

SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College
ISSUE 12 of 2020 - 27 April



Matters of Principal

“As long as many of our people still live in utter poverty, as long as children still live under plastic covers, as long as many of our people are still without jobs, no South African should rest and wallow in the joy of freedom.” – Nelson Mandela

Today we celebrate Freedom Day, acknowledging our achievements as a country in peacefully transitioning from 300 years of colonialism, segregation and white minority rule, to the establishment of a democratic, freely elected government in 1994. Whilst I would never dare to compare our current lockdown to that of the oppressive history, the irony of celebrating Freedom Day in lockdown should not be lost on us. Apart from curtailing our basic freedoms, the ability to go out, to socialise and to exercise and to simply make a decision as to what we do and when we do it, this lockdown has once again drawn our attention to the extent of the poverty gap that still exists in this country. Millions of people in our country have been affected by the economic fallout of this lockdown, families are starving and poverty is rife. There are no easy solutions to this, but I have been heartened by the response of so many communities in our country who have made an effort to assist, be it a local businessman sourcing 1.6 tons of avocados for a Polokwane feeding scheme, or one of our pupils raising R13,000 to go towards food parcels or the Haenertsburg Rotary Club and local churches having organised food packs which will feed 600 families for a month; all small examples of how people pull together in times of struggle.

We talk about life after Covid-19 as never being the same as it was before this pandemic. We do have a chance to shape our new reality post Covid-19. My prayer is that part of our new reality is that the high levels of empathy and care that we are seeing now become the norm, that we all internalise these behaviours. One of our values is that of Ubuntu. There cannot be any better example of this than some of the gestures of kindness that we are witnessing, born out of a desire to help our fellow human beings.

In a speech delivered by President Nelson Mandela on the occasion of the retirement of Archbishop Desmond Tutu he said:

“The truth is that we are not yet free; we have merely achieved the freedom to be free, the right not to be oppressed. We have not taken the final step of our journey, but the first step on a longer and even more difficult road. For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others. The true test of our devotion to freedom is just beginning.”

Twenty-six years into democracy, maybe we have taken a meaningful step on our journey to true freedom.

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GAME ON!

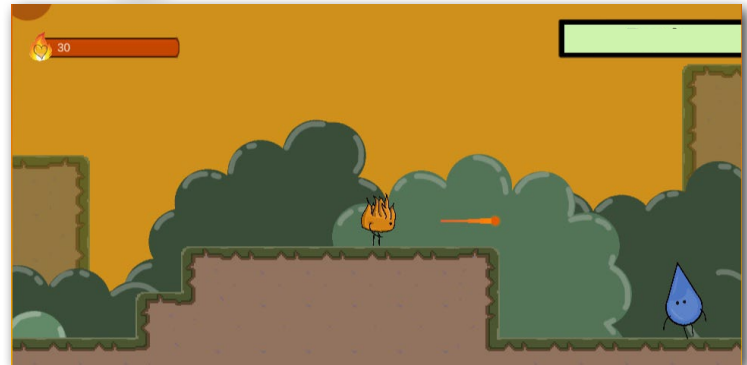


Students Michael Scriven (pictured top) and Llewellyn Rogers (pictured bottom) entered a game coding competition over the weekend to develop a game within 72 hours. They submitted it on Monday evening and it can be played by following the link below on either a laptop or PC (not compatible with phones).



<https://steir-karmer.itch.io/keep-the-flame-alive-adventures-of-an-arsonist>

Players can rate the game and give feedback over the next couple of weeks. Well done, Mike and Llewellyn!



AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH

As you may well have heard, Herman Fourie and Jarryd Gosling embarked on two very different but very extreme cycling challenges last weekend, and all without flouting lockdown rules. Herman reached the equivalent elevation of Everest after 8.5 summits of Alpe du Zwift using the cycling app called Zwift. He then pushed that bit harder and summited nine times, all within the space of 12 hours and 40 minutes! Herman entered the app’s hall of fame by “virtually Everesting” or “vEveresting”! So far, Herman has raised over R13,000.00 to be used for food parcels for those in need in the local area close to Stanford.

Testing his grit, determination and commitment, Jarryd then chose to take on a non-stop 24-hour cycling challenge in his own back garden. He started at 16:00 on Friday afternoon and only stopped for meals and comfort breaks. During these breaks, he paused his watch and did not finish cycling until his watch said a full 24 hours was complete! In total, Jarryd completed 351 kilometres, cycling laps of his back garden. This was a true test of his physical and mental stamina.

Both Jarryd and Herman are the epitome of true Stanfordinians and have motivated so many more pupils to climb their own mountains – whatever they may be!

Watch this space for updates on the distribution of food parcels as well as a final figure of the amount raised!



Ramadan
Mubarak

To all of our Muslim families.

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BLACK & WHITE

In Miss Bredenhann's art class, the Grade 9 students have been learning about the skill of visual literacy and how elements of art and principles of design can be manipulated to get a message across. They were then tasked to apply what they had learned through the medium of black and white photography. Miss Bredenhann asked them to look at tonal value and composition whilst keeping a diary of their creative process. Here are a few of their submissions...



KEEP US POSTED

Fancy sending us a motivational video to share with the school community? We'd love to hear from you.

INSPIRE others with your contributions.

Whether you are lifting spirits, engaging in a new hobby, perfecting a skill, serving a great cause or just having some fun, we want to hear about it!

Send your photos, videos and text to Mrs Coetzee: marketing@slc.co.za

or WhatsApp
0725464468

#stanfordiansunite

