

GHS NEWS

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



Newsletter No. 3 of 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents

The school continues to function at a fairly frenetic pace as we, at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, believe in an holistic education. The CAPS curriculum binds us in the classroom and the demands are heavy. It is important to note that attendance at school, by your daughters, every day, is mandatory. A considerable amount of the syllabus, in each subject, has been covered since the examinations ended.

The girls have also had the opportunity to be a part of the sport and extra-mural programme. Many of our teams had an unbeaten season. Well done! However, it is not all about success, but health, involvement and commitment. The Windband, Choirs and Gospel Choir showed their talents at a wonderful Music Evening, open to you all. A number of girls had also taken part in Maritzburg College's production of 'All Shook Up' and were outstanding cast members. The Grade 10 and 11 Drama learners performed their classwork at the Creative Expressions Evening and entertained the audience with their pieces. The Senior Library Monitors had a sleepover in the library which showed their love of their role in the school, and their love of books and reading! These events are just a glimpse of what is offered to our girls. My thanks to the staff for all the extras they embark on.

GHS has once again been recognised as one of the leading schools in the Destiny Magazine survey. Excellence in academics as well as facilities and activities, and the general ethos of the school are considered.

This holiday break will be a welcome relief for girls and staff, and I am sure parents too, as this has been an exceptionally demanding term. I have warned the girls that their personal safety and choice of holiday activities are of paramount importance. We cannot be their custodians during this time and I know that many parents are still at work during the holidays.

For the matrics, especially, the 3rd term will be very busy, with extra lessons and revision programmes scheduled in the afternoons, before the Trials Examinations begin. The Grade 11s will assume some of the learner leadership roles and will undergo self-development training.

I hope you all enjoy some quality family time, this holiday, and that your daughters return, ready and excited to face the second half of the year.

Regards

Miss V. Fowler
Principal



The Library, one of the most popular areas of the school during exam time



Taking a proactive approach to the drought situation, GHS has recently drilled 2 new boreholes and installed 16 water tanks which will allow the school and Boarding Establishment to function as per normal during water shortages or restrictions.

FUNK

In May GHS once again participated in Funk; a Movement Theatre festival produced by St Anne's and performed this year for the first time at the Hexagon Theatre. The aim of this enterprise is to allow learners to explore Movement Theatre and Physical Theatre; to give them a platform on which to perform their Movement Theatre pieces, and to give them an opportunity to be exposed to what their contemporaries are achieving. Groups from many different schools (Government and Private, Girls', Boys' and Co-Educational Schools) came together, and worked exceptionally well, with the group-work culminating in a dramatic finale, with all 148 learners sharing the stage. The GHS performers were excellent ambassadors for our school both on the stage and off.

This event is in no way a competition; however standards are always exceptionally high. Our girls held their own, performing well and earning many accolades. The piece performed was inspired by an experience of bioluminescence. It was entitled '**Luminesce**' and explored, in a very abstract way, the difficulty we may have in allowing ourselves to be seen, in all our truth and all our light. Too often sharing our truth and our light is a vulnerable process which results in apparent disempowerment; but, that vulnerability may be what actually saves or empowers us.

The growth experienced by the cast of 12 has been physical, with improvement in fitness, strength, flexibility and balance; emotional, with development of self-concept, challenging of personal boundaries and recognising personal strength; conceptual, with the engagement and grappling with the theme that we chose; and social, with the development of a close personal relationship and identity within the group. The Funk experience was, as always, totally invaluable; we look forward to participating again next year with the same kind of commitment, passion and enthusiasm from our girls.



SLEEPOVER IN THE LIBRARY



REUNION DAY

We look forward to welcoming back our Old Girls. A reminder for those who would like to join us for Reunion Day on the 29th of July. For catering and seating purposes please liaise with your class convener if you will be attending.



Dear GHS Old Girls

The Principal, Staff and Girls
invite you to a trip down memory lane

Friday 29th July
9h00 Registration
9h30 Assembly followed by
Tea in the Main quad
11h30 Tour of the school
Entrance and parking through Topham Road gate

*For catering purposes and seating
please liaise with your class convener
if you will be attending*

REUNION DAY 2016



SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

HOCKEY AND NETBALL



Late afternoon hockey practise on the Astro Turf

A total of 27 hockey matches and 24 netball matches were played during the exam time. Our teams had mixed results but overall we have had successful 2016 seasons. A number of teams have beaten opposition teams ranked higher than them and several teams ended their season unbeaten.

At the recent KZN Action Netball Awards Ceremony Thuli Gcabashe was awarded the U18 Players' Player Award and Anele Mthethwa was named the "Most Improved" U18 Player.

Congratulations to the following girls who have been selected to represent KZN for Canoeing and Fishing. Katie and Jessica Croudace have been selected for the KZN Canoeing Team. They will compete at the national championships in June and Hannah Anderson who has been selected for the KZN U19 Fishing Team. She will compete in the Inter - Provincial Competition in July in Shelley Beach.



PIETERMARITZBURG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The annual Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School Basketball Tournament will be taking place from 29th – 31st July 2016, with a total of 21 teams from across the country taking part. There are currently 1200 learners at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, we are expecting a large number of girls and their parents as spectators at the various matches. This will of course result in great exposure for your brand or product/ service offering.

We would like to get the Pietermaritzburg business community involved in this years tournament in the form of monetary, product or prize sponsorships and in-turn we would like to offer you exposure in our newsletter, D6 communicator (both of which reach 2400 parents), Facebook page as well as exposure on the day in the form of an electronic display in our schools Indoor Centre, Sponsors "walkway" and programme. For further information on sponsorship opportunities please refer to the D6 communicator News or Resources, Sport or contact contact Toni Bower marketing@ghspmb.co.za for further details.