the mountains in support of the Peninsula Feeding Scheme. The generous contribution from the Preparatory towards this goes a long way to ensure the success of this wonderful scheme. From the money raised by the Grade 7 girls at the annual fair, we have also been able to make significant monetary contributions to organisations such as the Smile Foundation and the SA Guide Dogs, to name but a few.

With the overwhelming support from our parent body and girls, Herschel Preparatory has continued to be able to make a difference in the lives of others. ◇





EVENING OF
music
AND MUSIC SOIRÉE

BY MS PETRA CONRAD





Our annual Evening of Music was held in the Herschel Theatre on a beautiful evening in September which held the promise of spring in the air. The Marimba bands entertained guests while they enjoyed refreshments supplied by the PA.

This was the second year of our informal 'new look' Evening of Music where the girls dressed in jeans, shirts and sneakers of all shades of colour and sparkle! It featured all our school ensembles and truly was a showcase of the talent and creativity that abounds at the Herschel Prep.

The Guitar Ensemble opened the evening gently and gracefully under the leadership of Mr Gary Craig. The smooth flamenco sounds were followed by our Junior Choir with an impressive rendition of "I will Sing with the Spirit" by John Rutter. Mrs Sonja Bräsler ably led the girls, adorned by their Junior Choir trademark pink ribbons. Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" by our growing Wind Ensemble to Coldplay's "The Scientist" by our junior string group, StringAlong, were just a few of the items that were performed. Our Choir had been split earlier in the year to accommodate the growing numbers and it was a joy to see the love for music and song the girls displayed in their respective performances. The Grade 4 and 5 Choir delighted with a performance of "When I Grow Up" from *Matilda, the Musical* and the Grade 6 and 7 showed energy and passion with their performance of Karl Jenkins' "Adiemus" from his "Songs of Sanctuary".

The Percussion Ensemble under the dedicated and passionate leadership of Dr Linda Muller was, as always, creative and interesting. "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" certainly received a special touch by our percussionists. Our sterling String Ensemble wowed the audience with "Pata Pata" under the direction of Ms van

der Vyver. Ms Julie Ward ended off the evening with her Senior Orchestra performing "Blue Danube" by Johann Strauss and "Run" by Snow Patrol. All girls then joined on stage for a rousing and happy rendition of "Don't Stop Believing" by Journey. A perfect way to end a fun and happy evening.

This year marked the last Evening of Music for two long-standing Music Department staff. Mrs Bronwen Leith has served the Senior Choir for 12 years and grew the Choir from 18 singers to an impressive 110. Bronwen has been instrumental in growing the culture of singing at Herschel. Her meticulous teaching and attention to detail is a great loss to Herschel Prep and she certainly leaves behind a legacy. Thank you Bronwen, we wish you well!

Ms Julie Ward will take up retirement in 2020 after serving the Herschel Prep Music Department for 25 years. She is in many ways the backbone of music at Herschel Prep and will leave an enormous void. Bravo and go well Julie!

The Music Soirée is our formal event on the calendar and was a sophisticated and beautiful evening held in our School Hall, which was transformed into an intimate concert venue with candles, flowers and rugs. This evening showcased our individual talent and girls were selected to perform after an audition process. It also marked the opening of the Prep Art Exhibition which was on display for the remainder of the week. Girls loved dressing up in formal dress and following proper concert etiquette. ♦

Music and Culture is certainly alive and well at Herschel Prep and we congratulate all our performers and teachers on a wonderful 2019.





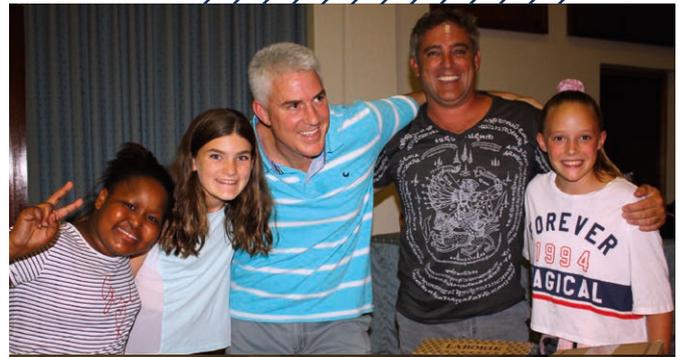


TECHNOLOGY

BY MRS MARGOT ROEBERT

Recent studies show that developing analytical, creative and practical intelligence is the best way to prepare young people for the challenges of the 21st Century. Here, in the Technology classroom, the girls are fortunate to be able to do just that. Before tackling a project, they always learn some practical skills. These are then applied in some way or another. Some of the expertise the girls gained during the course of the year were: the Grade 3s learned to cut, glue, score and sew neatly; the Grade 4s used the junior hacksaw and wooden block to build frame structures; the Grade 5s used the fret saw to build a small container; the Grade 6s applied their knowledge of series and parallel circuits to build a useful toy and the Grade 7s applied their knowledge of levers, hydraulics and pneumatics to build a structure that moves.

Each year the Grade 4 – 7 classes have a special Technology activity that involves the whole grade. The Grade 4s have a STEM afternoon where they are divided up into groups of four and have set activities. This year they had to get a 'helicopter' to fly and a 'rocket' to take off. The Grade 5 Moms and Daughters Evening is a fun evening where the girls make cards and do bead work. The girls love being hostesses and taking care of their mothers on the night. The Grade 6s thoroughly enjoyed being in a team with their dads during the Dads and Daughters Evening. They were required to build a double-storey dolls house out of cardboard boxes that included a roof, a staircase, a circuit and homemade switch. The Grade 7s worked hard during the first term to prepare their craft products for the Grade 7 Fair. Some beautiful jewellery, delightful



cushions and fabulous tie-dyed t-shirts were just a few of the many professionally made and packaged items produced for the day.

I extend my grateful thanks to Mrs Julie, the Technology assistant, whose kind, caring and helpful nature contributes directly to the safety and happy atmosphere that prevails in the classroom.



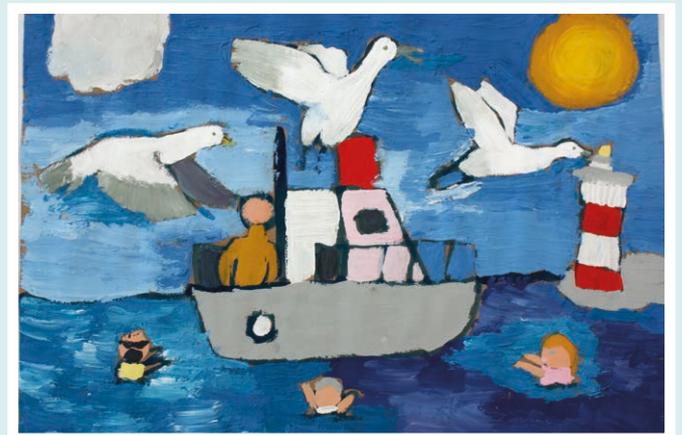
CARLA PLENGE

ART CLUB

BY MRS ANNE FOALE-PRICE

The Art Department at Herschel believes that creativity is fundamental to cognitive development and wholeness. We enjoy exploring different media, subject matter and a variety of formats.

We have done paintings of the snow goose, ballet paintings in tempera powder paint, pop-up artworks, pencil still lifes, figure drawing in black and white, plant studies and clay projects.



SAUSHAN RINQUEST

EARTH ISSUES AND Eco Club

BY MRS MARGOT ROEBERT AND MRS JUDY NEL



The Grade 7 Eco Monitors help raise awareness of issues that threaten our planet. They spoke to the school on Earth Day after which each girl wrote a pledge to the planet on a sticky note. These are displayed in the Library. The Eco Monitors encourage girls to attend beach clean-ups, build ecobricks, collect cans and recycle.

The Eco Club has had some interactive and interesting outings. World Wetlands Day was honored by a visit to Liesbeek River Garden. The session was led by Jeremy Shelton, from Living Labs. The girls looked at the health of the river by surveying the vertebrates and invertebrates in the water.

In February, the girls planted indigenous succulents. They decorated and designed their own planters, using plastic bottles.

An outing to Kirstenbosch Gardens was filled with adventures and learning experiences. Our tour guide spent time enriching the girls with his wealth of knowledge. The added bonus of spending time enjoying the Boomslang, seeing a roosting spotted eagle owl and playing on the lawns made this outing a definite for the 2020 calendar. An excursion to Tokai Forest into the regenerated fynbos area was another highlight of 2019. The girls had to search for specific flowers and insects which were used to compare the biodiversity of the fynbos to the lack of biodiversity in the alien pine plantation.

We are proud of a group of Grade 5s who

initiated a collection of plastic waste in their grade. The girls brought plastic from home and built ecobricks during breaks. The filled bricks were passed on to Montebello and Green Pop.

To date, the Eco Club and their families have enjoyed some interesting hikes. We have walked up to Elephant's Eye, reached the top of Elsie's Peak and enjoyed a meander to Rhodes Memorial from Newlands Fire Station.

We were heartened by the enthusiasm and commitment of the girls. We would like to extend our thanks to those who willingly gave of their time and expertise to enlighten them. May the Eco Club continue to grow in strength and awareness. ♦



INTEGRATED STUDIES

Integrated Studies continues to be an important part of the curriculum at the Preparatory School.

BY **MRS ALISON BAIKOFF, MRS LINDA VAN EYSEN AND MRS ROBYN STAKEMIRE**

Girls from Grades 1 – 5 enjoyed explicit Thinking Skills lessons this year. They were taught to use Thinking Maps and other tools for structuring their thinking. Creativity was an essential component of these lessons and various processes were taught to develop creative thinking. The lessons were interactive and cooperative which helps develop communication and group work skills. The 16 Habits of Mind underpin these lessons and the skills developed are carried over into other classroom activities.

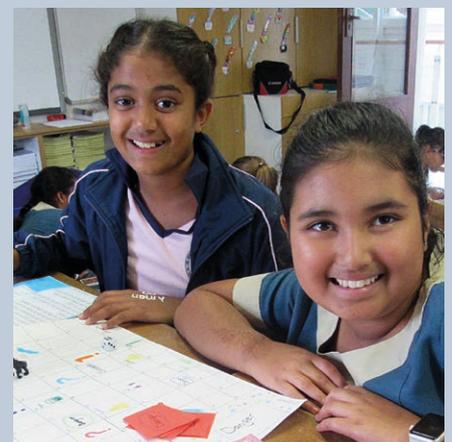
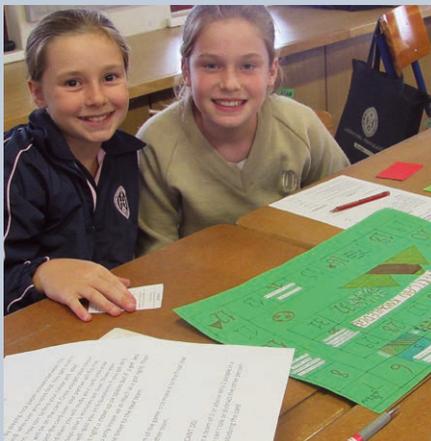
In IT lessons, the Grade 1 – 3s have been introduced to a variety of software to help develop their mouse control and typing skills. The exciting upgrade of the computer laboratory from desktops to laptops has the girls motivated and keen to try using the mouse pad as well as the new operating systems. Basic coding with Purple Mash

is enjoyed by all. Other games are used as consolidation of work learned in class. They are learning to use the internet correctly for research and images. Grade 1s enjoyed being creative using Paint and, among other activities, the Grade 2 and 3 girls have made beautiful cards and bookmarks using Microsoft Publisher. The Grade 3s learned how to communicate using email and have been taught good practice in this regard. iPads are regularly used in classrooms by all the grades for apps and online programmes such as Socrative, iMovie, Reading Eggs and Mathletics.

Both girls and teachers have found the Integrated Studies programme in Grades 4 – 7 to be really valuable as it allows them time to explore topics and issues and learn skills in the context of relevant content. There is also time and opportunity to discuss big questions and learn the valuable skills of

editing and reflection. Coding has continued to be a focus and the girls have learned to code using HTML and JavaScript in addition to the block coding they used when working with the Sphero Sprks and iPads. Girls are encouraged to work using the guided activities and have designed their own websites. This challenging addition to our curriculum has certainly assisted in teaching critical thinking, concentration and perseverance. The enthusiasm once an activity is completed after many attempts, errors and re-thinking is inspiring. This provides enrichment and extension as well as allowing for girls to work at their own pace.

Visible thinking structures as well as computers and iPads continue to be used in Integrated Studies, whenever relevant. Both class teachers and subject specialists are involved in creating and facilitating this exciting, relevant programme. ◊



GRADE 7A



FRONT ROW: R Boyd, A Searson, N Khan, Z Esack, K Mills, A Moonda, A Ashbolt, S Dearnaley, H Wright
MIDDLE ROW: L van der Merwe, R Joshua, G Finlayson, J Hatherill, N de Bruyn, E Aspinall, D Kleingeld, E Du, Mrs S Blake
BACK ROW: K Hodgson, T Deliperi, J Petersen, B Stewart, M Benettolo, C Barton, E Vermaak, G Antrobus, A Bräsler

GRADE 7 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: T Pillay, G du Toit, R Parker, L Gross, A Dharsey, S Sunday, J Ratcliffe, I Stodel, F Hathorn
MIDDLE ROW: O Copeland, M Sainsbury, G Prinsloo, A van Breda, L Mangxola, S Essa, O Sherren, Mrs C Billett
BACK ROW: J Rutgers, N Macey, A de Villiers, A Badenhorst, H Saith, K Formby, Z Darsot, E van Heerden
ABSENT: T Katz, S Ebrahim, R Verspieren



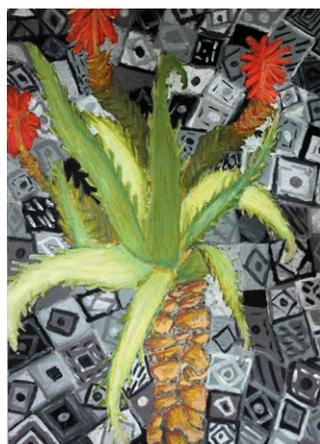
AMELIA BADENHORST



FRANCIS HATHORN



GEMMA PRINSLOO



ZAYNAH DARSOT



ANNA ASHBOLT



KATE FORMBY



GEORGINA ANTROBUS



ROXANNE BOYD



SOFIA DEARNALEY



ROSALIE VERSPIEREN



GEORGIA FINLAYSON



REBECCA JOSHUA

Highlights OF THE GRADE 7 YEAR

BY MRS SHELAGH BLAKE

Grade 7 is always the most exciting year of Preparatory School. All girls served on two of the service portfolios: Monitors, Public Relations, Community Service, Music, Library, Spirit and Eco. In addition to this, girls filled leadership positions such as house and sports captains, and as spirituality leaders. In these roles, girls experienced more than one aspect of leadership and were able to perform essential functions at Herschel. In Family Groups, Grade 7s were also responsible for leading their Grade 1 to Grade 6 family members. The girls learned about leadership styles and played leadership games on a special Leadership Day, where Mr West and Senior School pupil leaders addressed them. After this input, girls were able to confidently step into their service portfolios and leadership roles.

A unique element of Grade 7 was the Little Sister system, where girls were paired up with Grade 1s who enjoyed the benefit of Big Sister wisdom and fun. Girls connected with their little sisters once a week and many developed special relationships.

The Grade 7 Fair was a fun day for the whole school. It was the result of much hard work from the Grade 7s. Weeks were spent researching products, doing market surveys and making goods in Technology and at home. On the day the excitement of dressing up, preparing their stalls, selling wares and offering first-class service was exhausting. The fair brought in a record amount of money for our many Outreach initiatives.

Valentine's Day, celebrated with the boys from WPPS, was hosted by WPPS. Boys and girls solved problems in mixed groups and then enjoyed cupcakes. WPPS

also visited us for line dancing in the fourth term.

As well as the Durban tour and the Grade 7 Camp at High Africa, we also went on two outings and had many visiting speakers. In the second term we visited the Aquarium for a lesson and tour. Our Slave Walk outing took us from the Bo-Kaap Museum, into a mosque, past Slave Murals, the Slave Church and to the Slave Lodge. The Grade 7 assembly was about leaving a legacy worth liking, as opposed to the superficial 'likes' of social media.

The 'Dads and Daughters' soccer and braai function and 'Moms and Daughters' weekend at Elandskloof Farm Cottages were happy occasions for girls and parents. Special events in the fourth term included the Leavers' Day, a Farewell assembly and Dinner at school.

All in all, it has been a busy, enjoyable year of growth for the Grade 7s of 2019. Our thanks goes to all girls for their leadership and service at Herschel. We would like to take this opportunity to wish our girls every success in 2020 and hope that they continue to find happiness as they move on from the Preparatory School.



DURBAN TOUR

BY MRS SHELAGH BLAKE

Grade 7 girls went on an educational tour to Durban from 19 – 22 August. Excited but nervous, they bid farewell to parents and flew to King Shaka Airport. After claiming their luggage they travelled by coach to Gandhi House in Phoenix Settlement, where the tour guide taught them about this humble leader. Umhlanga Beach was the next stop, for a quick paddle in the warm Indian Ocean. After checking in at Umhlanga Ridge City Lodge, they ate supper at Col'cacchio.

On day two, the girls went to the Nelson Mandela capture site for a lesson on this iconic statesman. This was followed by time at Phezulu to learn about Zulu culture and see Zulu dancing; a reptile park visit which included handling constrictors, alligators and lizards; and a game drive to see zebra, giraffe and buck. That evening the girls had dinner at Gateway Mall and went ten-pin bowling.

Wednesday was spent at uShaka Marine World. The girls loved the dolphin and seal shows and learnt about many interesting sea creatures during the aquarium tour. The afternoon was spent having fun on the Wet 'n Wild water rides. The girls enjoyed chats and laughter over a casual dinner at the food court.

The final day included a visit to the Shark Institute before heading to the airport for the flight home. The girls were wildly excited to connect with their parents in Cape Town!



GRADE 7 CAMP TO *High Africa*

BY MRS SHELAGH BLAKE



In February the Grade 7 girls travelled to the High Africa campsite, on the banks of the Breede River near Worcester. Our highly capable guides quickly earned our respect – as much for their abilities to lead us through, over and under any obstacles, as for their huge personalities.

The girls participated in team-building activities like obstacle courses, a climbing wall, out-door puzzles, a night-time treasure hunt, raft building and problem solving. Bonding over peeling vegetables and shared chef duties for the potjiekos competition, decorating the tables, cooking their own roosterkoek over open fires and delicious shared food created happy meal memories. Chilling in shared dormitories, refreshing swims in the river after the extremely hot days and competitive games were wonderful social opportunities. A special highlight was the river rafting: the girls put on life jackets, armed themselves with paddles and paired up, heading out for a day of adventure in inflatable kayaks. Another highlight was the high rope experience where girls bravely clipped themselves into harnesses, climbed twelve metres up, faced their fears on the high ropes and flew through the air on the 'leap-of-faith' trapeze.

The Grade 7s had a remarkable four days away: they grew as individuals, developed leadership skills and formed strong bonds at camp. They supported one another and came back charged and ready for the challenges of Grade 7. ♦



GRADE 7

Creative WRITING

AIR POLLUTION PROBLEM

Us humans are denying;
 Meanwhile our planet Earth is dying.
 We are desperate for a solution
 For all this air pollution.
 It is like we've got a blindfold on
 We can't see what is really going wrong.

This intolerable pollution is not fair
 The poison swimming around in the air;
 Our animals have trouble breathing
 It is our fault that this is what they're receiving.
 Soon there will be no going back
 We need to stay on track.

Try to buy less electricity,
 It will give the air less toxicity.
 All those designer clothes you're taking –
 They are putting smoke into the air whilst in the making.
 We need all the help we can get,
 As our air pollution is a big threat.

KATIE MILLS

DEFORESTATION, THE KILLER OF THE NATION

It's deforestation,
 That's killing our nation.
 We're on the verge
 Of environmental purge...

The amount of tree stripping,
 Is far from dipping;
 But is climbing its way to the top,
 Deforestation must stop!

Trees are crying,
 And soon we'll all be dying.
 CHOP, CHOP, CHOP, CHOP
 Deforestation is non-stop!

The sound of the axes,
 Like knives against the throat;
 Covering our ears?
 Not the antidote.

Oh, green trees,
 Once standing so high,
 Now they are gone,
 And we can't deny.

So I'm just verifying,
 That this is terrifying!
 Its deforestation,
 It's killing our nation...

ELYSIA ASPINALL

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

There is much plastic debris in our ocean,
 Causing catastrophe and commotion.
 It lurks beneath the surface,
 waiting to pound,
 Then BAM! An animal eats all the plastic around.

As dangerous as Gatling guns,
 The average weight of plastic is billions of tons.
 Sinking into our once beautiful ocean,
 Then breaking down into pieces of toxic lotion.

There is, however, a solution for no pollution:

Spread the word and let it be heard – no contamination.
 Don't purchase single-use plastic, throw it in the bin!
 Together we can make a difference, if we all pitch in!

GEORGIA FINLAYSON

I'M JUST A TURTLE

I'm just a turtle,
 How was I supposed to know?
 I thought it was a jellyfish,
 Going with the flow.

I was cruising in the water,
 As hungry as can be,
 I didn't expect something like that
 To be sinking in the sea.

It was around mid-afternoon,
 It started getting late,
 I forced it down in a second,

It was almost as my fate.

It tasted bitter and hard,
 As if it wasn't a fish.
 I started choking up,
 It wasn't a gourmet dish.

The last thing I remember,
 Was a bright, ecstatic light.
 It was gleaming in my face,
 I thought that I might...

ANNA SEARSON

ONE STRAW

One piece of plastic bobbing around
 Slowly, sinking will it ever hit the ground?
 Oh look a silver streak gliding on the ocean bed
 It's with its family and it's trying to get ahead

It's a dolphin, swimming without a care
 But little does she know malnutrition is in the air
 She gets a glimpse of that vibrant green straw
 A fish she thinks, my hunger shall be no more

Away she swims with a flick of her mighty tail
 Ow, what's that, she turns pale, pale because
 Straws, straws, straws is all she sees
 What happened to all the colourful algae

With her last breath and a tear on her cheek
 It's just one straw, seven billion people weep.

ALEXA DE VILLIERS

CATASTROPHIC CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is happening and it's firing up our earth.
 Humans have been driving it since the Industrial Ages' birth.
 From burning fossil fuels for electricity to cutting down trees;
 All humans have triggered the main problem – don't you see?

By producing carbon dioxide we're adding to the Greenhouse Gases-
 Holding in earth's heat and increasing the temperature in great masses.

Throwing off weather patterns and provoking further, more frequent natural disasters,
 Climate change leaves tragic things, like death and injuries,
 needing more than plasters.

As time goes by the severity of this issue will increase;
 Meaning the existence of the biosphere, including humans, will cease.

To save the lives of living things we must limit deforestation,
 We must also implement renewable ways of generating electricity across all nations.

If we do this, we'll save more than just the earth...
 From the danger of the Industrial Ages' birth.

If we don't do this we shall all cease,
 Let us not let the severity of the issue increase!

TASKYA PILLAY

A MELTING ICE AGE

Ice ... Frozen, continental, white structures
 Barren and quiet but home to hundreds of species.
 It floats peacefully on cold water
 Brittle and thin but hard and pure.
 A huge, sleepy giant: quiet and still
 As it sleep-walks across the calm water.

The sun and global warming- its arch army
 Slowly is winning the staggering war.
 An unfreezing: sinking slowly
 Is taking innocent lives with it.
 For animals are drowning; exhausted and tired
 From trying to find a place to rest.

Beautiful, white cliff faces, are crumbling away
 As they watch helplessly at a warming world.
 Their once titanic, proud kingdoms
 Have lost their crown and are pleading for help.
 For the merciless global warming won't stop...
 Only we, can stop a melting ice age.

GABRIELLE DU TOIT

Afrikaans

LENTE

Die lang, koue winter smelt weg
'n enkele rooi voël is vandag
raakgesien.
deur die mis loer die son

Eekhorings is op soek na neutte
nuwe lewe het in die veld en
bos gekom
binne enkele weke sal die rivier
vloei

Blomme op die boom begin gloei
die koue is soos ys wat in die
lug sweef
die winter is weg, maar die
herinneringe is nog steeds daar

Die somer wag 'n paar maande
daarna
om die lug op die veld en
die dam te verwarm

AHLAM DHARSEY

KARNAVAL KLEURE

Dit is 'n karnaval van kleure
En uit kom al die kleure
Hulle kom van die sonskyn
Nou gaan die wolke verdwyn

Daar is 'n reënboog in die lug
dit is pienk soos aarbeie vrug.
Groen soos gras
soos die kinders in die klas.

Soet, suur smaak van geel
dit lyk soos 'n kleurvolle sambreel.
Sout soos die seë

Het turkoois vir my gegee

Dit was alles baie pret
Ek wens ek kon al die kleure
wegneem,
in 'n net.

JAMIE RUTGERS

MY MA

jou arms is altyd oop
jou lieflike drukkie wat my
styf vashou
jou spesiale goeie nag soentjie
'n skouer waarop ek kan huil
jou soete woorde
jou sang is musiek vir 'n voël
die soetste lied wat ek nog
ooit gehoor het
vir my is jy soos 'n blom

so delikaat en mooi
Jy het my lewe verander
deur eenvoudig daar te wees.

TAYLA KATZ

NATUUR OP SY BESTE

Natuur op sy beste
Is die beste ervaring
Die wind is 'n wolf,
Die wolke huil.

Natuur op sy beste
Is die beste ervaring
Die sonsopkoms skyn
Die sonsondergaan gee kleur

Natuur op sy beste
Is die beste ervaring
Reëndruppels op my kop
Die vars oseaanbriesie

Natuur op sy beste
Is die beste ervaring
Die blou lig
Die helder sterre

Natuur op sy beste
Is die heel beste ervaring
Maar as die wêreld dit nie besef-
Sal hierdie ervaring verdwyn...

JESSICA RATCLIFFE

DIE WINTERSAAND

Die lug is so donker soos
'n donker gat
Die grond is so wit soos 'n bladsy
Die wêreld is rustig op
hierdie wintersaand
niemand rondom my
nie 'n geluid om te hoor nie.

nie 'n lag nie, nie 'n motor nie
selfs nie 'n voël nie
vir 'n oomblik is dit net die sneeu
en ek glimlag binne
ek voel so vry.

HANNAH WRIGHT

DIE TOORKUNS TUIN

Ek loop in die nag,
Tot by die toorkuns tuin,
Waar alles stil is,
En die sterre skyn.

Terwyl ek rondkyk,
hoor ek baie klanke,
Die paddas kwaak,
So ek bly 'n bietjie langer.

Die vuurvliegies se gloeilampe,
skyn en blink.
Hulle vlieg rond,
in 'n dans dink ek.

Die sprinkelende water,
Is so koud soos ys.
Ek word nou moeg.
Ek gaan nou tuis.

TIA DELIPERI

DIE STRAND

Kom strand toe
waar die see blou is
en die klein wit golwe
kom aangehardloop na jou toe.

'n Golf kom spat
oor jou tone
dit is yskoud.
En weg is dit.

Ons sal kastele bou
so hoog soos die die lug
en kyk vir skulpe
as jy na die see sal kom.

JESSICA PETERSEN

WINTER

Die lug is donker en
Die grond is nat
Die wêreld is vreedsaam.
Dit is soos stil soos 'n huis.
Die wind het gesis en gebrul.
Daar is nie son of golwe.
Daar is geen reën en wind.
Vir 'n oomblik is dit net die reën
en ek.

Ek glimlag vir 'n sekonde.

Ek voel so vry.

NICOLA DE BRUYN

MY EERSTE RESIES

My eerste resies het so begin,
Die fluitjie blaas... ons het begin!
"Dit is groot hierdie grasgroen
baan!"
"Dit voel asof my asem net te
min is."

My veter is los ek struikel en val,

Doef! Eina! My arm is seer!
Almal sien my en dink ek is mal,
Dit was 'n bitter dag vir my en
my eer.

Een ding is virseker.
Van nou af net beter.

ELEN VERMAAK

LEWE

As die wêreld aanhou draai
As die son aanhou skyn
As die maan aanhou gloei
As ons lewe aanhou gaan

Maar wat gebeur as dit ophou?
Gaan tyd stilstaan?
Sal ons spanning en bekommerse
weggaan vir 'n minuut?

Sal al die sterre nog skyn?
Sal dit nog steeds reën soos
katte en honde?
Sal dit nog so vars soos die wind
wat waai wees?

Miskien....

Maar vir nou gaan ek nie
bekommerd wees nie
Vir nou gaan ek net leef

RAZEENAH PARKER

WINTER

Winter is die koudste seisoen
Maande met donker oggende
Die hele dag is mense binne besig
met vure, verwarmers en
komberse.

Daar is reën, hael, wind en
baie mistig
Reëndruppels so hard soos
geweerskote

In die lug is daar pikswart wolke
en nou en dan daar is donker,
diep donderweer

Die dag is yskoud, en ys teen
my venster
Ek hou baie van warm sjokolade.

KATE HODGSON

PAD NA JOU HART

As part of the Media Studies lesson in the second term, the Grade 7s watched an Afrikaans film called *Pad Na Jou Hart* starring Ivan Botha and Donnalee Roberts. The actors then visited the girls! The girls had an opportunity to review and analyse the film as well as to ask the actors questions relating to the movie. Donnalee also treated the girls to an inspirational talk about life as an actress and the hard work it takes to make it in the industry.

GRADE 6A



FRONT ROW: M Brey, H Rajie, E Brodziak, E van Zyl, J Turck, A Rahme, S Hendricks, L Rothschild, L Sherwood, I Kepelele
MIDDLE ROW: J Koller, C Hughes, K van Schalkwyk, S Flint, G Ovenstone, K Cadiz, A Coquelle, Z Böttger, I Lappin, Mrs A Lewis
BACK ROW: G Mulder, J Lückhoff, M Else, G Sierra-Rubia, P Dower, G Sales, L Pithey

GRADE 6 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: G Fürst, G Currie, K Seymour, S Mohamed, Z Bhorey, K Buissinne, S Rossouw, E Swart, Z Douglas
MIDDLE ROW: B Madonko, S Vickers, K Böttger, S Dore, S Sierra Rubia, O Sparks, C Walker, C Kleye, Ms L Cowie
BACK ROW: M Franks, E Magrath, M Ebrahim, S Rinquest, I Barbour, M Govender, O Emmerich, I Lindsay, C Karimi-Tabesh



CHARLIZE KARIMI-TABESH



GEMMA FURST



KAYLIN SEYMOUR



OLIVIA EMMERICH



SAMANTHA DORE



SOFIA SIERRA RUBIA



AMBER RAHME



SYRIANA MOHAMED



MASEEHA EBRAHIM



EMILY VAN ZYL



GRACE MULDER



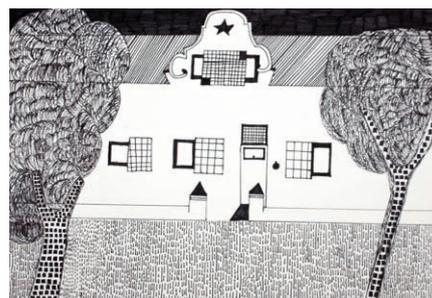
AVA COUELLE



INGE KEPELELE



EMMA BRODZIAK



LAUREN SHERWOOD

Poems

GIRL

Active, small
Eating, playing, growing
School, homework, work,
parent
Working, travelling,
sleeping
Adventurous, responsibility

WOMAN

JULIA LÜCKHOFF

CHRISTMAS

Bright, colourful
Cooking, eating, giving,
Family, presents, friends,
sweets

Take, frighten, receive
Spooky, blood

HALLOWEEN

ZARA BÖTTGER

FRIEND

Funny, kind
Laughing, talking,
supporting
Sleepovers, playdates,
gangs, fights
Teasing, pushing, hurting

Mean, rude

BULLY

MEGAN ELSE

GIRLS

Quiet, neat
Sing, tickle, gentle
Flowers, netball, rugby,
knives
Shout, push, rough
Messy, loud

BOYS

SAMANTHA FLINT

RAIN

Cold, wet
Pouring, thrashing, raining
Umbrella, raincoat,
outdoors, sunshine
Playing, sweating, shining
Warm, bright

SUN

EMMA BRODZIAK

NIGHT

Peaceful, quiet
Sleeping, resting, dreaming
Stars, moon, sun, clouds
Busy, active, thinking
Hustling, loud

DAY

AMBER RAHME

SUN

Hot, bright
Burning, sizzling, shining
Fire, lava, rocks, sand
Floating, moving,
crumbling
Cold, dark

MOON

SAUSHAN RINQUEST

STAR

Small, bright
Twinkling, shining,
sparkling
Sky, galaxy, earth, ball
Heating, boiling, steaming
Hot, heat

SUN

SIENNA ROSSOUW

SUNRISE

Early, light
Coming, rising, flying
Sun, breakfast, shade,
dinner
Sinking, drooping, leaving
Late, dark

SUNSET

CATHERINE WALKER

MOUNTAIN

Craggy, colossal
Enclosing, watching,
protecting
Rocks, snow, sand, sea
Splashing, swaying,
swimming
Beautiful, peaceful

ISLAND

SYRIANA MOHAMED

SCHOOL

Noisy, busy
Writing, reading, thinking
Books, classrooms,
planes, beaches
Playing, relaxing, flying
Bright, exciting

HOLIDAYS

CHARLIZE KARIMI-TABESH



GRADE 6 CAMP REPORT

BY MS LINDA COWIE



On Wednesday 5 February, the Grade 6 classes left on their annual camp to Wortelgat campsite, outside Stanford. During the mini Amazing Race and water relay, the girls were introduced to their team members, where they were taught to trust each other and work together. After the water relay, each group chose a Mud Princess to represent them in the Wortelgat Miss Mud Queen competition. Sienna Rossouw, Grace Sales, Julia Lückhoff and Leah Rothschild were chosen. They then had to be dressed by their group and presented to the judges. Leah was selected as the Wortelgat Miss Mud Queen and her first duty was to start the mud fight! After a swim to wash off the mud, the girls had free time before supper. Evening games were held in the hall before the highlight of the evening, Stalk the Lantern.

Thursday dawned warm and windy. After breakfast, the groups did a rotation of stations – chimney climbing, Chinese puzzle/memory game and kayaking netball. It was wonderful to see the girls encouraging each other as they overcame the challenge of climbing the chimney. Kayaking netball was huge fun as the girls paddled into reeds and collided into one another as they tried to score goals. After a busy morning a chicken burger, chips and some salad filled the empty tummies. The afternoon activities were held in the shade because of the heat. Co-operation and listening skills were put to the test as the groups completed fun games. After a delicious braai, it was time for the Owl Trail hike which ended with everyone sitting quietly looking at the amazing Milky Way and reflecting about the camp.

The girls were up early packing bags and cleaning rooms. After a camp 'chicken' clean-up the facilitators spoke to the girls about trusting each other, listening and working together. With the arrival of the bus, the Grade 6 camp was over and 54 weary passengers climbed aboard for the trip home.



In Term 2 our theme for Afrikaans was plastiek besoedeling. Girls had to research and report on their findings. The girls wrote very insightful essays.

In Term 3 we did idiomatic expressions. Grade 6A and Alpha displayed the literal meaning of their idiomatic expressions. They had great fun learning and displaying their posing skills.



Die kat uit sak laat

LIEWE TOEKOMSTIGE GESLAG

Ek dink dat ek namens almal praat as ek sê ons is jammer...

Ek is jammer dat ons julle met 'n besoedelde planeet gelos het.

Jammer dat ons te vasgevang was in ons eie lewens om iets vir die planeet te doen.

Ek hoop dat julle ons kan vergewe. Ons het net nie besef hoe spesiaal die planeet was nie, wat ons gehad het nie... totdat dit te laat was.

Dit maak my baie hartseer, want vandag gee niemand meer om oor die toekoms van ons planeet nie.

Ek is jammer...

Maar wag! Dalk is dit tog nie te laat nie...

Miskien kan ons tog iets doen om die planeet te red.

Ons kan die volgende doen:

- Gebruik papier koppies eerder as plastiek koppies.
- Geen plastieke sakke. Koop herbruikbare inkopiesakke.
- Geen plastiese strooitjies nie

En as jy dink dat jy dit nie alleen kan doen nie, dan moet jy weet dat as ons almal saamstaan sal ons dit wel kan doen.

Sarah Palin het gesê dat as ons onself die vraag afvra of ons hou van die reuk van fossielbrandstof, moet ons eers die vraag stel aan die kinders van Beijing vra wat maskers oppad skool toe dra.

Ignoreer dit as jy wil, maar JOU kinders sal eendag sukkel om 'n normale lewe te lei terwyl die aarde onder hulle voete sterf. Ons wil almal 'n toekoms hê. Vir ons en ons nageslag.

Red die aarde nou!

ISABELLA LINDSAY



Hang aan 'n tak



Praat 'n hond uit 'n bos uit



Die aap uit die mou laat



Dit reën katte en honde



Jy moet jou sokkies optrek



Storm in teekoppie

GRADE 5A



FRONT ROW: J Bassa, R Teixeira, I Rautenbach, A Bailey, I Parring, A Böttger, D Rajoo, K Slingers, S Ashbolt, K Totaram-Jacobs, C Ratcliffe
MIDDLE ROW: G Efstathiou, A Janoodien, A Moonda, M Dahya, A Murray, T Toll, E Mills, C Morkel, Mrs A Mozley
BACK ROW: R Bhagoo, N Oaker, N Roberts, I Vandeyar, G Meyer, J Mahabeer, S-J Harrison

GRADE 5 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: S Holwill, E Stodel, T Ebrahim, A Ovendale, N Heyns, G Stodel, Z Abraham-Moakes, T Rycroft, L Sixoto, I Moolla
MIDDLE ROW: S Lobert, S Nimb, N Wides, F Bellairs, A Keers, A Efstathiou, H van Heerden, N Harnekar
BACK ROW: M Coquelle, A Lashbrooke, R Murray, M Munting, K Dube, T Varney, S Leinberger
ABSENT: C Jacobs



ALICE KEERS



JUWAIIRYA BASSA



SOPHIA LOBERT



ALEXANDRA OVENDALE



KELELLO DUBE



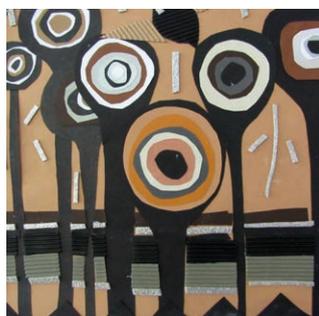
RACHEL MURRAY



SOPHIE LEINBERGER



AMAN MOONDA



ABIGAIL BÖTTGER



GABRIELLE MEYER



RIO TEIXEIRA



ALEXANDRA MURRAY



ALICE BAILEY



CHARLOTTE JACOBS

GRADE 5 *Creative writing*

THE POSSESSED PENCIL

I opened the zipper,
and my pencil ran out.
It ran to the page
And scribbled all about.

“Wipee!” it screamed,
As it danced across the page.
“I’m as free as a bird,
I’m a lion full of rage.”

I doodled, dashed off and drew.
My pencil snapped in two.
I didn’t care about that pencil,
I’ve got another ten,
But my pencils are possessed
So I think I’ll stick with pen.

GABRIELLA EFSATHIOU

HORRENDOUS HEAP

I’m getting a new car
All just for me.
I’ve been excited all day
Buzzing like a bee.

I’ve been waiting all day
And then I hear the phone
It’s sitting in the driveway
For when I get home.

I pull up in the driveway
Smiling with glee
And I think a second
Is that old car for me?

I take it on the highway
But then it screeches to a halt.
This car is a dumpster!
What a horrible, heavy heap to heave home.

SARAH ASHBOLT

THE SMELLY STINKY GARBAGE BIN

Have you ever wondered why
When the moon shines in the darkened sky
The alley cats lurk in the dark
Smelly, stinky, smiling like sharks.

It was the bin (and between you and me)
To the cats it was like the bin was calling,
“Come, come to me.”
The cats jumped in, meowing with glee
All because of no wait, you’ll see.

Inside a garbage bag you’ll find
A banana peel as old as time.
Grilled tomato from yesterday’s dinner,
Cold potato, chicken liver.



Bits of meals that nobody ate,
Muffins like rocks,
Old fishing bait.
All these horrors lurk within
The stinky smelly garbage bin.

ALEXANDRA MURRAY

SARAH THE SOGGY SANDWICH

Sarah the soggy sandwich sobs all day
and night
But when her owner threw her away, she
didn’t put up a fight.
Sarah the soggy sandwich is as bright as
Stephen Hawking
Though she may as well be a baby because
she’s always bawling.
Sarah the soggy sandwich has lots of
friends in the garbage bag
But she’s always crying. I would think she
would be glad.
Her friend Reginald the rotten roti is
basically a puppy
And she’s always wondered whether he
would taste yummy.
Sarah the soggy sandwich is now a
mountain of mould,
How on earth did the garbage guy allow
Sarah to become so old?

KATHERINE SLINGERS





MY GRANDPA'S RUSTY ROLLS ROYCE

My grandpa's old car doesn't go very far
 But he insists we take it for a ride
 It's like an old rusty garbage can
 But my grandpa just doesn't understand.

He turns the key and it coughs and splutters,
 Then a wheel falls off into the gutters.
 Surprisingly we've been going for a while
 But certainly not in style!

The engine bolts to stop,
 We're causing traffic and oh no, here's a cop!
 The car's an old man, just like my grandpa,
 If my grandpa got a new one, I'd say he's a STAR!

CHARLOTTE JACOBS

AMY'S PENCIL

Amy's pencil is like a sword
 She sharpens it every time she is bored,
 The pencils dread that sharp machine
 But it is the devil and it reigns supreme.
 The pencils plead for peace
 But the sharpener won't let them speak!
 All her pencils are gone by May
 But she gets a new pack the very same day.
 And so the cycle starts again,
 I hope one day that this ends!

NINA WIDES

BEAUTIFUL, BOLD BEATLE

My mother owns a car
 It's very old you see
 It's an ancient Beatle
 She drives it to the sea.

When she turns the car on
 It lets out a moan
 Then she sees the petrol's out
 And she lets out a groan.

The car is a red rose
 As it shines in the sun
 Although it looks small and neat
 It weights like a ton!

SOPHIE LEINBERGER



THE TERRIFYING TRASHCAN

Oh no, I'm trapped!
 Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy
 I really need a way out
 And there's this creepy toy!

This trashcan has a mind of its own,
 It likes to grin and it likes to groan.
 Aaaaah! He's a beast!
 He looks like he wants me as a feast!

He smells so bad like an awful stench,
 Now I wish I at least had a wrench.
 All I can say is that I really feel bad,
 I hope my parents aren't too mad!

AMY LASHBROOKE

GRADE 4A



BACK ROW: A Deering, T Tutu, Z Khan, A Dillon, A Bassett, A van Sittert, S Padoa, T Nair, K Lin
MIDDLE ROW: Mrs S Centurier-Harris, D Naidoo, C Plenge-Mantell, N Brogan, J Swain, F Boyd, S Boshoff, S Lashbrooke, L Mulder
FRONT ROW: G Nicklin, T Daniels, C Lobert, A Hendricks, C Fürst, L Mandindi, I Thompson, O Peter, L van der Spuy

GRADE 4 ALPHA



BACK ROW: C Antrobus, R Koller, E Carter, A Wareham, T Mozley, J Bosch, S Turner, C Emmerich, J Formby
MIDDLE ROW: O Loggenberg, C Swart, L Calana, T Todd, L Böttger, F Leinberger, C Petersen, Z Sirkot, Mrs T McGee
FRONT ROW: Z Douglas, B West, E van Lierop, J Marshall, J Martin, J Fair, A Mohamed, L Watson, A Sherren
ABSENT: L Adonis



LUCY MULDER



LILY WATSON



STELLA BOSHOFF



AMARAH MOHAMED



JOSEPHINE FAIR



JESSICA MARTIN



COCO LOBERT



LIHLOMBE MANDINDI



LAUREN VAN DER SPUY



ISABELLA THOMPSON



TEAGAN MOZLEY



JESSICA BOSCH



LOLA BÖTTGER



GRADE 4

We are proud to be women because...

» We fought for our rights. Women are strong and inspiring and we can change the world. We as women don't stop believing in ourselves. We stay as a team. We believe we can all be great. Women are unique and passionate. We inspire other people with everything we do, we help people to make better choices. Women are one of the greatest things God created.

JENNA FORMBY, REBECCA KOLLER, SOPHIA TURNER, ZARNA DOUGLAS AND ANNA SHERREN

» They are persistent. They never give up even when times are tough. They are confident, because they believe in themselves. They hope things will get better. Women are priceless and you can never replace them. They are so special. Women are iron strong. They have kind hearts and are determined to reach their goals. They are passionate and they know that they can do whatever they want, all they need to do is try.

JAMIE MARSHALL, JOSEPHINE FAIR, AMARAH MOHAMED AND ELLA CARTER

» Women are not afraid to show who they are. Women think about others before themselves. Women stand up for what they believe in. All women are loving and equal. Women are gentle, they are creative and kind. Women find the bright side of life even when they are having a bad time. Women are strong and loving. Women are unique and were born to be leaders.

JESSICA MARTIN, ALEXIS WAREHAM, CHLOË EMMERICH AND OPHELIA LOGGENBERG

» We are extremely talented, we believe in ourselves and never give up. We are bold, brave and not afraid to be unique. We make the future bright.

CARLA PLENGE-MANTELL, SOPHIE PADOA, LAUREN VAN DER SPUY AND AISHA HENDRICKS

» We are powerful. We can just be ourselves. We believe there is no difference between men and women. We are proud because women do amazing things. Women are artistic and unique. They can also do anything they put their minds to.

NEVE BROGAN, ISABELLA THOMPSON, ONATHI PETER AND ASHLEY BASSETT

» We do whatever we put our minds to. We are brave and fierce and very smart.

FLEUR BOYD, DEVANYA NAIDOO, TIFFANY TUTU AND ZAHRA KHAN

» We can believe and achieve. Men can put us down and we will get up again. Each and every one of us has a talent and we are perfect the way we are. We are passionate, persistent and nothing can stop us. We are brave, bold, beautiful and bright.

