



Dream it. Embrace it. Live it.

# GAME/CHANGERS

22 August 2016

Dear Meridian Pinehurst Community

## From the Desk of the Executive Head

We all know what a 'game changer' in sport is: that person who creates moments of magic and alters the course of a match with one pass or run, someone with vision and creativity, but who draws the team into something exceptional. Mike Myatt, writing for Forbes says a game changer is someone who creates

**'transformational magic that takes organizations from ordinary to exceptional.'**

You will over the next few months see this letterhead appearing on some of our documents, which focuses on Meridian Pinehurst as a game changer, a school aimed at making a difference in each child's life and nurturing each one of our current nearly 1600 persons to be game changers in our nation: those who make a difference by shifting the focus, action or direction to transform our country for the good.

Our current theme of adventurous risk-taking is intimately linked to this concept which requires courage, creativity and determination (all twenty-first century skills encouraged at our school). Interestingly enough a game changer is someone who doesn't fit into any specific box and cannot easily be labelled. Facilitate your child's game changing skills by allowing their originality to flourish – give them choices, even in choosing clothing at an early age, books from the library, subjects to study for FET Phase and ultimately their careers. Read Mike Myatt's article which identifies [6 steps to creating a game changers](#) and help us nurture the magic. Likewise, encourage a culture of acceptance of the differences they see in others. This is a school where it is okay, in fact where it is encouraged, to be different. 'Odd' equals someone comfortable with his own uniqueness.



**GAME CHANGERS DON'T FIT IN BOXES**

Where are our Game Changers?

eg.1 NEWS HEADLINES

NEW TECHNOLOGY DISRUPTING TRADITIONAL BUSINESS  
GLOBAL ECONOMY DEMANDS A DIVERSE AND FLEXIBLE WORKFORCE

We have NO box to put them in

COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

✓ EXPERIENCE  
✓ QUALIFICATIONS  
✓ COMPETENCIES

Visit [www.eg1.co.uk](http://www.eg1.co.uk) for a copy of 'The DNA of a Game Changer Report 2015'



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## Congratulations to our Game/Changers of the Week:

Our two Grade 3 karateka took part in the WP karate tournament last weekend as reported last week that they were qualified for and took it by storm. **Tristan Dreyer** came 1st and **Jared Masimila** 2nd. They have both qualified for WP colours now. Well done boys!



**Vernon Van Zyl (Grade 7)** participated in KFM's GK Teens and won! Well done Vernon, you took a risk and it paid off. You made Meridian proud.





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High School Learners accompanied by their English teachers, **Mrs Nikki Barends-Neethling** and **Mrs Luise Etzabeth** attended the WeCan24 Journalism course run by Media 24.

**Matthew Muller**  
**Elvira Naraimulu**  
**Tatenda Muchimwe**  
**Natalie Nyoni**  
**Maziko Kagoli**  
**Mignon George**  
**Robyn Jacobs**  
**Vidal Thaver**  
**Sihle Jafta**



The newspaper will now be linked to our school website and if our school is 'googled' all listed publications by our learners will appear. Our learners were asked to think of a topic that is relevant to them and our school – 'the pressure to be perfect' is what they came up with. Let us encourage them as they tackle stereotypical forms of beauty.

They were commended on their insightful, creative and **out of the box** thinking and also commended on their behaviour. It was stated that our learners are very 'calm, reserved and chilled'.

### Risk-Taking Feedback

Sometimes teachers have to take risks too in the way we teach. **Mrs Smit** recorded how in **Creative Arts** she took a risk and stepped back from hands-on control of her students in their assigned 'flash mob.' She let them lead and choreograph themselves and was astounded and immensely proud of the outcomes.

Our **Nursery staff** attended a workshop on **Choice Theory** on Saturday and explored the positive psychology behind it. Choice Theory, with the Seven Caring Habits, replaces the idea of being controlled by external forces. External control which so many people in the modern world embrace is destructive of relationships, whereas Choice Theory is directed at 'connectedness' with others with whom we are in community and how we can choose to direct our thoughts and actions in order to build more positive relationships.



