

*Celebrating 10 years in Parklands*

February 2008



PARKLANDS COLLEGE & CHRISTOPHER ROBIN PRE-PRIMARY



Learners from Grade R to Grade Twelve filled the hall for our first assembly of 2008. We have waited in anticipation for this event and to know that this venue is fully booked from now until the end of year with events and functions, has confirmed that we are making full use of its outstanding facilities.

On the evening of 5 March, I had the privilege of attending the Intermediate Phase Music Recital. 31 musicians and 36 choir members took part in this heart-warming event. Several of the musicians only began music lessons at the start of this quarter and their progress has been astounding. Well done to all our musicians who performed and their dedicated teachers - we look forward to many more displays of their talent! The Music Recital was preceded by the annual Backsberg Concert. A beautiful evening was en-

joyed by an audience of approximately 500 people. Our HOD of Culture for the Preparatory Faculty, Beulah Watson, was invited to conduct a piece during this prestigious event. Thank you to our talented learners and the music department for their participation and contribution. We look forward to the next concert in 2009.

■ Left: Parklands College Interact Club raised R20 000 for the Blaauwberg Animal Trust (BAT) by wrapping Christmas gifts at Bayside Mall over the Christmas period. BAT is an organisation made up of volunteers who want to build an animal rescue shelter in the Blaauwberg area. The money was handed over to the chairman of BAT, Joachim Fassmann at a recent assembly. At the handover are, from left, Interact President Stephanie Craig, Tamsyn Malley, teacher in charge of Interact, Debbie Waldeck and Joachim Fassmann. For further information about BAT and how to help them, phone Mr Fassmann at 021 552 1712.

Our sports teams in both the Preparatory and Secondary Faculties have shown their metal and have brought home very pleasing results. Congratulations to our swimming, tennis and cricket teams, who have been victorious during recent competitions against opposing schools. Well done to our learners and their coaches on an outstanding first quarter.

Thank you to our Interact Committee and everyone involved in the Christmas 'Wrapping Project', which took place at the Bayside Shopping Centre in December 2007. This dedicated group of learners and staff sacrificed much of their December vacation to raise funds for the Blaauwberg Animal Trust (BAT). A cheque of R 20 000 was presented to this worthy cause. Finally, Christopher Robin Pre-Primary will celebrate their 28th birthday on Tuesday 11 March. We wish them a splendid fun-filled day.



Lorraine Roth



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**CHILDREN's Course dates for 2008: 2 days - 09h00-14h00 = R 450 FIRST COURSE Thurs 27-Fri 28 March**  
**INTERMEDIATE Course dates for 2008: 7 Monday evenings starting 10<sup>th</sup> March = 17h30-19h00**

# PRE-PRIMARY FACULTY



## From the Principal's Office...

Lee-ann Steynberg

It is wonderful to be back in the Parklands fold and to see the little ones settled in their new classes. February has been a busy month for all and as I walk around, I enthusiastically receive great big hugs and **see happy faces each morning. Valentine's Day was made special** by all of us dressing up in red and we hope you all enjoyed your little treats (although I saw many of the treats disappearing before Mum and Dad arrived!!) Our Dads Day on the 23<sup>rd</sup> was exciting and a **BIG thank you to all our Dad's for making the morning a special one.**

Thank you to Chantel, Riette and Maliney for organising the event and to all the teachers for their enthusiastic participation. Photographs should appear on our website shortly. Please keep your diaries open for our Birthday in March. Christopher Robin Pre-Primary will be turning 28, and in celebration we will have a picnic at Kirstenbosch on Saturday, 15 March. We look forward to spending the morning with you and your families.



## Christopher Robin's House

Lynn-Maree van Enter

We have been in Christopher Robin's House for just over a month now and what an exciting month it has been. I have been amazed at the ease with which the learners in Christopher Robin's House have settled into their new environment. We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all our new friends, learning the "ropes" in our new classroom and exploring the BIG garden!

So far this quarter we have learnt all about ourselves, discovering more about our bodies and our senses and we have discussed our families and our homes in many an interesting Morning Ring! We celebrated a fantastic Valentine's Day, by dressing in red, pink and white, and spoiled the special people in our lives with yummy, heart-shaped chocolate biscuits. There is so much we are looking forward to in the weeks and months to come and we are really excited about all we can discover and learn as Christopher Robins in 2008!

A big thank you to all the Christopher Robins who invited me to their homes for a visit, I thoroughly enjoyed my afternoons spent with you !

Looking forward to a wonderful year !



## Honey Bee's House

Jayne Naidoo

The Honey Bees have settled wonderfully into their class routine. They are fast becoming independent little learners doing little things all by themselves. They are learning that "sharing is indeed caring," and that *school is actually a fun place!!*. Well, this has certainly made their teacher's job a whole lot easier seeing such bright, cheerful faces in the morning ready to learn, play and discover their talents the fun way!

**Valentine's Day** was a highlight for all.... this exciting event saw Honey Bees making glitter cards, baking yummy, butter biscuits and then waiting patiently till they were all wrapped, bowed and ready for the special people in their lives. Mums and dads were clearly delighted with their special tokens of love.

