



Matters of Principal

"We grow fearless when we do things we fear"
– Robin Sharma

There are so many examples of human courage that I could share with you, famous men and women doing extraordinary things, from blasting themselves into space to running into burning buildings to save loved ones. However, displays of courage do not have to be headline grabbing achievements. We witness displays of courage every day, big and small, all requiring stepping out of one's comfort zone. The Oxford Dictionary defines courage as "The ability to do something that frightens one."

I witnessed this first hand last Thursday when I went out to join the Grade 9s on Trek. I found myself at the top of a rather intimidating 28 metre abseil! To make it worse, the abseil did not land on terra-firma, but rather on a floating pontoon on the Great Letaba River. The group I joined were pretty upbeat about the prospect of the adventure that lay ahead. They were given the choice as to whether or not to throw themselves off the cliff supported by a few ropes! (not for me, thank you). One of the young ladies mentioned to me quietly that she was terrified but that her mum had said she could do anything and so she was going to do it. The first few pupils went over the edge with very little fuss. Finally, it was our young lady's turn; without hesitation or looking back she proceeded down to the top of the station to be met by Mr Fullard. What transpired in the next 15 minutes was the most amazing display of leadership, care and compassion by Tiaan and the most remarkable display of persistence and courage from our young Stanfordian. She was totally out of her comfort zone – terrified is a word that comes to mind. On three occasions I was convinced that she was going to give up, her legs actually collapsed at one stage. Her desire to do this and the support of Mr Fullard eventually saw her gently lower herself over the edge and slowly abseil (unassisted) down the 28 metre cliff face onto the pontoon. It left me with goose bumps! I am petrified of heights and have not abseiled for 25 years. I was sufficiently inspired to meet the challenge, face my fears and abseil down the cliff myself. Who said 15-year-olds can't inspire us to be better people and to face our little demons?

Have a lovely weekend

God Bless

PUPIL LEADERSHIP 2021



JOSH FAIRHEAD
Deputy Head Boy



MADA BULIANI
Head Boy



HLONI MANGENA
Head Girl



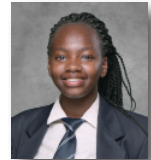
CALLAN SCHULTZ
Deputy Head Girl



HEINRICH MARITZ
Head of Founders N



WARWICK MELVILLE
Head of Founders S



NKHENSANI KHOSA
Head of Lakeside



OLI MULUNGWA
Head of Ken Shuter



NALEDI LEBATI
Head of Serala



ANJA MAREE
Head of Day Scholars



LUKE WOOD



KAYLA DAY

**HEADS
OF
LOOMIS**



ETHAN JONES



ANKE SPIES

**HEADS
OF
FENWICK**



WARWICK MELVILLE

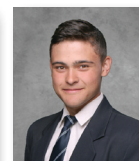


MASASE MBODZI

**HEADS
OF
ORVIS**



HEEMA KALAN
Head of Academic Committee



HERMAN FOURIE AND JARRYD GOSLING
Head of Adventure and Sport Committee



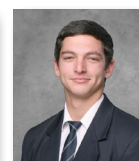
ANKE SPIES
Head of Service Committee



AINE EGAN
Head of Environmental Committee



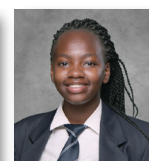
PRIYANKA GOHIL
Head of Culture Committee



ABE ATHANASSIADES
Head of Spirit Committee



AMU NGOBENI
Head of Round Square Committee



NKHENSANI KHOSA
Head of Pastoral Care Committee



KAYLA DAY
Head of Boarding Committee

SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College
ISSUE 30 of 2020 - 23 October



The Grade 9 Trek took on a different flavour this year. The usual 8-day expedition in the Soutpansberg could not go ahead as planned due to COVID-19, so the Outdoor Department at Stanford had to get creative to give the pupils an adventure they won't forget. The Trek was shortened to four days and took place much closer to home. The pupils left school on a sunny morning, on Tuesday 13th October and snaked their way along forestry roads until they reached their base camp for the next three nights – Canopy Tours in George's Valley.

The Trek was certainly a game of two halves for the pupils. Upon arrival at Canopy Tours, the group was split into two. The first group were about to be put through their paces, embarking on a 24-hour solo session equipped with only their cooking equipment, food, a pencil, sleeping bags and a poncho. Silence descended on the group as part of the experience is for them not to communicate with their peers for the specified time period. Mr Haarhoff marshalled the students to their designated sleeping spots, fifty metres apart, and so the process began of making a shelter and setting up their camps. The solo session is meant to be a time of reflection and to get lost in one's own thoughts. In the moment, the 24 hours seem like days and the session seemed arduous for the students. Perhaps the importance of the exercise and the lessons learned will only be realised in many years' time for some of them.

Whilst half of the group were absorbed in self-reflection, their peers carried on with a further three kilometre walk, winding down a narrow footpath deep into the valley, and eventually ended up at their camping spot for the night. This group delighted in their situation, mocking and jiving, knowing that their friends were suffering on "solo". After a total of 20 kilometres covered with heavy packs, the group didn't hesitate to jump into the river and cool off.

The next morning, this group was split into three smaller groups and rotated between different activities. The adrenaline junkies in the group had an absolute blast abseiling down a 28-metre cliff edge, landing on a pontoon raft in the Letaba River. They were expertly assisted by Mr Fullard, Mr Vrugtman and Miss Scheepers. They also enjoyed strapping on their harnesses once more and whizzed through the forest on a zip line tour with Mr Pietersen. They also did some bushcraft with Mrs Coetzee, learning how to make fire using four different methods, as well as walking a forest trail, discussing tracks, signs, ecology and survival methods.