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## Update from the USA – Exchange student Allyson Adams Reports:

Allyson Adams jetted off to the US this month on scholarship. This is her first missive:

*Dear Mrs. Hampton*

*For the past three weeks I've been all over the show... Cape Town, Johannesburg, Atlanta, Washington DC for an orientation [with over 40 other different countries] and now finally I'm in Concord, North Carolina with my host family, the Mosleys. They are such friendly and welcoming people and I already feel part of their family. I've been enrolled into Mount Pleasant High School where I'll be a senior!*

*I've already experienced so much in this little time I've been here and I can't help but think that without your and Mrs. Butlers help through last year I wouldn't be close to the person who I am today. I am so thankful for all that you have done for me and I can't explain how much it means to me. Being the great teacher, you are you motivated and inspired me to do my best and without that I don't think I would be on this exchange year.*

*I also want you to please encourage even more students from Meridian Pinehurst to apply for the Kennedy Lugar Exchange Scholarship. This is a great way for our school to build worldwide relationships and learn all about different cultures first hand. In these past weeks I've been in contact with over 400 people from all over the world, from Thailand to Egypt, Indonesia to Kenya. I've met so many people and although we were only together in Washington DC for three days I know I've made friendships that will last for years.*

*AfE and the Kennedy Lugar Exchange Scholarships rely on families to host students in order for them to participate in the programme. Without host families like the Mosley's... I wouldn't have been able to have this opportunity. That's why we need to encourage families and students from Meridian to host Exchange Students.*

*I must say that I miss my family, friends, teachers and peers back home but all this new experience is definitely worth it.*

*I'll send you some photos in my next email.*

*Allyson Adams*



We are so very proud of this fine young lady and look forward to hearing more from her.



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## Tygerberg International Eisteddfod Results

What an astounding set of results!

Honours = 80%+; Highest Honours = 90% +]

### FOUNDATION PHASE

NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	RESULT	AWARDED
John Viegeland	R	Poetry	90%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Albert Butler	R	Poetry	80%	HONOURS
Jordan Rumble	R	Poetry	90%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Ninai Johnson	R	Poetry	86%	HONOURS
Owen Hesse	1	Poetry	81%	HONOURS
Khanyisile Ndlovu	1	Poetry	83%	HONOURS
Lily Volkwyn	1	Poetry	80%	HONOURS
Aliya Hassan	1	Poetry	81%	HONOURS
Gia Van Der Poll	1	Poetry	80%	HONOURS
Daniella Garcia	1	Poetry	82%	HONOURS
Reuben Powell	2	Poetry	90%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Kaeden Kuiper	2	Poetry	81%	HONOURS
Luke Garcia	3	Poetry	90%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Casey Drayler	3	Poetry	82%	HONOURS
Lee-Ann Nel	3	Poetry	85%	HONOURS

### INTERMEDIATE PHASE

NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	RESULT	AWARDED
Isabella Benjamin	4	Poetry	80%	HONOURS
Tiffany Davin	5	Poetry	92%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Jennifer Theologo	5	Poetry	90%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Jessica Batt	5	Poetry	91%	HIGHEST HONOURS
Jessica Morrick	5	Poetry	91%	HIGHEST HONOURS



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GET & FET PHASE				
NAME	GRADE	CATEGORY	RESULT	AWARDED
Tamsyn Haywood	9	Prescribed Poem	87%	Honours
Tanyaradzwa Mandizha	9	Prescribed Poem	86%	Honours
Tanyaradzwa Mandizha	9	Own Choice Poem	87%	Honours
Tameka Vollenhoven	9	Eie Keuse Gedig	80%	Honours
Tamsyn Haywood	9	Onvoorbereide Lees	81%	Honours
Venus van den Berg	11	Onvoorbereide Lees	85%	Honours
Adrienne Mitchell	8	Onvoorbereide Lees	80%	Honours
Blain Africa	10	Unprepared Reading	80%	Honours
Venus van den Berg	11	Unprepared Reading	88%	Honours
Tamsyn Haywood	9	Unprepared Reading	90%	Highest Honours
Maziko Kagoli	9	Unprepared Reading	80%	Honours
Rouchelle Reent	11	Own Choice Poem	92%	Highest Honours

**Rouchelle recited a poem written for her by Sihle Jafta – watch this space for news on that.**

There were some concerns raised by parents regarding the adjudication in some categories. These are being taken up with the organisers.

