



Headmaster / Skoolhoof: David Schenck

Dear Parents

Welcome back after the three week, winter break. I trust the rest has done its job and everyone is raring to go in what is traditionally a very cold and wet term. I spent 2 wonderful weeks high up in the Winterberg Mountains and experienced temperatures down to -14°C ! That kind of icy cold lets you know you are alive and gives you a renewed appreciation for the basics in life: a log fire, hearty, home-cooked meals and compulsory hot chocolate (ok – electric blankets, too).



Above is a picture of the frost on the lawn and Matthew with a chunk of ice from the river – the bird-baths and water pipes were all frozen solid! It was a wonderful winter experience and will long be remembered as the coldest winter in that area in 40 years.

This is an exciting time for me as it will be my first full term at PV and I look forward to the challenges. The application/acceptance process for Gr8 for 2015 is just about complete and I am delighted with the quality and number of applicants. We had 465 applications for 260 places – PV is in demand!

Our students are walking ambassadors for our school and it is therefore with great excitement that, after my observations last term, I would like to inform you that the focus for the rest of the year will be on issues of discipline, involving all aspects of school life, but especially neatness and manners. This is to run alongside the relentless pursuit of academic excellence and ever growing focus on sport. We have a very smart uniform and I would like to see it worn properly and with pride. Please note that I have informed the children that if they are not in full tracksuit or full uniform they must be inside the school grounds when waiting to be collected. The same goes for those on their way home when not in private motor vehicles. I expect all PV children to wear the uniform correctly and be presentable at all times.

I hope you all received reports last term and had time to analyse them with your children. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have anything you wish to query or if you need help. We are here for you.

I look forward to seeing you in and around the school and hope to meet as many of you as possible. We are in the process of upgrading the website and I will make mention of this again at a later stage. Instead of termly newsletters I will be writing a fortnightly letter on matters of interest and invite you to find these on the communicator and the webpage.

I wish you a prosperous term.

David Schenck

