



Penryn College  
Preparatory School



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

**From the Headmaster**

A very pleasant evening was held for all **new parents** on Monday and it was good to meet so many of you. I do hope that your child's stay at Penryn will be a long and particularly happy one.

This coming **Monday (25 January)** the '**Meet the Staff**' evening will be held. It is a good opportunity for all parents to get to know their child's class teacher a bit better and I would strongly encourage your attendance. The evening will start at **18h00** in the chapel, with a few words from me and an introduction to the management team of the Prep school. Thereafter, parents will accompany teachers to their classes for a chat regarding issues pertinent to that grade.

The **Grade 7's** had a wonderful camp last weekend and I was grateful for the opportunity to get to know the leadership group a bit better. My thanks to all the staff for their enthusiastic input, in particular Mr Andre. Below are a few photos which capture some of the variety of challenges on camp. See his report further on in this newsletter.



**Extra-mural activities** are now in full swing, with the Inter-House Athletics taking place today. An enormous effort has been put in by Mrs Allison Williams, who was here a week before school opened, taking early morning swimming and making sure that the extra-mural programme would be a well organised and stimulating one for our children. My sincere thanks to her.

After a fiercely contested **Inter-house Athletics** meeting the final placings were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peregrine
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lanner
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bateleur
- 4<sup>th</sup> Osprey

Junior Victrix Ludorum  
Junior Victor Ludorum  
Senior Victrix Ludorum  
Senior Victor Ludorum

Kelsey Mc Ilrath  
Carl Hoffman  
Vuvu Mthembu  
Joshua Gatton



On **Tuesday 2 February** all **Grade 4 pupils**, as well as all **new pupils** in the Senior Primary, will receive a bible in chapel. Parents of those children will be notified next week, as we would love you to join us for this meaningful event.

Have a great weekend!

**Neil Malherbe**  
[prephm@penryn.co.za](mailto:prephm@penryn.co.za)

**From the Deputy Head:**

It is hard to believe that we have only been back at school for just over a week. Teaching is in full swing and the extra mural timetable is up and running and the pupils are busy and seem very happy.

At the end of the year the lost property box was emptied out. Today I had a look and it was absolutely full! Many of the items are unmarked and so we cannot return them. I encourage all parents to mark their children's belongings clearly. If your child has lost an item of clothing, please come and check the lost property box. The box is situated in the Prep school office area.

Change in term calendar:

Class assemblies will not take place on a Tuesday anymore but will now take place on a Thursday. I encourage parents to attend these chapel services particularly if your child is receiving an award or is in a class presentation. They begin at 09h40 and are finished by 10h00. Your child will appreciate it.

**Grant Nel**  
[gnel@penryn.co.za](mailto:gnel@penryn.co.za)

**From the Head of Foundation Phase:**

2010 has got off to a good start and all pupils are now settled into their new classes. Ball games and swimming have commenced. We look forward to an exciting inter-house athletics meeting, where all pupils from grade 1 to 3 will participate.

All Foundation Phase class moms are invited to attend a Foundation Phase Committee meeting at the Pre-school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 13h15. Any parent who would like to become involved is most welcome to attend.

**Lois Crighton**  
[lois@penryn.co.za](mailto:lois@penryn.co.za)

## **From the Sports Office:**

Results of the swimming trials were posted on the Prep notice boards on Wednesday 20 January. Penryn is hosting the first gala of the year next Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January and your child will receive a letter on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January should they be participating in the above-mentioned gala.

Morning swimming training is seeing a very good attendance. It takes place on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 6:15 – 7:15 and is open to all swimmers who would like to better their times and general swimming performance.

There seems to be some confusion regarding the days of the two PE periods weekly. Please ask your class teacher which day your child will be doing PE. The lesson that the entire class is involved in is listed as PE (ALL) and the one that is available for extra coaching is listed as PE (EXTRA). It does not necessarily follow that all grade 2 classes, for example, will have the lessons on the same days. Please note that swimming caps are compulsory for both boys and girls at any time they enter the swimming pool.

