

HOËRSKOOL PAREL VALLEI HIGH SCHOOL



PROUD TO BE A PAREL VALLEIER

Term 1

NEWSLETTER

28 Maart 2013

Dear Parents

At the beginning of this year the new wing of the school was officially opened and it feels as if the building has existed for years already. Without a doubt, this is a great compliment to the architect who seamlessly incorporated it with the older buildings. The flow of traffic inside the building has improved a great deal as the new arrangement is far more practical. The Matrics absolutely love their new bathroom facilities and jealously guard them. Many thanks go to the Matrics for this.

We had also anticipated the Inter-schools athletics competition with high expectations. In spite of delivering our best efforts, we could unfortunately not win the shield for the eighth time. This year Strand walked off with the big prize and we certainly do not begrudge them this victory. I should like to congratulate our boys' teams on their excellent performances. In the past, our girls ensured that we were victorious. This time around, however, our boys' achievements were fantastic. I am convinced that at next year's competition this year's losses will serve to strengthen us.

Our tennis teams brought home the Inter-schools trophy – as usual. Well done to all our players for doing us proud. Keep up the good work! Our cricket teams beat Strand and HHH thus leading us to a victory of two out of three types of sport.

Unhappily, our annual Ashes match against Somerset College ended in our being thoroughly trounced once again by their

cricket team. I am convinced that we have a psychological block about this match as player for player our team members are just as good as those of Somerset College. We must simply have faith in ourselves – matters will improve. Let us see what happens next year.

At provincial and national levels, our athletes shone.

Twelve athletes were chosen for the Boland team: Michael Pienaar, Sebastian Laros, Nico Nel, Reed Breitenbach, Rebecca Kaps, Carissa van Beek, Chrizaan van der Walt, Margaret Kuhn, Bianca Smith, Chéré Mostert, Sean Stander en Giovanni Matthews.

Nine athletes were chosen to participate in the National championships: Michael Pienaar, Sebastian Laros, Rebecca Kaps, Carissa van Beek, Chrizaan van der Walt, Margaret Kuhn, Bianca Smith, Giovanni Matthews en Sean Stander

Carissa van Beek broke the U/17 Hammer-throw record. At Inter-schools, Michael Pienaar shattered the 800m, 1 500 and 3 000m records!

Our swimmers are also doing well. Several of our swimmers were selected for Boland teams and the following learners took part in the SA National Championships: Craig Dirksen participated in the Level 1 championships, Danielle Dirksen, Katja Majewski and Emile Majewski in The SA Regional Level 2 and Megan Kreft in the Level 3 National Age-group Championships.

PAGE 2

TERM 3

Cricket

Franco Venter was selected to play in the final U/19 cricket trials.

Indoor Hockey

Caitlin Odendaal was nominated Player of the Match at the PSI O/14 tournament.

Wakeboarding

Melissa Colborne is the SA ladies wakeboarding champion.

Boland Underwater Hockey

Alfred Rademan represented Boland at the National Tournament.

Academically our students are flourishing and the new CAPS curriculum appears to be satisfactory. Our teachers are on track and we have received all the text books we need - except Gr 11 Business Studies. This year, we have streamed the Grade 9 Mathematics group to the benefit of not only our top learners but also our weaker Mathematics students. Our rationale is that slower learners need more time to master certain concepts and they can now do so without hampering the rest. At the same time, faster learners may progress more quickly with teachers who can stimulate them for further enrichment in class time. We now also have the advantage of two advanced classes in the evening: the A-level classes for excellent mathematicians who wish to experience other methods and challenges, as well as the AP Mathematics course to ensure that no student goes to university with a void in his/her knowledge.

As far as the staff is concerned, all is well. Our two new-comers, Mssrs Michiel Basson and Theodore Beukes have adapted well and the learners enjoy their classes. Mrs Linda van der Merwe has years of teaching experience and is an asset to our excellent Mathematics team. In the front office, we have welcomed back Mrs Berenice van Schoor whose experience and professional approach are evident. Mrs Stephnie Gouws assists Mrs van Schoor in the mornings at Reception and works as cashier in the finance office from 13:00. We appreciate the positive feed-back from parents who have noticed that this arrangement is working very well.

I wish you all a very happy Easter and hope that you will experience great pleasure with your children at home - even if it is a short break.

I draw your attention to the following dates next term:

Parent evening:	15 April 2013
Open Day:	24 April 2013
Start of exams:	22 May 2013
End of 2nd term:	21 June 2013

Yours sincerely

Etienne Gouws
HEADMASTER