



St Cyprian's School

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Head of School Newsletter

Dear St Cyprian's School Community

It has been a very busy two weeks with a great deal happening.

MATRIC DANCE

The highlight has to have been the Matric Dance, an event anticipated with a great deal of excitement from the Matrics themselves, as well as the Grade 11 group who start planning this “rite of passage” event a year in advance. There is something very special indeed about holding a Matric Dance at school and having the Grade 11 group so intrinsically involved in it. It creates a real sense of community, and underlies the fact that the occasion is made memorable because of the effort and love that has gone into ensuring that it is extraordinary. Our girls will attend many dances in their lives, but there is only one Matric Dance that is their own, enjoyed in the company of their friends and teachers who have shared an educational journey with them over a number of years. There is a sense of history and tradition that enfolds the occasion and a celebration of our girls - who they are and what they may become.

The evening was a perfect Cape Town evening – wind-still and hot! The theme was “**Breakfast at Tiffany’s**” – chosen to honour a group of girls whom the Grade 11s describe as “elegant and classy”. And the Matrics and their dates certainly lived up to that reputation – seldom have I seen so many beautiful girls in one place, so beautifully made up, with beautiful hair styles and dream dresses!

The tradition of making an entrance as they arrive at the Voorkamer kept us captivated and guessing – and certainly the welcoming committee, made up of the dance committee, the boarders on the balcony above the Voorkamer steps, and the staff and parents, was appreciative of the effort that had gone into the planning!

The hall was absolutely transformed, and unrecognizable as a school hall. The walls had been draped, two huge chandeliers hung from the ceilings, fairy lights and candles glittered across décor that transported us into a movie set that was better than the original. Light blue Tiffany Boxes complemented the black and silver colour scheme, and large mirrors and elegant couches and chairs completed the setting. The black and white checked dance floor was full for most of the evening and everybody was dancing – despite the heat!

The food, provided by Dish, was a feast! Special thanks need to go to Seón Robinson of Event Interiors, and Andy Foulkes of Dish, who so generously worked with us to ensure an unforgettable evening.

It will become a magical memory for us all. There are a number of pictures on the Gallery of the School Communicator, so if you were not able to be there, you will still be able to see images of the evening!

Thanks

Ms Jenn Wallace and the Grade 11s deserve special thanks for their initiative, their drive and their hard work! Thanks must also go to all those people who supported the Grade 11 fund- raising efforts, especially the PA and Ms Debbie Smith who co-ordinated the fund-raising raffle. Thank you too, to those who sponsored prizes for the raffle:

Gardens Centre (R1000 voucher), Nocturnal Affair at Gardens Centre, Tigger 2 Charters, Quay 4 and Mitchell's Brewery at the Waterfront for the donation of vouchers, Truworths for the donation of vouchers and perfume, Giovanni's for a voucher and Mrs Di Samassa for a variety of gifts.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATOR

I trust that you have installed this tool and that it is working well for you. The problems of compatibility are in the process of being sorted out.

GRADE 9 INTERNAL INTEGRATED PROGRAMME

The Grade 9 Integrated Programme last week allowed a number of field trips to be organised at the same time, and experiential learning to happen. It provided a forum for the realisation of many of the principles of Round Square: a hike up Lion's Head in the heat of the day covered the adventure component, and a trip to the Bellville Landfill Site brought home how crucial recycling is if we are not to run out of space for the disposal of rubbish. A visit to the Holocaust Museum, dance workshops, Afrikaans cultural activities and a traffic census were some of the other activities that took place. The girls presented an overview of their week on Friday afternoon with excellent power-point presentations, and went home tired but happy. An enormous amount of imagination, time and effort went into co-ordinating this new initiative and I would like to thank Mrs Callesen, Dr Angier and the staff who contributed to ensuring its success.

DESIGN EXPO

Our Grades 10-12 learners were fortunate indeed to visit the Design Expo on Friday afternoon.

