



HERSCHEL SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

No. 19 – 7 December 2022

Dear Parents and Pupils

'The map doesn't show where I'm supposed to go,'
said Tiny Dragon.

'Your journey isn't shown on any map,' said Panda.
'You must discover your own path.'

And if, like Tiny Dragon, you are not sure where you are “supposed” to go, that is fine, it will become apparent to you over time. Your journey awaits you. To the Class of 2022, we hope that you discover your paths and that your journeys grow you and fulfil you. Please keep in touch and interact with us via social media and in person! Thank you for everything that you have contributed to Herschel, as individuals and as a grade. Despite the pandemic, you have finished strong, and we wish you every success and happiness in the next part of your journey. Ad Dei Gloriam!

We have come to the end of this very special Centenary Year and what a year it has been! We have experienced a return to the fullness of school life, from the amazing *Shrek* production, the elegant Matric Dance and Gala Dinner, sports fixtures, tours and Herschfield, Fusion concerts, musical ensembles, the Matric Music Recital, clubs and societies, excursions and camps, interhouse dance and singing competitions, hikes on the mountain, single focus days with a difference and a fulltime in-person academic programme. It has been busy!

I want to thank you all, parents and guardians, for your support of Herschel and for the way in which

you support your daughters and their busyness at school. Thank you for being present at our events, for the way in which you have showed up at the concerts, recitals, sports matches and teacher/parent consultations. We look forward to welcoming you to presentations across a range of topics next year and connecting at casual social events so that we can get to know each other better and grow our sense of community.

The staff is the most valuable resource a school has. Thank you to the staff of Herschel – to every person who serves on our campus to make a difference in the lives of the pupils who live and learn here during the day. The grounds and maintenance, security, catering, cleaning, administrative and academic staff work together to create the holistic school environment that supports teaching and learning, culture and sport, community engagement and spirituality at Herschel. A school is not a rigid or hierarchical structure and requires adaptive, collaborative, and friendly mindsets for optimal operations. We are fortunate to have a team of committed Herschel staff members all of whom play an important role in the day-to-day running of the school.

Thank you to all members of Council for their roles played in supporting the school with respect to governance and strategy. Council members give generously of their time to the school and provide expertise across areas of governance that impact operation and we are very grateful for their time and commitment.

Thank you to our pupils for inspiring us and for your commitment to all that Herschel offers – you are the heart and soul of the school. Your participation in the life of Herschel is what gives it its heartbeat and character, and this is also what creates the energy and feel within a school. Our school song says it best: *Everyone's a spark and in the night, together we make a light, a fire burning bright!*

It has been busy. We all need to take a break and to return refreshed and ready for a new chapter in a new year; the first year of the next one hundred years!

At a time when the world is charged with multiple challenges, when our leadership is in disarray and there is cause for concern on global, regional and local scales, we need to be intentional about looking for what is good to give us hope and to inspire us towards making a difference, no matter how small that might be. In closing out this centenary year I would like to include the words of Samwise Gamgee (J.J.R.Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*): *There's some good in this world, Mr. Frodo ... and it's worth fighting for.*

The school motto, *Learning to make a difference*, invites us to be active participants in this fight and I would like to leave you with these words from Queen Regent Miriel (a lesser known character in Tolkien's iconic text): *Everyone, each of us, needs to decide who we shall be.*

Wishing you all a wonderful, relaxing and peaceful holiday season with your loved ones.

Heather Goedeke

RAFFLE: European Hockey Tour – April 2023

32 students and four staff are travelling to Netherlands and Germany in April 2023 and would love support on their fundraising initiatives. This wonderful raffle has been put together by parents and includes some incredible prizes; worth more than R75,000 (detailed on the entry link on Quicket). Tickets are R100 - there is no limit to the number of tickets you may purchase. Donations are also most welcome!

<https://bit.ly/Herschel2023HockeyEuroTour>

The draw will take place on 6 March 2023 and the four lucky hamper winners will be notified via telephone or email. **PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GIRLS IN PINK!**

HERSCHEL GIRLS SCHOOL

HERSCHEL 2023 EUROPE HOCKEY TOUR RAFFLE

TICKETS: R100 ON QUICKET
NO LIMIT

4 HAMPERS TO BE WON

PRIZES VALUED AT OVER
R74 000

★ DRAW DATE: 6 MARCH 2023 ★

THE MEATBAR, Einhell, CHARLOTTE RHYNS CAFE TOWN, Coppa, KOELENHOF, SANA'S, SKECHERS, LE CREUSET, LARA SIDE, SOLLETTE

CAROL SERVICES

Christmas Centenary Celebration Under the Stars

We celebrated the end of our Centenary year with a whole school Carol Service that took place on The Field. Our two schools (Prep and Senior School) joined in a service for the first time, along with friends, family, staff and Old Herschelians to picnic and celebrate together. Herschel alumnae were invited to join our orchestra and the Grade 1–11 pupils spread the message of Christmas in words and music. A wonderful way to end the year as a community.



St George's Cathedral Nine Lessons & Carols

The Senior School attended a wonderfully uplifting service in the historic and mother church of the Anglican Diocese in South Africa, St George's Cathedral. The service was a traditional programme of the Nine Lessons and Carols, with music being provided by The Chorale, Choir, Dinaledi, music staff and select instrumentalists. Bishop Joshua Louw preached the Homily. It was a most fitting way to end a successful Centenary year at Herschel.



Staff year-end celebrations

Our Senior School staff gathered together on the Head's Lawn for a Mad Hatters Tea Party to bid farewell to those colleagues who are leaving us at the end of this year.



SANTA SHOE BOXES

We have entered the festive season and, as a tradition, we use this time to bring joy to little ones in various communities by supporting the Santa Shoebox program. Each House has been allocated children of a specific age and gender, and the students spent the morning wrapping their gifts and shoeboxes.



INTERHOUSE SOCCER

We held our very own “World Cup Interhouse Soccer” tournament this morning, with the matches as hotly contested as those in Qatar, and the atmosphere and support lifting the roof off the Sports Centre. Congratulations to **Merriman** who took the win!





The much-anticipated Herschel Gala Dinner and Auction takes place on **Saturday, 4th March 2023**. It is not only the flagship fundraiser for the Herschel Bursary Fund, but also a social highlight on the school calendar! We are excited to invite you to join us for a magical evening of dinner, dancing and giving. The highlight of the evening is the auctioning of fantastic and sought-after prizes hosted by a professional auctioneer.

Thank you to everyone who has already bought tickets and donated prizes. Please click on the easy links below for tickets, pledges and donations. Should you have any enquiries, kindly email the Gala Dinner Committee at galadinner@herschel.org.za

1. Gala Dinner Ticket Booking form
<https://forms.gle/9t3TFVAWqTgvdFtq9>
2. 2023 Pledge Form for monetary pledges
<https://forms.gle/7FhT3FxRSzTjWreh9>
3. Gala Dinner Prize Donation Form – for auction prize sponsors
<https://forms.gle/Rht2osmBeWm8nw3H7>
4. ART Donation Form – for auction sponsors of art or paintings
<https://forms.gle/1U8y7jpQBntYwXwMA>



It's her journey

Save the Date

Herschel Girls School
Grade 8 2024 Open Day
13 & 14 February 2023

Bookings open on Quicket mid-January.

Learning to make a difference

