

Snippets

Pretoria High School for Girls



From the Headmistress

It is amazing how quickly the months pass by and it is hard to believe that already the mid-year exams are upon us. The teachers have spent weeks setting these exams and the papers have been moderated by external facilitators as required by the GDE. I trust that your daughters will have spent adequate time preparing for these exams and that they will do justice to the exams and themselves!

Please be reminded that as required by the Education Department Grade 8 and 9 learners may not leave school before 13:10 each day. Please do not therefore request special concessions for your daughter.

Girls may wear the full regulation school tracksuit to school during the exam period only. A white regulation school shirt and tie and socks and white laced takkies must be worn with the tracksuit. If a girl does not own a tracksuit, the regulation winter uniform must be worn. No blankets, hot water bottles, beanie's or similar may be worn or brought to school.

I trust that by now you are all alerted to the fact that the Spring Fair is on 30 August this year. This change was necessary as the Grade 12 girls must write the departmental trial Matric exam this year and is scheduled 3 to 23 September. This made it impossible for all venues to be available for Spring Fair activities and consequently necessitated the change. Please ensure that your daughter has brought all her required items of contribution for the Spring Fair to her Form Teacher. All of these should have been brought to school by Friday 30 May. Please also volunteer your time and expertise for a stall of your choice on the day. All help and support will be greatly appreciated.

The winter sport programme has once again resulted in mixed success. The netball, while still a challenge against several schools, has shown significant improvement over the 2013 results and we are well pleased with this progress. Our hockey has been exciting and fulfilling as we adjust our games and training to the Astro. Having our own Astro is really wonderful and we are confident that by the next hockey season we will be a force to be reckoned with in all age groups and levels. Squash and tennis are still popular sports though the number of girls involved is significantly less than the major sports. Here too we have work to do, but the coaches are giving all they can to the training of the girls involved. Basketball and volleyball are still popular sports and they too are enjoying mixed success. What is important in all these disciplines is that the girls are outdoors, socialising and working as a team and participating in an activity that is healthy and stimulating. This is the greatest value of sport.

30 May 2014

Issue 2 2014

Inside this issue:

From the Headmistress	1-2
Headgirl shines!	2
Fairlady Magazine	3
Cross-Country	3
Girls' Schools' Festival	4
Markro/MySchool	5
Advertisements	6

2014 School Calendar

- **Term 2**

7 April - 27 June

- **Term 3**

21 July - 3 October

- **Term 4**

13 October - 10 December

Important Dates

26 June
Inter-House Athletics

23 August
Matric Dance

30 August
Spring Fair

16 October
Matric Valediction

In the cultural arena the Orchestra continues to go from strength to strength with many ensembles and the Big Band attracting girls to participate. The various music events are well attended and the progress and growth in all learners playing an instrument, from Grade 8 to the higher Grades is amazing. Special thanks must go to all staff members in the Music Department for the time and effort they put into the training of the young ladies in this department. The Choir, under the baton of Mr Gericke has also shown much growth and success. They were placed in joint first place with Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskool in the Girls' Choir category at the Beeld Eisteddfod. They also participated in the regional preliminary round of the ATKV and received a Gold Certificate. These are fine achievements and I encourage all the members to stay focussed and achieve to even greater heights. The Grade 10 music evening was most enjoyable and despite some of the musicians' nervousness at performing in front of an audience for the first time, they all enjoyed themselves and performed well.



Mrs McCusker presents Grace Luposo, Head of Choir, with the trophy

The success of this school is attributed to great teamwork and the commitment of everyone who is involved. I would therefore like to thank all the staff, the governors, the parents and the girls for their support during my term of office at this magnificent school.

The midyear holiday period in four weeks time will be a welcome break for everyone. Please respect the privacy of the staff during this time. Should any of you be travelling during the holidays, please go safely.

PA McNair
Headmistress

Headgirl rises to occasion

TEBOGO MONAMA

TSHWANE schoolgirl Tsholofelo Mamogale experienced one of her proudest moments at the weekend at the presidential inauguration.

Mamogale, 17, a Grade 12 pupil at Pretoria High School for Girls, was chosen to read the constitution preamble before President Jacob Zuma was sworn in by Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

About 4 500 guests, including heads of state, royalty and soccer stars, were in the Nelson Mandela Amphitheatre at the Union Buildings as she read, while 15 000 people watched from the Union Buildings' southern lawns.



Tsholofelo Mamogale

Though she was told of the reading only three days beforehand, she said it was ample time to prepare.

