



“A sense of belonging”

Dear One and All

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

While I was busy skimming through “The Independent Education” I came across the article with the question “What is true education?”. What would your answer to the question be?

Looking back at our very successful but busy term, I feel it is so important for each one of us to take time to reflect on what we do, how we do it and why we do it. I strongly believe it is our duty to prepare our scholars to not only cope, but also to succeed in an ever-changing world. The World Economic Forum (WEF) defines this ever-changing world as an era that is characterised by “a fusion of technologies that is blurring the lines between the physical, digital and biological sphere”. So where does this leave us?

We will continue and develop ways of effecting engaging with each other – staff, scholars and parents. We need to rethink and share ways to continue building character in such ways that we all experience a true sense of belonging.

I honestly believe that we are so blessed to be part of a diverse society. We will continue to treasure it and find innovative ways to encourage every Penryn scholar, staff member and parent to make the most of his/her God given talents.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to each and every Penryn scholar, staff member as well as parents who play such a vital role in our Penryn success story. Let us all continue to promote and protect the Penryn brand!

Best of luck and thank you to our Cricket Department for the hosting and organisation of the upcoming 4th annual Under 14 T20 Cricket Tournament. Our Under 15 Cricket Team will take part in the Uplands Tournament and we wish them the very best.

A special word of best wishes must go to Thando and Amy-Lee who are on their way to Los Angeles where they will represent Penryn and South Africa at an International Music Competition.

Staff matters: A warm Penryn welcome to Mrs Sarah Ratnarajah who will join the Life Orientation Department and Mrs Carla Bach who will stand in for Mrs Sam Hardy while she is on maternity leave.

Some of the upcoming events for new term:

- Penryn staff transformation workshop
- Matric Dance at Whispering Thorns. May all our matrices and parents enjoy this special event.
- Under 16 Boys Hockey final Mpumalanga play-offs
- Soccer Derby vs Uplands
- Founders Day and Festival of Lights
- Field Trips

Rev's Musings

'While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my body'." He repeated the same with the cup of wine. (Mt 26:26) My mom used to sing a little hymn which went something like, **'Count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done.'** Reflecting back on this, I realise now that she sang this song in both good and less than happy times; when her heart was glad and also when she was sad!

Henri Nouwen (one of my favourite Christian authors), suggested that we often divide our experiences of life into two: good things to remember with gratitude and painful things to merely accept or forget. He goes on to say that gratitude can be a heart attitude or spiritual discipline. He writes, **"the discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy."** * This means that we can choose to practice this discipline of gratitude and eliminate or reduce our complaints. When in the Upper room, Jesus gave thanks to God, over the bread and wine, even though he was acutely aware of what he was to face. Can we who are his disciples follow a similar discipline?

This past week I got to experience *'counting my blessings'* in the midst of turmoil and disharmony. I had the misfortune of a burglary in my home whilst I was at school. After my initial anger at the intrusive violation of my privacy and then frustration and disappointment at the thought of the expense of replacements, I acknowledged that, despite having much taken, I was still a very privileged person with so much to be thankful for! Furthermore, most people I spoke to were so thankful that I wasn't home at the time and this sentiment enabled me to shift my focus to one of gratitude.

So Penryn family, as you spend time with your family this holiday, may you begin to see the many blessings in your life and try and practice the discipline of gratitude. May you acknowledge the blessing of being able to ensure your child gets a good education and rejoice in the results of their achievements thus far. May you, who are educators, spend a moment and visualize your classroom in your mind's eye. Say a little prayer for each child that you interacted with or taught last term, giving God thanks for the opportunity of knowing them.

Friends, please travel safely as you spend time with family and friends. Don't rush to get to your destinations and ensure that you take time to rest en-route! May God's grace and peace be with you until we regroup next term.

Prayer: Lord, you who gave thanks in everything, help us to practice the discipline of gratitude to you for everything you give us and for everybody you bring into our lives. Amen.

God bless!
Terry

SPORT NEWS

Judging by our final league positions, and the fact that as a result thereof no fewer than seven teams made it through to provincial playoffs, it would seem to have been a successful term for our sports teams. Indeed, there have been several highlights, as publicised in the press and on social media, and our scholars are to be congratulated thereon. However, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels – indeed we need to constantly assess how successful our sports programme actually is. Do we assess it simply on results, when often we play against weak schools, and win easily? Or by the number of provincial selections? Or by how many willing participants we have – given that our academic aim is not to have a 100% pass rate, but to prepare our scholars for tertiary education and life thereafter. Should we not aim to encourage our scholars to be active for life? Or should we assess our sport on how closely we align with LTAD principles? Ultimately we should aim to provide a programme that is in the best interests of our scholars, that allows us to determine who feel we should play against (schools that align with our ethos), that allows for minimal disruption to our academic day, and that our scholars enjoy – in other words one that is educationally sound.