That afternoon, the groups swapped around. Those that had mocked their peers the day before were now slowing descending into nervous silence as it was their time to take on the dreaded "solo". The same couldn't be said for the group who were nearing the end of their 24-hour silent experience... Rosy red cheeks were filled with contained laughter as they were bursting to giggle and joke with their friends once more. As the end of their 24 hours was announced, the group burst out in unison like humming cicadas, desperately trying to get a day's worth of stories out in only a few minutes. And everyone had a "near-death" experience to share... George's Valley must have the highest population density of phantom snakes in the country, as well as huge fantasy baboons that should be in the Guinness World Record books. The excitement and chatter echoed through the valley as they made their way down the trail to the river camping spot, where they swam in the same icy waters that their peers had enjoyed the day before.

On the Thursday evening, the two groups were reunited for a braai, kindly sponsored by the Le Roux and Klinkert families; and on Friday, they made the trek back to school, their souls slightly more full than when they departed on Tuesday.



SNAP SHOT

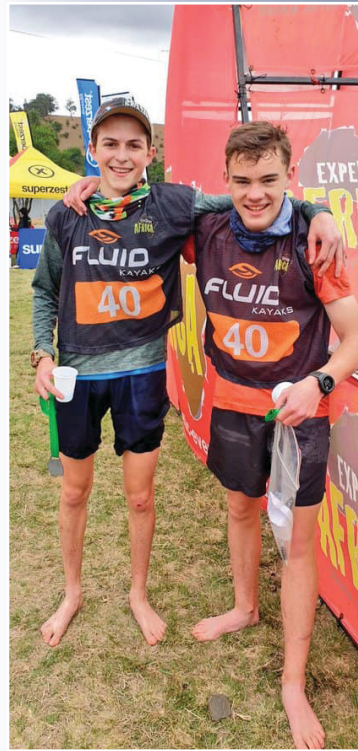
Stanford Lake College

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STAFF TAKE ON 21KM CHALLENGE

On Sunday, 18th of October, Mr Pietersen and Miss Bredenhann took on the challenge of running the Cape Town Virtual Marathon; their goal was to complete the 21.1km race.

Both staff members began their challenges at 6am, running very different routes. Mr Pietersen ran from Tzaneen towards Modjadiskloof and soon realised that this was going to be no easy task. Miss Bredenhann decided to run her race on the Tzaneen Dam Wall. Both of them were pushed to their limits with the blistering heat, but powered through and continued to move forward. Their motivation and determination to finish the race is something we can all admire. Well done, Mr Pietersen and Miss Bredenhann, for completing their first ever half marathons.



BUDDING ADVENTURE RACERS REPRESENT SLC

On the 11th of October, Bennó Kotzé and I did a 25 km adventure race held at Cradle Moon Lakeside Game Lodge in Krugersdorp. It was my first ever race and it was a great experience. We were blessed with good weather on the day. We started off with a 6 km run around the dam then a 17 km cycle and finished off with a 2 km row. Overall, it was good fun and I am looking forward to doing another one soon.

- Stefan Hacker

Well done to Stefan and Bennó who came 12th out of 29 teams in their category and 27th overall out of 92 teams.



Stanford Lake College

JOIN THE SLC BOARD

(Two positions available)

A well functioning Board is vital to an effective organisation. We are looking for two debenture holders to join the SLC Board.

Do you have a specialist skill such as legal, financial, marketing, infrastructure maintenance or education? Moreover, are you passionate, committed and available for quarterly meetings?

If so, we need you!

(Nominations opened on Wednesday, 21st October 2020 and close on Friday, 20th November 2020.)

Structure of the Board

- Headmaster
- Bursar
- 3 Debenture holders (elected)
(two positions available)
- 3 parents (elected)
- 2 members elected by the SMT
- 2 members elected by other board members

Full election and nomination process on page 4...



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION PROCESS

Two debenture holders are due to be elected onto the Board of Trustees at Stanford Lake College. The election process is as follows:

1

Notice of the election was sent to all debenture holders on Wednesday, 21st October. This is at least thirty days prior to the date of election (Friday, 27th November 2020). Nominations may only be made by holders of fully paid debentures.

2

Each nomination must be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae of the nominee, as well as a motivation by the nominator, setting out the reason for the nomination and the role that they feel the nominee will fulfil on the Board. The nominee must accept the nomination in writing and acknowledge that he / she is aware of and accepts the roles and responsibilities of Trustees.

3

A second debenture holder must second the nomination. Nominations close on Friday, 20th November 2020.

4

The Trust will issue debenture holders with an official e-vote as well as a brief curriculum vitae of each nominee on Monday, 23rd November 2020.

5

The candidates for whom the greatest number of votes has been recorded will be declared to be duly elected members by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees on Friday, 27th November 2020. In the event that two or more nominees receive an equal number of votes, the remaining Trustees will hold a secret ballot to decide on the successful candidate.

Desirable traits of Board members:

- Specialist skills such as Legal, Financial, Marketing, Infrastructure Maintenance, Education
- Analytical skills
- Passionate, committed
- Available for scheduled meetings such as Board meetings every quarter and Sub-committee meetings every quarter

