

St Dominics Newcastle

Newsletter: 15 April 2016



No 8: 2016



1 John 4:7-8 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEAD:

St Dominics Newcastle was honoured to host (with the assistance of Paul Bushell), the world renowned speaker on

Parenting Matters, Nikki Bush, at the school at the beginning of this week.

She addressed the Grade 4-10 students on, amongst other things, numerous aspects of social media and with the Grade 11 and 12's she focused on the rapidly changing world with regards to technology and new job opportunities.

On Monday evening a disappointingly small number of parents and the majority of the staff were enthralled by her address entitled 'Future-Proof your Child'. She highlighted the importance of the role parents play, not only in disciplining their children, but also being wholly present for their children. Extracts of an article she has recently written is also included in this newsletter.

The MySchool project, which brings in an average of R1500 per month to our schools coffers, is running a competition where schools can win substantial amounts of money, for both the school and student. If you do have a MySchool card, please use it as frequently as possible, and if not, to please contact the school for an application form, or apply online—www.myschool.co.za.

Please note that the newsletter will only be distributed fortnightly in future. (I would also appreciate some feedback on the new format).

John Douthwaite

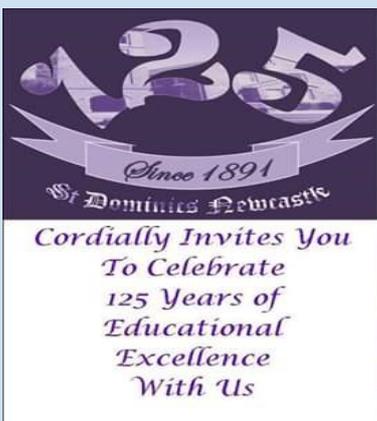


Students have been back at school for a term and items are piling up at 'lost property'.

This is costing parents a small fortune. In order for us to identify items, it is necessary that **ALL ITEMS BE MARKED PERMANENTLY**. Lost property can be collected from Mrs Kaye.



Three schools will win R100 000 each.
 + Winning schools will get to donate a R50,000 sustainability prize to an under-resourced school of their choice.
 + Parents stand to win 1 of 12 R50,000 bursaries for their child.
 + Kids stand to win exciting prizes for their class and classroom.
 + Raise even more MySchool funds along the way.



125th Anniversary Celebrations Dinner
 Date: 6 August 2016
 6:30 for 7:00pm
 Venue: St Dominic's Academy Newcastle
 Tickets R250.00 per person
 Dress: Smart
 RSVP:
 Mrs Louw 034 3128316
 By 3 June 2016 at the latest
 E-mail:
pro@stdoms.co.za
 We hope to be blessed by your attendance
 Accommodation available in boarding establishment or at local Bed & Breakfast places, contact Vicky at vicky@medvic.co.za to enquire



Thank you to all the parents who attended Parents Evening last week. Your co-operation and support is greatly appreciated.

It also gives me great pleasure to announce that Tadi Govere, a matriculant of 2015, has qualified for his Bachelor's Degree pass after a rewrite, therefore our matriculation exemption rate is now 97% for 2015. Well done Tadi!

Please take note of the following:

The 20 April is a compulsory sports afternoon for students and will end at 17:00. It is important that your child is present to support our sporting teams as they are competing against Newcastle High School.

Next week our annual Science Expo begins. Please ensure your child is present on the days they are being judged. The prize giving will be held on Thursday, 21 April at 18:00 in the school hall. Your presence at this event would be appreciated.

The Blood Bank will be at school on Friday, 15 April from 08:00-12:00 in the school hall. Every drop of blood donated saves a life. Please support this worthy cause.

Ms Hurrichand



OUR MATHS BOFFINS

Back: S Mndebele, G Boshoff, W Esterhuizen, M Dhoda

3rd Row: M Lalbeharie, Y Naidoo, S Anandhaw, N Mahomed

2nd Row: P Hsu, H Dhoda, A Jamalooden

Front: M Sayed, M Furter



In Ron Ritchhart's book, *Creating Cultures of Thinking* Ritchhart believes that as educators, parents, and citizens, we must settle for nothing less than environments that bring out the best in people, take

learning to the next level, allow for great discoveries, and propel both the individual and the group forward into a lifetime of learning. This is something all teachers want and all students deserve. Basically, as teachers and as parents, we need to educate our children, not for now, but for the future. Ritchhart claims that the value of school has traditionally been measured in terms of results. We often get caught up in the emphasis on matric results, scholarships, and how well our sports teams do. I am not saying that these are not important and in a way we are forced into them because this is how most schools run.

