



Circular 23 – 24 August 2018



*"A sense of belonging"*

Dear One and All

### **FROM THE HEAD'S DESK**

Founders' Celebrations! I would like to start today with a sincere thank you to all involved in ensuring that we look back with only proud and happy Founders' Day memories. It was a true celebration enjoyed by One and All. When teenagers comment on how much they have enjoyed a function, you know it was a success. Staff, parents, alumni and scholars all enjoyed playing against each other in the arranged hockey matches on the Saturday morning, while our cricket teams performed exceptionally well against Hoërskool Nelspruit.

On Monday 20 August, we dedicated our chapel service to our Matrics. With only eleven academic school days remaining, I challenge them to make each day count. I also encourage our Matrics to make friends with their circumstances. We cannot change the past but we can influence our future. May our Matrics look back with feelings of contentment and see how their dots connect! We wish our Matrics the very best with their examinations!

Over the past couple of days, we dealt with a social media incident on campus. The message to the scholars is clear – if you post it, like it or share it, you are involved! I encourage you all to read Rev. Terry Booysen's message below regarding social media very carefully.

#### **Upcoming events:**

Grade 8 – 11 Field trips. Each field trip has a different aim and I trust that all our scholars and staff members will make the most of this unique experience.  
Grade 12 Prelim Examination.

### **REV'S MUSINGS**

Over the past couple of weeks, I attended two courses which I believe were of immense interest to pastors, educators and parents alike. If nothing else, they were shocking and indeed sobering, as my eyes were opened to just how dangerous i-phones can be in the hands of our youth and how easily our young people can be subjected to blackmail etc.

Firstly, let me say that giving our young children fancy smart phones is opening them up to extreme danger, especially if you are not regularly checking on what they are up to on the phone. Nowadays, your child may be innocently searching for information for a project, and their screen could easily be infiltrated by all sorts of pornographic material. If they happen to click on the content, then it opens a pathway to a deluge of unwanted, unsolicited filth as well the world of paedophiles, grooming agents and more. It is frightening.

So here are few random tips I learnt from Emma Sadleir (co-author of '[Selfies, Sexts and Smartphones – A Teenagers online Survival Guide, 2017; Penguin books, SA, ISBN 9781776092758](#)).

- **Any digital content is dangerous content.** Your smart phones, iPad etc. give access to public platforms 24/7 and in the eyes of the law, this means it is as if you are publishing material in a magazine or newspaper. **The information is public and permanent.** The golden rule is, "If you wouldn't put something up on a billboard on a national highway, then do not post it on your phone".

- **If you post online, whatever it is can and will be found, downloaded, screenshot, copied, pasted etc.** Thinking you are safe because of privacy settings is not true, as these settings change almost daily at the whim of the platform storing your information. Also, material stored in the cloud can be hacked. Even if you take pictures on your phone and do not send them to someone, it carries a risk if your phone is lost, stolen, or hacked. They could resurface later, modified or used for false advertising, such as on porn sites.
- Do not let content exist that you wouldn't want the **Police**, your **Parents**, a **Paedophile**, **Prospective University** or scholarship officer, **Principal** or **Phisher** (someone interested in getting your personal information) to see. The internet never forgets!
- **There is no such thing as "anonymous" online.** You can always be traced, even if you use a fake name. Every time you are online, you are given an IP address, which is like an ID number from which all sorts of information is revealed about where you logged in from, what you did while logged in and what device you were using etc. Even if you use a pseudonym (e.g. @pink unicorn) you must be careful to only do or say things as if it were your real name. NB: When the sites tell you that you are anonymous, they are lying.
- We guard our homes with high walls and massive security but every day parents and children alike, reveal information into the public domain which undoes that security e.g. "Mum and Dad out... home alone. Boo," or, "I finally got my new passport," or, "Looking forward to our two-week holiday. Granny's got the dogs. Will miss them".
- If you have **location services activated on your phone**, would be stalkers, weirdos etc. have an easy time figuring out your movements.

Some tips to reinforce with your children: (Extracted from pages 22-23 of Emma's above-mentioned book.)