A big "Thank You" to all the parents in Honey Bee's House who support the rules of our class, helping their young ones to establish a routine and ultimately to bring about a love for learning, trust in each other and understanding. I look forward to more exciting development and growth in my Honey Bees through the year!

## Kanga's House

Candice Acheson

Well done to all the Kangas for settling into their new class so quickly and with minimal tears



and many smiles. Our "big girls and boys" have enjoyed being in the "big garden" for play time and in the driveway for chalk-drawings and wagon riding.

Thank you to all the parents who facilitated "play dates" with me and their children. The learners and I thoroughly enjoyed these visits.

Our themes thus far have all been focused around love, encompassed in various aspects of "Me, my family and friends". We are learning to apply this concept best with the new classroom dynamics and it's great to be a part of their learning in this area.

The two best quotes this month will be kept anonymous for their parents' sake: when the daughter of a lawyer was asked what dad does for work all day she answered: the dishes. When another girl was asked how dad's coping with mom's temporary absence at home, she answered: he forgot to brush his teeth this morning he just told me now!

## Owl's House

Justine de Wet



The Owls have eagerly taken on the new challenges that come with being in Grade 0. Over the past few weeks we have all been getting to know each other; the days have been full of exciting new things to learn about as well as new lessons like Xhosa and IT. In the classroom the children have enjoyed being introduced to the characters in the Oxford Reading Tree series and learning the phonic sounds as well as learning more about numbers. We have also had some really interesting conversations about our bodies, senses and our families. All the Owls have had a great time playing in the bigger preparatory-garden as well as with all the exciting Grade 0 driveway toys on Fridays.

At the moment I am very busy with home visits and have thoroughly enjoyed meeting parents and getting to know them, as well as the learners in my class, a little better. Thankyou for welcoming me into your homes, it is wonderful to see the children in happy home environments!

## Pooh Bear's House

Tali Maltz



Pooh Bear learners have had an exciting Valentine's month. We designed cards for our loved ones, inscribed them with special messages and baked home-made heart-shaped biscuits. These were carefully gift wrapped.

We have delighted in playing on the new jungle gym in our preparatory garden and it seems cricket fever has struck, at least two sets of bats, balls and wickets arrive on a daily basis.

We are looking forward to our forthcoming outings and shows including the Lilliput Players as well as our eagerly awaited trip to the Two Oceans Aquarium, where we will view the seals frolicking and

being fed as well as the circular shark tank.

We would like to thank all the parents who contributed to an exceptional first cake sale, as well as those who assisted on the day.

## Piglet's Place

Ingrid Vorster



All the little ones in Piglet's Place amaze me every day. They have settled beautifully into their new environment and I can hardly believe that they only started with me a few weeks ago.

We celebrated Valentine's Day and made special hand prints for our mummies and daddies. The children brightened up the classroom even more than usual with their lovely red, pink and white outfits.

Everybody in Piglet's Place is enjoying the warm summer weather as our favourite place to spend our time is our little garden. When inside (as we unfortunately can't spend ALL day outside, sigh), the Piglets love pretending to be mummies and daddies in our home corner. They also love the painting table where many colourful works of art have already been created.

I have a few learners who travel home with a lift service in the afternoons and Seth is very eager to ride with them on "the bus". When I called them in one afternoon to go to the waiting area Seth wanted to know if they were going to the cliff club (lift club).

I would like to thank all the parents for their support and understanding while their little ones settle in at school. I have a classroom full of wonderful, loving little boys and girls and I look



forward to seeing my little Piglets grow during this year.



## Rabbit's House

Riëtte Pieterse

The learners in Rabbit's House celebrated the month of love by creating beautiful decorative candle holders. The accompanying card displayed their writing, colouring -in and cutting skills! They are so clever in Grade O!

We are looking forward to our outing to the Planetarium to watch a brand new puppet show! The learners will have the opportunity to visit the many interesting tanks of sea life in the aquarium.

## Roo's House

Suzette Watkins



The start of the new quarter has been an extremely exciting time for all the new little people. The Roos entered their new class with confidence and were ready to take on new challenges. Welcome to all the parents of Roos House. I thoroughly enjoyed the home visits and getting to know you all better. Thank you for welcoming me into your homes. It is wonderful to see the children in a happy home environment.

Over the past few weeks we have all been learning about new things. It has been exciting to learn about our bodies, senses and our families. In the classroom the Roo's have been enjoying counting, cutting, painting and baking.

Valentine's Day was thoroughly enjoyed by all and the learners looked wonderful in their red, white and pink. It was a day full of love and sharing and caring for the special people in our lives.

I am looking forward to a very exciting year with the Roos.

## Tigger's House

Maliney Bailey



The Tiggers have settled wonderfully into the daily routine and are enjoying their days at "big" school. We have been learning about so many new and interesting things these past few weeks, like our senses and our bodies.