However, if we are educating for the future and for life, these results play just a small part. Ritchhart suggests that we need to continually ask the question, "What do we want our children to be like as adults? How often do we as teachers and parents sweat the small stuff?" We worry about the 'now' too often - how well the test went or how well the cricket or hockey team played.

When your child is on stage, it is not just about the play – they are learning to think on their feet and to speak in front of an audience. When they fail on the sports field or in a test, they are learning resilience and how to overcome difficulties. When they sit in chapel, they are learning about spirituality, no matter what their faith is. Our 3Gs (Groom, Grounds, Greeting) teach them about discipline, manners, self-care, pride, and appreciation for the environment. Our outreach projects teach them about caring for others and the less fortunate. Activities such as school camps, sports tours, music concerts, and so much more are all there to educate them for life.

I honestly believe that we are privileged to be part of an amazing school and community.

Have a blessed week.

Mr J le Roux



IMPORTANT DATES (Senior Primary):

1-8 June **Grade 4-6 Tests**
30 May - 9 June **Grade 7 Exams**

NB

Term 3 work will start as soon as Grade 4-7 tests/exams are completed

IMPORTANT DATES (High School):

6-23 **June Exams**

High School Sport



On Friday, 8 April 2016 our hockey boys participated in the high school boys Amajuba district hockey trials. The following players were selected for their respective teams:

- u/14 boys: Kundai Govere, Linda Mthiyane, Brett Braithwaite, Ross Groenewegen
- u/16 boys: Sohail Adam; Muzi Shabangu; Jonathan Hartman, Keegan Rajah, Asande Mbatha
- u/18 boys: Seth Wade, Harish Singh, Methembe Nkosi

The following boys were identified to represent Amajuba District at the KZN Inland boys' hockey trials on 17 April (u/16 & u/18) and the 24 April (u/14) in Pietermaritzburg:

- u/14 Kundai Govere, Linda Mthiyane, Brett Braithwaite
- u/16 Sohail Adam, Keegan Rajah, Asande Mbatha
- u/18 Seth Wade

The first round of sport for the second term, saw the u/15 and 1st team netball teams and the 1st and 2nd girls' hockey teams take on Utrecht High School on Saturday, 9 April 2016. The u/15 netball team lost their match 2-15 and the 1st team won their match 23-21. The hockey saw both the St Dom's teams winning with the 2nd team winning 3-0 and the 1st team winning 2-1.



Mr Jacobs

Primary School Sport

Drakensberg MTB Race

Twenty two cyclists took part in a challenging mountain bike race at All-out Adventures on Saturday. Our cyclists all improved on their times from last year and the following were placed in their age categories:



- 10KM
- 1st Woman – Mrs Filipe
- u/12 Girls: 1st Grace Hoatson
2nd Caitlin Le Roux
- u/12 Boys: 3rd Ryan Bernstein

Well done to all the cyclists and especially Jessica Hoatson who has just turned 8 years for completing this race.

30KM



The following cyclists were placed in the top three of their age categories:
Mrs Archibald, Ethan Archibald, Dylan Archibald, Peggy Hsu

Mr & Mrs Marillier

HIGH SCHOOL SPORT: WHAT'S ON:

April

- 20 Winter Sport vs NHS @ NHS
- 22-24 u/14 KZN Inland Girls Hockey Trials @ PMB
- 24 u/14 KZN Inland Boys Hockey Trials @ Maritzburg College
- 25 Winter Sport vs Pongola @ SDN
- Boys Hockey vs Volksrust @ SDN
- 30 u/16 & u/18 KZN Inland Girls Hockey Trials @ PMB