- Always have passwords for every device. Each device should have a different password and do not recycle them.
- Strong passwords contain letters, numbers and should be longer than 12 characters
- Only give passwords to your parents; no boy/girlfriends etc.
- Always log out immediately you have finished working on public computers/ devices.
- Never post your phone number, address, or other identifying information.
- Do not link your Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, or any other accounts.
- Do not "check in" anywhere.
- Do not put your real date of birth... you do not want people to know you are a minor.
- Do not allow parents or friends to post personal information about you.
- Never accept a friend request from someone you do not know.
- Beware of hashtags - they can override your privacy settings and make material go public.
- Turn location services off for all apps except Maps, or GPS tracking for your device or that which parents installed to locate you. If you post from school for instance with tracking on, people can pick up which school you are at. Beware of Snap Chat and Snap Maps... it sometimes overrides certain filters.
- Be careful of people-cloning, posing as young people when, in fact, they are people who are part of a dangerous network. Also, if you get a second friend request from one of your friends, check with them first if they have sent it. It may be someone cloning their account.
- Do not open spam or reply to it.
- Do not take any nude pictures of yourself or others. The minute you do, you have entered the world of pornography!

Finally, to all our parents: please try and read Emma's book, or go online and read some of the information she shares. She is a lawyer who specializes in this field, and has very useful information to share. Her book is easily read and is aimed specifically at teenagers. Encourage them to read it!

With this in mind, may I encourage you, as parents to pray the protection of the Armour of God (**Ephesians 6: 10 -18**) over your children regularly, if not daily.

***Blessings***  
***Rev Terry Booyen***

## **SPORT NEWS**

According to the famous coach of the Chicago Bulls, Phil Jackson, the strength of the entire team lies in the hands of each member. At the same time, the ultimate strength of individual members is the team itself. This is true for any sports team. While it is very important to have a good group of very talented athletes, it is also very important to foster teamwork in order to achieve success as a team.

### **What Teamwork Involves**

Each individual in a team should exhibit Trust, Enthusiasm, Ambition, as well as Motivation. The first one, trust, enables each team members to heavily depend on one another, as well as good fostering teamwork that depends on trust. In

any sports team, all of the players need to be trusting with each other. When there is no trust and the members play alone, the whole team is weakened.

Enthusiasm also serves as the glue that binds the entire team together. Many people engage in sport for enjoyment and fun of the game. If there is fun, the members will become less enthusiastic. Therefore, the whole team should share enthusiasm that stems from the desire to win as a team.

Each team member should also be pushed by ambition. This develops the commitment necessary to achieve their goals. Individuals, need ambition in order to be consistent in attending rigorous training sessions, as well as in focusing on the improvement of skills for the benefit of both the individuals, and the team.

**Cricket:**

Our First Team boys played Hoërskool Nelspruit last weekend in a rain-affected match this past Saturday. The boys lost the toss and were sent in to bat and only managed to score 92/10 in 18 overs. The boys got together and had a chat regarding using the ball which was effective in our innings and did well to fight until the end with NHS winning the match and our boys taking 5 wickets. On the same day, the under 15's match was rained out. Congratulations to the Second Boys Cricket Team who beat Uplands by 29 runs on Tuesday afternoon.

**Soccer news:**

Well done to all our teams for beating Curro Nelspruit last week. It is pleasing to see the hard work our coaches and players put in to Penryn soccer. The teams played with good spirit and teamwork was evident on the day.

**7's Rugby:**

Both our under 15 and 17 teams participated in the Lowveld High 7's Rugby tournament last weekend and did Penryn very proud. Well done to the under 15 team for winning the Shield cup.

**Results:**

**Soccer: Penryn vs Curro**

- Junior Girls: Penryn 1-0 Curro
- Junior Boys: Penryn 6-0 Curro
- Senior Boys: Penryn 2-1 Curro

**Cricket: Penryn First vs NHS**

- Penryn 92 all out in 18 overs
- NHS 93/5 in 16 overs
- Lost by 5 wickets

**Penryn u/15 vs NHS U/15 -Rained out**

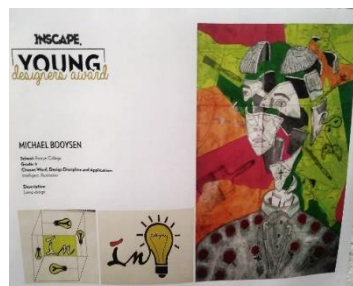
**Second Cricket Boys vs Uplands**

- Penryn 175/6 in 20 overs
- Uplands 146/10 in 16 overs
- Won by 29 runs

There is a lot of Sport this weekend and I would like to wish all Penryn teams the best.

