

# Welcome BACK



## HERSCHEL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

MUSIC

LIBRARY

PRE-PREPARATORY

FOUNDATION

INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR

## Message from our Head

Dear Parents

Welcome back to 2021! It feels as though we have already had much communication as we face yet another year that is 'different'. No doubt we will continue to have to update policies and protocols as Covid-19 is guaranteed to have an impact on the way in which we function in our daily lives for the foreseeable future. It has been fabulous seeing the girls and having happy laughter, excited voices and smiling faces on campus. I have thoroughly enjoyed popping into each class and chatting to the girls.

Our theme for the first half of 2021 is '*Daring Greatly*'. I was reminded over the holiday period of the wise words of Brene Brown from her book *Daring Greatly*. She spends the first chapter telling her reader what she means when she speaks about *Daring Greatly* and in this she defines the ten goalposts for wholehearted living.

She uses data and research to unpack the concept of engaging with the world from a place of worthiness. So often in our schools our staff and students feel unworthy and 'not good enough' and this translates into a life that is not lived wholeheartedly.

Starting today and running into next week the focus will be Self-Compassion. This is often one of the most difficult spaces to navigate. As human beings we tend to become frustrated and beat ourselves up when we make mistakes or fail. I explained to the girls today that one of the key growing points in life is the ability to acknowledge our weaknesses and failures, be kind to ourselves and find ways in which to develop and grow in the area that we feel we are not strong. Please encourage discussion with your daughters with regard to this over the next two weeks. It is always helpful if parents are able to share their own experiences with their daughters. This is a good time to discuss realistic goals and expectations with your daughter, as often girls put unnecessary pressure on themselves believing that they know what their parents expectations of them are.

In Assembly today, Ms Juries spoke to us about how each and every person is amazing. In the story about Jesus calling his disciples who had been fisherman, Jesus recognized their special gifts; they were hardworking, they had carefully practiced skills and they were used to working under difficult circumstances. He saw their authenticity, how they were true to themselves and they did not try to change since becoming disciples. They also focused inwardly on God and it showed in their outward actions as they spread His love everywhere. Ms Juries reminded each and every girl that they are amazing just the way they are.



### 2021

Wed 10 Feb	11:30 Gr 4 Parent Webinar: Learning Strategies 17:00 New PA Committee Meeting (online)
Fri 12 Feb	<b>FOUNDERS DAY – Normal School Day, no early closing</b> Aftercare as per usual



## Staff

At the start of 2021 we would like to introduce you as parents, to our various teams. Each week we will focus on an academic and a support team. This week meet our Grounds Staff. Nkosoxolo (Chief) Mde, is their Team Leader and has introduced his team to the girls during the course of this week.



### MEET OUR GROUNDS STAFF

#### NKOSOXOLO (CHIEF) MDE

Chief has been working at Herschel for 14 years.

When he is not at work he enjoys watching movies & sport.

Chief is the ultimate Kaizer Chiefs supporter and also enjoys watching rugby, cricket & athletics.



### MEET OUR GROUNDS STAFF

#### IVAN SHORTI

Ivan has been working at Herschel for 6 years.

At home, Ivan enjoys gardening & helping his wife and kids around the house.

Ivan supports Kaizer Chiefs & Liverpool FC #YNWA, but also loves watching cricket and boxing.



### MEET OUR GROUNDS STAFF

#### NORMAN SOLOMONS

Norman has been working at Herschel for 14 years.

Norman loves music & enjoys playing the saxophone.

Arsenal is his favourite soccer team and rumour has it that his music album will be released soon.



### MEET OUR GROUNDS STAFF

#### ERIK PHIKE

Erik has been working at Herschel for 6 years.

In order to relax he enjoys watching movies & sport.

Orlando Pirates is his favourite soccer team but he enjoys watching most sporting events on tv.



## Staff continued...

The staff below make up our Pre-Nursery Academic Team in the Pre-Preparatory.



### MEET OUR PRE-NURSERY STAFF

**VERUSCHA JOHANNES**  
CUDDLY KITTENS

Veruscha has been working at Herschel for 9 years.

She loves reading and crafting and enjoys outdoor activities.

Veruscha has a passion for baking and loves working with children.



### MEET OUR PRE-NURSERY STAFF

**ANGELA SASS**  
CUDDLY KITTENS

Angela has been working at Herschel for 3 years.

Angela loves serving her community through outreach programs.

She relaxes by taking walks on the beach, spending time with family and pottering about in her garden.



### MEET OUR PRE-NURSERY STAFF

**NICOLE YOUNG**  
LITTLE LAMBS

Nicole has been working at Herschel for 4 years.

Exploring our beautiful city, dancing & being active is what she enjoys doing.

Nicole is passionate about baking and teaching.



### MEET OUR PRE-NURSERY STAFF

**MIMI KEBENI**  
LITTLE LAMBS

Mimi has been working at Herschel for 3 years.

She loves singing and reading books.