JULIA SWAIN, TAMIKA NAIR, LUCY MULDER AND KADYN LIN



GRADE 3A



FRONT ROW: L Slatter, A Nqayi, L Arnold, C Hund, P Madonko, N Gopal, R Watson, F Janoodien, J Naidoo
MIDDLE ROW: C Prain, A Hundermark, N Kerbelker, J Collins, D Land, A Jacobs, A Tresfon, S Ferguson, H Ebrahim, Miss Z Khan
BACK ROW: J O'Brien, E Raubenheimer, I Ganyeka, L Howe, A Cloete-Hopkins, R Lumb, C Campbell
ABSENT: O Maskew

GRADE 3 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: E Slatter, E Floquet, S Keers, R Liddell, C Heinamann, D Mclvor, A Moolla, I Manuel, I Gafoor, F A-Razzak
MIDDLE ROW: G Ludlam, S O'Connor, I Saville, G Wessels, G Bosini, H Mustapha, L van Zyl, Ms H King
BACK ROW: CG Henriques, H Hendricks, A Weir, M Petersen, E Hacking, A Thacker, R Rinquest, H Potgieter
ABSENT: S Pinyana



ASHLEE HUNDERMARK



CAITLIN CAMPBELL



EMILY RAUBENHEIMER



HANNAH EBRAHIM



DYLAN LAND



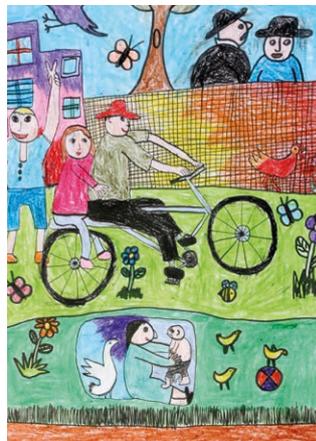
GEORGIA WESSELS



AMELIA WEIR



CHLOE HEINAMANN



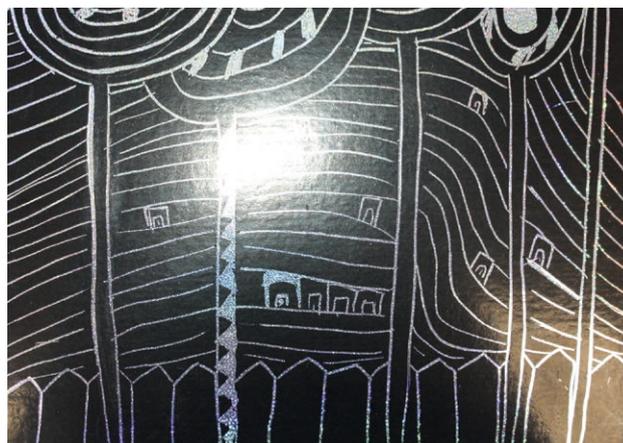
HANNAH POTGIETER



EVA HACKING



OLIVIA MASKEW



STELLA KEERS



GRADE 3A
WHAT I KNOW
FOR SURE...

» I know never to play the piano with your baby sister on your lap because when the piano lid falls it will fall on your baby sister's hands. **AYANA NQAYI**

» I know that you should never go to the toilet and sit down before checking if there is toilet paper. **LAYYAH ARNOLD**

» I know you should never let your uncle push you on the swing, uncles always get carried away and you will land up in the tree. **LAYLA SLATTER**

» Don't let your dad buy you chocolate as a treat after a hockey match as it will contain alcohol. **ISABELLE GANYEKA**

» Always listen to your Mom and Dad's warnings about never standing on a hockey ball, trust me I gave it a go and sprained my ankle. **LILY JACOBS**

» I know you should never lean over a toaster waiting for the toast to pop because when it does it will jump up and cut you in the eye. **SCOUT FERGUSON**

» I know that you should never try and make tea when the kettle is full with boiling water, you will spill it and burn yourself. **FARHEEN JANOODIEN**

» I know that if you fall off the swing and onto your tummy all the air will leave your lungs at once and you will not be able to get it back for over 10 seconds, plus it's pretty painful. **OLIVIA MASKEW**

» I know you should never leave chocolate lying around for more than two days or your Dad will eat it. **HANNAH EBRAHIM**

» If you want to keep the luxury in your luxury Mauritius holiday then don't pick up a sea cucumber you find in the ocean and squeeze it! **JESSIE COLLINS**

» I know never to run down the escalator and not hold onto the railing – you will fall and you will cut your face open. **AVA TRESFON**

» I know you should never lean over the stove to watch your mother melting chocolate for chocolate strawberries because you will singe your hair on the stove and that is the worst smell you will ever smell. **EMILY RAUBENHEIMER**

» Always check to make sure the coast is clear before sticking your hand in the Nutella jar because if

your Dad is behind you, you will have no TV for a week. **RUBY LUMB**

» I have learnt never to ask your parents how babies are made... because it is a disgusting story!

CAITLIN CAMPBELL

» I have learnt to always check the brakes on your bike before riding down a hill or you might land up in a pond. **JASMIYA NAIDOO**

» I know you should never get a pillow and try to slide down the stairs because you are likely to hit cement at the bottom.

CHRISTINA HUND

» I know to always check the expiry date on food before tucking in because it can make you really ill. **NURAH KERBELKER**

» I know that you should always ask your Dad first if you want chocolate because he will always say yes, if you ask your Mom first she will always say no.

NATHEERAH GOPAL

» I know never to go too slowly on your bike without your hands on the handle bars because you will just fall. **ARYANA CLOETE-HOPKINS**

» I know that you should never stand on the trampoline and ask your brother to push you because he will push you right off the trampoline. **JADE O'BRIEN**

» I know that when you are camping you should never sit on the toilet without checking inside the toilet bowl because you might end up with a cockroach on your bottom. **CHLOE PRAIN**

» I know never to hop in a pram at the top of the stairs if you haven't checked if the brakes are on because you will end up in a heap at the bottom of the stairs with a broken arm. **ASHLEE HUNDERMARK**

» I know that you should always brush your hair before going to bed and when waking up because if you don't it will get tangled and matted and you will have to cut it all off. **LILY HOWE**

» I know that having white linen is a no-no when you have a cat about to give birth because they will find a good spot on your bed to have her kittens. **RUBY WATSON**

» I have learnt that you shouldn't bother your au pair on a hot day, when she is quite obviously hot and bothered as she'll take it out on you and is most likely to explode. **DYLAN LAND**



GRADE 3 ALPHA THINGS I HAVE LEARNT...

» I have learnt not to try and walk down the stairs in your mom's high heels otherwise you will find yourself at the bottom of the stairs. **EMELIA SLATTER**

» I have learnt not to tell your brothers where you hide your piggy bank otherwise your money will be all gone. **CHLOE HEINAMANN**

» I learnt if you are thirsty to not drink out of my mom's water bottle because it's full of healthy stuff like ginger and lemon. Yuck! **FATIMA A-RAZZAK**

» I learnt never to play in a pig sty or think you can ride a pig or you will end up covered in mud. **ELLA FLOQUET**

» I learnt never to chase my brother in the road or you might end up face down eating concrete with a black eye. **AMELIA WEIR**

» I learnt never to play on the jungle gym on a rainy day or you will end up with a bruised body. **AYESHA MOOLLA**

» I learnt never to eat sweets around bees because either they will try to steal them or sting you. **HUDA MUSTAPHA**

» I learnt never to walk on the beach without flip flops or you will get glass in your feet. **GRACE LUDLAM**

» I have learnt to never use an old shower or it will be raining glass. **MICAELA PETERSEN**

» I learnt never to get into my dad's car without his permission or you will by mistake let the clutch go and the car will move forward. **SIBULELE PINYANA**

» I learnt never to slide the lock of the front door closed whilst your family is outside with the key or you will be stuck inside all alone. **IMAAAN MANUEL**

» I learnt never to swim at the beach when the waves are really big or you will end up with sand in your costume and being dumped. **GEORGIA WESSELS**

» I learnt never to live in a flat

with lots of stairs and walk down them when they are wet or you will fall and break your ankle.

LIAH VAN ZYL

» I learnt to never eat grass because I am not a rabbit and I will throw it up. **REBECCA LIDDELL**

» I learnt never to eat Lego bricks because they don't make a good snack. **EVA HACKING**

» I learnt never to mess around on a gym bar or else you will end up writing with your left hand. **ISABELLA SAVILLE**

» I learnt never to sit close to your brother when he is waving a hockey stick around or you will end up with a bruised eyebrow. **HANIA HENDRICKS**

» I've learnt never to go outside when they are installing a Jojo tank or you will fall into muddy water. **STELLA KEERS**

» I've learnt never to eat candle wax because I cannot make a flame. **GABRIELLA BOSINI**

» I learnt always to listen to my mom and if she tells you not to climb a high wall, don't otherwise you will end up in hospital. **SINÉAD O'CONNOR**

» I learnt never to go too close to the pool on a cold winter's day or your sister might push you in. **IMAN GAFOOR**

» I learnt not to eat crackers and biltong together, it tastes disgusting. **AMY THACKER**

» I learnt not to hide chocolate in your onesie or you might end up with a forever brown onesie. **RANA RINQUEST**

» I learnt never to play around a pool, if you don't know how to swim, and your brother loves to play tricks on you. **CARA GRACE HENRIQUES**

» I've learnt never to ski with an Italian boy on holiday or he might "fall" in love with you. **DANIELA MCIVOR**

» I learnt never to eat biltong around your dog or their puppy face will have you sharing all of it. **HANNAH POTGIETER**



GRADE 2A



FRONT ROW: H Mohamood, S Govender, N Baloyi, C Böttger, A Daniels, Z Govender, C Ratheb, S von Seidel, A Joseph
MIDDLE ROW: Mrs K Parker-Muzzell, D Naidoo, K Millar, I Hersov, A Grey, L Devlin, E Warner, Z O'Connor
BACK ROW: C Koen, G Welsh, O Mundy, O van Sittert, D Campbell, L Costa, O Gqamana, J Durrant
ABSENT: F Clark

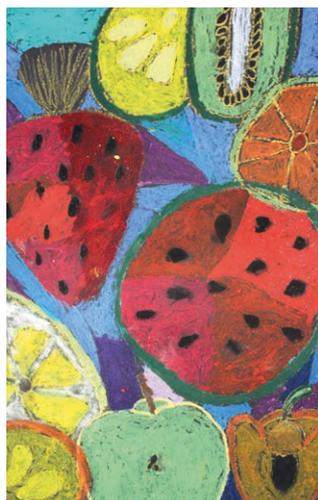
GRADE 2 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: E Buckham, R Shaboodien, A Chagan, I Brogan, M Rahim, K Kalil, K Daya-Feasey, M Pharo
MIDDLE ROW: Mrs J Nel, L Senol, A Wareham, G Ferguson, I Levy, S Ebrahim, J Horn, M van der Spuy, R Boyes
BACK ROW: K Lowther, E Capper, J Smit, L Cotterell, C Viljoen, C Plummer, S Sickle, I Slingsby, S van Zyl



IONA SLINGSBY



JAIME SMIT



KATINKA LOWTHER



SOPHIA-ROSE SICKLE



IMOGEN BROGAN



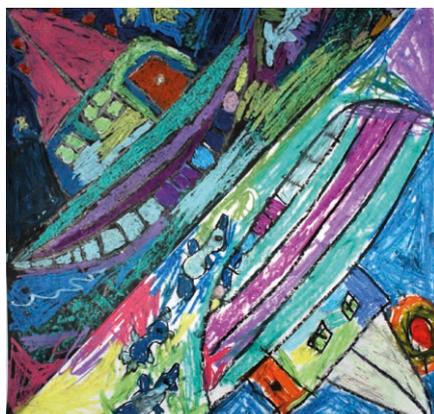
KAREENA DAYA-FEASEY



RAYA SHABOODIEN



DANA CAMPBELL



CALIA RATHEB



OLIVIA MUNDY



ANNABEL GREY



CLAUDIA BÖTTGER



AYESHA JOSEPH

Our thoughts in Grade Two...

GRADE 2A

I WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT...

» I wish I knew more about animals, because I love them and I don't want them to be endangered. I want to be a vet one day! **DANA CAMPBELL**

» I wish I knew more about my home, because when I have babies I need to know what to do. **FAYE CLARK**

» I would love to know more about instruments. Someone invented instruments, so how did they make all the different chords? It is so difficult to learn to play an instrument, so imagine trying to make an instrument. It would be so complicated!

ANNABEL GREY

» I wish I knew more about the world, because I don't know everything! **AYESHA JOSEPH**

» I wish I knew more about Katy Perry and Taylor Swift, because I just love their music and they look so pretty! **KATE MILLAR**

» I wish I knew more about dancing, because I love dancing. It is so much fun! **ZARA O'CONNOR**

» I wish I knew more about Art, because I am creative. **OLIVIA VAN SITTERT**

THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE ARE...

» my family and friends because they love and care for me. My education so that I can learn and my teacher because she helps me move on with life. **NSOVO BALOYI**

» my mom and dad, my sister and my brother. I love them so so much! **LILY COSTA**

» my family is the best family ever! They are always helpful and my brother plays with me every day – well, most days. The people who don't have money are important too. I want to give them money! **JESSICA DURRANT**

» my family because they are encouraging, kind, sweet and thoughtful. Also my friends and my pets are pretty special too. My cat died when I was four and I still miss the things



we did together. My other pet follows me every five minutes! **HANAA MOHAMOOD**

» my friends and family because they help me when I am sad. The sea animals because they are dying because of plastic and the world because it is our home and we live on it. **SOPHIE VON SEIDEL**

» I think the most important things in life are manners and forgiveness, and family and friends. And of course my teacher, the world and my pets too! **EMMA WARNER**

I HOPE...

» I hope that I have kids and a family one day. I hope I have a job as an actor or a tennis player when I grow up and I hope for a good generation that will stop using plastic.

CLAUDIA BÖTTGER

» I hope that there will not be a drought and that people will have food. I hope that the world would be happier and that people will not steal. I hope that you look after the world!

ARIANA DANIELS

» I hope that nothing will go wrong in everyone's life and I hope that my friend and I make a good book together. **LILAH DEVLIN**

» I hope that the world stops using plastic, that children feel better, that people can have food and that the whole world can be happy!

SATARA GOVENDER

» I hope that everyone loves one another in the world! **OLIVIA MUNDY**

» I hope that my family is always safe and that I grow up and have fun! **CALIA RATHEB**

DID YOU KNOW?...

» that my Dad met Nelson Mandela and they were best friends! **OWETU GQAMANA**

» that a pig can't look at the sky and that my hamster baths in sand. **ZARA GOVENDER**

» I love my life, it just can't get any better!

INARA HERSOV

» that in the olden days cars only cost R20!

CHARLOTTE KOEN

» that clouds are made out of water and if you want to jump on a cloud then you will fall through! **DARIA NAIDOO**

» that when my granny was little, her brother hit her with a cricket bat in the head and when they went to the doctor there was no light. Her dad had to shine the car light and the doctor fixed her head with a needle and horse's hair. **GIA WELSH**





GRADE 2 ALPHA MINDFULNESS IS...

» when you are very stressed and your head is full of worries. You take a few moments to calm yourself and think about things that you like. **AMÉLIE HARDRES-WILLIAMS**

» when you lie and listen to music. When my mom does it she will never wake up. You need to trust me on this one!

ALANA WAREHAM

» when you need to throw the bad things out and don't shout at them and just relax.

RAYA SHABOODIEN

» all in your mind. It is what you imagine and you are very peaceful and quiet, like meditating. **LALE-RANA SENOL**

» relaxing feelings like happiness and thoughtfulness. Just closing your eyes and thinking of kind words to make another person's day. **IONA SLINGSBY**

» when you are thinking about a lot of things and it is all in your mind. There you are thinking but you don't want to get a headache, so you calm down a bit and you feel so much better. **SOPHIE VAN ZYL**

» that if you are stressed, lie on the bed for ten minutes. Everyone is the same in the inside, but not the same on the outside.

SAFIYA EBRAHIM

» when you have a feeling that makes you clam up and you go to a peaceful room and breathe out your sad colours and breathe in your happy colours. **SOPHIA-ROSE SICKLE**

» if you are saying words that aren't nice, your bubble will get small and how you said it to your friend, their bubble sad. If it carries on, you must tell the teacher. **RUBY BOYES**

» if your mom says you can't have that, then you get mad and you go to your room and think of a colour and close your eyes and you will feel better. **IMAN LEVY**

I KNOW...

» did you know that cows are bad for the environment? They are also disgusting because they eat and it comes back again and they eat it again. **IMOGEN BROGAN**

» do you know that a leopard has a long tail because when it turns, the tail helps it to stay up straight so that it does not fall?

JAMIE-LEE HORN

» my friend once told me that the fattest people in the world can't walk. The vet once told me that the truck I saw was the truck that took the dead cats and dogs. **LUCY COTTERELL**

» I know that my Grandad knew Mr Mandela and that they were friends and my Grandad has a wallet made out of cheetah fur.

CHARLOTTE PLUMMER

» I know that horses can't vomit, so if they eat something poisonous they can die. You always need to know what a horse is eating.

EMILY CAPPER

» I know something very interesting about a girl in Pakistan who is fighting for equal rights for women all around the world. Her name is Malala. In Pakistan some girls were not allowed to go to school. **ARYA CHAGAN**

» I know that when a stick insect gets its leg stuck, it walks away and grows back another leg. I also know that when a praying mantis dates with another mantis, when it lays eggs the mom eats the dad. **KATINKA LOWTHER**

» my mummy told me that polar bears have black skin and see-through fur. In fact, I found

it so interesting, I used it for my oral.

KAREENA DAYA-FEASEY

» did you know that when it is summer the leaves on trees work for the trees? When it is winter, the leaves stop working and fall off.

CALISTA VILJOEN

I WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT...

» how horses take heavy people on their backs. It looks so sore. They don't seem to care and sometimes they even fall asleep.

MEGAN VAN DER SPUY

» how tsunamis came in. I think it is because of the waves and the wind that pushes the waves in the water. **MEESHA RAHIM**

» the future and what I am going to do when I am older. I do not know what work I am going to do and how I am going to look.

EMMA BUCKHAM

» the Coat of Arms because it is quite confusing with all of the things and I cannot even remember any. **GEM FERGUSON**

» I want to know why people don't have tails. They would be very useful for getting high things. I wonder if it would be sore to sit.

KRISTINA KALIL

» how the world started. I have thought that God was our great great great (you don't know how many greats) grandfather. But I figured out that it is not and that confused me. I think it ends where it starts.

JAIME SMIT

» how your body works, mostly about the brain. How does it think of so many things at once? How does it learn school work so quickly. **MICHELA PHARO**

GRADE 1A



FRONT ROW: E Wessels, L Warncke, S Mostafa, J Potgieter, T Ross, A Essop, H Harvey, S Eyssen, T Abdulla
MIDDLE ROW: Mrs M Kaben, T Geyer, E Spaun, F Cowan, I Todd, E Groenewald, M Slatter, A Maskew, S Ebrahim, Mrs L Thebus
BACK ROW: R Sparks, A Turner, J Hughes, L-M Sickle, T Seseli, O Melck, L Adonis, M MacDonald, I Joannou

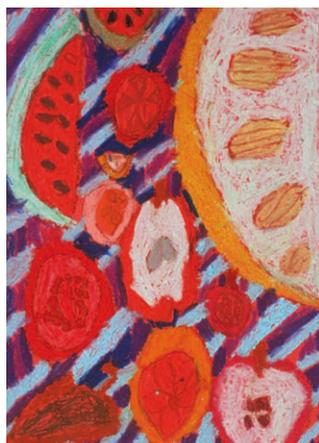
GRADE 1 ALPHA



FRONT ROW: Mrs K Rutgers, I Abdulla, H Marshall, A Salie, S Conroy, K Plenge-Mantell, A Chenia, F Harnekar, D Daya, J Manuel
MIDDLE ROW: S Akampurira, E Rose, A Rich, E Duffus, K Dunley-Owen, C Mills, L Toll, N Soko
BACK ROW: Z Desai, E Mason, C Swartz, O van Lieshout, G Spice, Z Scholtz, L Gonsenhauser, Z Hodge, A Mandy-Woodcock



INDIANA JOANNOU



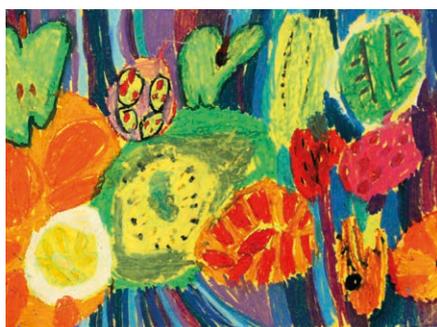
MEGAN MACDONALD



MILA-BELLE SLATTER



ROXY SPARKS



CARA MILLS



NALEDI SOKO



KIRA DUNLEY-OWEN



OLIVIA VAN LIESHOUT



LILAH GONSENHAUSER



ZARA SCHOLTZ



ELLA SPAUN



JESSICA HUGHES



INDIA TODD



JESSICA POTGIETER

IF I COULD SWOP PLACES WITH ANYONE, WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY...

» I would swop with my cousins so I can play with my baby cousin. Because she is smaller than my baby sister. **TAALIAH ABDULLA**

» My cousin because she is like 20 and she does all my homework with me. And she is out of Grade 12. **LUSIBALWETHU ADONIS**

» My cousins because they get to spend time with my other granny and I never get to see her that much. And I'd get to go to Lego Land. **FRANCESCA COWAN**

» I will swop with my brother because he is in Grade 7 and he can draw very nicely. **SAMIRA EBRAHIM**

» My aunty because she lives in Dubai. Right at the bottom of her apartment is a swimming pool and it is always sunny there. **ALAYNA ESSOP**

» I would like to swop with my mom because I would like to do some work and she gets to spend so much time on her phone. **SKY EYSSEN**

» I want to swop with my sister because she is really nice. She watches this fashion show. **TORI GEYER**

» I would like to swop with my baby cousin because she doesn't go to school and she is super cute. She shouts really loud and I could get my mom's attention. **EMILY GROENEWALD**

» My sister because she gets to watch movies when I am at school. **HANNAH HARVEY**

» I would like to swop with my brother because he gets to be in Grade 3 and he gets to be close to my Dad. **JESSICA HUGHES**

» I would like to swop with my mom because I can taste different foods and see if they are good. **INDIANA JOANNOU**

» I want to swop with my brother because he has an interesting life. He is big and he can lift me up. He can lift my dog that no-one else can. **MEGAN MACDONALD**

» I want to swop with my cousin because he is 14 and he swims and he plays on his Xbox a lot. **ALEXANDRA MASKEW**

» I want to swop with my sister because she plays on her scooter. Her scooter turns really well. **OLIVIA MELCK**

» I would like to swop with my sister because she doesn't have to do any work I have to. She's in play school so she doesn't have to do anything. **ROXY SPARKS**



» I want to swop with my brother because always when he goes to school he sees movies. **SAIKA MOSTAFA**

» I would like to swop with my sister because she is really kind. And also because she lets me play with her things. **JESSICA POTGIETER**

» I want to swop with my Dad – because he has a fun work. He makes bricks. **TAYLOR ROSS**

» I want to swop with my brother because he plays with me and I want to play with him too. **TSIA SESELI**

» I want to swop with my sister because she is older and she has her own iPad. And she plays with me. **LILY-MAE SICKLE**

» I want to be my Mom because she gets to be on the computer at school days. **MILA-BELLE SLATTER**

» I want to swop with my brother because he jumps on the trampoline and he plays with my toys. **ELLA SPAUN**

» I want to swop with my puppy because she barks with the other dogs. She has bubble baths and she eats Marie biscuits and biltong and chicken. **INDIA TODD**

» I want to swop with my mom because she gets to go to the shops. And if you go to the shops, you can choose sweets and eat them. **ABIGAIL TURNER**

» My cousins... because I like them. They have two big farms that are only theirs. They have a forest and sheep in and it is really nice. **LEILA WARNCKE**

» I would like to be my dad because he flies in an aeroplane and I've been in an aeroplane and it's better than being in other big aeroplanes. **ELIZABETH WESSELS**



» With my brother because he gets lots of takkies and dogs. He always gets what he wants. **ISRA ABDULLA**

» A mermaid because I like swimming and I would collect shells all day. **SOLANGE AKAMPURIRA**

» My cat because she gets a lot of attention and she gets to lie in my brother's room and on my dad's chest. She doesn't get shouted at like my other cat. **ARIANA CHENIA**

» My baby cousin because I like sleeping and then I would get to play a lot. **SARA CONROY**

» My cat because he scares my dog away. He is very cute and he's chubby. **DARYA DAYA**

» My sister because I like driving and she can drive. I like driving because when I see them turning the wheel it looks good. **ZAYNAH DESAI**

» My dog Fudge because he gets to sleep all day and he has a nice big heart on his forehead. **ELLA DUFFUS**

» My great aunt because she has lots of stuff and a huge house. And her stuff is very, very interesting. She lives far away and it's a treat to go there. My daddy always throws my stuff away. **KIRA DUNLEY-OWEN**

» My whole family because they are very kind and thoughtful and nice. **LILAH GONSENHAUSER**

» The tooth fairy because I get to collect all the teeth and then I can keep them for myself. **FARAH HARNEKAR**

» I want to be a piggy because they are cute and they relax all day in the mud. **ZOË HODGE**

» With a rainbow because it is very pretty and colourful and I love colours. When rain and sun come together it makes a rainbow. **GEORGIA SPICE**

» A professional horse rider because I am horse crazy! Then I get to ride horses all day long. **AMELIA MANDY-WOODCOCK**

» I want to be my baby sister because she gets to watch the most TV and she doesn't have to wake up early in the morning. **JEHAAN MANUEL**

» Jojo Siwa because then I can be on YouTube. I would like to act on YouTube. **HANNAH MARSHALL**

» A warrior because they get to explore the world. I would like to go to the jungle and see animals. **ELIZABETH MASON**

» A parrot because then I can fly and I can get away from things that want to eat me. **CARA MILLS**

» A famous acrobat and go on *America's Got Talent*. And then be a famous singer because I would like to be famous. **KATINKA PLENGE-MANTELL**

» A famous scientist because I love science and it's really fun. I would like to invent new things. **AMY RICH**

» With Gary, my cat because everybody likes to snuggle him and pick him up. **ELECTRA ROSE**

» My sister because when she gets cross with me then I get into trouble instead of her. **ARIANA SALIE**

» With my dog because she can catch things and I think that would be fun and Honey gets very spoilt. **ZARA SCHOLTZ**

» With my mom because she gets to drive and she can buy sweets whenever she wants and she gets money. **NALEDI SOKO**

» With Patty Peacock because she is a fairy and she can fly and has lots of friends. **CHLOË SWARTZ**

» My hamster because she gets to sleep all day. She doesn't have to wake up in the morning, only in the afternoon. **LAYLA TOLL**

» With my little kitty because I love her so much and she is enormous like a whale. She gets to lie next to the fire and she gets to eat all day. **OLIVIA VAN LIESHOUT**

Carter

BY JAMIE RUTGERS AND GEORGIA FINLAYSON

C-A-R-T-E-R CARTER, CARTER THAT'S WHO WE ARE!

This year, we learned how to lead, plan and encourage the best house, Carter. This has taught us co-operation and patience. Carter has shown qualities of perseverance, commitment and team spirit in all interhouse events. The Interhouse Netball and Hockey were both entertaining and competitive, seeing us win the Netball Trophy. Carter has shown much spirit at both Sports Day and the Gala. During Sports Day, records were broken and everyone ran phenomenally well, managing to come second overall. We also had fantastic spirit. We have had a great year in the Music department, winning the Slimy Scale and Aural August competitions. We always try our best and never give up. We would like to thank Mrs Blake for being so supportive. Most importantly, we would like to thank the entire Carter house. Well done, Carter! It has been an honour to be part of such an enthusiastic, fun and competitive house.



Jagger

BY ANNA SEARSON AND MIA SAINSBURY

It has been a great privilege for us to lead and support Jagger this year. We have had lots of fun and learned so much from interacting with the girls in younger grades and teaching them our songs during the break-time house practices. Not only were we glad to win most of the weekly house point competitions, but we were extremely proud of everyone in Jagger for being so enthusiastic at the Interhouse Gala where we won the Spirit Trophy. Jagger House also made us proud at the weekly sandwich collection on Tuesday mornings. At the recent Sports Day event, our girls ran extremely well. Despite not receiving a trophy, we would like to congratulate them for their fantastic sportsmanship. We, as the Jagger Captains, are very grateful for the opportunity to have lead Jagger House this year and we thank all the Jagger girls for their support and spirit shown throughout the year.





Merriman

BY SUFIYAH ESSA AND ELYSIA ASPINALL

Merriman has, once again, shown true spirit this year. Our motto was TEAM: because together everyone achieves more. All the girls from Grades 4 – 7 have been enthusiastic and supportive of each other. We came second in the Interhouse Cross Country this year which was a wonderful achievement. On Sports Day, we were dressed up as Minnie Mouse. This looked fabulous and we were so excited when we found out we had won the Spirit Trophy. We have been so proud to see the girls cheer on their teammates in true Merriman style. It has been an honour and an amazing experience for us to be House Captains of such an energetic, spirited and passionate team of girls. We believe that hard work beats talent when talent works hard! #ProudlyMerriman!



Rolt

BY JESSICA PETERSEN
AND MICHELA BENETTOLO

Rolt has had an amazing year. We have shown grit and determination, coming first in the Interhouse Gala, Sports Day and Cross Country race. These are incredible achievements and show what talented sportswomen we have in Rolt. Our theme for the Gala was the Lorax; we dressed up in colourful, fluffy scrunchies and enthusiastically sang our hearts out. For Sports Day, we dressed up as Simba. As House Captains we would like to thank all the girls for their hard work and positive attitude. We have loved working with them this year and to the Captains of 2020, we wish you good luck with these amazing girls. GO ROLT!



SWIMMING

BY MS LIANE KARSTEN

Our Swimming structure changed this year and incorporates three different types of teams/squads for U9 – Open girls. We now have an A and B swimming team which are selection-based squads and take part in Galas. Training squads are open to all girls who are not in the A or B team and they can select which day or session they would like to attend. This new structure gives more girls an opportunity to swim in a Gala and train at a higher level as well as catering for all swimming abilities.

Our U10 – Open A team swimmers excelled in the pool to beat seven other girls' schools to win the annual PGSGU Interschool Swimming trophy. Our U10s and U12s came 1st in their age group. Our U11s came 2nd and our Open team came 3rd.

It was also fantastic to have two B team relay galas against other girls' schools in Term 1, initiated by Herschel.

The Grade 1 – 3 Fun Gala and the Grade 4 – 7 Interhouse Gala were once again highlights in the girls' Swimming calendar as we balance participation for all the girls with more competitive events. The top swimmers in each age group were as follows: U10: 1st Sophie Lashbrooke; 2nd place was a tie between Jessica Bosch and Ashley Bassett. U11: 1st Ella Mills; 2nd Samantha Nimb and 3rd Aman Moonda. U12: 1st Madison Franks; 2nd Sophie Vickers and 3rd Julia Lückhoff. Open: 1st Amy van Breda; 2nd Emily van Heerden and 3rd Kate Formby.

Thank you to our Swimming Captains, Nicole Macey and Gabrielle du Toit. Thank you also to our A and B team swimming coach, Perry Cadiz, for her passion in developing Herschel swimming and helping to inspire and train the girls, enabling them to achieve their best. ◊



WATER POLO

BY MS LIANE KARSTEN

In 2019, we entered nine teams into the Water Polo league and have approximately 100 girls playing Water Polo. All our teams play matches each week and have worked hard at developing their skills. For a relatively small school we have a lot of depth in our Water Polo age groups and the results of our league matches have been outstanding. Our girls are committed to learning and working hard and we are very proud of them.

At the end of last year, we took U11 and U12 Water Polo players to Grahamstown for the Kingswood U13 Girls Water Polo festival. The girls showed incredible grit and teamwork to beat all nine U13A teams that they played.

Our Herschel U13A Water Polo team was incredible at the annual Reddam Action Water Polo tournament. They finished top of their pool and beat Reddam 3 – 1 in the final to finish 1st, ending Reddam's winning streak at this tournament since its inauguration in 2013.

The same U13A team won the WP U13 Water Polo Knock-Out Final to claim 1st place in the Western Province. They finished top of the U13 Girls League and cemented their number 1 spot with a 5 – 1 win over Reddam, winning the Serfontein Cup, another first for Herschel Preparatory Water Polo. They then completed a phenomenal season by winning the annual Reddam U13 Girls Water Polo tournament and bronze at the prestigious Saints Water Polo tournament.

We entered three teams in this year's annual Sun Valley U11 Water Polo tournament. Our U11As were unbeaten and our Invitational and U10A teams also did very well. For the first time we had two U9 teams taking part in the Sun Valley U9 Splash Polo festival. They learnt a lot and had lots of fun playing in their first festival.

Congratulations to Alexa de Villiers, Amy van Breda, Emily van Heerden and Kate Formby who were selected for the WP U13A Water Polo team and Georgia Finlayson, Sophie Vickers, Kelly Cadiz and Julia Lückhoff who were selected for the WP U13B Water Polo team.

Thank you to our Water Polo Captains, Amy van Breda and Alexa de Villiers, for their enthusiasm and the positive example they set for all Polo players at Herschel. We are also very privileged to have a dedicated team of experienced coaches and thank them for their time and commitment to our girls. ◊



TENNIS



BY MRS MARISE LAUBSCHER

Tim Armstrong School of Tennis continues to coach our girls playing tennis. Herschel has four Open teams and four U11 teams playing in the league. Despite tough competition our teams have achieved some good results. We have six afternoon squads made up of between 10 and 18 girls, as well as three development squads for our beginner players. Our Team players continue to practise before school.

The tennis courts have been resurfaced with Astroturf and the fencing has been replaced.

Our Open A team participated in the PGSGU Interschool Tennis tournament where both our A Couple (Bianca Stewart and Amy van Breda) and our B Couple (Hanaan Saith and India Rautenbach) were placed 5th.

Tennis was again included in the All Girls Festival, hosted this year by Eunice, Bloemfontein. We took four players on tour. Bianca Stewart, Hanaan Saith, Dana Kleingeld and Gabriella Ovenstone proudly represented Herschel on the tennis court. Bianca won the fastest serve competition beating over 40 girls from all the participating schools.

Alexandra Ovendale was selected to the WP U11B team (2018/2019); India Rautenbach (U11) and Ophelia Loggenberg (U10) have been selected for the South Zone Tennis team (2019/2020).

Thank you to the Tennis Captains, Bianca Stewart and Hanaan Saith, for all their help and support during the season. ◇

CROSS COUNTRY

BY MS LIANE KARSTEN

It's been a full Cross Country season and we have continued to encourage Grade 3 – 7 girls to take part in at least one league race during the season. It was wonderful to see so many U8 – Open girls taking part each week.

A number of our Cross Country runners finished in the top 20 at the Zonal Cross Country Championships and qualified to compete at the WP Championships. U10: Caroline Antrobus, Jessica Bosch, Jenna Formby, Sophie Lashbrooke and Anna Sherren. U11: Alice Keers and Alice Bailey. U12: Madison Franks. U13: Sofia Dearnaley and Georgia Finlayson. Jessica Bosch qualified for the U10 WP Cross Country team.

The Grade 1 – 3 Cross Country fun race and Grade 4 – 7 Interhouse Cross Country race was another great event. We continued with our competition race this year so girls who run competitively in our league races and Interschool race could run the correct distance. Well done to Rolt who won the overall event.

The Prep School Cross Country team took part in the annual PGSGU Interschool Cross Country race. Our U10s were placed 1st and our U11s were placed 2nd overall. Herschel tied 1st overall with three other schools.

Thank you to our Captains, Leah van der Merwe and Sofia Dearnaley. We are also grateful to our Junior and Senior Cross Country coaches for all they have done to encourage and support the girls in their running. ◇



NETBALL

BY MRS MARISE LAUBSCHER

Netball at Herschel has seen some exciting changes this year. The netball courts have been resurfaced and the Preparatory School Hall was marked with a netball court. We have had a number of matches taking place in the hall. Our practices also utilise both the netball courts and the hall, giving coaches and girls more space to practise as we see the numbers of girls participating in Netball continue to grow.

With over 16 teams in five age groups, the enthusiasm and commitment of both the girls and their coaches made for a successful winter season. We have played 10 fixtures with A, B and C teams producing some outstanding results.

As always, we endeavour to give as many girls as possible the opportunity to experience a tournament or festival and a large group of our netball girls participated in festivals and tournaments this season.

Our A teams from U10 – Open took part in the St Cyprian's Derby Day and the U8 – Open A teams loved the annual Fish Hoek Winter Sports festival. Highlights for our U9s were the Kirstenhof and Paul Greyling festivals. The U10, U11, U12 and Open C and D teams also enjoyed their own festivals at Paul Greyling and St Cyprian's. 32 eager U8s enjoyed their first-ever festival hosted by Cannons Creek. A highlight was once again the All Girls Festival hosted this year by Eunice, Bloemfontein. Our Open A girls did Herschel proud as they were pushed to their limits with an increase in the number of matches played at the festival. The Open A team enjoyed an entertaining match against a touring team from Dubai. This year our U12A and Open A teams participated in the Top Schools tournament, where our girls were exposed to the quality of netball played in the Northern Suburbs.

Interhouse Netball was enjoyed by everyone and the introduction of the 'shootout' added to the excitement. Well done, Carter, who won the overall trophy.

The PGSGU Interschool tournament is a highlight in our season and this year our U12A team did very well to be placed 3rd. The Open A team did Herschel proud finishing 1st and winning the trophy.

Thank you to all our coaches for their dedication and commitment as well as our Netball Captains, Tia Deliperi and Rebecca Joshua, for all their help and support during this very successful season. ♦





HOCKEY

BY MS LIANE KARSTEN

We had 17 Hockey teams entered in the league this year. All our teams had a phenomenal season and we are very proud of the hard work the girls have put in to develop their skills. Our biggest challenge was ensuring matches for all our teams on a weekly basis.

Most of our age groups and teams have taken part in a number of tournaments and festivals. Some of our teams started off the season at the Somerset House Hockey festival. The U10A Hockey team had a successful afternoon at the Rustenburg festival and the U11A and B Hockey players took part in the U11 Sweet Valley Hockey festival. The U10B, U11B and Open C teams loved participating in the St Cyprian's Derby Day. The U13A Hockey team played exceptionally well at the Kenridge tournament

to finish 3rd and the U12s played superb Hockey at the U12 Grove Hockey festival. The U12s also came 2nd at the U12 Bishops Day/Night tournament. Our U11C and Open D Hockey teams participated in a festival, hosted by St Georges Hockey. Two U12/ U13 teams took part in the inaugural CPL 6s Hockey and the Pink Panthers team finished 1st and the Pink Pumas finished 3rd.

Herschel, for the second year, hosted the U11 Girls Twilight Hockey Tournament. 12 teams took part in two different pools. The vibe and spirit amongst the girls and the support for all the teams was incredible. Herschel U11A won Gold in the Cup Final and the Herschel Invitational team won Bronze in the Plate Final. We also hosted our annual U9 Girls Hockey festival. 24 teams took part and the emphasis was on fun and learning. It was a wonderful and festive afternoon of Hockey.

Interhouse Hockey, as always, was a fun afternoon. Well done to Rolt who won the overall event.

Emily van Heerden was selected to play for

the WP U13A Hockey team and Kate Formby and Georgia Finlayson were selected for the WP U13B Hockey team. Gabrielle du Toit and Elen Vermaak were part of the WP U13 Zonal A Hockey team and Anna Ashbolt, Alexa de Villiers and Sofia Dearnaley were part of the WP U13 Zonal B Hockey team.

After qualifying in their league, the Herschel U13A Hockey team competed against nine other schools at the annual WP U13 Top Schools Hockey tournament. The team was outstanding and came through some tight pool matches and showdowns to make the semi-final where they won 5 – 1. They won the final 1 – 0 and were crowned the no. 1 U13 Girls Hockey team in the Province. This is an incredible achievement and we are very proud of our girls.

Emily van Heerden and Kate Formby led by example as Hockey Captains. They demonstrated great sportsmanship and inspired teamwork and excellence throughout the season. Thank you to all our coaches for their passion and dedication to Hockey. »



SENIOR GIRLS

It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are. – E.E. Cummings



PRIZE-GIVING 2019

BY MR STUART WEST, HEAD

Adv. Tracey Dicker, Chair of Council; Members of Council; past Heads and staff; honoured guests; prize donors, fellow Heads and educators from our partner schools; Scholarship partners; Old Herschelians; parents; colleagues, Herschel students, friends of Herschel, I add my warm welcome to this prize-giving ceremony of 2019.

In his enlightening book, *Every Seven Years You Change*, Tony Crisp explains that humans experience continuous seven-year cycles in their lives. According to Tony, I am currently entering my ninth cycle which means being more at peace with, and more accepting of, myself. This period also reflects the idea that many things within lie un-lived. Thus, I am leaving middle age behind and am entering the next phase: old age.

So, with a sense of inner peace and restlessness, I offer my seventh and final report on Herschel – this remarkable school I have been so privileged to lead and serve.

THE HERSCHEL VISION

In July last year, the Prep and Senior executive teams discussed our dreams and hopes for Herschel and its future, as we move to celebrate our centenary in 2022. In January, we invited an experienced facilitator, Dave Woods, to lead a whole-school staff development session, to guide us in imagining a new vision for Herschel.

The appreciative enquiry process meant addressing four aspects:

- 1. Discover 'What is?':** to identify existing values and strengths that we cherish and must protect.
- 2. Dream 'What might be?':** to envisage the best future for Herschel.
- 3. Design 'What should be?':** to combine what we cherish and value with those dreams.
- 4. Deliver 'What will be?':** to develop action plans to deliver the vision within Herschel.

We were thus able to craft a **new vision statement** that will best serve and celebrate Herschel for all of us:

Herschel Girls School is an inclusive, independent Anglican school, which

provides an innovative, transformative and well-rounded education that prepares and empowers courageous, empathetic and ethical young people to lead authentic lives.

All are encouraged to become leaders in shaping their future world by embracing opportunities, striving for excellence and making a difference through civic engagement.

I truly believe that this compelling vision will inspire and guide the Herschel staff as they shape the lives, values and learning of all the girls, from Grade 000 to Matric, who enjoy the privilege of a Herschel education; one that has proudly shaped the lives, careers and destinies of tens of thousands of young women for nearly a century.

ACADEMIC INNOVATION

I remember standing at the Western Cape Premier's residence in January 2013 as the new Head of the school receiving the Premier's award for Herschel being the top-performing academic school in the province. The Premier, Helen Zille, turned to me and said in jest: "Where do you possibly go, from being no 1?" It has been my privilege to collect that award a further six times. But her challenge remains. Where *do* you take the consistently number one academic school in the Western Cape? How do you innovate when there is an exceptional academic track record?

Shortly before I joined Herschel, I attended the *Future of Learning* programme at the Harvard Graduate School of Education offered by Professor David Perkins on Educating for the Unknown.

He spoke about the hand at the back of the classroom that keeps teachers honest. Every now and then there's a student in the back who raises her hand and asks, "Why do we have to learn this?"

This can easily offend teachers, as we all try hard to be engaging, relevant and passionate, and to include what seems valuable and worthwhile in curriculum delivery. But the question is valid. "Why do we have to learn this?"

A major challenge facing schools is that we are called to educate for the *Known* but also for the *Unknown*.

He asserted that educators have two, sometimes competing, challenges to balance: 1. **How to teach the prescribed content**, and, 2. **what we want the education process to produce**. The purpose of education is to produce mindful students and citizens, however, the delivery of prescribed content seems to be the only focus.

The key challenge for 21st century schools, is thus: **What is worth learning for the future ... for a good life in a complex, changing world?**

Schools have to ask continually: what role will school-taught knowledge play in the life of students *after* school? What happens to the knowledge we teach – in one year, 10 years or 40 years?

If I had to ask parents what school-based topic or subject that they had studied remained important to them, what would they answer? Would they mention: the causes of the French Revolution, the biological stages of mitosis, or the quadratic equation? These are part of our core syllabus.

In a *Thinking Conference* in 2007 in Sweden, Prof. Perkins asked students to rank the school learning that had most stayed with them *after* school:

THIS WAS THE RESULT:

- 1 THINKING SKILLS,**
- 2 SELF-UNDERSTANDING,**
- 3 EMPATHY,**
- 4 ETHICS,**
- 5 COMMUNICATION SKILLS,**
- 6 LEARNING HOW TO LEARN,**
- 7 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS,**
- 8 TECHNOLOGY SKILLS,**
- 9 PROBLEM-SOLVING STRATEGIES,**
- 10 GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES,**
- 11 THE ARTS,**
- 12 DEALING WITH CONFLICT,**
- 13 SCIENCE,**
- 17 MATHEMATICS. INTERESTING.**

We need to equip our students for the 4th industrial revolution by using 21st century skills, such as:

- 1. Academic learning and innovation skills:** critical thinking, communication, collaboration, creativity.

2. **Vital life skills:** critical socio-emotional skills to develop social competence in a diverse world, and in unfamiliar environments.
3. **Global citizenship skills:** civic responsibility and social justice, environmental awareness, financial and entrepreneurial skills, well-defined ethics, cross-cultural expertise, and collaborative leadership skills.
4. **Information, media and technology skillsets.**

In the South African 2019 educational curriculum, these types of skills are not *clearly* discernible within the traditional subjects. Often they are part of the hidden curriculum.

Perkins argues that school learning has an **afterlife** when it is learnt for understanding beyond the classroom and speaks to a student's larger destiny and purpose. Students who learn to **transfer the knowledge** gained at school into other aspects of life, regarded those subjects as the most relevant.

So, I could teach the French Revolution by focusing on 18th century France. Or I could use it to explain the origins of class conflict and civil war. There are many similarities between 17th century France and South Africa in the late 1900s. The facts don't inspire scholars, but a big-picture, relevant historical perspective that will connect past and present, will. Perkins calls this **flexpertise** – transferring knowledge between disciplines. He asserts that this develops students' confidence.

The most fundamental choice for schools is therefore **what and how we teach**. Much of this is decided by government policy, but professional educators must take responsibility too. It is especially valid for independent schools.

This was my driving philosophy in asking staff to reimagine and design a Grade 8 and 9 curriculum that would explore and celebrate what was **worth learning for the future, in order to equip students to live good lives in the complex, changing world**.

As staff designed more relevant subject material in the elective system, many have rediscovered the joy of teaching and we have witnessed the joy of learning return to our girls too. I commend Sue Grové and Ros Bouwer, and all the academic staff, for creating one of the most innovative and contemporary curriculum programmes.

HOUSE SYSTEM

This and the vertical tutor group programme continue to grow in strength; they provide pastoral care and support for students under



the guiding hand of Alison Bodenstein, and her dedicated House Director and Assistant House Director teams. In 2014, we launched Carter House and the house structure – the key to this decision being the belief that the House system gives girls a sense of belonging and opportunities for leadership.

The vertical tutor groups meet daily, acting as a 'family-style' home group in which younger students can learn from the older ones, and the older girls become big sisters and role models, in turn. This has broken down barriers and reduced peer pressure and conflict. The current system also creates more authentic Matric leadership opportunities.

The pastoral care mantra remains: *"We are the constant in the lives of our students. We are there every day building relationships – naming them, exploring points of contact, listening, observing, being present, acknowledging, influencing, following through on issues. They may not get this elsewhere."*

BELONGING

This continues to be central in all that we do. Brené Brown, the American scholar, author, and public speaker, states: *"True belonging doesn't require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are."*

One of the important questions that students have discussed this year is: *"Can an Anglican school be truly inclusive?"* Some have argued that we cannot be, by definition. But, we can and must create genuine places of belonging for all within Herschel and drive authentic transformation.

In the annual Transformation Report last year, I stated that my vision for Herschel was to create a modern, inclusive school that continues to produce competent young women who will contribute purposefully to South African society. Our transformation agenda was influenced by the Constitution of South Africa, our cherished Anglican, Christian heritage, and our commitment to a culture of respect.

The Christian gospel compels inclusivity. Jesus stated: "Love God with your whole heart, mind and soul, and love your neighbour," while his beloved disciple, John, put it more simply: "Love one another, for love is from God."

We are compelled by faith to show all of our students respect, care and to foster a sense of belonging. That is the essence of God's grace and love.

