

Happy Mother's Day



No 14-12 May 2023



HERSCHEL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

On Sunday we celebrate Mothers' Day and hopefully we will be able to spoil our moms whilst not forgetting the many moms who are no longer with us. The role of a mother is often mistakenly assigned to only those who are biologically able to bear children but here at Herschel I have encountered Motherhood in the women and men on our staff, many of whom do not have children of their own, yet they love, care for and nurture our young ladies as if they were their own. So, for me Motherhood is a matter of the heart more than biology.

I have the honour and privilege of still having my mom in my life. She is my inner voice. Often her voice speaks louder than mine, but she has through this voice offered words of encouragement when I lose hope in myself, conscience when I need to choose between those fine lines of what is right vs what is popular, arrogance vs confidence, establishing boundaries instead of building walls and choosing kindness over nastiness. I hear my mom's still voice each moment of the day as she whispers; **BE COURAGEOUS and brave my child, always BE KIND and live YOUR AUTHENTIC SELF.** Moms, you are your daughter's inner voice. The words you speak are embedded in their psyche and are often their point of default.

I honour each Herschel mom, each Herschel dad who has had to be 'mom' at times as well as our staff MOMbers on this Mother's Day. Yippee, you get the day off!!!



Congratulations

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

- Grade 1A: Amber Fels, Sophie Sinclair
- Grade 1a: Emily Snaith, Antoinette Stuart
- Grade 2A: Nabila Gafoor, Hannah Hunt
- Grade 2a: Ava van Rensburg, Juliette White
- Grade 3A: Jessica Ebbs, Anabel Alexander
- Grade 3a: Ameera Bassa, Annabelle Baines



Eco Warrior Badges

Congratulations to Abby and Jessie Naidoo for achieving their pink Eco Warrior badges! Well done girls.



Pre-Prep

The Grade R girls had an exciting and interesting week. When learning about opposites, the girls made discoveries about things that we find above and below ground. They had to smell, taste, feel various root vegetables and then had to find the similarities and difference between a turnip and a beetroot. They also did a beautiful charcoal drawing of the turnip after sequencing the story of the Enormous Turnip.



On Thursday the Grade Rs explored colours at the School of Magic.



Foundation Phase

Grade 1 Outing – Science Centre

On Friday, 5 May the Grade 1s went on an outing to the Science Centre. The centre fosters curiosity in our youngsters and exposes them to the wonders of science in a fun, colourful and hands-on way. The Science Show entertained us while nurturing awareness that science is a part of our daily lives. The girls were then able to interact with a variety of science exhibits, puzzles and even a giant chess set. After that they enjoyed the hands-on workshop where they learnt about unplugged coding by sequencing the bee bot to arrive at a chosen destination. It was a busy and fun filled morning.



Grade 2 Outing – Exotic Animal World

On Thursday 4 May, the Grade 2s visited Exotic Animal World. The girls enjoyed learning about snakes, blue-tongue skinks, bees and Madagascar tintins. They finished off the outing with a walk where they got to see lemurs, birds, lizards, rabbits and many more interesting creatures. Thank you to all of the parents who assisted us with transport.



Intermediate Phase

Grade 4 Outing – Castle of Good Hope

The Grade 4 classes enjoyed an interesting day visiting the Castle of Good Hope and the City Hall, on Tuesday 9 May. They loved the walking tour of the oldest building in Cape Town and were fascinated by the lesson on the history of the Castle. After their lunch break the girls went to the City Hall to view the Nelson Mandela Legacy exhibition. We thank the parents who transported girls to and from Cape Town.



Grade 5 Archaeologists

The Grade 5A girls visited the Centre for Conservation Education this week to learn more about archaeology. This ties in with their current IS module in which they are learning about the history of South Africa and the first people who lived here. After learning some of the facts about archaeology the girls did a practical activity. This was a simulated archaeological dig in which they were able to dig for, sift, clean and classify historical artefacts. The girls had lots of fun and learnt many facts about archaeology. A big thank you to the parents who assisted with lifts for these outings.

Unfortunately, the Grade 5al girls were unable to go on this outing due to bad weather. Their outing has been postponed to later in the term.



Spirituality

Thy Kingdom Come is an invitation to all peoples around the world to join in prayer for the days between Ascension Day, 18 May and Pentecost, 28 May; praying for people to come to know the love of Jesus Christ.

We will be setting up prayer stations around the library in the Prep School (and in the Chapel on the Senior school campus) for the girls to interact with the concept of prayer during the week. Girls are invited to come and participate during break, before and after school in a voluntary and respectful manner. The prayer stations provide a safe, unpressurised opportunity for each girl to come before God in prayer in a fun, creative and age-appropriate manner. Mrs Fürst will be around, ready to answer any questions and facilitate a genuine understanding that praying is real and that a connection to God via prayer is available to all girls. Parents are welcome to pop in and add their prayers.



