



Message from the Headmaster

10 August 2011

Dear Andrean Community

Founders Day - August 7, 2011

The Staff have just processed out of the Chapel in full academic dress to the strains of the School Hymn being belted out by 460 Andreans – many holding their hands to the St Andrew's Cross on their chests.

*Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us –
Saying "Christian, love Me more." (Verse 3)*

The College Chaplain, Father Gary Griffith-Smith, based his sermon on the spiritual condition of the seven churches in Revelation 3. In an increasingly secular world, where does College stand? It was the intention of our religious Founder, Bishop John Armstrong, for us to produce men who would go into the clergy and who would spread the Gospel in this frontier territory. Our School Prayer challenges us to become profitable members of Church and State.

As we stood in the vestry before the service, the Deputy Head Boy, Michael Rushmere, said that it is only in adversity that the true character and spirit of the school can come through. It is easy to be upbeat when you are winning everything – real character comes out when the chips are down. We have not had an easy season at first team level in either cricket or rugby (this after a couple of years of conspicuous success), and this has led to a whispering campaign about selection, favouritism and bias. No one enjoys losing, and no coach I know of doesn't choose his strongest side. He might make mistakes, and there is seldom going to be unanimous approval for a side. The fact that the 1st team has lost more games than they have won doesn't mean that we have turned into a bad school. Surely there must be broader indicators of success?

I urge you please to phone me if there are issues you would like to talk to me about. I cannot respond to anonymous letters but would be happy to speak to people face to face.



IBSC Conference - City of London School, 10 - 13 July

College belongs to the International Boys' Schools' Coalition, an organisation which aims to meet the educational and developmental needs of young men. The IBSC is dedicated to the education and development of boys world-wide, the professional growth of those who work with them, and the advocacy and the advancement of institutions that serve them.

The annual conference was held at The City of London School and attended by 600 delegates from North America, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The theme for the conference was "Inspiring Boys, Inspiring Schools". In the 1970s girls were faring less well than boys, especially in Maths and Science. Today the situation is reversed with boys being outperformed by girls at every level in schooling and with women making up 60% of undergraduates in universities

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in the UK and USA. Girls tend to be far less likely to suffer from attention deficit disorder. Many more boys are on Ritalin and other such central nervous system stimulants. There are no simple solutions to raising the achievement levels of boys. It is vital that the whole school community actively engages with the issues. In our context of a co-instructional model with the DSG, it is imperative that whatever is to be done to address the attitude, behaviour and performance of boys, will also have positive gains for the girls of the DSG. (One thing we need to work on is developing boys' ability to reflect – their weakest skill.) One of the joys of our model is that boys are in predominantly single gender classrooms from Grade 4-9 where they can be encouraged to verbalize their feelings. Boys who are not encouraged to talk and express their feelings often resort to other means – sometimes with catastrophic results. The Headmaster of Eton, Tony Little, said that “Boys respond well to form and structure, to clear expectations, to competition, to physical activity. The point is this: we need to accept and understand boys and their development and work alongside them as they actually are, not for the convenience of a system, nor for the fulfilment of an ideology.”

Farewell to Graham Gooden

It is with sadness that we say farewell to Graham Gooden who is going off to pursue a new venture at the Al Khor International School in Doha, Qatar, starting in September. Graham has been the Head at St Andrew's Prep for the past eleven years, a position he has held with distinction. He has led Prep through some difficult times and in 2005 there was the merger with College. Graham has remained remarkably upbeat, energetic and above all, deeply caring about his Preppies and the staff at St Andrew's Prep. He was at the helm in 2010 when Prep had their enormously successful 125th Celebration and he leaves the school in a better state than he found it in. He is a great team player, a wonderful teacher and a man of principle. I am pleased to say that Angie Gooden will be staying, as will Andrew and Sean, but we wish Graham everything of the best and thank him for his leadership at Prep, his friendship and his wonderful care for children.