ROUND SQUARE JUNIOR CONFERENCE

Our delegation is back and had a wonderful experience connecting and engaging with students from across Africa. Ms Christian, who accompanied them, had nothing but praise for our girls who engaged maturely in discussion groups and added value to the activities in which they were engaged. When they have had a bit of time to recover, they will post a report on the website.

SPORT

Galas

1. My thanks go to our school cheerleaders and the supporters who went to Newlands last week to cheer our girls on in one of the biggest galas of the season. Tomorrow is the PGSGU gala – the ultimate girls' schools inter-schools gala – at Springfield, and once again we would welcome supporters. Busses will leave school at 15h00, the gala is set to start at 16h00 and should be over by 17h30. Our best wishes go to our swimmers, who have done well over the season.
2. The Intermediate Phase Gala held on Monday 15 February was an enjoyable affair, with our girls swimming like stars! The level of participation was encouraging to see, especially as a stated objective in our sports strategy is to build depth. Thank you to all those parents who came to cheer their girls along. It always makes a difference. Well done to Darke House who won by a substantial margin of 180 points (including participation points).

MUSIC

On 18 February, the choir performed at Trianon Retirement Home. The girls really rose to the occasion and sang their hearts out. Emily Chetwin (clarinet), Julie Thomas (flute), Micayla Marshall (recorder) and Estelle Roux (piano) also performed a solo item each. The audience was large and appreciative and included one of St Cyprian's School old girls – Pippin Hill.

The Music Department has put together another operetta in collaboration with CT Opera for the Grade 9 group who will be practising in their Music pathway time. It also involves some boys from Jan van Riebeeck School, so is an opportunity to work with boys in a dramatic event. This operetta will be performed not only at our school, but at a number of other schools as well. It has been written by local residents, Matthew Wild (libretto) and Alan Stephenson (music), and is a wonderful opportunity for our girls.

DRAMA: "SIMPLY THE BEST" 10 and 11 MARCH

The High School Variety Show “Simply the Best” is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 March. It promises to be an outstanding production and a showcase of the talent that exists in our school. The girls have been hard at work honing their performances and the staging and lighting is of a hugely professional standard. Tickets are available at 2nd break from the Library and cost R50 a piece

ISASA/SAHISA ONE DAY WORK SHOP

St Cyprian’s School will be hosting two esteemed international speakers, both psychologists who have consulted at a number of schools and spoken at conferences across the world, at a workshop for Heads, teachers and interested parents on 16 March. Two of the topics they will be looking at are Adolescence and Self Esteem. Please see the programme and an application form on our website if you are interested in attending this workshop.

CHAPEL

Congratulations to Reverend Natalie who is expecting her second child in July. Natalie will be on maternity leave in the third term and we are taking the opportunity to invite some guest priests to take some of her chapel services.

Sunday Morning Worship Service 14 March

Revd Natalie wishes to start a monthly worship service in the school Chapel on a Sunday morning. The first service will take place on 14 March from 10h00. All members of the SCS Community are invited to join her for worship, prayer, Eucharist and fellowship. This is an opportunity to gather with other Christians to pray for our school, our communities and our country.

PRESIDENT’S AWARD

The President’s Award (www.presidentsaward.co.za) is a programme for the youth of South Africa to challenge themselves outside of the normal classroom. This award programme is connected to the Duke of Edinburgh Award in the UK and to a larger body called The International Award (www.intaward.org). It consists of four areas – sports, service, skills, and adventure. At St Cyprian’s School, we offer all of these through our extensive sports and co-curricular offer, service opportunities, Round Square adventures and integrated programmes. For many, the only extra fee for the award is a nominal registration fee from The President’s Award. All of their activities are covered at or through school.

Girls can begin the Bronze Level at age 14, Silver Level at age 15, and Gold Level at age 16. Registration will take place from March 03-09. This will be the last opportunity this term to register. Each term there will be a registration period, so that if a girl is only turning 14 in September, she’ll have an opportunity to register this year. More information and registration forms are available from Ms N Wallace (wallacen@stcyprians.co.za) or in the Science Lab during school hours.