"On Saturday, I felt like I was having an out-of-body experience. It was a nerve-racking moment, but I was able to control myself and read without problems."

Headgirl Mamogale said she was chosen by principal Penny McNair to represent the school

at the event.

She also plays netball, the flute in the school orchestra, teaches other pupils maths and science, and is a member of the first aid team.

tebogo.monama@inl.co.za

Our Headgirl shines at State President's Inauguration

Congratulations to our Headgirl, Tsholofelo Mamogale for her moving recital of the preamble of the constitution prior to the swearing in of our President Jacob Zuma by the Chief Justice, Mogoeng Moegoeng on Saturday 24 May.

This report featured on the front page of the Pretoria News on Monday 26 May.

Joan Manders
Marketer

Fairlady Magazine

We are pleased to announce that PHSG has been included in the Fairlady magazine's Top 25 (Public) Government High Schools in South Africa. This article is featured in the June edition.

The school was one of 100 schools invited by Fairlady magazine to participate in this survey. This list of schools was based on the top 100 schools in South Africa, as given to them by the Basic Department of Education and based on the 2013 matric results. The magazine decided on the criteria for their analysis of the completed surveys.

Joan Manders
Marketer

FAIRLADY ANNUAL SCHOOL
REPORT SURVEY 2014

Our top 25
government
high schools

The state of our education system is a hot topic – in the news, in our homes, at the schools themselves and here at FAIRLADY, too. South Africans are passionate about education – we care deeply about which school our children attend, and we'll move mountains to get them into ones we rate.

Cross Country

The PHSG Cross Country Teams compete in both the Johannesburg and Pretoria Leagues.

On 19 May the girls ran at Pretoria Boys High School and Tristen Rees was placed third in the Senior Girls Race and Megan Gerber was positioned fifth in the Junior Girls Race.

The coach, Mr Kenny Mwape has helped the girls improve their fitness and speed tremendously and this has resulted in both the senior and the junior teams coming third this season and qualifying for the Inter-league race next week.

Two seniors, Tristen Rees and Ashleigh Connell, along with two juniors, Megan Gerber and Taylor Rees, have qualified to represent the Central District in the Inter-District League race where they will compete against two other Districts.

Although the season is not yet over, the Cross Country Teams have had a successful season so far.

Ms M Lippi
Cross Country Organiser



National Girls' Schools' Festival

On Saturday 26 April 47 girls and accompanying staff flew from OR Tambo to Port Elizabeth to participate in the 15th National Girls' Schools' Festival hosted by Collegiate Girls' High School which was held over four days.

This festival has grown over the years and there were twenty girls' schools from all over South Africa participating in a variety of sporting and cultural activities. PHSG were involved in chess, hockey, netball, squash, tennis, debating and public speaking.

Even though the competition was tough, the girls enjoyed every minute of the festival and were splendid ambassadors for their school.

Joan Manders
Marketer

Sports Report

Overall the festival was an immense success. The players and coaches showed good sportsmanship at all times. Although we did not achieve the results we hoped for, the players improved with each game; their passion for and commitment to their sport was evident on and off the field/court. Each player showed fighting spirit, played her heart out in each match and never gave up. Each held Pretoria High School for Girls name high and made us proud.

It was not only the players who enjoyed the festival but the staff as well. The staff's team spirit, joy, laughter and support at the different disciplines were a great contribution to the success of the festival.

The festival was good preparation for the leagues we participate in; an opportunity to see where we are at and what we have to work on to improve even more. At this point I would like to thank the coaches for the hard work and effort they put in. It is much appreciated.

M Marais
Director of Sport

Cultural Report

The Debating and Public Speaking teams represented PHSG in the cultural disciplines during this festival. Although we were very disappointed with the outcome of our competition, we valued the lessons learnt. Our junior debaters gained invaluable experience and were superb ambassadors for our school. The public speaking saw both Kagiso and Kristen deliver confident and well prepared speeches. Kristen was invited to join the top 9 speakers in the finals.

The festival once again proved that friendship and the camaraderie form life long bonds.

B du Toit
HOD: Culture





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Makro/MySchool

With the exams just around the corner, stock up on brain "food" at Woolies and Kalahari.net, or buy bargain exam writing pads at Makro and Waltons. Remember to swipe your MySchool cards at all Supporter stores and when you visit Makro. Not signed up yet? Visit www.myschool.co.za and www.makro.co.za and help our girls go on tour.

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