

PAREL VALLEI HIGH SCHOOL



PROUD TO BE A PAREL VALLEIER

Term 4

NEWSLETTER

4 December 2013

Dear Parents

The success of another high school year is finally determined by the Matric results which will be published on 7 January 2014. We invite all matriculants who are in the Somerset West area at that time to come to the school (Sports hall) to collect their results. We may only issue these at 12:00 so please don't come before then.

However, I wish to measure our success this year on other levels as well.

Academics: Let me start with our internal academic results: none of our grade 11, 10 or 8 pupils have to repeat the year. Only 2 grade 9 pupils, unfortunately, have this fate. This is an outstanding result for the whole school and my sincere thanks goes to the teachers for this result. I also congratulate each and every pupil who worked hard and who were able to lift their results in the final examination.

Culture: The cultural life at PV continues to sparkle and shine. Our Music department has added two more pupils, to the earlier six, to the role of honour. Hugo Uys was placed on the ALMSA role of honour for keyboard, while Natasha Nieto-Lawrence received this honour for UNISA theory. Further to this, Stephani Perold and Leandri van der Merwe achieved distinction in the ALMSA final examination. Trudette Schoeman, Lené Koegelenberg and Jessica Whitfield also achieved distinction for the Trinity examination.

As we all know, the Dramas which were performed this year achieved great success and PV's name was top of the list of prize-winners at the various eisteddfods. I also wish to congratulate our 'behind-the-scenes' pupils. We have teams of pupils who do the sound, lights and build the sets for each of our performances and

they are equally part of the team. We can't do without them and I thank them for their tireless efforts.

Sport: I repeat myself every year and I will do so again! Our pupils who take part in the various sporting codes at PV do exceptionally well. If you dispute this, please come to the Sports prize giving next year and experience for yourself how well our pupils perform. There are too many names to mention, but I do want to give the Boys' Hockey team a very worthy mention for a really fine season. They have achieved at the highest level and I look forward to next year. I also want to congratulate our first Rugby team for their hard work and tenacity that they have shown this year. After starting off badly, they persevered, never lost heart and ended off the season with a fine win against Somerset College.

Governance: Our Governing Body has been very busy this year. As a team of dedicated people, our Governing Body has supported the management of the school beautifully. I thank every one of them for their time and their personal expertise which they have given so generously to the school. I'm personally very grateful to the SGB for the very firm stand they have taken against poor discipline. The fact that pupils were expelled for the use of drugs during the course of the year sent a very strong message to the rest of the school. This has had a salutary effect on the pupils and has been felt at grass roots level.

The Governing Body had another big task to fulfil. They appointed a new Headmaster! It is my pleasure to announce that Mr. David Schenck has been appointed as the next headmaster of Parel Vallei from 1 May 2014. Mr. Schenck is a dynamic man who received his training, as well as most of his experience, here in the Cape. He is currently one of the Deputy Principals at Kingswood College in Grahamstown. Early next

year we will provide you all with a more detailed CV when we introduce Mr. Schenck to the school. Suffice to say now that his appointment is a huge asset to the school and the Governing Body is convinced that he will take PV to even greater heights.

My thanks to the Governing Body for everything they do.

General: I also thank everyone who has supported the school during the course of this year. It has been a tough year economically, and I thank a sponsors in particular for their support during this difficult period. We have had more sponsors who each have given smaller amounts which has seen us through. I thank them sincerely for their support of all our A-teams in particular who were very proud to wear their sponsored kit.

Long Service Awards: This year we have again had three teachers who have each served the school for 25 years. Congratulations and THANK YOU to Mrs. Eunice Kets, Mr. Francois du Toit and Mr. Francois Visser. With Mrs. Duvenage and Mr. Muller they are the longest serving staff members at PV.

The annual prize giving was a beautiful event. Our guest speaker, Prof. Eugene Cloete, was great and his talk was inspirational to all our pupils. I know that his words struck a chord with each of the prize-winners. They have a lot to think about! Congratulations to all our prize winners, they deserve our applause.

I remind parents of the discount they can receive by paying their school fees early. Please check the website as well as the Communicator for details. You can earn up to 6.5% for early

payment!

Welcome to the grade 8 pupils of 2014. It is always fantastic for me to see our new grade 8 pupils arrive every year. They inject new enthusiasm and energy at the start of every year. I know that they are sometimes scared and nervous, but soon they become fully fledged Parel Valleiers. Welcome to Grade 8!

Dates to remember for the new year:

- 13 January 2014: School starts for the grade 8 group
- 15 January 2014: School starts for the rest of the pupils
- 17 January 2014: Grade 8 sleep over
- 24 January 2014: Inter house athletics
- 27 January 2014: New Parents Cheese-and-wine

I also refer you to the normal Term Programme for all the other events for the First term next year.

I extend my special Christmas wishes to all pupils and their parents. I hope that you will all enjoy a wonderful holiday and that you will return, refreshed at the beginning of the new school year.

I also extend my thanks and wishes for a restful holiday to the whole Parel Vallei Staff who have worked hard for another year.

Sincere Christmas wishes to you all.



Ettienne Gouws
HEADMASTER

Parel Vallei Netball

We would like to inform all Parel Vallei netball players that we will be presenting a course for all our team players. The course will be presented by "Extreme Netball" under the leadership of Erin Burger (Best player in the world 2011) and Anso Kemp (International umpire).

The course will take place on 25 and 26 March 2014. The cost is R250 per player. We would like you to plan ahead, so that your child can attend the course.