New Central Dining Hall progress



The New Central Dining Hall progresses at a rapid rate. Seen above are images photographed on 8 August 2011

Farewell

We said farewell to two of our Gap Students at the end of term. **James Plumb** from the UK has been a student housemaster in Espin House and has returned home to enrol at University at the start of the academic year. **Jack Gooding**, who was a student housemaster in Graham House, has returned to Australia but will return to St Andrew's early in the new year. Both James and Jack have been very involved on the campus, especially in the coaching of sport and refereeing. Jack has also assisted in coding the 1st XV games on the school's new analysis software programme. We have enjoyed having them with us this year and thank them for their contribution to College. Their energy, enthusiasm and input is deeply appreciated!

College pupils on exchange in Australia

Eight College Grade 10s departed for Australia this past week! They are:

Andrew Rushmere
Grant Stretton
Daniel Tharratt
Beric Allsop

Nicholas Ferreira
Myles Crossland
Jono Gibbs
Hector Camm

We wish them a most enjoyable experience "down under" and look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return.



Beric Allsop and Daniel Tharratt in Canberra



St Andrew's College Headmaster, Mr Paul Edey, with the PMR Africa Diamond Arrow award

College receives PMR Africa award

In the 2011 Eastern Cape Provincial PMR/Africa survey, St Andrew's College was the highest rated private school in the Business Sector. We received a Diamond Arrow award (ranked 1st overall and rated at least 4.10 out of 5.00, the equivalent to outstanding.)

PMR/Africa's award criteria states "The awards are the culmination of a research process whereby companies and institutions are rated based on respondents' perceptions with a strong focus on evaluating and measuring customer service and customer satisfaction. The awards represent competitiveness, effectiveness, excellence, leadership, resilience and indicate customer service and customer satisfaction".

English Olympiad



Seven thousand candidates from around Southern Africa wrote the SACEE De Beers English Olympiad this year. Hodago Minney excelled in being placed in the top 50. This is a notable achievement in this challenging Olympiad. The Olympiad is held in such esteem by universities that Rhodes University awards a bursary of a year's free tuition to the top 50 candidates.

WINTER SPORT

Hockey Colours



These College pupils were awarded Hockey colours: Joshua Nuttall, Paul Selwyn-Smith, Alan Gerber, Greg King, Richard Crow and Charles Bowren (absent from the photo)

College pupil represents EP in Equestrian Competition

Nicholas Greeff, a Grade 8 pupil at College, represented Eastern Province in the SANESA Show Jumping Competition recently. He has been riding for four years and 2011 is the third year that he has been selected to represent his Province at this level. Nicholas, and his pony Phoenix, received the Silver Medal for the Best Horse and Rider combination and received the Gold Medal for getting the most points collected.



Nicholas Greeff



Rugby Colours

Rugby colours were awarded to: Robin Murray, Ian Herold, Jason Kankowski, Anthony Everard, William Cahill, Athenkosi Manqoyi and Ntsiki Mlameli.

Players who received team awards: Andre Coetzee, Andrew Kebble, Troy Frisch, Michael Allsop, Sintu Manjenzi, Michael Rushmere, Peter Lever and Chris Ford.

Above from left to right are players who either received colours or team awards: Ian Herold, Jason Kankowski, Troy Frisch, Athenkosi Manqoyi, Michael Allsop, Andre Coetzee and Anthony Everard. Other players mentioned were absent from the photo.



Robin Murray scores the winning try against Dale in the final minute - College won 15-14

Ralph Goveia - swimming for Zambia in Commonwealth Youth Games

College pupil, Ralph Goveia, has been selected to swim for Zambia in the Commonwealth Youth Games in the Isle of Man in September 2011. It has been Ralph's dream to swim for his country since he was six years old. We wish him every success.

Inter-House Rowing



The Rowing Club staged a new activity at the school last Sunday, in that they held an Inter-House Regatta. Inter-House Rowing competitions have been a feature in years gone by; there used to be an Inter-House Fours Competition as well as an Inter-House Sculling trophy, but what was unique about last week's event, was that the format was formulated, so that there would be participation by boys who had never rowed before – each House had to submit a crew of Non-Rowers, as well as crews comprising a mixture of rowers and non-rowers.

It was meant to be an event full of fun and participation with some friendly rivalry thrown into the mix and so it proved to be – the novices soon found the sport to be a lot more difficult than appearances would suggest, but nonetheless greatly enjoyed a new challenge. The Senior Fours event was won by Upper House, while the overall points trophy was won by Espin House.

