

HOËRSKOOL PAREL VALLEI HIGH SCHOOL



PROUD TO BE A PAREL VALLEIER

Term I

NEWSLETTER

28 Maart 2014

Dear Parents

This is my last newsletter to you as head of this school. It is a very strange situation for me as I can't imagine not being here from May next term. However, it is a reality and I greet you all with a very grateful and happy heart. Thank you all for your support over many years. To all the pupils at PV, you are who I am going to miss most. I loved seeing you in the corridors, on the playing fields, on stage and often just outside the school. I have been blessed and fulfilled in my role as headmaster and say a special thank you to you the pupils. I wish you all every success with your studies and extra mural activities. Always set your goals high and put your heart into whatever you do. I know that under Mr. David Schenck you will continue to keep Parel Vallei's name high.

This first term has, as always, been extremely busy. We welcomed 260 Grade 8s at the beginning of the year (the most ever) and, of course the first big event was our Interschools' against Strand and HHH. Well done to Strand for winning the athletics on the day. However, my pride in you as true Parel Valleiers could not be greater. Your personal discipline on the fields, on the pavilion and just generally throughout the day was fantastic. So many visitors came to congratulate me on your superb behaviour and neatness. It made a lasting impression on them. Your winning the Spirit trophy was a just reward for your efforts.

It was also great to win the Interschools' tennis and to see the quality of our tennis players improving from year to year. I know that you can maintain this fine achievement.

I know that our Cricket team perhaps feels a bit down-hearted at losing the ashes against Somerset College. However, what you perhaps don't realize is how well you have done as a team. I can tell you that you must not give up now. You put up a brave challenge and as a young side I'm sure you will do well next year. Keep working hard and you will succeed. I must also say a special thank you to all the cricket moms and dads for their amazing support during the three days of the ashes. The fields and the whole "feel" of the grounds were very professional and impressive.

Well done to the swimmers who beat Somerset College at our annual gala against them. Somerset College don't want to call it an inter-schools just yet, but I know that soon it will be a fixture on both schools' calendars.

Congratulations to the following pupils who were selected for provincial and national teams:

Boland Athletics to ASA Nationals:

Rebecca Kaps
Giovanni Matthews
Chrizaan van der Walt
Annissa Koekemoer
Reed Breitenbach
Jessica Hattingh

Final Boland Cricket Trials

Riccardo Trenti
Dylan du Pont

Boland Onderwaterhokkie

Kevin Cope

SA Surfing

Adin Masenkmap
Stefan Burrows

Protea Youth Fly fishing

Dylan Straw
Konrad Kuehl

SA Regional Level 2 swimming

Danielle Dirksen
Keegan Lord
Annisa Koekemoer
Emile Majewski
Katja Majewski

WP Surf Lifesaving

Demi Shokkos
Shaunte Fooy
Megan Kreft
Reece English

Boland Action netball

Teri-Anne Tarbatt Smith

General: Traffic around our school has become very, very congested - so much so that we are receiving complaints from neighbours, the traffic department and parents. You will recall that I have written about this before and asked that you try and form lift clubs, or allow pupils to cycle or walk to school. We also have problems in the late afternoons in Aberdeen Road when parents stop to collect children after sport. When parents park on both sides of the road, other traffic is jammed up on either end as there is hardly enough room for a single car to pass. With the Traffic Department's help, I am asking the municipality to provide a driveway up and off Aberdeen road on the school's side which will at least divert one set of cars from the road. Again I ask that you lobby support for this if you have any contact at the municipality. I have also suggested that they put a robot at the Parel Vallei road and Aberdeen junction. This will help to regulate flow into and out of Parel Vallei Road. Please make sure that you don't break any traffic laws as the Traffic Department have said they will take action against anyone parking on the yellow lines. Our children's safety is paramount and I will keep pushing and urging the authorities to do something

about the roads and drop-off zones around the school.

Lastly, I have to warn against the habit that too many parents have lapsed into of taking days off at the end of each term. School days are school days and I call for you as parents to respect this. Of course there will be less to do on the last two days of school. One can expect this, but it is not enough reason just to take this time off. We do other admin with all our pupils and it is good for them to be part of these end-of-term wrap-ups.

Dates to diarise:

7 April:	Start of term
16 April:	Open day
19 - 21 April:	Easter weekend
28 Apr. - 2 May:	Freedom & Workers Day week holiday.
7 May:	Voting day
28 May:	Exams start
16 June:	Youth day
26 June:	Winter Ball
27 June:	Schools close

Yours sincerely



E. GOUWS
HEADMASTER