Mimi is passionate about helping those in need and is involved in various outreach programs.





## Pre-Prep

A brand-new year to celebrate love, life, and laughter. A special welcome goes to all our new girls and their families and we wish them a long and happy stay with us. A big welcome back to our Bunnies, Bees, Lady Birds and Butterflies. We certainly missed you all over the holidays and we are over the moon to have everyone back. Our girls got off to a flying start with a host of activities inside and outside the classroom. The Kittens and Lambs finger-painted summer pictures and the Bunnies and Bees enjoyed the water play and balancing activities setup in the garden this week. The Ladybirds and Butterflies also came to school for the first time this week and jumped right in with Mathematics and creative art activities.





## Foundation Phase

The Foundation Phase teachers were so excited to welcome their girls back into the classrooms on Monday 1 February after a slightly delayed return to school. Our girls bravely carried all their books and stationery into their new classrooms after waving their parents goodbye at the gate - a very different start of the year for everyone! We are so proud of the way the girls have eased into the Covid protocols and how eager they are to be back and continue their learning. Our classrooms are the way they should be - filled with happy faces, laughter and chatter!



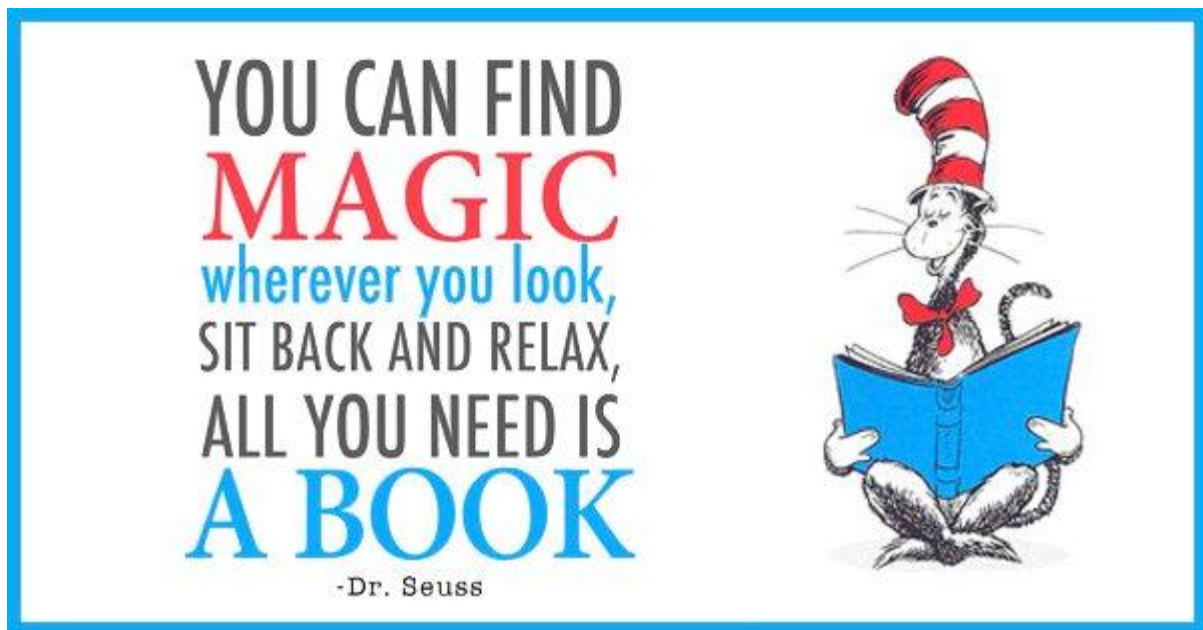
## Intermediate Phase

The Grade 7s enjoyed a fun-filled day, learning about different types of leadership, effective teamwork and dealing with conflict within a team. The girls gained valuable insight that they will use within their own leadership portfolios. A huge thank you to all the teachers who were involved.



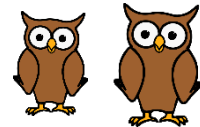


# THE PREP-LIBRARY: DISCOVER THE *MAGIC!*



From the Librarian's desk:




*To all Wise Ol'*



and



*Little Wiggly Book Worms*

Gerald , Tippie  and Mrs Moritz  are SO HAPPY to say welcome back to YOUR library!