My executive team has used Brené Brown's current bestseller, *Dare to Lead*, as a personal and team development tool. One

of our favourite quotations is, *“daring leaders who **live into their values**, are never silent about the hard things.”*

She continues: *“I haven’t been in a company in five years, where people aren’t whispering, ‘this is great, but how do we talk about race?’ Her response: ‘you first listen about race. You will make a lot of mistakes. It will be super uncomfortable. And there is no way to talk about it without getting some criticism. But you can’t be silent. To opt out of conversations about privilege and oppression, because they make you uncomfortable, is the epitome of privilege. A brave leader is not someone who is armed with all the answers. A brave leader is someone who says I see you. I hear you. I don’t have all the answers, but I’m going to keep listening and asking questions. And, we all have the capacity to do that.”*

I have been thrilled, challenged and sobered by the committed engagement of our students in driving key issues of social justice and transformation this year. The Matric leadership team submitted a memorandum of urgent considerations for transformation. These issues became the bedrock of our diversity and transformation plan. This year the students raised the vital issues of gender identity and gender-based violence. The first led to many robust discourses, and to the drafting of the

Herschel Gender Statement.

The death of Uyinene became the breaking point in the scourge of gender-based violence causing an outpouring of anger as our students took to the streets and parliament, to demand government action. Their voices, with thousands of others, demanded the attention and presence of the President; and he responded.

Six Herschelians joined a parliamentary dialogue, in which various grievances were raised with ministers such as Bheki Cele and Lindiwe Sisulu. Three of them addressed the ministerial committee about lack of safety, legal recourse and government accountability. The courage of these students, to speak truth to power, was celebrated as their words were echoed in President Ramaphosa’s address to the nation that evening.

The actions of our students not only brought awareness of gender-based violence to Herschel, and neighbouring boys’ schools, but also inspired a number of initiatives within Herschel to address this issue.

MUSIC CENTRE

We will soon take ownership of a world-class music centre that will give our students and staff a grand, creative home. I thank the Herschel Council and the Planning Committee for their committed support of

this project and for ensuring that Herschel remains an epicentre of cultural excellence.

STAFF

As I draw my old-age reflections to a close, I feel proud of what we as a staff have achieved over the last seven years. It is hard for teachers to navigate change, let alone on the scale that we have attempted in recent years – from the iPad programme to the new house system and exhilarating elective curriculum. The innovations have been introduced and managed by an enthusiastic staff team which has worked tirelessly and creatively.

The academic staff at Herschel still regard teaching as a vocation; love their subjects and want to pass on this love and understanding of their subjects to young people; and want to engage with young people, and to help them develop their academic, cultural, sporting and service strengths, thinking and reasoning skills, and a sense of belonging and voice.

In short, we have teachers who ensure our students are challenged and channelled to **become leaders in shaping their future world, by embracing their opportunities, striving for excellence and making a difference through transformative civic engagement.** The teachers seated behind me are the true professionals in education, and as such, Herschel is truly blessed. ♦





PRIZE LIST 2019

GRADE 10 SUBJECT AWARDS

- » **Accounting:** Safiya Mia
- » **Afrikaans Home Language:** Safiya Mia
- » **Afrikaans First Additional Language:** Zaakirah Adams
- » **Business Studies:** Hannah Meyer
- » **Consumer Studies:** Emily Dalley
- » **Dramatic Arts:** Noa Duckitt
- » **English Home Language:** Jenna Betty
- » **Equine Studies:** Sophie Miszewski
- » **French Second Additional Language:** Naomie Mubenga
- » **Geography:** Emma van der Velden
- » **History:** Aliya Borhat
- » **Information**

Technology: Safiya Mia

» **Life Orientation:**

Bibi Aishah Balim

» **Life Sciences:**

Jessica Prevost

» **Mathematics:**

Jessica Prevost

» **Advanced Programme**

Mathematics:

Jessica Prevost

» **Music:** Robyn Dunn

» **Physical Sciences:**

Jessica Prevost

» **Visual Arts:**

Laura Formby

GRADE 10 AWARDS FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- » **Certificates of Academic Excellence:** Zaakirah Adams, Maryam Ameen, Jenna Betty, Aliya Borhat, Samiya Borhat, Kayla Casewell, Zoë Cohen,

- Robyn Dunn, Kristen Fabing, Laura Formby, Hannah Golding, Jungyeon Lee, Ghanaan Mohamed, Rachael Mol, Hannah Meyer, Hannah Pearse, Amy Raichman, Chloë Rumbelow, Zeeka Sellidon, Saskia van der Byl, Emma van der Velden, Aria Ward, Gemma Wellington, Rachel Williams
- » **Third place:** Bibi Aishah Balim
- » **Second place:** Jessica Prevost
- » **First place:** Safiya Mia

GRADE 11 SUBJECT AWARDS

- » **Accounting:** Georgia Nel
- » **Afrikaans Home Language:** Anna von Willingh
- » **Afrikaans First Additional Language:** Alexa Mesham
- » **Business Studies:** Calli Basnett
- » **Consumer Studies:** Louisa Naudé
- » **Dramatic Arts:** Olivia Doidge
- » **English Home Language:** Astrid Faustmann, Rebecca Sparg
- » **Advanced Programme English:** Michaela Todd
- » **French Second Additional Language:** Georgia Nel
- » **Geography:** Alexa Mesham
- » **History:** Michaela Todd
- » **Life Orientation:** Georgia Nel
- » **Life Sciences:** Calli Basnett
- » **Mathematics:** Jeeyoo Kim
- » **Advanced Programme Mathematics:** Jeeyoo Kim
- » **Mathematical Literacy:** Emily Frater
- » **Music:** Fiona Murphy
- » **Physical Sciences:** Jeeyoo Kim
- » **Visual Arts:** Shannon Pitman

GRADE 11 AWARDS FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- » **Certificates of Academic Excellence:** Calli Basnett, Alexandra Furlong, Raine Halvorsen, Jeeyoo Kim, Gabrielle Lanfear, Nina Lewis, Cameron Lillie, Lucy Miszewski, Fiona Murphy, Georgia Nel, Shannon Pitman, Semane Reddy-Mbewu, Emma Theron, Michaela Todd, Mia Versfeld
- » **Third place:** Louisa Naudé
- » **Second place:** Alexa Mesham
- » **First place:** Anna von Willingh

GRADE 12 SUBJECT AWARDS

- » **Accounting:** Natasha Hablutzel
- » **Afrikaans Home Language:** Mariam Goolam Mahomed
- » **Afrikaans First Additional Language:** Georgia Angeliniadis, Kitty Fisher
- » **Business Studies:** Amaarah Ebrahim
- » **Consumer Studies:** Ella Judge
- » **Dramatic Arts:** Josi Beare
- » **English Home Language (Lady Woolley Prize):** Jemma Morris, Bianca Pistorius
- » **Advanced Programme English:** Kitty Fisher
- » **French Second Additional Language:** Josephine Barrault
- » **Geography:** Hope Hennessy
- » **German Second Additional Language:** Katinka Wilkinson
- » **History:** Amaarah Ebrahim
- » **Information Technology:** Katinka Wilkinson
- » **Life Orientation:** Amaarah Ebrahim
- » **Life Sciences:** Hannah Glanvill, Mariam Goolam Mahomed
- » **Mathematics (Liz Gibbons Prize):** Kitty Fisher, Mariam Goolam Mahomed
- » **Advanced Programme Mathematics:** Mariam Goolam Mahomed, Sian Lawrenson

- » **Mathematical Literacy:** Kayla Charles
- » **Music:** Anna Grieve
- » **Physical Sciences:** Mariam Goolam Mahomed
- » **Visual Arts:** Hannah Glanvill
- » **Visual Arts - Practical:** Cameron Joubert, Sydney Williams

GRADE 12 AWARDS FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- » **Certificates of Academic Excellence:** Georgia Angeliniadis, Rebekah de Kock, Lauren Ebell, Amaarah Ebrahim, Kitty Fisher, Mariam Goolam Mahomed, Anna Grieve, Natasha Hablutzel, Hope Hennessy, Sian Lawrenson, Bianca Pistorius, Jody Tate, Katinka Wilkinson, Isabella Wright

SPECIAL AWARDS

- » **PricewaterhouseCoopers Book Award for Accounting and Mathematics:** Natasha Hablutzel
- » **Prize for Enthusiasm in Afrikaans Home Language:** Tamia Geyer
- » **Ethel Hill Cup for Spoken English:** Amaarah Ebrahim
- » **Bilingual Oral Proficiency at Home Language level:** Zoë Erasmus
- » **Abe Bailey Prize for Bilingualism:** Josi Beare, Traci Hurling
- » **Mrs McCormick's Prize for Spoken French:** Anna Mason
- » **Sonia Beck Essay Prize:** Semane Reddy-Mbewu
- » **Janet Steyn Prize for Interest in the Humanities:** Josi Beare
- » **Miss McLean's Prize for the Most Improved Grade 12 Mathematics:** Amahle Mnyamana
- » **Dr Silberbauer Prize for Interest in the Natural Sciences:** Caitlin Moyle
- » **Bluegrass Digital/ Link to Grow Prize for Perseverance in the Sciences:** Sydney Williams
- » **Daphne Beames Aequa Mente Cup:** Kitty Fisher
- » **Dr Hendrickse Trophy for Entrepreneurship:** Mateena Darsot
- » **The Alicia Wilkinson Silwood Prize for Practical Cookery:** Caitlin Moyle, Isabella Probert
- » **Burnett Family Prize for Art:** Shannon Pitman
- » **Mary Muller Picture of the Year:** Hannah Glanvill
- » **Monique Zurich Trophy for Music:** Robyn Dunn, Kendal Pillay
- » **Stobie Musicianship Prize:** Anna Grieve
- » **Choral Prize:** Juliet Neethling
- » **Frith Trophy for Public Speaking:** Anna von Willingh
- » **Jennifer Sale Drama Trophy for Outstanding Performance:** Josi Beare, Francesca Guy, Jemma Morris, Lidian Plaatjies, Mbali Williams
- » **Annette Hartmann Trophy for the Dramatic Arts:** Josi Beare
- » **McClurg Trophy for the Theatre Arts:** Sarah Andrews, Isabella Wright
- » **Isabella Trophy for Performance in a Second Language:** Maryam Ameen
- » **Waterfield Prize for Commitment, Initiative and Fellowship in the Creative Arts:** Lidian Plaatjies
- » **Erasmus Community Service Trophy:** Mateena Darsot
- » **Claremont Rotary Club Prize:** Sunmin Im
- » **Rotary Club of Claremont / Paul Lee Floating Trophy:** Nina Lewis
- » **Herschel Bursary Dance Trophy:** Thembelihle Mhambi, Chloë Rumbelow
- » **Mrs Stockwell's Prize for All-round Participation and Achievement:** Hannah Glanvill
- » **Chambers Trophy for Good Sportsmanship:** Rebekah de Kock, Jody Tate
- » **Clegg Award: Outstanding Academic and Sporting Achievement:** Lucy Miszewski

- » **Hannath Trophy for the Most Outstanding Sporting Achievement of the Year:** Astrid Faustmann, Lucy Miszewski
- » **Theresa Bridgman Trophy for Sportswoman of the Year:** Amy Goodwin
- » **The House Shield:** Rolt
- » **Arderne House Fellowship Award:** Orefile Masekela
- » **Kirsten Locke Fellowship Award:** Rebekah de Kock
- » **Sandra Wingfield Fellowship Prize:** Traci Hurling
- » **The Jenna Lowe Trophy:** Sunmin Im
- » **Schönborn Trophy for Exceptional Achievement:** Lucy Miszewski
- » **Pietas Trophy presented by the Labia Family:** Lauren Ebell
- » **Miss Geldard's Prize for Courtesy:** Anna Mason
- » **Pamela Duff Award for an Enquiring Mind:** Katinka Wilkinson
- » **The Di van Zyl Award:** Sarah Andrews
- » **The Head's Award for Gracious Leadership:** Rebekah de Kock, Traci Hurling
- » **The Head's Award for Dedicated Servant Leadership:** Amaarah Ebrahim
- » **The Old Herschel Award for Service, Loyalty and Leadership (trophy):** Amaarah Ebrahim

PREMIER ACADEMIC AWARDS: GRADE 12 ORDER OF MERIT

- » **Third place:** Anna Grieve
- » **Second place (Proxime Accessit):** Kitty Fisher
- » **The Desmond Loch Davis Award for Dux of the School:** Mariam Goolam Mahomed

SPORT AWARDS 2019



SQUASH

- » **The JILL PHILIP TROPHY for the Most Improved Player:** Jessica Brown
- » **Certificate for the Most Outstanding Achievement in Squash at Herschel:** Rebecca Glanvill (coming 8th in SA Junior Open)

- » **The JUSTINE PETERS TROPHY for dedication and commitment to Herschel netball:** Drew Zeeman
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable Senior Player:** Chloe Rumblelow

- » **Certificate for the Most Consistent Indoor Player in 2019:** Amy Goodwin
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable Indoor Player:** Charlotte Slabber

NETBALL

- » **The SIBU DLOVA TROPHY** is awarded to an U14 netball player who has shown enthusiasm, talent and commitment throughout the season: Morgan Christian
- » **Certificate for representing the U14 Western Cape Disas team and winning Bronze at the Inter Provincial:** Tyra Lee Penney
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved U16 Player:** Carly Carter
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable U16 Player:** Nina Tsinonis
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved Senior Player:** Shannah Stocken

CROSS COUNTRY

- » **Certificate for Junior Athlete of the Year:** Jessica Tate
- » **Certificate for Commitment and Enthusiasm to Cross Country:** Ella Judge
- » **Certificate for Best Senior Athlete of the Year:** Alexa Mesham

INDOOR HOCKEY

- » **Certificate for the Most Promising Junior Indoor Player:** Stella van Schalkwyk
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved Indoor Player:** Robyn Dawson

BASKETBALL

- » **Certificate for the Most Promising U14 Player:** Matilda Loggenberg
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable U14 Player:** Suzy Whall
- » **Certificates for their selection to the Western Cape U15 Team:** Anuska Loggenberg and Victoria Barton
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved U16 Player:** Rebecca Glanvill
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable Junior Player:** Chloe Rumblelow
- » **Certificate for Most Promising U19 Player:** Kitty Fisher
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved Player:** Emma Hayes
- » **The BASKETBALL TROPHY for the Most Valuable Player:** Charlotte Slabber



SWIMMING

CERTIFICATES FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN SWIMMING IN 2019:

- » **Reese O’Riordan:** 1 x Silver medal at SA Junior Nationals for 200m Back
- » **Michaela de Villiers:** Selected as a member of SA Junior Youth Squad for 2019; competed at the FINA Junior World Championships; 3 x Bronze medals at SA Junior Nationals for 50m Free, 50m Back and 50m Fly
- » **Hannah Pearce:** Selected as a member of SA Junior Youth Squad as well as the SA Youth Open Water Squad for 2019; competed at the FINA Junior World Championships; 2 x Gold medals at SA Junior Nationals for 100m and 200m Back; 1 x Silver medal at SA Junior Nationals for 50m Back; Gold in 50m, 100m and 200m Breaststroke and Gold in 200m IM at SA Junior Nationals
- » **Georgia Nel:** Selected for SA Senior Youth Squad for 2019; 3 Bronze medals at SA Junior Nationals for 100m Free, 200m Free and 200m IM
- » **Hánim Abrahams:** Selected for the SA Senior Youth Squad for 2019; competed at the FINA Junior World Championships
- » **Olivia Nel:** Selected for the SA Senior Squad; selected for the FINA Junior World Champs; 3 x Gold medals at SA Junior Nationals for 50m Back, 100m Back and 50m Free; 1 x Silver at

SA Junior Nationals for 100m Free, 1 x Bronze for 50m Free at SA Senior Nationals; 1 x Gold for 50m Back at SA Senior Nationals

THE GILBERT TROPHY FOR THE SWIMMER OF THE YEAR:

- » **Olivia Nel:** Olivia won Gold in 50m Back and Bronze in 50m Free and 100m Back at the 2019 SA Senior National Championships. She was also selected as a member of the 2019 SA Senior Swimming Squad and the SA Junior Team for the FINA Junior World Championships

HOCKEY

- » **Trophy for the Most Promising U14 Hockey Player:** Stella van Schalkwyk and Mbali Anthony
- » **Certificate for the Most Consistent Performance in U16:** Grace Goodwin
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable U16 Players:** Jaylynn Maneveldt and Frances Bolton
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved U16 Player:** Olivia Dearnaley





HANNATH TROPHY

This trophy is awarded to any girl in the school who has achieved honours in a school sport through dedication amounting to the most outstanding achievement of the year.

This year it is shared, and is awarded to:
Astrid Faustmann and Lucy Miszewski for representing South Africa in the Ladies Water Polo team.

THE CHAMBERS TROPHY FOR SPORTSMANSHIP

This trophy is awarded to a matric girl who has displayed good sportsmanship and upheld the name of the school both on and off the playing fields throughout her career at Herschel: **Rebekah de Kock and Jody Tate**

BRIDGMAN TROPHY FOR SPORTSGIRL OF THE YEAR

This trophy is awarded to a matric girl who has excelled in school sport throughout her school career. The winner is calculated by the use of a point system. This system acknowledges participation in school teams (both summer and winter), provincial and national teams (of sports offered at school) in the girl's matric year: **Amy Goodwin**

- » **Certificates for their selection to a South African Schools U16 Schools Squad:** Jaylynn Maneveldt and Frances Bolton
- » **Certificate for Consistently Good Play:** Jody Tate
- » **The BONELLIE TROPHY is awarded to a player who has achieved throughout her hockey career at Herschel. She has been dedicated and committed and is an asset to her team both on and off the field:** Amy Goodwin
- » **The THOMAS TROPHY is awarded to a player whose outstanding play has been accompanied by exceptional team spirit and enthusiasm. The players were asked to vote for who they thought was a worthy winner:** Charlotte Slabber
- » **THE LEADERSHIP TROPHY is awarded to a girl in any grade who in a position of leadership has shown an ability to inspire, motivate and engender team spirit. This year the trophy is awarded to:** Emma Hayes, for her remarkable leadership in tennis for the past two years.
- » **THE PICKUP TROPHY is for All Round Participation in Sport. From Grade 8 through to Grade 12 the nominees have been given points for all the sporting activities that they have participated**

in. Provincial representation is not to be included in the final total. This year the trophy is awarded to: Amy Goodwin

WATER POLO

- » **Certificate for the Most Promising U14 Player:** Tyra-Lee Penney and Morgan Christian
- » **Certificate for the Most Valuable U16 Player:** Alex Swanepoel
- » **Certificate for the Most Improved U16 Player:** Olivia Duffus
- » **Certificates for Outstanding Achievements in water polo in 2019:**
Astrid Faustmann: Selected for the SA Ladies team
Lucy Miszewski: Selected for the SA Ladies team
- » **The LAWRENCE TROPHY for the Most Improved Water Polo Player:** Nina Vermaak
- » **The KATE WATTS TROPHY for the Most Dedicated Water Polo Player:** Lucy Miszewski
- » **The MORELLI TROPHY for the girl who has made the biggest contribution to water polo:** Alexia Charles

TENNIS

- » **The Karin Macfarlane Trophy for the Most Promising Junior Tennis Player:** Rachael Wolhuter
- » **Certificate for Best Player in 2019:** Jade Benting
- » **The Balance Trophy Certificate for her ongoing contribution to Herschel tennis, both on and off the court:** Emma Hayes



WP & SA COLOURS



FRONT ROW: M Anthony (Hockey), L MacFarlaine (Tennis), M Loggenberg (Tennis), K Coetsee (Hockey), E Sales (Cross Country/Athletics), D Varney (Hockey), G Goodwin (Hockey), M Manas (Hockey), E Clarke (Hockey), S Voigt (Lifesaving/Swimming/Cross Country)

SECOND ROW: F Bolton (Hockey/Athletics), J Manneveldt (Hockey), J Kirsten (Water Polo), M Versfeld (Hockey), J Tate (Hockey), G Clarke (Hockey), R Ndhiluni (Hockey), J Venter (Hockey), I Nicholson (Tennis), S Reddy-Mbewu (Debating), N Vermaak (Hockey/Water Polo)

THIRD ROW: S van Schalkwyk (Hockey), L Patel (Hockey), L Burns (Squash), L Matteson (Squash), I Wright (Squash), H Abrahams (Swimming), H Pearce (Swimming), R Howie (Squash), S Murray (Water Polo/Hockey), L Formby (Hockey), L Siebel (Swimming), J Brown (Squash), R Wolhuter (Tennis), E Lea (Hockey)

FOURTH ROW: R Gianvill (Squash), M Karigowska (Water Polo), G Neethling (Tennis), L Johnson (Tennis), B Passmore (Water Polo), A Charles (Water Polo), J Moxley (Water Polo), T Penney (Netball), S Whall (Hockey), O Duffus (Water Polo)

BACK ROW: L Bertish (Water Polo), G Nel (Swimming), A Faustmann (Water Polo), A Mesham (Athletics), J Hollick (Water Polo), M de Villiers (Swimming), K Charles (Water Polo), A Swanepoel (Water Polo), J Collins (Hockey/Water Polo), H Cromhout (Swimming), B Ingram (Water Polo), O Nel (Swimming), L Miszewski (Water Polo)

TRADITION

Remembering the past and celebrating the future.





FOUNDER'S DAY

BY MRS MICHELLE SYLVESTER

Founder's Day was celebrated in Herschelian style on the 5 February 2019. We were privileged to witness Ms Brendalynn Stempel receive the Caroline Herschel Award. Ms Stempel inspired us with her challenge to "Pay it Forward", just as she has consciously endeavoured to do in her life. Her inherent grace and dignity was so clear as she encouraged us to live in a state of gratitude and to always put others in need first. The theme of the day was: "Remembering the past and celebrating the future".

To represent this beautiful relationship between the past and the future, we called upon the Chairperson of the Old Herschelians, Ms Kris Miller, and our current Head Girl, Amaarah Ebrahim, to light a candle in honour of the unity between past and present Herschel students. In our hearts, we took the light of this candle and passed it on to those around us.

In the busyness and frenetic pace of life we needed to factor in moments to reflect on our journey – our personal and collective journeys. Where did we start this journey? How have we traversed this far? Who are the people who have accompanied us and supported us on this journey? And, where do we envisage our destination to be? This required courage. "One cannot discover new oceans unless they have the courage to lose sight of the shore." (André Gide) On Founder's Day, we prayed for that courage – as individuals and as a community.

Celebrations like Founder's Day also help

us to forge unity and identity. They punctuate our journey and help us to celebrate the joy of being a Herschel community. Through symbols and ritual we honoured our journey.

OUR SYMBOL CEREMONY INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: SYMBOL NO. 1: A PHOTOGRAPH OF OUR FOUNDER, JOHN HERSCHEL

We honoured our noble heritage. We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who went before us. Our remarkable achievements today would not be possible without the sacrifice, tenacity and vision of those who laid the path. A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture are like a tree without roots. We gave praise and thanks to the countless teachers, heads, parents, students and benefactors who have contributed to who we are today.

SYMBOL NO. 2: OUR HOLY BIBLE

Herschel is a school founded in the Anglican tradition. The tradition draws from the wisdom of the universal teachings of Jesus Christ. We are inspired by the Golden Rule which underlies all faith traditions – do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Being a people of faith demands too that we act justly. The prophet Micah tells us boldly what is required, **"This is what Yahweh asks of you, only this: to act justly, love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8.**

May we find the courage and strength to be a prophetic people – a people who

challenge the inequities in the world and seek to serve the common good.

SYMBOL NO. 3: OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

We present our third symbol – our uniform of today. This speaks to our current reality. The blue and the pink celebrates who we are but also reminds us that we have a commitment to be people of worth – that we take our place, unashamedly, as leaders in our society. We bring to our fractured and wounded world our unique gifts that can nurture and restore.

SYMBOL NO. 4: THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INFLUENTIAL WOMAN, KAVITA RAMDAS

*We need people who are so strong they can be gentle,
So educated they can be humble,
So fierce they can be compassionate,
So passionate they can be rational,
And so disciplined they can be free*

Our next set of symbols represented our quest for knowledge. We are first and foremost an institution of learning excellence. We seek to open the horizons of our minds, to hunger after wisdom and knowledge and to critically reflect on our learning experiences. In this era, we can no longer be passive recipients of knowledge. We need to engage with knowledge and technology in a responsible way.

Fake news and sensationalism undermines our search for truth. At Herschel, we are privileged to receive the tools which will enable us to make positive contributions to society – in a number of different fields. May we grow in appreciation of this gift which has been bequeathed to us.

Our final symbol is the crest we love so well. The bold H reminds us that we are Herschelians for life. We imbue the spirit of Herschel and take it forth wherever we go. The stylised arrow represents the desire for growth and excellence. Sir John Herschel, on whose land our original school was built, was an astronomer. He delighted in the majesty of the Heavens. He had an outward and upward vision. May we too have the expansiveness of mind and spirit to look outward, upward and inward – to become the best that we can be. May we dedicate ourselves to creating a community of inclusion and care – where each person is afforded dignity and respect – where we all can reflect the glory of God.

Our day ended with our traditional cupcakes, a walk through the arch for all new Herschelians (many staff being quite out of breath) and our Old Herschelian Association Lunch.

Together with those who have gone before us, those who are in our midst and those who are to follow we say *Ad dei gloriam* – To the Glory of our God. ◇

Old Herschelians Report

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OHA,
MS KRISTINA MILLER

The year kicked off with a spectacular bang. The Founder's Day Lunch and Cocktail Party were both very well attended by reunion years (1959, 1969, 1979, 1999 and 2009) and other Old Herschelians and carried on well past their usual wrap-up time, with some Old Herschelians having to be booted off campus past 11pm on a school night!

During the lunch, various reunion years spoke of their time at the school, their fond memories and pet peeves. A few tears were shed for those who are no longer with us to celebrate and the sentiments of how being able to attend Herschel is both a blessing and a privilege were shared by all.

The event was also used as a platform to gather reminiscences for the Centenary Book which is currently being drafted by Neil Veitch and Lindi Clarke (former Vice Head). Neil and Lindi would love to hear your stories and add to their work with touching personal accounts. If you wish to submit something, please email the OHA Secretary on oha@herschel.org.za.

Class of 1999



Class of 1959



Class of 1969





Founder's Day also saw the second Caroline Herschel Award being handed over to our phenomenal recipient – Brendalyn Stempel, who was the clear and overwhelming choice of the OHA committee.

Brendalyn's experiences have been diverse and fascinating! Her passions and professions have taken her all over the world, meeting people from all walks of life and allowing her to create wonderful philanthropic projects and opportunities that benefit others far and wide through her foundation, which is focused on three areas of giving – Education, Children and the Arts. There are numerous projects worldwide in which the Foundation is involved.

These include:

- **Africa:** The Africa Foundation, sponsoring students in SA, Tanzania and Kenya
- **USA:** The New York Institute of Technology (School of Architecture and Design)
- **South Africa:** Herschel Girls School, Bishops, The Red Cross Children's Hospital, The Laureus Foundation, Shawco, UCT, Operation Smile, the Ruth Prowse Art Centre
- **Bermuda:** Bermuda National Trust, Masterworks Art Centre

We are proud to call Brendalyn one of our own and so immensely grateful for everything she gives back to the school.

We are also grateful to the parents and Old Herschelians who have contributed to the Bursary Fund, the Bursary Dinner and Auction and supported the school in other ways.

The current construction project underway on the school grounds will not only provide the girls with a state-of-the-art facility to house additional music, art and design classrooms, but will free up the old music block where the Old Herschelians will be taking up residence in the new year. Once we have moved into our new office and re-housed our archives, Kathy Wheeler, an Old Herschel and Museologist will commence with inventorying all our records to align with the plan of digitising in the years to come.

2020 will see exciting new change for the Old Herschelians that will see our records become more accessible online and allow for better networking and engagement with the current student body, staff and Herschel family. We are greatly looking forward to this new chapter.



WINTER DINNER

BY MRS JOYCE GOLDSCHMIDT

We were proud to welcome our guest speaker and Caroline Herschel Award nominee, Jane Coombe (Herschel 1978), to the annual Old Herschelian Winter Dinner which was held on 12 July. Despite her many remarkable achievements, Jane is completely humble and heart-warming to listen to. She sees herself no differently from anyone else and shrugs off her achievements saying, "I've only achieved what I have because of the teams I've had around me." Jane's determination, from a young age, has always been to make the world a better place and she has achieved, and continues to achieve, this admirably. With a focus on women, and particularly children, Jane is like the Great Mother caring for and quietly changing the world. Like Caroline Herschel, Jane is one of those truly remarkable women who epitomises "a prosperity of kindness and decency".

Stuart West and Kristina Miller thanked Lucy Bailey for her enthusiasm and dedication as the Old Herschelian Secretary. Lucy steps down after three years to spend more time being a busy mom.

It was wonderful to have over 50 Old Herschelians, along with members of Herschel's Diversity and Transformation Committee and other guests, attend this moving event.



LADY HERSCHEL COCKTAIL CLUB

BY MRS DAPHNE BEAMES

The Lady Herschel Cocktail Club is open to Old Herschelians, former and current staff, mums of old girls and generally anyone with a love of all things Herschel. We meet five or six times a year at a number of beautiful venues. To be added to the mailing list, please email Daphne Beames gilesapie@iafrica.com or join the Lady Herschel Cocktail Club Facebook page.

The Lady Herschel Club was recently contacted by Ms Rose Teanby who is researching Lady Margaret Herschel for her PhD. While doing some research for her I made the serendipitous discovery that Lady Margaret (wife of Sir John Herschel) is, in fact, my 15th cousin three times removed! How amazing is that?

This photo was taken at the Mount Nelson Hotel in December last year and is truly iconic as it shows Nina Daniel-Gruber, who first joined the club in 2001 and, this year, brought her daughter (Isabella Grace) – who was not yet born when we started and is now all grown up!



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Nina Daniel-Gruber, Sally-Anne Ebbs (Cattell), Isabella Grace Gruber, and Kirsten Tyrrell-Jensen

GRADE 1-12 AT HERSCHEL



FRONT ROW: Z Desai, I McKay, G Bulmer, S West, K Fisher, M Stanley, H Glanvill
SECOND ROW: C Dicker, I Pargiter, S Hudson, S Longworth, J Neethling, J Lander,
S Lawrenson, N Hablutzel, A Falconer
BACK ROW: A Chagan, K Wilkinson, A Angeliniadis, G Bolligello, B Massey, V Robertson,
G Angeliniadis, T Geyer, A Hendricks

SERVICE

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give. – Winston S. Churchill



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

BY REV. LORNA LAVARELLO-SMITH

The focus this year has very much been about the compelling truth that God's unconditional love is for everyone, however, that this love is also balanced by God's justice. It

has been a time to remind everyone in the Herschel family that when Jesus commanded us to love our neighbours as ourselves, he did not exclude anyone from that love. If we are to model the life of Christ here in Herschel then we need to model the values of love and tolerance, not those of intolerance and judgement.

This year during the 11 days between Ascension and Pentecost, Herschel took part in Thy Kingdom Come. Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement started by the Archbishops of York and Canterbury that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. With the assistances of parents from the Prep Prayer Group and the Senior School Prayer Group we set up prayer activities in the Atrium to represent God's Kingdom at the heart of our school.

This year Herschel will be hosting the Confirmation Service at St Saviour's; we have 11 girls being confirmed by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba along with candidates from St Saviour's, St Cyprian's Girls School, Bishops Diocesan College and St George's Grammar School. The Herschel Confirmands spent their Quiet Morning Confirmation Retreat focusing on being creative with God. The Quiet Morning was led by Ms McLachlan (former Youth Leader at St Thomas Church Rondebosch). The candidates created an image from nature, looked at the Tree Rings of their life and created a prayer tree. They then turned their creativeness to meditative Rock Painting with Mrs Henning from ChelseaBunn Studios.

One of the highlights of this year was a visit from the Bishop of Gloucester in the



God's unconditional love is for everyone

UK, Bishop Rachel Treweek. Bishop Rachel is the first woman Diocesan Bishop in the Church of England and the first woman Bishop to take a seat in the House of Lords in the British Parliament. Bishop Rachel led the Senior School in devotions at their assembly using Psalm 139. Following assembly Bishop Rachel spent time with Grade 10 and 11, talking to them about her experiences. After this Bishop Rachel spent time with Grade 6 and 7 in the Prep School. Students had the opportunity to ask Bishop Rachel any question about her that they wanted to ask. She also spent time speaking with them about her campaign called #Iedentity. Bishop Rachel said, "I long for every young person to discover their worth as a unique individual created in the image of God and to find happiness as they

go on becoming who they have been created to be. We are bombarded with messages of what the 'perfect body image' is, and for many this undermines true identity. We know that for these young people having negative thoughts about how they look can impact on their entire life, causing deep unhappiness and contributing to poor mental health. Increasingly, many young people are sourcing their identities from social media and advertising, and in the process losing their self-esteem, which is one of the reasons why our campaign is called #Iedentity." We are very grateful to Bishop Rachel for spending this time with us.

As we move forward into a time of change, may we see more Herschel students living out their faith in unique ways that impact the world for the better. ◊



FISH

FAITHFUL IN SERVING HIM

BY LAURA KINGSTON

If you wander into the downstairs drama room on a Wednesday at lunch break, you will be lucky enough to meet Herschel's Christian Union. FISH (an acronym for "Faithful In Serving Him") is a close-knit community of Herschel students who would like to learn more about God in a safe environment while getting to know other girls and having some fun. This year we started by looking at big questions surrounding the Bible, such as how do we know we can trust the Bible? What does God say about love and relationships? How can I pray and why should I bother praying if God already knows what I'm going to say? We had guest speakers come in to share their experiences

and advice on these topics as well as having discussions and brainstorming sessions.

We continued this theme for the first six months of the year and then in Term 3 we started discussing common clichés that people often say and looked at whether they were in line with what the Bible teaches us. We discussed whether we should actually "follow our hearts" as many people often say and explored what God says about guilt, condemnation and conviction. After we had finished this topic, we studied the stories of women in the Bible and the important role that they played. We were lucky enough to have Anne Isaac (a current Herschel mom), one of UCT's legal counsellors and an inspirational speaker for women, come to talk to us at break and join us at our third term sleepover.

The sleepovers are definitely a highlight of the FISH calendar and take place twice a year at school. This year we were allowed to sleep in the library which resulted in nest negotiating and cuddling into fat sacks and

blankets while watching movies or having "deep-and-meaningful" discussions late into the night.

At our most recent sleepover, Anne Isaac taught us that we are all daughters of a King and should be wearing our tiaras with pride! She spoke about how we will always have God, through the good and the bad, and that we have a direct line to Him. She also spoke about how God knows what is best for us and how he has a plan for us and our futures.

My last year at FISH has been a very special one. I feel as if I have come to know the girls better, grown in my own faith and helped to grow the FISH community across the grades. These girls have such a special place in my heart and so do Mrs Oelofse and Mrs Thomson who are in the background – motivating, loving and supporting the Committee throughout the year. I am excited to see this special group of girls grow and flourish throughout their years at Herschel and I will definitely come back to visit them! ◇

PASTORAL CARE

BY MRS ALISON BODENSTEIN

It has been an absolute privilege for me, once again, this year to work with the entire Pastoral Care team at Herschel. If I were to mention everyone by name it would include the entire team of 36 tutors as well! However, it would be remiss of me not to thank the key players in the team. These include our three counsellors, Tasneem Variawa, Paula Sellmeyer and Monica Robertson; our Learning Support and Careers Counsellor, Monique Nyback; our House Directors, Bongani Sopam, Hanneke Basson, Tracy Rousseau and Carol Alpert and finally our Assistant House Directors, Jannie Gouws, Louise van Wyk, Sharmila Gordon and Hanneke de Bruijn. Thank you all for your incredible contribution as you look after the heart of the school.

As we come to the end of the second year of our Vertical Tutor and new House System, it has been so apparent that each tutor group is now taking on a life and soul of its own. There are no two classes that are the same as each one is a blend of the personalities within it. Some are louder than others, some are quirkier than others, some are more cerebral while others are filled with continual laughter. The most important factor, however, is that each student at Herschel has a physical and metaphorical space, at school, where they are seen, cared for and mentored and hopefully, where they truly feel they belong. Thank you to all our tutors and Matric Leaders, this year, who have worked so hard to make this a

reality for so many of our students.

In the Counselling Department, our team, which includes ever-cheerful Sheila Moolman, our secretary, has remained the same this year. Tasneem, Paula and Monica work tirelessly to create a safe space for our students as they navigate often incredibly difficult waters through their adolescent years. Not only are they involved in one-on-one work with the students but they initiate hugely effective whole-grade interventions depending on the needs of the students.

The counsellors were a whole lot more involved with the Grade 8 Orientation programme this year, working closely with Nuraan Barendse, the Grade Head, standing in for Candice Lacerda, who was on Maternity Leave. The focus at this level is on getting to know oneself, self-care, journal reflections and at the same time shifting the focus to preventative work in the form of psycho-education. Speakers to this group have included Jo Petersen on foundations of sexuality and gender identity, Sven Ruygrok on bullying and Dr Naz Daniels on stress and anxiety management which included coping and the use of medication. Our new intern in the department this year, Saeeda van der Schyff, has also started a support group for those Grade 8s struggling with the transition to a new school. Relaxation sessions, including yoga with Fran Tannenbaum, have also been included in the Grade 8 Programme.

The Grade 9s were also privileged to attend the same talks as the Grade 8s as well as being included in Saeeda's support group. Other whole-grade interventions have focused on issues of friendship where, once again, journaling has been encouraged. The counsellors have also worked with individual classes on Body Image and the Grade 9s have thoroughly enjoyed their Mindfulness workshops with Lynn van t'Hof and Cailyn Sonderup.

In Grade 10 most of the intervention takes place on LO days which take place six times through the year. An emerging theme in this grade is that of perfectionism which has been addressed. The students are fortunate to experience the expertise of Claire Prowse in teen-building workshops and have also had workshops on thinking patterns, helping students to identify negative thinking patterns of their own. They have also explored the foundations of sexuality with outside speaker, Michelle Schoon.

Our intern, Saeeda, identified the needs of the Grade 11 group by means of a detailed questionnaire. She then put into practice their request for practical ways of destressing and taking care of oneself through Nia Dance presented by Gail Schoeman and yoga presented by Fran Tannenbaum. The students were overwhelmingly positive about the effects of these physical sessions on reducing their levels of anxiety and stress.

The Grade 12s have also had workshops presented by the counsellors on the importance of acknowledging endings and closure of different stages of life, preparing them for the ending of so many years at school.

This year, Monique Nyback returned from her internship at the Bishops Support Unit last year and has resumed her work as the academic support coordinator and career guidance counsellor. Monique assists the girls as they navigate the difficult waters of academics, as well as future careers. Aspects of her work include individual academic and career counselling, language support, study methods, subject selection and assisting girls with applications to tertiary institutions both locally and abroad. A huge thank-you to Melanie Williams who recently organised a phenomenal career panel discussion evening and job shadow programme for the Grade 11s. Melanie's ongoing contribution to the careers and Life Orientation department at Herschel is greatly valued and appreciated.

We are, once again, so aware of our privilege at Herschel that those who administer the purse strings understand the vital importance of pastoral care, and thus give us the means to keep the heart of Herschel healthy and strong. ♦





COMMUNITY SERVICE

BY MRS GILLIAN VAN BLERK, COMMUNITY SERVICE DIRECTOR

We had another wonderful year of Community Service. We also started a sewing group this year which was great!

The Herschel Girls School has supported so many organisations. We supported the Food Fair at Kewtown Primary School, Grannies Day at Capricorn Primary School and Women's Day in the Vrygrond community. All our donations were greatly appreciated to make the events a success.

I would like to thank The Clothing Bank for all their donations of clothing, stationery and toiletries. These were donated to various old age homes, hospitals and schools.

Our Herschel girls made 250 Santa Shoeboxes at the year end of last year. The boxes were beautifully decorated and some had special messages attached. The boxes were distributed to Victoria Hospital, Margaret's House Child and Youth Centre and Where Rainbows Meet Community Centre in Vrygrond.

I would like to thank the staff, parents, learners and my Community Service Committee for making our programmes so successful.

The passion and commitment from staff and learners was fantastic this year! THANK YOU!

SERVICE PREFECT

BY HANIM ISMAIL

When I arrived at Herschel in 2015, I was ready to kick-start my high school career by getting involved in as many activities as I possibly could. However, I am not the most athletic person, nor do I shine particularly brightly on stage. Thus, I found my niche in the community service and outreach sphere of Herschel and developed a deep passion for giving back and serving the community.

I have been very impressed by the generosity shown by the Herschel students throughout my time as Service Prefect. Since the end of 2018, with the Service Staff "Thank You" Hampers and the Santa Shoeboxes, we have been overwhelmed by the donations and participation of the students. This giving attitude ensured the success of the Victoria Hospital Christmas Party, Uncle Willy's Christmas Party and the Habitat for Humanity Cyclathon.

We also have weekly outreach activities. Students from various schools are tutored in Maths, Science and History. There are other initiatives: S.M.I.L.E., Jump HI, Big Sisters, Catering and Art and Drama. Each tutor class also helps out by dedicating a lunch break to making sandwiches for the learners who attend these programmes.

A few highlights have been an Easter egg collection, a stationery drive in aid of Holy Cross Primary School and the cupcake collection for Mandela Day. We had such a wonderful response to the Mandela Day collection and received over 800 cupcakes! We were therefore able to donate cupcakes to Victoria Hospital, Huis Luckhoff Old Age Home, Maitland Cottage, Regina Coeli Primary School, Kewtown Primary School, St George's Home for Girls and Margaret's House Child and Youth Centre. A big thank-you goes to every person who donated cupcakes.

Another event that gets everybody excited is the Interhouse Knitting competition. Everyone is encouraged to knit as many squares as possible in their house colour. This is a

great way for students to do service and earn house points! Once the squares are collected, they are made into blankets and then donated. Thank you to all the students (and parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends) who supported this wonderful project.

Many students also took initiative and arranged their own cake and pizza sales. A special mention goes to the World Challenge girls and the incredible work they did in Thailand, to Lucy Frater and Reach for a Dream for all they do to make little boys and girls feel special, and to Rebecca Sparg and her amazing project in aid of Happiness Haven in Westbank. I would like to express my immense gratitude to Mrs van Blerk for all the guidance and kindness she has shown me





throughout my term as Service Prefect and even before then. She is an amazing woman with a massive heart. It was an absolute privilege working with her to ensure such a successful service year!

GRADE 8 – CHRISTMAS PLAYS

On Friday, 9 November, the Grade 8 Drama learners performed their drama practical in the theatre. The theatre was beautifully decorated with Christmas trimmings.

60 Grade 2 learners from Kewtown Primary School in Athlone and 60 Grade 3 learners from Rosmead Primary in Claremont attended the Christmas plays.

The learners loved the interaction with our girls and were very excited to be part of the performance.

The learners and teachers were provided with juice and doughnuts. They were also treated to a party pack after the show.

SERVICE STAFF HAMPER COLLECTION

We were overwhelmed by all the donations received from the parents. Sixty-three hampers were packed for the service staff on 30 November by the Herschel girls.

On Thursday, 6 December during our Festive Season celebration the service staff were presented with a card and their hamper.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

On 10 December we organised a Christmas party for 140 paediatric patients and their mothers.

The Rotary Club of Constantia did the Christmas decorations and put up a huge Christmas tree with lots of lights and decorations.

Seventeen Herschel girls volunteered to help on that day. When we arrived at the hospital, the children were waiting for us. They were very excited when the

girls starting doing face painting, biscuit decorating and making popcorn.

The children were also treated to an interactive magic show by a Grade 12 learner, Caitlin Hutchison, from Wynberg Girls' High School.

After lunch, which consisted of a hot dog, juice and ice cream, Father Christmas arrived!

The children were very excited to receive a Santa Shoebox which had been made by the Herschel girls.

Father Christmas called out each child by name to receive his or her Santa Shoebox and party box. They were overwhelmed by all the goodies in the Santa Shoebox.

Dr Gill Schermbrucker wrote, "Thanks to the wonderful and energetic team for organising our Victoria Christmas Party. Many of our children have come to look forward to the party. It really does cheer our little ones up. The staff and children at Victoria Hospital thank Gillian Van Blerk

and the girls who spent so much time, energy and care making the Christmas Party such a happy and memorable time. You put smiles on so many children's faces and we hope to see you again next year!"

REACH FOR A DREAM BY LUCY FRATER

Twenty children from Wola Nani arrived at Herschel on Saturday the 3rd of August. The children began the day by taking photographs with different props and making up different dance routines in groups with the Herschel students.

The children then had some lunch and snacks and got ready for their performances. They got dressed into different costumes, and had makeup and face paint done for them. After taking more photographs, they entered the theatre where they were able to watch each other perform. They were able to show off their dancing skills in front of an audience with full stage

lighting and sound. After the performances were done, the party began! The children and students played games and ate lots of sweets and delicious food.

As the day came to a close, the children were given party packs with the photos they had taken inside. I think it's safe to say that the day was a lot of fun for both the children and the Herschel students! Lucy Frater also received a certificate for the most money collected by a school for Slipper Day!

BIG SISTERS

BY **MATEENA DARSOT**

Every Tuesday, a group of 16 Grade 6 learners from Rosmead Primary School in Claremont comes to Herschel Girls School. After partnering up with one of the "little sisters" at the beginning of the year, the rest of the year is spent doing fun activities and in bonding sessions. Some of the activities were beading, cupcake decorating, card making and lots of game challenges.

Big Sisters gives girls the opportunity to contribute to their community and to assist those around them. It allows you to develop new skills or build on existing experiences.

OUTREACH COMPUTERS

BY **FARHEEN KAHN**

Every Thursday, 25 Grade 12 learners from Thandokhulu High School attend our classes. The classes are taught by Mrs Sue Stein. They are taught vital computer literacy skills. Our girls assist them to complete their CVs, and university applications as well as to use search engines to aid research. The Herschel girls have a wonderful bond with the Thandokhulu learners.

OUTREACH DRAMA

BY **CHLOE NETTO**

Outreach Drama is hosted every Monday afternoon with 30 Grade 7 students from Kewtown Primary School in Athlone. Herschel students teach the children drama skills, and play ice breakers and games. The children from Kewtown Primary get to learn new skills

and gain confidence in a fun and interactive way and the Herschel students enjoy watching these young students express their talent in such a beautiful way.

CATERING

BY **CHILOMBO SEYUBA**

Every Wednesday afternoon, 16 eager chefs from Thandokhulu High School joined seven Herschel students in our Consumer Studies classroom. Anyone from Grade 10 – 12 is welcome to teach and to provide basic cooking skills and kitchen hygiene to learners from Thandokhulu. It has been such joy seeing the learners enjoy creating their own dishes from cupcakes to pizzas. We make new friends and memories every week and develop cooking skills that learners can take home and practise. Each learner from Thandokhulu received a certificate for catering.

I would like to thank Ms Cass and Mrs Van Blerk for all their support and motherly love.

"No one is born a great cook, one learns by doing."



OUTREACH ART

BY **SHANNON PITMAN**

Outreach Art has had another successful year. The Herschel students and I have had so much fun doing crafts with the bubbly 16 Grade 7 Kewtown Primary School learners from Athlone. Every week a new activity is accepted with an open heart and embracing attitude. The learners' confidence has also developed throughout the year. We watched their initial shy and self-conscious attitude towards drawing a hand turkey, to their taking on any challenge in the third term.

I am excited to keep working with my team and the Kewtown Primary School learners.