### Sports Results

U16 Hockey Boys 1-2 against DF Malan (Played a great game but lost)

Primary School Soccer at Meridian

U11 Meridian vs Goeie Hoop 4-1 won

U13 Meridian vs Goeie Hoop 0-4 lost

Netball at Meridian

U10 Meridian A vs Vredelust A 0-10 lost

U11 Meridian vs Vredelust 3-6 lost

Boys Hockey

U8 Meridian vs Blouberg Ridge 0-5 lost

U9 Meridian vs Blouberg Ridge 3-1 won

U10 Meridian vs Blouberg Ridge 3-2 won

Girls Hockey 18 August

U9 Meridian vs Blouberg Ridge 0-2 lost





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## BOOK WEEK REMINDERS

**22- 25 August 2016**

- **Bring a book to school to read**
- **Visit Bargain Books at school**
- **Buddy-read with other grades**
- **Listen to different teachers read**
- **Donate a book to the class-library**



**26/8: CHARACTER PARADE: Dress up as your favourite book character.**

**31/8 & 1/9 – The Book People and 2/9: Hooked on Books (R15pp for skits on books).**

### The Importance of Books and the Imagination

Our Nursery and Foundation Phase sections have Fantasy Rooms where children get to go out of their formal classrooms into the realm of their imaginations. Remember these spaces when you are clearing out and have items in good conditions which they can use for dress ups.

We are also trying to build up our classroom libraries and from next year we shall have a (fledgling) proper library in the admin block for our learners to visit. The love of books is a special gift with which we endow our children – sharing a place to explore their dreams and worlds they haven't seen. Again, if you would like to donate a book to the school library, especially on your child's birthday, this would be most appreciated and something that generations of Pinehurst youngsters will enjoy.

### Choir Evening

Join us for an evening of joyful song on Thursday night to hear the voices of angels in celebration of song. This is the last year we shall have this outside, but it will be under cover – bring your hot water bottles and blankets and come and support the Pinehurst Nightingales.





## Study Skills

We extend enormous thanks to **Mrs Strauss-Layman** for the three recent Study Skills Workshops she has facilitated for the high school learners. Such techniques are vital for success in examinations and we are fortunate to have an expert in this field on staff.



## Planet Fitness Durbanville

Don't forget that our gym enthusiasts may join for free if they exercise outside peak times and you too may get a reduced membership. Tell them that you are Meridian parents.

## Primary School Date Night

Save the date: 2 September – High School Connect Group learners will assist teachers to provide a fun-filled evening for your offspring, while you have a relaxed dinner for two, or even a little romantic walk along the promenade:



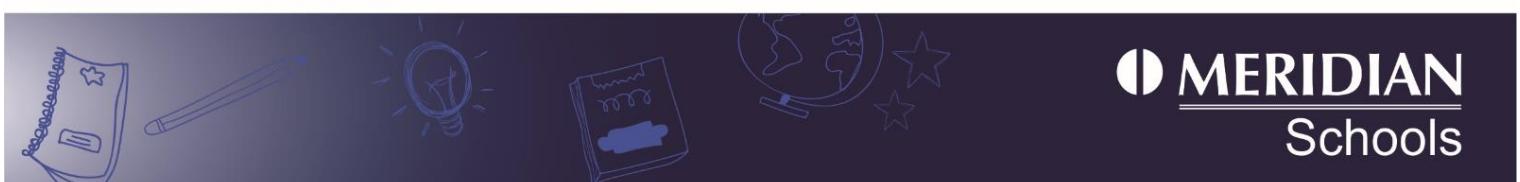
## Some 'Don'ts' on Campus

The following are things we respectfully ask parents to refrain from on campus for obvious reasons:

- **Don't** leave babies or younger children unattended in cars while dropping off or fetching their elder siblings.
- **Don't** reprimand other children on campus – rather report unacceptable behaviour to the duty teacher.
- **Don't** smoke on campus.

## Dates to Diarise

Monday, 22 August:	Book Week Begins CCEE Foundation Phase Afrikaans FAL Staff Training
Tuesday, 23 August:	Grade 1 Kipper Outing to Artscape Grade 2 Kipper Outing to Artscape <b>Ms Carla Roets'</b> birthday
Wednesday, 24 August:	PS Soccer vs Winsley PS (H) U16 Boys' Hockey vs Fairbairn College (A) Grade 9 Subject Choice Evening: 18:30





Thursday, 25 August:

Leadership Team 2017 Planning Day

Grade 3 Kipper Outing to Artscape

Choir Evening: 19:00

**Mrs Tanya Loynes'** birthday

**Ms Chandre Beukes'** birthday

Friday, 26 August:

