



ST JOHN'S D.S.G.
PIETERMARITZBURG
Small school. Big heart.

THE

Yellow



Love



my school

#SJS

PAGES

4 OCTOBER 2019



We are delighted to announce our 2020 Head Prefects! They are Ntando Dube (Head Girl), Aphiwe Madondo (Deputy Head Girl) and Mia Chetty (Senior Boarder Prefect).

IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION:

- ♥ an interesting experiment,
- ♥ an author visits our JP girls,
- ♥ some exciting upcoming events,
- ♥ and more...



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

www.stjohnsdsg.com

THE HEADS UP *with* Ntando Dube



↖ 2020 Head Girl

My name is Ntandoyenkosi Nkanyezi Dube, Head Girl for 2020, and to say that I am humbled and honoured to have been granted the privilege of leading St John's D.S.G. next year would be an understatement. I would like to congratulate Aphiwe Madondo and Mia Chetty for their appointment as Deputy Head Girl and Senior Boarder Prefect, respectively. You're both extremely deserving of your positions and the school could not have chosen any better. I look forward to working with you two ladies.

"God has a tendency of picking up a nobody to be a somebody, in front of everybody, without consulting anybody." These were my mom's words to me after learning that I had been elected as Head Girl for 2020, and I could not agree more. All that I have today is not by my own doing, but rather by God's. I'd like to thank Him for granting me the privilege, opportunity and honour of leading St John's D.S.G. forward in 2020. I'd also like to give thanks to my family for being my biggest supporters and motivators - without them I don't know where I'd be. Thank you for all the advice; the time you've invested in me; all the sacrifices that you've made along the way and for moulding me into the young lady that I am today. I hope that next year I can lead by the core values of integrity and empathy that you instilled in me as a child.

To the St John's D.S.G. girls, my fellow friends and sisters: thank you for choosing me as Head for 2020 - I am truly humbled. I promise to ensure that your voices are heard. I will do my very best to be an exemplary leader but please do forgive me if I make mistakes - I'm only human!

To the staff and all teachers, both past and present: Time and time again you have exceeded your job description by being mentors, confidants and parents away from home. I thank you sincerely for always believing in me; challenging and empowering me; supporting me in all that I've done; allowing me to be a "free-range" child and seeing potential in me even when I did not. Thank you for the role that you've played and the impact that you've had in my life.

Last, but not least, to the Prefects of 2020: I am overjoyed to be working with you all next year and I have no doubt that it will be a fantastic year. Remember, as Jim Rohn once stated, "The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold but not a bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant and have humour, but without folly." Here's to a prosperous year ahead of us.

May it be a year full of joy; hard work; unity; selfless service to the school and the broader community, but above all, continuous learning. As John F. Kennedy said, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." May we soar on wings like eagles; run and not grow weary; walk and not grow faint.



"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." John F. Kennedy ♡

Latest News



A Surprise Visitor

The 2020 Head Boy of St Charles College, Sanele Mdingi, made a surprise visit to St John's D.S.G. during tea time on Wednesday, to personally congratulate our 2020 Head Girl, Ntando Dube, and present her with a handwritten card and a beautiful bouquet of roses. Thank you, Sanele!

World Teachers' Day

Tomorrow is World Teachers' Day and at St John's D.S.G., we are very grateful to have such wonderful teachers who enrich and inspire our girls to reach their full potential. We spoke to some of our Eaglets and Matric girls, to ask them some questions about teachers.

WHY DO WE HAVE TEACHERS?

"Because if you fall and nobody's there, who would put a plaster on?" Mieke, Grade RR

"They are there to remind you that you can do it, if you try really hard. You need to know that because one day, when you're big, you can't drive to your mom's house every time you want to open a new box of cereal." Lucy, Grade R

"They teach you to listen so that when you are old, you will know how to do your job. If your boss says, 'You need to go to parties!' then you need to listen." Abigail, Grade R

CAN YOU REMEMBER A TIME THAT YOU FELT ENCOURAGED BY A TEACHER?

"I was incredibly disappointed that I hadn't yet achieved my Honours, as I had worked really hard for it. I chatted to Mrs Schwegmann. She gave me advice, told me to be patient and prayed with me. She told me her door is always open if I want to chat to her." Owethu, Grade 12

"I was worried that I wouldn't get into my university course (I want to study law.) Mrs Kidd told me if I kept working hard, I could get the marks I needed. She even offered to spend extra time teaching me. I got into my course!" Luthando, Grade 12

Upcoming Events - P.A. Family Fishing Competition

Attention all fishing fans: get your tackle boxes ready! Our Parents' Association is hosting their annual Fishing Competition, taking place on Saturday, 23 - Sunday, 24 November at Thornlea Dam. This year's fun-filled, family event is proudly sponsored by **Lowrance** and we would love for you all to join us.



JUNIOR SCHOOL News



A PHOTO TO TREASURE



Grade RR Eaglet, Georgia Steyn, who had an operation yesterday, was so upset that she would be missing her very first St John's D.S.G. class photo. Her surgeon, Dr Essa, and his incredible theatre staff all posed with Georgia for their very own "class photo."

Thank you Dr Essa and his team for showing "big heart" to this special girl. We are thinking of you and hope you get better soon, Gigi.



AN INTERESTING VISITOR

Talented local author and illustrator, Robyn Williams visited our Grade R-3 girls on Wednesday. She read her book, *Andre the Aardvark's Adventure* to the girls, and educated them about some of our local wildlife who feature in her story. She also showed them some of her original illustrations and explained how she created them. The session ended with an illustration workshop, during which our girls were shown how to draw their very own "Andre the Aardvarks." It was a thoroughly enjoyable morning, and our girls were spellbound by Mrs Williams' fantastic story!



Senior School News



HONOURS FOR HANNAH



Congratulations to Matric pupil, Hannah Jacobs, who was awarded an Honours Blazer for Dramatic Arts during assembly last term. Three of our girls - Victoria Wood, Kelsey Dellar and Sarah Burnett - were also re-awarded Honours Blazers for Academics. Well done, girls - your hard work and dedication has paid off.

An Awesome Practical

Our Grade 10 Life Sciences class had great fun investigating their lung capacity recently. They took turns blowing through a tube into an inverted bottle of water. The amount of water displaced by the exhaled air was measured. Lucy Crampton had the highest volume: an impressive 4.5 litres!



A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

Grade 9 pupil, Jessica Wetherill recently took part in the South African Gym Games. She placed 5th overall and was the highest scoring gymnast in KwaZulu-Natal in the U15 age group. She took part in the Ribbon, Hoop and Free Dance categories. Well done, Jessica!