The Tiggers delighted in making beautiful Valentine' day cards for their moms and dads. It is a pleasure to watch the Tiggers during outside playtime especially in the sandpit and water play. Many of the Tiggers love exploring the garden to find insects and then to show them to their teachers. We are looking forward to an interesting and fun-filled year, and will keep you updated with the new things we will be learning about.



## PCOS Dance/ Dinner 2008

The Parklands College Outreach Society is "raising the bar" and cordially invites you to join us at the Arabella Sheraton for a great evening of unwinding, socializing and dancing

Date: Sat 12 April 2008 Time: 19h00 for 19h30

Venue: Arabella Sheraton /

The Westin Grand Cape Town Arabella Quays

Dress: Smart-Formal

Tickets: R240.00 A cash bar will be available

Tickets are available for purchase from The Pre-Primary, Preparatory or Secondary Faculty receptions. To donate items to be auctioned off, or to become involved in this special event, please contact: Chantel Lamb - [clamb@parklands.co.za](mailto:clamb@parklands.co.za) or Donna Swart - [donna@businesszone.co.za](mailto:donna@businesszone.co.za)

Proceeds from this dance will be used towards supporting a scholarship learner in addition to other projects to enrich and assist Sophakama.

## Pre-Primary Bumper Cake Sale

The Pre-Primary Faculty is hosting a cake sale on Wednesday 19 March to raise funds for the Parklands College Outreach Society and Sophakama Primary School.

We are inviting the Preparatory and Secondary Faculties to join us. To ensure we have sufficient goodies to sell, we are encouraging ALL Pre-Primary learners to bring something delicious for us to sell.

If you are able to assist at the cake sale, please inform Suzette Watkins [swatkins@parklands.co.za](mailto:swatkins@parklands.co.za), Jayne Naidoo [jnaidoo@parklands.co.za](mailto:jnaidoo@parklands.co.za) or Annelee Mizrachi in reception [amizrachi@parklands.co.za](mailto:amizrachi@parklands.co.za)

# PREPARATORY FACULTY



## From the Principal's Office...

Colleen Millar

'I think that it was Stephen Covey, the author of *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, who put the idea in my head that we should live, learn, love and leave a legacy. As an educator, I can't imagine a better road map to follow. To keep a sense of optimism amidst difficult challenges, to hopefully learn as we go along so that our tomorrows are better than our yesterdays, and to love... are great aspirations. And if they are done well, we just may leave a legacy. We just may make a difference.'

*Stepping Outside Your Comfort Zone* by Nelson Beaudoin

The obstacles that are sent to challenge us invariably make us pause and reflect... an important exercise in the frenetic world in which we live today. The aforementioned 'road map' to which Beaudoin refers is certainly a worthwhile guideline. This quarter has indeed had its challenges as well as its inevitable student triumphs. The peaks and troughs that one associates with a relationship are always ever-present in a school which is in itself a dynamic organism. However, the overriding sense of optimism that prevails ensures that we continue to grow from our experiences and situations.

To date, the learners in the Preparatory Faculty have had many fulfilling and enriching experiences as evidenced by the numerous articles detailing the various 'student triumphs'. I am proud of the learners' participation and excellence in the different facets of the College and I look forward to the remaining few weeks of this quarter.

## Grade Two Rockpool Outing



The beach was nice. We found a dead octopus and we caught fish and starfish. We climbed the rocks. We were there for four hours. We had a picnic. When it was time to go I wanted to stay.

*Lauren Malcolm*

On Thursday our class went on an outing, it was lots of fun. The best part of all was playing in the water. After that we had lunch. When everyone had finished their lunch they went back to play. I caught three fish and one starfish.

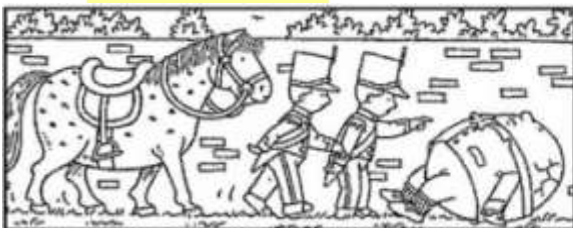
*Chelsea Botha*

When I went to the beach I saw an octopus. I caught five fish and one starfish. I found a sea snail too. I drew pictures in the sand. Chelsea, Mia and I splashed in the water. I got things for my project and we ate lunch.

*Tina Hadjidakis*

It was my best outing. I caught small fish. I caught harders and periwinkles. I caught crabs. I caught sea urchins.

*Christian Heyns*



## Nursery Rhyme Captions

Grade Four Learners

HUMPTY DUMPTY  
"Egg Head found Dead!"  
"Wall Strikes"  
"Humpty Dumpty's going down!"  
"Dead Dumpty!"

by Dylan Scholtz  
by Alex de Kock  
by Dhiyora Naidoo  
by Jack Carlisle

QUEEN OF HEARTS  
"Queen's kitchen is cookless!"  
"Runaway Romeo"

by Mikhailan Naicker & Adam Jubber  
by Talia Cross & Tara Pantan

BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP  
"Is Mary a lamb killer?" by Jason van der Linden & Jared Saevitzon



## Checkmate at Parklands College

Cecile van Zyl

Checkmate at Parklands College!

