

GHS NEWS



A leader in education for young women. A stepping stone to success

Newsletter No. 1 of 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents, Girls and Friends of GHS

As we embrace the technological age and play our part in preserving our environment, much of our communication with the wider world will be through the channels of the D6 and our website. We hope that all our readers will find our newsletters both informative and exciting.

The 1st term of 2016 has been a challenging and very busy one. Our Grade 8's have settled easily into life at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School and are now happy and supportive members of our green family.

We bid farewell, at the end of the term to Mr Reddy, a long-standing member of the Information Technology Department. He is joining his family business. Miss Grice is leaving GHS as she is getting married and moving to Cape Town. Miss Botha will starting a new career venture. We thank them for their contribution to GHS over the years.

I am happy to announce that Mr H Molale and Mr M Gordon are the newly elected members of the Governing Body. The 2016 executive positions are held by Mr W Venter – Chairperson; Mr M Trollip – Vice Chairperson; Prof J Finnie – Treasurer and Mrs M-A Akerman – Secretary. Mrs A Chetty, Mrs R O' Connor and Mrs B Ballantyne are the other elected parent members of the Governing Body. We wish the Governing Body a successful year in office.

All our girls are to be commended on their positive attitude this term, and are encouraged to keep up the good work. My thanks go to all the staff for an excellent term's work.

Best wishes to all our GHS community for a restful holiday and, to those who belong to the Christian Faith, a blessed Easter.

Miss Valerie Fowler
Principal



Birdlife enjoying the GHS grounds after the heavy rains on Wednesday 16 March



In This Term's Issue:

- GHS awarded title of Sport Focus School
- Interact Society gives back to the community
- GHS staff awarded for excellence
- Grade 11 Science tour to Johannesburg

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

MATRIC CLASS OF 2015

The matric class of 2015 did themselves and their school proud with a total of 510 distinctions awarded to our girls and a 96.4% Bachelor Pass rate. The top 3 learners each achieved a 91% aggregate, with Salona Burdhu (DUX) placed in the top 5 matrics in the uMgungundlovu District.



Salona Burdhu & Miss Fowler



GHS Staff scoop Awards at The uMgungundlovu District Awards Ceremony

GHS STAFF AWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE

Over 30 GHS staff members were recognised by the Department of Education at the uMgungundlovu District Awards Ceremony for producing excellent results during the final matric exams.

2016 ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

The Academic Awards Ceremony is an occasion where we recognise the GHS girls who have excelled academically. Mrs Liza Eustace, guest of honour and Director of Corporate and Investment Banking at Barclays Africa encouraged the girls to view the corporate ladder of success as a jungle gym instead. She explained that it is a climb that will provide challenges, different twists and turns and, ultimately, enjoyment! In a world where instant gratification is becoming the norm, the girls were reminded that there is no short cut or secret to success, but instead that anything is achievable with good, old-fashioned hard work!



Mrs Cathy Gouweloos (Deputy Principal), Noxolo Manele, Buhle Mnguni, Lauren Brown, Julia Turner, Mrs Liza Eustace, Mrs Cathy Trodd (Deputy Principal), Lerato Molale, Miss Valerie Fowler (Principal)

Summary Of Results:

- 96.4% Bachelor Pass
- 510 distinctions were achieved across all subjects
- The top 3 learners for 2015 each achieved an aggregate of 91%
- Seven distinctions were awarded to Salona Burdhu, Kirstin Höhls, Nolwazi Mbanjwa, Laura Milne, Amelia Moses, Ziyandiswa Mvelase, Kajal Sewrathan, Thashmil Somaroo, Skye Sutherland
- 6 Distinctions awarded to 7 learners
- 5 Distinctions awarded to 12 learners
- 4 Distinctions awarded to 14 learners
- 3 Distinctions awarded to 38 learners
- 2 Distinctions awarded to 66 learners
- 1 Distinction awarded to 43 learners

After the re-marks were announced GHS Matrics scored many more A symbols.

CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

INTERACT SOCIETY GIVE OF THEIR TIME

The Interact Society girls helped raise money at the recent Shavathon held at the Hayfields Mall. A total of R12 000 was raised for the CANSA association over the course of the weekend. The girls were then involved in selling pancakes at a Hospice fundraiser.



NEW COLLECTION POINT FOR RECYLING SOCIETY

The Recycling Society are delighted to have a newly built undercover collection area. Pictured at the opening are members of the Recycling Society as well as Mrs Pat Jury who first started the recycling initiative at GHS many years ago, and Mrs Dellar who is currently in charge of the society.

The collection area is situated near the Topham Road parking lot and the society encourages the GHS community to drop off any recycling in the many labelled bins.



HINDU STUDENTS SOCIETY HOSTS CULTURAL EVENING

The Hindu Students' Society held a cultural evening showcasing traditional Hindu delights. An evening of music, dance, fashion, delicious food and friendship was enjoyed by all who attended.

MSA SOCIETY AIDS IN DROUGHT RELIEF

Through doughnut sales and donations, the Muslim Students' Association collected R5200 which was donated to the Gift of the Givers to assist with drought relief across the country.

FIRST AID SOCIETY – A 'FIRST' FOR GHS

The First Aid Society was established this year and has proved to be very popular. The year started off with a successful blood donor drive, and members have attended formal first aid training.



SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

GHS NOMINATED AS A SPORT FOCUS SCHOOL

A rigorous selection process by the Department of Sport and Recreation has resulted in Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School being nominated as a Sport Focus School in the disciplines of Hockey, Basketball and Netball.



This initiative aims to partner with selected schools to provide top school-going sportsmen and women with a strong foundation to one day compete at National level and, ultimately, at the 2022 Durban Commonwealth Games. Eight Kwa-Zulu Natal schools were awarded this prestigious title with GHS being the only all girls' school selected.

Supported by the Free State Sport Science Institute, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School will offer chosen candidates tailored training programmes and recovery strategies, assistance with injury prevention and management, as well as guidance on the proper use of equipment and supplements. Candidates will also have access to GHS's state of the art sporting facilities, some of which include an indoor centre, 6 netball fields, heated swimming pool, artificial hockey surface and fully equipped gym.

Highly qualified and dedicated coaches will ensure that candidates not only maintain a balance on the sports field, but also with academic and cultural endeavours. This all-round education offered at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School will serve to provide the best foundation upon which young sportswomen are most likely to succeed.



INTER-HOUSE GALA

Fun was had by all at the Inter-house Gala with Grundy taking home the winners' Trophy.



GHS 1st HOCKEY TEAM DOMINATE SPAR PRE-SEASON TOURNAMENT

The GHS 1st Hockey Team played in the SPAR pre-season tournament on Saturday 12 March. Out of their five matches played, GHS won four and drew one with a total of 23 goals scored.

GHS won The Pietermaritzburg Central Section, thus qualifying for The SPAR Finals in Durban in July.

WHAT'S ON THE GO AT GHS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GRADE 11 SCIENCE TOUR TO JOHANNESBURG

61 Grade 11 Science learners and 3 teachers embarked on an educational tour to Johannesburg. Their first stop was the Eskom pumped storage station at Tugela Vaal where they travelled down 52 storeys inside a mountain to see the gigantic pumps and generators that provide electricity. The girls enjoyed many stops during their tour, a few of which included a visit to Sandton Square to see the statue of Mandela, the Planetarium, and had a brief tour around Wits University.



Gold Reef City was one of the main highlights, where the girls went down a mine, saw gold being poured and enjoyed many crazy rides. The last day was spent at Sci Bono, a very large science museum in the centre of Joburg. Here the girls engaged with the many interactive displays on chemistry, electricity, sound, light, heat and engineering, and played 'science games' of soccer and mind control. The tour concluded with a visit to the iAfrika Museum. What a successful way of combining learning and fun!

MAKING IT COUNT FOR GHS OUTREACH

On the 6th of May 2016, Joelle Botha, who is currently a Grade 9 learner at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, will be embarking on the Tankwa Camino trail. The trail which starts in Calvinia and ends in the town of Ceres in the Western Cape spans a distance of 256km which will be covered in 10 days. Joelle has decided to make her journey count by using it to raise funds for the GHS Outreach Society. To support Joelle on her journey we appeal to the GHS community to sponsor her in any way possible.

For further details on Joelle's journey and sponsorship opportunities please contact Toni Bower marketing@ghspmb.co.za

Joelle Leads The Journey For GHS Outreach

Tankwa Camino
256 KM
6 - 16 May
GHS Outreach
Making It Count

SPONSOR R1 / KM

For further details on Joelle's journey contact Toni Bower marketing@ghspmb.co.za



THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

We are very excited to announce that GHS is now offering girls the opportunity to enrol in the Presidents Award.

This youth Empowerment Programme encourages personal discovery, perseverance, responsibility and service to the community and we are very pleased to have a large number of girls who are already participating in the programme.

SHOPPING FOR GHS

Please keep GHS in mind when doing your shopping. GHS belongs to and benefits from the following rebate programmes: My School, Makro School Programme and Tiger Wheel and Tyre. All you need to do is ensure that your various cards are activated and **LINKED to GHS**.

If you need to link your card or don't as yet have a Makro or My School, card please visit each website and follow the easy to use steps online.



TIGER WHEEL AND TYRE PIETERMARITZBURG -

will generously donate a percentage of your total spend on any tyres, wheels, batteries and other accessories as well as wheel alignment and balancing, to GHS. DB Auto which is a business connected to Tiger Wheel and Tyre, and offers major and minor servicing of vehicles, is offering the same benefit. All you need to do is state that you are affiliated to the school in some way (parent or family member of a current learner at GHS) when making payment.



MAKRO - rewards schools by giving them a percentage of the profits made on purchases from parents who have linked their Makro access card to the school on our system. All you need to do is link your Makro access card



MY SCHOOL - is South Africa's biggest community-based fundraising programme. Every time you swipe your card at any of their partners My School will make a donation on your behalf to GHS at no cost to you. If you have received your My School card please don't forget to activate it by swiping it at any of the My School partners

SPOTLIGHT ON GHS OLD GIRLS



CONGRATULATIONS to Julia Trodd (Matric 2014) and her partner Kerry Segal who were placed 7th in this year's Duzi Canoe Marathon.

Eden Myrrh was chosen for the first season of The Voice, South Africa.

