



Circular 20 – 27 July 2018



“A sense of belonging”

Dear One and All

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

I would like to start today by thanking Mrs Alleyne Jacobs, the Grade 11 parents, as well as our Grade 11 scholars, who worked so hard to ensure that our matrics experienced an unforgettable Matric Dance. *Whispering Thorns* welcomed the Penryn family in true fairy-tale style and it was a magical evening. Watching our matrics arriving is always a nostalgic moment; they looked so smart and full of confidence and they thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The questions we, as a staff, need to ask ourselves at this time of year are: *Did we teach them to have courage? Did we teach them to be creative? Did we teach them to be successful? Did we teach them to accept themselves for who they are?* On Saturday night, I saw creative, courageous and successful young adults who are so ready to take on an ever-changing world and future.

On a sporting note, congratulations to our Under 16 Boys' Hockey Team for ending 4th in Mpumalanga overall – an outstanding achievement! Our Under 14 and Under 16 Soccer boys attended a soccer festival at Camp Discovery. It was the perfect start to the soccer season for them and they are ready to take on our local schools. Best wishes to our Girls' Soccer Teams who get their turn at Camp Discovery this coming weekend.

Staff news: On Friday, 27 July, we say farewell to Jako and Penny Carstens. They have played a vital role in so many different spheres of College life. Their dedication and passion for the scholars and Penryn will always be remembered. Penryn College wishes them the very best for their new adventure in the UAE. Mahogany House will welcome Mrs Laura Scholtz, her husband, Zane, and daughter, Kaitlyn, as new Boarding Parents and family. We wish the Scholtz family the very best and welcome them onto campus.

SPORT NEWS

The Soccer World Cup continues to teach us lessons. Many people were very excited at the success - or lack of success - of “their” team during the tournament, and spent countless hours glued to their TV screens. So much was invested in this tournament: physical effort, financial sacrifice (1 million fans visited Russia) and emotional energy were all expended in pursuit of the 18-carat gold trophy, ultimately held aloft by France.

Away from the sports stations, a quite different story of a much younger soccer team was running over on the news channels. It also had many people gripped. A squad of young boys in Thailand had managed to get themselves trapped by rising flood water, four kilometres inside a cave. It took over two weeks to find them and get them out. On the same day as the first World Cup semi-final, the last of the boys and their coach were brought to the surface.

This was the real life and death story as opposed to the magnificent melodrama in the opposite hemisphere.

“The cave rescue showcased the best of humanity. Resourcefulness, resilience, team work, collaboration, care, love, diligence, thoroughness, optimism and hope. It has lifted the spirits and hopes of the whole world,” said Ben Fogle.

This parallel and contrasting story served to highlight and remind us that there are far more important things than football and sport - no matter how big the scale. **In terms of significance, lifting a young boy out of a cave will beat lifting the Jules Rimet trophy every time.**

Most of us will have our own special memory of the tournament, but one of the most powerful is of the Japanese fans staying behind to clear up the stadium after every match they were involved in, including their heart breaking last-minute

defeat to Belgium. No trashing of streets or opposition furniture stores there. The Japanese team left their dressing room spotless with just a single-word note to their Russian hosts, "Spacibo". Thank you.

With the exception of a few anecdotes, such as the one above, the others will fade into insignificance, merged with thousands of others from some previous twenty World Cups and countless other sporting events. It may sound harsh, but the players at the World Cup, even the winners, while successful, have not necessarily achieved anything of significance. Putting a ball in the back of a net (or over one, if you preferred the tennis) is not an act that is going to change life for the better. **This is because success (sporting or otherwise) does not equal significance.**

This is not to knock excellence. Those who achieve it, in whatever forum, can use the platform to make a real difference in someone's life. However, winning, in and of itself, is insignificant in the sense that it makes not a bit of difference to the world - even if it is the World Cup we are winning. In the context of the global and local challenges we face, such achievements pale into insignificance. **Those coaching, playing - and especially watching sport - need to know this.**

It is a hard lesson to hear above the fanfare and vuvuzelas in stadiums around the country, hard to see through the crowds of 10,000 people watching a schoolboy rugby match and perhaps impossible to understand how professional football players overseas can earn more in a week than many South Africans earn in a lifetime. Despite these challenges, coaches, teachers and parents have to help scholars know they can be significant without this type of success. Coaches need to ask themselves:

1. Why do I coach?
2. Why do I coach the way I do?
3. What does it feel like to be coached by me?
4. How do I define success?

These questions can guide them to a wider perspective that can help them to help their scholars leave a lasting and significant legacy.

Thank you to Tim Jarvis for his input in this.

Congratulations to our Under 16A hockey boys for making it through to the Noordvaal B Champs this weekend, as well as to our Under 17 soccer boys on beating Grey Bloem 2-1 at the Camp Discovery tournament last weekend, to win the bronze medal. We wish our girls' soccer teams well for their trip to Camp Discovery this weekend – I am sure they will do Penryn proud!

I will be on long leave from this weekend, and will be back in the office on Monday 22 October. During my absence, Xolani Grootboom will look after the Sports Department. He can be reached on xgrootboom@penryn.co.za.

Sports results can be found [here](#).

Conan Olivier
Director of Sport

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Two of Penryn College's scholars will be performing in the "Meet the Artists Concert" for *Beauty and the Beast* to be held in the Chapel this Sunday afternoon, 29 July, at 15h00.

Tickets are R80 for adults and college scholars and R40 for primary school children. This includes one cold drink.

At this concert you will meet all the lead performers who will star in the *Beauty and the Beast* production that will be staged in the Nelspruit Theatre from 22 to 26 October. This production is presented by Ms Felicia van Tonder, one of our voice coaches at the Penryn Music Academy and will feature scholars from the community and various schools from Nelspruit and White River.