Learners at Parklands College have been 'infected' by chess fever. We started with about twenty learners and now there are seventy-six enthusiastic chess players in the Chess Club.

Learners from Grades One to Six get together on Friday afternoons to learn and to hone their skills. Three coaches and one teacher have the responsibility to teach and challenge players.

Last year three learners competed provincially and went on to the national tournament in Durban. The college also plays matches against other primary schools in order to create a healthy competitive spirit amongst players.

Every classroom in the college has two tournament size chess sets and this encourages learners to use even their leisure time to practise their skills. After all, everyone wants to say, "Checkmate!"



## Of Things Ancient...

Grade Five Learners

One of the aims in the Intermediate Phase this year is to encourage active participation in learning and to make learning FUN! The Grade Five History curriculum focuses on Ancient Civilizations and so we started the quarter learning about the Ancient Egyptians. For our first outing, we went to the Slave Lodge in Cape Town as they have an exhibit there dealing with this subject. Here are some comments from the Grade Fives:

"On Thursday, the 31<sup>st</sup> of January, we went on an outing to The Slave Lodge. It was extremely exciting! When we got there we got split into two groups. My group first went to see exquisite pictures of Ancient Egypt." (Jessica Watling). "We went into a classroom where we watched a slide show and learnt so much! Did you know that when people die their body parts get removed, and their brains get taken out of their noses? Sick, isn't it!" (Michelle Karstens). "We had lunch at the gardens. The beautiful trees swayed and swayed over and over. It was peaceful there. (Kelly Hawarden). "We saw squirrels while we ate our lunch. I climbed a tree. Soon the other class came. It was time to go back. I had lots of fun. I am sure everyone else did too." (Abigail Hawthorn)



## Grade Five Egyptian Wall Murals!

Grade Five Learners

In our class, we were learning about Ancient Egypt. We had to bring a polystyrene tray to class. We made wall murals. It was awesome! How we made it was we used Plaster of Paris. We put it in our polystyrene tray.

*Sarah Bradley*

I chose a hunter catching a bird. Then we had to draw the picture that we chose onto a piece of paper. Then we would trace the drawing onto the hard Plaster of Paris. Then we painted the drawing and shaded it with pastel for the background. After that we had to say an oral on the thing that the person represented.

*Danielle van Jaarsveld*



## A Personal Seal or Mark!

Grade Five Learners

Our class was learning about Ancient Egypt. As part of an assessment, we had to make a cartouche. We used an oval bar of soap and were given a Hieroglyphic alphabet from which to write a word (name) no longer than five letters. We used a compass to carve it out and give it depth. What we ended up with is what you see in the picture.

*Akeem Manuel*



Joshua Skates With the Swans!! - *Joshua Cilliers, Grade 5*

I went to watch 'Swan Lake on Ice' and I even got to skate with them because all the skaters who got Western Province colours this year got to skate with them. I learned a lot from them and I had lots of fun skating with them. We skated while they were doing rehearsals.

Western Province Karting Championships - *Luke Herring, Grade 5*

I won the first race of the season, and qualified for first position. I won the first 3 races. I was pleased to be the 'fastest of the day' and the 'driver of the day'. I was

the quickest on the ice cold track and received my Western Province colours.

## Cultural Report

Beulah Watson, HOD Music

Our Intermediate Phase musicians, poets and choristers worked hard preparing for the first recital of 2008. This evening of pleasure was delivered in the Secondary Faculty Hall on Wednesday 5 March. We welcomed all our family and friends to join us for a wide variety of cultural talent.

The annual Backsberg Orchestral Festival took place on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the well-known Backsberg Wine Estate. Parklands College was well represented with twenty Preparatory and **nine Secondary Faculty learners taking part. I conducted 'The Barber of Seville', Miss Eriel Huang led the string sectionals and Mrs Pamela Barr was an integral part of the Symphony Orchestra.** The audience brought along picnic baskets and enjoyed the exquisite surroundings whilst listening to the sounds of the Symphony (senior), Concert (Junior) Orchestras and Junior and Senior Recorder Ensembles. Thank you for your support of our young musicians.

## Parklands College Poem

Jessica Hawthorn, Grade 3F

*Parklands College is the best of ALL  
Some of us are big and some of us are SMALL  
We learn about birds and their WINGS  
We learn everyday as we play and SING  
Yes, Parklands is the BEST in the WEST!*

## Western Province Tennis Trials

Congratulations to the following learners who went through to the second round of the Western Province Tennis Trials on Friday 22 February 2008:

U11: Calvin Jordaan and Selwyn Chiu  
U13: Emma Pietersen, Angela Marchese, Rhys Milne, Gareth Austen.

This is a very competitive code and we are very proud of them!

# SECONDARY FACULTY



## From the Principal's Office...

Sylvia Steyn

It is astounding to think that we have almost reached the end of the first quarter. Being so busy with so many activities, made the time fly by. Paging through this newsletter will give you an idea of the College's packed calendar, catering for all interests ranging from Sport Events to Art Exhibition visits.