OUTREACH HISTORY

BY **BIANCA PISTORIUS**

The Grade 12 matric history students took part in an outreach history programme throughout this year. We met with 40 history students from Thandokhulu High School on Thursdays after school. During the course of the 'class' we worked through a compilation of source and essay-style questions, focusing particularly on questions in the source-based papers that they found most challenging. It was incredible to witness their confidence and skill in these areas increase over time. Although our main goal was to guide them through the syllabus and aid them with certain techniques, we were able to relax and have fun at the same time. Overall, I hope that the students from Thandokhulu were able to benefit from this experience as much as we all did.

I have enormous amounts of gratitude for this programme and for all the matrics who participated in it.

OUTREACH SCIENCE

BY **GINA-ROSE BOLLIGELLO**

Outreach Science are Science classes run every Tuesday afternoon at school for 21 Matric students from Thandokhulu High School in Mowbray. The programme is run by current Herschel Matric science students and our science teachers.

Each session the students work together on questions on various topics for upcoming examinations. It has been a



highlight of the year aside from it constantly challenging all Matric students on their knowledge of the subject as final examinations approach. It has been a time for Herschel students to bond and get to know students from a different background to them.

The time was well spent with each other, both parties walked away at the end of each session inspired and having learnt something new from each other. It has been a truly uplifting experience.

S.M.I.L.E. (ST MARY'S INTERACTIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE)

BY **BLUE THORPE**

Every Tuesday 48 Grade 6 learners from Capricorn Primary School in Vrygrond attend our literacy programme. Mrs Karen Levitt (a parent) and Mrs Bev Labia (ex-parent) facilitate the programme.

20 Herschel girls from Grade 9 – 12 volunteer to teach the learners every week.

The dining room is very noisy with the learners waiting patiently for their buddies to arrive. Every week there are different activities, rhymes, singing, making mobiles, games and crossword puzzles.

The Herschel girls form very special bonds with the learners and always bring their buddies some treats when it's their birthday. The Capricorn learners were very sad when our programme ended because they will miss their buddies so much!

CARING FOR KIDS

BY **ANNA VON WILLINGH**

Caring for Kids is a club which allows students to reach out

to their community through various creative projects spread throughout the year. This year learners made play dough for The Orphan Foundation as well as sleeping bags for the homeless.

Volunteers also participated in 'fun days' where they got to entertain young children. In Term 2 they went to an end-of-term party hosted by The Orphan Foundation where they could hand over the play dough as gifts to the children. In September they worked with the Sisanda Foundation and hosted a Heritage Day-themed 'fun day' for a group of Grade 3 girls.

OUTREACH MATHS

BY **ANNA VON WILLINGH**

For Outreach Maths 20 Grade 11 pupils from Sibelius High School in Steenberg attended extra Maths lessons every Friday. They were taught by one of our school's Maths teachers, Mr April, who was assisted by some of our Grade 11 pupils. This year the learners worked through a number of Herschel past papers. Each session was also focused





on a specific area of work which aligned with their curriculum.

OUTREACH SEWING

BY NINA LEWIS

This is the first year that we have sewing lessons. Every Monday afternoon eight students from Grade 8-12 join students from Claremont High School to teach them how to sew.

During these sessions, the students have learnt a number of sewing techniques, and have made bags, purses, and skirts. We loved the interaction with the learners and it was very exciting to see the things that we made.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CYCLATHON

BY HANIM ISMAIL

On the 25th and 26th of January, 16 students from Herschel Girls, along with others from Rustenburg, Westerford, Bishops, Rondebosch, SACS and Springfield, volunteered at Habitat for Humanity's annual 25-hour Cyclathon held at the V&A Waterfront Amphitheatre.

Habitat for Humanity is a global non-profit organisation aiming



JUMP HI (MATHS PROGRAMME)

BY KAYLEIGH VLOK

Jump Hi is an enriching activity that runs every Thursday for an hour after school. 25 Herschel girls from all grades spend their afternoon assisting 35 Grade 5 and 6 learners from Regina Coeli Primary School in Athlone with Mathematics.

It is not all work as these children never miss an opportunity to entertain us with their antics and conversations. It is incredible to see, over a few hours spent together, the bond that develops between the Herschel girls and their buddies. One expects to be spending their time helping others but in reality these children reward us with so much more.

to eradicate poverty through better housing. Habitat for Humanity South Africa does this by organising build events where others can volunteer to help build homes with professional builders on site. In order to do this, they need to raise money to buy materials for the houses.

This year, the Cyclathon was extremely successful and raised an overwhelming amount of money for these build projects! In fact, Habitat for Humanity still has last year's funds raised at the 2018 Cyclathon as Habitat for Humanity was unable to do any builds last year due to the drought.

Our students contributed by cycling on the stationary bikes available at the event, selling



SENIOR GIRLS

and buying raffle tickets and MC-ing. The atmosphere of the whole event was great as the public also cycled on the bikes while enjoying the entertainment that was brought by many local bands that performed.

A big thank-you goes to all the students who sacrificed their weekends to volunteer at this wonderful event and to those who came to support and contributed towards this great initiative.

HAPPY HANDS

BY **TAMIA GEYER**

Every Tuesday afternoon a group of 15 Herschel students travels from Herschel to St George's Children's Home for Girls in Wynberg to interact with the children. St George's Home for Girls is a Child and Youth Care Centre which cares for girls aged three to 18 years old who have been neglected, orphaned, abandoned, abused or are in any other difficult situation. We spend an hour and a half with the girls catching up, playing games and doing homework. Our aim is to be a mentor or "big sister" to the girls and help them with whatever it may be.

We play outdoor games with the little ones and do homework with the older ones. These weekly visits allow us to form long-lasting bonds which also act as a support system for the girls. This is always an enriching experience for our students as through these visits we are exposed to other girls with different backgrounds and realities to us.

RED NOSE CHICKEN CLUB

BY **JEEYOO KIM**

The Red Nose Chicken Club goes on an outing every Friday after school to Maitland Cottage Children's Orthopaedic Hospital in Claremont. They dress up as clowns with red dots painted on their faces to entertain the children for the afternoon.

They also donate books and toys to the hospital. The girls go and support the children and lighten up the atmosphere of the hospital. It's always sad when it is time to leave and the children want you to stay longer!



HAPPY PAWS

BY **SHANNON PITMAN**

Happy Paws has had a transformative year. We switched our assistance to a smaller non-profit organisation, namely Plumpets, that receives a lot less help and is in need of dog walkers and helpers. As many people as are available attend their bi-monthly Adoption days. We also try to fit in at least two dog walks on a Saturday afternoon. The Herschel students have flourished under the opportunity of helping these adorable dogs. We hope to build on this relationship and raise some funds for them.





Interact

REPORT

BY INTERACT PRESIDENT **SUNMIN IM**

The Herschel Interact Committee is a group of students dedicated to “Service above Self”, supported by Claremont Rotary and Rotaract. Each member contributes to regular activities for the community. Interact has always had a special place in my heart and this past year has allowed me to learn treasured experiences by leading this group of enthusiastic Interactors.

The service year began when we picked up a project partnered with Happy Hands to repaint the corridor walls of Heatherdale Children’s Home in order to create a more pleasing environment for the children. This launched us into a busy year beginning with the Uncle Willy’s Christmas Parties. These parties are run in the December holidays until Christmas Day and the Interactors help in the running and organising of the Rotary event. Dressing up as Santa’s helpers for a fun and exciting evening for the children, is wonderful. Festive music, laughter and hay-filled fights with children under colourful lights creates many memories. This is the event that made me fall in love with Interact.

‘Fun Frenzy’ followed, organised by

Claremont Rotary, in which groups from children’s homes come to have a full day of fun at various stations of other Interact clubs. The children enjoy face painting, three-legged races, games, soccer and, the messiest and most popular game: hanging doughnuts. The fishing game, for which we had spent some time creating colourful cardboard fish and rods in preparation, was also popular. It is always wonderful to bond with the children and to see the smiles on their faces.

The annual Cape Town Cycle Tour came soon after, open for the school to partake in offering their assistance. This is a long and busy morning of checking in millions of eager cyclists, starting fresh and early at 4:30 am. While seeing the world collection of bikes and helmets, the Interactors enjoy the thrilling morning bonding with each other whilst assisting the cyclists.

This year, Interact continued a wonderful Upcycle initiative from last year of the Primary School Project. In this project, we collectively gathered recycled materials such as bottle tops, plastic tubs, cardboard and toilet rolls to create a variety of learning equipment, specifically for mathematics. These classroom materials were

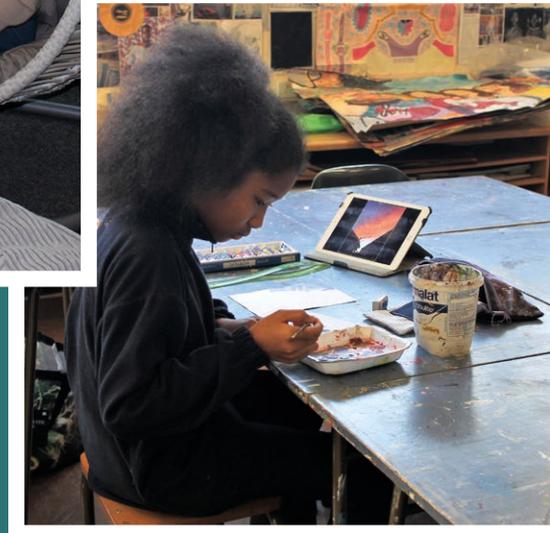
received by primary schools in the Eastern Cape lacking teaching tools and equipment to aid young children in having a better learning experience. We made a collection of tangrams, fraction cards, number patterns and charts, clocks and much more provided by craft materials. The Interactors engaged in creative and productive workshops and sessions, having fun in groups as a craft party making sock puppets and shape dominoes.

The last Rotary event for the year is One-to-One Day, another lively day filled with entertaining stations set up by various schools and organisations. This day is enjoyed by differently-abled adults and children as a happy day of games and sweets. We are currently preparing sweet party packs for the thousands of visitors to our stall, which never fails to gain a delighted smile or wave as they move on to another game.

In between annual events, this year has certainly kept us busy with no time to spare as we took on mini-projects of making cupcakes and date balls for the old age home and an on-going project of making insulating plastic and newspaper sleeping bags for homeless shelters.

Nonetheless, 2019 has been an enlightening year for Interact. We have bonded over our shared passion for service and had a worthwhile year of dedicating ourselves to the community, filled with lots of fun and joy. This year would have been impossible without the immense support and guidance of Mrs van der Merwe which I am utterly grateful for. ◊

IN THE CLASSROOM



Afrikaans

DIE ALOMTEENWOORDIGE MONSTER
ZANDER ISAAC – GRAAD 11

Die donker towerspreuk oorheers in my kop. Die hele dag is bese energie my volgeling. Dis soos 'n towenaar met baie gedaantes en nog meer liste. Dit is die alomteenwoordige gedrog.

Die gedrog se eerste gedaante leef in die kop van miljoene tieners: *Instagram*. Hierdie vorm van die gedrog se "geskenke" is self-haat en 'n gevoel van onveiligheid. Die monster is soos 'n siekte in 'n liggaam. Met elke plasing van 'n model met 'n perfekte "lewe" is daar 'n tiener wat dieper in 'n kuil van depressie val.

Die tweede gedaante van die gedrog is ook een wat ons selfwaarde bepaal: *Facebook*. Elke "hou van" en opmerking verteenwoordig een stap nader aan 'n lewe van nie net valse geluk en valse sukses nie, maar ook van leegheid en eensaamheid. Die gedrog wil jou oortuig dat jou selfwaarde by jou *Facebook*-vriende lê, maar dis net listige bedrog wat jou uiteindelik piepklein sal laat voel.

Die derde gedaante van die gedrog is die vriendelike, blou voëltjie wat in ons koppe nespmaak het: *Twitter*. Ons word die slawe

van die aanhoudende gepiep van nuus oor klimaat, klere, nuwe musiek en skinderstories oor beroemdes. Met elke piep van die voël word een minuut van die werklike wêreld om jou vernietig.

"PIENGI!" Die laaste en dodelikste gedaante van die monster is een wat namens ons praat: *WhatsApp*. Tik, tik, tik. Dit is die klank van 'n woestynglewe. Hierdie gedaante steel eintlik ons woorde sodat ons in die toekoms nie van aangesig tot aangesig met mekaar wil praat nie. Dit sal ons finale straf wees.

Dit is tyd vir 'n nuwe, ligte energie. 'n Engel wat die wêreld sal red.

DIE SUID-AFRIKA WAARIN EK BLY
OREFILE MASEKELA – GRAAD 12

"Biep-biep!"

A, die geluid van al die taxi's en busse in die hoofstraat as ek vinnig hardloop en 'n bus probeer haal. Ek sweet en neem 'n diep asem steug as ek inklim en voel hoe my liggaam vorentoe val wanneer die bus vinnig wegtrek.

Die Suid-Afrika waarin ek bly, is 'n interessante een om te beskryf, maar 'n moeilike een om oor te praat. 'n Land vol

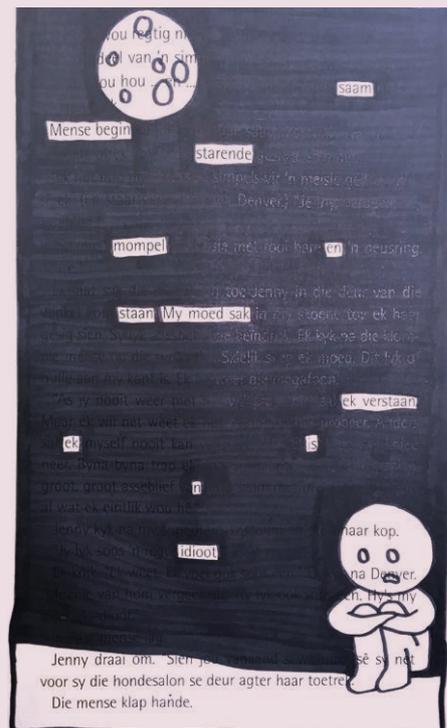
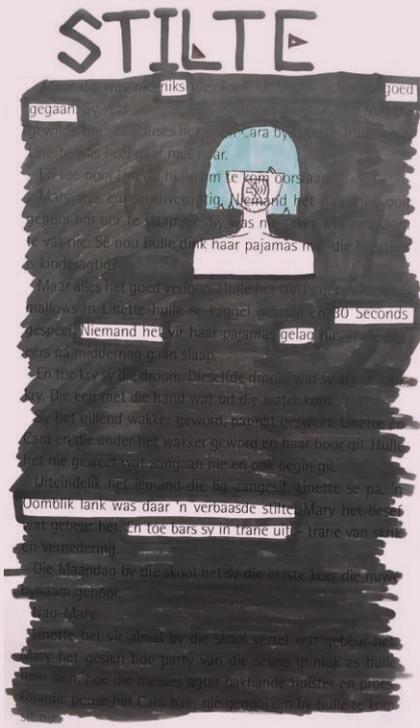
verskillende kulture, tale, kos, kleure en mense. 'n Wonderlike plek vir toeriste, rêrig. Maar hulle kyk nooit verby die goeie, pragtige land nie en sien nie die erger kant waar dinge altyd verkeerd gaan nie.

Ek is arm. Dit is ook die realiteit van miljoene ander Suid-Afkaners. In ons unieke land is die meeste van die bevolking so arm soos kerkmuis. Dit is ironies dat dit nie die gevolg is van die feit dat ons families nie hard werk nie. O nee, ons families werk baie hard. Só hard dat toe ons gebore is, was ons al klaar moeg as gevolg van die suikerbruin kleur van ons velle.

Ek het nie besef hoe belangrik geld rêrig kan wees toe ek nog klein was nie. As 'n sewentienjarige meisie wat 'n beurs ontvang het om na 'n ryk, wit skool te gaan, weet ek nou hoe geld iemand se hele lewe kan verander.

Daar is min geleenthede vir arm swart mense en ander mense van kleur in Suid-Afrika. Dit is die slegte realiteit wat mense probeer normaliseer en die waarheid is dat ek bang is. Bang vir die onbekende toekoms en of ek 'n beter lewe sal hê. Ek is onseker, maar ek belowe om nooit tou op te gooi nie.

Welkom in die Suid-Afrika waarin ek bly.





Maryam Ameen (Graad 10) word gelukkigewens met die goeie prestasie wat sy tydens vanjaar se Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod behaal het vir onvoorbereide lees, asook vir 'n gedig wat sy self geskryf en voorgedra het. Zoë Erasmus (Graad 12) het tydens vanjaar se Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod 'n silwer medalje vir haar voortreflike skryfwerk behaal. Ons wens haar geluk met hierdie puik prestasie.

“JA, 'N DUISEND MAAL JA!”

AMAARAH EBRAHIM – GRAAD 12 HUISTAAL

“Mense is die rede vir my passie. As jy goeie mense ontmoet, sal jou lewe verryk word.” – Winnie Mandela

Dit is eerste woorde wat ek op die bord in die geskiedenisklas sien. Dit is uiteindelik my eerste dag terug van oorsee. Ek moet nou konsentreer, maar hierdie woorde laat my dink aan die mense en die herinneringe van die laaste twee weke...

“Welkom by die 2019 Eurasiese Skole Debatskompetisie in Istanbul. Sit asseblief stewig. Ons gaan binnekort met die eerste wêrelddebat begin.”

Dit was die eerste woorde wat ek en die mede-Herschel debatteerders hoor toe ons by die Robert College se teater ingeloopt het. Min het ons geweet ons sou 'n senuweebelaaide en verrykende paar dae ervaar. Aan die einde was dit nie die debat of

lewenservaring of kos wat my twee weke so spesiaal gemaak het nie. Dit was die mense saam met wie ek gegaan het en die mense wat ek langs die pad ontmoet het.

Eerstens is die kompetisie deur hoërskoolstudente gelei. 'n Mens sou dit nooit kon raai nie, want hulle was so georganiseerd en professioneel. Nie net is die middagete elke dag vir ons voorberei nie, maar hulle het vir ons ESDC-hemde, potlode, boeke en kaarte gegee. Hopelik sal ek vanjaar met dieselfde toewyding as hulle lei. Ek sal hulle raad hoe om behoorlik te administreer, volg.

Die druk het elke rondte toegeneem aangesien my span aan die wenkant was. Dit is nie gedoen sonder 'n enorme hoeveelheid spanning en harde werk nie. Dit was vir my belangrik om noukeurig na die terugvoering te luister sodat ek elke rondte kon verbeter. Die beoordelaars was 'n week lank my onderwysers. Hulle was

almal universiteitstudente, maar hulle was so wys. Ek waardeer die tyd wat hulle met elke deelnemer gepraat het om te verseker dat almal in die kompetisie vorder. Ek mis hulle gelag elke keer wat ek vir terugvoering in “soveel besonderhede as moontlik” gevra het.

Debat is 'n balans tussen mededinging en medelye; daarom geniet ek dit so. Na elke debat was ons opponerende span so vriendelik. Ek het tieners van Turkye, Indonesië, Pakistan en Griekeland ontmoet. Ons het goeie vriende geword, maar hulle het my ook iets belangriks geleer. Ek het geleer om my passies ten volle uit te leef en om my ware self te wees. Ek sal die gevoel om in 'n gemeenskap wat dieselfde dink as ek, mis.

Laastens dink ek aan my nuwe familie: my Kaapstadspanne. Of dit Anathi se dansbewegings, Becca se pa-grappe of Michaela se medisynekas was, ek kon net lag. Sumin en Semane het nooit opgehou om selfies te neem nie. Anna het nooit ophou

praat nie. Haadiyah en Pip het nooit ophou skree nie. Hulle is nog steeds my nuwe susters. My afrigters, Saadiyah en Dan, is twee van die slimste en goedigste mense wat ek ken. Elke dag was 'n nuwe avontuur met baie herinneringe. Ons het voor mekaar gehuil en ons het mekaar vertroos. Ons het mekaar soveel erkenning gegee as wat ons mekaar verpes het. Ek mis dit om elke dag deur my gunstelingmense omring te wees.

As ek terugdink aan die laaste twee weke, kan ek nie help om te glimlag nie. Ek het gegroei as 'n debatteerder, maar ook as 'n mens. Debat is oor vriendskap, intelligensie, vertroue en toewyding, maar as jy gelukkig, soos ek is, sal jy sommige mense langs die pad ontmoet wat dieselfde eienskappe het...

"Amaarah!"

Ek kyk op. Dit is Juffrou Wesson.

"Amaarah, stem jy saam met Winnie Mandela se woorde oor die verhouding tussen mense en passie?"

"Ja, 'n duisend maal ja!"

DAARDIE DAG HET EK SO VERLEË GEVOEL

SAFIYA MIA – GRAAD 10 HUISTAAL

As kinders het ons almal 'n lewensdroom – gewoonlik iets wat heel laf is. Soos ons egter ouer raak, besef ons dat die droom onrealisties is en ons behoort eerder aan geld en 'n lys ander dinge te dink.

Die vyfjarige Safiya se droom was om 'n ballerina te wees. Ja, ek kan dit ook nie glo nie! Ek het 'n obsessie met ballet gehad – my kamermure het honderde prentjies van beroemde ballerinas gehad wat ek self uitgesny het en Tchaikovsky se klassieke werke het heeldag in my kamer gespeel.

Op my sesde verjaarsdag, het my ouers vir

my 'n verrassing gehad: Hulle het besluit om my vir balletklasse in te skryf en ek het nuwe balletskoentjies en 'n pragtige, pienk tutu gekry. Ek was so in my noppies!

Op die dag van my eerste les het 'n groot, ronde bolla in die middel van my kop gepryk – my ma se handewerk. Ek het na die meisie in die spieël gekyk en breed geglimlag. Dit was tyd om te gaan.

By die balletsaal aangekom het Ma my liggies op die wang gesoen en toe is sy terug huis toe. Ek het sonder skroom by die groot deur ingestap...

'n Stralende glimlag het my begroet. Die onderwyseres, Debbie, was baie vriendelik en ek dink dat my balletkennis haar moes beïndruk het.

Ek het in die saal rondgekyk. Twee dosyn nuuskierige oë het in my rigting gestaar. Ek het senuweeagtig geglimlag en ongemaklik begin voel.

Ek kon nie meer vir Debbie sien nie. Miskien was sy badkamer toe. Ek het alleen tussen die ander meisies bly staan. Hulle het begin giggel en met hul vingers na my gewys.

"Taxideur-ore, olifantore," het ek hulle hoor sê.

Daar was 'n nare gevoel op die krop van my maag. Ek het nie geweet wat om te doen nie. Toe vou ek my hande oor my ore en hardloop so vinnig ek kon by die deur uit. Dit voel steeds asof dit net gister was.

Daardie dag het ek so verleë gevoel.

EK HOOR NIE MEER DIE MUSIEK NIE

MICHAELA TODD – GRAAD 11 EAT

Op jou tweede verjaardag het ek jou gehelp om die kersies op jou treinkoek dood uit te blaas.

Almal het vir jou gesing. Jou mollige

gesiggie was in ekstase.

Vandag sien ek net skimme van daardie gesig.

Toe ek sewe en jy vyf was, het ons saam op die trampolien gespring – die geluid van onskuldige gelag, met onbesmette jeugdigheid het in die tuin opgeklank.

Vandag is jou lag beperk.

Jy was altyd die siel van 'n partytjie – nooit bang vir dans met 'n snaakse kostuum voor die volwassenes nie.

Nou sien ek hoe jy elke keer jou hare met jou vingers terugkam, hoe jy en jou vriende presies dieselfde lyk.

Dis waar, jy was 'n ondeunde kind – daardie glinstering in jou oë het dit weggegee.

"Hy's oulik."

"Hy's altyd 'n plesier om by ons huis te hê."

"Hy groet nie meer nie, hy's 'n bietjie onbeskof," vertel die ma's vir Ma.

Jy het twee dae lank gehuil toe ons Kaapstad toe gegaan het. Maar gou was jy een van die gewilde, sportiewe seuns by jou nuwe skool en daardie hartseer gesig het verdwyn. Alles was weer reg.

Tot verlede jaar.

Jy het besluit om na 'n kosskool toe te gaan, net soos Pa. Jy was daardie eerste dag in graad agt so trots op jou nuwe uniform wat te groot was.

Ek besef nou dat jy eintlik in daardie uniform verdrink het, terwyl Pa se naam op elke skoolmuur om jou soos 'n vis geswem het.

Oor die naweke sê jy min vir ons.

Sondagaand wanneer jy teruggaan skool toe, vra Ma dieselfde vraag.

"Dink jy die medisyne maak 'n verskil? Hoe het hy hierdie keer opgetree?"

Ma en Pa is verward – hulle besef nie, geen pil sal die seun wat hy vroeër was, terugbring nie.



SLAAPLOOSHEID

MARYAM AMEEN – GRAAD 10 HUISTAAL

Ontwaak in die nag
Lank verby middernag
As die dag om is
Die voortdurende indringende bekommernis onwelkom

Geen omdraai eintlik nie
Net lê en staar na die plafon, afwesig
Terwyl gedagtes draai
En spoke van onmeetlike vrese uitkring

Om te slaap is nooit netjies of ordelik nie
'n Mens kom eerder as 'n vermoeide reisiger in, deurmekaar
Eindeloos verdraag deur analise en frustrasie
Stap langs die rotsagtige pad van oorweging

Om te dink terwyl jy op die geseënde nagrus wag om aan te kom
'n Ewige stryd om die duiwels wat binne veg, uit te jaag ◊



Mariam Goolam Mahomed (Graad 12) het eerste plek in die streek vir 'n gr.12-Taalkompetisie vir Huistaalleerders behaal. Hier is sy saam met haar Afrikaansonderwyseres, mev. Betsie Lureman.

MY SOEKE NA DIE ONDERGRONDSE SPIOEN

TURIN LAMBRECHTS – GRAAD 9 HUISTAAL

“Wroeeem-wroem-wroem”

Dis weer daai “sexy” ou man in die klein Volksie. Hy daag elke dag dieselfde tyd by die ouetehuis op. Hy ken my so goed dat dit my bekommer. Hy stap in die rigting van die Alzheimers-afdeling waar ek bly.

“Hoe doen ons vandag, Maggarete?”

Ek skiet terug: “Doodreg.”

Dan gaan haal hy my gunstelingontbyt, Coco Pops, sonder dat ek eers hoef te sê dit is wat ek wil hê. Dan begin sy vrae. Hy wil hoor van elke klein gebeurtenis van my dag. Met elke woord wat uit sy mond kruip, word ek net meer bekommerd.

Nee, ek kan dit nie meer vat nie.

Ek sê ek moet gaan slaap en skop hom uit. Hy blaas vir my 'n soentjie en sing: “Tatta, Maggarete!” Ek slaan die deur agter hom toe.

Ek lê in my bed en dink oor hierdie geheimsinnige man. Ek wonder hoekom hy my beter ken as wat ek myself ken? Hoekom stel hy so belang in my en in wat ek doen? Skielik maak dit nou alles sin: hy is 'n ondergrondse spioen.

Die volgende oggend is ek vroeg wakker. Met my swart leerjas, 'n serp om my gesig, 'n kerie in die een hand en 'n beker in die ander is ek gereed vir my missie.

Die “wroem-wroem” lui in my ore en onmiddellik is ek in posisie, agter die deur. My hande begin bewe en die ander tannies staar. Volgende hoor ek sy skoene in ritme met my hart op die vloer klop. Albei word harder en ek lig my kerie hoër. Die deur stoot oop, ek spring voor hom in, en almal skreeu.

'n Glimlag groei oor sy gesig, hy vee 'n sagte soentjie oor my voorkop en vra: “Wat maak jy, my lief?” Sy warm lippe spoel helderheid deur my kop en liefde deur my liggaam. Ek is onseker hoekom ek 'n kerie in my hand het, maar waarvan ek seker is, is dat ek in daai oomblik nie gelukkiger kon wees nie.

“My dierbare, Maggarete, ek is jou man Piet. Onthou jy my?”

Daar is net vir 'n oomblik stilte, dan antwoord ek: “Natuurlik is jy my man, Piet. Wie anders sou jy wees?”

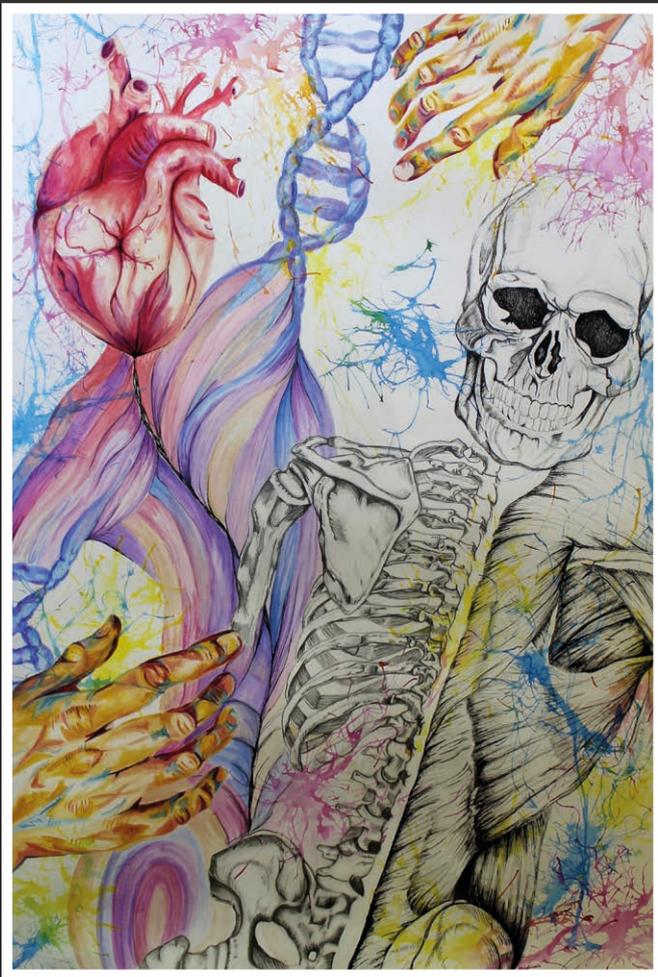
Art



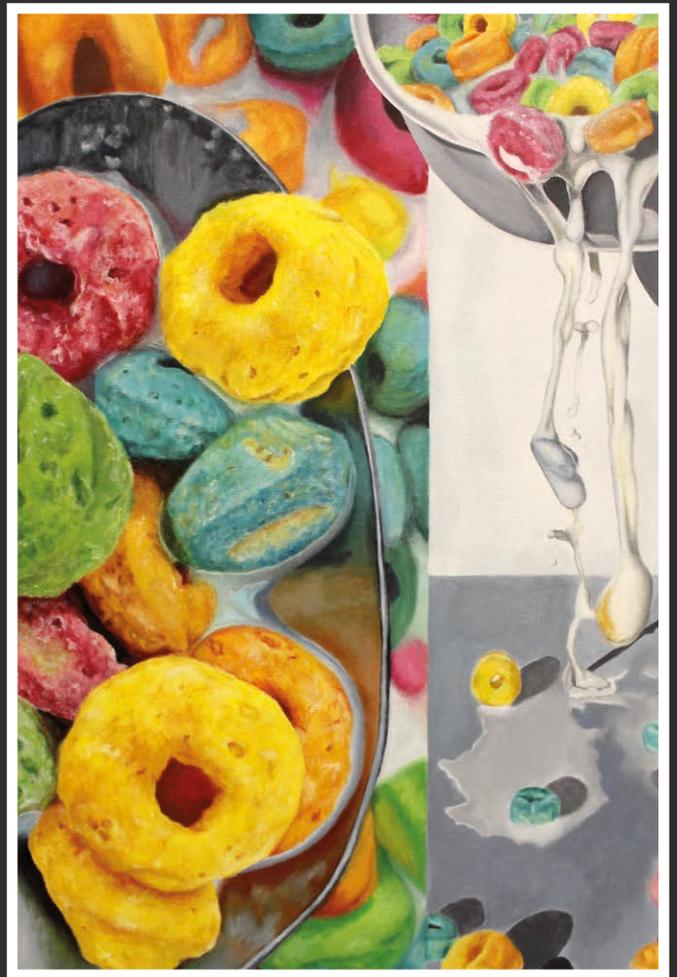
ELLA JUDGE



BETHANY PASSMORE



AMY GOODWIN



GEORGIA ANGELINIADIS



GRACE GIBBS



CAMERON JOUBERT



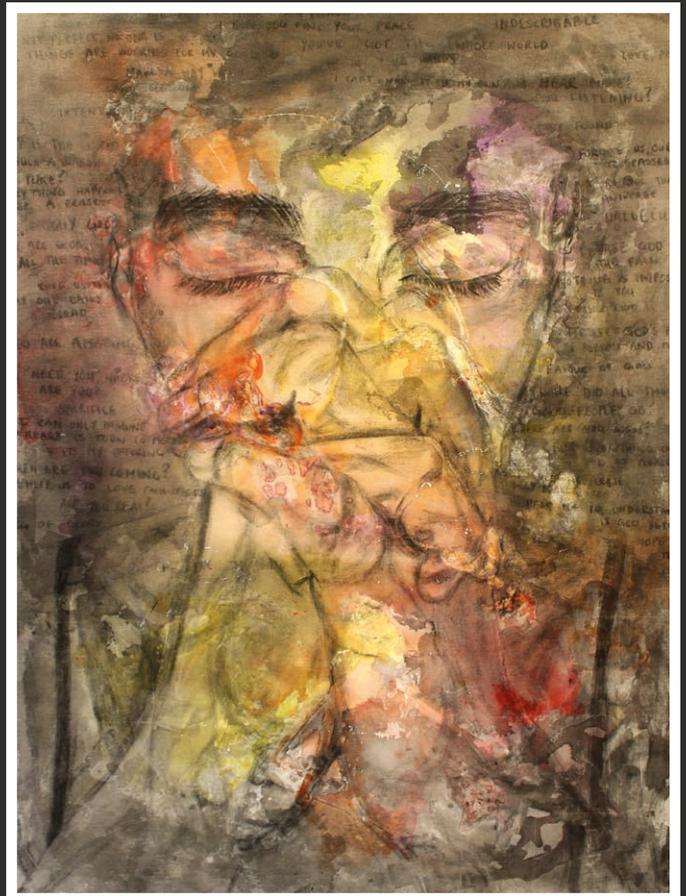
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SARAH LONGWORTH



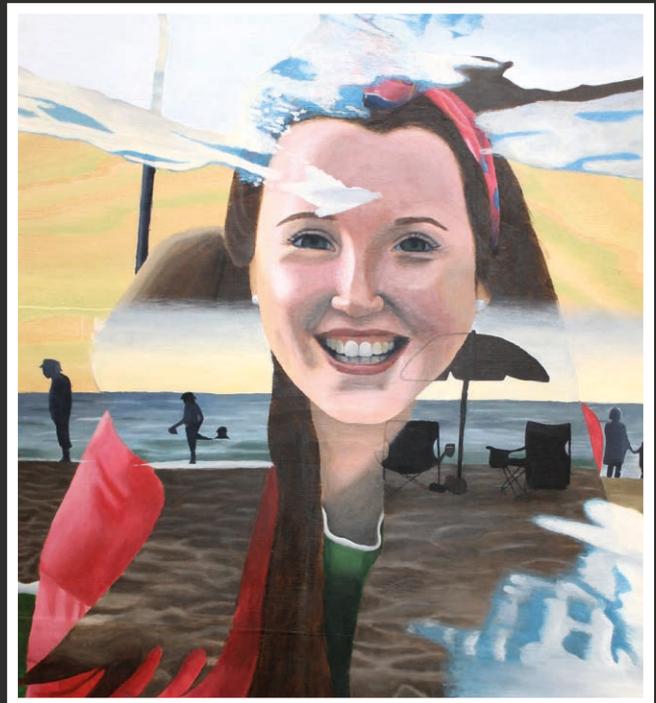
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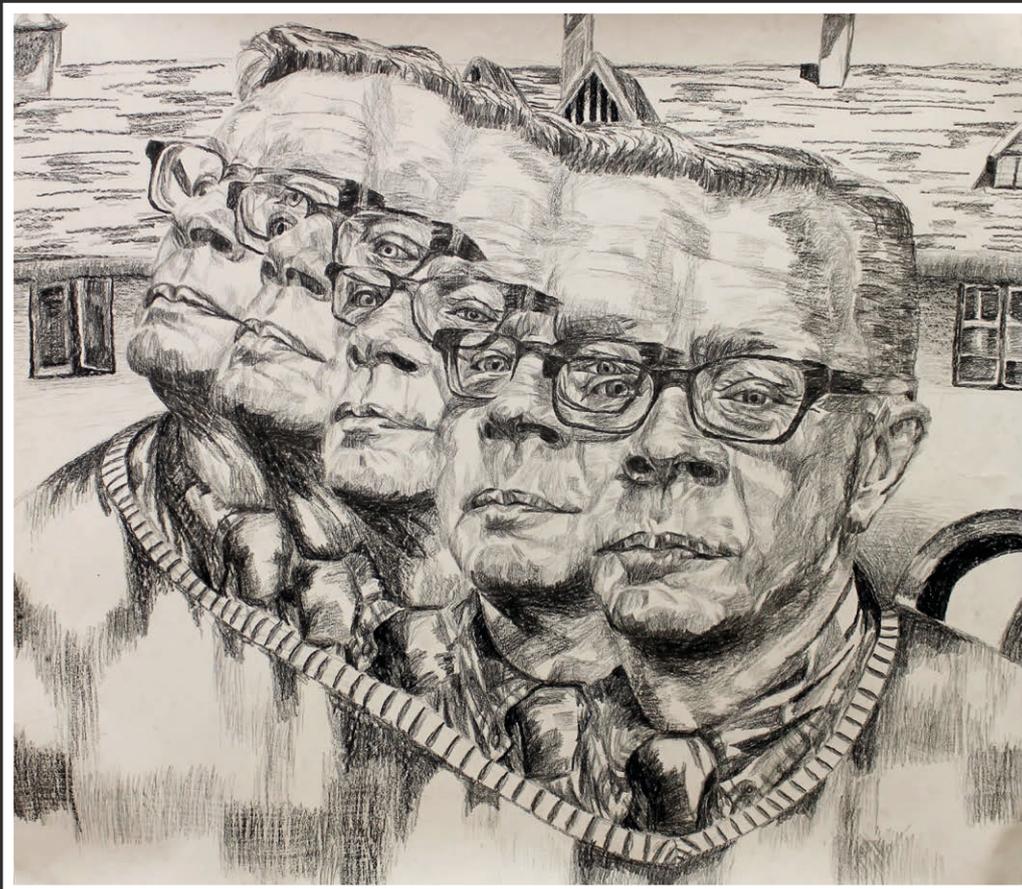
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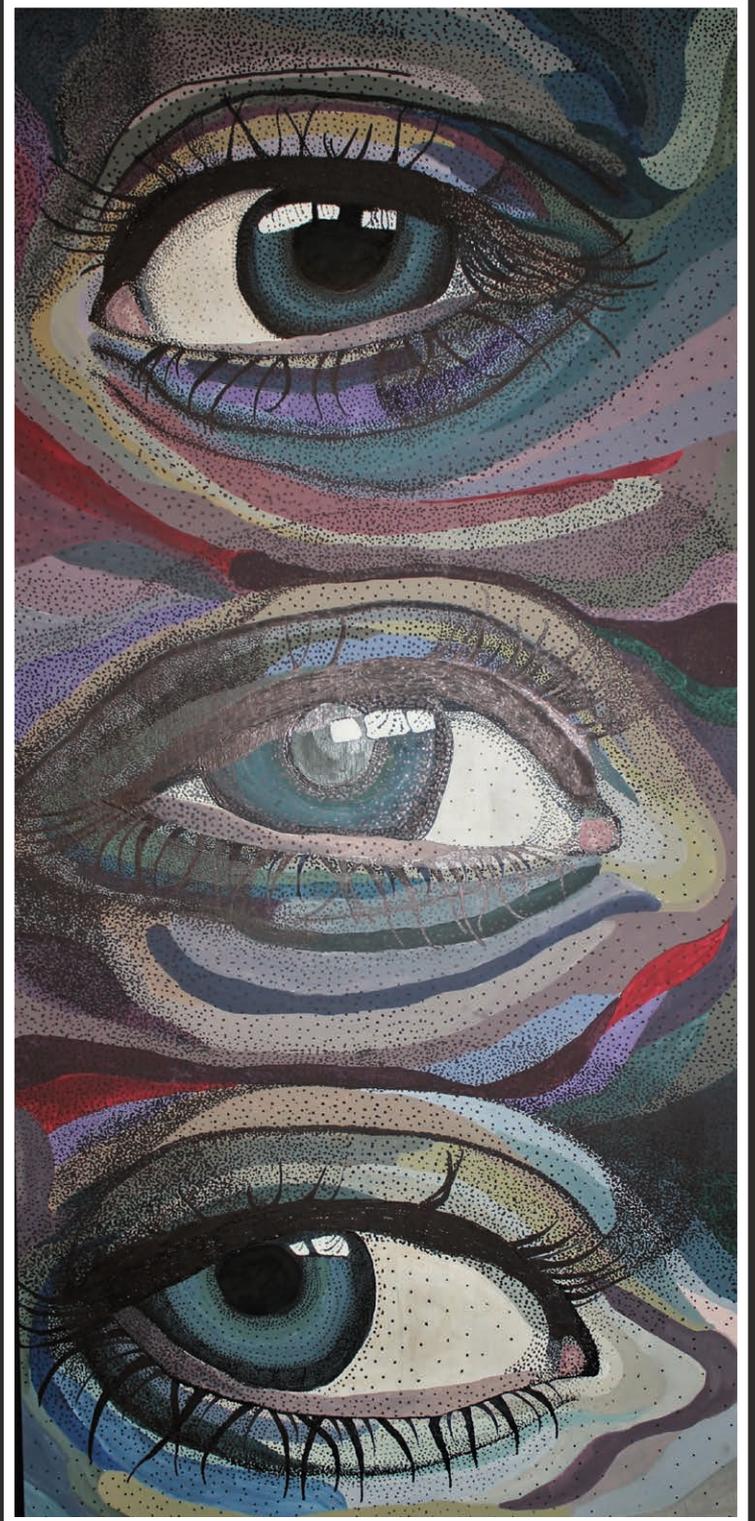
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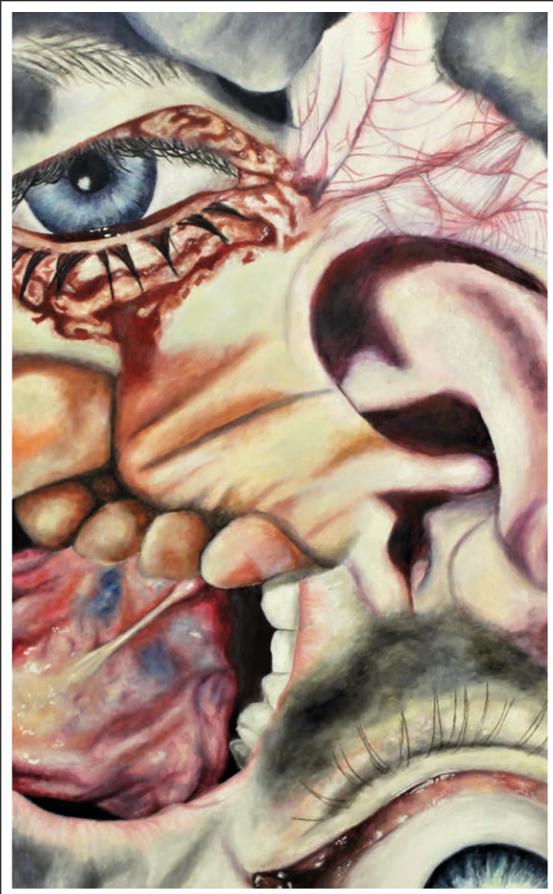
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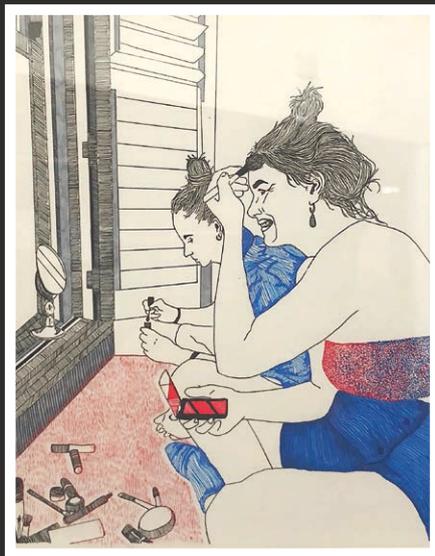
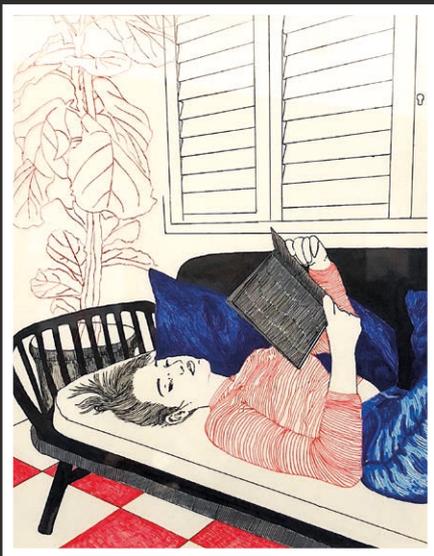
LILY KEBBLE



SYDNEY WILLIAMS



TRISHNA PEMA



ISABELLA PROBERT



Drama

FAME

BY LIV DOIDGE

Fame the Musical came alive on the Herschel stage from 23-26 April. The production showcased the talents of the Herschel students as well as those from Cedar House, Bishops Diocesan College, Wynberg Boys' High and Westerford High School.

The inner life of a production is as important as the shared life of the performance. This life lives on long after the production has gone. The flame of *Fame* still burns in the hearts of those who partook of this special experience. The energy, collective creativity, talent and raw emotion of this iconic musical was generated directly from the lives of those involved. We played to full, appreciative houses and the standing ovations every night were the gifts given back to those who gave their all to make it happen.

"I so appreciated the space to explore and develop my skills as a performer – singing, dancing, acting. I made some unconditional friendships and we became a *Fame*-ily! It was the highlight of my high school experience and I will treasure the memories." ♦





SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

BY MRS SARAH MCARTHUR



The South African Shakespeare Festival is a highlight on the Drama calendar as it affords students around the country the opportunity to spend a day in one of its city's most prominent theatres and to work under professional conditions in that space. This year, Herschel's Grade 10 Drama students performed at the Baxter Theatre. The students, many of whom had just come out of the school production, worked incredibly hard to create their adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Adapting the script, creating their own costumes and working together as an amazing and energising ensemble, the cast performed the classic play in the wildly fun and vibrant style of Comic Book Theatre. ◇

HOUSE PLAYS

The annual Interhouse Play competition is run by the Grade 11 Drama students and celebrates their ability to literally create something from nothing. From brainstorming the theme for the year, 'Murphy's Law', to writing the script, casting, directing, acting, designing sets, props, costumes and lights, the producers of each play do it all. This year's standard was very high and the students made us incredibly proud with the maturity, resilience and sense of fellowship that they brought to the process. The finals evening was adjudicated by Andrew Laubscher and Lauren Steyn, both actors and theatre-makers. Best script went to Jagger, best supporting actress to Haadiyah Ebrahim (Jagger), best actress to Shannon Pitman (Rolt) and the award for best overall production was given to Merriman. ◇





COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

BY MR CRAIG KARSTENS, MRS NURAAAN BARENDSE
AND MISS TRACY ROUSSEAU

The Commerce Department encompasses the learning areas of Accounting, Business Studies and Business electives attempting to balance theoretical and practical learning, epitomising the principles of The King Code which promotes ethical business practices. The department attempts to broaden students' perspectives on issues in the business arena, as well as enabling them to make everyday decisions that can improve their quality of life.

