



WATERFALL PREPARATORY

031 710 1814 | 111 Ngwele Road, Hillcrest
| hello@waterfallprep.co.za
www.waterfallprep.co.za



NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2018

Volume 1

Dear Parents and Waterfall Prep Children,

The first term seems to have flown by and I trust that the old saying of 'time flies when you're having fun' applies? I sincerely hope that as we continue developing the Waterfall Prep 'programme and annual activities routine' that we will be able to find and maintain a balance of school and home/family time that is healthy for all stakeholders. This term has been about settling in, primarily for the Intermediate Phase children (Grades 4 – 7).

From my perspective, this has gone very well. Once again, I would like to thank the teachers across the school for their dedication and commitment to the process of setting in place programmes that are appropriate, meaningful and enjoyable. The children and respective families have certainly played their part in the smooth start to the year! Thank you for your participation in the Open Evening, the Opening of the IP block, Parent Teacher interviews, support at sporting fixtures, the College Walkathon, as well as the contributions towards various collections and fundraising opportunities.

The teachers all enjoyed an excellent professional development mini-conference on Saturday 10 March. The focus of the time was on the "Importance of Play" in a child's development and "The Homework Dilemma". In both cases we were encouraged to think further about the programme that we develop and, in particular, ensuring that we consider keeping the right balance with respect to desk time and assessment, and children being children, learning to enjoy learning and creating memorable moments. This all speaks to the Waterfall Prep culture that will develop over the next few years. I read recently that "culture is like a greenhouse – the environment we create, determines what grows here". This is what makes being a part of a new school so exciting. We all contribute to this environment and my strong feeling is that our priority is to make sure that ALL children (and their families) love school! If we can keep that foremost in our minds as we establish the Preparatory appropriate programmes and set in place functions and activities, we should be able to grow a positive attitude to lifelong learning.

The second term promises to be quite an exciting one, with what I call the "Triple-M's"



(Memory Making Moments), the hallmark of good primary school years, in place!

Some of which are:

- Mothers' and Fathers' Day activities (Friday 11 May and Friday 15 June respectively)
- Soccer festivals (Dates to be confirmed)
- IP 'Night-Aways' (All details to follow at the start of Term 2)
- Grade 4's – 24/25 May
- Grade 5 and 6's – 15/16 May
- Grade 7's – 4/5/6 June
- Interschools Cross country events (Under 9 – Under 13), including one at Waterfall Prep

Term 2 School Sports offered will be:

- Soccer (boys and girls) .
- IP Girls hockey (boys and FP children in the 3rd term) .
- Cross Country.
- We will possibly introduce some touch/tag rugby with a 'very focussed on fun and learning the game' approach.

An aspect of the school culture we intend to develop includes a deep understanding of being part of a wider community and developing in the minds of the country's future citizens, a recognition of the value of community upliftment and generosity. My experience so far, is that the Prep Families are incredibly generous! Thank you for your contributions to:

- The 'Western Cape Water Collection'.
- The College Walkathon (almost R10 000 pledged by the participating IP children!).
- The Prep Reading Book collection - ongoing if you have books to recycle in your shelves (and generous cash donations received towards the purchasing of books).
- The Easter-egg collection.
- The support of the Grade R Cake Sale (proceeds of which will be going towards the art display cabinets for the FP corridors and a project at one of the Focus on iThemba creches.) We look forward to the Grade 6 and 7 cake sale on Tuesday 20 March. Thank you in advance for supporting these endeavours.

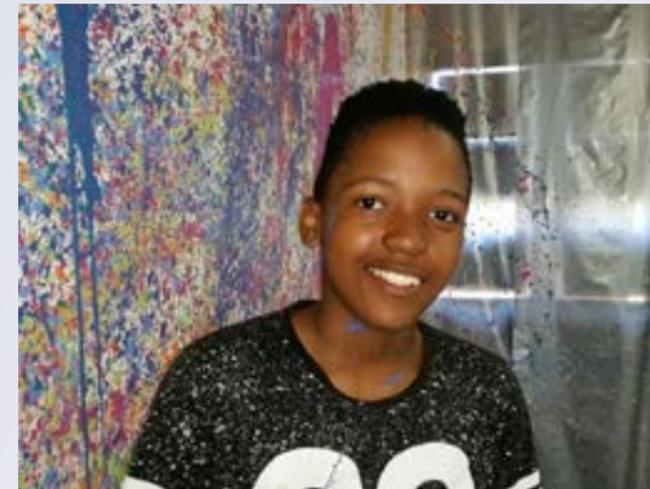
We are looking forward to the completion of the IP block 'bathroom decorating project'. A group of parents have been hard at work collecting and repainting picture frames and the IP children have completed art work that will be used in this project. I'm told that the project is still in need of a few more picture frames, should you have any unused frames available. Please drop these off at reception.

