



HOËRSKOOL PAREL VALLEI HIGH SCHOOL

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Headmaster / Skoolhoof: David Schenck

Dear Parents and friends of Parel Vallei

The change of the seasons is upon us and all around I see and feel a change in the air. Unfortunately for me, part of that change has been adapting to the “bugs” unique to Somerset West – here I refer specifically to the Flu virus that seems to have mutated with the sole purpose of making my life as miserable as possible. Thank you all (and my wife) for your patience as I recovered from what has been the worst bout of Flu I have ever encountered. Let’s hope it never returns!

Life at PV, however, has surged ahead as normal and much has happened over the last 3 weeks. I indicated in my last letter that I would provide information regarding clothing issues but, before I do that I would like to highlight a few exciting developments.

I recently highlighted the importance of identifying with a brand name and that we, as PV, must get to the point where we are on everyone’s lips and, be visible in and around town. The latest development in our quest to market PV has come in the form of a brand new Toyota Corolla that has been beautifully emblazoned with our school badge and the name of Rola Toyota. The School is very excited to announce that it has entered into a relationship with the Rola brand that holds benefits for the school and all our parents and supporters. Any vehicle purchased with reference back to PV will result in the purchaser getting the best deal possible and the school getting a cash bonus to use as it sees fit.



I urge all prospective vehicle buyers to contact any one of the Rola brands and do not forget to mention PV as a reference.

The school production “WolkKop” continues to make headlines and was recently judged to be the winning play at the ATKV competition held at the Artscape. This places it as the best teenage production in the Western Cape for 2014 and PV has been invited to attend the Aardklop festival in Potchefstroom to compete for the title of best national production. This is a stunning achievement and we wish the cast, staff and backstage crew all the best as they make preparations to travel to Potch. We know they will do us proud.

*Uitnemendheid in 'n veranderende wêreld
Excellence in a changing world*



Cycling at PV goes from strength to strength and we were delighted to hear that our cyclists have been placed 2nd overall for the season and as a result of this we have been invited to participate at a national level in the Magaliesberg during the October holidays. PV pedal power is Potent! ♪

Now, as promised, I would like to draw your attention to a few of the more recent developments on the school clothing front:

- Long sleeve jerseys. These jerseys are once again part of the school uniform and may be worn as an outer garment **inside the school grounds** except in assembly where the blazer is still compulsory. The school pull over is still available and may be worn.
- Rugby jerseys. The old blue jersey is now no longer in use. It has been replaced by a beautiful new jersey that will go on sale early next year. Please note all players are expected to practice in proper rugby kit (not T-Shirts) and the school shop has agreed to sell off the old jerseys at cost price to be used at practice.
- Sport shirt Boys and Girls. The current sport shirt being used by boys and girls will be phased out over the next 2 years and is being replaced by a new shirt with broad vertical blue and white stripes identical to the athletics vest. It will be compulsory for all grade 8 learners for 2015 and for the rest of the school by the start of 2016.
- School Tracksuit. The design of the school tracksuit remains the same except with the addition of the school badge. All current tracksuits will remain in use for as long as the learner is at PV.
- School bags. PV has worked closely with a bag company in Cape Town to produce a high quality, extremely durable school bag (ruck sack) with the school badge on the front. These bags will be compulsory for all Grade 8s from 2015 and will also be available for any others who are interested. We are also introducing a new, smaller “back pack” and hockey “stick bag”. Both are also produced by the same bag company and will also have the school badge on it.

All of these new items will be branded with the school badge and not the PVH logo. I have seen samples of all of these items and they are simply beautiful. There will be an unveiling of all of these items on Thursday 11 September at the 2015 Grade 8 evening. We are working very hard to keep costs as low as possible and will post prices on the communicator as soon as possible. I am working alongside the School Management Team to simplify and rationalise school dress regulations and I will inform you of any changes once they have been finalised. Functionality and neatness will be the main focus.

Newspaper Report

I am sure many of you are aware of the newspaper reports and social media discussions that have recently done the rounds regarding the “40 Day” celebrations. I am saddened by the whole business and would like to assure you that Parel Vallei always has and always will be a school where everyone is respected irrespective of their colour, creed, gender, financial status etc. I will fiercely defend this! Parel Vallei prides itself on the good conduct and respect of its learners and I will continue to strive to build on this in order to prepare our young adults for the world that awaits them after school. I distance myself from the slanderous comments in the press and at the same time point out that there were some serious factual inaccuracies. The matter is currently under review and we will happily provide further commentary should it be necessary.

I am excited to welcome our 2015 Grade 8 group to PV on Thursday night for their information evening and hope to see them all there. They are the future of our school and I know many of them are excited too. Let’s also not forget our matrics who have started their September trial exams – good luck to them.

I hope the weather warms up soon and I look forward to seeing you all around campus.

Warm PV greetings

David