The Grade 8 and 9s were introduced to electives for business finance, entrepreneurship and personal finance. Many students who were interested took more than one of the options. Business finance was introduced through the Grade 8 *Bank-it* elective covering the introduction to Accounting and completing both the journals and ledgers for cash transactions. The Grade 9 *IOU* elective took this one step further to include all credit transactions.

The *Savvy Startup* module introduced junior students with an interest in the world of business to various concepts of sales, marketing and modern business trends. The focus of this module is to develop lateral thinking and foster teamwork skills. The students worked together to create a business plan centred on a sustainable product which they marketed using social media platforms. They also created a website and online store for their products using technological skills they had learned in English.

The intention behind the *Money and Me* elective was to teach pupils how to go about

becoming financially shrewd and how to work well with the cash they hoped to earn after school. They learnt the very simple, yet necessary, art of budgeting and making household finance decisions. They became more financially literate by learning to appreciate the impact of interest and how compound interest can either be your best friend or worst nightmare:

Money and Me elective pupil comments:

- » "I have gathered a broader knowledge of personal finance and feel more comfortable with money".
- » "I enjoyed the fact that we learnt things that we can take with us for the rest of our lives".

The Grade 10 and 11 Accounting students gained additional knowledge by completing section-specific case studies, while the Grade 12s do complete certain case studies, their year culminating in producing a company's project where they analyse the financial statements of a specific company on the Johannesburg Securities Exchange.

The senior Business Studies students enjoy being fully engaged in their learning programme. The Grade 11s were lucky enough to visit Elgin and experience a tour of the apple-packing sheds and the flower greenhouse. There they learned about the production, marketing and distribution of flowers and apples throughout the Cape. Our Grade 10 learners visited Peninsula Beverages Bottling Company for an excitement-filled introduction to the world of Coca-Cola.

CONSUMER STUDIES



BY MS BRIGITTE CASS

A wide variety of topics is covered in Consumer Studies. The girls learn about consumer issues, clothing and fashion, interiors and housing, entrepreneurship, finances and budgeting and, of course, food which includes the practical aspect and nutrition.

The first term gave the Grade 10s an opportunity to explore and to compare different food outlets as part of their marketing component, on a walking tour of Cavendish Square.

This year the girls have had tremendous fun while experimenting in a variety of practical areas. The Grade 11s explored the making of different breads while baking with yeast and mastered

the art of sweet-making with fudge, marshmallows and nut-brittle making. A variety of cakes and pastry methods were also practised. The Matrics tried their hand at butter chicken and roti and gourmet burgers, making rolls too.

At the start of September on a bright Spring morning, the Matrics arrived at school in a flurry of nerves to complete their practical examinations. These were all a great success.

The theme of sustainable consumerism has been prevalent in our learning this year, with learners gaining much insight and awareness of the ways in which our behaviour as consumers affects our immediate environment as well as the world at large.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT AND CURRICULUM TRANSFORMATION IN 2019

BY MRS SUE GROVÉ, HEAD OF CURRICULUM AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

This year the academic staff at Herschel embarked on a new pathway of curriculum transformation for pupils in Grades 8, 9 and 10 especially. As a result of the demands of this task for staff, it was decided to include academic enrichment as part of teaching and learning this year. The special Enrichment Week, an integral part of our curriculum for at least 25 years, was postponed to 2020 to allow staff time and space to develop new syllabi and to explore alternative assessment options and methodologies. Enrichment Week will be reinstated in 2020 in a new format.

All subjects and courses that make up the educational programme at Herschel are part of the curriculum that is on offer. Educators at Herschel are custodians of curriculum design and teaching and learning. Activities and interactions within the School community, and in classrooms, always include a transfer of values and beliefs that are inherently part of Herschel and these are key components of the ethos of the School. This hidden curriculum allows for character building and moral development that will stand girls in good stead in the future.

Academic staff have been encouraged

to continually examine the purpose and meaning of what is taught and why it is being taught to ensure that learning is relevant and meaningful for young women in the 21st century. Apart from acquiring new knowledge, learning and teaching is focused on 21st century skills to ensure that Herschel girls are prepared for the world of work and life beyond school. One of the main aims of educators is to holistically educate each Herschel girl so that she reaches her own individual potential.

The 4 Cs illustrated in the diagram below formed the core of planning this year as 21st century workplaces, teams and employers need employees that can:

- **Communicate:** a skilled individual will be able to share her ideas, thoughts, questions and solutions.
- **Collaborate:** teamwork is essential in current work environments to reach a common goal.
- **Think Critically:** essentially problem-solving combined with creative thinking will enable girls to be flexible thinkers. Thinking should also be possible across subjects and disciplines.
- **Be Creative:** Innovation will lead to

invention and new ideas and approaches to problems.

In 2019 a transformed learning environment was created. Girls in Grade 8 and 9 studied six core subjects as year courses. These are English HL, Afrikaans FAL/ HL, Mathematics, Natural Sciences (Physical Science and Life Science), Creative Arts (either Visual Art, Music or Drama) and Life Orientation. In addition, girls chose three semester courses called electives. These electives were in the following learning areas: Social Sciences (History and Geography), Economic and Management Sciences (Accounting, Financial Literacy and Business), Technology (Robotics, Coding, Fabric and Food Technology), Creative Arts (Practical and Performance electives), Integrated Studies (Philosophy, Sports Science (Grade 9) and Leadership) and Second Additional Languages (isiXhosa or French).

Life Orientation in both Grade 8 and 9 was redesigned to include current affairs, emotional intelligence, social media etiquette, responsible use of social media and technology, self-awareness, study skills, sexuality and sex education, socialisation, substance abuse, environmental issues and

WHAT ARE 21ST CENTURY SKILLS? THESE 4 CS:



<http://projects.upei.ca/ed626-2015/files/2015/07/21st-Century-Skills-4-Cs-graphic.jpg>

career guidance (Grade 9) to mention but a few. Physical education, Digital Literacy (Grade 8) and Divinity are also part of the new offering. Enrichment lessons in some electives covered aspects such as stage make-up in Drama and talks by a specialist in biokinetics in Sports Science. A very informative but moving outing was organised for the girls in the History elective, Making Choices in Nazi Germany, who visited the Cape Town Holocaust Centre in April and the girls studying History and film visited a real film set which increased their knowledge of the technical aspects of making films.

INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION: RESEARCH AND CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS:

» **Media Literacy:** Mrs Wendy Paterson designed a syllabus for Grade 8 and 9s which develops research and communication skills. This course reinforces problem-solving and writing skills and the research component is based on the Big6 Information Skills Model designed in 1990 by Mike Eisenberg and Bob Berkowitz of The School of Information at the University of Washington in Seattle. The Big6 Model involves the following steps: Task definition, Information-seeking strategies, Location and access to sources and information, Use of information, Synthesis and Evaluation. The writing component includes summarisation and essay writing skills. This course is invaluable at a time when pupils are faced with information overload. Pupils are also trained to use Turnitin software to prevent plagiarism.

Grade 11 girls competently presented their traditional research essay at the end of Term 2. Academic staff act as supervisors in this exercise and the Big6 model is also followed

in this task. Sixteen girls chose to set their own research question, but others chose from a variety of topics on offer.

Research skills are transferrable and were applied in the following subjects this year:

- » **History (SG):** Research tasks are done in all grades, but the greatest challenge is the Grade 12 essay. Girls set their own question related to the extension of the Cold War and produce an essay that demonstrates research skills, critical thinking and analytical skills. In Grade 11 the pupils worked in groups to research nationalism and do group presentations. Grade 10 pupils compared the French Revolution to a modern revolution and presented a digital presentation in pairs. In Grade 8 and 9 electives a variety of presentation methods were used e.g. Explain Everything in Making Choices in Nazi Germany.
- » **Geography (NPA):** Grade 11 and 10 pupils wrote research essays on non-conventional energy resources and the SA economy and environment as well as xenophobia respectively.
- » **Natural Sciences (MBR/SRU):** The Grade 9 pupils selected an area of research and applied the scientific method to prove and/ or disprove a hypothesis. They also designed an experiment. Grade 8s did an unseen practical in Life Science to practise critical thinking. Research method is a key part of their EXPO projects.
- » **Robotics and Coding (SST):** Pupils were challenged to solve problems using computational and critical thinking.
- » **Visual Arts (NJ):** Critical thinking forms part of the analysis of artworks in Grades 10-12. Pupils are expected to relate the aesthetic

quality of art to the context from which it comes. Contemporary artists under themes such as Socio-political, Gender, Post 1994 and Identity create opportunities for lively and relevant debates.

CREATIVITY:

- » **English (CvL):** Grade 8s designed an online, interactive website and included smaller pieces of writing that had to be related to a broader over-arching theme. This meant that girls had to transfer aspects of themselves on to a platform that was less familiar. The construction of an original fairy tale was the pinnacle of this activity.
- » **Afrikaans (TV):** Grade 10-12 pupils did research for their prepared orals on a range of topics including education, sport, history, technology and environmental and economic issues. Grade 9 pupils created short films using different camera angles and shots.
- » **French (SM):** Analysis of literature and comparisons are done across grades.
- » **Music (JG):** Grade 10-12 pupils use the skills they acquire in Theory/ Harmony classes to create a new piece of Music. In Music History the pupils are taught to analyse different styles of music and compositional techniques. This covers music from across the world and over all ages.
- » **Life Sciences (SRU):** Visual presentations reflecting research and experimentation are set up in pairs for the EXPO projects.
- » **Physical Science (MBR):** Grade 8s made posters about the contribution of African scientists.
- » **French (WO):** Creative skills are demonstrated in French cooking lessons e.g. making chocolate mousse and mayonnaise.
- » **Geography (SGO/NPA):** Grade 8s created 3D posters using any materials for Masters of Disasters. Digital presentations were prepared for the electives Around the World and Storm Chasers.
- » **Visual Arts (NJ):** Creativity is at the heart of art making. All projects aim to develop the ability to be innovative and find solutions through experimentation and exploration.
- » **History (SG/ LN):** Music, poetry, artworks and photographs are used to enhance lesson presentations and to stimulate creativity and critical thinking. These become examples of historical sources and help pupils understand the historical context of these sources.
- » **Robotics and Coding:** Pupils had to use problem-solving to design, build and create robots to fulfil certain activities.

COLLABORATION:

- » **History:** The jigsaw method is often used to facilitate understanding and the sharing of ideas. Brainstorming ideas, mind mapping and completing thinking maps is integral to



studying History. Planning prepared essays in groups encourages peer teaching in the discussion and planning stage e.g. Grade 10 essays on globalisation.

» **French (SM):** Role play is used in all grades.

» **Physical Science:** Peer reviewing was used in Grade 9 when they presented their energy source presentations.

» **Geography, Media Literacy and Drama:** A trip to Hout Bay to visit a fish factory, the beach and the Hout Bay Museum provided girls with valuable insights and experiences to use in their research essay and environmental drama pieces.

» **Mathematics and Life Sciences:** A trip to the Aquarium created an opportunity for the extension of using technology and the Numbers app to collaborate in an inter-disciplinary way but also to develop data-handling skills in a modern and ever-changing technological world. In a world where an inordinate amount of information can be found within a few seconds, it is vital that pupils develop the skills to discern whether or not this is reliable and valid. In doing so, they can make informed decisions and also share this knowledge with others who may not be aware of its potential impact.

COMMUNICATION:

» **History:** The development of an opinion substantiated by facts is key to logical

thinking and argumentation in this subject. A variety of exercises are introduced to develop written and oral communication skills. Visual literacy is developed in studying historical sources e.g. photographs, artworks, cartoons and illustrations and girls are trained to detect bias and test the reliability and usefulness of sources.

» **French:** Improvisation and innovation are used to promote oral and written communication.

» **Visual Art:** The articulation of ideas and the communication of concepts – both visually and verbally – is built into all art lessons.

Geography: In the Grade 8 elective Sunshine and Snow, conversation cards were used to discuss climate change and global warming. Fact sheets were compiled in the Grade 9 electives.

isiXhosa: Vocabulary and language structures are learnt in situational contexts and role playing in all grades.

Afrikaans: Pupils wrote transactional texts relating to their set works and/ or language themes.

ELECTIVES:

The introduction of the electives for Grade 8 and 9 has been welcomed by staff and girls alike. Pupils have been positive about the choice they have had, the reduction of anxiety due to the pace being adjusted, the smaller

classes, the lack of distraction and the move away from examinations as the key form of assessment at the junior level. Staff have also been rejuvenated by smaller classes, the passion of girls who have chosen the elective they want to study and extra teaching time due to the cancellation of examinations. Staff are also able to work independently and follow their own passion in their presentation of an elective.

The Grade 8 and 9s were spoilt for choice as can be seen from this summarised list of some of the electives:

» **EMS:** Money & Me, Accounting, Savvy Start-ups.

» **HSS:** Sunshine and Snow: be the first to know, Storm Chasers and Masters of Disasters (Geography), The Economics of Happiness.

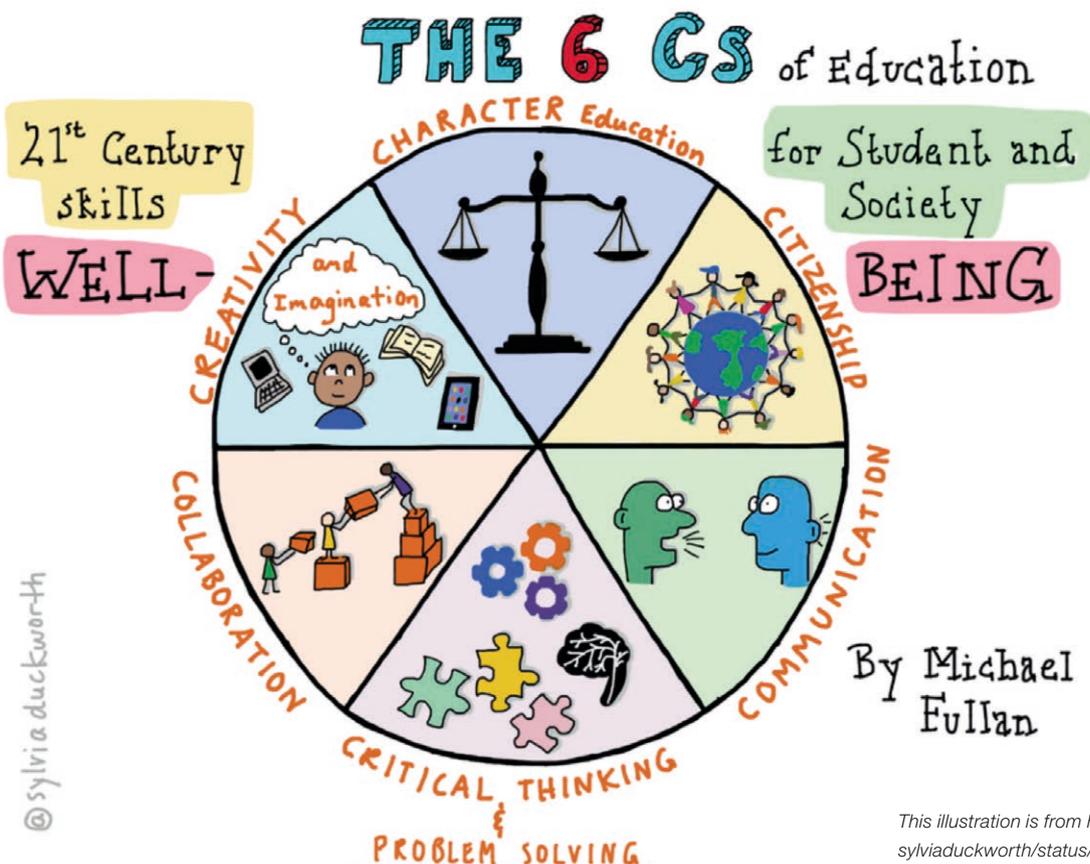
» **HSS:** Making choices in Nazi Germany, Girl Power, The rise of China as a Superpower, How have the lives of ordinary people changed in the last century?

» **SAL:** Clicking with isiXhosa, French for Beginners.

» **Creative Arts:** Jewellery Design, Painting in Oils, From the Page to the Stage, DIY Theatre.

» **Technology:** Fabric and Food Technology, Coding and Robotics.

» **Integrated Studies:** Leadership, Philosophy and Sports Science. ♦



This illustration is from <https://twitter.com/syviaduckworth/status/567373802968186880>

English

WRITING

TRAVEL WRITING ESSAY

LULAMA LINGELA – GRADE 9

Finally, the rather long flight has come to an end. It felt amazing to be in the clouds, but it is reassuring now to finally come back down to this place on the ground. I am ecstatic to think about it, and once again, to take a glimpse at this place that I have always been so used to. Yearned for. I am filled with nostalgia. Yet my memory is slightly distorted as I step out of the aeroplane and look outside at the buildings of O.R. Tambo.

I look around and am surprised to find that the first thing I notice is the fact that there is no mountain in sight. The view seems empty. There are only a few clouds that are suspended in the sky, almost stationary – their movements restricted by the stagnant flow of the air. The land seems so flat and compressed, and brown – scattered with dust. I cannot spot anything green in

my range of vision.

I open my mouth to take in a small taste of Johannesburg's air, but it seems different. It tastes subtly dusty, but quite dry. It is nothing like Cape Town... or how I remembered it.

I take a deep breath in, while feeling my lungs expand, but again, it is not the same. Even though I was born in Pretoria, Johannesburg is and always has been a part of my home - where I was comfortable; where I belonged. Experiencing this slight feeling of being out-of place within my own comfort zone, makes me feel distant, confused, unnatural and a bit... sad. It feels like being a foreigner in your own home.

It is amazing how one can adapt so much to a new environment in a matter of two years. The difference is significant, much more than you can imagine, and this fills me with mixed emotions.

Despite all this, I am bursting with excitement! I have finally

come back to the place that I have been so familiar with in my childhood. I am back.

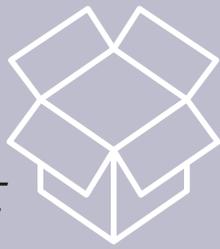
I remember those clear and white walls, the smooth tiled-floors, the area of the craft shops and many other things. I remember them all, and I am proud.

My mother is from Japan and has not visited her family in seven years. I realise that I am lucky. Just coming back to Gauteng after two years fills me with so much joy. I cannot even begin to imagine how my mother feels so far away, longing for support, and the happiness she would feel once she goes back to the place that she can truly call home. As I walk on, with my suitcase obediently following behind me, this becomes the one lingering thought that I have. It makes me feel guilty. Nevertheless, my optimistic mood gets the better of me and soon spares me this negative thought. I will be telling

my family all about this 3-day trip when I return home, including all the details. Until then, I decide to concentrate solely on the purpose as to why I am here.

Of course, I am here to compete in the South African Irish Dancing Championships. I will try my best in all the dances and keep all the corrections that I have heard from my teacher in mind. I might be able to meet all my friends from my previous studio and probably compete against them, and maybe even meet someone whom I could not say goodbye to 2 years ago – and just like that, I am running on adrenaline.

It is funny how one's mood and thoughts can change so easily, but the change is never abrupt. It is swaying with nuances. I will try to focus as much as I can on every precious moment that I am given, making sure that I remain with vivid memories, so that when I go back to Cape Town... I won't forget.



HE REMINDS ME OF

SOPHIA SEARLL – GRADE 8

He reminds me of a garage.
Containing dozens of boxes
filled with memories of him.

He reminds me of a cloud.
You can't touch him,
he's like a faint memory that I try so
hard to reach.

He reminds me of the colour blue.
because it means wisdom and
intelligence,
which he has, or had.

He reminds me of the end of winter.
It's dull and gloomy,
but he is the flower that starts to
blossom, showing new beginnings.

He reminds me of a chilly night.
Because through the cold, I look up,
and see the stars shining down on
me, as if he is smiling with joy.

He reminds me of the movie 'UP'.
Because he was always positive and
would tell me to rise above all the
awful things just like he did.

He reminds me of an antique.
Irreplaceable, valuable
and one of a kind.

He reminds me of a chocolate.
Sweet and delicate
with a gooey soft centre filled with
cheerfulness.

He reminds me of a lot of things.
But none of them will truly show
how wonderful he was,
how wonderful my dad was.

“WE [DID] START THE FIRE” – BILLY JOEL

CHLOE JUDGE – GRADE 12

Bold flames engulfed the cathedral painting the Parisian skyline in hues of red and yellow. The idyllic backdrop of a Monet or van Gogh but the foreground depicted a different tune... one of turmoil.

On the 15th of April 2019, the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris caught alight. An electrical short circuit is suspected to have been the cause thus ruling out possible theories of arson or terrorism. Notre Dame, meaning “Our Lady of Paris”, is one of the most famous gothic cathedrals of the Middle Ages and is world-renowned for its size, antiquity and architectural interest.

The landmark shares a history of both joy and tragedy. It has celebrated weddings, coronations, beatifications whilst also boasting the setting for Victor Hugo’s book, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, which was later adapted into a Disney movie. The cathedral is evidently rich in history and so it does not come as a surprise that donors pledged millions of euros towards the reconstruction of the monument. However, this also proves the fact that humans place a ridiculously high value on material objects that are far from essential to our survival. My question is, at what cost to humanity?

News stations and various social media platforms were quick to document and comment on the event. However, many people are unaware that on the same day, the last female Yangtze turtle died. The extinction of another species occurred without any acknowledgement, let alone the pledge of millions of euros to halt or at least slow the current mass extinction. On the other hand, cyclone Idai hit Malawi and Mozambique earlier this year. It killed thousands of people and left hundreds of thousands homeless. Funds raised over the course of a month following the natural disaster totalled 15% of the 600 million euros raised within 24 hours after the fire.

I had the privilege of visiting the Notre Dame two years ago. The tall ceilings were framed by columns casting shadows on the walls, which danced in the candlelight. A truly spectacular sight knowing that the cathedral was constructed centuries ago. I wonder if it will have the same grand effect on spectators with the knowledge that it is merely a replica of the original masterpiece?

I value both our cultural and natural history but it is essential to remember the importance of planetary and humanitarian integrity over symbolism. In contrast to Billy Joel’s song, “We [did] start the fire.” It is

evident that our world is facing a current mass extinction as ecosystems rapidly degrade to the point of collapse. However, I hope we can accept the fact and have the opportunity to say that “we tried to fight it.”

REMAINS

GRACE GIBBS – GRADE 12

The city reminds me of a novel - that feeling the words give you as they seduce you into the setting. It’s a place you’ve never been before, that feeling of the unknown. That’s the city – filled with history and untold or unknown stories. No matter how many times I memorise the streets, there are things I can’t seem to reach. I believe the feeling is from the air. I can hear people screaming, loud music, moments and memories, dances and drinks – all these linger in the air. As moments pass or people leave, something remains – the tension or the volume of emotion experienced.

My phone snaps me out of my thoughts. It is a notification of a nearby customer and their location. The GPS leads me to the front of a loud and chaotic club. I can see the smiles, hear the drama, feel the sexual tension and fun from where I am parked. Out comes a girl and a boy; the boy is slightly hunched over, looking at his feet while walking. The girl has her hand pressed against his back, reassuring, leading him. “Is this for Loola?” The girl asks through the window, music blasting behind her. She seems concerned as her eyebrows are almost in a knot and her voice stern. I am a bit shocked at her intensity. “Yes,” I shout back so she can hear me. She nods, then turns to open the passenger door, directing the young man, and hopping in after him. I check our destination. It will take us about 20 minutes to get there.

The city passes us quickly and now there is just open road on the way to Suburbia. I hear the whispering but feel bad about



eavesdropping, but I can't help myself. "We can order pizza when we get home." The girl is clearly trying to cheer him up but he seems distant, quiet. "I'm sorry." The words spill out of the boy's mouth, full of emotion. I can hear his throat tighten and now I know why the girl's eyebrows were so knotted. "I just couldn't be there anymore." He sounds as if he is in pain and I can feel the deep shame drip from his words. Somehow his pain and heartbreak illuminates the car. "It's okay," she whispers. The intense woman I met five minutes ago has disappeared. "I can't, Loola, I can't keep living in the dark." There is silence. His words are so powerful that the street lamps seem to burst.

"We're going to get through this." Loola tries to reassure him but a small, quiet sob leaves his lips. "I stood there, Loola, I stood and I watched everyone." His voice is strained and I watch in the rear view window how she holds his hand. "I watched everyone smile, laugh and I realised that I can't, I can't smile or laugh." His anguish is clear. "I stood there, I couldn't move, I was paralysed and inbetween dancing bodies." He pauses and I stop at a robot. I pray that it will not turn green. I want the world to stop for him. He lets out a boyish cry and whimpers.

Arriving at the destination, we say goodbye and the girl pays me. Once the car doors are shut behind them, I sit and I let the pain of the young boy stay with me.

Moments pass and I resume my shift but that sound of a broken kid in the back seat will forever remain.

A PIANIST'S MEMORY

GABBY BOTTON – GRADE 8

Black and white keys
Fingers dance over them like ballerinas
In cloud-like tutus
Playing others' thoughts passionately
Thoughts wonder into memories while playing
A monotonous winter filled with grey clouds,
An electrifying summer dream
Sainte-Chapelle in Paris
Watching Swan Lake from the orchestra
When the fingers stop dancing and
I Take my final bow the memories stop and
I'm taken back to a cold reality.

JOSI LE ROUX – GRADE 11
EISTEDDFOD PROSE

TOPIC: OBSERVATION

I saw her for the first time while I was sipping my morning coffee. I was gazing out of the expansive glass window of my and Phillip's rustic apartment. She just happened to catch my eye. I could see her moving in my peripheral vision and so I turned to face the apartment block across the street and I stared into the identical window three floors below mine. The shattering sound of my mug colliding with the wooden floor snapped me out of my shocked state.

"What's wrong, honey?" Phillip asked me, as he rushed over from his armchair. I quickly turned my gaze away from the neighbouring apartment to prevent him from witnessing the same thing as me.

"Nothing, I guess I zoned out so much that I lost my grip on my mug," I said gently. I added in an amused giggle to keep my reasoning convincing. He gave me an uneasy smile and returned to his newspaper. I never wanted to see anything like it ever again.

But I did see something like it again, with the same girl in the same apartment three floors below mine. It was late one Saturday night and Phillip had already dozed off in our room next door. I still had a few work emails to reply to and so I sat at our wooden coffee table while I worked. It was my peripheral vision again. It sensed movement. It was worse this time. He had been drinking. The two of them were in their apartment, clearly arguing. He shoved her against the delicate table in their entrance hall. Her head violently hit the mirror above it and bits of glass crashed to the floor as the vase that had previously been on the table, simultaneously joined the shards on the floor. She seemed to be crying or screaming, one of the two. He grabbed her hair and carelessly dragged her to their living room couch. He snatched the handbag that she had loosely slung on her shoulder. He desperately searched its contents and pulled out her cellphone. He opened it. He began to point at something on its screen as his face grew increasingly red and tense while he furiously screamed at

her. She was sobbing and shaking. He aggressively grabbed her chin between his fingers and he used his presumably dominant hand to slap her across the face.

That was when I looked away. I assumed she was having an affair. It would explain him pointing at her phone. Why a human would do something like that to another, I still don't understand. All I knew was, I did not want to be involved. The less I knew the better. I can't say what I saw didn't bother me. It bothered me greatly. The chance that if I intervened, he could do the same to me, sadly bothered me more.

I never spoke a word of it or thought about the two incidents again. The next morning, I woke up and made myself and Phillip coffee and blueberry flapjacks. He told me that it seemed as though something was troubling me and that I seemed very distant. I easily brushed his concerns away. Whenever I saw anything in my peripheral vision when I was working late at night, I would simply dim my lights and close the blinds. What I couldn't see wouldn't affect me, would it?

JOSI LE ROUX – GRADE 11
EISTEDDFOD POETRY

TOPIC: NATURE

Nature Haiku 1

I watched them change hue
Pink tufts of drifting cotton
The sun ignited

Nature Haiku 2

Echoing my call
The mountains screamed back at me
Repeating my shouts



ENGLISH WRITING

SARAH FLOQUET – GRADE 12

They say you never really know just how much a person means to you, until they're gone. You never truly appreciate the time a person's given to you, until there's none left. And you never really understand how much a person changed your life until they're not there to help you.

Last week, I said goodbye to you. My body heaving with sobs as I stood with shaking legs and listened as the speeches washed over me, hardly comprehending the knowledge it was you I was crying for, that it was you who had left.

You taught me to dance, to smile, and to smile while I danced. I took for granted the time you put into sharing your passion and I remember the final day you tried to share it with me as I watched with anticipation the scissors of time on the wall cutting the lesson to its end. The air felt thick and clammy and a pungent aroma of sweat hung, unmoving in the sweltering studio. I felt the pressure of your hand on my ankle as with care you emphasised my turn out. Beads of sweat began to form on my brows, but still you insisted that I rehearse. There were ten minutes left of the heat, pain and monotonous symphony of overplayed classical music. With the precision of an artist, you twisted, turned and tied the satin ribbons of my pointe shoes, like a network of roads around my ankles. I relaxed only when the lesson ended; averting my eyes from you, I walked away, but not before your soft lips touched my forehead as you said goodbye.

I saw you once more before you left. You were smiling as you watched a young girl of five collect her bags, who ten years previously had been me. I considered saying 'Hello', and giving you a hug, but I preceded to walk swiftly past the studio, unaware of the fact that the next time I walked the familiar, unevenly bricked path past the studio, it would be to say goodbye.

And only as I stood with weak knees swaying and with tears sliding down my face, did I realise just how much you meant to me, just how much of your limited time you gave to me, and just how much you've changed my life.

The definition of a hero, is not only somebody with super-powers, not only somebody who saves the lives of millions, but somebody like you, my ballet teacher. For ten years of my life your positive and effervescent personality has broken through the barriers of what was initially my six-year-old stubbornness and development into my teenage moody attitude. You were, and will always be my light in a dark time, and my idol and hero. I hope that you're dancing with the other angels in heaven.

THE ONLY DEPENDABLE LAW OF LIFE

JODY TATE – GRADE 12

Dorothy Parker said it right. Everything is always worse than you thought it was going to be. I thought that I would be okay – however, I was not.

It was an October's night. It was dark and the temperature was freakishly high for October. Mom was driving me home from dancing and I was playing DJ – blaring Lewis Capaldi so that I couldn't hear my mom ranting about the drama at the book club. If you really want to know, Suzanne left her book club to go to Valerie's book club. We don't like Valerie, and now we don't like Suzanne.

"Mom, I'm eighteen in three months," I said as I turned the music a few decibels softer. "I need to learn how to drive." Initially, her eyes widened as she realised her last "baby" was soon to be legal.

"Let's drive now then."

Wait! What? Did she really just, wait, um, no? My mind raced trying to think of a believable excuse.

"I didn't mean right now, mom. I was just stating a fact."

My body is shoved forward. The car has stopped. Oh no! This is not good at all.

"Come on, love. You can do this."

I'm not entirely sure where my mom's faith and trust in me to have complete control over a machine that I had never touched before come from, but it was empowering. I mean, how hard can it be, right? Driving an automatic car is like driving a golf cart. (To be fair, I did nearly flip a golf cart once but that's beside the point).

While reassuring myself with words like, "Okay, Jodi, you'll be fine!" and "You got this girl," I adjusted the warmed driver's seat to accommodate my short legs and so that I could actually see over the dashboard. It's tough being the size of a Grade Eight.

My mom showed me the few, deceivingly "simple" steps about how to begin: Foot on break, move the fat knob thing into little compartment where it says "D" and push the handbrake down. I think that's what it's called. I can't actually describe the feeling I felt in my stomach when the car, which felt like a foreign vehicle, began to move.

One thing you must know is that my mom's car and my neighbourhood are like an oxymoron to each other:

they are completely opposite but make for a very interesting scenario. My mom's car is huge and wide. My neighbourhood in Newlands is tiny and the roads are narrow. I am certain that I live on the narrowest road in Cape Town. So you can imagine what happened once I was added to the equation.

I may have gained a bit too much confidence in my driving ability a bit too quickly.

It was hard to remember that when you drive, you're not in the middle of the car and that you are actually on the right. This did cause a few close encounters with parked cars and lamp posts.

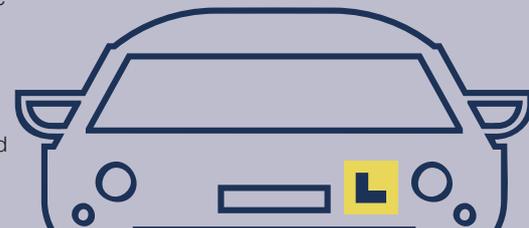
"Jodi... Jodi... Jodi. You are going to scrape that car!" shouted my mom in her high-pitched squeal. She had curled her body into a ball and was clutching the side door, making squealing sounds like a kid in a candy store. Except the kid was her and the candy store was the entry to her doom.

My traumatised mother prepared me for the upcoming left turn. "You are going to need to hug the corner, Jods." Confidently, I turned the corner. It did not end well. To summarise the event, I hugged the corner a bit too much and hit the curb.

My mom was yelling for me to break. I forgot how to break. Which foot was I meant to use again? My mind fogged up like the clouds on Lion's Head. Oh, yes! The right one. Our bodies slammed forward. Oops.

Scared of seeing my mother's reaction and not knowing how to react, I started to laugh. Who knew I would be so awful at driving? To my relief, my dearest mom started laughing as well. We were laughing so hard that both of us were gasping for air, like goldfish out of water. It was real deep-from-within-the-belly kind of laughter. Oh, how I love my mom.

So it turned out that Dorothy Parker's dependable law of life was true and I was a much worse driver than I thought I was going to be.



AN INNATE HATRED

MARIAM GOOLAM MOHAMED – GRADE 12

I strolled through the unfamiliar streets of Ohio, peacefully taking in the tranquility of the morning – a fresh April breeze. But then an awful unease washed over me, and with it, a fervent hope that nobody had their eyes fixed on me.

The air grew heavy, coating the inside of my throat as I breathed in. As I entered the souvenir store, a middle-aged woman stopped me.

“Where do you come from?” she demanded.

There was an aura of menace around her, and as she came up close, I could almost feel the dangerous heat radiating from her, like a red hot metal.

“South Africa,” I replied, smiling with terror. She had an obstinate chin, a small, pinched mouth, and small arrogant eyes. Her formidable figure was evident in her large shoulders, thick arms and powerful legs.

“I don’t believe you,” she spat, “Go back to Pakistan!”

I froze. These words were like a weapon, pointing at my head; a rope around my neck asphyxiating me. Everything about her was repulsive. Even her pronunciation of ‘Pakistan’ was horrific!

“Are holiday-makers not welcome here?” My voice was trembling. The rope around my neck tightened. As I looked at her, I got the feeling that she would bend iron bars with her bare hands.

“They are, but you are different,” she retorted. “If you want to feel welcome here, all you have to do is remove that cloth around your head and - ...”

“Excuse me?” I interrupted. “You have no right to say that.”

There was a tense atmosphere - like static. I wanted to explain to her that my hijab evidently did no harm to her whatsoever, but her eyes had proven otherwise. They were bottomless, like a dark tunnel. How long have you thought like this? How long will it take you to change? In my lifetime maybe never.

As a result of her overwhelming aggression, I realised that even attempting to convince her would be futile. To avoid conflict, I continued into the store.

“Where do you think you’re going? You’re a terrorist, aren’t you?” she hissed.

“No, I am a Muslim,” I defended myself. “What are you going to do about it?”

Everything softened and silenced. Just then, I was stripped of my dignity. Just then, my hijab was yanked off my head.

“Leave me alone!” I cried, snatching at my half-torn scarf.

Suddenly, I was running away, escaping from such hatred. My body had moved on impulse. As I ran, my tears dried with the breeze. I realise, now, that such hatred is inescapable. There will always be others who frown upon my religion. There will always be an innate evil that exists within human beings.

However, I want with all my heart for it to end.

THE BEAUTY OF PERSPECTIVE
SHALOM MAYEKISO – GRADE 9

Jerusalem, Israel. Calm and peaceful. I was surprised to see that Jerusalem was nothing like I had imagined or seen on the news. We visited the Old City of David by foot. There was much to take in and admire. From the blinding, white Jerusalem rock to the dusty, smooth, pebbled streets. As I walked, I was guided by the sweet incense and spices in the air that led me to the Muslim Quarter. The streets were crowded and busy, bustling with locals and tourists. I remember listening to the people speaking beautiful and complex languages such as Arabic and Hebrew. Surprisingly, in all its busy-ness, it felt so calm and relaxing. Everyone who walked about the Old City looked as if they were at ease and so was I after entering this wonderful yet highly contentious place. I was surprised to learn that Jerusalem was one of the safest places in the world as I had heard of the conflicts between Israelis and Palestinians. Being there reminded me that the media seldom report on the truth and sensationalise news.

There are four quarters in the Old City; the Christian Quarter, the Muslim Quarter, the Jewish Quarter and the Armenian Quarters. We walked through all of these quarters and experienced the vibrant nature of them all. From the mosaic Taverns, to old, golden Churches, it felt like walking through history. Like the Bible, Torah and Quran had come to life.

We made our way through a maze of buildings to the 'Kotel' which is commonly known as the Western Wall. This is the remaining structure from the Temple that was destroyed, the Temple Jesus would pray at. I had never seen so many people gather to pray. There were hundreds of people who made it their daily ritual to pray and write

notes. They believe that it is the holiest place for both Jews and Christians. When the Temple was destroyed, Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock were built where the Temple once stood. It's quite a sight to see the culmination and birthplace of three major religions in one space.

Our next destination was South towards

like forever. The bed of this sea was made up of salt that hardened to rock. I felt reborn and smooth. While afloat I contemplated the juxtaposition between the two locations. One overcrowded and rich in history and the other bare, coarse and spacious.

I will never forget this culturally enriching experience in Israel. It taught me about people, culture, delicious Middle Eastern food, religious diversity and beauty.

MINING DIAMONDS

REBECCA SPARG – GRADE 11

They're not making humans
 They're mining diamonds
 Hard, shiny, decorative, rich.
 Priceless brains stuffed full of knowledge
 Hand-picked from mounds of common rock.
Only eight subjects?

They're not making humans
 They're coding machines
 They're feeding stacks of fatty facts
 Into receptors to process, store and file.
 Obese with information, a gluttonous
 grabbing of data.
Maybe used in the matric exam?

They're not making humans
 They're copying clones.
 Full of stuff, but substance-less.
 Copies regurgitated, stacked, sent,
 restacked.
 Not an original cell in their bodies.
That wouldn't bring their marks up.

They won't make humans
 Where's the achievement in that?

the desert, the Dead Sea, located 430.5 meters below sea level at the lowest point on earth. Floating blissfully in the calm, salty, tranquil waters was something quite extraordinary. All my worries floated away and dissolved into the salty waters, too salty to put your face in. It's aroma so pungent. Misty blue waters went on for what seemed

STRAIGHT TO VOICEMAIL

SARAH LONGWORTH – GRADE 12

With men in power in almost all aspects such as the corporate world or government, it's almost impossible, as a woman, to find a voice. We struggle as women day-in-and-day-out, yet it is as if men cannot hear us, it's as if we've gone straight to voicemail; silenced.

In early times, the only purpose of a woman was to serve a husband and raise his children. I always wonder what would have happened if there were no world wars, because it was only when the men were gone that women were finally given rights, jobs and allowed to vote. If there had been no wars, would women have continued to be submissive loyal housewives?

Even after being given these rights, women continued to be seen as 'things' for their husbands. Women are still in 'modern times', objectified and sexualised every day in the media. Adverts will present a half-naked, submissive woman placed on top of a strong, handsome man therefore showing the 'worth' and 'purpose' of a woman. And this is all to promote perfume?

Young girls grow up thinking that an airbrushed, photo-shopped and professional model is what they must look like, to be wanted. And then young boys grow up thinking that all women are submissive, sexy women.

So when men are given so much power over women, what do they do? They take away their rights. In Alabama, a court of only men, decided to legalise abortions after 6 weeks, regardless of the mother's age, whether she was raped or not and even if she has a miscarriage. Women can face up to 99 years in prison. How is it that a

non-living cell has more rights than a living woman?

If you know your little girl is being born into a world where she will be sexualised, objectified, paid less and given fewer rights all because of the little letter 'F' on her birth certificate, would you still want a little girl?

Yes, because you can make a change in the world. If all women stand up together in unity, regardless of race, culture, religion or age, we really can change the stereotypes. If we keep calling and giving men the message that we want change, they will have to answer the call. Then maybe we won't go straight to voicemail and maybe; they'll listen.

IT DEPENDS

SHAZIA KADER – GRADE 12

The door creaks open as another girl walks in. Her brown shoes hit the floor as she walks into the cubicle. She sits on the lid of the toilet, she sighs.

She turns around and gets on her knees. The disgusting remnants of the toilets are staring her right in the face. Her hands are slightly trembling as she sticks them down her throat and empties out her flat stomach. Exiting the cubicle after flushing the toilet, she hesitates and stops in front of the mirror. Her blonde hair cascades down her back onto her exposed, tanned skin. The zipper of her blue dress is pulled slightly down because of the unbearable heat. A butterfly piercing is seen on her back. Carefully, without dropping her cheat notes from her pocket, she slips out a bright blue bottle of Listerine, gargling the sloshy, water-like substance and walks out of the bathroom, iPhone in hand, Instagram dm's flooding through.

As the butterfly girl leaves, her Gucci perfume travels into another cubicle. Another girl's head perks up. She recognises the perfume and knows exactly who it is. She can't risk getting caught alone by one of 'those' girls. After a few moments she opens her lunch box covered in dirt. She allows the chicken breyani to burn her tongue and go down her throat with ease. A sudden gust of wind from the window above her rocks her frizzy hair into a frenzy. She groans. All the other girls make fun of her hairiness. You see, her mother doesn't believe in waxing. She's an Indian girl and its tradition to wait. She really wishes that she was white. High school would be better. She wishes she was 'Butterfly girl', but no, complimentary of her thick black hair and skinny Indian legs she might as well be 'Chicken girl'. That is what people call her anyway.

Yet another girl makes her way into the

only place of comfort in this school. Her black hair is slicked back and a pile of books are on her lap. She has glasses framing her face acting as a shield for the mascara on her lashes; the mascara she is certain she needs. It makes her face look more interesting. She wishes she was interesting – she wishes to be 'Butterfly girl'. Book girl looks down and studies her subjects. She needs to get As. All As. Her curvy stature is covered by bruises from her own nails the night before. She doesn't like to pity herself; this not the time or the school for it, so instead she studied a little harder to distract herself.

One year later and it seems that 'Butterfly girl' is now Head Girl; which makes complete sense. She's intelligent (as long as she has her cheat notes), brave (if you don't count her eating disorder), sporty (if you measure it by weight and figure) and popular (if you measure it by followers). Success depends on your image. This is what every single person is taught. It's the reason 'Book girl' and 'Chicken girl' never gets recognised – it's not a matter of whether you agree or not with the idea that success in high school depends on your image. That doesn't matter. What matters is that that is how it works.

I'LL ONLY MAKE YOU WALK FLOWER PATHS

SUNMIN IM – GRADE 12

Bbrrring!! Bbrrringgg!!

"Hello?" Pause

"Hi, Mom!"

"How are you doing? How is school? Is it not too difficult? Are you coping in class? Are you getting enough sleep?"

"Yes, Mama. I actually wanted to tell you that I got full marks for my group project!" she lied. Actually, Yoona wasn't doing so well at school. She was doing badly in her tests and her lectures were only becoming more complex and longer and the tutorials were a maze to figure out. Yoona even considered dropping to an ordinary science major since the competition in medicine was too strong. She was worried that her marks weren't enough to keep her scholarship.

"That's good, I actually sent you some kimchi and other side dishes that you like so let me know when you get them. You can't only survive on greasy American food. You've got to have some rice inside of you."

"Thank you, Mama, you really didn't have to."

"Oh, and I sent some seaweed soup on Quick Package because it's your birthday soon. I hope you like it."

Brrring!

"I've received the soup, Thank You! It's so delicious it makes me miss home a lot," she told her mom as she poured the seaweed soup down the drain. It had unfortunately, gone off during the flight from Korea to Los Angeles. "I missed it so much," said Yoona.

"I'll make it again for you next time you visit. I'll put in some beef next time because I know you like the beef version. Hopefully, the season will be good so I can sell lots of peppers to buy my daughter some beef for her birthday. Everyone buys everything off the internet now. My organic chillies are not so popular anymore, so I have to go up to the city to do some part-time jobs."

"Don't overwork yourself, Mama," worried Yoona. Yoona couldn't afford to lose her scholarship since her mom was already struggling to pay for her separate residence fees. Yoona was determined to work hard and become a successful doctor to earn enough money for her family. She had to focus on bringing her marks up.

Brrring, brrring! Brrring, brrring, brrring...

Yoona tried again. Brrring, bring... Her mom didn't pick up and it went straight to voicemail. Yoona assumed that she was tired from her late night shifts and was still sleeping. Yoona felt her heart break every time she heard her mother's exhausted voice over the phone but could do nothing about it except focus on studying for her and her family's future.

"I'll study hard and become the best doctor there is, Mama. I promise I'll earn lots of money so that you don't have to worry about beef in my seaweed soups anymore, I'll only make you walk flower paths, I promise," Yoona left a message on voicemail.

Suddenly, she saw an incoming call from her sister with whom she hadn't spoken for the past four years. Yoona answered reluctantly, "What do you want?"

"Mama's in a coma from exhaustion and over-working because she's been slaving away day and night for the past few months while you've been away living your best life in America."

She slowly tried to open her crusted eyelids but her muscles felt foreign. There was a bright light reflecting against the white walls in the room which made her close her eyes again. When she attempted again, she saw more white, but this time, her view landed on a white doctor's gown. Her eyes travelled slowly passed the name tag on the gown and onto a familiar yet foreign face of a young woman. There Yoona stood, wearing her own doctor's gown, holding a bowl of steaming seaweed and beef soup.

"Welcome back, Mama." ◇



French

WHAT ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR FOR THE FRENCH DEPARTMENT!

BY **MME SUSY MACFARLANE,**
HOD FRENCH

This was the first year that French formed part of the elective programme, which meant that our students were not just exposed to the beauty of the French language but also to a wide variety of fun and interesting aspects of French culture. To this end, they visited a French restaurant where they successfully completed a Fear Factor task by eating snails for the first time in their lives. They also took part in several fun competitions such as a chocolate mousse competition, a perfume competition, a French sauce-making competition, as well as a much-anticipated Amazing Race competition.

Other highlights included a visit to Swan Café where the students were treated to pancakes made the French way, and our annual mad rush for chocolate eggs during the Easter Egg hunt. Another religious day that was celebrated was Epiphany at the beginning of the year. A traditional almond cake was shared among the students and whoever got a “fève” was crowned “Queen for the Day”.

The busy year was crowned

by the excellent results our students obtained for the DELF examinations, an equivalency diploma issued by the French government and which, if successfully completed at the advanced level, provides our students with the tools to fulfil all the language requirements for study at a French university.