*Girls may once again borrow books from the Library. Please encourage your daughters to read as much as possible.*

*We hope to see our parents in the library in the future. Until you make it here, feel free to email Mrs Moritz at [cmoritz@herschel.org.za](mailto:cmoritz@herschel.org.za)*



## Sustainability

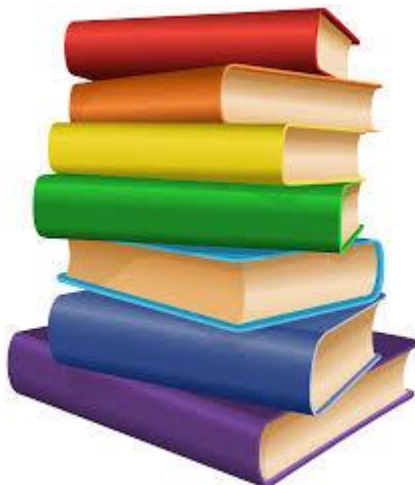
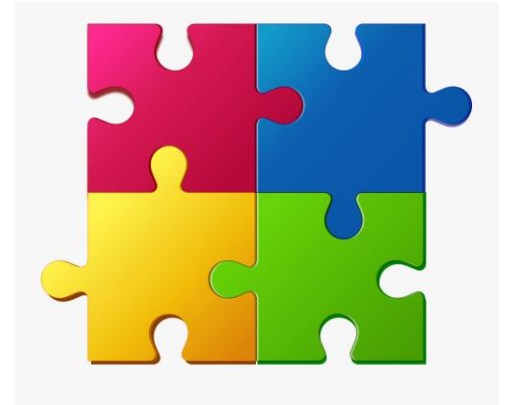
On Saturday, 30 January, a group of enthusiastic walkers set off from the car park close to Silvermine Dam to head up to Elephant's Eye. It was a perfect morning for a hike – cloudy weather that cleared as the morning progressed.

Thank you to all the families who supported the event. A second hike is scheduled for 27 March and details will be sent closer to the time.



## Community Engagement

We will be combining our Founders Day celebrations, on 12 February, with Valentine's Day. Our Theme this year is 'Herschel Girls Spread the Love'. We would like to share their love by supporting Mpendulo Primary, a school in Khayelitsha, who are in need of educational resources. Our appeal to you is for books, puzzles and educational toys or games. Girls are asked to bring what they can to school this week and place their items in the boxes in the school foyer. We thank you for your support in this regard. This collection will run until Friday 19 February.





## Herschel Prep Sunsmart Policy

As part of our ongoing implementation of Herschel Prep's '**SunSmart**' policy and the dangers of exposing our skin to the harmful rays of the sun we are insisting that the girls wear sunscreen and hats when they go out for breaks. Please remind your daughter to have her hat at school every day. Class teachers will put reminder stickers in the Homework books of girls who forget their hats. As parents, we request your assistance to ensure that your daughters are adequately protected from the sun. A copy of the SunSmart policy can be found on the School Communicator D6 Resources.

## Herschel Preparatory Parents Association Elections

The PA Elections took place on Monday, 8 February, in an online format and the first PA Exco meeting will happen on Wednesday, 10 February at 17:00. Class Reps are currently being chosen and we will have the details by the end of today with regard to the details of the 2021 Class Reps. In the newsletter next week we will introduce you to the PA Exco and Class Reps so that you are aware of who your parent representatives are for 2021.



We are looking forward to celebrating Herschel's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on Friday. The theme of 'Herschel Girls Spread the Love' is one which I believe speaks to our core values and highlights the need to make a difference and be aware and mindful of the world around us.

During 2021 we will be launching a number of Community Engagement projects which will provide opportunities for families to be involved in making a difference in the lives of a community. We will communicate these to you after the meetings which will take place over the next two weeks.

It is lovely to have all our external service providers back on campus this week and see the girls running off to their various activities and Herschel sport sessions.

We hope that you have a good week and are able to enjoy the good weather that we are currently experiencing with your families. Please encourage your girls to be true to themselves, showing their friends and teachers who they are and what they believe and are passionate about. If girls are able to be authentically themselves in every environment, they will be able to live lives that are full and happy, never feeling that they do not match up to a set of perceived criteria or standards.

Karan Patel says: "I don't go by, or change my attitude, based on what people say. At the end of the day, they, too, are judging me from their perspective. I would rather be myself and let people accept me for what I am than be somebody who I am not, just because I want people's approval."

Warm regards

**Mrs B. Heidmann**

**Head of Preparatory**





Founded 1922

**HERSCHEL**  
GIRLS SCHOOL

*Official  
Admissions  
Dates*

## Grade 8 - 2022

<p>Information &amp; Open Evening: Wednesday, 24 February 16h00 - 19h00</p> <p>Scholarship Applications Close: Friday, 5 March <i>No late applications will be accepted</i></p> <p>General Admissions Applications Close: Friday, 12 March <i>No late applications will be accepted</i></p>	<p>Music Scholarship Audition &amp; Assessment: Thursday, 11 &amp; Friday, 12 March <i>(by invitation only)</i></p> <p>Entrance &amp; Scholarship Assessment: Thursday, 18 March 16h00 - 19h00</p> <p>All students wishing to enter Herschel in Grade 8 must write the Entrance Assessment</p> <p>Offer of Scholarships &amp; General Places: Friday, 16 April</p>
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[www.herschel.org.za/senior/admissions](http://www.herschel.org.za/senior/admissions) [hmorusi@herschel.org.za](mailto:hmorusi@herschel.org.za)