Our sports teams are doing exceptionally well with both our 1<sup>st</sup> cricket team and the softball team being unbeaten this season. On the cultural front our Debating teams are faring very well, a great number of our learners took part in the Backsberg Orchestra Festival and we are very busy preparing for our first Musical Production, "Little Shop of Horrors", which will be staged in June.

After such a busy quarter we look forward to our Outdoor Adventure Camps during the last week of the Summer Quarter. These camps give the learners an opportunity to bond as a group and to get to know their educators better. For many of our learners it is the highlight of their year!

We are pleased to have noticed an increase in parents attending our sports matches and extend another invitation to you to please join us around the fields.

If you are lucky enough to travel over the Easter Break, we wish you a safe trip; if not, we trust that you will rest well. The Autumn Quarter is going to be another exciting, but very busy one!

Jill Brown and Baby Rachel are doing well!





## GET Phase Outing

Ancia Vosloo and Debbie Waldeck, GET Phase Heads



Despite the early start the Grade 7, 8 and 9s arrived at Parklands looking like the cast for High School Musical 2. Colourfully dressed and visibly excited about a school day without school, they boarded the buses and off we went to the Berg River Resort near Paarl.

We emerged from the sluggish traffic to see the beautiful Hot-tentots Holland Mountain Range announcing that we were close to our destination. At approximately 09h15, three busloads of sweaty human beings arrived the Berg River Resort ready to hit the relax button - hard.

It didn't take long for us to find a shady spot in which to plonk our supplies. Within minutes the previously spick and span recreation area was densely populated by people swimming, sun-tanning, tossing balls around and eating their breakfast; with Mr Wildschut all the while keeping an eye on proceedings from the vantage point of his trusty camping throne. A short walk down the road led us to the water slide... ah the water slide!!! It's amazing how much fun one can have on a water slide. Learners looped their way from the splash pool at the bottom, to the top of the stairs for hours. The boys kept us entertained by demonstrating the most ingenious ways of exiting the tube. Even the teachers couldn't get enough. Mrs De

Gouveia, whose number of loops was rivaled only by a few particularly tenacious Grade 8 boys, had a close encounter of the Lezar kind when an unnamed teacher came barreling out of the tube very soon after she herself had taken the plunge.

The learners entertained themselves by also initiating informal games of electric wicket cricket, touch rugby and soccer. The trampoline too was a hit and those on their way to the water slide could catch an eyeful of some rather inspired acrobatic leaps and twists. For those who preferred the pool, tower wrestling and general swimming pool antics were the order of the day. Many of our learners used this opportunity to simply lie back, tan and catch up on what has been a very exciting week. Moms were remembered as packed lunches were appreciated from grassy knolls and dappled spots throughout the day.

As the shade shifted and we clung to the shadows, we found ourselves reflecting on what had truly been a successful day's outing. Some general highlights - according to the learners - ranged from spending time with learners in other classes and grades, swimming and getting to know new learners, to not doing any work, suntanning, playing on the water slide and leeching.

The GET phase learners must be commended on their excellent behaviour and the general spirit of camaraderie which they created. Their wonderful attitudes enabled us to have a sublime day out with no casualties or incidents. Ms Williams put it best when she said: "The only hurt they got was hurt by all the fun they had."

Thank you to everyone involved. Your participation and goodwill made this year's GET outing a splashy success!



## Parklands Teachers are the Best

Julia Gomes, Prefect: Learner Affairs

During a workshop at the Class Representative Camp, presented by Mrs Vosloo, the students were asked to name some positive aspects about Parklands College.

The learners mentioned our beautiful buildings, opportunities, facilities, technology, relationships between learners, etc. However, the comments were mostly about the teachers of Parklands College. They feel that the teachers give them individual attention; they also feel that they can go to the teachers with their problems and that they are able to develop personal relationships with the teachers. They commented on how in other schools the learners and teachers hardly know anything about each other, but at Parklands College we know each teacher's background and what's currently going on in their lives and visa versa and we feel that if we need to speak to someone we can approach our teachers without being ashamed or embarrassed because we have such good relationships with them. They also mentioned that teachers are passionate about their subjects and go through a lot of trouble preparing interesting lessons, outings, etc. The way teachers promote not only their subjects, but also the school, makes the learners very proud to be part of Parklands College.

Parklands College truly is a family.