Please remember, I am planning a one night tennis tour to the SA Open being played at Montecasino in JHB on Friday 5 February to Sat 6 February. The approximate cost is R350. The tour is open to pupils in Grade 5, 6 & 7. Please let Tombie Pappas or me know should you be interested in your child taking part.

There is a free introduction to Squash taking place tomorrow (Saturday 23 January 2010). Please phone Vanessa Christensen 082 901 6828 for more information.

The Swaziland Swimming Association has invited a team from Penryn to participate in an Open Water Swim taking place in Mbabane on Sunday 31 January. Accommodation will be taken care of by the Association. Please contact me should you require more information.

Announcement of the Athletics team will be posted on the notice boards on Monday 25 January in time for participation in the team practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Congratulations** to our House Captains for 2010:

Bateleur	Savanna de Bruno Austin and Vuvu Mahlalela
Lanner	Georgie Bowen and Michael Shum
Osprey	Leila Christensen and Gyula Kasa
Peregrine	Diana da Silva and Daniel van Heerden

**Allison Williams**

[allisonw@penryn.co.za](mailto:allisonw@penryn.co.za)

## **From the Director of Learning:**

### The Grade 7 Victorious Survivors Weekend

The first week back at Penryn proved to be a most memorable one for our 2010 Grade 7 group. As our aspiring group of learner leaders they embarked on a weekend away at Ekukhanyeni Christian Retreat.

The Biblical theme of the weekend was the story of Joseph, which showed how God used his trials as the training ground to raise him up as a leader and that God is able to take what is meant for bad and turn it to good.

Our dedicated teachers and vibrant group leaders engaged our Grade 7s in various activities that forged the Grade 7s into a group with their own unique identity. We had Art as therapy, quizzes, charades, skits and even African drumming as group activities. The Grade 7s had short effective talks that explored leadership, and hopefully motivated our Grade 7s to become the servant leaders that they are capable of being. Outdoor activities such as raft building, zip line, group dynamics and the obstacle course revealed problem solving skills, the ability to motivate and encourage others, and a range of other leadership traits.

One of the outcomes of this weekend was the identification of our first group of Grade 7s to be promoted to Junior Leaders, which will be revealed to the Grade 7s in the new week.

All appreciation goes to the teachers and group leaders, who gave up their weekend to develop our Grade 7s. Our gratitude also goes to Stephanie and Ian Milne of Ekukhanyeni Christian Retreat who ensured that the Grade 7s were well fed.

**Shane André**

[shane@penryn.co.za](mailto:shane@penryn.co.za)

## General Knowledge

### This week's questions:

1. How tall is the tallest Pyramid?
2. How is the Olympic torch first lit?
3. Who was the first athlete to run a mile in less than 4 minutes?
4. What is cloud cover measured in?
5. What are the two types of Earth's crust called?

Please remember to keep the general knowledge questions each week as they will form part of the Inter House General Knowledge Quiz at the end of the year.

## Penryn Parents Association

Penryn has a very active and motivated Parents Association and everyone is encouraged to become involved in some way, big or small. There is a place for everyone. The **PPA AGM will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February** at 18h00 and it would be wonderful to have all our parents attend.



### African Junior Round Square Conference 2010

Penryn College has the honour of hosting the African Junior Round Square Conference next month. Pupils from as far as Ghana will be attending. Over the course of the conference pupils will be engaged in various activities which will include community service projects. Penryn College has undertaken to improve the living conditions and lives of the children at the Simunye drop-off and home-based care centre and the Qedisize place of safety. On both their wish lists are reading books for the children. We would thus like to appeal to our Penryn families to help by donating any books for young ones that their own children may have outgrown. Suitable books can be handed in to the class teacher anytime before Friday 5 February. Your support is much appreciated.

## Haiti appeal:

We would like to encourage our pupils to support the call for assistance for victims of the Haiti earthquake. Money will be collected and will be distributed through the Methodist Church. Please put any donations in an envelope marked "Haiti appeal" and hand it in to the class teacher by Friday this week. We thank you for your support.