L'année prochaine je vais faire neuf matières. C'est fou, mais j'adore l'école. Je n'aime pas vraiment les langues mais j'adore le français. C'est intéressant. J'aime aussi la musique. J'écoute assez souvent la musique quand je travaille. Les sciences sont difficiles mais j'aime bien les sciences parce que j'aime les matières difficiles. J'adore les maths aussi. Oui, je suis folle.

KELLI ARENDE – GRADE 9

Conduisez-nous par ici
Prenez-nous là
Aidez-nous aujourd'hui
Laissez-nous tranquilles demain
Parce que nous savons être indépendantes
Nous savons être responsables
Nous savons être matures
Sans vous
Laissez-nous seules alors

Mais aimez-nous toujours
GEORGIA NEL – GRADE 11

Salut ! Je m'appelle Lucy. Je suis

sud-africaine et je suis de Cape Town. J'étudie à Herschel. Je parle bien anglais, mais je n'aime pas parler afrikaans. J'aime danser mais je déteste chanter.

LUCY MACFARLANE – GRADE 8

UNE SOIRÉE TRÈS SPÉCIALE

EMMA HAYES – GRADE 12
Depuis que je suis en grade 8, je rêve du jour quand je pourrais marcher sur le tapis rouge en portant ma jolie robe. Quand ce jour est arrivé, c'était exactement comme je l'avais imaginé!

Pendant deux mois avant cette date, il y avait beaucoup de préparations pour le bal. Il fallait organiser une robe, des chaussures, des bijoux et le plus important et le plus difficile - un partenaire! Heureusement, j'avais mon meilleur ami que je pouvais inviter. Il s'appelle Nick. Pendant la semaine avant il y avait beaucoup d'excitation à l'école parce que tout le monde était tendu. Dans presque toutes les classes, nous avons parlé de nos robes ou de nos chaussures au lieu de travailler. C'était peut-être un des aspects négatifs parce que c'était le seul sujet dont tout le monde discutait!

Le matin du bal de promotion, j'étais extrêmement excitée pour la nuit. J'ai amené ma maman et mon père au resto Starlings pour prendre le petit déjeuner car je

voulais les remercier pour tout ce qu'ils ont fait pour moi.

Le soir du bal, c'était très effrayant parce qu'il y avait au moins deux cent personnes qui nous regardaient en arrivant à l'école. Mon cœur battait si fort quand je suis sortie de notre bus. Mais en fait, cette partie était amusante parce que j'ai vu beaucoup de mes amies qui étaient venues d'autres écoles.

Ensuite, nous avons pris des photos sur le gazon avec nos professeurs. Après, nous sommes allés à la salle de l'école primaire. La salle était admirablement décorée avec le thème “Palais de Versailles”. La découverte de cette décoration était un de mes meilleurs moments pendant la nuit. J'ai aimé danser avec mes amies et les professeurs, et la nourriture était vraiment délicieuse.

Quand le bal de promotion était fini, nous sommes allés dans le bus pour aller à la fête après. C'était à Madisons, une boîte en ville. Tout le monde était fatigué mais quand on est arrivés nous nous sommes réveillés! Cinq de mes copines et moi ont seulement quitté la boîte vers 04h30!

En fin de compte, c'était une nuit que je ne vais jamais oublier. C'était super d'être ensemble avec les filles de mon année et de passer une soirée aussi magique avec elles!





IsiXhosa

UHAMBO NGEHOLIDE KASEPTEMBA

UJess noPhiwo noSipho noPabs noAndile baza kuya eRooi Els ngoSeptemba. Baza kuqhuba imoto ukusuka eClaremont ukuya eRooi Els. Baza kuhlala kwamama kaJess elwandle. Kuza kubanda kakhulu eRooi Els. Baza kunxiba ijini nejezi. Abayazi indlela esuka eClaremont ukuya eRooi Els.

UAndile uza kujonga imephu. Yena, uza kunika amacala ukuya eRooi Els. USipho noPhiwo baza kulungiselela umphako neziselo ngohambo. UPabs ufuna ukuqubha elwandle ngehohide, kodwa umoya uza kuvuthuza ngoSeptemba.

Abahlobo bayavuya kakhulu kuba baza kuya ngohambo eRooi Els ngehohide kaSeptemba.

JESSICA BROWN – GRADE 9

UHAMBO NGEHOLIDE KADISEMBA

Ndiza kuhamba ngehohide kaDisemba eGoli. Ndiza kuhamba nomama notata. Thina siza kudibana nabazalwana.

Siza kuhamba ngemoto. Umama uza kuphakisha umphako ndiphakisha ilokhwe nesiketi kuba kuza kuba shushu eGoli.

Siza kukhonza ecaweni yeWeslie ngeCawa. Emva kwecawa usapho lwam luza kuya edolophini. Umama ufuna ukujonga iimpahla kwaWoolworths. Utata yena uza kuya kwaExclusive Books kuba ufuna ukuthenga iincwadi ezinomdla. Ndiza kuhamba nomakazi kwaEdgars. Siza kuthenga iimpahla.

Emva koko siza kutyelela umzala. Igama lakhe nguSharneel. USharneel uza kuya kwaOcean Basket, kuba yena uthanda ukutya intlanzi.

USapho lwam luza kuba nombulelo ngehohide emnandi eGoli.

CAITLIN MAHARAJH – GRADE 9

“Ndithanda ukufunda ngolwimi lwesiXhosa nangamasiko amaXhosa!”

KAYLEY COETZEE – GRADE 8



YIVANI KE, NINA NONKE...

Eklasini yesiXhosa sonwabile gqitha! Singabafundi abanomdla kakhulu emfundweni yesiXhosa kuba olu lwimi luvuleka iindlela zokunxibelelana nabanye abantu eMzantsi-Afrika! Kubalulekile ukuhlonipha umntu wonke.

Siyanimema ke ukuvuyisana nathi nizikhuthaze ukusithetha isiXhosa nathi esikolweni!
BY MRS CORINE SHARP, HOD
 Open Evening February 2019

Written work by Grade 9 and 8 isiXhosa Second Additional Language



GEOGRAPHY

BY MRS NASEEMA PARKER

As 2019 draws to a close, we can once again reflect on the amazing memories made in the Geography Department throughout the year. The year started off on a high with the Grade 8 and 9 girls being introduced to six new and exciting electives, ranging from chasing storms to travelling across the globe in six months. As “Geography is our world,” our focus is on our relationship with the environment. We ensure that the girls consolidate and enrich the content taught in the classroom by taking the classroom outside. We embarked on a number of educational field trips which enriched the girls immensely.

On a rather rainy day at the end of April, the Geography Department and some of the student teachers took the Grade 8s on an educational tour of Hout Bay. The purpose of the excursion was to give the Grade 8s a first-hand experience of the environment, history, industry and social issues of Hout Bay as groundwork for their research essay.

We visited a local nursery where they found out about the Environmental Organisation called Thrive which conducts educational and practical work improving the natural and social

environment in Hout Bay. Susan Hill, from iKhaya le Themba in Imizamo Yethu, explained how to go about implementing and running a meaningful and useful organisation when assisting people in need. We had an aromatic tour of one of the fish factories in Hout Bay, during which Mr James Wischman explained how fish is processed. We were fascinated to learn about this industry. The last stop was the Hout Bay Museum where the Grade 8s found out much useful information about the past in order to supplement the research for their research essay. The groups all gathered for a freezing picnic at the beach when the work was done, and a few maniacs even braved the cold sea!

The Grade 12 group had a chance to study climatology up front when we spent an amazing day at Beau Constantia Wine Estate hosted by Pierre du Preez, the estate owner. Pierre graciously gave of his time to explain the unique microclimate of the estate and its impact on the terroir of the wine, as this was the research topic which the Grade 12s had to investigate. The group enjoyed a swing of golf in the vineyards despite the pouring rain. The girls were soaked, but

were treated to hot chocolate and warm dry towels on their return. Pierre and Cecilia’s warm hospitality definitely made it the most enriching and memorable experience of 2019 for our Grade 12s!

On 11 July, the Grade 11 Geography students set out for Paarl to learn about the ancient rock formations of Paarl Rock. They came home enriched after witnessing the processes of weathering and erosion. The highlight of their trip was eating lunch while overlooking the town of Paarl as the mist rolled in and the inversion layer lifted. We ended the day with a cheese tasting experience at Fairview farm which left many of us wanting more! This outing will forever be a fun memory and an amazing learning experience as the Grade 11s so aptly said, “The field trip really ROCKED!!”

In closing, “Geography is not important, it is essential... The issues facing us today can only be understood from a Geographical perspective” (NCGE GAW, 2014). As a Geography Department, we strive to bring about awareness, to teach compassion, foster critical thinking skills and to adopt a problem-solving approach to our interaction with the world.

A special thanks to my amazing team: Wendy Paterson, Sharmila Gordon as well as Julia Moxley and Olivia Lascaris [Grade 11] for their contribution.

HISTORY

BY MRS LEAH NASSON

Twenty-nineteen has seen a rejuvenation of curriculum and assessment practices in the History Department. The introduction of electives at a junior level has allowed us to nurture our inner creativity and to pursue our respective historical interests. The added benefit of Grade 8s and 9s not writing examinations has meant that we have had more time to teach more complex historical skills and to explore topics in greater depth. For example, the development of essay-writing skills to answer evaluative essay questions, usually reserved for Grade 10 and 11 level, has been embedded as a core component of both the Grade 8 and Grade 9 core syllabi in the six electives we have offered. Moreover, the elective system has also given us the flexibility to ensure that our offerings are current and can be linked to contemporary world events. In an elective which looks at 20th century Cape Town, Grade 8s were required to research the historical figure of Cecil John Rhodes as a basis for assessing the validity of academic arguments on both sides of the Rhodes Must Fall debate, which they then discussed in a podcast. Lively discussions about the roles of contested statues and monuments – and road names – in local and global history brought History alive, reminding us all that our past is all but static. Grade 8s and 9s also had the opportunity to explore a wide range of topics including the history of feminism, representations of history through film, the history of contemporary China and the history of Nazi Germany, taught through the lens of moral choices and human agency. Two highlights of the year were outings to the Holocaust Museum, as well as a visit to a film set.

Throughout all the grades in 2019, we have placed greater emphasis on the development

of 21st century skills, with a specific focus on promoting active citizenship and engagement with local and international issues. Grade 10s have immersed themselves in debates about globalisation, capital, the role of the UN and economic imperialism. At a Grade 12 level, we once again hosted an excellent workshop facilitated by the Institute of Justice and Reconciliation in which our Matrics participated in intimate and difficult conversations, the relevance of which is arguably more pertinent than ever, on the debates surrounding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A number of our students left the workshop inspired to become involved in civil society organisations and we will continue to nurture our relationship with the IJR in years to come.

The popularity of current affairs at Herschel continues to grow, which has seen the

introduction of a Grade 8 and 9 “Junior Vox” society in which pupils lead discussions on topics ranging from the crisis in Kashmir to the trade war between the USA and China. Our formidable team of Grade 11 History students – and talented debaters – continues to facilitate dynamic discussions every Thursday in our traditional “Vox” society meetings, which this year also saw us analysing election manifestos and holding a “mock election” in April.

Ultimately, it is at the intersection of the present with the past that History as an academic discipline at school finds its most invigorating and inspiring expression. I would thus like to thank my colleagues, Mrs Sue Grové and Ms Jenny Wesson, for their unwavering support and for the sustained enthusiasm they show towards driving new initiatives in our department.



ABOVE: Grade 8s in a ‘Silent Conversation’ activity on the 1976 Soweto Uprising.



ABOVE: Members of the Vox Society after a talk on the history of Federalism in the USA and its implications for the incumbent Trump administration.



ROBOTICS AND CODING

BY MRS SUE STEIN

2019 was an exciting and creative year with the introduction of the elective system at Herschel. Robotics and Coding was offered to the Grade 8 and 9 learners as an elective.

Programming knowledge assists the learners in understanding the fast-growing, everyday artificial intelligence. It incorporates creativity and fun simultaneously. Creating and programming robots is challenging and encourages determination and teamwork. Hands-on learning activities enhance concentration and attention levels.

Robotics, coding, design thinking and computational thinking were integrated into the lessons.

The Grade 9 learners investigated Swift programming and Lego Robotics. They were challenged with different everyday scenarios and had to design, build and

program a robot to complete various tasks.

The Grade 9 learners had a choice of taking an HTML or a Python programming course. The courses were self-paced and allowed the learners to use their learned skills in real-time. The learners were also challenged to design, brainstorm and program the EV3 robot to complete tasks.

DIGITAL LITERACY

The Grade 9 learners became familiar with all the basic productive programmes on the iPad. These skills included word processing, producing graphs, creating animations, music and movies. They collaborated in shared spaces while planning their creations. The skills learned during these classes are invaluable and will assist the learners in all subject areas in the future.

LIBRARY REPORT

BY SARAH LONGWORTH

The library has had a fun and successful year with it being involved in so many aspects of the school. The library kicked off the year by celebrating 'Library's Lover's Month' with the theme "Love your Library". Girls wrote love letters to the library – "Dear Library I love you because"... Our book lovers display with the caption "Get caught reading" added a lot of fun when library monitors sneaked around the library and took pictures of girls reading in our beautiful new library lounge.

World Read Aloud Day was celebrated with much excitement when 30 enthusiastic library monitors marched over to the Preparatory library to read to the Grade 3 girls during their library period. Both the monitors and Grade 3s had a lot of fun reading aloud classic books such as Dr Seuss' *Oh, the places you'll go* and *The Lorax*.

Continuing the celebrations, Africa Day was honoured and commemorated with girls and staff wearing unique head wraps whilst singing and dancing to African music around the fountain. Africa Day is always worth celebrating!

For our Mandela Day project the Senior and Preparatory Library joined hands for a book drive to collect books for Little Libraries. This organisation is a NPO and works to allocate one wooden bookshelf with age-appropriate books to classes in disadvantaged schools and community libraries. The senior library also had a very successful bake sale to raise funds to contribute to the wooden bookshelf. Books and money collected were handed over to the foundation on Mandela Day.

To celebrate National Book Week, Gabi Lowe, author of the new book *Get Me to 21*, spoke to the school during assembly. Gabi generously and courageously shared the story of her daughter, Jenna (OH 2013) and her remarkable spirit, positivity, grit and resilience in battling the rare degenerative lung disease, pulmonary arterial hypertension. Despite her severe illness, Jenna used the opportunity to educate people about this rare disease and the importance of organ donation.

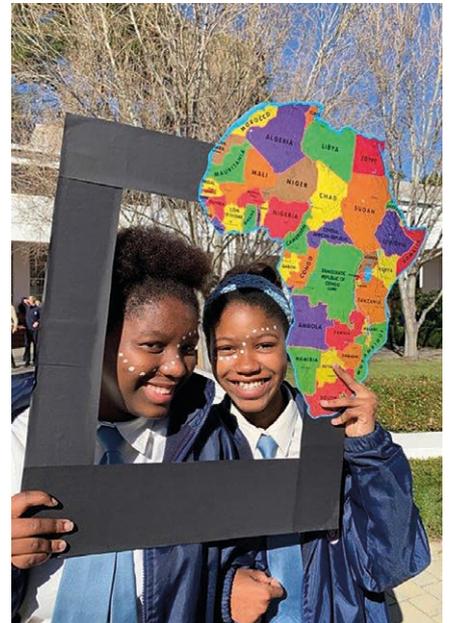
This year, Mrs Prins introduced the new library card system. Instead of using



numbers (that girls had to remember), they can now scan the new library card when issuing and returning books. The Grade 12 library monitors introduced the new cards to the school at assembly by performing a humorous skit by comparing the new library cards to actual IDs.

The library ended off the term with a 'Book Battle' where tutor classes' book knowledge was tested in an Interhouse battle of the book quiz. The library remains one of the best places in the school, and continues to be an invaluable space for study and research. Students absolutely love that it has so many purposes: a work, meeting, relaxing and reading or a hangout space.

There is definitely more to our library than just the books!



MATHS DEPARTMENT

BY MS DEBBIE MAIN

Once again, we have had such a busy and exciting year. Our Grade 12s of 2018 produced outstanding results at the end of last year – with more than half the grade obtaining an A symbol. We are so proud of their incredible hard work.

On the competition and Olympiad front, we have, once again, been having a highly successful year, particularly amongst our juniors. The UCT Mathematics Competition at the start of the second term is always a highlight, with teams of 15 from each grade participating with much excitement on the evening. Our girls really shone in the competition: Gr8's Kerry Buisinne and Jemma van Stolk won Gold as the top pair; Juliette Roux won Gold for coming first in the Gr9 individuals; Kate Forrest won Gold for coming in the top ten Gr9 individuals. Due to their success in the UCT Competition, 13 of our girls were invited to write the UCT Invitational Competition. From their performance in the competition four of the 37 juniors invited to write the UCT Olympiad were from Herschel. These were Emily Floquet and Julia Wellington in Grade 8 and Kate Forrest and Juliette Roux in Grade 9. The girls continued to impress, with Juliette winning the Junior Olympiad, and Kate following with only one point behind her. They were also ranked in the top ten in the Senior Olympiad. Julia received a Silver award.

As is customary the whole school wrote the first round of the South African Maths Olympiad in March. To proceed to the second round they need to obtain over 50% in the first round. We had 147 juniors and 108 seniors make it to round two. Most of the senior girls chose not to write due to exams, but our juniors were there in full force. Both Juliette Roux and Kate Forrest were then invited to write the third round. This is of a much higher level, with answers written in formal Olympiad style. We do know that both girls are medallists in this final round, but at time of print we do not have their actual positions.

In the March holiday, the Pan African Maths Olympiad was held in Cape Town. Juliette Roux represented South Africa, with the SA team coming second to Morocco. She also won a silver medal in the PAMO Girls Olympiad, being in the top 5. Kate Forrest was also given the opportunity to participate unofficially. She would have

been eligible for a bronze Girls medal. What an amazing achievement and experience for these girls. Juliette was also selected for the South African National A team to participate in the International Mathematics Competition, held in Durban in August. Here she competed both as an individual and as part of the team. Juliette received a bronze medal in both the Individual and Team Contest.

On the school front, we have so enjoyed not writing exams in Grade 8 and 9. We have found the slower pace, with time to reflect,

remediate and extend with the juniors so valuable. The girls are really showing the benefit of having opportunities to identify and address their problem areas before writing the more heavily weighted tests. We are confident that the benefits of spending more time ensuring a stronger base will truly be seen as the girls progress to the higher grades.

I must say a big thank-you to my amazing department. They are so incredibly supportive, especially when I want to try out new ways of doing things. It is greatly appreciated. ◇





Music

BY MRS JOS TAYLOR

At the end of this year we bid a fond farewell to our chaotic, hopelessly too small but beloved Music Department space up in the back corner of the school. Practising, rehearsing, learning, laughing, friendships, performing anxiously and/or with exhilaration, tackling practical exams, concerts, productions, having fun... all has flourished here over many years. We would like to salute everyone who has made music in this hotchpotch collection of rooms – with theory and aural lessons even happening, at times, with the girls sitting and working on the floor. I would like to thank instrumental staff who have resignedly searched for somewhere to

teach – and have found a corner in the Chapel or a small room off the kitchen. Or those who have resided permanently in The Holes (those rooms that started out life as practice rooms). Next year we will be learning, laughing and performing in our brand-new, state-of-the-art Music School at the other end of the campus. Our new crops of musicians will, inevitably, take the fantastic facilities we are going to be enjoying as the norm. Those of us who have operated in our current scenario may look back with a tinge of nostalgia, but with such gratitude for the huge gift of a glorious new space into which we can make more glorious music.

On the staffing front we have a few exits and entrances. Ms Lewin who taught cello with such experience and gentleness, retired at the end of last year and

Mr David Pinoit has so ably filled the gap. Mrs Claire Hamilton has taken over the main Choir and some of the singing lessons – challenging students to memorise more and tackle improvisatory choir work. Mrs Carla van Wyk has stepped into the violin department with energy, taking over from Mrs Kathleen Eggers who left to become a full-time mom.

The 2018 Matriculation results for Music were outstanding, continuing our run of 100% A symbols of the past years. The Music Department achieved the highest average in the Western Cape (92%), and Amber De Decker was placed first in the province.

As always we have been enormously busy on the performance front. Our programme of concerts has been formidable.

- **Term 1** was dominated by huge involvement in the musical production of *Fame*.
- **Term 2** saw another enjoyable evening of Guitars Unplugged at a new venue this year: Café Roux. Our Marimba girls once again participated in the Marimba Festival at the Baxter. The Chamber Music Concert showcased the small-group performance skills of our subject students. There were massive entries in the music section of the Herschel Eisteddfod and the Interhouse Singing Competition brought the term to a rousing conclusion.
- **Term 3** is our concert term. We have had the Ensemble Concert, Fusion Supper Show (and an appearance on the morning TV show, *Expresso*), the Matric Recital, the Girls-on-Music-Scholarships concert, the Chorale Farewell Concert, a Wind Concert (incorporating all the Wind Ensembles), Classical Guitars in the Chapel. The term finishes with the Choir and Chorale's participation in the



Girls' Schools' Choir Festival at St George's Cathedral.

- **Term 4** ends off with Chorale and Fusion contributing to the fun Christmas Celebration and, of course, our significant involvement in the annual Carol Service – a fitting way to end off the year at an Anglican Girls' School.

In addition to the calendarised concerts many of the ensembles or individual musicians perform in a multiplicity of school events such as Prize-Giving, Valedictory, Worship/Spiritual music, Pop-ups, Cultural Assemblies etc.

THE 2019 LEADERS OF OUR ENSEMBLES ARE:

Choir: Juliet Neethling assisted by Lidian Plaatjies

Chorale: Asemahle Mangxola

Flute Ensemble: Fiona Murphy

Fusion: Anna Grieve

Guitar Ensemble:

Sian Lawrenson

Marimbas: Samantha Sale

Percussion: Amy Palframan

String Ensemble:

Juliet Neethling

Windband: Gabriella Cotchobos

Below is a snapshot of the significant external eisteddfod and examination results achieved from October 2018 – September 2019.

ABRSM examinations:

» 86% of candidates achieved over 80% (which is a Merit and higher), 61% of those achieved Distinctions (87%+)

» Robyn Dunn (Clarinet), Anna Grieve (Singing), Anita Mira (Piano) and Juliette Roux (Violin) were invited to perform at the prestigious High Scorers Concert

Trinity examinations:

» 82% of candidates achieved over 75% (which is a Merit and higher), 32% of those achieved Distinctions (87%+)

» Grace North (Piano), Kendal Pillay (Piano), Jessica Prevôt (Violin) and Ella Tomlinson (Cello) were acknowledged as High Scorers by Trinity, i.e. they all achieved over 90%

CAPE TOWN EISTEDDFOD:

» **Anna Grieve** won the Sona Whiteman Medal for the Most Diplomas (17 years & over), the



Orbit Motors prize for Sight Reading, a cash prize for the Most Diplomas in the CT Eisteddfod (13 years & over) and the Nine Club cash prize for the Best Performer (16 years & over)

» **Ruby Chames** won the Steinmetz Award for the Most Diplomas in the 13-14 year age group

» **Esther Couves** won the Charles Booth Medal for the Most Promising Entrant (14 years & under)

» **Juliette Roux** won the SASMT Medal for the Best Violin Recital (Under 18)

» **Fiona Murphy** won the Gillian Oxtoby Medal (Tied for Best Entrant 15 years & over)

» **Nina Lewis** won the Burgess Simpson Award for the Best Contemporary Performance (16 years & under)

AFRIKAANS EISTEDDFOD:

» **Esther Couves:** Silver Medal – Houtblaasinstrumente 13 jaar



» **Robyn Dunn and Saskia**

Prevôst: Silver Medal –
Houtblaasinstrumente Duet Senior

» **Sibulele Sodayise:** Silver Medal
– Senior Sang, 15-16 jaar Meisies

» **Anna Grieve:** Silver Medals
for Sang 17 jaar en ouer,
Musiekblyspel 17 jaar en ouer
and Aria uit Opera/Operette

» **Ayesha Mohamed:**
Silver Medal – Blokfluit Sonata
13 jaar en ouer

The massive Musical Offering at Herschel includes Subject Music in Grades 10-12, Core and Elective options in Grades 8 and 9, as well as nearly two hundred students taking instrumental or singing lessons. Of course, there is also the ongoing involvement of so many girls in a variety of Ensembles. I would like to thank all the staff and girls who are so committed to making our school a more harmonious place.

“Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.” Plato ◊





LIFE SCIENCES

BY MRS SANDY RULE

When one looks at today's trends in the Biotechnology industry, it reads like a science fiction novel; but, here we are in 2019, and these trends are a reality. These innovations are so extraordinary that even the terms to describe them are fantastical.

Precision medicine targets the gene mutation right inside the DNA of a cancer cell, robot radiologists are very fast and accurate and are about to take over from human radiologists and a Chinese researcher who claimed to create the first gene-edited baby last year lives under armed guard!

The world of Life Science our students are entering is clearly boundless. So although we have a well-balanced, intriguing curriculum to follow, we try to engender a curiosity and some courage to think, to ask questions and to take some risk at answering them. Our syllabus encompasses many facets of Life Sciences, including human biology, ecology, microbiology, evolution, biochemistry, botany and zoology. We enjoy being the largest subject in the senior grades, after the compulsory subjects. Students enjoy supplementing their learning with practical lessons which illustrate principles explored in the syllabus. We also try to use information technology in our classes; paperless lessons, tests and videos are some examples. It is always an aim to keep lessons current and interesting to the students of today.

Often the highlight for some Life Science students is an outing. We have had an enlightening time hearing about the amazing heart transplant feat at the Heart Transplant Museum at Groote Schuur Hospital. We have also been fortunate and explored the diversity at the Two Oceans Aquarium and the unspoilt population of the rocky shore at Kommetjie.

It is also important to congratulate our

Matrics of 2018 who achieved outstanding results. Many hours were spent exploring a large syllabus and the girls' exemplary work ethic was well rewarded. We wish these girls of 2018 all the best for their future and hope that Life Sciences remains part of their development. The other grades also spent time getting to grips with what was required and developing the enquiring diligence to make a success of this subject. In particular, we are proud of all our Grade 9s who grappled with the problem of finding a question and then using the Scientific Method to explore the problem in their EXPO projects.

All of this is only possible thanks to the collaborative teamwork displayed by the Life Sciences department comprising my colleagues: Karen van der Merwe, Silvana Scarola and Cindy Brown and the laboratory assistant, Warren Johnson. Their dedication and passion is always worth it.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

BY MRS WENDY WALTER

This year has been a year of changes for the Physical Science Department. We started off the year without Mrs Lacerda, who was on maternity leave and welcomed Mr Yasir Gamieldien to teach Ms Lacerda's classes for the first two terms. Mr Gamieldien fitted into the Herschel routine seamlessly and I thank him for his commitment and enthusiasm. After leaving here at the end of the second term, Mr Gamieldien was fortunate to secure a post at his alma mater, SACS, and we wish him the very best in his career.

This year the new elective system was introduced for the Grade 8 and 9 learners. While Physical Science remains a core subject, we had the opportunity to look at our subject offering for the juniors in a new light. Our aim

in Physical Science is to foster a sense of curiosity, to excite and to enthuse the learners with a sense of wonder about the world and to encourage them to begin to appreciate the way in which Science can bring about changes on a global level. With more contact time with the learners, it is our hope that we can go beyond the limitations of a set syllabus.

Under the guidance of Mr Bräsler, the Grade 9 students set about learning more about the scientific method when they were tasked with choosing their topic for the Science Exposition. Once they found a question that intrigued them, they began working on their projects in earnest. This year the standard was very high and we had the difficult task of choosing a winner in each category. Our moderators, Mrs Cochrane and Mrs Duff, were highly complimentary of the standard of the projects. The winners in each category and the highly commended projects were announced at the Exhibition in April and all of the winners will continue to represent the school at the Regional Exposition in August.

This year the results were as follows:

- » **Chemistry 1st Prize** – Juliette Roux and Ruby Chames (Polycaprolactone)
- » **Food Science 1st Prize** – Stella Parry (Happy bees)
- » **Health Care 1st Prize** – Daniella Jahnig (White teeth)
- » **Social and Psychological Sciences 1st Prize** – Kate Forrest (Colour and number recollection)

The following learners received a high commendation:

Sofia Angeliniadis, Kathleen Beachy Head, Frances Bolton, Sophie Bourne, Kirsten Farrell, Grace Goodwin, Gabriella Gordon, Hannah Judge, Jessica Kirsten, Catherine Laubscher, Hannah Lea, Sarah Mia, Paballo Mphepya, Grace North, Saskia Prevöst, Grace Quinlan, Kate Theron, Constandina Tsinonis, Rachel Turck, Camryn Williams and Zahraa Zalgankir. We wish all the learners the best of luck at the Regional Exposition.

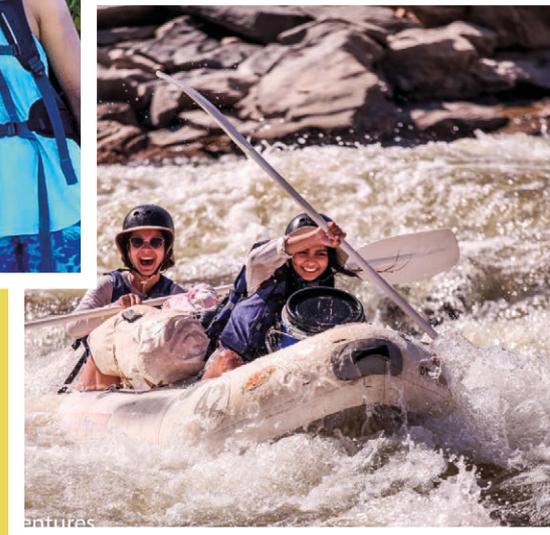
My thanks to Gina-Rose Bolligello and her team for mentoring the Grade 12 learners from Thandokhulu High School. My hope is that our learners found it to be a rewarding experience and I am looking forward to seeing the results of the Thandokhulu learners at the end of the year.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to my colleagues: Michael Bräsler, Candice Lacerda and Warren Johnson for their support and enthusiasm. It is also with great sadness that we bid farewell to Michael Bräsler as he takes up the post of Subject Head at SACS. He will be sorely missed but we congratulate him on his new position. We wish him all the best.

BEYOND BOOKS

“Life Orientation provides an opportunity to develop the emotional side of young people...”

– Dr Rene Ferguson



LIFE ORIENTATION

BY MRS SHARMILA GORDON

As we maintained the status quo in our junior curriculum, the students have really benefitted from the modularised approach as well as the additional time. This ultimately afforded us the opportunity to delve a little deeper into the subject content. It also allowed our girls to gain a profound understanding of themselves and the world around them. We continued our quest to deliver a skills-based curriculum, which the girls not only found more interesting, but allowed us to cover a wide variety of diverse topics, all relevant and entirely significant to the lives of teenage girls as we journey on and into the 21st century. In our Personal Development module, we continue to focus on the holistic development of the individual whilst maintaining a unique identity. The upsurge in cyberbullying necessitates that social media awareness remains a very important component of our curriculum and thus the development of emotional maturity remains key. The Current Affairs module affords our girls the opportunity of being able to understand and evaluate major events happening in the world, and to reflect upon how these events impact on our lives, as South Africans and therefore citizens of the global village. Under the guidance of a mother and daughter team, our Grade 9 girls were introduced to the Dot.b therapy in the Mindfulness module. This has helped many girls to maintain their focus in the present moment while calmly acknowledging and accepting their feelings, thoughts and bodily sensations. On the whole, our girls find the whole approach valid and relevant.

The LO Department was delighted to welcome back Ms Nyback, from her internship at



the Bishops Support Unit and she soon got stuck into all the aspects of academic life beyond Herschel for all our girls, such as the important decisions which have to be made by our Grade 9s with regards to subject choices. She also continues to guide our Grade 11 and 12 girls with goal-setting and their university applications, both on a local and international level. After the successful pilot attempt at having our Grade 11s do job shadowing in 2018, we decided to continue this valuable exercise and called upon the highly skilled Mrs Melanie Williams, who expertly organised career panel interviews for the girls. As Old Herschelians and current Herschel parents played hosts on the night, these interviews afforded the girls an inspiring insight into their chosen career field, and for some, it even served to change their minds!

Our senior girls continue to benefit from the re-modeled structure of six LO Days as it allows for better consolidation of content, knowledge and skills. While the Grade 10s enjoyed being exposed to Teenbuilding, they were even more delighted that, together with their PET scores, assessments were limited to a personal branding project in the first semester and an examination at the end of the year, due to their re-introduction into formal assessment for LO. A comprehensive variety of content is covered, ranging from the simple to the controversial, which provides ample opportunity for girls to improve their communication skills as they learned to negotiate difficult conversations. Although Mindfulness appears less frequently in the senior grades, it still provides our girls with more

options to manage their anxieties whilst remaining focused in the here and now. The Physical Education component has also been re-modeled to include the creative element of dance as well as the recreational module of games. Both have been received very well by the girls and this was evident in their level of participation as well as the enthusiasm with which they engaged in these new additions.

According to Dr Rene Ferguson, Professor of Life Orientation and Religious Studies (Wits University), "Life Orientation provides an opportunity to develop the emotional side of young people, the citizenship aspects of life in South Africa as well as physical fitness and a holistic healthy living lifestyle." This is the ultimate goal that Herschel's LO Department strives to attain. Long may this last! ◇



Exchange



CELINE KODE – CANADA

After going on exchange, I look back and cannot believe that I was able to leave my family for two months and travel to a country far away from my own to meet complete strangers and carry on with everyday life as if it were totally normal and do the things I did. Exchange was an absolute privilege, a time during Grade 10 where I learnt so much and grew in so many ways.

In the September of 2018, myself and two other Herschel students left for the airport to catch our flights to Toronto, Canada, where we attended Branksome Hall, a school very similar to Herschel in its description of being an affluent all girls' day school but in so many ways, so so different!

Our time in Canada started off with us being fortunate enough to go on the school's camp which is my favourite experience still today. We spent a week in

groups of around seven students and two guides canoeing through a massive nature park filled with bears, moose and raccoons that at times got a little too close for comfort. We cooked our own food that we had to carry in barrels, canoed insanely long distances, put up tents every night and could not leave a single scrap of evidence to show that we had been there when we left. You can imagine what we did for toilets...!! It was a week away from the city, electronics, family and just a time to focus on ourselves and experience nature, and the cold of Canada, in a place you would never visit on holiday.

Back in the city every day started and ended with us catching the very safe and efficient subway with a five-minute walk to either school or back home. The feeling of independence was amazing and back home I miss it. While in Canada I experienced Halloween as well as Thanksgiving which resulted in massive family trees being implanted in my brain. Talking to new people is no longer a fear and I can guarantee other

students who are reluctant about meeting so many new people that you will be absolutely fine.

I played field hockey for my school's hockey team and involving myself in this was such a good decision. Making closer friends as well as continuing to do something that I loved, helped with the difficult times of being away from home.

If I was offered the opportunity of either doing it all over again or was able to go back to Canada, I would do so in a second. I now have a second home across the world and a family waiting for me to visit them and their fat cat very soon.

OLIVIA LASCARIS – SANAWAR, INDIA

My exchange experience will be one of the best memories I will always cherish about my school career. After being accepted onto Herschel's exchange programme and being allocated India, I was initially uncertain of what this trip would hold. Going to India was the most amazing experience and a decision which I will always be grateful for.

The country itself is such a beautiful and busy place. The people are so kind and welcoming and I immediately felt at home. The peaceful school, at the base of the Himalayan Mountains, made my stay unforgettable and the students at the school were some of the kindest people I've ever met. I learnt so much about the beautiful culture, amazing people and delicious food. Being at a co-ed boarding school challenged me and I learnt to come out of my comfort zone, meet new people, try new things and embrace the different lifestyle. All the amazing trips, activities offered by the school, and time spent with my host family made me feel as if I had been there for several years already.

I matured and grew as a person during my trip, and learnt to be grateful for the small moments in life. My exchangee, Nitya, was an incredible friend to me and I miss her dearly. I felt as though I was a member of their family and I am so grateful for all they did for me.

I know I will revisit my friends and 'family' there one day and cannot wait to explore more of the beautiful country. India will forever hold a piece of my heart and the short month and a half I had there will never be forgotten as it taught me so much and opened my eyes to the world. I am so lucky and thankful that this gift was given to me.



FARHEEN KHAN – UNITED KINGDOM

It almost feels as if it was just yesterday when I was on my own, on a plane, not really knowing what to expect but excited for what was ahead. Now, I'm back home with a ton of memories and incredible stories to share.

I attended King's College, an independent day and boarding school, located in the peaceful town of Taunton, Somerset in England, United Kingdom. Being used to the fast pace of life in the Mother City, Taunton was a different experience for me. The small town was more of a countryside, where there was no traffic and everything was in close proximity. The overall school environment was busy, yet purposeful, with great emphasis placed on a good work ethic and individual development. By experiencing various teaching methods, I

felt that I was able to progress while feeling secure with the stimulating environment. Being a weekly boarder allowed me to establish close relationships with students of all ages and forced me to step out of my comfort zone (WiFi switched off at 11pm and we were expected to do our own laundry).

Alice (my exchange partner) and I got along wonderfully. I was placed with an amazing host family who treated me like their own daughter/sister and I feel as if I have second family in another part of the world. I don't have any siblings, so interacting with Alice's sister and brother was a really special opportunity for me to enjoy life with siblings and experience a different family dynamic.

I felt comfortable and loved at all times and really appreciated that they always made sure there were Frosties breakfast bars in the pantry (since it's my favourite).

We went out to explore every

weekend and visited many local landmarks. My mom came to visit for a week, and I'll always treasure her efforts to try to tour the whole city of London in only one weekend. My highlights include attending the Warner Bros Studio Tour in London (Harry Potter!), late-night shopping sprees in Oxford Street, and the Bath Christmas market.

Taking part in the exchange programme has allowed me to grow and positively develop internally. It has contributed to my confidence (having to interact with complete strangers) and independence. I now know I am self-sufficient and reliable. My perspective has changed in ways I would never have imagined and I have learnt a lot about myself and who I am. I appreciate my family and friends more and am more open to new ideas.

Having my own exchange adventure has proven to me that everything is possible and that I can do anything. Going out and



discovering what the world has in store for me has been truly life changing and I am so grateful for this opportunity. I will forever cherish the time I had, the people I met and the memories I made. I have had the time of my life! :)



MICHAELA TODD – AUSTRALIA

Describing five and a half weeks' worth of sightseeing, school, stocking up on never-before-eaten foods, learning my way around the beautiful city of Sydney and the confusing, yet intriguing, language of the 'Land Down Under', fitting into a new family with different customs and rules and routines and learning what it means to be independent seems like a task that cannot be completed in one paragraph. However, upon the realisation that from the moment I stepped off the plane at my destination, it was up to me entirely to organise myself and be completely responsible, I discovered the wonders (if not life-saving

properties) of list-making. Hence, I've made an attempt at summarising my exchange experience and the things I learnt in the form of a short list:

1. Don't rush to take a picture:

Savour the moment (and every moment for that matter) for a little longer before whipping out a phone – you'll never retrieve that exact moment ever again and the photo will be of greater significance and will bring back clearer memories in the future if you have a distinct moment to link it to. On the day the school took us sightseeing, our immediate reaction was to take a picture instantly. Looking back, my favourite photos are the ones where I can vividly recall how I felt in that very moment – to be standing on Harbour Bridge looking out over busy ferries, green lawns, towering buildings and of course, the Sydney Opera House. Had I not stopped for

just a few seconds to absorb the view, the picture today would just be another picture of another landscape, rather than a reminder of a stunning moment in time that I will never be able to experience again.

2. It's difficult, but so valuable:

Living in another person's house, in a foreign country far away from home, is definitely not a smooth ride. There were often times when I wished I was with my family, and it was almost every day I longed to see my friends or have some real Rooibos. There were even times when I missed school – my school. The added difficulty of being in a timezone almost an entire day ahead of home meant that home wasn't always "just a phone call away" when I needed it most. And although my exchange partner and I got on well, and although my host family was extremely welcoming, there were often times when I felt like a

burden or completely out of place, yet so spoilt at the same time. The challenge of dealing with all these confusing emotions while trying to fit into a new environment was tiring – but I'm so grateful for the challenge. Nothing makes you realise how important friends and family are until you're half way across the world from them. And nothing makes you realise just the kind of person you are than having to navigate a whole new world – in every sense of the word – by yourself.

Exchange was one of the most enriching experiences I've ever had and it has definitely influenced the person I am now. Bravery and a little bit of vulnerability are definitely necessary, but it's also important to realise that part of exchange is learning how to have and be these things. My time in Sydney definitely won't be forgotten anytime soon. It was a privilege to have had this opportunity – I wouldn't have changed it at all.



JEMMA DAVIDSON – ENGLAND

Arriving in the UK alone was possibly one of the scariest things I'd ever had to do. I arrived at London Heathrow after a comfortable flight and then took the Heathrow Express into Paddington where I then caught my train into Exeter to stay with my uncle and aunt for a few days before beginning school on the Sunday evening.

When I arrived at College the campus was fairly empty as most students had been out of house for the weekend. I met some really lovely girls and they were all so welcoming and kind to me. Later on in the night people started to arrive back on campus and throughout the next few days I got to meet and know everyone, people who I now see as some of my dearest and closest friends.

Boarding is something I have always wanted to try but I never quite expected to love it as much as I do. I've always been someone who loves to be surrounded by other people and in the boarding environment I have thrived. I have been able to bond so well with the other pupils and still have been able to have time for work, sport and sleep. I have loved being surrounded by so many others my own age as it has helped me establish my identity and independence as a girl.

Coming to Llandoverly College has also allowed me to explore my passion for photography as I have taken it as one of my A level subjects. Being able to have creative freedom to express myself in the medium of my choice has been such an honour and I have learnt so much about my own creative abilities and where my interests lie.

I have also been given the opportunity to play hockey for the 1st XI. This has given me the platform to improve my skill level as well as learn to play with so many talented girls who have helped me to establish myself as a player. All the training and hard work pays off getting to play a match with these girls every week. I have also joined the girls' rugby team – something I would've sworn never to be seen dead doing but it has been so much fun and I can proudly say I look forward to rugby practice every Thursday.

Not having got along with my exchange partner meant that I was thrown in the deep end the first week but I honestly can say that it has done nothing but benefit me and has enabled me to meet some of the most incredible people and be fully independent. I had to step outside my comfort zone and make a big effort to meet people and it has allowed me to immerse myself in the school and I now am able to see myself as part of this amazing place.

There is nothing more rewarding than being able to contribute to a school and represent my country and school. Exchange has been such a memorable experience for me and has taught me so much about who I am as a person and who I hope to one day become. Although my experience hasn't been all good I have learnt so much about my morals and where I stand in the world. I'm so glad that I chose to take this opportunity and I will be forever grateful for the impact it has had in my life.

“DiD yOu EvEn Go On ExChAnGe?” JAIME TURPIN –USA



A common phrase I get teased with by my friends when I mention my three month exchange to America. Three months of freedom, growing up and countless poor imitations of my accent, my exchange was eventful to say the least. However, when people speak about the experience, many forget that the word exchange is: the act of giving and receiving. This means that you have to open up your home and family to another student. This is sometimes perceived to be a less exciting part of the programme, however, I found this to be very fun as I became a tourist in my own hometown. From climbing Table Mountain to the Woodstock street art tour I was exposed to areas of Cape Town that I find myself normally 'too busy' to visit.

Lancaster, a small town in Pennsylvania, USA, became my home for an amazing three months. Roughly equidistant to two major cities, Washington D.C. and New York, my small-town home was very convenient for several trips to tourist destinations around the area and to visit cities I had spent most of my youth dreaming about.

2am trips to typical American diners in my pyjamas, Friday morning bagel runs and watching college basketball games with my host family were weekly treats that I miss dearly. Many people had gushed about the independence they had gained from exchange and I truly underestimated the extent of it. My host family lives five minutes walking distance from the school I attended which allowed me freedom to walk to school, to the shops and even to friends' houses. The stars and stripes were not ready for an overeager teenager with way too much freedom and way too much hunger for Chicken nuggets, Tacos and doughnuts!

I was not very close with my

exchange, but this made me more inclined to make friends with many students, throughout all the grades in the school, and also with fellow exchanges from all over the world. I never expected to form the most special bond with my host mother, who took me around neighbouring towns and tourist sites. Our endless hours of chats, when I would voluntarily join her grocery shopping trip before a standard Starbucks stop, made me truly appreciate one of the strongest women I've ever met who took me into her family and treated me like her own child.

Homecoming, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Bonfires, Lacrosse boys, Philly Cheesesteaks, NBA basketball games, Wendy's ice cream every day (a fast-food restaurant within walking distance) and doing horribly at every Honours Calculus test, are examples of some of my fondest memories. The school offered an exchange's weekend trip to New York, where I remember being set free to roam the streets by ourselves and I remember sprinting down 5th Street with my friends knowing we were 20 minutes late to meet the teacher in charge.

Exchange taught me to make the best of not-so-great situations. Like trying to find one of my friends from Herschel who had been abandoned by herself in the middle of Times Square in NYC! On the first day it began to snow I was meant to be writing a science test (I hadn't studied for!) and by a miracle chance my teacher allowed me and the boy on exchange from Bishops to go outside and have a snowball fight instead of writing the test. This was my first time witnessing snow falling, it is a memory I will never forget.

I've become a big advocate for exchange and how one grows through the experience, but I've become an even bigger advocate for Herschel. The opportunities Herschel has created have had a key role in forming who I am today, and for that I am so grateful.

Umfolozi

BY MS CHRISNA COETZEE



On a cool autumn morning, 16 excited – albeit half-awake – Grade 11s arrived at Cape Town International Airport, along with Ms Coetzee and Mrs Roebert, for their greatest adventure yet. They eagerly boarded the airplane that would soon take them on what they would find fearful beyond comparison: *The Great Unknown*. The Wilderness.

As soon as our feet touched the ground at the King Shaka Airport, we were divided into separate groups, in *Survivor*-like fashion. We were split up and each group would only have one more opportunity to see one another, even if it were only from a distance.

The first great mission was to unpack and repack our belongings into the 70-litre backpacks, along with the utensils we would need in order to survive, which only made things heavier. Everything quickly became more real and unimaginable at the same time.

As we set out on what would turn out to be a terrific sunset wander, we encountered

not one, but two male elephants on our way. The scene was set: the light hue of the setting sun made the moment seem like something from a rom-com. Unfortunately, and we only

Being away from civilisation for about a week is actually a wonderful experience.

realised this to our own detriment, our path was blocked, which meant that we had to walk *around* the gargantuan males, eventually

reaching our campsite in near darkness.

Setting up camp in the dark is not easy, especially when you are told that you will be taking turns to keep watch over the camp. Not only did we not really get a feel for our surroundings, but we also had to navigate the waters of the Umfolozi River in the dark. It gave new meaning to *Hello darkness my old friend*...

And yet, we persevered and we made it through the first night of sitting alone in the dark for inevitably 90 minutes or more, because no one had a watch, and star-gazing didn't quite tell you the time.