## EDUCATORS BEING EDUCATED

*Elmarie Meyer (our Gr11 & 12 Maths Lit Educator) – passed her B.Ed Honours in Learner Support (Remedial) and Mathematics Didactics - Cum Laude! She is currently working on her Masters in Mathematical Literacy Learner Support.*

*Miranda Whitley (our Gr11 & 12 Bus. Studies & Economics Educator) - is near to completing her LLB. She is specializing in corporate law, mainly liquidations and tax law.*

*Stephen Le Feuvre (our FET Phase Head) – is busy with his Bachelor of Theology degree – he has successfully passed modules on: The Life of Christ, John and Acts.*

*He is now busy with an Old Testament Survey which is basically on Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges and Esther – his aim: to teach the Bible before every possible audience using every possible medium in every possible venue*

*Catherine Didders (GET Drama) is currently undertaking the second year of a PGCE for FET. She achieved higher distinctions in all her subjects last year. She is currently conducting research for two Masters Degrees, one in Children's Literature for the University of Roehampton in the UK, and the second in Educational Drama through Rhodes University.*

*Sylvia Steyn (our principal) – is busy with her B.Ed Honours (Specialising in Guidance and Counselling).*

*Our learners are so privileged to be taught and guided by such learned people.*

## FET Bonding Day



On Friday, 18 January, Parklands College FET learners were given a day of bonding. A day on which they could interact with the new and old learners of their grade. On this particular day the wind blew strongly from the South East, so we decided to go to our second option for our trip, and that was to Gordon's Bay. When we got there we found that the wind blew even stronger there, but we tried to make the best of the situation – in typical Parklands fashion. We were divided into our FET grades and began some fun group activities - touch rugby, soccer, sand sculpting and bucket races. Even with the horrible wind our activities were extremely enjoyable and allowed learners to bond even more. Soon after the wind picked up even more, the teachers did some lateral thinking and Mr le Feuvre booked out the Spur for us!

A successful bonding day - despite the wind.

## Francis in Germany



Dear Mrs Smid

Hope you and your family are having a great holiday and festive season (and that you get this e-mail). Germany is going great, it is so different, but yet exciting. The school has +- 1500 learners and although I don't understand much, it is an experience. Today I wrote an English test on South Africa, quite funny hey? Oh, I am in Grade 13 here, (there are 13 grades in German schools). Next week I must present a few talks on South Africa. My host family is very cool. They have planned so many nice things for me. This weekend, we are going sightseeing.

The weather is cold, around 8`C, it should snow soon. The times here are rather odd; as there is only morning and night. It starts to get light at around 8am and is pitch dark by 4: 30pm. The whole of the day feels like 07h00 in the morning in SA, it does not get lighter than that.

Will e-mail again soon, but all the best

Francis

## French Department in Reunion

Mme Bailly



Mme Ewa Swida-Reid, sponsored by the Ambassade de France en Afrique du Sud, represented Parklands College and IEB schools of the Western Cape at the French Literature for Grade 12 workshop in Reunion during the first two weeks of the December holidays. This was an extraordinary experience, involving teachers from other South African schools and South African Universities.

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February our Madame was also one of the speakers at the IEB conference at Reddam Atlantic, sharing her incredible knowledge of the French language. Susy Macfarlane, head of the French Department of Herschel Girls school wrote the following:

« Mille mercis de nous avoir permis de participer à ce stage hier.  
**Le travail fait à La Réunion par toute l'équipe de professeurs sud-africains entourés de Bernard Hoarau est impressionnant et nous sera d'une grande aide.**  
 Nous nous sentons encouragées et stimulées dans notre façon de préparer nos élèves à l'étude de la littérature française. **Vive le partage, la collaboration et encore une fois un grand BRAVO !!** »

From all of us at Parklands College – Merci Madame et vive le français à Parklands!

## Prefect Adventure Getaway

Gareth Grey, Deputy Head Boy

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From the 11th to the 13th of January, the weekend before school started, all the newly elected prefects for 2008 attended a survival camp in the mountains near Stanford. On the first day our fears were challenged in a mountain climbing activity, followed by abseiling into a ravine where some of the prefects swam under a waterfall. Everyone handled it very well, and that night we slept out in the open, next to a river, on the mountain. On the Saturday we started out kayaking, but were sidetracked by a swing over a river which most of us went on, finding ourselves wet before we had even started the activity. We moved campsites and after setting up we had to perform 2 tasks involving teamwork and trust. The first task was to get the group over a wall about 5m tall, and the second was to get the group and some equipment across 2 triangular structures, both about 4m tall, without touching the ground. Come night time we were given the option of sleeping in tents or, once again, under the stars. The Sunday saw us planning our portfolios for the year, i.e. the events we want to organise, rules we want to instil and traditions we want to develop. The camp assisted in forming many bonds within the prefect group. On behalf of the prefect body, I would like to thank Warren and the rest of the team from Wortelgat for organising and looking after us on the camp, and of course Mr le Feuvre, who is always there for us. We all look forward to the year ahead.

## Ballet Stars

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### ***Kayla does it again...***

*"Dance Algarve 2008" is an intensive Easter Ballet Workshop that is held over Easter in Algarve, Portugal. The organisers have invited Cape Junior Ballet (CJB) to select 10 dancers to attend this course next year, from 19 to 22 March 2008. Kayla has been chosen as one of the dancers.*

*Kayla has also been cast in the Cape Town City Ballet production of "Coppelia" that will be running from 28 April to 22 May. She is one of 12 dancers from Cape Junior Ballet who indicated their willingness to be part of the production and has been cast accordingly. There are 9 performances.*

*Other achievements that Kayla has achieved: Royal Academy of Dance Intermediate Ballet Examination - Distinction, Dancetrax Highest Achiever Trophy for 2007 at the annual Prize-Giving*

*Well done Kayla!*

### **Chelsea...**

*In December of last year, Chelsea Lawrence auditioned for the Cape Junior Ballet (CJB) and she was told that she had been successful. We are very proud of her as she has worked extremely hard.*

*Thank you Mrs Steyn, for your hard work and continuous dedication to the school. You probably don't hear enough from parents about how happy they are with the school and all the hard work you put into making it a success. We really appreciate you and all that you do.*

*Michelle & Gary Lawrence*

## Counselling Office

Kim Schloms-Madlener

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All learners in the secondary faculty are invited to visit the Counselling Office in room 6. Whether you just want to say hi, ask a quick question or get some serious advice – everyone is welcome!

