



# HOËRSKOOL PAREL VALLEI HIGH SCHOOL

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Headmaster / Skoolhoof: David Schenck

Dear Parents and friends

We are well and truly into the school year now and I am very happy to report that PV is in a very good space. After the initial period of settling down we moved swiftly into the Inter-House athletics and the Inter-House gala. Both of these events were very well organised and enjoyed by all. I was particularly impressed by the support at the athletics and would like to see the same happen for the gala in the future.

We are also proud of our tennis players and swimmers who won their recent games: tennis won the Inter-Schools and swimming took the Co-ed. trophy at the Malmesbury gala.

There has been a period of partial disruption of routines due to the preparations required for Inter-Schools and I would like to thank all parents for their cooperation in this regard. This is the norm for this time of the year and we plan for it in such a way that there is minimal disruption to the academic day.

Inter-Schools was a resounding success – and here, I am not just referring to the results on the day. My assembly focus for this year has been on highlighting the importance of being a united school and this is EXACTLY what we saw the entire day. I am determined to see to it that the unity we saw is only the beginning and spreads to all aspects of PV life, with students supporting each other in large numbers united by school pride and camaraderie. The photographs below speak for themselves. WHAT A DAY!



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



My congratulations go to all who were involved from the 3 schools. The conduct and participation from PV, HHH and Strand was a credit to the children of our area and I am proud to be associated with what happened. Goose bump stuff!

GO PV! 'It is not the size of the dog in the fight but rather the fight in the dog!' PV had a 100% turnout at all events and won the day by 15 points! **This truly proves that 'the whole is greater than the sum of its parts'.**

Speaking of parts, PV is made up of various pillars; the most important of which is Academics. I am very excited to announce that I had the privilege of representing our school at the 2015 celebration of the 2014 grade 9 Literacy and Numeracy Awards at Turfhall Primary last week. Parel Vallei was placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the Western Cape with a combined average of over 73% for literacy and numeracy. This is no easy feat considering that we have over 240 learners who wrote the systemic tests!



Mrs Sonia Manthey (Phase Head: GET)

Well done to Mrs Manthey and her teams of teachers across these learning areas. It is even more significant when we view this alongside the 2014 Matric results. Academics at PV is truly an area of excellence. While we continue to strive for excellence, we have not lost sight of those who struggle and require assistance. Miss Jacobs (Educational Psychologist) has a list of outside service providers who can be of value should your child require after school academic assistance or tuition. Some of these are past PV teachers. Please feel free to contact her for details.

The test program has now kicked in and I would like to point out that the regulations around re-tests have been tightened up and there will be no leniency shown. Please familiarise yourself with these

rules and please make sure the children are prepared for the tests and are present on the day of writing. Only doctor's certificates will be accepted in cases of reported illness. I have also noted a tendency for children to go home for minor issues and I will be putting a stop to this. Children will be sent back to class unless clearly traumatised or ill. The children are taking chances and working the system. The grade heads will be playing a much greater role in this regard in future.

On a more practical note, it is wonderful to see almost everyone at sport in official PV sport kit. Please note that it is no longer acceptable to wear House shirts or 'optog' shirts to sport practice or matches. House shirts are only for Inter-House events and the 'optog' shirts become civilian wear after Inter-Schools. The only sport where there is any deviation from this is rugby where it is permitted to wear any colour rugby jersey to practice. T-shirts are not permitted at rugby practice because they tear quickly and it costs money for parents to keep replacing them. The old, PV rugby jersey is available at the clothing shop at cost price and I encourage you to make use of this offer. The winter season is nearly upon us and I encourage the children to start readying themselves.

It has been a busy start to the year and it is good to see the school settling into a rhythm with a strong sense of purpose.

I am very proud to be headmaster of this magnificent school.

Warm, PV greetings

David