Being away from civilisation for about a week is actually a wonderful experience. There is something different to the serenity that the bush brings. You can walk for hours, quite literally, and see everything and nothing at the same time. I think that our mindsets had a real-life shake-up. We weren't worried about who said what on which social media site; we were concerned about the *here* and *now*. It was magical and it was the most amazing experience of our lives. ◇

ORANGE RIVER



WORLD CHALLENGE

THE THAIWHAMILY (TEAM 1) – OUR ADVENTURES IN THAILAND BY MRS TARA THOMSON

Before I begin explaining how our adventure unfolded, it is helpful for you to know how World Challenge, the amazing organisation that organised the trip, structured it. There were three main phases, namely a physical activity (four days), a community project (six days) and rest and relaxation (four days). World Challenge aims to empower young people and develop their leadership potential. The girls took turns performing the roles of leader and co-leader and were in charge of making important decisions and carrying out vital tasks. These tasks involved arranging transport, exchanging money, booking accommodation etc.

The first 24 hours (17 – 18 June) were filled with excitement and trepidation as we did not know what lay ahead of us. After a long flight involving some scary turbulence, we landed in Bangkok where the first leadership team of Renée and Sumin demonstrated excellent leadership skills as they bought an international sim card, exchanged money and worked out what we would do for our six-hour layover. When they looked to Jess, our expedition leader, she calmly said “everything you need to know is in the budget!” This was the first of many occasions when Jess, Mrs Rule and I would utter this phrase.

A few hours later we arrived in Chiang Mai and made our way to our accommodation for the night – a vibrant and friendly backpackers called Cody’s. The heat and high humidity took a while to get used to and we were all grateful for the air conditioners in our rooms. We wandered around the city, familiarising ourselves with the sights, sounds and smells of Thailand. Ana,

who would soon become known as the best accommodation organiser (of all time), had booked us in at the Rainforest Hotel for the second night of our trip so day two was spent repacking our bags, heading to the hotel, swimming in the beautiful pools and exploring our first night market. It also included an extensive search to buy a disposable camera for Tamia which surprisingly was nowhere to be found! By the end of the day, all the girls were walking around in the Thai patterned pants that they had purchased, definitely looking the part.

The next four days were spent hiking through the mountains of Chiang Dao. Although the scenery was beautiful, the hike was quite gruelling as the high heat, mosquitoes, heavy backpacks and steep incline tested our levels of endurance. It was especially challenging for some of the girls who were still battling with illness and after the first day of hiking, were able to rest for the majority of the second day while the rest of us continued. We stayed in hill-top villages (although more accurately described as mountain-top villages) for the first two nights and spent the third night on the farm belonging to our hiking guide. Renée and I braved sleeping in the forest in hammocks while the others slept a considerable distance away! The hike on the fourth day was very short and ended with a thrilling white water rafting experience. We were all very excited to return to the Rainforest Hotel for the night to have a proper shower as we had become accustomed to washing ourselves with cold water and a bucket. The girls took on new domestic duties as they spent the afternoon washing their clothes in the baths at the hotel. Their parents would have been so proud!

The following morning we were greeted with a friendly

smile by Mint, from Mahouts Elephant Project where we would do our community project in Huay Pakoot, approximately five hours away. The Mahouts Elephant Project was started four years ago with the aim to return elephants that had been working in the damaging tourism industry in the city, to the rainforest in Huay Pakoot, providing an opportunity for their mahouts (elephant owners) to return to their families in the village. It was inspiring to hear the founders of the project speak so passionately about the elephants and witness their close relationship with the mahouts. During our six days at the project, we planted grass, hiked and camped in the rainforest, built a dam in the bamboo forest and ate a lot of cornetto ice creams. We stayed in homes belonging to the villagers who cooked our Thai meals for us and learnt some words and phrases in Pakinyaw, the language of the villagers. We used the words da blu often as this translates to hallo, goodbye and thank you! The absolute highlight of our time there was tracking the elephants in the rainforest. Witnessing them in their natural habitat at close range was spectacular. On our way back to Chiang Mai, we completed a whirlwind shopping experience racing through Big C in just under 45 minutes!

The last two days were spent whipping up delicious meals at a Thai cookery course, an exciting trip on an overnight train to Bangkok, a visit to a beautiful temple as well as an interesting digital art exhibition. We also visited a luxurious shopping centre and spent our last few bhat (Thai currency) before heading to the airport.

Our time in Thailand was utterly magical and we all felt so grateful to have been on this journey together. The Thaiwhamily, which I lovingly nicknamed us, consisted of: Geena Drabbe, Olivia Duffus, Tamia Geyer, Sumin Lee, Ana Isabella Maconachie, Layla Omar, Renée Pedegana,

Josephine Quinlan, Georgia Searson, Indigo Thorpe, Mrs Sandy Rule, Ms Jess Tyrrell and myself. In the words of one of the girls, "This trip was the most challenging, rough and hard-core experience of our lives but it was absolutely amazing and insane and we all made life-long friends...." If you would like to read more about our travels, you can visit our blog at thethaitravellers.wordpress.com.

WORLD CHALLENGE NORTHERN THAILAND: (TEAM 2)

BY MS TRACY ROUSSEAU

17 June: Nine Herschel students, one Herschel teacher and one World Challenge leader left the freezing winter of Cape Town heading for an adventure in Northern Thailand.

18 June – 19 June: After a long flight, skipping over timelines and a short layover in Singapore airport, we arrived in Bangkok. With a busy airport, and a big backpack and daypack to carry, the students had their first taste of what it meant to be in charge of the trip...sourcing our transport from the airport to the hotel. After a little confusion with the language barrier and trying to understand maps, we made our way to our accommodation in the heart of Bangkok, where we would spend the next few days acclimatising to Northern Thailand (and each other).

Our days in Bangkok were spent with many hours walking and taking in the city and its sights: beautiful and ornate temples (known as a Wat in Thailand), visiting night markets and attempting to haggle down prices, and enjoying a variety of street food.

On the evening of 19 June we packed our bags and after a very long walk (Google maps is only your friend when it's in English and you know how to understand maps), we boarded an overnight train to Chiang Mai. The train was lots of fun with card games, reading, laughing,

and getting a good night's sleep, while still moving across borders.

20 June – 21 June: Upon arriving in Chiang Mai we were met at the train station by our transport which took us on a long drive to an elephant nature park on the outskirts of Chiang Rai. Here we got to visit an elephant sanctuary. They attempt to rehabilitate elephants, which had been held in captivity for physical labour and tourist entertainment, by pairing them with free roaming elephants in order for them to learn normal elephant behaviour.

On our way back to Chiang Mai we stopped at the famous White Temple in Chiang Rai. This was not like any we had seen in Bangkok – it truly lives up to its name in being entirely white!

22 June – 25 June: The following morning we drove to Chiang Dao where we began the trekking phase of our expedition. Four days of hiking approximately 40km, carrying our packs, eating lunch out of plastic bags, staying in remote villages, and seeing spectacular sights – we can proudly say we conquered! Lessons learnt from our hiking: hiking with a full backpack is hard so pack light; your sweat can sweat... that's how hot it was; sleeping in a hammock in a Thai forest is interesting – even if you don't sleep much – as long as you properly secure your hammock!

We finished our trekking phase with a highlight for all – white water rafting! We got to experience fun rapids, elephants walking out of the jungle beside us, rain showering down on us (thankfully as we were all hot and dirty), and most of all we got to laugh a lot!

26 June – 29 June: It was now time for the next phase of the trip: the project phase for community engagement. We spent the next four days at the Back to Earth project on the outskirts of Chiang Mai, with our hosts Adul and Saman. The project is a community

centre based around natural living. They focus on agriculture, permaculture, natural medicines, natural building techniques, and serving the community.

We spent our time here learning about the community: their way of life, religion, values, and joy for life. We saw important sights in the community, made tie-dye shirts from natural dye, cooked Thai desserts and sold them in a market to raise funds for the local school, visited the school and had time to interact with the children, performed singing and dance routines, attempted to plant and husk rice, learnt to make clay bricks, and were guests of honour at two parties hosted for us by the local community.

30 June – 1 July: We returned to Chiang Mai where we had some time to explore the city. Here we got to see some of the old city ruins, interspersed in the newer city buildings, as well as visit the waterfalls on the outskirts of the city. The greatest highlights of Chiang Mai were: the amazing night markets where we shopped till we felt like we would drop, and finding the best breakfast money can buy: french toast with fresh mango and mango ice cream! On the evening of the 1st we set off back to Bangkok, after a long flight delay and eating too much MacDonalds!

2 July: The last day of our Northern Thailand adventure was filled with map-reading malfunction, iced coffees, a boat tour of various sights, train surfing, and rushing to the Bangkok airport to make our flight home.

This truly was a life-changing experience where we got pushed, hot and sweaty, out of our comfort zones, learnt many lessons about Thai culture and communities and ourselves, walked till our feet hurt... we return forever changed and forever bonded.

More stories at team2takesonthailand.wordpress.com.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

DEBATING

BY MS HAYLEY LOCHHEAD

2019 has been a busy year for debating at Herschel. It started off with much excitement, even before school started in January, as members of the senior squad jetted off to take part in the Eurasian Schools Debating Competition in Istanbul, Turkey. This involved little sleep, much hilarity and some deserved successes after so much hard work through the holidays.

Arriving back at school with this great experience in the bank, our senior debaters turned their attentions to the debating society – where all fledgling Herschel debaters earn their stripes. Thanks to their incredible, hands-on mentoring, our junior debating squad has become a force to be reckoned with, and the debating society continues to flourish.

The debating year revolves around two main competitions: the Rotary Debating Competition, and the Western Cape Schools Debating Board's Provincial Tournament.

Provincials happened over two gruelling weekends at the end of July, where debates happened back-to-back over all four days. Both teams showed superb grit, managing to break into the knock-out rounds despite some early disappointments. The seniors stayed strong, making it all the way to the quarter-finals, and our juniors marched as far as the semi-finals. Individually, many debaters did exceptionally well:

Amaarah Ebrahim ranked as the 8th best senior speaker in the province and, along with Michaela Todd, Semane Reddy-Mbewu and Anna von Willingh, was selected to attend Provincial trials.

In the juniors, Grace North was ranked the 5th best speaker, while Kate Forrest was ranked the 3rd best speaker, and both were invited to attend provincial trials.

At the close of the subsequent trials, Anna von Willingh, Kate Forrest and Grace North were all selected to represent Western Province.

Rotary debates happen throughout the year, and both our junior and senior teams progressed into the knock-out stages



unbeaten, boding well for our prospects. The octo- and quarter-finals continued to go swimmingly, sending both teams into the hotly contested semi-finals, which happened here at Herschel. Our seniors successfully secured their position in the final, while our juniors narrowly lost out. It must be said that this is the furthest a Herschel junior team has ever progressed in the Rotary Competition and we are incredibly proud of the dedication and maturity shown by our young debaters. We look forward to seeing what they do as seniors next year!

The senior final took place at Rondebosch but it may as well have been here, thanks to all the supporters who came to see our squad in action. Up against familiar rivals, DF Malan, our seasoned seniors built a watertight argument, opposing the motion: In times of severe scarcity, This House believes that governments should allocate resources towards child welfare at the expense of other groups (including but not limited to the elderly, childless families etc.). It was an incredibly rigorous debate, with both teams pulling no punches. In the end, it was Herschel's night,

and our senior debaters deservedly claimed the Rotary trophy for the first time since 1998.

In addition to these wonderful team successes, we also celebrate the remarkable achievements of our two South African representatives: Anna von Willingh, who was selected for the SA A Team that competed at the AWSDC tournament in Thailand, and Semane Reddy-Mbewu, who was part of the SA Team that took part in the World Schools Debating Competition, also in Thailand. They have both made us incredibly proud and their world-class expertise is a source of constant inspiration to all Herschel debaters. With this level of talent and dedication setting the bar for all to come, it is impossible not to brim with excitement for the future of Herschel debating.

As always, we say a massive, collective THANK-YOU to our sagacious coach, Saadiyah, without whom none of the above would have been possible. She is incredible and we are lucky to have her. To all the debaters, congratulations and thank you for your commitment, teamwork and competitive sense of fun. Keep it up around your dinner tables over the holiday! ♦



BALLROOM DANCING

BY **KATHRYN JOSHUA** – GRADE 11

“Nobody cares if you can’t dance well. Just get up and dance. Great dancers are great because of their passion” – Martha Graham.

This quotation truly encapsulates my experience of being a part of the Ballroom Society 2019. Having started ballroom with virtually no dancing background, I was extremely nervous... until I realised that nearly everyone in the society was in the same position.

Our meet-ups were filled with laughter and constant under-the-breath apologies. The goal of our evening practices, which were to prepare us for the Formal, was not to master the Sokkie, Waltz, Tango, or even some Rock ‘n Roll, but rather to “let loose” and just to get up and dance.

The Formal was absolutely exquisite as we danced the night away and competed in Mr Court’s (the Head of Dance Society at Bishops) dancing games.

Being a part of the Ballroom Society has left me with unforgettable memories as well as pretty impressive dance moves.



HIKING CLUB

BY **MRS WENDY PATERSON**

This year the Hiking Club has become quite well-frequented, with many new members attending Thursday documentaries and Sunday hikes on a regular basis. Our first hike, in February this year, took 30 eager Herschelians, including a few siblings, a cousin, some parents, Mrs van Lieshout and her two daughters, and some Grade 10s training for Stepout, from the East Fort on Chapman’s Peak up the spectacular trail to Blackburn Ravine.

Our annual Lion’s Head first-hike-of-the-year had to be postponed due to path reconstruction and the January fire, but a happy group of 15 girls and five parents climbed to the top of Lion’s Head on a gorgeous day at the end of April instead. We circuited the Die Hel greenbelt to clear the cobwebs during the exams and enjoyed a clear winter’s morning hiking up and around the River Trail in Silvermine.

The Hiking Club had its first overnight trail this year, when we spent two magnificent sunny and windy days hiking 35km around the Cape Point National Park. Everyone agreed that overnight hikes need to happen more often. The girls showed strength of character, grit and kindness and were joyful along the trail, singing through the pain!

Thursday, Week B, lunchtime documentaries have included hiking up Mt. Kilimanjaro and the Drakensberg, World Adventure Racing in Australia, Planet Earth documentaries and a slide show about hiking in the Himalayas. These aim to inspire our hikers to get outside and explore our beautiful natural world.



MATRICES

“In the midst of chaos there is always opportunity for you.” – Amaarah Ebrahim



GOOD EVENING MR WEST, COUNCIL MEMBERS, STAFF, INVITED GUESTS AND SCHOOL...

BY AMAARAH EBRAHIM, HEAD GIRL

Today, someone is doing something that someone else did yesterday only bigger, faster, smarter and better.

In 2012, gymnast Catalina Ponor won a Gold medal at the London Olympics. She suspended herself in the air maintaining what's called a "layout" for the longest time recorded in the middle of the most rigorous routine. She was considered unbeatable. Then at the 2016 Olympics, at the very end of her routine, Simone Biles maintained a longer layout whilst performing a double flip, one and a half twists in the air and ending with a blind landing.

The exciting part of this world is not knowing the answer to "Is anything really impossible anymore?"

I watched a video last week called "How I started my million dollar company while attending med school." Needless to say, that video left me feeling slightly under-qualified to deliver this address. However, it did make me aware of the reach of possibility.

The world that we are growing up in is never devoid of possibility. In the midst of a rapidly deteriorating planet, far past its overshoot limit – you can be that fifteen-year-old who starts a global climate change movement, if you wanted to.

In the midst of chaos there is always opportunity.

We are already fortunate to be in an environment every day that is a place of opportunity. We have endless resources at our fingertips. However, it is easy to encourage people to join clubs, or audition for the Interhouse singing ensemble, or make the most out of your Grade 11 research essay task. There is so much opportunity for us but

why do we still feel hesitant to embrace it? How do we escape the mindset of doubt in an environment that, by default of its nature, can be very pressuring? In my five years here, I have learnt that it starts with trusting myself.

In Grade 10, I submitted a poem for the Herschel eisteddfod in the creative writing category. This poem was entitled "To be felt and not thought." I thought that this poem was the golden nugget of literature – unlike anything literary giants including Blake or Angelou had published before me. It was a capsule of originality and truth to power. It was a poem to revolutionise one's thinking. I didn't find the words for this poem, oh no, they found me.

We all wish this story had a happy ending but it doesn't. I didn't do very well. I just couldn't understand why. In retrospect, however, I now know why...it's just because it was a really bad poem. But at the time it was going to take a lot more than the merit box ticked on the marking sheet to convince me my poem wasn't destined for greatness. I was devastated. I'm not going to embarrass myself further by reading the poem to you but I will indulge you with the last, profound line of this poem. "I think too much of the thinking and too little of the thought." Now, if that didn't give you goosebumps, I am not sure what will.

Thinking back to this time, at first, I thought this was rather conceited of me. Who was I to think that, at fifteen, I could write a poem to the standard of the ones I had studied in English? But my follow-up question was "Why do I now think that I can't?"

In many ways we grow into confidence but also into doubt. I realised that I didn't think highly of the poem because I



was conceited. I simply had an unwavering assurance of my capabilities and the value of what I had to say. I was unapologetically proud of the effort I put into writing those words even after a professional told me that they were average. I now know that we should listen to people wiser than us, use their advice and approach tasks with humility but in doing that, we cannot lose sight of our own potential. When you find yourself doubting your abilities think back to a time when you didn't and use what you've learnt from a moment, as micro as a bad poem in Grade 10, to progress.

View your rejection or failure, however small or big, as a sign, not saying that you were bad, but that you have the opportunity to become better. This is how opportunity becomes exciting.

In our world where, today, someone is doing something that someone else did yesterday only bigger, faster, smarter and

better, I think the secret is to be both people. Creating and embracing opportunity is a self-empowering tool. You can create your own opportunity to make someone smile or to own a million dollar company while attending med school. Normalise self-confidence. Don't doubt yourself.

However, while you should be reaching beyond the stars, we also need to recognise why we are able to do so. This ability means that we have a responsibility. The spectrum of opportunity, like many others, is one that is unfair. Sometimes opportunity is taken away from people because of their race, gender, sexuality, religion or other parts of their identity. Although we all have varying degrees of privilege we all share the privilege of being members of the Herschel community. We have been offered a world-class education. We have more resources and support than most teenagers in South Africa. Yes, attending Herschel does not nullify our backgrounds or our struggles but it does mean that we are more than equipped to lead good, purposeful lives. We have an opportunity to uplift communities around us once we move beyond these walls. Learning to make a difference is to positively impact one another's lives. If circumstances are not equal for everyone we must create new ones. This responsibility is the duality of opportunity. Use your privilege to help people.

Do not miss an opportunity to energise people or to celebrate people like we are doing tonight.

In the midst of chaos there is always opportunity for you. My last prayer for this school is that you continue to take every one.

Thank you.

AD DEI GLORIAM ◊

VALEDICTORY SPEECH

BY MISS TRACEY ROUSSEAU

Good morning, Mr West, students, staff, parents and special guests, and our honoured guests: Matrics of 2019.

When Mr Karstens told me a number of Matrics had asked that I deliver this valedictory speech, I immediately thought it was a joke, a terrible joke as they know I do not like public speaking! Yet, here I stand... the things I do for my students!

So I had to start thinking about what on earth I could say. Mr Karstens's advice was: something inspirational/advice for the future... my immediate thought: "I'm not so good at the advice, but can I interest you in a sarcastic comment?" And if you're an awesome person, you would know that is a quotation from the TV series *Friends*... and so my theme for today materialised.

5 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL = 5 LIFE LESSONS FROM 5 TV SERIES!

Now the assumption is that you have all watched the series that I'm going to mention. And if you haven't...ag nee, man! But, luckily, after finals you will need to relax a bit, and you will have the time to watch them...an especially good time to watch would be 29 Nov – 6 Dec as there isn't anything important happening during that time. So let's get started:

1. FRIENDS (THE ORIGINAL INSPIRATION)

Now there are so many lessons we could learn from one of the greatest comedy series of all time – yes, I am a huge fan – and these range from Joey's French teaching to his flirting advice: "How you doin'?" – to Ross's advice on moving furniture with just the right "pivot"! and Phoebe's advice on how to play guitar and embrace your inner child! But I thought a little more deeply...so, here goes...

- » **1. Rules make everything more fun!** I just love Monica for affirming what I've always believed: rules are great! Rules are not meant to be broken – they are meant to guide the fun!
- » **2. Live your life with Unagi!** Nope, not sushi! Rather Ross's definition of Unagi – a total state of awareness! So be aware of your surroundings and the impact they have on you, and you have on them.
- » **3. Grammar and counting is important!** English and Mathematics teachers will be

happy to hear me emphasise this lesson. Learn to spell! Know the difference between "your" and "you're"! Learn to use quotation marks or you "might" end up "not knowing" what you're "saying". Also, when having a fake tan...don't count missisipily!

- » **4. Things don't always work out according to your plan!** Rachel left a man at the altar, had a disastrous relationship with Paulo, and a bit with Ross at times, and a terrible job which she hated and wasn't good at...but in the end, she was happy, had an amazing job and ended up with the man she loved. Everything doesn't always work out according to plan, but roll with it. Sometimes you have to take a couple of wrong turns before you take the right one.
- » **5. Good friends will always be there for you.** They proved it throughout the series and even put it in the song. So, find good friends, and be a good friend.

2. GREY'S ANATOMY

Now Grey's taught us many obvious lessons, such as: being an intern is a LOT of work; and don't put your hand on a bomb inside a body! But for the big lessons I decided to go for quotations straight from the series because the people in that series are really smart and give great advice! So here is advice from five people:

- » **1. Cristina Yang taught us to look for hope!** She said: "There comes a point when it all becomes too much. When we get too tired to fight anymore. So we give up. That's when the real work begins. To find hope where there seems to be absolutely none at all."
- » **2. Amelia Shepherd showed us that success is hard work.** She said: "If you aren't willing to keep looking for light in the darkest of places without stopping, even when it seems impossible, you will never succeed."
- » **3. Derek Shepherd, aka McDreamy, taught us that nobody's perfect.** He said: "I'm a human being. I make mistakes. I'm flawed. We all are."
- » **4. Mark Sloan, aka McSteamy taught us to tell people how we feel about them.** He said: "If you love someone, tell them. Even if you're scared that it's not the right thing. Even if you're scared that it'll cause problems. Even if you're scared that it will burn your life to the ground, you say it, and you say it loud and you go from there."

» **5. Now Meredith Grey...**wow, she has gone through so much on the series and taught us so many lessons, it was hard to whittle it down. But here goes: "Boundaries don't keep other people out, they fence you in. Life is messy. That's how we're made. So you can waste your lives drawing lines, or you can live your life crossing them. So, do it. Decide. Is this the life you want to live? Is this the person you want to love? Is this the best you can be? Can you be stronger? Kinder? More compassionate? Decide. Breathe in. Breathe out and decide."

3. LOVE ISLAND

Nope, sorry, no life lessons here except – DON'T watch it! Ever! Or anything like it! OK, let's get back on track here! Series no 4.

4. GOSSIP GIRL

After your muck-up week dress-up, I decided this was a crowd favourite. So what lessons can we learn from *Gossip Girl*?

- » **1. Confidence is Key.** Take on everything and anything with confidence! Blair showed us that even if you don't feel confident, fake it till you do, and tackle everything with confidence and determination.
- » **2. It's never too late to change direction.** You will go through many phases in your life and we never know what lies ahead. What you set out to do today doesn't need to define every day from here on out. It's never too late to change the direction of your life, who you are, and how you act/react towards what life throws at you. It's OK to change in order to be a better version of you! Serena could do it and so can you!
- » **3. Never lose faith in happily ever after.** Blair and Chuck ended up together despite the multitude of ups and downs they had. But this is not just a relationship thing – life can throw so many, many, many things at you... keep your head up and keep believing in the happily ever after!
- » **4. Be you.** Jenny Humphrey tried to pretend her way through life...and it backfired! You are unique and special – celebrate you and be you! You never know what someone else is going through or the struggles in their life, so don't judge them and don't try to be them!
- » **5. Make sure your social media account always reflects the best of you and is always updated!** Seriously! No, that's not the lesson! Social media accounts are never a real reflection of you, or others, so don't take social media seriously. Don't spend your life trying to be a perfect social media page! Let go of the gossip, the perfect photo, filters, captions, the perfect post – live your life and stay in the moment, experience it and commit it to memory rather than



capturing it for others' approval.

Series 5, one of the most epic adventure series of our time:

5. GAME OF THRONES

Matrics, Winter is coming... in the form of the examinations ahead, and leaving Herschel forever. So what did we learn?

» **1. Knowledge is power!** Samwell Tarly spent many hours reading and learning from books. And through all this reading, he found the secret weapon to use to defeat White Walkers! There is a big world out there filled with many different cultures, religions, history, professions, and more! A wonderful quotation from the series is: "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one!" So read, and read widely, value your education and always continue to learn.

» **2. Learn from your mistakes.** Arya Stark said: "A bruise is a lesson...and each lesson makes us better." Learn from your mistakes and experiences and use them to make yourself stronger and to make the world a better place.

» **3. Hugs kill!** In the final moment of the last episode, Jon Snow hugs Daenerys...and simultaneously kills her! So the next time you ask for a hug...

» **4. Own it!** We all have those things that we wish were different – that we had more money, more friends, better clothes, nicer hair (thanks to GHD I can accomplish this one), and the list goes on. And for many of us sitting here today we have been through moments when we have been teased or ridiculed for something we do or how we look. Don't let anyone ever make you feel small or that you are not awesome and valuable! Tyrion taught us to own who we are! He said: "Once you've accepted your flaws, no one can use them against you. Never

forget what you are, for surely the world will not. Make it your strength. Then it can never be your weakness. Armour yourself in it, and it will never be used to hurt you."

» **5. It's OK to be afraid!** You're preparing to leave this place and start a whole new phase of your life! And while you're all feeling as if you can't wait to go...and we're feeling that too... there may be some part of you feeling a little afraid of what's to come. And this is probably not the first time you've felt fear, and won't be the last, I promise you! But you need to push through, learn to be resilient and to continue

Ned Stark taught us that **through fear, comes bravery**. Bran, his son, asked him, "Can a man still be brave when he is afraid?" and Ned answered, "That's the only time a man can be brave." So, feel your fears, be brave, and conquer them.

While writing this speech I realised there was a common thread in these series...a group of people who stick together...a tribe, if you will! In each series the main characters had a tribe of friends and family there to support them.

Matrics, you too have tribes of support. Look below the stage to your left and right: your tribe of peers. Look below to the centre: your tribe of teachers. Look up ahead to the stands: your tribe of family and friends. Look at the people sitting right next to you: your Matric tribe!

I too have tribes amongst you:

- » My wonderful Carter tribe living the blue life!
- » My Accounting tribe who love anything to do with ledgers, financial statements, pigs and dogs!
- » My Business tribe, who range from 10-16 students each day depending on social engagements, and who love writing essays and learning forms of ownership and various legislation;

» Part of my Madagascar tribe – together we battled rain, leeches, stomach bugs, butt sores, and other ailments; and an interesting friend in Fabrice!

Each of you has been a special part of my Herschel tribe while you have been students here.

In every step you have taken in your high school career, you have had a tribe of support. And this tribe has changed over the years – the friends that you started school with may not be friends anymore; the teachers you were scared of on Day 1 may be the teachers you are most sad to say goodbye to; the relationships you had last year may not be the same as this year. Your tribe changes as you change – and let me tell you, you will still change many times in many ways over the next few years... change never stops and it is important that your tribe changes and evolves with you. And sometimes the changes mean that people join and leave your tribe – that's natural, so don't fight it!

Wherever the path may lead you next year, and in the years to come...make sure you find a tribe! A tribe which will build you up and support you. A tribe which will love you for you, and not whom they think you should be. A tribe which is there for the joy and sorrow, the fun and fear.

But for now, it is time to say goodbye to this part of your life and embark on a whole new world of adventures.

It is time to say thank you to your various tribes, and to go out to find a new one.

The Tribal Council have met and deliberated, you are a high school survivor and have managed to outwit, outplay, and outlast...but now the time has come... Matrics, the tribe has spoken! ◇

SENIOR GIRLS



Matric dance



MATRIC GROUP PHOTO



FRONT ROW: E Hayes, C Joubert, J Beare, Z Desai, G Angeliniadis, R De Kock, S West, A Ebrahim, C Karstens, T Hurling, I McKay, C Dicker, M Williams, A Angeliniadis, A Grieve
SECOND ROW: A Chagan, K Viok, D Zeeman, S Im, O Masekela, J Morris, C Seyuba, D Schultz, R Dawson, M Darsof, T Geyer, Z Erasmus, C Hudson, A Matiso, A Goodwin, J Tate,
 S Andrews, C Julie, I Gloor, L Praafjes, H Ismail, A Hendricks
THIRD ROW: A Cader, M Goolam Mahomed, A Mangxola, T Perna, E Judge, K Wallace, D Prout-Jones, C Dyer, C Judge,
 A Mason, S Lawrenson, L Kingston, A Falconer, C Ewan, M Stewart, J Taylor, M Gopal, B Waner, F Guy, K Wilkinson
FOURTH ROW: A Myyamma, B Masey, B Pistorius, I Wright,
 V Robertson, H Hennessy, I Pargiter, S Hudson, S Longworth, N Hablutzel, K Powell, K Wood, J Barrault, L Ebell, S Williams, J Brown, I Probert, G Schmiedeke
FIFTH ROW: G Bolligello,
 E Norton, J Lander, J Hollick, H Glanvill, G Bulmer, E Cox, C Slabber, K Charles, C Moyle, K Fisher, E Kebble, M Stanley, A Charles, G Cotchobos, B Passmore, J Neethling, A Palframan
ABSENT: G Gibbs, G Koury

A LENS INTO LEADERSHIP

BY MRS MICHELLE SYLVESTER

“Who you are is how you lead” – Brené Brown

This statement epitomises the leadership style of our 2019 Prefect Team. They are a group of diverse and compassionate minds whose primary aim was to endorse a culture of belonging and empathy within the school. They have represented the special issues of Herschel and have earned their badges. This year's prefect team, under Amaarah's leadership, has led with grace in service of the school.

Redefining positional student leadership was important to them. From their first prefects' meeting on leadership camp, they established the need to change the way the school views them. They did not want to be seen as an elitist group of students with absolute power but instead mentors to the younger grades. They worked hard to endorse a culture of fun and light-heartedness in the school simultaneously never neglecting their positional roles. They succeeded in connecting with students in the school on a more personal level and earning their respect rather than expecting it by default of their badge and title.

The 2019 Prefect team as a group have helped and encouraged each other throughout the year. Their regular meetings have enabled them the chance to report back on their duties and express their feelings to each other. Everyone has listened to each other and tried their best to help one another whenever help was asked for. They have bonded and share a deep care for one another. Through emotional stages or periods of trial this year, they have never ceased to support each other and to stay true to their values.

The Matric gift this year, initiated by the Prefect team, is the revamping of the Matric Common Room. They raised money throughout the year to transform this space into an area where the Matrics can relax and also work. The dual gift in turn of this one is the donation of money to a charity of their choice at the end of the year. The Prefect team hopes to raise this additional money during their Muck-Up week. Their gift and contribution to



the school is greatly appreciated and they will leave their mark at Herschel.

The executive team, consisting of Amaarah, Rebekah and Traci, have been the link between the staff and student body as well as having led the Prefects' team. They have met regularly with Mr West to discuss various issues with their priority always being the wellbeing of all students at the school. They have also headed many major school events by helping behind the scenes. They have run prefects' meetings, with Mrs Sylvester, and have managed the various portfolios under them. They have been change-makers, working hard to ensure the inclusion of every student at Herschel through their unique ideas. Their goal was not only to fulfil tangible duties but also to be role models and kind mentors to all students daily. Amaarah has led prefects' meetings, delivered numerous speeches at school events, mentored her prefects, liaised with Mrs Sylvester and organised prefects' assemblies. The Deputy Heads established a mental health group with the Counselling Unit, successfully raised R10 000 for Matric Tea and gifts for staff, and liaised with all the prefects with regard to their roles. They are now busy establishing the staff Thank You Tea. They have led while upholding the values of this school. The school has connected with them through their speeches and prefects' assemblies. Amaarah, Rebekah and Traci have led with integrity and devotion!

The various Prefects' portfolios have been busy this year in their roles. Everyone on the Prefects' team has not only fulfilled her prescribed duties but has gone out of her way to be friendly and caring towards others at all times. These are a few ways that they have made a mark in their roles this year:

The Service Portfolio has been very busy taking on various initiatives which include Mandela Day cupcakes; Interhouse Knitting Competition and various other drives. They have seen to the overall running of all service initiatives at Herschel. Throughout the year there have been a number of service initiatives under the guidance of Ms G Van Blerk.

The Sport Portfolio arranged Interhouse sports including soccer and a Sports' Dinner. They inventively pushed sport at assemblies with witty results in the form of rhymes. They supported as many sports fixtures as possible and encouraged teamwork.

Environment has improved the recycling system and reduced the amount of single-use plastic and waste on the campus. They have organised Lost Property efficiently.

The Arderne Prefect has focused on building contact with each and every boarder. A fun and home-like environment has been a core function.

The Academic Portfolio has provided general support during exams and is aiming to provide an Academic Dinner with a difference.

The Public Relations Portfolio has focused on teamwork, support at school functions and has recommended that in 2020 this portfolio works more closely with new students. A questionnaire was circulated to look at how the orientation process can be improved.

The Culture Portfolio introduced Kenny, the Koala to heighten the awareness of cultural achievements at assemblies. Kenny was awarded to a student who had made a significant contribution to culture in our school. It also promoted the Herschel Eisteddfod, introduced lunch-time cultural pop-ups, worked closely with the Drama, Music and Art Management Heads and pulled off a successful Cultural Dinner.

Diversity has been challenged by issues of social justice and the need for each girl to belong. Establishing a Diversity Think Tank with representation throughout the school has been successful but more action will be needed in 2020 with less discussion. They launched a Group for People of Colour.

House Prefects have aimed to make their houses more family-orientated; they have arranged regular House Assemblies and Interhouse Singing – a phenomenal success. Their aim was to have houses working with each other and not against each other. Grade 8 organised the 7/11 Day with the Grade Head, Orientation for Grade 8s, the Grade 8 Parent and Teacher Evening and kept students up to date on the WhatsApp groups. Grade 9 was a constant presence in the lives of the girls. They engaged in a forward-thinking manner with relevant staff when faced with potential roadblocks, assisted the 9s with subject choice and, above all, led with love and compassion. Grade 10 was busy with Stepout preparation, organising T-shirts for all girls involved, the Special Persons' Dinner and issues with discipline. Grade 11 wanted to be there for the 11s and solved many interpersonal relationships. Grade 12 championed the Matric Room refurbishment and aided communication with the Matric Group, organised the Matric jerseys and is busy organising the Matric Muck-Up week.

This group has not only focused on visible signs of leadership but more so on fulfilling their duties without seeking gratification. To lead humbly in service of others but also strongly is a wonderful gift and example to our school of servant leadership.

Amaarah, Rebekah and Traci have led their team with grace and dignity. It has been a pleasure working alongside these amazing leaders this year. ◇

HOUSES

“Who you are is how you lead” – Brené Brown



Carter

HOUSE REPORT

BY MS TRACY ROUSSEAU, HOUSE DIRECTOR
AND MRS SHARMILA GORDON, ASSISTANT HOUSE DIRECTOR

We started 2019 exploring the history and the meaning of the colour blue. It was interesting to recognise all of the similarities between our House colour, and the characteristics of our House:

1. Blue wasn't recognised in early human history because many cultures did not have a word for it – so many different shades in both sea and sky. Blue was therefore the last colour to be recorded.

Carter House was the last House to be recorded at Herschel...but we did not let that stop us from making our mark as a force to be reckoned with in Interhouse events and daily school life.

2. The colour blue, according to research, represents a number of characteristics: depth, sincerity and stability, responsibility and reliability, creativity and energy, trustworthiness and loyalty, wisdom and intelligence, dynamism and drama. It reflects a person who is a giver, who builds relationships, possesses integrity and professionalism, is reserved and quiet and reveals tranquillity and understanding in her dealings with others.

Through every House event and initiative, Carter students have shown "their blue" nature – from fierce spirit in the Interhouse gala, crazy fun in the tutor Easter egg hunt, commitment and beautiful voices at Interhouse singing, showing great compassion and a sincere sense of community in the stationery drive for Madiba Day and the knitting of squares to make blankets, the fun and laughter in the Interhouse plays, and the awesome competitive nature during the tutor quiz.

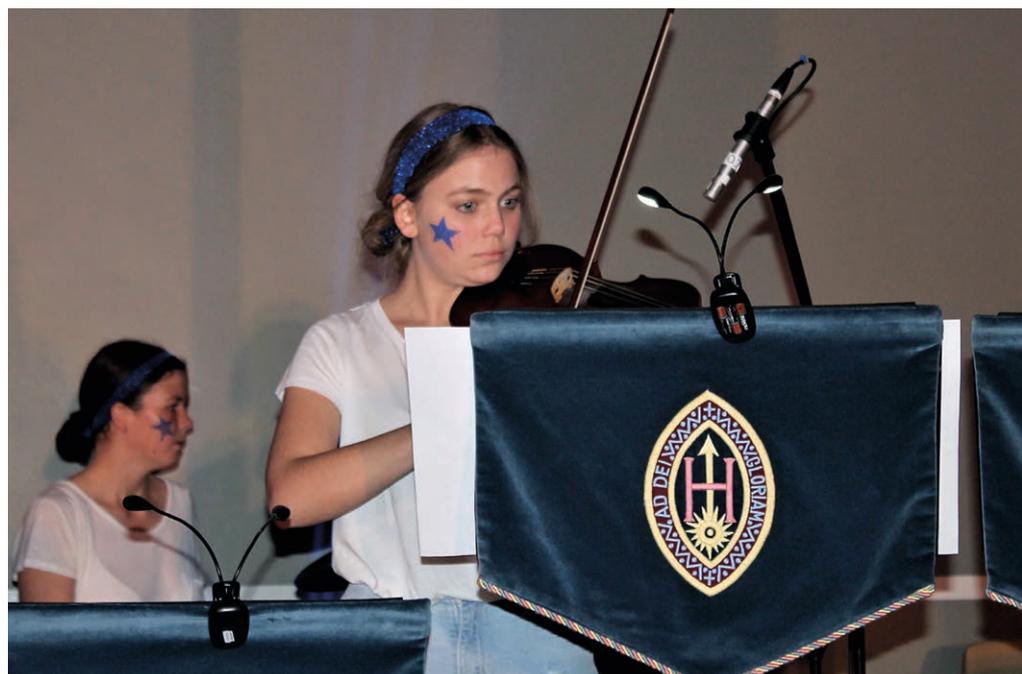
3. The colour blue is also associated with many different phrases: the phrase "true blue" stands for someone who is loyal, trustworthy and faithful; the term "blueblood" refers to a person of royal, noble, or superior birth; a "blue ribbon" represents the best, first place, top prize, or number one; the expression "into the blue" means entering the unknown or uncertainty, not knowing what you're walking into.

It was through this history, these and other characteristics, and these phrases that we came to find our challenge for the year:

**Step into the blue,
knowing you are a blueblood,
upholding the attributes of a true blue,
while striving for the blue ribbon!**

Carter students have stood tall and proud, embodying this challenge throughout the year in all tasks they have undertaken, be it in the classroom, on the sports field, in cultural activities and at House events. Carter has worked hard to strive for the blue ribbon – not to win first place – but to achieve to the best of their ability to make themselves, and the rest of their House, proud. And this they achieved!

To our Carter students, staff and parents: no matter the situations that you may find yourself in throughout life, stay true to you, stay true to your shade of blue, and foster lasting, quality relationships with those around you. ♡





CARTER HOUSE



FRONT ROW: T Sebokedi, P Giddey, Mrs A Harding, Mrs S Rule, Mr M Brásler, Ms J Wesson, Mrs S Macfarlane, Z Desai, Ms T Rousseau, E Norton, Mrs S Gordon, Mr W Oelofse, Mrs C Sharp, Mr Y Gamieldien, Mrs N Karstens, J Seymour, J Venter
SECOND ROW: T Hurling, C van Wyk, I Nyanga, A Mohamed, S Mia, E Dalley, V Creswell-Turner, L Frater, Anita Mira, Z Zalgaoonkir, S Jensen, M Magazo, K Vlok, R Martin, L Plaattjies
THIRD ROW: Z Sallidon, A Waja, S Zoutenberg, K Mahabeer, N Paul, S Voigt, J Benting, Z Lujabe, C Tsinosis, O Dearnaley, S Mia, K Fabing, T Lambrechts, M Dalley, J Jensen, S Gutuza, L Edelstein, K van der Westhuizen, A de Villiers, M Williams, I Nicholson, P Duckitt, Z Erasmus, K Beachy Head, T Cresswell-Turner, G Ball, E Dix, C Hammill, E Judge, I Probert, D Gie, J Davidson, G Koury, G Schmiedeke, L Patel, J Dalrymple, M Van Rooyen, H Brickles, A Mnyamana, T Pema, J Keeton, N Malone
FIFTH ROW: E Lea, C Broadley, E Frater, H Gonera, O Cresswell-Turner, M Nawej Tshitomb, S van der Byl, J Judge, G Quinlan, C de Gouveia, N Darsot, K Crosswen, E Manthorp, E Halle, A Dowling, C Laubscher, J Brown, H Owen, L Davidson, N Mubenga, G Cotchoobos, M Darsot, S Bulwer, C Wilson-Trollip
SIXTH ROW: A Grieve, S Wilensky, H Abrahams, G Horrigan, L Liebenberg, B Passmore, N Duckitt, T Penney, J Turpin, J Quinlan, J Orpen, T Viuff, S Gutsche, J Collins, S Stocken, O Sieff, H Lea, M Kanigowska, R Shortt, M Cadiz, S Gonsenhauser, P Kossowski
ABSENT: S Adams, J Brown, E Cox, C Fleming, H Fraser, M Goolam Mahomed, A Hartmann, C Judge, H Judge, J Kim, S Philander, D Schultz, E Stransham-Ford

HOUSE PREFECTS' REPORT

BY ZARREEN DESAI, HOUSE PREFECT AND EMMA NORTON, DEPUTY HOUSE PREFECT



Wow. As the year comes to a close, it's impossible to not reflect on the journey that our Blue Army has been on together. This roller coaster of a year had us feeling prouder than we ever have before, screaming louder than we ever thought we would, and having incomprehensible amounts of fun!

A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS IF YOU ASK US...

1 CUP OF SPIRIT

The Interhouse gala had us uniting as one, big, blue family. Screaming our hearts out in support of one another and the house and waving our Carter Flag in joyous unison – a truly wonderful way to kick-start the bomb of a year that we have had together.

500 GRAMS OF FOCUS AND DETERMINATION

It was time for Interhouse singing... the time during which voices normally disappear. Contrary to what we expected, but at the

same time, it was no surprise at all that us Carter girls gave it all that we had. The night was worth the hours of intense rehearsals and trying to perfect our chorus of "Counting Stars"... we really did shine though!

A SPLASH OF SILLINESS

PLAY BALL! Interhouse soccer had us in stitches as we all represented Carter with our blue warrior stripes – ready for action! Despite us not winning the matches, we can speak on behalf of everyone when we say that it was nothing short of fun, fun and more fun.

ALLOW TO BAKE FOR 3 TERMS, THE RESULT IS AMAZING!!

Carter has had a very successful year and we would just like to thank all the matrics and the rest of the house for all their hard work and enthusiasm in igniting such outstanding house spirit. It's been an absolute privilege to be a part of something so special and memorable. Thank you Ms Rousseau and Ms Gordon for all of your support and love, and good luck to all of you next year; we love you! Our blood will always be blue. ♦



Jagger

HOUSE REPORT

BY MR BONGANI SOPAM, HOUSE DIRECTOR AND
MS HANNEKE DE BRUIJN, ASSISTANT HOUSE DIRECTOR





The house system has finally started to sink its roots in the ground and has taken shape providing the intended outcomes as envisaged. Learners are showing more spirit and support for the various events and activities organised for houses. During all this time, the foot soldiers (the house tutors) continue to provide the backbone of the system with the support of the Assistant House Director and the House Director at the helm. These people are at the coalface and the first contact every school day for our learners and parents.

Jagger has managed to stand its ground in various Interhouse activities and many of our Jagger girls have made use of these opportunities to display their talent and represent the house. We are pleased with the achievements made and for fearlessly and proudly making their mark and achieving good results during these activities. Our mascot, Hermione Hippo, has been awarded to many girls who have shown such qualities as diligence and service to the house and for recognition of individual achievements outside school.

The highlights of these events have been the Interhouse gala, singing, plays and soccer. In all these events, our girls showed outstanding and exceptional talent. Well done to all those learners who took leading roles and spearheaded, planned and mentored others during these events. We are so proud of the sacrifices and the spirit in which our girls participated and willingly offering their time, sometimes during weekends and family time, to make all this possible.

We are blessed with our strong team of tutors: Ms Burden, Ms Cass, Ms Klassen, Mrs McArthur, Mrs Parker, Mr Stegmann, Mrs van der Merwe, Mrs Venter and Mrs Walter.

Leadership is volunteerism. A big thank-you goes to the outgoing Head of house, Josi Beare, and her Deputy Chilombo Seyuba. They have picked up the baton where their predecessors left off in organising the Jaggernauts behind the banner of our house. Thank you so much to these two dedicated young leaders!

We are looking forward to 2020 to build on what we have achieved this year, and continue to make the house system the epitome of what we envisaged as a pastoral system. ◇

JAGGER HOUSE



FRONT ROW: J Houwing, Mrs N Parker, D Jähnig, Ms K Burden, Mr J Stegmann, Mrs S McArthur, C Seyuba, Ms H De Bruijn, J Beare, Miss R Klassen, H Ismail, Mrs K van der Merwe, Mrs W Walter, Mrs T Venter, T Smith, Mrs B Cass, T Smith
SECOND ROW: K Farrell, H Macdonald, S Gordon, H Golding, K Wilkinson, E van der Velden, S Sodayise, M Guerrini, S Bhorat, C Baynham, S Searle, E Floquet
THIRD ROW: K Arendse, C Lillie, R Myers, H van Hoogstraten, C Bisschop, S Im, M Loggenberg, D Varney, A Bhorat, K Petersen, O Masekela, K Paterson, C Howie, E Mlanjeni, Z Tafari, I Weldon, S Moosa, T Spencer, K Benade, A Cakiso
FOURTH ROW: J Morris, J Tate, J Le Roux, J Maneveldt, C Coutts-Trotter, G Wellington, K Kirstensamy, P Mphepya, N Bissett, A Mason, Q Triegaardt, A Falconer, G Clark, B Massey, G-R Bolligelo, L Berman, A Ward, N Vermaak, F Bolton, L Weldon, M Todd, D Zeeman, S Macready
FIFTH ROW: S Booth, O Lascaris, K Bennet, R Viljoen, R Hall, B Pistorius, T Baird, J Wellington, C le Roux, N Piorowski, H Meyer, L Butler, A von Willingh, B Twana, O Duffus, K Buissinne, R Howie, A Koenig, A Loggenberg, J Dore, C Thompson, J Searl, C Boyd, B Wilson
BACK ROW: O Doidge, R Meyer, L Barends, G Bulmer, R Sparg, J Sainsbury, R Ebrahim, J Levett, R Pedegana, K Fisher, A Swanepoel, C Moyle, K Rumbelow, H Ebrahim, G Lantfear, I Robb-Quinlan, E Alberts, S Whall, J Hollick, J Lander

HOUSE PREFECTS' REPORT

BY JOSI BEARE, HOUSE PREFECT AND CHILOMBO SEYUBA, DEPUTY HOUSE PREFECT

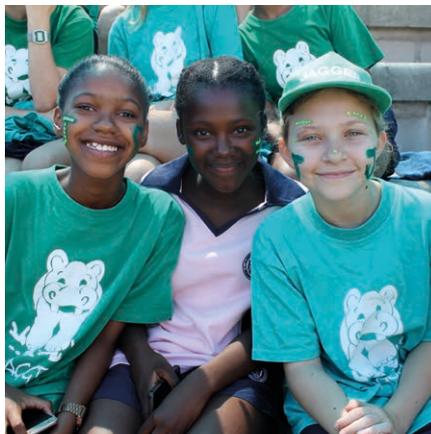
We are so proud to have been leaders of Jagger this year and it is all thanks to our wonderful Jabies. Our blood will forever be green! The house system that was introduced in 2017 has created a stronger bond between students and created a family environment within the school. It has made it easier to support one another and instilled a great sense of pride within the students for their house. We have felt such pride and joy leading our herd of hippos to the finish line. Our goals, as the Heads of Jagger, were achieved through the various activities we did. We lead in a manner that created a safe space for all Jabies to be able to contribute and take part in activities and advocated for a family that stands together, respects each other and loves one another.