Term 2 sport results

2018	TEAM	LEAGUE			FRIENDLY/TOUR			League Position
		Won	Lost	Drew	Won	Lost	Drew	
Hockey Boys	1st	2	1	1	2	6	0	2
	2nd	1	1	3	0	1	1	2
	u16A	3	1	0	1	5	2	2
	u16B	0	0	1	1	2	0	
	u14A	2	2	1	0	3	0	5

Hockey Girls	1st	6	0	1	1	7	0		1
	2nd	3	5	1	0	1	0		2
	u16A	1	5	3	0	2	0		4
	u15A	2	4	2	0	2	0		2
	u15B	0	0	3	1	1	0		
	u14A	5	2	1	0	2	0		2
	u14B	0	3	0	0	2	0		

Netball	1st	4	0	0	3	5	0		1
	2nd					6	0		
	u16A					4	0		
	u15A	2	2	0	4	1	0		3
	u14A	1	2	1	1	2	1		
Rugby	1st	3	3	0	1	2	0		6
	2nd	0	5	0	0	2	0		6
	u16A	3	2	1	2	4	0		6
	u15A	1	5	0	1	4	1		7
	u14A	2	4	0	2	2	0		5

Provincial selection

Swimming			Vidhaan Singh	Selected to represent Mpumalanga at SA Open Water Champs on 3/4 March
Triathlon			Brendan Leslie	Selected to represent Ehlanzeni (Mpumalanga) at nationals on 18/19 March
			Tayla Nortje	Selected to represent Ehlanzeni (Mpumalanga) at nationals on 18/19 March
Athletics	Boys	u15	Joshua Greeff	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
		u17	Vusi Mpofo	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
		u19	Jason Mantle	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
	Girls	u17	Zanele Chavangwane	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
			Nombuso Khoza	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
		u19	Bethel Makoni	Selected to represent Nelspruit Circuit Team at Mbombela Sub District Champs
			Nombuso Khoza	Selected to represent Mbombela Sub District team at Ehlanzeni District Champs on 2 March
			Zanele Chavangwane	Selected to represent Mbombela Sub District team at Ehlanzeni District Champs on 2 March
			Joshua Greeff	Selected to represent Mbombela Sub District team at Ehlanzeni District Champs on 2 March
			Bethel Makoni	Selected to represent Mbombela Sub District team at Ehlanzeni District Champs on 2 March
Swimming			Liam Emmett	Selected to represent Swaziland at CANA Zone 6 Champs on 21/22 March in Malawi
			Jordyn Minifie	Selected to represent Mpumalanga at SA Junior Nationals and SA Youth Senior Nationals

Hockey	Boys	u14A	Safari von Benecke	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
		u14B	Lefa Moganedi	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
		u14B	Steven Taylor	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
		u16A	Kgopotso Sedibe	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
		u16A	Jason Taylor	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
Hockey	Girls	u18A	Janka van Zyl	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
		u14	Emma Steytler	Selected to represent Mpumalanga
Rugby		u16	Jason Taylor	Selected to represent Mpumalanga Academy team
		u13	Naki Fakude	Selected to represent Mpumalanga (Craven Week)

Attached please find the sport practice schedule for term 3.

Conan Olivier
Director of Sport

FROM THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT

There are no proven answers to the questions we are asking about technology and our children's futures. That's what makes it all so difficult. Well, that, and the fact that even the questions are changing at an alarming rate! But this is a conversation we should be having. Not because we will all choose to parent the same, but because there is wisdom in numbers. Please join us for an evening of conversation with Dr Graeme Codrington who is a leading expert in the trends affecting how people live, work, interact and connect with each other. He will be addressing our parents on the issue of "Raising Children in a Changing World". The event is free of charge and we encourage you take this opportunity of equipping yourself with a conversation that is relevant and necessary.

PEN talk Sharing **BIG ideas**
CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP

PRESENTED BY
GRAEME CODRINGTON

LEADING IN A CHANGING WORLD
INTERNATIONAL FUTURIST RESEARCHER AUTHOR
DATE 12 -13 JULY 2018 | VENUE PENRYN
R2500pp for 2 full days workshop
To book tickets - <https://penryn.mutickets.co.za/GC>

RAISING CHILDREN IN A CHANGING WORLD
INTERNATIONAL AUTHOR OF "Future-Proof Your Child"
DATE 12 JULY 2018 | TIME 6PM | VENUE PENRYN
Free of charge to all interested

Penryn Penrynschools.co.za
Penrynschools.co.za

PEN talk

Penryn Fathers & Sons Courage to Connect Workshop – 24th to 25th August 2018

It is often difficult for fathers to stay connected to their sons during their adolescent years, however, this is perhaps where a father's effective involvement is most crucial. To this end, Penryn will be running the Fathers and Sons Courage to Connect workshop next term. The aims of the weekend are as follows:

- To open and/or develop the lines of communication between fathers and sons;
- To provide experiences for fathers and sons to build trust;
- To explore ways in which fathers can support their sons as they become men;
- To give opportunity for sons to speak, be listened to and understood by their fathers;
- To give opportunity for fathers to speak, be listened to and understood by their sons.

The course is limited to Penryn fathers and their sons who are currently in Grades 8 to 11. To book your place at this exciting event, the first of its kind in the Lowveld, please reply to c2c@penryn.co.za. The workshop will involve an afternoon/evening session for dads only, followed by a braai, and a joint Saturday morning session for dads (or equivalent male role model) and sons. This ground-breaking event will be facilitated by Rob Pluke, a counselling psychologist who has conducted similar workshops at several schools in KZN, and Conan Olivier.

Please be advised that places are limited. On receipt of the completed booking form, your place will be confirmed by return letter from the school to that fact, and the cost of R500.00 charged to your fees account.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPT

Best of luck to Amy-Lee Card (vocals) and Thando Mathebula (vocals and dance) at the World Championships for Performing Arts in Los Angeles. We are very proud to have our Penryn stars shine on the International stage this holiday.

The Djembe band will be part of the opening surprise act at the Inni-Bos main stage and we are truly looking forward to seeing how our djembe girls roll at our very own, very famous, local festival.