What can you talk about?

Subject choices, career options, adjusting to high school, relationships, family issues and any other personal problems.

I am available to see learners during the school day, at breaks and after school. You can book appointments on the following days:

Grade 7 - Monday, Grade 8 & 9 - Tuesday, Grade 10 - Wednesday, Grade 11 - Thursday, Grade 12 - Friday

Please note: Learners must catch up any work missed due to counselling sessions.

**Appointments can be made by filling in one's initials on the weekly appointment timetable in my office.**

All sessions are confidential!

## Music Department News

Pamela Barr

The Secondary Faculty Music Department is very excited to find ourselves housed in the new wing, with a new class teaching room and a wonderful carpeted rehearsal room where our drum kit and band equipment can be stored. These new rooms will be used for individual music lessons, class music lessons for all Grade 7-9's as well as band, orchestra and choir rehearsals

We welcome two new teachers to our team, Mrs Corette van der Merwe joins us to teach clarinet, saxophone and piano and Mr Ian Black joins us to teach drum kit, the first drum teacher at Parklands College!

Co-curricular music lessons have started with learners showing huge amounts of enthusiasm and commitment. Our number of learners taking co-curricular music lessons has doubled this year, so we are looking forward to seeing these learners having a great time making music.

Trinity Music Theory Results:

Congratulations to Jared Blake who passed his Grade 5 theory exam and to Rebecca Cohen who also passed Grade 5 theory with distinction.

## Gala

Parklands College Secondary Faculty's 8<sup>th</sup> annual inter house swimming gala was a much-anticipated event on this quarter's calendar.

On Wednesday morning, 23 January, learners gathered in the Secondary Faculty quad, all sporting their house colours, to begin the day with a spirited "big brag". After the brag, everyone was full of spirit and ready to begin the much awaited event. Not only were we anticipating the winner of the day, but also the outcomes of the Secondary Faculty's newly established house, Cambridge.

Within minutes, everyone was gathered around the preparatory swimming pool waiting for the races to begin. As the races went on, the houses cheered and music played as many sang and danced along. All of the swimmers must be congratulated on their participation, given the strange weather we experienced (definitely not swimming conditions). The Junior Victor and Victrix Ludorums were Marcus Engelbrecht and Roche van der Merwe, Roche being elected swimmer of the day! The Senior Victor and Victrix Ludorums were Craig le Roux and Elaan Coetzee. Congratulations to those learners!

Yale must also be congratulated on their win of both the swimming as well as the spirit. But Cambridge should be commended as well for coming second in the swimming as it was their first time competing.

A fun-filled and exciting day was had by all and I think I can say on behalf of Parklands Secondary Faculty that we are looking forward to the next inter-house gala.



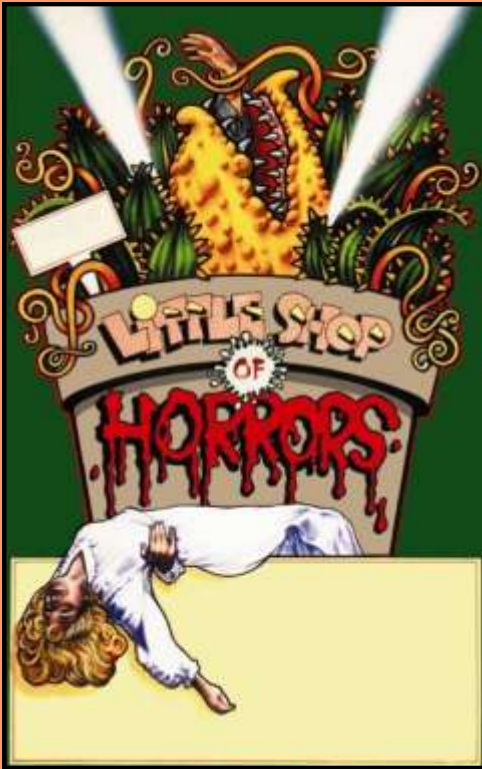
## Our Grade Sevens Love High School Because...