Music

We had a weekend full of music with a productive Orchestra Afternoon and Choir Morning. The Preparatory Strings rehearsed at the beautiful Inkwenkwezi Music Centre at the Senior School on Friday afternoon in preparation for the Kaapse Afrikaanse eisteddfod, while the Grade 4-7 Choir met on Saturday morning for a rehearsal session. It was lovely to have such good attendance and we look forward to hearing our choir and musicians perform at our annual Evening of Music in the third term! We are so grateful for our beautiful facilities and for staff who spent valuable time with the various groups.



Community Engagement

It's DRIVE TIME!

15 May – 2 June – Pre-Nursery to Grade 2 - Toys and books collection.
Please send any well-loved toys and books to the main foyer.

Grade 3 to 7 – Toiletries Collection – Our annual drive of toiletries to help orphanages and organisations that give dignity back to young girls and women. These toiletries can be taken to Mrs Martin's office.

Please support by sending the following:



Grade 3 – wash cloths

Grade 4 - toothbrushes

Grade 5 – toothpaste

Grade 6 – soap

Grade 7 – sanitary towels



Sustainability

Kirstenbosch Meander

The girls had a wonderful afternoon under the guidance of Ms Liz Webster. With her help we discovered some of the many secrets these beautiful gardens have to offer. The girls were fascinated to discover that Cycads date back to prehistoric times and horrified to hear that many of these face extinction, especially the Wood Cycad of which there are only 500 male plants left in the world – so no chance of pollination or seed cultivation. We saw Colonel Bird's bath, which is filled by a spring. We picnicked on the lawn next to the Protea Section where some of the girls played roly-poly down the slope. The Fragrant garden was a hit! In addition, we saw part of the Wild Almond hedge planted in the 1650's to act as a barrier between the Dutch and Koi people. Tired but happy girls were safely returned to school in the late afternoon. Thank you to Ms Linda Cowie and Mr Jeffrey Kanzi, without whose assistance the afternoon would not be possible.



Muizenberg Beach Cleanup

We had beautiful weather on the day with the added benefit of a low tide – not only were we able to remove litter but also had an opportunity to explore the rock pools. Thank you to the families who attended. You helped make a difference!



Important Notices

SCHOOL SHOP UPDATE:

We apologise if you have experienced any shortages of stock recently. We are taking steps to remedy this.

Suppliers are experiencing unprecedented fabric shipping delays and productivity disruptions due to load-shedding – both issues are unlikely to be solved in the short term; so increasing order lead times is really the only option.

Our order for Navy Trousers – placed in December 2022 - was due to be delivered in March 2023. The imported fabric finally arrived last week and the Navy Trousers are in production. We have a list of those waiting for stock and the size required.

If your name is not on the list at the Shop and you require a pair, please call us (021 689 5708).

There has also been a delay in the supply of the yarn required to manufacture sport socks – we are out of size 4 – 7 only, at present. This size is expected to be back in stock on Friday 12 May 2023.

We have navy scarves in stock; the fawn coloured scarves are expected on or before Friday 9 June 2023.

We are sold out of sizes 35,36,37 of the winter long-sleeved, light-beige collared shirt. Expected to be back in stock on or before Wednesday 7 June 2023.

To avoid stock shortages as far as is possible, our team is undertaking a total review of lead times with our manufacturers. We have many years of sales history to guide us on quantity but delivery lead time changes have to be implemented.

We understand our responsibilities in being a uniform supplier to Herschel; we strive to do our best at all times and will continue to aim to provide you with an excellent service.

Where we are let down by manufacturers and where this will have a widespread effect on you - our valued customers - we have agreed with the school to send out an update in this format.

Please be in contact with us (info@schoolshop.co.za) if you have any queries in this regard.

Thank you for your support, patience and understanding.

Melony, Jerome, Marvinna and Warren



Herschel Prep Support Unit

S.E.E.P

Support, Educate, Empower Parents

**Please join our School Counsellor, Mrs. Lizette Alexander
who will present a talk on:**

*How parents can support their daughter with
peer rejection and fear of missing out*

on Wednesday 17 May 2023

07:30 - 08:30 in the Prep Studio

RSVP by clicking here

**Are you worried about your daughter's friendship choice? Is she prone to
peer pressure? How can you assist her when she is rejected?**

**This talk will provide you with key guidelines and tools to empower your
daughter without getting overly involved.**



I wish you and your family a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards
Reneé Swartz
Head of Preparatory