In the second term, we would like to begin collecting 2l plastic milk containers (rinsed and clean please!), both to encourage a recognition of the need to recycle and because from this we can get recycled plastic benches to be placed in playgrounds and on the edge of the fields. If any parents would like to take this on as a project (with the help of teachers, monitor collections per class as an incentive, manage the collection point and possibly drop collections in Kloof), please contact Angela in reception.

I trust that the break has brought you some quality family time and that you've been reminded of the New Life that Jesus gives through the story of Easter.

Warm regards

Brad Cooper
Headmaster



GRADE 7 JACKSON POLLOCK

Our Grade 7 class recently released their creativity and performed a 'Jackson Pollock' inspired art project on their classroom's back wall! The pupils had an amazing time working with texture and colour as they threw the paint at different angles and mixed the colours, layer upon layer. The result was an explosion of brightness, which

has brought the classroom to life and the Grade 7s closer together! The next time you are on our campus, pop by for a visit to take a closer look at the Grade 7 masterpiece. We were incredibly grateful to the team from Mica Waterfall for donating 30 litres of paint for this project!

CREATIVE CLUB

This year we've introduced a new extra mural activity with Miss Carr! 'The Creative Club' meets once a week and explores creative projects that the pupils show an interest in. The first few sessions have involved fabric dyeing and printing. Thank you to Miss Carr for running this programme, our pupils have enjoyed it immensely in the first term.



SWIMMING FOR FOUNDATION PHASE

Our Foundation Phase pupils have enjoyed taking part in Swimming Galas this past term. The Upper Highway has a wonderful 'fun gala' programme in the first term and our pupils have been able to take part in galas at Thomas More and St. Mary's, to name a few.





WALKATHON

Our Intermediate Phase pupils completed their first annual walkathon this term, on a beautiful, sunny Friday afternoon! We joined the Waterfall College students in the annual school fundraiser, with two hours to complete as

many laps of the 1km route around our school campus as possible. Congratulations to everyone for keeping up their spirits on such a hot afternoon!

VALENTINE'S DAY

Our pupils enjoyed Valentine's Day in their red, white and pink civvies. There was much excitement as we held our annual Cake Sale, here are a few highlights from the day!



PARTNERING WITH PARENTS: BATHROOMS

The heart of a school is dependent on many aspects - one important component is the parent body. We were overwhelmed by an incredibly creative and dedicated team of parents, and their children, who worked together during the January holidays to transform our Foundation Phase bathrooms into beautiful, welcoming spaces! Thank you for being so awesome and for all your care.
Open evening



Our school was overwhelmed on the 28th of February as we welcomed new parents to our Open Evening for both our Foundation and Intermediate Phases. This year we hosted our Open Evening in our school hall and the event took on the feeling of a discussion rather than a formal open evening. The interest in our school has been wonderful to see. A massive thank you to our parents, teachers and staff for their amazing help on the evening.



OUR WONDERFUL TEACHING TEAM



OPENING CELEBRATION

On the 31st of January we celebrated the official opening of our Intermediate Phase school building with our wonderful pupils and parents! A massive thank you to our special guests, parents and the Prefects

from Waterfall College for bringing such joy to the event. As the Intermediate Phase is the final piece in the puzzle of Waterfall Schools, we are excited to continue to grow as a school community on our beautiful campus!



THE NEW WATERFALL COLLEGE MEDIA CENTRE

The main focus of our fundraising for Waterfall College has been for the new Media Centre which is opening in Term 2. A wide range of library books are available, all carefully covered in plastic. Their lending process will be managed through a new Papyrus software system with

accompanying hardware. The school plans to add more computer equipment from ongoing fundraising efforts. A big thank you to parents, Nikki Waterston (Kyle's mom) and Tracy Hardcastle (Jonty's mom) for their hard work and dedication to this exciting development.

Growing Hearts and Minds

www.focusonithemba.org | 031 710 1800
iThemba Campus, 111 Ngwele Road, Hillcrest

Focus on iThemba provides bridges of hope, resulting in life-altering positive change by investing in children through quality education.

This little one will write her Grade 12 exams in 2032 and we know she is getting the best start today thanks to our forward-thinking donors who support our Early Childhood Development initiatives.

Together we are so much stronger.

Thank you SO much to Waterfall Prep for spreading joy through the Easter Eggs donation! We so appreciate your kindness.

