



SMS your comments, concerns, suggestions to 0739268215 (please note that this is for sms' **only** – phone calls will not be responded to)

Dear Parents

Highlights of the past week

Inter House Plays

An evening of drama and lights in a number of different ways. And also an evening of firsts – all scholars had to attend for the first time and also for a first time the using technology and multi-media. What talented scholars we have. Well done to Kite for finally breaking their duck on stage.

Results were: Kite (1st); Goshawk (2nd); Harrier (3rd) and Kestrel (4th).

Individual awards: Richard Hay (Best Actor); Tessa Ware (Best Actress); Walter Senoko (Best Actor in a comedy role); Maria Kostakis (Best Supporting Actor/Actress) and Natasha Ashley (Best Actor in a character role). Well done to Mrs Spratt and her organizing committee. It was a wonderful evening indeed.

Chess Tournament vs Sybrand van Niekerk

The Penryn Chess team participated in a friendly Chess game at Sybrand van Niekerk last week. Results were Sybrand 7 and Penryn 3 points. Refentje Mashao, Mark Lange and Tamara Shava won their boards. Obviously the Chess team needs to do some work. Well done to Sybrand.

Rock Climbing

A group of scholars, ranging from Grade 5 to 12 attended a rock climbing trip to Waterval Boven where they were able to apply their skills on a real rock face, under careful guidance of their coach, Mr Gavin Wingrave. Most scholars rose to the challenge with more than half of them successfully climbing a grade 18 route. There is a wealth of young talent at Penryn and we are looking forward to the next rock face experience. Special thanks to Mrs Robyn Henderson for chaperoning the scholars.

Marula Wine Making and Tasting

As part of the Grade 12 Physical Science curriculum, scholars are required to brew their own Marula wine. A panel of wine tasting experts came to the decision that the following recipients qualified as renowned Marula wine makers:

First place was shared by two groups – (a) Maroela Blitz - Lindo Magagula; Jessica Maclaurin; Neville Smith and Mariano Croublet and (b)

Maroulavous - Taneth Germishuys; Michael Ferreira; Toni McLagan and Chris Triegaardt.

Second place - Umgana Wine - Celia Sutton; Robyn Mitchell and Megan.

Third place – African Zing - Kim Crook, Ashley Steyn and Anis Khalili.

Computer Olympiad – First round

Congratulations to the following scholars who participated in the first round of the Computer Olympiad and were placed:

Juniors Caleb Linden (1st); Juan Hanekom (2nd) and Rory David (3rd)

Seniors Patrick Manicom (1st); Jessica Maclaurin (2nd) and Jarryd Putter (3rd)

Congratulations to

- Christiaan van der Merwe (Class of 2009), after applying for a remark of his English Home Language examination, achieved a Distinction. Christiaan then achieved 6 distinctions in his final examinations;
- Jessica Middleton (Class of 2009), after applying for a remark of her History examination, achieved a Distinction. Jessica then achieved 7 distinctions in her final examinations;

Sports results

| | | | | | |
|--------------|------|--------------|------|----|----|
| Rugby | 1st | Rob Ferreira | 2nd | 0 | 11 |
| | 2nd | Rob Ferreira | 3rd | 16 | 27 |
| | 3rd | Rob Ferreira | u16A | 24 | 5 |
| | u15A | Rob Ferreira | u15A | 28 | 5 |
| | u15B | Rob Ferreira | u15B | 29 | 31 |
| | u14A | Rob Ferreira | u14A | 12 | 0 |
| | u14B | Rob Ferreira | u14B | 7 | 18 |

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------|---------------------|------|----|----|
| Rugby | 1st | Nelspruit Hoerskool | 3rd | 17 | 0 |
| | 2nd | Pionier | 3rd | 10 | 26 |
| | u15A | Nelspruit Hoerskool | u15B | 7 | 29 |
| | u14A | Nelspruit Hoerskool | u14B | 17 | 20 |
| | u14B | Nelspruit Hoerskool | u14D | 7 | 7 |
| Netball | 1st | Pecanwood | 1st | 26 | 5 |
| | u16A | Pecanwood | u16A | 3 | 9 |
| | u15A | Pecanwood | u15A | 16 | 1 |
| | u14A | Pecanwood | u14A | 2 | 10 |

Congratulations to:

- Zoë Venter who was placed 1st in the Girls 12 – 14 years 800m freestyle, Girls 14 years 200m and Girls 14 years 400m freestyle at the SA Level 3 Swimming Championships. She has been selected to represent Central Gauteng at the SA Nationals Swimming Champs;
- Dean Myhill who has been selected to represent Central Gauteng at the SA Youth Swimming Championships in April;
- GJ Richter on his selection to represent the Mpumalanga School Swimming team who participated in the nationals in Bloemfontein

Penryn Family News

We wish to express our condolences to the following members of the Penryn Family on their loss of loved one:

- Mr and Mrs Naude, Margo and Simone on the loss of his father and their grandfather;

Please keep this family in your prayers.

