

NEWSLETTER

Date: 4 June 2018
From the Office of the Executive Head

MERIDIAN
Pinehurst

Dear Parents/Guardians

'More beautiful than the rose is the soul that beholds it.'

Sunny Brooke



I have been doing some reading about the philosophy of happiness and despite all the deep academic articles about the theories of happiness and the appreciation of the aesthetic, or Aristotle's views compared to Kantian approaches, I find this little-known quotation a personal reminder that **people matter**. This is core of our relations here at Meridian Pinehurst. In the end the child is more important than pedagogy and examinations. And focussing on the child is a far better recipe for both success AND happiness than simply focussing on the subject matter. A good teacher teaches the **Child**, not **mathematics** or **accounting**.

It is important to remember that despite being results-driven, we could not call ourselves a learning institution worth its salt if we cared more about the a **language** than the **Speakers** of it; more about **geography** marks than the **Geographer** or more about **art history** than the **Artist**.

Take care of our **Learners** in this examination time in the midst of their **learning**.

Congratulations

A huge martial arts bow of respect to **Liam Meyer** on his superb performance: **Liam** (Grade 12) competed at the Arnold Classic Sports Festival held in Johannesburg from 26 – 27 May 2018.

Liam competed in the under 21 Goju Ryu (fighting style) Karate age group (even though he is still only 17 years of age) and won the gold medal!

What makes this an even bigger achievement is the fact that Liam managed to beat the 7th ranked athlete in the world in this age group and discipline.

Photo: Liam with his gold medal standing next to his mentor, Sensei Gary.



Daniella Garcia received a diploma and went through to the finals where her trio received a silver medal for ballet in the "Celebration of Dance" eisteddfod held at the Bellville Civic Centre during the past 2 weeks.

Photo: Danniela on the left.



Lerato Mohlakoana is our gymnastics star: at the Cape Town District trials, during April and May, trials for the first three levels of various disciplines were held.

Lerato achieved the following results:

Mini-trampoline: Gold
Black Top Trampoline: Gold
Artistic: Silver

Lerato was selected for the Cape Town District team for all three items and will compete in the South Zone Festival during the June holidays.



Grade 3 learner, **Zandea Stapelberg**'s colouring-in picture of Jan van Hunks won her a cash prize and her picture is due to be published in a book which will be published by the end of this year.

As legend has it, Jan van Hunks was a pirate who met a strange man while smoking his pipe on the mountain alongside Table Mountain. The stranger wagered that he could out-smoke van Hunks:

The contest began and huge clouds of smoke billowed up around them and spilled down like a tablecloth over Table Mountain. Van Hunks persevered until the stranger finally set down his pipe in defeat. And he revealed himself to be none other than the devil! And so, for evermore when the clouds cascade over the mountain, we sit down here and speculate whether Van Hunks and the Devil are having a smoke.

<http://exclusivegetaways.co.za/2012/10/18/how-devils-peak-got-its-name-what-you-need-to-know-about-windy-days-in-cape-town/>

And so **Devil's Peak** got its name.

I'm guessing van Hunks died of lung cancer!

Choirs sing with Elvis Blue

Our Grade 4-5 and High School choirs performed at an Elvis Blue concert held at Curro Brackenfell on Wednesday, 30 May. Appearing on stage and performing with the winner of Idols 2010 (Season 6) was a memorable event that will not soon be forgotten by our learners. His words of encouragement to the three choirs representing ourselves, Curro Century City and Curro Brackenfell, regarding nurturing their talents and taking it further into their futures was truly inspiring. Our learners performed with excellence and we are super-proud of them!

Photo: Ben Rall with Elvis Blue



Sports Report

Primary School:

Our Rugby boys took on Curro Durbanville this week. It was an exciting afternoon of very good Rugby with all the matches closely contested. Well done to all the Rugby boys for the improvement they have shown over the past few weeks – keep going!

U/7	Lost 0-5
U/8	Won 2-0
U/9	Drew 1-1
U/11	Lost 5-19

Photo: U/9 Rugby
Team Spirit





Photo: U/8 winning team

Our Hockey players played their last matches for the term as they took on Vredelust Primary School. Well done to all the players for giving their best and playing some great Hockey.

Boys		Girls	
U/9	Lost 6-3	U/9	Drew 1-1
U/12	Won 5-0	U/11	Lost 3-1

The Soccer boys again had a busy week at Hellenic Soccer Club with all the matches going ahead for once



(Waterlogged courts have caused disruptions perviously). After a mixed bag of results, we look forward to another round of matches next week. As mentioned in the letter that has gone out to parents, these league matches will continue through the exam period.

	Curro Century City	Milnerton
U/10	Lost 7-5	Drew 5-5
U/11	Lost 6-0	Won 7-0
U/13	Won 12-8	Lost 13-9

The Netball girls welcomed El Shaddai and Excelsior to the campus this week and again enjoyed a busy day of Netball.

U/7	Won 2-0	U/11	Won 3-2
U/8	Won 6-0	U/12	Won 10-0
U/9	Lost 5-0	U/13	Lost 13-9 vs Excelsior
U/10	Won 17-2		

Photo: U/12 netball girls celebrating their 10-0 win



As exams/assessments are now in full swing, the sport programme (barring Soccer) has concluded for the term. We wish our learners well for the remainder of the term and are confident that we will come back ready to go again next term!

Birthday Book Club

Remember to celebrate your child's birthday by donating a book to the library. Contact Mrs Arendse: jacqueline.a2@curro.co.za



Music at Meridian Pinehurst

Don't forget to sign up for the drumming lessons being offered at the school. Please contact Mrs Slabbert urgently if you put your name down for this: lynette.m1@curro.co.za

We are also in the process of appointing another piano and recorder teacher from next term. Learners on the waiting list will have first preference, however she will have extra space for additional learners so sign up to see Mrs Slabbert in this regard.

School Fees

Please note that school fees are set as an annual amount which is payable over 12 months. This is why fees are still payable over months when there are holidays, including December obviously. This is done to keep the fees as low as possible for families' monthly budgets.

Safety and Security

We remain concerned about the number of learners (mainly in the high school) who are being collected by Uber drivers. Please note that even by Uber rules, the minimum age that a person can travel alone in an Uber is 18. It is not always clear when a learner is being collected by an Uber so this makes it difficult for our access controller to take note of.

While Ubers are essentially safe, you are in essence entrusting your minor child to a stranger, when allowing them to travel like this.

The rules of the aftercare apply to this trend and a learner will not be released to any person without the prior consent of the parent, with the ID number of the person sent to collect a child.

Please be mindful first and foremost of your child's safety.

OMAI Video

Old Mutual will be shooting a promotional video of our school for our investors on 6 June. If your child is to be featured, you will be asked to give permission. Should you strenuously object to this filming, kindly inform your child's teacher in writing before the day.

Dates to Diarise

Monday, 4 June: -

Tuesday, 5 June: -

Wednesday, 6 June: OMAI shoot
CAT Olympiad

Thursday, 7 June: -

Friday, 8 June: -

Saturday, 9 June: Nursery Team building: Won Life Clean up

Sunday, 10 June: **Ms Ilze Esterhuizen's** birthday



Yours in education

Colleen Bentley
Executive Head

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