In *Beauty and the Beast*, Unathi Nkuna will play the role of Belle, and Nancy Munhequete will play the role of the wardrobe. Please come and support our scholars at the "Meet the Artists Concert" concert, as well as in the upcoming production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Penryn Prep scholars who will also be seen in the *Beauty and the Beast* production in October are Helen Combrink, Thando Khumalo, Tintswalo Mashaba and Chrissie Siwele.

Penryn Stars shine at WCOPA 2018

During the recent holiday, the city of Long Beach, the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Centre and the Westin Long Beach Hotels and Resorts welcomed the 22nd Annual World Championships of Performing Arts with 3 500 contestants from 67 countries. South Africa participated for the 21st time with team SA as the second largest group at WCOPA 2018.

Two of our scholars had the opportunity to share their talent with the world as part of team SA of 2018. Amy-Lee Card and Thando Mathebula were chosen for the South African team during the South African Championships of Performing Arts. Both girls followed their dreams to compete on an international stage and thoroughly enjoyed this trip of a lifetime to California.

The trip included a visit to the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Universal Studios, Disneyland, shopping at Fashion District and even a party-bus trip through Los Angeles. When party-time was over, the girls were put through their paces at the World Stars Boot Camp and also enjoyed a comprehensive Performing Arts Seminar as well as workshops by some of the top experts in the industry.

Thando and Amy-Lee proved a force to be reckoned with at WCOPA 2018.

Thando was awarded 3 silver medals and 2 bronze medals in her age category. Her vocal solos achieved bronze for *Stupid Cupid* in the Open category, bronze for *Halo* in Contemporary category and silver for *Joy* in the World category. In the dancing event, Thando also rose to the occasion and came home with a silver medal for her Musical Theatre solo, *Read all about it*. Her ballet solo, *River flows in you*, received second place at the World Championship with the silver medal.



Amy-Lee was awarded 2 gold medals and 1 silver medal for vocals in her age category. Amy-Lee achieved a silver medal for *Say you won't let go* in the Open category, and first place with gold in both the Contemporary category (for *Riptide*) and the Variety category (for *Can't help falling in love*).

Amy-Lee literally swept the floor with her self-accompaniment on the Ukelele and was chosen as the 2018 Champion of the World Division winner for receiving the best score in the age group of 16-24 year olds in the Variety Arts Category. For this, she received the Plaque Champion of the World Trophy.

Both girls were offered recording deals with Lemoyne Alexander and the opportunity to work with the company's studio songwriters, which they are free to pursue as it suits them.

FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT



Penryn entered the annual Ehlanzeni District Visual Arts and Design Competition for the very first time. The theme was *Boxed Beautiful* with over 250 entries. Professor Mdhuli addressed the scholars before the prize giving, reinforcing the power of self-talk. He said, "Draw your mark, make an impact and leave a legacy". What an inspirational man!

We are extremely proud of two scholars in particular, namely Jemma McKenzie who was placed first and Nikita Janse van Rensburg who came second in the Visual Arts category.



The following scholars were awarded gold certificates for their outstanding performances: Taylor Dedekind, Liam Fulton, Amy-lee Card, Joshua Kluckow, Janka van Zyl, Sinead Ormiston, Leela Stein, Kayla Daniel and Amy Potgieter.

Silver certificates were awarded to Shelby Guerin, Jason Arendse, Megan Martins, Latasha Friend, Nicole Mellor, Cassidy Killerby-Korf, Sone Hattingh, Okwethu Shabangu, Winnie Elias, Cassandra Comins, Kamagelo Soga and Gaby Bruton.

Participation certificates were awarded to Idaishe Mukonyoro, Theodora Mdaka and Erin Goelst.

2018 TERM 3 WEEKLY ACTIVITY CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE THAT TIMES AND DATES MAY CHANGE DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL

Day	Date	Time		Event	Venue	
Mon	30/07/ - 03/08/2018	WEEK 1				
	30/08/2018	14:15	15:00	Head of House		
		17:00	18:00	Staff: Boarding Parents meeting		
Tue	31/07/2018	14:15	15:00	SEC meeting		
Wed	01/08/2018	14:00	17:00	T20 Cricket vs NHS		
				Accounting Olympiad Round 2		
		14:15	15:00	Grade 10 Imbizo		
		14:00	17:30	Boys and Girls Soccer vs Barberton	Barberton	
		14:00	17:00	Cricket: Girls cricket vs Lowveld High 1	Lowveld High	
		14:15	15:15	Staff: Camp and Invigilation meeting		
Thurs	02/08/2018	07:30	07:45	Tutor		
		13:30	15:00	Grade 9 Transformation Workshop		
		14:00	17:00	Cricket: Boys 2nd cricket vs NHS	Penryn	
		14:15	15:15	Grade 10 camp meeting		
		18:00	21:30	Winter Social		
Fri	03/08/2018	13:45	15:00	Knowledge session with Penreach	Penryn	
		14:00	17:00	Tennis: Boys 2 vs Bergvlam 1	Penryn	
		14:00	17:00	Tennis: Girls 2 vs NHS 2	Hoërskool Nelspruit	
Sat	04/08/2018	08:00	12:00	Spur MTB	Uplands	
				Class of 2008 Reunion (10 years)		
		08:00	16:00	Penryn Soccer Festival		
		08:00	13:00	Junior and Senior Boys Soccer vs Barberton		
				TBC		
09:00	18:00	Cricket: Boys U 15 cricket vs Piet Retief		Penryn		