Every other year, there is a gathering of youth from all national centres involved with The President’s Award called the **National Youth Forum**. This year it will take place in Johannesburg from the 27-31 March with a theme of “**Learning for Life**”. The cost of this conference is roughly R1500, including flights, accommodation, and conference fee. The only requirement to participate is to be a participant in The President’s Award at participating schools. It is a very rewarding opportunity to get to know other participants from around the country and interact and gain knowledge from them. Please contact Ms N Wallace urgently if you are interested as there are only two spots available for our school.

Upcoming adventures at SCS

In the April holidays, there will be a 6-day hike over the **Swellendam Trail**. This is an 81 km hike, and fulfils the requirements for every level of the President’s Award Adventures. It is a challenge, but will be very rewarding. There are spots for 13 girls on this adventure and there is an extra cost for this expedition of about R900. Backpacks are available at the school.

For the September holidays, we are trying to put a group together to summit **Kilimanjaro**. Currently, the group consists of current students, old girls, and parents. There are 6 more spots on the trip. It will consist of the trek up

to Uhuru Peak and then a reward on Zanzibar for two days. Girls must be in Grade 9 this year in order to participate, and we welcome any other old girls or parents who are interested in joining this challenge.

If you are interested in either of these adventures, please contact Ms N Wallace (wallacen@stcyprians.co.za) for more information.

SPORT RESULTS

Date	Sport	Team	Opposition	Results
Sports				
	Tennis			
	High			
16 Feb		4 th Team	Westerford	SCS drew 3 – 3
17 Feb		U15	Herzlia Middle	SCS won 6 – 0
19 Feb		1 st Team	De Kuilen	SCS lost 0 – 6
		2 nd Team	Herschel	SCS lost 0 – 6
		3 rd Team	Springfield	SCS lost 1 – 5
22 Feb		1 st Team	St Peter's College	SCS lost 3 – 6
23 Feb		4 th Team	DSK	SCS drew 3 – 3
		5 th Team	Rustenburg	SCS lost 0 – 3
24 Feb		U15	Rustenburg	SCS drew 3 – 3
26 Feb		1 st Team	Herschel	SCS lost 0 – 6
		2 nd Team	Bergvliet	SCS lost 0 – 6
		3 rd Team	Herzlia	SCS lost 0 – 4
	Junior			
22 Feb		U13	Rustenburg	SCS drew 2 – 2
		U11	Grove	SCS lost 0 – 4
	Indoor Hockey			
	High			
17 Feb		2 nd Team	Fish Hoek	SCS won 2 – 1
		3 rd Team	Fish Hoek	SCS won 2 – 0
		4 th Team	Table View	SCS lost 4 – 3
		5 th Team	Table View	SCS lost 2 – 0
		6 th Team	Westerford	SCS lost 0 – 9
24 Feb		1 st Team	Herschel	SCS lost 0 – 4
		2 nd Team		SCS lost 0 – 8
		3 rd Team		SCS lost 0 – 5
		4 th Team		SCS lost 0 – 3
		5 th Team		SCS lost 0 – 3
	Softball			
22 Feb		1 st Team	Rylands	SCS won 12 – 7
	Swimming			
	High			
		Gr 8 - 12	League Gala	See report below
	Junior			
19 Feb		Gr 4 – 7	League Gala	See report below
	Basketball			
	High & Junior			
25 Feb		U19	Westerford	SCS lost 0 – 40
		U14		SCS lost 8 – 10

SWIMMING:

We are awaiting the results of the B League Gala (girls only) that took place at Newlands swimming pool on Wednesday 24 February. Our senior swimmers did us proud at the Newlands gala and we also had a great team of supporters adding to the energy and excitement of the evening. Thank you to all those girls and parents who supported us.