- *there is so much freedom*
- *we can make our own decisions and its different work with more responsibilities and people don't*

*treat you like Grade 1's and most of all Mrs Steyn is just the best and I enjoy her lessons*

- *it's such a wonderful atmosphere and everybody is so friendly – the teachers are not so strict and the principal is a wonderful lady*
- *you have much more freedom and more opportunities. – our principal is the best and so are the teachers – we have so many privileges*
- *it's fun and exciting*
- *it gives you freedom and it's up to you to do your work and study*
- *it allows me to have more responsibility – but what it has taught me is that with responsibility comes respect and to always put in the extra mile!*
- *the teachers are cool and we get a lot of exercise between classes*
- *of the girls...and o ya – it's just more fun and cool*
- *it's cool and they give us more freedom to do things – we don't always have the same teacher and class and I like most of the teachers*

Watch out everyone -  
The hype is on!



At the end of the second term the Secondary School will be performing its first big Musical, *The Little Shop of Horrors* in the new school hall. This musical satirizes many things like science fiction, 'B' movies, musical comedy itself and even the Faust legend.

In a decade not long before our own, the human race encountered a deadly threat to its very existence; this terrifying enemy surfaced in the seemingly most innocent and unlikely of places....

The lead roles in the play are Seymour (Pierre Marias), who is a sweet, naive clerk in a florist shop; Audrey (Samantha Allchin) is his secret love and also works in the florist shop. The boss, Mr Mushnik (Raven Swart) is initially not too impressed with a new type of plant that Seymour want to sell in his shop... Orin (Jared Blake) is the sadistic and cruel dentist boyfriend of Audrey. The voice of the plant will be performed by Rodney Mhangu.

The director of this musical is Catherine Didders, musical direction and voice coaching by Pamela Barr and Dalene du Pisanie and dance choreography by Sylvia Stander.

Tickets for the production will be on sale soon - keep the following dates open: 19, 20, 21 June 2008.

Judith Herbig - Producer

# Looking Ahead

| MARCH |       |           |  |    |    |
|-------|-------|-----------|--|----|----|
| DATE  | DAY   | ACTIVITY  | PP                                       | PS | SS |
| 1     | Sat   | Backsberg |  |    | X  |
| 2     | Sun   | Backsberg |  |    | X  |
| 3     | Mon   | 6         | Assessment Hour                          |    | X  |
| 4     | Tues  | 7         | English Olympiad                         |    | X  |
| 5     | Wed   | 1         | Storzner Cup Gala                        |    | X  |
| 6     | Thurs | 2         | Careers Expo                             |    | X  |
|       |       |           | IP Music Recital                         |    | X  |
| 7     | Fri   | 3         | Winter co-curricular sign-ups            |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Riverglade & Huis Zonnekus Visit         |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Honey Bee's House cakesale               | X  |    |
|       |       |           | Easter Egg Collection (3-14 March)       | X  |    |
| 8     | Sat   |           | O P E N D A Y                            | X  | X  |
| 9     | Sun   |           |  |    |    |
| 10    | Mon   | 4         | Assessment Hour                          |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Founder's Day Activities                 |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Debate vs Deutsche Schule                |    | X  |
| 11    | Tues  | 5         | Founder's Day                            | X  |    |
|       |       |           | Draft Reports: IP                        |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Inter-schools Gala                       |    | X  |
| 12    | Wed   | 6         | Gr 12 Practical Assessment Day           |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Maths Olympiad                           |    | X  |
| 13    | Thurs | 7         | Gr 12 Practical Assessment Day           |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Grade 4 Outing to Bowling and Pools      |    | X  |
| 14    | Fri   | 1         | Gr 12's leave on camp                    |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Inter-house Beach Run                    |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Secondary School ends at 12h00           |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Tigger's House cake sale                 | X  |    |
|       |       |           | Relay Gala: Bridgehouse                  |    | X  |
| 15    | Sat   |           | Kirstenbosch Family Picnic-Founder's Day | X  |    |
|       |       |           | S C H O L A R S H I P E X A M S          |    | X  |
| 16    | Sun   |           |  |    |    |
| 17    | Mon   | 2         | Gr 7 - 11 leave on camps                 |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Grade 0 outing to the Two Oceans Aqarium | X  |    |
|       |       |           | Parent Meetings                          |    | X  |
| 18    | Tues  | 3         | 1st round Maths Olympiad                 |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Netball Clinic                           |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Parent Meetings                          |    | X  |
| 19    | Wed   | 4         | All campers return                       |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Parent Meetings                          |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Netball Clinic                           |    | X  |
|       |       |           | General Knowledge Quiz                   |    | X  |
| 20    | Thurs |           | End of Summer Quarter                    |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Special Assembly                         |    | X  |
|       |       | 5         | End of Summer Quarter                    |    | X  |
|       |       |           | Inter-House GK Quiz                      |    |    |
|       |       |           | Easter Egg Hunt                          | X  |    |
| 21    | Fri   |           | Human Right's Day                        |    | X  |
| 22    | Sat   |           |  |    |    |
| 23    | Sun   |           |  |    |    |
| 24    | Mon   |           | Grade 11 Job Shadowing                   |    | X  |
| 25    | Tues  | 6         | Grade 11 Job Shadowing                   |    | X  |
| 26    | Wed   | 7         | Grade 11 Job Shadowing                   |    | X  |

Learners return on 9 April