Staff Development: 'Gamechangers'

Saturday, 27 August:

HS Girls' Hockey vs Protea Heights Academy (A)

Jesus was a revolutionary/ a gamechanger:

Throughout his ministry, Jesus consistently upset many of the religious and political leaders of the day. His proclamation of the Kingdom through words and works made him a marked man, both because he contradicted many of the core values of his opponents and because he undermined their popular impact. But when Jesus "cleansed" the Temple in Jerusalem, this was the last straw. He became a clear and present danger, not just to the Pharisees in Galilee, but also to the priestly hierarchy in Jerusalem, and even to the Temple, the core institution of Judaism, and therefore to the fragile peace of Judea. Thus, he threatened the social order so essential to Roman domination. The leaders in Jerusalem, both Jewish and Roman, sought to crucify Jesus, both to get him out of their way and to warn others not to follow in his footsteps.

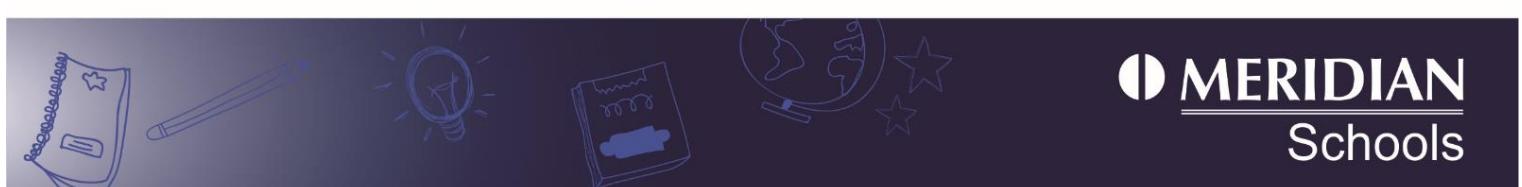
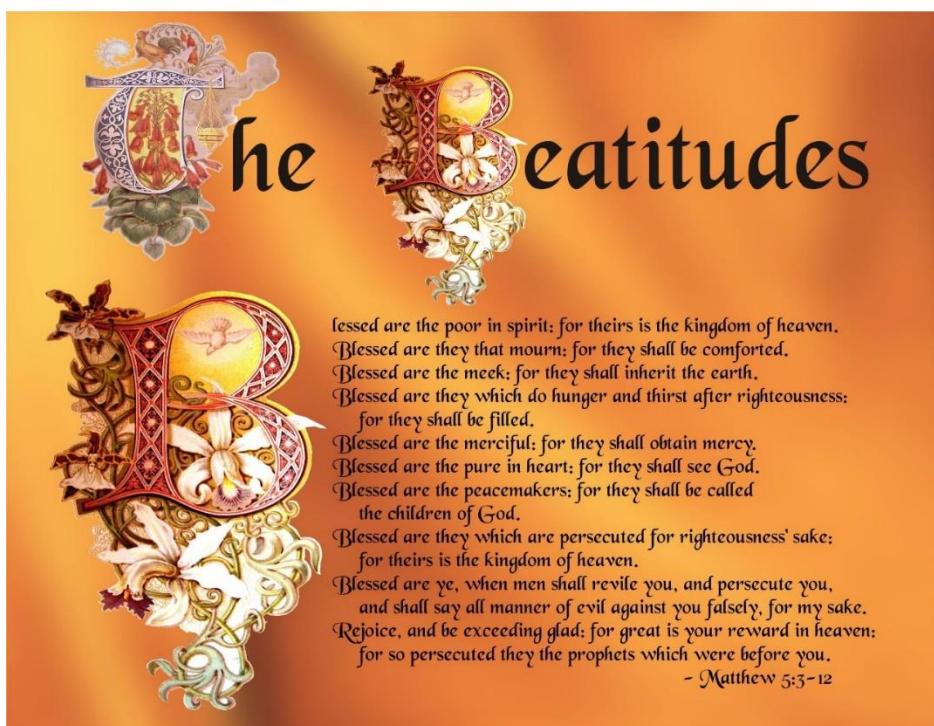
Rev. Dr. Mark D. Roberts

[Jesus the Gamechanger:](#)

Bless you all this week and follow Christ's Gamechanger blueprint:

Yours in education

Colleen Bentley  
Executive Head





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Thanks to these game changing sponsors of this week's newsletter:



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