The Preparatory School participated in a friendly league gala hosted by Herschel School on Friday 19 February. The girls competed strongly against the other schools and are working hard to continually improve for the upcoming inter-schools gala.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Please use fixtures and times as a guideline only
All fixtures and times are subject to change**

DATE	EVENT	OPPOSITION	VENUE	TIME
Sports				
	Tennis			
	High			
2 Mar	4 th Team	Sans Souci	SCS	15:15
	5 th Team	Pinelands	Pinelands	15:30
5 Mar	1 st Team	Rustenburg	Rustenburg	15:30
	2 nd Team	Reddam Atlantic	SCS	15:15
	3 rd Team	Springfield	Springfield	15:30
9 Mar	4 th Team	Wynberg Girls	Wynberg Girls	15:30
	5 th Team	Sans Souci	SCS	15:15
10 Mar	U15	Springfield	SCS	15:15
12 Mar	1 st Team	Reddam Atlantic	Reddam Atlantic	15:30
	2 nd Team	Springfield	Springfield	15:30
	3 rd Team	Westerford	SCS	15:15
13 Mar	1 st Team	Inter-schools	Sans Souci	07:30 (TBC)
	Junior			
4 Mar	U13	Micklefield	SCS	15:00
11 Mar	U13	Herschel	Herschel	15:00
	U11	Herschel	SCS	15:00
	Indoor Hockey			
	High			
3 Mar	1 st Team	Pinelands	Pinelands	18:30
	2 nd Team			19:00
	3 rd Team			19:30
	4 th Team			20:00
	5 th Team			20:30
	6 th Team			21:00
10 Mar	1 st Team	Springfield	Wynberg Military	17:30
	2 nd Team			17:00
	3 rd Team			18:00
	4 th Team			18:30
	5 th Team			19:00
	6 th Team	Herschel	Herschel	16:30
	Softball			
4 Mar	1 st Team	Sans Souci	Sans Souci	15:30
	Swimming			
	High			

2 Mar	Gr 8 - 12	Inter-schools	Springfield	16:00 (TBC)
	Junior			
5 Mar	Gr 4 – 7	Fun Gala	Bridge House	(TBC)
9 Mar	Gr 4 – 7	Inter-schools	Herschel	13:00 (TBC)
	Basketball			
	High & Prep			
4 Mar	U19	Westerford B	Westerford	15:30
11 Mar	U14 & U19	Fairmont	Fairmont	15:30

SCHOOL DIARY

Date	Event	Venue	Time
March			
Mon 1	Grade 11 and 12 Parent-Teachers' Meeting	Hall	17h00- 19h30
Tues 2	High School Inter-Schools Swimming Gala	Rustenburg	
Wed 3	High School Class Reps' Meeting	Voorkamer	17h30
Thurs 4	Grades 4 -7 Lent Food Collection "Woods" Class Reps' Meeting RSIS Information Meeting	Chapel Reading Room Classroom 1	08h30 18h30
Fri 5	Open Day Grades 1 – 3 Fun Gala Grades 4 – 7 Camp Out High School Production Technical Team Rehearsal	Swimming Pool Hockey Field Hall	17h30 17h00-21h00
Sat 6	High School Production Rehearsal	Hall	09h00-17h00
Mon 8	Grades 1 – 3 Lent Food Collection Council	Chapel Voorkamer	16h30
Tues 9	Prep School Inter-School Swimming Gala High School Production Final Dress Rehearsal	Herschel Hall	13h00 18h00-21h30
Wed 10	High School Production	Hall	19h00- 21h00
Thurs 11	Grades 4 – 7 Lent Food Collection Prep School Tennis Inter-Schools Senior Film Club High School Production	Chapel Sans Souci Room 25 Hall	13h00 17h00-18h30 19h00-21h00
Fri 12	Indoor Hockey Inter-Schools Tournament Prep School Class Reps' Meeting	Herschel Voorkamer	07h50
Sat 13	Grade10 RS Integrated Prog commences High School Inter-Schools Tennis Tournament	Orange River Sans Souci	05h00 07h30

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Reflective thinking turns experience into insight."

John Maxwell

SJ Redelinghuys
Head St Cyprian's School