We watched our Jabies push through even when times were tough. Jagger has so many fierce and strong people who excel in everything they do. It has been an honour leading this house and being able to watch the Jagger love and support grow with each day. The talent we witnessed was unbelievable, especially from our new Jabies, the Grade 8s. Jagger showed their commitment throughout the year and blew us away at every house event or meeting.

We started off the year with our annual House Bonding event – aimed at making the Grade 8s feel welcome. We showed our new group how proud we were to have green blood and played games, worked as teams from across all grades and ate lots of good food. We ended our wonderful night with a few hippos in the pool and a whole lot of smiles on faces.

The Jagger flame burnt year round. With our first event being the Interhouse Gala – we could not have been prouder of the dedication our Jabies had, whether it be in the swimming pool or simply cheering. Students then showcased their amazing talent at the Herschel Eisteddfod. From categories like art all the way through to dance, they blew us away with their dedication and talent. The passion and drive our Jabies showcased made us immensely proud 'moms.'

Interhouse singing was by far our favourite event. All the time and effort that went into this event truly paid off. The enthusiasm and



spirit in the preparation for this event was definitely evident on the night. The greatest part was the happiness and laughter this event brought the Jagger family. Everyone had their role to play and when it came time for the performance we sang our green hearts out. This was truly an unforgettable event and we will remember it for years to come.

We would not have been able to achieve all of this on our own. The incredible House Directors sacrificed and guided us through this rocky yet unforgettable experience. We are so grateful for having them by our side every step of the way. They were our biggest supporters, working behind the scenes to get us to our final destination – the finish line. Our special matrics, we could not thank you enough for supporting us the way you did. Stepping in when we needed it and having our backs, you really held us this year. We are so proud of each and every one of you and the journey we took together. Lastly, Jagger, our hearts are heavy saying goodbye to such a wonderful house. We would not be Hippos without you; thank you to every beautiful Jagger student for making our final year in the herd so exceptionally special and memorable.

Our blood will forever be GREEN! ◇

Merriman

HOUSE REPORT





BY **MS HANNEKE BASSON, HOUSE DIRECTOR**

This year it has been most satisfying to see the Merriman vertical tutor groups growing closer and forming sisterly bonds. Students are crossing the grade divide, talking to each other and learning from one another. I sincerely hope that the tutor group provides a safe space for every Merriman member to ask for help, discuss important issues or just have a little fun.

Merriman lost one of our tutors, Ms Hanneke de Bruijn, to Jagger this year. We were very proud that one of our own took up the position of Assistant House Director of Jagger. Merriman gained two new tutors, Ms Jayne Euvrard and Mrs Chelsea van Lieshout. They have integrated seamlessly into our system.

I was bursting with pride at every Interhouse event this year. Seeing the students working together, striving for a common goal and having fun, is just the best experience ever. The enthusiastic cheering

at the Swimming Gala, the disciplined rehearsals for Interhouse Singing, the incredible effort put into the House Plays, the raucous laughter at the Soccer – all of these beautiful memories will stay with me.

Merriman is a house of balance where everyone has a place, is appreciated and supported for their presence, potential and talents. I am proud to be red!

BY **MR JAN GOUWS, ASSISTANT HOUSE DIRECTOR**

As always, our red Merriman blood has been pumping at full steam throughout the year. There were times when the blood pressure was a bit high, sometimes too low, but overall we coped just fine.

One of my highlights this year has been to get to know some of our students and parents better. Being in charge of the Grade 9 and 10 Merriman students has been, and still is, a very interesting experience. All teenagers at this age

have to learn how to cope with emotions they have not experienced before. This, combined with their busy schedules, makes life rather challenging. This is where our roles as tutors and directors come into play. I would like to encourage parents and students to use this opportunity more often to assist, guide and help your child. Effective communication between parents and teachers is essential for us as teachers to be most effective. It is necessary for us to understand the emotional and/or physical wellbeing of your child so that we can be more supportive and understanding while we deal with your child.

I am always very proud when I see our students compete with one another in a healthy and supportive manner. This was obvious during all the Interhouse events this year.

I look forward to an even stronger bond amongst our tutors and students in the new year and hope that our house will become your daughter's second home.

Viva Merriman! ♦

MERRIMAN HOUSE



FRONT ROW: D Harris, Ms C Brown, Z Adams, Mrs C van Lieshout, Mrs N Hughes, Ms D Main, S Williams, Ms H Basson, I McKay, Mr J Gouws, A Hendricks, Mr M April, Ms H Lochhead, Ms J Euvrard, L Mohamed, Mr C Karstens, P Huang
SECOND ROW: M Ameen, H Boomgaard, G Weir, N Dathya, K Campbell, A Bowman, T Orgill, I Gloor, A Esack, A Stirk, L Lingela, S Lee, M Efstathiou, R Ndhuni, E Parker-Forsyth, G Mohamed, J Ozunuwe, K Forrest, K Lawrenson, I Mohamed, P Mrabula
THIRD ROW: K Joshua, J Stofberg, A Mangxola, C Campbell, E Couves, K Swain, L Omar, J Betty, A Raichman, F Khan, G Jacobs, K Casewell, A Maconachie, R Chames, S Reddy-Mbewu, Z Isaac, E Sales, K Coetzee, O Peter, G Shellys, M Gopal
FOURTH ROW: C Basnett, T Geyer, S Sale, L Kingston, M Versfeld, C Dyer, C Dawes, K Botha, L Ebell, L Formby, K Eis, C Ewan, I Pargiter, R Williams, J Wright, A Abdulla, F Ahmed, J Taylor, S Slauck, B Balim, S Andrews, E McElroy
FIFTH ROW: N Hablutzel, A Palframan, J Stewart, K Makin, K Powell, T Kreymborg, G Neethling, R Burton, S Matterson, A Ramsbottom, R De Kock, S Bourne, R Moller, S Danpoulo-Baba, M Christian, R Wolhuter, J Neethling, K Wood, A van Graan, S Lawrenson, G Drabbe
BACK ROW: G North, T Bagg, C Burton, O Beauchamp, L Johnson, A Cousins, E Ingram, C Rumbelow, D Kaye, C Park, E Warwick, O Nel, G Nel, L Bertish, N Kabalin, T Aspinall, O Scott, R Halvorsen, O Davis, J van Schalkwyk, C Kode, G Gordon, K Webb, S Mayekiso

HOUSE PREFECTS' REPORT

BY ISABELLA MCKAY, **HOUSE PREFECT**

At the end of 2018 after the appointment of the new house heads, we began with a fun-filled day of games, like the egg and spoon race. The students cheered with much "gees" and pride as our sporty spies played their hearts out. Unfortunately, we did not win the first place prize however, we brought our A-game and all had an enjoyable time.

Interhouse soccer was another event where the students of Merriman gave it their all and gave the other houses a run for their money as they scored goal after goal! Special thanks goes to Cassie Ewan for being our phenomenal goalkeeper!

The energy and excitement at the Interhouse singing competition is hardly forgettable and will be a lasting memory for everyone in Merriman! Every practice leading up to the night was successful and could never have been achieved without the commitment and enthusiasm from each and every house member. This was an emotional and inspiring performance for the Matrics who sang in the house for the last time. Countless hours of hard work and dedication went into this monumental performance, and a particular thank-you goes to the students who created our band and the ensemble singers. You were all FABULOUS!

It has been an unimaginable privilege to lead this tight-knit family through 2019 and its accomplishments. I can only hope that next year is as successful, if not more! I know I can count on the Matrics of 2020 to continue the Merriman legacy and maintain the bond we all are so lucky to share.

BY SYDNEY WILLIAMS, **DEPUTY HOUSE PREFECT**

I am incredibly proud to be a part of Merriman! This year we have put most of our focus on the overall spirit of the house and it has been amazing to see how students have bonded through laughter, excitement and a sense of belonging.

At the very first house event, the Interhouse gala, Merriman gave it their all, breaking numerous records and leaving everyone's voices raspy for the next week. The atmosphere at the gala was filled with excitement and I truly applaud this house for always conducting themselves in a respectful and cooperative manner. No matter whether students were competitive swimmers or not every person participated and played their role in making this event a success.

Interhouse singing was without a doubt the highlight of my experience of being the Deputy House Prefect of Merriman. This event is particularly special because students from various grades all work together to



achieve a common goal. Regardless of the outcome Merriman always puts their best foot forward. I really commend everyone for all the hard work they put into this event and I am confident in saying that we all had so much fun in the process.

It has been an honour to lead this house and celebrate the various talents of students in their own special ways. I am so grateful to have seen new friendships develop and the way we have all come together as a unit and I have no doubt that the next leaders will continue the Merriman legacy. ◇



Rolt

HOUSE REPORT

BY MRS CAROL ALPERT, HOUSE DIRECTOR AND
MRS LOUISE VAN WYK, ASSISTANT HOUSE DIRECTOR

“How wonderful the colour yellow is, it stands for the sun.”

– Vincent van Gogh

This quotation represents ROLT beautifully as we strive to be the sunshine house. Last year was a year of building the vertical tutor system. This year, 2019, is about creating a house identity. Rolt consists of young women who all contribute something unique to the house.

With the decision to make House assemblies more varied this year, we went for walks through Arderne Gardens, soaking in the beauty around us and sharing insightful quotes:

“Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.” – Marcel Proust

Doctor Muller’s gong meditation gave the Rolties an opportunity to enjoy the ultimate form of relaxation, something so needed in the busy lives of the pupils. The tutors presented an insightful assembly by sharing something that they are passionate about and most recently, a loud, extremely excitable hour of games.

Rolt has been victorious this year: our talented Rolties won the Interhouse Gala and while the excitement was still flying high, their voices rose up in “The Flag” song, impressing the judges and giving us an overall win in the Interhouse singing. Interhouse soccer has become

an extremely popular house event and Rolt have a number of Banyana Banyana potential players as the goals were coming fast and furiously.

The Interhouse plays did not disappoint as the audiences enjoyed an evening of side-splitting laughter as Shannon Pitman walked away with the Best Actress award for her exceptional portrayal of Buzz Lamedich.

Knitting needles have been clicking and everyone has contributed to creating hundreds of colourful blankets for Vrygrond.

Enormous gratitude goes to Caitlin Dicker and Delaine Prout-Jones, the Head and Deputy Head of Rolt as they steered each event with confidence. Your leadership was strong, and the support the house gave you was evident. Caitlin, thank you for working in such a professional manner and coaching our girls to sing with such confidence. I will miss all the gorgeous yellow décor at all the events. To the Matric leaders, congratulations on a successful year of leading your tutor groups and being a constant support for your tutors.

We need to thank our incredible team of tutors who are the “constant” in the lives of their tutees. They are the backbone of the house and without them they would not:

Stand tall and follow their dreams.

There are no words to say how much I appreciate Louise van Wyk, my extraordinary Assistant House Director. Louise is the foundation of the house, ensuring the smooth running of every event. She is meticulous in her execution of every bit of communication and planning. We are Rolties –OE! JA! ♡





ROLT HOUSE



FRONT ROW: A Chagan, H Mackay, Ms N Jordan, Mrs N Barendse, Mrs B Lureman, Ms L Nasson, Mrs L van Wyk, D Prout-Jones, Ms C Alpert, C Dicker, Mrs W Paterson, Ms C Coetzee, Mrs T Thomson, Mrs S Scarola, Ms A Elkington, S van Schalkwyk, R Sutton
SECOND ROW: M Makanjee, O Sopam, M Antony, E Clarke, E Shaw, E Faure, Y Rawood, L Sicweby, R Majodina, Y Hu, S Kader, F Guy, B Waner, C Williams, G Goodwin, R Turck, C Carter, J Lee, J Prevöst, J Roux, M Rawkins, C Murphy, A Stuart-Reckling, L MacFarlane, A Tadokera, S Govender
THIRD ROW: A de Waal, G Angeliniadis, K Kruger, A Dali, K Muller, T Mhambi, G Stewart, L Burns, J Bagus, R Ratheb, A Mattiso, MD de Graaf, A Jones, C Julie, S Prevöst, A Martin, A Lehmann, S Angeliniadis, R Paterson, S Ncube, E Lewis, S O'Shea, R Dawson, A Angeliniadis
FOURTH ROW: E Tomlinson, R Mol, L Matheson, C Maharajh, C Van Niekerk, K Theron, E Parker, H Hennessy, F Murphy, S Murray, M Stanley, O Fernandes, S Hudson, K Pillay, S Longworth, F Banyard, J Kirsten, K Roberts, I Thorpe, L Siwisa, L Siebel, N Lewis
BACK ROW: A Charles, M Harrison, R Glanvill, C Joubert, S Pitman, S Miszewski, A Mesham, L Hardie, C Hooper, C Slabber, G Bromley, M de Villiers, L Miszewski, K Charles, I Slabber, I Roberts, A De la Harpe, S Parry, B Thorpe, J Hickman, A Faustmann, L Naude, H Glanvill, H Pearce, G Botton
ABSENT: J Moxley, S Osman, J van der Merwe, I Barraut, E Hayes, A Goodwin, K Kotsi, K Poynton-Thamm, O Johnstone, S Ssemanda, B van Rhyn, E Kebble, A Cader, F Johnstone, S van Wyngaarden, J Paine

HOUSE PREFECTS' REPORT

BY CAITLIN DICKER, **HOUSE PREFECT** AND DELAINE PROUT-JONES, **DEPUTY HOUSE PREFECT**

Sunflowers are known for being “happy” flowers, making them the perfect gift to bring joy to someone’s day. Our Rolties are that gift as they have brought so much joy and love to our year of leadership.

Wow! What a year! The students have outdone themselves, once again, carrying themselves with confidence and respect while whisking up this year’s trophies.

We started off the year with a fun-filled House Braai, where we ate delicious food, got to bond as a house and initiate our Grade 8s into our Rolt family. The highlight of that event was our massive game of Red Rover which really got all of us out of our comfort zones and furthered our bond as a house through the laughter we shared. From the beginning of Term One, our Rolt family has shown that they can excel in everything they have done.

Rolt was extremely successful in Term One, winning the Interhouse Gala. The students brought their A game, competing with enthusiasm and passion. From then on it was clear that Rolt was a force to be reckoned with.

The following term consisted of the Eisteddfod and Interhouse singing. It was incredible to see each Rolt student express herself in her phenomenal talent: whether it be through art, drama, singing, dancing, writing or public speaking, the students excelled in everything they did.

Interhouse singing was a stressful but amazing experience that made me so grateful to be a part of such a unified house. The highlight of our time will forever be the rehearsal process which consisted of laughter, a few tears but, most importantly, the unifying of this house. The students sang from their hearts, lifting the spirits of the audience with our winning song “Waving Flag” which will be remembered by many. Rolt cleaned up the event, winning the overall trophy, which is something we never thought would have happened to us. This year’s Interhouse singing will be ingrained in our memories and hearts forever.

Rolt was phenomenal in the House Plays, in Term Three. They left the crowd in stitches of laughter and ultimately won the award for Best Actress. We were amazed by the standard of Rolt’s play and we are beyond proud of our house for, once again, showing



us just how incredible this family is.

We have always been passionate about Rolt and the unity and sense of family this house system creates. This house has made us so proud and we can honestly say that our blood will forever be yellow. This year has been filled with enthusiasm, respect, passion and love for each member of our house. We can successfully say that this has been Rolt’s most successful year. Not only have we excelled in competitive events, we grew as a family, focusing on the enjoyment of the game, rather than winning.

Our final year at Herschel has been the best one yet and we cannot bear to say goodbye, but we know that the love and memories shared this year will not be forgotten. To our fellow Rolties, thank you for making this year full of love and joy. You make everything we do worth it and we are so grateful to have served you this year. Good luck to you for the next year! Keep bringing the light and love, my sunflowers. ♡



SENIOR CLASSES

“The memories we’ve shared will be cherished forever and will stay with us for the rest of our lives.”



GRADE 11

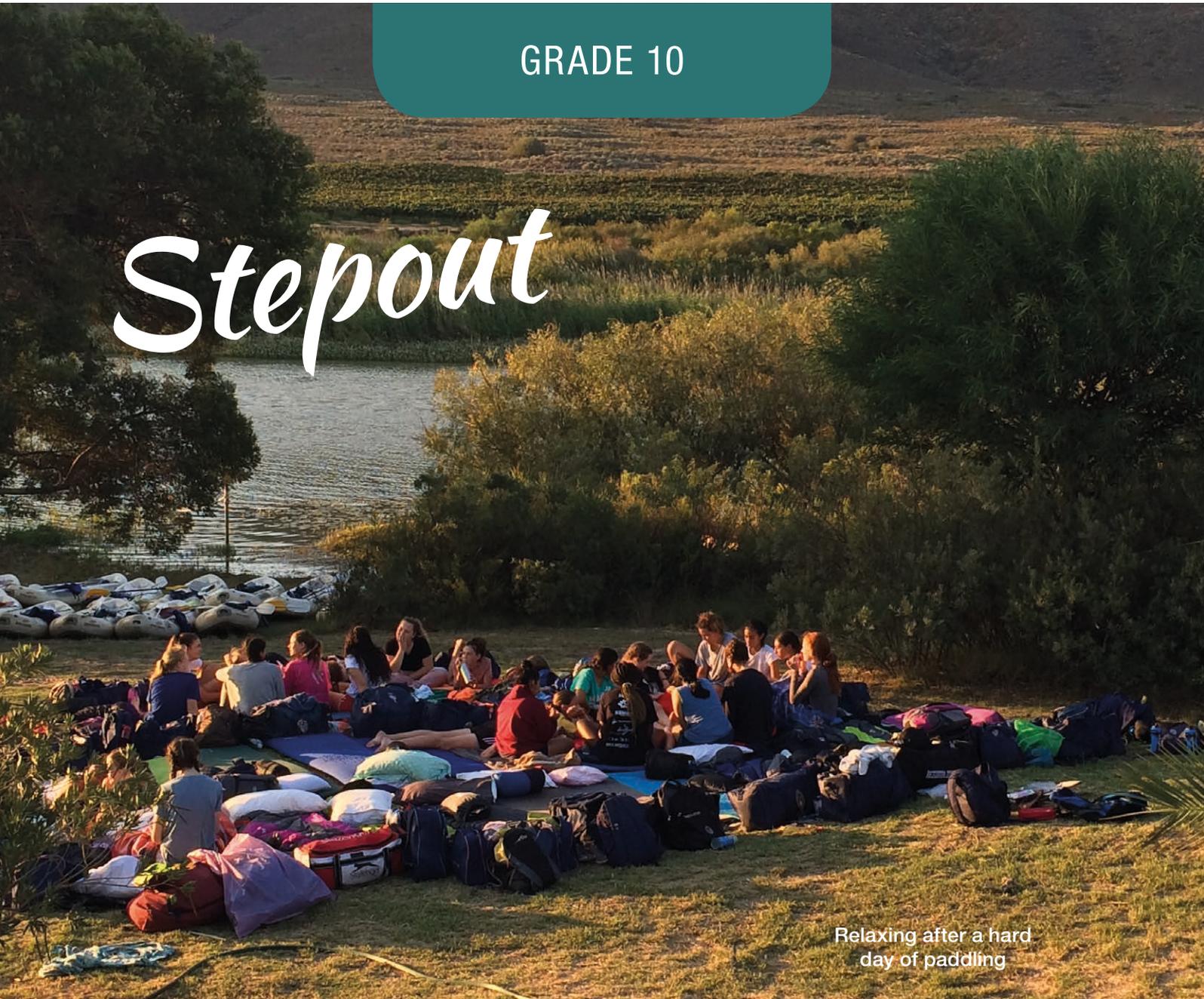


Happy times at the Grade 11 camp at Rocklands in beautiful Simonstown



GRADE 10

Stepout



Relaxing after a hard day of paddling



Hiking break at Breakfast Rock



Swimming with the water lilies



One with nature



Padding on the Breede River



Cycling on the dust roads

GRADE 9



GRADE 8



The Grade 8s ended their first term with a fantastic camp. Much of the programme (held at the Waterval Country Lodge in Tulbagh) was dedicated towards establishing deep and meaningful relationships with each other.

A group of very excited Grade 8s hopped on a bus with loads of luggage (and snacks!) and we made our way to Tulbagh. The programme got going the moment we arrived, with the girls being assigned into tents.

The camp facilitators were full of energy, and were very good at encouraging the girls to interact with each other. The days were filled with fun activities, including obstacle courses, raft building, camp fire discussions and early morning wake-ups.

Although completely exhausted, the Grade 8s arrived back at school having made new friendships and bonded as a grade.



“RINGGGG!!”

BY CAMERON JOUBERT, HEAD OF ARDERNE HOUSE

As heavy heads lift from their pillows, it's yet another new day for the Herschel boarders, busy being beckoned by the morning bell. We shuffle groggily to the top of the stairs, with high hopes of scoring a tasty breakfast (pancakes perhaps?). But it is also with a heavy heart that we realise that mornings like these will soon be coming to an end. Maybe it's just me, but it seems as if this year has rushed by in a blur, with treasured moments and fun-filled memories flowing past, and the boarders trying to grasp a hold of them and not let go. As per usual, it has been a crazy, but wonderful year for the house and, even though we are such a close-knit family, I think it's only right that we share some of our crazy adventures with the rest of the world.

There have been many fun-filled nights: from starting each term with grade build-your-own-pizza night, to Valentine's Day surprises, to spectacular, themed dinners with fun activities to follow. We were even lucky enough to join Bishops for yet another exciting cabaret rehearsal, which unexpectedly included a bold matric dance request.

Laughter, excitement, chaos and fun... These are some of the sensations we experienced when the Arderne house was combined with a trampoline park. A visit to Rush was definitely one of the main highlights this year. It allowed us to forget about school and its pressures for a little while and forging closer bonds within our Arderne family. Back flips, dodge ball, and everything in between brought us closer together as a house. Added to this were our long chats in "the sit," bonding over the evening snack, as well as the enjoyable movie nights, our new students' integration weeks and much more.

It has been amazing getting to know all the incredible and talented people that form part of our family, and seeing them grow and mature over the years. We didn't think it would be so sad to have to see this amazing group off and say goodbye, but this will definitely be one of the hardest goodbyes the Matrics will ever have to endure.

There are so many people that contribute to our little bubble of paradise! The kitchen staff tend to us with such great kindness and enthusiasm despite their busy days. We will

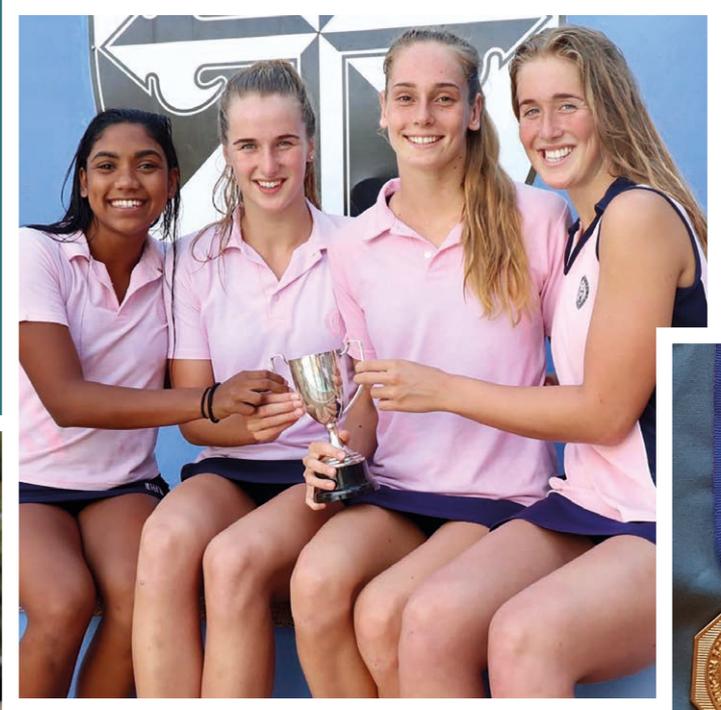
miss all their contagious smiles and laughter, getting us through the day. We thank Mrs Dina Malouw and Mrs Lenet Jacobs-Louw for all their care and support and being such an important part of our amazing family. We also thank Ms K (Ms Kingwell) for being like our big sister, not only having to deal with all our constant rants about work, but also sharing many laughs and memories. And finally Mrs Cornish, the best house mother anyone could ever hope for. Knowing that we can go to her for anything and she would always be there (probably with a cup of tea and a huge smile) has made an enormous difference in our lives. We have never met anyone so caring and supportive and don't know what the house would do without her. To all these incredible people that are a part of our lives, I don't think we, as a house, could ever say thank you enough for everything they do for us.

However, all good things must eventually come to an end. Now that the year has slowed to a stop, we are so sad that it's all over. However, the memories we've shared will be cherished forever and will stay with us for the rest of our lives. ♦



SPORT

“The most unforgettable parts of it all, are the relationships that we all have made along the way” – Charlotte Slabber



FIELD HOCKEY

BY AMY GOODWIN AND CHARLOTTE SLABBER

The hockey results of 2019 have been superb. Every team was successful in the various leagues in which we participate; every individual can be very proud of her achievements.

The U14 A Team impressed everyone with their confidence and skill. They placed first in the Interschools competition, as well as in the league, were placed 4th in the Top Schools' tournament and 5th in the Champions' Cup. These are exceptional results! Who knows what they are still capable of in the future?

The U16 A Team also achieved outstanding results. They placed 5th on their Roedean tour, 2nd in the DSG Top Schools' tournament as well as first in the league and Interschools. Both these teams demonstrated maturity and tenacity in completing the tournament, and can be commended on these qualities. Herschel's hockey future is, without a doubt, bright.

The final whistle for the hockey-playing Matrics of 2019 has been blown. This year's First Team displayed true passion and dedication, set goals and worked

diligently towards these. However, our most commendable attribute has been teamwork. The life-lasting friendships that were built on and off the field enabled connections that contributed to effective co-ordination in matches, ultimately ensuring many victories. The season began with an untested, newly-established team participating in the well-known St Mary's Festival. Despite our nervousness, we managed to achieve 7th place among the 32 teams which attended – no easy feat. The Bloemhof Challenge followed, as well as the Interschools tournament in which we were placed 3rd, 2nd and 1st. Lastly, we participated in the infamous Oranje Tournament situated in Bloemfontein. At this prestigious event, only the top 12 teams are selected to play eight 45-minute games in the span of three days, which is extremely gruelling. As this tour was the last one in which the Matrics participated, we were motivated to make this one count. We attained 6th place in the tournament. At the end of the season, the Herschel First Team was placed 3rd in the country which is a formidable achievement!

These successes would not have been possible without our amazing coaches and staff. A particular thanks must be made to

Ms Brown who is leaving Herschel after seven very successful years at our school as she pursues a new chapter in her life. We could not be more grateful to Ms Brown for moulding us into bold and thoughtful hockey players, as well as for developing our mental toughness and increasing our knowledge of the game. Ms Brown will be leaving huge shoes to fill but our First Team will continue with her legacy.

There are many things a Herschel hockey player can take away with her when she leaves high school. These include unforgettable memories, newly developed life skills; life-long friendships as well as pride. Most Herschel hockey parents' Friday nights are spent at the Astro turf enthusiastically engaging in the matches being played whilst partaking in some communal drinks and snacks. Having everyone there under the flood lights united in spirit and perhaps wearing pink, has built a community. This will be a support system for each of us for the rest of our lives. The scores and results, as impressive as they are, are not all that we will cherish; it is rather the special moments and friendships that we have made over the last five years. ♦



FRONT ROW: G Clark, R Dawson, C Slabber (captain) C Brown (coach), G Cotchobos, J Tate, M Versfeld SECOND ROW: J Seymour, J Venter THIRD ROW: G Stewart, S Murray, R Meyer, A Collins, G Bromley, H Meyer, L Formby ABSENT: A Goodwin (captain)

INDOOR HOCKEY

BY MR ANDREW SCOTT, COACH

2019 has been another special Indoor Hockey year. We have so much interest in this sport that it is impossible to accommodate everybody but we certainly try! It means that we need to rotate players so that everybody gets an opportunity to play whilst still ensuring that the core players remain consistent in each team. All our teams have performed exceptionally again and most teams were unbeaten.

As has become the custom I would like to pay tribute to the exceptional performances of our talented Grade 12s in the First Team. This, after the team won the inaugural PSI Schools Indoor Cup, the PGSGU Inter-schools Tournament and finally the very prestigious League Title. They won all 18 games they played throughout the season!

They were led by an inspirational captain in Amy Goodwin who possesses unsurpassable fitness and commitment. Amy plays her heart out in every match and leads from the front by maintaining her energy levels for the full duration of each game. She recognises the importance of both attack and defense and her work rate is highly impressive. She loves playing hockey and her positive attitude has made her a pleasure to coach over the years.

Vice-Captain Charlotte Slabber was an equally inspirational player and easily slotted into the captaincy role for the couple of weeks that Amy was injured. Charlotte is one of the most naturally skilled players I have had the privilege to coach. She has silky skills, is fleet footed and has a devastating flick and shot at goal. She had an outstanding season and her strike rate was phenomenal. She too was equally impressive on both defense and attack, making her a perfect Indoor Hockey player. Together with Amy they formed a formidable leadership in the team.

Robyn Dawson claims the most improved player in the team award and proved the perfect foil for Charlotte at short corners. She possesses a devastating flick and scored some tremendous goals. I so appreciated her commitment and took such delight in how passionate she was about the game and how much she enjoyed playing with her teammates. She is a confidence player and she thrived in her role as one of the senior strikers. Her tenacity and



FRONT ROW: R Dawson, A Goodwin (captain), A Scott (coach), C Slabber, J Tate
BACK ROW: M Versfeld, G Clark, J Collins, R Meyer, L Formby, J Venter

perseverance often turned over ball for the team and immediately put us on the counter attack. She can reflect on a most outstanding season.

Jody Tate was our versatile player and acquitted herself impressively as both defender and the vital middle player. She has the heart of a lion and gave her all every match she played. Her commitment to the team was so palpable and her sense of fun and energy rubbed off on her peers. Defenders are pivotal to the success of the team as they are the ones that make the passes that create the opportunities to attack and score goals. Jody made

numerous such passes and had a truly wonderful season.

I will miss these four fine players and what they have meant to Herschel Indoor Hockey and especially the fun and energy they brought to our practices. However, I know that the baton will be carried forward by the now, very talented and experienced Georgie Clarke, and our enthusiastic newbies to the team, Laura Formby, Jodie Collins and Mia Versfeld, as well as our imposing goalies Jenna Venter and Robyn Meyer. These girls were critical to the success of this team at different times of the season and an equally bright future awaits them. ◇



SWIMMING

BY **BETH PASSMORE, CAPTAIN**

What a year it has been for Herschel's 2019 Swimming team! conquering and dominating our weekly Thursday galas, to winning all three of the age-group trophies at PGSGU held earlier this year at Springfield. Every week, the team united at our training sessions on a Monday afternoon and early Tuesday morning to swim endless amounts of laps, always supporting each other when the going got tough.

From our weekly galas all the way to PGSGU, each and every one of our dedicated and hardworking swimmers have given their all in every practice and every race that they have competed in. I am truly grateful for this passionate, inspiring and enthusiastic team of phenomenal swimmers who have achieved outstanding results at our galas, as well as nationally and internationally, and I can't tell you how proud I am of all their achievements!

I would like to thank all the parents and fellow students who came to support the team. Without your support and love, we wouldn't be where we are today, so thank you!

I would also like to say a big thank-you to our coach, Ms Brown, who we found out was not only a star hockey player in her years but also a competitive swimmer! Ms Brown's love and passion for our team and the sport has filtered into our hearts and I am eternally grateful for all her guidance and support.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SWIMMERS FOR THEIR FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE POOL THIS YEAR:

Georgia Nel:

- » Chosen for SA Senior Youth Squad
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals

Olivia Nel:

- » Chosen for SA Senior Squad
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Chosen for Junior World Champs in Budapest and represented team South Africa

Lucy Miszewski:

- » Swam Senior Nationals



Hannah Cromhout:

- » Qualified for Youth Nationals in 2020
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals

Reese O'Riordan:

- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals

Hannah Pearse:

- » Selected for SA Youth Open Water Squad and Junior Youth Swimming Squad
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam in SA Open Water Championship

Hanim Abrahams:

- » Selected to be a part of SA Senior Squad

- » Swam SA Junior Nationals
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals

Michaela De Villiers:

- » Selected for SA Junior Youth Swimming Squad
- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals

Savannah Voigt:

- » Swam SA Senior Nationals
- » Swam SA Junior Nationals

Lastly, I also want to say a big thank-you to Mrs Botha for the hard work, love and support she has given to our team, and finally, our number one supporter, Mr West. ♡



FRONT ROW: G Nel, L Miszewski, B Passmore (captain), C Brown (coach), A Goodwin, H Abrahams, O Nel SECOND ROW: C Carter, L Siebel, H Pearse, C Ribeiro, M de Villiers, H Cromhout, H Brickles, T Penney, S Bourne BACK ROW: M Rawkins, C Hammill, K Campbell, S Voigt, J van der Merwe, M Christian, R O' Riordan, K Benade

WATER POLO

BY ALEXIA CHARLES, CAPTAIN

Herschel's much-anticipated jam-packed 2019 water polo season started off with a bang and continued to be one of the most memorable seasons yet.

The First Team, coached by Alex Hawkins, started the season by attending the Brian Baker tournament in Grahamstown for the first time ever. After a gruelling seven games, the team advanced to the semi-finals to play our biggest rivals, Reddam. We were all thrilled when we won this game and advanced to the finals against Pearson, where we were victorious once again and took home the trophy.

The next challenge for the first team was the annual St Peter's tournament held in Johannesburg. Here the girls played with great team spirit and motivation securing a spot in the semi-finals. We were to meet Pearson again. In a closely contested match, they managed to avenge the previous encounter by a solitary goal. Our girls should be proud with the bronze medal result as we placed the highest of all the Western Province



teams and improved our position from previous years.

The last challenge this admirable team had to face was the finals of the annual Waller Cup. After many convincing wins, the team progressed to the finals to face Reddam once again. The team played their hearts out but unfortunately we narrowly lost after two rounds of penalty shoot-outs. This tight-knit First Team had an outstanding season which

lead to them being ranked 3rd in the country.

The U16As, coached by Craig Haird, also had a wonderful season. This team attended the Alex Road festival along with the second team, coached by Pongi Quarmby, and both teams displayed great heart. The U16A team also managed to make their way to the finals of Waller Cup where they too unfortunately lost to Reddam.

The young U15A side, coached by Vikki Quarmby, started their season by attending the Shaun Fuchs tournament held at Crawford. These girls fought hard in the pool matches and advanced to the quarter-finals. After a very narrow loss, the team ended the tournament placed seventh. They should be proud of themselves.

With very little match experience, the U14s started their season by leaving the Wynberg festival unbeaten. This result was very promising for these young girls who were excited for more to come. Their next tournament was the Dave Pitcairn Cup where the girls were victorious once again and took home the gold medal. At the end of the season, this team joined their seniors when they too advanced to the finals of Waller Cup. Here they also unfortunately lost, placing second in the Western Cape.

Overall, the 2019 season was one for the books. None of these results would have been achieved if it wasn't for the countless hours that all the coaches dedicated to their teams. So therefore a huge thank-you goes out to them, to Mrs Botha for her constant support and motivation and the pool staff for always making sure the pool was ready for action. ◇



FRONT ROW: L Bertish, J Hollick, A Charles (captain), K Charles, B Passmore
BACK ROW: N Vermaak, A Faustmann, L Miszewski, A Swanepoel, B Ingram, J Moxley

BASKETBALL

BY CHARLOTTE SLABBER, CAPTAIN

What a season the 2019 basketball players have had! From the new and up-and-coming U14s all the way to the experienced and confident Grade 12s, each team has been successful in one way or another.

Our First Team attended the annual AISJ (American International School of Johannesburg) tournament in January. We did well to win some of our pool games against some truly formidable teams who have been playing basketball for much longer than we have. It then came down to a deciding play-off game against the team who ended up coming second in the tournament. Due to some exhausted legs and tired minds, we were not able to pull off a win. The most valuable part of the whole experience was being exposed to basketball at the highest level, which instilled confidence in the players as well as building an unbreakable bond that continued to grow as the season continued.

But it wasn't just the First Team who were triumphant. The U16A team also attended this very prestigious basketball tournament and played in their respective age group.



“The most valuable part of the whole experience was being exposed to basketball at the highest level”

Every year this team seems to excel and this year was no exception with them earning second place overall!

The U14A team won their league and this was immensely commendable considering the majority of them had only just been introduced to the game two months earlier.

A definite reason for the excitement in the sport is the enthusiastic and inspiring coaches and staff. They have truly brought an incredible energy to practices, and matches and infused our Herschel teams with an undeniable spirit. Namely our First Team coach, Thesline Davids, who has carried players through what has been a tough season after the tragic passing of our previous and much-loved First Team coach, Ann Siyoyo. We could not be more grateful for every staff member that drove each individual to perform at their best despite their own grieving for Ann. Being both strong and soft is the combination that is most admirable in our basketball coaches.

No amount of thank-yous can be said to express the gratitude we have for the many people that played an influential role in our basketball careers – all the coaches; and Mrs Botha and Mr West for making valuable tours and tournaments accessible for us to partake in. I have learnt an immense amount during my five years of basketball at Herschel about perseverance and teamwork; however the most unforgettable parts of it all, are the relationships that we all have made along the way. These significant people and the memories that we have made are forever cherished. ♦



FRONT ROW: E Hayes, C Slabber (captain), T Davids (coach), K Fisher (vice-captain), C Ewan
 BACK ROW: J Turpin, G Bromley, I Roberts, S Williams, G Lanfear, G Searson, O Fernandes, R de Kock

NETBALL

BY **DREW ZEEMAN, CAPTAIN**

The 2019 season launched with the First Team squad participating in the annual St Andrew's Netball Festival held in Johannesburg.

The competition was fierce, and the girls played their hearts out. The five-day tournament was the perfect opportunity to come together as a team and learn new strategies and innovative play to implement in the season ahead.

The team placed 24th overall which was a result our girls could be proud of. This enabled us to head back to Cape Town excited for the new season ahead. The 2019 netball season has been jam-packed with many highlights but the one that stands out was Herschfield. The event was filled with outstanding school spirit making us all proud to be a part of the Pink Army. I speak on behalf of the First Team squad when I say it was the highlight of our high school netball career. It was particularly special to win 15-16 on home ground and is a memory all of the girls will hold close to their heart. I cannot wait to see the event grow bigger in the future and look forward to coming back as an old Herschelian to offer my support next year.

All age groups were privileged to take part in a tour to Port Elizabeth during Term 3, playing games against Woodbridge,



Front Row: B Passmore, R de Kock, D Zeeman (captain), K Halle

Second Row: S Williams, R Pedegana, G Lanfear, C Rumbelow, O Fernandes

Pearson and Collegiate. Despite the gruelling competition, it allowed for players across all age groups to interact and learn skills from one another. The U14A team is to be commended on their outstanding results, winning two out of their three games, narrowly losing to Pearson by one goal.

The netball department was honoured to have Mrs Sue Schooling, a former South African coach, come and assist in the coaching of all age groups. The impact that Mrs Schooling had on all teams due to her wealth of knowledge and experience in the game of netball was immeasurable

and ignited passion in each of the players she worked with. I would like to thank the coaches across all age groups as well as Mrs Botha who have so generously given up of their time and for their constant support on the sidelines. All teams are excited to end off the 2019 season by playing in the PGSGU Interschools tournament and I have no doubt that our netball squads will play with heart and far exceed all expectations in terms of our performance.

2020 netball at Herschel is looking very promising and I wish all the players nothing but success! ◇



SQUASH

BY ISABELLA WRIGHT, CAPTAIN

Squash at Herschel has been consistently growing in strength and popularity over the past few years, and this year has been no exception. The squash season has been extremely successful but most importantly the squash courts were always buzzing with smiles and laughter.

The season started at the end of 2018 with the Stayer's Squash Festival. This is the first time Herschel has entered and all the players stepped up to the occasion. During the summer, the squash "off-season", the top five players played against a touring side from the USA. Unfortunately Herschel lost the fixture but it was an enjoyable afternoon of squash and a wonderful opportunity to play other squash players from half way across the world.

The First Team went on to qualify for the Top Schools tournament for the first time since 2012. This saw the top six players go off to Pietermaritzburg to compete and, despite being a player down, they all played extremely well.

The First Team was entered into the Boys' A League for the second year running. They faced some tough and challenging matches



“The squash courts were always buzzing with smiles and laughter.”

but one of the biggest successes of the season was beating Bishops in a whitewash! The Second and Third teams were both entered into the Girls A League. The teams were further divided into Seniors and Juniors splitting the strength of the teams. Despite this, and playing against many other schools' First teams, they performed extremely well.

The season was completed by winning the PGSGU Interscholars for the third year running despite being two players down. This seems to be becoming a common theme but is only a testament to the strength and depth of players beyond the first team.

A special mention has to go out to our coaches Gavin Kaplan and Ms Scarola who I will always be in awe of as they somehow managed to put up with our giggling and even managed to get us to gain some fitness.

The sheer volume of Western Province players is incredible and is testament to the strength of Herschel squash. Congratulations go to: Lauren Matheson (U19), Jamie Turpin (U19), Hannah Glanvill (U19), Caitlin Howie (U19 Invitational), Katie Swain (U19 Invitational), Rebecca Glanvill (U16) and Leah Burman (SACF U14).

The successes of this season are wonderful but most importantly this season has been characterised by smiles, laughter and enthusiastic support for one another. I hope that Herschel squash continues in this vein and wish the team and all the players all the best going forward. ♡



FRONT ROW: I Wright (captain), G Kaplan (coach), L Matheson
BACK ROW: R Glanvill, J Turpin

TENNIS

BY EMMA HAYES, CAPTAIN

The 2019 Tennis season started off with the top seven tennis players heading off to Port Elizabeth to take part in the Independent Schools' Tennis Tournament which occurs annually. The team had many strong, young players with three Grade 8s (Matilda Loggenberg, Rachael Wolhuter and Erin Shaw), two Grade 9s (Grace Goodwin and Jade Benting), one Grade 11 (Lauren Johnson) and one Grade 12 (Emma Hayes).

The tournament was hosted by Kingswood in Grahamstown with some of the most magnificent facilities. The girls played singles and doubles over three days in the morning and afternoon, with the last morning reserved for the finals and play-offs. Herschel had a tough semi-final and lost to Epworth by one game, putting us in the play-offs for third and fourth place. The tour was still a success as we came third out of seven schools and the players and coaches made many lifelong bonds with the players and staff from other teams. Congratulations to Jade Benting for being awarded Best Tennis Player of the tournament!

After this fun start to the season, the team was ready to dominate the league ahead. Herschel had six teams playing in the Southern



Suburb league matches on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. The First Team organised a few matches against schools from the Northern Suburbs such as Somerset College. These matches were challenging, yet fun as we don't usually get to play against those teams. All the teams achieved great results during the season thanks to regular practices every Thursday and Tuesday morning taken by Herschel teacher, Mr Stegmann, and a coach from Claremont Tennis Club, Iain Purchase. It was wonderful to see so many newcomers

that were eager to learn new techniques and strokes when gratefully assisted by the coaches or their peers.

One of the main highlights of the tennis season is the annual PGSGU Interschools Tennis Tournament. This sporting competition brings together the top girls' tennis schools from the Southern Suburbs and it is always a lovely way to end the season with some fun and enjoyable rivalry. It is a doubles format, where both the top six seniors and top four juniors take part. Seven matches are played in the form of a Round Robin. There is always enthusiasm with the tough close matches and a constant sense of passion for tennis throughout the day.

This year it was played at Rustenburg and hosted by Herschel. The results were pleasing as both teams finished in second place, with the senior team missing first place narrowly by one point.

Congratulations to Rachael Wolhuter and Georgina Neethling for making the U15 Western Province team, Lucy Macfarlane for making the Western Province U17 team, and Lauren Johnson and Isabella Nicholson for making the U19A Western Province team.

Thank you to Mrs Botha and Ms Brown for all the work they do for tennis behind the scenes and always being there to support the team at Interschools. Also a big thank-you to Mr Stegmann and Iain Purchase for happily giving up their time to coach the tennis teams on early mornings.

We are fortunate to have older, experienced players and younger, eager players that create depth within the Herschel tennis teams and who will certainly take the teams from strength to strength. ◇



FRONT ROW: J Benting, E Hayes (captain), I Purchase (coach), I Nicholson, L Johnson
BACK ROW: L McFarlane, G Goodwin, R Wolhuter, G Neethling, J Wellington, E Shaw, M Loggenberg

CROSS COUNTRY



BY AMY GOODWIN, CAPTAIN

2019 proved to be another fun-filled cross country season.

Training sessions were well attended each Tuesday afternoon. At each session, girls were split into groups where they could run at a pace that suited each of their abilities. All girls are welcome to join our Tuesday training sessions. Some come to get fit for other sports and others just simply to enjoy a light run with friends around the suburbs of Claremont and Newlands. The groups were led by keen staff members such as Mrs Sellmeyer, Ms Brown and Mrs Harding.

The more competitive runners took part in the Wednesday league races which were held at various schools around Cape Town. All the schools that host these races make a

great effort to create a fun atmosphere with some music and commentating from the sidelines, whilst the various age-group races are being run. All who take part do so to do their best, whether it is competing for a place at the finish or trying to improve their personal times from one week to the next across the varying courses.

A big thank-you goes to Ms Rousseau who has been a huge support to us all throughout this season. She has attended each and every race with the team, despite some of the weather and traffic conditions being far from pleasant. Her genuine encouragement to all of us throughout the season has been so appreciated by each and every member of the team.

Special mention must go to Ella Sales, Jessica Tate, Savannah Voigt, Olivia Johnstone, Turin Lambrechts and Sophie

Bourne who ran most of the Wednesday league races. These girls predominantly landed up with top-10 placings each week.

The season ended on a high with Herschel winning the overall PGSGU Interschools cross country event. The U14, U15, U16 and U17 age groups all achieved first overall. Herschel also had the top four fastest times for the day.

I would like to thank each and every person who has been actively involved in this cross country season, whether it was attending the runs on Tuesdays or taking part in the races on Wednesdays. We have all had tons of fun together and have learnt to enjoy what running has to offer not only as a form of exercise, but also as a way to have fun with friends.

I would like to encourage any girl to join this activity next season and wish all the future Herschel runners much success for their running in the future. ◇

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