



Message from the Headmaster

Dear Andean Community

2010 has been an extraordinary year. There have been natural disasters, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and floods. There have been stories of remarkable courage and hope such as the miners in Chile being rescued after 69 days underground. There has been the hosting of the spectacularly successful World Cup in our country and the spectre of the Protection of Information Bill hanging over us. There has been Julius and talk of nationalising the mines. There have been photographs of near naked women having sushi eaten off their bellies at ostentatious birthday parties.

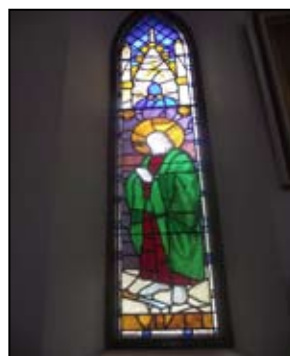


Are we a society gone mad a mere twenty years after the release of Nelson Mandela from Victor Verster? Before you answer that, think from where we have come.

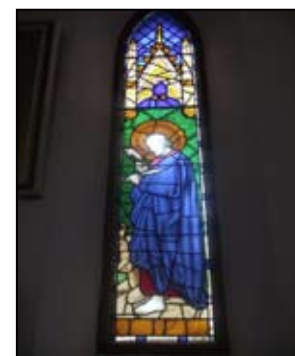
A splendid 2010 matric group have written their exams and have left a wonderful legacy. They are currently on "Rage" in Plettenberg Bay. They have done their school proud with their performances in so many areas over the past five years. At Old Andean Functions around the country when I go through some of the achievements of the year, the same refrain is heard: "How are you going to maintain this, Headmaster?" I am confident that next year's Grade 12s are up to it. Success breeds success but also brings challenges. Next year our Rugby side will play twenty fixtures and are scheduled to play Grey College Bloemfontein, the country's top ranked school rugby side, at the annual Graeme College Rugby Day in March.

Later on we will play Paarl Gymnasium at the Cape Schools' Week as part of Dale College's 150th. **NEC ASPERA TERRENT.**

The last few weeks of term have seen the turning of the sod for the new Dining Hall Project and on 3rd December, the tenders for the renovation of Merriman will be opened. Over Andean Tide the Andean Resource Centre (ARC) was opened by outgoing Chairman of Council, **Mr David Herold**. It is a resource to make every Andean proud.



St Bartholomew window



St Luke window



Portraits of past Headmasters are on display in the Andean Resource Centre Resrouce

That most celebrated of old Andreans, **Bevil Rudd**, M.C. has trophies and medals on display and through the generosity of his family, his papers have been donated to the Archives. Two replicas of the Sewell windows, St Bartholomew and St Luke, are back in the original position on the west side of the ARC. This has been made possible through an extraordinarily generous bequest from the estate of Rev Hugh Harker, much loved College Chaplain (1947 - 1962), and the drive and energy of several committed Old Andreans namely Rob Melvill (OA), Hugh Crail (OA), Davey Herold (OA) and Marguerite Poland (Honorary OA), together with a committed team of staff inside the school. A number of Old Andreans have also donated financially and materially to the project. We thank them all.



Mr Davey Herold

Mr Davey Herold, Councillor 1999-2006 and Chairman for the past five years, has handed over to Mr **Paul McNaughton**, OA. Mr Herold has made an extraordinary contribution to College and I thank him for his leadership and wise counsel. At Andrean Tide, the outgoing President of the Old Andrean Association, and 17th Headmaster, Mr **David Wylde**, made a thought provoking speech at the annual lunch in which he compared the College community to that of Roseto mentioned in Malcolm Gladwell's book, "Outliers." The Rosetans had transplanted their culture from southern Italy to the hills of eastern Pennsylvania, USA, and created a powerful, protective, social structure capable of insulating themselves from the pressures of the modern world. The Rosetans' sense of community resulted in extraordinary longevity and researchers discovered that it had nothing to do with diet, genes or exercise. David Wylde suggested that it is the sense of community, our values and the people with whom we surround ourselves that make the Andrean community what it is, and has such a profound effect on who we are.



