



Headmaster / Skoolhoof: David Schenck

Dear Parents and friends

We have come to the end of the winter extra-mural season and I feel I speak for the majority when I say that it was over all too soon. I am certainly mindful of the matric trial exams that are upon us and that all good things must come to an end but it has been such a brilliant season across all activities that I almost wish it would never end.

It is the time of the year when we see a great variety of activities on offer that creates numerous opportunities for children to showcase their talents. Our multi-talented children have certainly risen to the occasion and we are very proud of them.

PV's culture is steadily growing and it was fantastic (and hard work) to see 4 dramas on display this year. All of them were written and produced by our very own Ms Annelie Van Zyl and Ms Yanou Pienaar. The results from these 4 dramas have been outstanding. With several double gold and gold awards and a host of other awards it is not surprising that PV was listed in the top 5 schools in almost every competitive category. Once again, there has been a steady accumulation of top awards at all the Eisteddfods and I was so proud of our top achievers at the Prize Winners concert and ceremony in Stellenbosch where we were selected to perform and received numerous prizes.

This year, for the first time, PV entered 9 projects into the Eskom Expo at Stellenbosch and all 9 won medals. We received 2 gold, 1 silver and 6 bronze medals as well as the following special prizes:

- Uzair Patel won one of three prizes for best project about water.
- Justin Burger won best project in Mechanical Engineering (senior).
- Shannon Barry won overall best research project by a girl and she is going to represent the Western Cape (and of course PV) at the National Science Expo in October.

We are very proud of all 9 of these young scientists!



Back: Dillon Cilliers, Justin Burger, Uzair Patel.

Front: Shannon Barry, René Van Zyl, Zoë Naude, Charné Merrick, Carla Steyn, Mia Doyle.

On the sports front there was an enormous amount of activity and we can safely say that this season saw the highest number of PV teams participating across all sports. It was simply stunning. It is almost difficult to know where to begin

Perhaps a good place to start is to say just how proud I am of all those Parel Valleiers who turned up to practice week after week no matter which team they were in. I salute you all, you are the backbone of the school – we would be sunk without you. I appeal to all parents to keep motivating your children to play sport.

I would like to mention a few of the amazing winter term highlights. This is in no particular order:

- Girls' squash team won the Inter-schools' trophy vs Strand;
- Girls' B team squash went unbeaten;
- Boys' 1st team hockey is ranked 34th in SA and are the winners of the Fairmont tournament;
- Girls' 1st team hockey is ranked 14th in SA (and had their first ever win vs Paarl Gym and went unbeaten at the Kingswood festival);
- Boys' 1st team rugby is ranked 29th in SA (82% win/draw with several significant victories);
- The massive school support vs Strand;
- PV won 80% of all matches vs Somerset College on Derby Day;
- 1st team netball victories over Hermanus and DF Malan;
- Chess – girls won bronze at Western Cape Top Schools Tournament in Mossel Bay;
- New roof on the pavilion;
- Founders' Day;
- A Levels - 2 'A's and 2 'B's for Maths in the May/June exams.

Then, on top of all of this, we had the seamless transition to a new prefect system that has been embraced by all and is set to make a big difference.

The Raffle is going very well and we hope to soon top the R200 000 mark. I would like to thank you for your efforts in this regard and ask for your indulgence as we count down to the Golf Day and begin our appeal for items to make up prize hampers. The raffle and Golf Day is our one big push in the year for school fundraising – any other appeals will be for the benefit of outside organisations such as Aanhouwen.

It has been wonderful seeing so many parents and friends around the field and in the audience. Feel free to pop in at Somerset West Golf Club on 16 September and support us on our Golf Day. This is our school and together we make it better.

Warm PV Greetings

David