May

- 1 u/16 & u/18 KZN Inland Girls Hockey Trials @ PMB
- 4 Winter Sport vs Ferrum @SDN
- 11 Winter Sport vs Estcourt @ Estcourt
- 18 Winter Sport vs Amajuba @ SDN; 1st Boys Hockey vs Harriston @ SDN
- 21 Winter Sport vs Sarel Cilliers @SDN
- 25 Winter Sport vs Pionier @ SDN
- 28 Winter Sport vs Vryheid Landbou @ SDN

PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORT: WHAT'S ON:

April

- 19 SP Boys Hockey Tournament vs Ladysmith Schools @ SDN

May

- 1 u/13 Girls Hockey Amajuba
- 3 SP Girls Hockey Tournament @ SDN
- 7 Girls Mini Hockey & Netball Tournament vs Dundee Schools @SDN
- 11 SP Boys Hockey Tournament vs Dundee Schools @ SDN
- 13 Gr 1-3 Chess Tournament @ Arbor Park
- 14 Mini-Hockey & Netball Tournament @ Utrecht
- 16 SP Boys Hockey Tournament vs Dundee Schools @ SDN
- 17 Mini Girls Hockey Tournament @ SDN
- 19 Mini Boys Hockey Tournament @ SDN
- 21 Mini Hockey & Netball Tournament @ Drakensberg
- 22 Primary Inter-Schools Chess Tournament
- 24 Mini Netball & Soccer Tournament @SDN; u/13 Girls Hockey vs Utrecht @SDN
- 25 SP Boys Hockey Tournament vs Ladysmith Schools @ Egerton



DON'T BRING ILL-DISCIPLINED CHILDREN HERE

There are increasing numbers of hospitality establishments that just don't want children around anymore because 'they don't know how to behave' and 'their parents have no control over them'. Restaurateurs and hoteliers complain of damage to property, ill-treatment of animals, destruction of vegetation, and disrespect for other visitors to the establishment who have come for some time out too.

It would seem that parents allow their children to run amok with no boundaries, and have little influence over their children's behaviour in public. In addition, a trap of modern parenting is to try and be a child's friend rather than parent in order to keep the peace at home, to make up for their absence. However, this also means that in public, parents can't change hats all of a sudden either.

Children thrive on consistency and boundaries. They need to be taught how to behave in public. This is not something they are born knowing, rather it takes years of painstaking training on the part of the parents. And, herein, lies part of the problem: busy parents who are able to spend only 2 – 3 hours a day with their children – most of that time being in a rush to get their children ready for the day or ready for bed-don't have much quality time to incrementally coach their children so that they develop appropriate social skills.

Understandably, we visit restaurants and stay in hotels with our children to have some downtime, where we don't have to cook, and to enable us to spend some quality family time together without having to do daily chores. But, this doesn't mean that we can abdicate responsibility for our children in these public spaces – unless, of course, we choose to go to a family-friendly establishment that offers child care services or entertainment programmes for the children giving parents some adult time alone.

Where such services are not advertised or you don't have to pay for them, then the onus is on us as parents to oversee our children, ensuring that they don't infringe on other patrons' privacy and enjoyment of their surroundings, and they are not destructive to the establishment itself. It's called respect for people and property and it's something all children need to learn, sooner rather than later.

Remember that it takes time and repetition to instil social skills in children. Also know and understand this: children resort to negative attention seeking behaviour particularly in public, when they are feeling emotionally empty. This is when parents need to pay more attention and ensure they are spending quality time with their children to fill their emotional cups or risk their children upsetting the peace or getting into trouble.

I know this is a big ask for busy, tired parents, but we owe it to our children and to the future of society to be a positive nurturing influence in their lives. Emotional and physical absenteeism leaves children feeling needy, misunderstood and side-lined, and they do what children do best when they can't verbalise how they are feeling – they act it out, wherever they may be, and the more inconvenient and embarrassing for their parent/s, the better.

Although this may sound harsh, perhaps it needs to be said: your children would prefer more of your time and less of your money, to have more of your happiness and less of your stress.

NIKKI BUSH



*Quality Educational Toys and Learning Resources
for Children of all Ages!*

**Display and For Sale: 21 /22 April 2016 at St
Dominic's Academy Library**

Children, Parents, Teachers etc. All Welcome

Call: Yolandie 0725857886 or Marguerite 0835783702