The Grade 10s who have just completed the **John Jones Fish River Journey**, won widespread praise for their commitment, courage and positive demeanour. The Head of Geography, Claudia Chandler, penned some thoughts having watched our children in action doing community service. I share a couple of paragraphs with you:

Then there was Cradock. Nothing could have prepared me for what we were to experience here. Group Three were to go to a school for physically and mentally handicapped children. Some had to play with the children and others make a vegetable garden. We arrived and as is with many South African small town township schools the buildings sit in a dry and barren wasteland. Weeds grow through the stones, rubbish blows about and the ground is rock hard. The gardeners had a major task ahead of them and they tackled it with determination. A long hot morning clearing rocks and digging in a bakkie of manure before they could even think of planting anything lay ahead. So, having given instructions to the gardeners I wandered



around, wondering how our children would cope with children that were disabled. Well as always I was deeply moved and totally amazed at our young adults. They drew and read and played and danced and hugged and loved and painted, and got painted (you only have to look at the photos of Kate Cobbing and Ant Catto to be inspired).

The children at the school loved every minute of the fun. Even those that seemed not to comprehend what was happening. And here I must share a moment of unexpected tenderness. A little boy in a wheelchair with no apparent ability to communicate at all – not even through facial expressions - was not left neglected because of the lack of response or immediate reward. He was cared for. He had his face painted and his hands gently pressed onto a T shirt. He was wheeled about to all the activities and even more gently picked up out of the wheelchair and carried to where the others were playing cricket. I was truly amazed. Another boy - only one leg and an old wooden pair of crutches challenged his able bodied friends and ours to some soccer – the video clip will be on your DVDs'. Others carried children piggy back and had races.... and all the while the garden progressed.

I am so proud to be associated with these children. We so often criticise them for wanting immediate gratification, for not giving and for not wanting to work hard. When it came to the community service none of those criticisms were even vaguely relevant.

Farewells: At the end of the year we said farewell to the following members of staff and coaches and student tutors, and we thank them for their contribution: Dr Mellony Graven, (Director: Mathematics), Mrs Jackie Jones (HOD Art), Mrs Barbara Scott (Director: Community Engagement), Mr Basil Mackenzie (History Teacher), Mr Jason Sileno (Water Polo Coach), Mr Jonny Mallett (Senior Tutor) and Mr Tate Muhunduru (Student Tutor).

New Staff: At the start of the year, as has been mentioned, we welcome the following: Mr Thomas Hagspihl (Director: Mathematics), Mr Gerhard Posthumus (Mathematics Teacher), Mrs Mary Robinson (Art Teacher).

Holiday Activities: There will be a number of activities in the holidays and on the first weekend the 1st VIII will be busy gearing themselves up for the annual Boat Race on the Kowie. We wish them everything of the best. Thirty one water polo players will represent Border in various age groups at the annual Inter-Provincial tournament to be held in Durban in mid-December, whilst five boys will represent EP at various levels in Inter-Provincial cricket.



Ryan Dugmore



James Price



Ian Herold

There will also be the annual Grahamstown Schools' Week Cricket Festival in January and the matric results will be released on 4th January.

Catering: I have received a number of complaints about the quality of the food. Food is always a hugely contentious issue in a boarding school. We take your complaints seriously and we will be addressing them in a separate letter at the start of the year once we have discussed them with our Service Providers and put measures in place to improve the quality and presentation of the food.

Substance Abuse: I am sending out a letter on substance abuse. Please read the policy on the website and return the letter of consent at the start of the term.

In conclusion I should like to thank you for your commitment to College, the sacrifices so many of you make to send your sons here, and I thank you too for entrusting your sons to our care.

To the Old Andean community worldwide, thank you for your ongoing and generous support. The North American OA Dinner, and the generosity of those OAs, was one of the highlights of my year. By all accounts the UK dinner held last week in London, and addressed by Mr Lorraine Mullins as part of the Prep 125 celebrations, was also a huge success.

To the staff, Administrative, Academic and Support, thank you for all that you do to maintain and raise standards at College.

I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a wonderful holiday with your sons. May 2011 be a peaceful and prosperous year for us all.

Yours sincerely

**PAUL EDEY
HEADMASTER**



Christmas Lights on Merriman House

Key Dates for Easter Term 2011

12 January	Rowing Camp begins Basketball Camp begins Grahamstown Schools' Cricket Festival
13 January	Water Polo Camp begins
15 January	Prefects' Camp at Assegaai Trails
18 January	Reception of Newboys and Parents
18h00	Boarders return
20 January	Classes begin
3 March	Half Term – until Monday 7 March
26 March	Graeme College Rugby Day
6 April	Final Assembly at 09h30