General News

Hair

Those whom have coloured hair over the break or have braided or grown their hair too long need to ensure that it conforms to rules on return to school – failing that they will be asked to leave until it is fixed. Please do not create an embarrassing situation.

Electronic Circulars

All notices, reports and statements are sent out to parents electronically. Should you not have access to e-mail, a hard copy of correspondence will be available at reception.

Access to the Family portal is possible by accessing the Penryn website, www.penryn.co.za. You are able to view your child's academic progress, fee statement and absenteeism. To access the Family portal, please send an e-mail to head@penryn.co.za with your child's name and surname and a password of your choice.

School Intranet - "Moodle"

An intranet is a private computer network that uses Internet technologies to securely share any part of an organizations information or operational systems with its employees. Sometimes the term refers only to the organizations internal website, but often it is a more extensive part of the organizations computer infrastructure and private websites are an important component and focal point of internal communication and collaboration (Wikipedia).

You, as parents will be able to access the school intranet site via the internet. The site is updated daily and / or weekly with general activities, subject specific tasks, test and assessment dates, Attached please find instructions of how to go about this and which sites, as a visitor, you will be able to log-on to.

Concerns over the safety of our Children:

I have recently read with increasing alarm a number of newspaper reports and e-mails that concern themselves with the photographing of girls at shopping malls, the abduction of children and the operation of cartels looking for child slaves. Both as a parent and a teacher these reports fill me with great alarm. And I addressed the scholars at last Friday's assembly in this regard.

We obviously live in a world that is not as safe as it used to be. This is especially true for our kids. And it is important that they are empowered to be able to deal with the world in which they find themselves. Indeed it is one of the points of our mission that scholars leave Penryn as universally effective adults – able to "handle" themselves wherever they find themselves. It is my firm conviction that most of this will stem from their ability to deal with other humans in a respectful and confident fashion.

There is however, another part of this, and that would be to be vigilant and aware of those that intend harm on others. And I believe a lot of this is common sense. They are to be vigilant by watching for others who behave in a surreptitious and furtive fashion. Furthermore, by listening they will pick up other signs that all may not be well. If someone asks them to go into a dark corner to look for something they need to hear the threat that is posed by this behaviour. Most youngsters also have loud voices. These can be used very effectively if someone is behaving in a way that threatens your safety. It is very difficult to kidnap someone without being noticed when that person is screaming!

We also have a role as parents. Check where your children are going by phoning others. Don't allow your children to wonder aimlessly around places such as the Mall – they are not supervised. There are quiet and dark corners there that may very well pose dangers or harbour those with ill intent on their minds.

And if you have concerns speak to someone sooner rather than later. In my experience the strongest possible deterrent to criminal activity is a strong sense of community where people watch out for each other. The more we talk the more difficult it becomes for others to create the kind of confusion and fear that threatens us all.

Call for Prayer

The Nelspruit Community Forum have called for a time of prayer for spiritual renewal and the healing of our land at the Mbombela Regional Sport Stadium on Saturday, 27 March from 14h00 to 17h00. All are welcome.

Important dates to diarise in Term 2 are:

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|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Boarders return on Tuesday | 6 April after 14h00 |
| Academic lessons start | 7 April |
| Mid-term | 24 - 28 April |
| Exams start | 12 May |
| Exams end | 28 May |
| Term ends | 9 June |

The following dates are compulsory functions for all scholars. Should your child not be able to attend, a letter addressed to their Grade Head must be sent to the school prior to the function. Any letters received after the function will not be accepted and your child will be given a Heads detention

- 9/10 April Penryn Uplands Derby
- 28 / 29 May Uplands Penryn Derby
- 5 June Founders' Day
- 8 June Inter house Athletics

Sincerely



Greg Theron
Executive Head