The regatta was a great success and thanks go to Simon Harvey for this great initiative. Thank you also to his parents, Gavin and Sharon, for their valued support.

Harold Hobson

Holiday Activities

St Matthew's Mission President's Award Residential Programme

We have focussed this term on doing the sorts of things schools do together; debating, playing sport in home and away fixtures and extending beyond that to the planning of residential academic camps and combined President's Award activities, including a Gold level residential project.

At a meeting between Rhodes University and the Keiskammahoek community, it was gratifying to hear our partner school being considered as a centre of excellence and a possible base for Rhodes activities. At that meeting the stark developmental challenges of the St Matthew's community were made clear. Fewer than 15% of households have access to clean running water, and far fewer than that, to proper sanitation. Running large boarding houses for girls with limited and intermittent water supply has remained a serious challenge. The Historic Schools' Project is currently laying new pipelines to the mission and school, and the sense that the community is looking to make progress is palpable.

DSG's computer technicians have been working with Sifunde Kunye, a donor sponsored NGO based at St Matthews, to install and connect computer networks there and at four other sites in the Amatolas. The satellite link 'went live' in May, and we soon hope to improve communication, so that we can provide learner support between St Andrew's/DSG and St Matthew's and the surrounding schools. (Tim Barnard).

Cricket Tour 1st XI to Zimbabwe

August has arrived which spells pre-season preparation for cricketers. The 1st XI start off with a pre-season camp at Fort Hare University followed later in the month with their tour to Zimbabwe from the 26th August – 5th September. College will be hosted by St John's Harare and play 50 over fixtures vs. St George's College, St John's College, Falcon College and Peterhouse. Thereafter the team will participate in the 20/20 Festival hosted by St George's College. The boys will certainly gain valuable cricketing experience from their travels.

Golf Tour to St John's Sun City Tournament

Bryce Bosman, Jason Baggott, Michael Houghton and Dylan Thompson will be representing the school at the prestigious St John's International School's Festival to be held at Sun City between 16-21 August. The players will be playing two rounds on each of the Lost City and Gary Player Country Club courses. It is wonderful that St Andrew's College has been invited back to participate in an event of this magnitude, with 32 top schools from around the world playing at the event.

Fishing Tour to Wild Coast

Mr André Bouwer, teacher in charge of the Angling Club will be accompanied by seven College pupils on a fishing trip to Hole in the Wall. The trip takes place from 10 - 15 August. Mr Royce Long kindly offered his holiday home as a venue for the trips and his son, Murray Long, Grade 8, is one of the participants.



History Tour to China and Vietnam

60 students in two travel groups leave for a 14 day trip to China and Vietnam on the 11th and 12th August.

Their first stop is Beijing where they will explore many of the historic sites, including a trip to the Great Wall, The Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Ming Tombs and the Summer Palace as well as taking in a few local cultural experiences. The group will also visit Shanghai for a couple of days taking in the modern city's exciting shopping and high-rise buildings. A trip down Nanjing Road as well as visiting the World's Financial Tower are part of the 'treats' in Shanghai.

A 'short' flight to Hanoi where the groups will enjoy a trip to Halong Bay (a world heritage site), a two-hour bicycle trip through past-and present Hanoi, as well as the Water Puppet Show are a few of the exciting ventures. A final oriental city is that of Ho Chi Minh City, where a floating market on the Mekong Delta awaits the students, as well as a trip to the Cu Chi Tunnels.

The tour will attempt to expose all to a taste of the burgeoning Chinese economy; their extraordinary history and the exciting foreign culture of the Orient.



Music Tour to the Western Cape

The pupils of the DR Wynne Music School at The Diocesan School for Girls and St Andrew's College will be visiting the Western Cape during August, 2011.

The concerts will be eclectic, offering something for everyone. The Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and choir will perform items from a variety of genres, and the Pipe Band will add that extra sense of occasion to the events.

Concerts have specifically been organised for the parents of pupils, alumni, parents of alumni, friends and anyone who would like to attend.

Conclusion

I wish you all a most enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

Your sincerely
PAUL EDEY
HEADMASTER