

Welcome Back Term 2



No 12- 21 Apr 2023

HERSCHEL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Welcome Mrs Reneé Swartz

Being orientated into my new role this week meant a lot of introductions, trying to remember as many names as possible – failing dismally, but also experiencing the authentic warm spirit of the Herschel Community. This made my **#firstweekonthejob** less daunting. One often relies on the known and comfortable to connect so that the transition into the new space is one where I could lean on the familiar while navigating the new.

As I journey this new road in my new 'vehicle' I have an invisible bumper sticker plastered across the Herschel Prep reading, "**Precious cargo on board**", reminding me of who is on this journey with me as I take my place in the driver's seat. This realisation challenges me to ensure that the safety of all in the 'vehicle', especially our precious girls, both physically and psychologically, is to be the top priority of my responsibility as Head of Herschel Preparatory.

I look forward to the learning experiences and creating special moments as I find my 'feet' as your new leader.

Look out for me at the various entrances during the morning drop off runs and let's connect.



Pre-Prep



We have started this term having so much fun. The Pre-Nursery girls are learning about road safety and watched a show where they learned about the rules of the road. They also made a set of traffic lights.

The Nursery girls have new role-play areas in their classrooms, and they have been learning about what happens in a pet shop. They also started the theme about Autumn. Our Grade R girls went to watch the amazing production in the hall called Wanda the Musical.



Wanda the Musical

We were extremely excited to welcome back the Johannesburg Youth Theatre on Wednesday for their latest production: Wanda The Musical. Adapted from the book Wanda, it tells the story of a young girl with a magically beautiful head of hair. As an audience we were taken on an emotional ride as we witnessed Wanda deal with confusion, sadness and hopelessness as she was subjected to endless teasing and trouble when it came to her hair. But Wanda's bravery and strength were evident in her journey to face her fears and realise her hair is her crown and something to be proud of. The acting and singing were once again an absolute delight and had every girl from Grade R to 7 enthralled and thoroughly entertained. This musical production was a powerful reminder to celebrate how we are created and to take pride in our cultural heritage no matter what society may think or say.



Community Engagement

Calendar for Term 2

- 26 April:** **Grade 7 Fair**
- 5 May:** **Slipper day**, R11 Donation on the Karri App and wear your slippers to school.
- 15 May – 2 June:** Pre-Nursery – Grade 2: **Toys and books collection** – We have been inundated with requests from Pre-Schools and Educarees for books, toys, games and puzzles.
- Grade 3 – 7: **Toiletries Collection** – Our annual drive of toiletries to help orphanages and organisations that give dignity back to young girls and women. Please support by sending the following:
- Grade 3 – wash cloths
 - Grade 4 - toothbrushes
 - Grade 5 – toothpaste
 - Grade 6 – soap
 - Grade 7 – sanitary towels
- 23 June:** Civvies day – Peoples Dispensary for Sick Animals is the beneficiary.
- June/July Holidays:** Chores for a cause and clothing collection for the Rural Child and St Luke’s Hospice.

Thank You Herschel Families

We received letters of gratitude from Doodlebugs, the Red Cross Children’s Hospital, Marsh Memorial Home and Rotary Club of Sea Point for your generous donations of Easter Eggs. All the children who benefited from your kindness experienced joy and laughter. Thank you for your generosity!



Sustainability

Upcoming TERM TWO Eco Events

22 April:	World Earth Day (community event at Princess Vlei, see information below)
5 May:	Kirstenbosch Outing (Grade 1-7)
6 May:	Beach Clean-ups – Milnerton Lighthouse (Community Event 09:00 – 10:30) Muizenberg Beach (Herschel Event 09:00n – 10:30)
13 May:	13 Peak Hike
27 May:	13 Peak Hike
15 June:	Can Collection
23 June:	Intaka Island (Grade 1 - 7)

Community Event at Princess Vlei:

22 April 10:00 – 12:00 (Meet at corner of Briana Crescent, Elfindale, Cape Town)
Location Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/ykabTHJp3aXCefgZ9>



This is a community event and not organized by Herschel, however, participation would count towards your daughter's Eco Badge. Photographic evidence should be provided and sent to mroebert@herschel.org.za

The northern shore of Princess Vlei was once Cape Flats Sand Fynbos, which is unique to the lowlands of Cape Town and critically endangered due to habitat loss. This Earth Day, the Friends of Princess Vlei will be planting to bring back species such as the Rondevlei Spiderhead (*Serruria foeniculacea*) and the extinct in the wild Whorled Heath (*Erica verticillate*).

Families who join please bring a sunhat, garden trowels and water to drink.



Wednesday Recycling

Recycling should be dropped off in the mornings on a Wednesday at the Lantern. Take note of what is collected.

Recycling list:

Electronic Waste	Metals	Glass	Paper and Card	Plastics
Cellphones 📱 Laptops 🖥️ Keyboards ⌨️ Monitors 🖥️ Printers 🖨️ Televisions 📺 Wires/plus 🔌 Batteries 🔋	Locks 🔒 Taps/faucets 🚰 Chains ⚙️ Nuts and bolts 🛠️ Bicycles 🚲 Stoves 🔥 Torches 🔦 Truck parts 🚚 Car parts 🚗 Aeroplanes parts ✈️ Wheelchairs ♿	Glass jars and bottles	Cardboard 📦 Magazines 📰 Newspapers 📰 Scrolls 📜 Books 📖 Milk cartons 🥛	How do you know if it's recyclable plastic? Simply check for the recycling sign ♻️ with the numbers 1, 2, 4 or 5 inside it. If it doesn't have these numbers, we do not accept it.

THEY DO NOT accept:

- CDs, DVDs 📀 and VHS tapes 📼.
- Toilet paper 🧻 and tissues are not accepted but can be reused in your garden for composting.
- Most chip packets are not recyclable





Herschel Prep Support Unit S.E.E.P

Dear Parents

Please join us for our S.E.E.P morning, where Lizette Alexander, our School Counsellor, will explore self-harm in children and protocols to ensure their emotional safety.

Date: 26 April 2023
Time: 07:30 - 08:30
Venue: The Studio
Rsvp: [Click here](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to S.E.E.P.

Robyn Stakemire
HOD: HPSU

Terri Aubin
IP/SP Learning Support

Lizette Alexander
School Counsellor

Staff News

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Paul and Alix Dawson-O'Connor who married on 8 April. We wish them many years of happiness.



Reminder about School Starting Time

Parents are reminded that the school day for girls in Gr 1 – 7 starts at 07:30. Please can we request that girls arrive at school timeously so that they can be in their classrooms by 07:30. This is essential so that they can unpack and the class teachers are able to connect with their classes, in order to be ready for the first academic lesson which begins promptly at 07:40. Please note that the top gates at the Music Centre and the tennis courts will be locked from 07:30. Parents arriving after this time are requested to drive around and drop girls off at the Main Gate.

I would like to wish all of our Muslim families a blessed Eid al Fitr.

Please note that with the upcoming long weekend and school holiday next week, we will send out our next newsletter in week 3 on 5 May.

Kind regards
Reneé Swartz
Head of Preparatory

