

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Stanford Lake College had a fantastic day on the tennis courts on Wednesday, 14th August, hosting a tournament against PEPPS.

We managed to pull both an A and B team together for the boys, ready to face the PEPPS A and B teams. However, our committed team of four tennis girls had to play as both our A and B teams. The boys first team was Andreas Hacker, Casper Venter, Frank Dyason and Luke Schoeman. The B team included Llewellyn Rogers, Justin Schwaeble, Thomas Mayes and Iggy Lindeque. The girls' players were Jaiden Taggart, Michaela Gosling, Naledi Lebati and Ellain Chidavaenzi.

SLC managed to win all the games, with results as follows: Boys 1st won 23/17, Girls 1st won 27/9, Boys 2nd won 30/8, Girls 2nd won 28/0.

Three Stanfordians competed in the Akkedis Mountain Bike Challenge held at Hanglip, Louis Trichardt on Saturday, 10th August. Lara Dando finished in first place in her age category, as well as second overall among the female competitors in the half marathon event. In the same event, Rachel Thompson finished in third position in the Youth Girls category. Gunther Katzke unfortunately took a wrong turn in the half marathon race and ended up accidentally joining the marathon riders. Although he crossed the line in a very good time, his results were not recorded due to him being too young to compete in the full marathon.

TENNIS

CYCLING



## Thank you

To celebrate Women's Month, we would like to extend the warmest thanks to all the female staff that work tirelessly to make Stanford Lake College the wonderful place that it is. In particular, we would like to honour the longstanding female staff who have given 15 years or more to SLC. Thirteen women from the academic and support staff have been with the school since 2004 or before. These women are: Anna Ntabane, Maria Moseri, Wendy Willson, Rose Letsoalo, Salphina Mamabolo, Cate Ramaremela, Bridget Harman, Joy Park, Lucy Bopape, Shirley Jack, Belindah Mathabatha, Margaret Freestone and Rosina Rapatsa. So to them, and all the incredible women at the College, thank you for all that you do!



## Matters of Principal

**“Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.”**

– James Baldwin

We live in a rapidly changing society, driven by advances in technology, global warming, leadership crisis, moral erosion, political extremism and major social issues. Our teenagers are living in a world of instant connectivity and powerful social media... a world of artificial intelligence; a world almost disconnected from reality.

It is my opinion that in this technology-driven, distorted world, we as adults have a more important role than ever to play when it comes to guiding and mentoring our children. They are consistently receiving mixed messages about what is acceptable and what is not and about what is appropriate behaviour. We, as adults, are often quick to justify poor adolescent behaviour as children being under pressure or simply “having a little fun”. We back away from any form of confrontation thereby almost justifying their behaviour.

The behaviour of a group of our matrics last week on their “40 Days” celebration to me is a very clear example of this. (Incidentally, I have heard that footage of this behaviour was shared on social media with pupils at school in Tzaneen.) The concept of celebrating 40 days should be a wonderful celebration but unfortunately this was not the case this year. This group of matrics felt it acceptable to break out of the boarding houses during the early hours of the morning, deface parts of our school, including the Headmaster's house, break into locked classrooms and write offensive comments on white boards and desks. As you can imagine, this has caused much hurt to the staff who have spent the last 4 and a half years nurturing these very pupils. In my 23 years in education, I have only witnessed one matric end of year “celebration” as demeaning as this. I was deeply disap-

pointed in this behaviour, particularly in light of the fact that I had met with the matric group on the preceding Friday and explained to them what we, as a school, would and would not accept. A number of children chose to let themselves down and behaved inappropriately, regardless of that warning. Those that have been identified will be held accountable for their behaviour and actions.

As adults (and in particular, as educators) we have a responsibility to ensure that our pupils understand what behaviour is acceptable and we must remain steadfast in our resolve! We cannot simply excuse bad behaviour. So many of the “role models” the youth are exposed to do not subscribe to the same value system that we subscribe to as a school, values of integrity, courage and respect.

I am clear in my mind as to what I will accept on this campus and what my expectations are with regards to the behaviour of all Stanfordians at all times. What happened last Wednesday was disappointing and will not be tolerated. We will deal with this incident in a balanced, fair manner and we will move forward.

More importantly, I will be engaging with the current Grade 11 group (many of whom have expressed their disappointment at the behaviour) as to what form “40 Days” will take next year. We will certainly celebrate this milestone but we will celebrate it in a dignified manner worthy of the achievement that it is and in a manner that we can be proud of.

Alan Redfern  
head@slc.co.za

## MALAIKA TALKS THE TALK



Haenertsburg and Tzaneen Rotary hosted the first round of the Rojac English Speech competition earlier this week. The prepared speaking competition comprises of a prepared speech, and unprepared speech, an interview and a general knowledge quiz. Malaika Mohlaba (Grade 11) was the winner of the round and will compete again at Curro Heuwelkruin on Saturday, 24th August. The overall winner will receive some funding towards their tertiary studies. Well done Malaika, wishing you all the best for the next round.

## ART CORNER



Clara Werhahn,  
Grade 8

## MAKING MEMORIES IN NZ



A few snaps of Heinrich Maritz's exchange trip to St. Andrew's College in New Zealand. Enjoy every second, Heinrich!

## TWO SLC HEAD BOYS MAKE THE TOP 5



Stanford Lake College was the proud host of the Wolkberg Trail Run last weekend (10th & 11th August). Two SLC head boys (Casper Venter - Head Boy 2019 and Brian Gardner - Head Boy 2002) took on the gruelling Wolkberg Challenge which saw them face a tough 40km in terrible weather on the Saturday, followed by a slightly less demanding 25km race on the Sunday. Brian did well to finish second on the Saturday and third on the Sunday, giving him an overall third position for the Challenge. Casper Venter, having never run more than 21km previously, pushed himself beyond the ordinary and managed to claim fourth position overall in the 65km, two-day race. This is an incredible feat. Well done gents, for raising the SLC flag high.



Congratulations to our other current pupils, parents and alumni that also took part and a huge thanks to all the SLC staff who gave up their weekends to assist in the smooth running of the event.

## PHOTO ORDERING REMINDER

Please be advised that the deadline for ordering official school photos is 30th August 2019. Please ensure that completed envelopes and order forms are returned ASAP to Mrs Willson or Mrs Coetzee.



Are you interested in summiting the highest freestanding mountain in the world? The dad Centre is putting together another Kilimanjaro Expedition for September 2020. Please contact Neil Haarhoff (neil@slc.co.za) before the end of August, for more information if you are interested in joining this once in a lifetime expedition!