

# SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

ISSUE 32 of 2019 - 25 October

END  
POLIO  
NOW

## A LESSON FOR ALL ABOUT POLIO



In light of World Polio Day yesterday, 24 October, Mrs Paddy Ansell from Haenertsburg Rotary Club addressed the school during assembly about the risks of polio, its prevalence throughout the world and how Rotary have been working since 1988 to try and eradicate the disease. It was a very enlightening talk and an awful lot was learned. Pictured from left to right are: SLC Academic Secretary and Haenertsburg Rotary Secretary, Mrs Gardner; Interact Committee Leader, Mrs Park; Mr Redfern; Mrs Paddy Ansell, Deputy Head Girl for 2020, Malaika Mohlaba and Head Girl for 2020, Danica Alenroxel.

## ALUMNI NEWS



Congratulations to former Stanfodian, Yasmin Malik (class of 2009), who recently graduated cum laude with a Master of Medical Science (Physiology) at the University of Kwazulu-Natal. She is considering to further her studies by doing her PhD in this field. Well done Yasmin, this is a wonderful achievement and we wish you all the best with your next chapter.

Got alumni news for us? We'd love to hear about it. Email: [admissions@stanfordlakecollege.co.za](mailto:admissions@stanfordlakecollege.co.za)



## Matters of Principal

"It takes a whole village to raise a child'  
African Proverb

The newspapers over the past few weeks have been dominated by some rather unsavoury incidents in schools. We have read about numerous school stabbings, inappropriate behaviour by teachers, institutionalised bullying in boys' boarding schools and controversy around art and freedom of expression. In the social media landscape in which we operate nothing is sacred: trial by social media is now common place – we are all susceptible. What does this mean for our pupils, us as educators and equally importantly as parents and adults? To me, it simply heightens our responsibility to identify a sound set of morals and values and to live by them. We need to be clear in the messages that we send to our pupils about what it is that we deem as acceptable and appropriate behaviour. As adults, we need to set the example and understand the importance of accountability. The diversity of our society has resulted in a wide ranging set of standards being adopted, conflicting values and differing moral principles. The controversy around a particular art piece at a school in Northern KZN is very much a case in point. We all need to learn from this. I am unable to pass judgement on the art but what I have learnt is that we need to step away from the emotion of something like this and look at all of the facts and understand the context in which something like this occurred – in this case reading the artist's rationale would be a good starting point. What trial by social media doesn't allow is equal voice. Too

quickly incidents like this escalate out of control. I take the sex scandal at a prominent Cape Town private school as a case in point, as results of the inappropriate behaviour of a school teacher, some columnists have gone so far as to use the case to put all elite private schools on trial and question the value of this kind of education.

Having said all of that we must be clear of what our context is. We are a school tasked with the massive responsibility of educating our young children. We need to find the balance between encouraging freedom of speech, expression and activism and giving too much latitude for our pupils to cross boundaries that are unacceptable; but WE have to set these boundaries and work hard to ensure that our pupils (and community) understand what they are and why they exist. I have spoken to our staff about our responsibility and my expectations around our professionalism and how we live out our roles as educators every day, the example we set and the standards that we are measured by. The basic meaning of the proverb above is that it takes an entire community to raise a child – this is an enormous responsibility. It is not an easy task but it is one that we cannot shy away from.

Go Bokke  
God Bless

Alan Redfern,  
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## NOTICE - DRAMA, DRAMA, DRAMA AT SLC

Stanford Lake College is hosting the Inter-schools Drama Evening on Wednesday 30th October at the Barnyard. PEPPS, Mitchell House and SLC will be presenting a short, one act play. Time: 18:15. All welcome.

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## MATRIC ART EXHIBITION

24 October 2019



The students were given the opportunity to wear either their Springbok, Protea or Bafana Bafana jerseys to school today in order to show their support for the Springboks who play in the Rugby World Cup semi-final against Wales this weekend. It was great to see so many students standing proudly in green and gold.

Go bokke!!