**Xolani Grootboom**  
*Assistant Director of Sport*

**FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT**



Congratulations to the following Penryn College scholars who were selected as finalists in the Santam Child Art exhibition that had 3772 entries: Emma Steytler, Saketh Venmapoosa, Nikita Janse van Rensburg, Shelby Guerin, Gaby Bruton, Shannon Golitz, Bruce Varinde and Shayna McTaggart. Their work will be featured as an online exhibition at the end of August.



Congratulations to Michael Booyesen on being selected as a top ten young designer for the Inscape College Young Designers award. Thousands of entries were submitted from all over South Africa of which 96 were chosen for round two. Michael was then selected as a top ten finalist. Michael, we are so proud of you and look forward to what lies ahead. The student who won has already signed for her design to be patented.

## Provincial FET Visual Art and Design Competition 21 August 2018



Penryn College entered the FET Provincial Art and Design competition for the very first time. Their theme was "Boxed Beautiful". We would like to congratulate the following learners on their outstanding achievements: Amy Potgieter and Sinead Ormiston, received a certificate for outstanding performance in the Design Competition.



Leela Stein, Jemma McKenzie, Taylor Dedekind, Kayla Daniel, Liam Foulton, Amy-Lee Card and Nikita Janse Van Rensburg received certificates for

outstanding performance in the Visual Arts competition.

Jemma McKenzie received third prize in the province and her work will be exhibited at the Mpumalanga Show. Well done Penryn College!

### **FROM THE CULTURAL DEPARTMENT**

This past week has been a busy week on the cultural front for Penryn. The Nelspruit Eisteddfod has been underway for the month of August. At the start of the month a few of our scholars participated in the Afrikaans category, for speakers of a second language. In the past week, the English speech and drama has been underway.

Our scholars did amazingly well. They entered the Eisteddfod venue with poise and passion and blew the adjudicators away. Whether it was a solo monologue or a group drama, dramatized or undramatised poetry, the scholars performed superbly. Thank you to Mrs Peel (Drama dept.) and Mrs Coetzee (Afrikaans dept.) for their efforts in preparing our scholars so well. And lest we forget, thanks to the drivers, who ensure that our scholars get from Penryn to the Eisteddfod venue on time. My huge thanks for your time as well.



But in the midst of the Eisteddfod, we also held our Inter-House Music Competition. The three categories in which the scholars participated were: a group instrumental, group acapella and group dance. In the last 2 years we have seen the performances improve to such an extent that this is not missed. This year proved to be better than ever. All four houses proved to be a force to be reckoned with. And for once, it was very hard to tell the different groups apart. My congratulations to all those scholars who put in the time and effort to create a performance that was a highlight of the cultural calendar.

The results have been the closest we have had in years.

#### **Results:**

Event	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
Instrumental	Goshawk & Kite		Harrier	Kestrel
Vocal	Kestrel	Kite	Goshawk	Harrier
Dance	Harrier	Goshawk	Kestrel	Kite
<b>Overall</b>	<b>Goshawk</b>	<b>Harrier &amp; Kite</b>		<b>Kestrel</b>

But, of course, the week did not finish with Inter-House Music. Founders Day, once again, had many of our scholars on the stage, letting us all enjoy their talents over Penryn College's Birthday Weekend. Well done on all your performances, Penryn!

**One and All  
Mrs Comins**

## Bush Buddies 2018

Gabriella Bruton, Marc Codd, Bradley van Rij, Mbali Mthimunye, Nokulunga Nkambule and I signed up for a weekend in the Bush with scholars from Zivuko Secondary School whom we had never met before, accompanied by Mr Olivier.



We expected awkward silences, dirty clothes and snakes in our rooms. On the day that we arrived, we handed in our cell phones and headed to camp. We avoided awkward silences by playing soccer games that resulted in bruises, but the laughs that we shared made the bruises worthwhile. We started the evening by debating about who should do the dishes and who got to use the light that was needed to see while showering. We ended the evening by sharing the duty of the dishes, having a shower under the stars and singing around the fire.

The next day we rose early and went on a six-hour game drive which resulted in us using the bush as a bathroom: "Every tree is a lavatory". Our endless chatting chased away most of the animals and our late arrival meant having brunch at 3pm. We played another soccer match in a river bank, this time while the sun was setting. Marc, Bradley, Mbali and Nokulunga dominated the game, while Gabriella and I failed to stop or kick many balls. We spent yet another laughter-filled evening around the fire.



We woke up being disappointed that the weekend was nearly over. Our game drives, bush walks and conversations taught us how important the conservation of our wilderness is, and enabled us to begin to understand our fellow South Africans. While this weekend was educational, it was also an experience that will not easily be forgotten. The friends that we made, the laughter that we shared and the lack of technology, made for a great and unforgettable weekend. If you ever have the opportunity to go, make sure you grab it with both hands - it is truly an experience of a life time.

*Leela Stein*

**PLEASE NOTE THAT, NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY 07 SEPTEMBER 2018 DUE TO THE FIELD TRIPS!**

**2018 TERM 3 WEEKLY ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

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

**FIELD TRIP WEEK - 27/08 - 3/09/2018**  
**All matches to be postponed and rescheduled.**  
**Any cricket or rugby MP trials will continue**

Wed	29/08/2018			Cricket: Girls cricket vs Lydenburg 2	MOVED TO 5/9
				Cricket: Boys semi-finals TBC	
Thur	30/08/2018	16:20	-	7s Hockey League vs Curro	Curro
		17:00	-	7s Hockey League vs NHS	Curro
		17:40	-	7s Hockey League vs Lowveld	Curro
Fri	31/08/2018			Cricket: Boys final MP trials - all ages	
				Rugby: Sevens Junior and Senior PUMA Champs	Middleburg High
Sat	01/09/2018			Cricket: Boys final MP trials - all ages	
				<del>Junior and Senior Boys soccer vs Lydenburg</del>	MOVED TO 3/9
Sun	02/09/2018			Cricket: Boys final MP trials - all ages	
Mon	03 - 07/09/2018	<b>WEEK 1</b>			
		<b>National Literacy Week</b>			
	03/09/2018	14:00	17:00	Cricket: Boys U14 vs Uplands	Penryn
		14:00	17:00	Soccer: Junior and Senior vs Lydenburg	Penryn
Tue	04/09/2018	13:00	15:00	Junior Afrikaans Olympiad	
Wed	05/09/2018	07:30	07:45	Voting for the Scholar Exec for 2019	
		14:00	17:00	Cricket: Boys T20 finals	
		08:30	09:30	Rugby: Sevens Final round trials	Nelspruit
		14:00	17:30	Boys and Girls Soccer vs Sybrand	Sybrand
		14:00	17:00	Cricket: Girls cricket vs Lydenburg 2`	Lydenburg
Thur	6/09/2018	07:30	07:45	House meetings	
		09:40	11:00	Grade 7 Market Day	
		14:00	17:00	Cricket: Boys 2nd Team cricket vs Komatipoort	
		16:20		7s Hockey League vs LHS	Curro
		17:00		7s Hockey League vs Bergvlam	Curro
		16:30	18:00	Grades 10 and 11 Drama Assessment	
		17:30	19:00	Grade 10 and 11 Parents evening	
Sat	08/09/2018	International Literacy Day			
		08:00	17:00	Rugby: Sevens Junior and Senior	Barberton
		08:00	12:00	Spur MTB	Penryn
		09:00	11:30	Junior and Senior Boys Soccer vs Sybrand	Penryn
Sun	09/09/2018	14:00	18:00	Rugby: Sevens U17 Puma practise or Bondedag	Nelspruit