

Matters of Principal

"Spring, that joy-drenched season when the heart feels that all things are once again imaginable, renews our inner and outer worlds. Everything grows, blooms and begins to bear fruit. Rain and wind sweep away winter's detritus. The whole earth humbly announces that its fecundity and beauty have returned, and will always return."

- David Langness

During the past week, there has been a sense of normality on campus. I am pleased to be able to report that our pupils who tested positive for Covid 19 are fully recovered and are back in class. Currently, all pupils are out of isolation and back with their friends.

I spent a few days at the end of last week with the Grade 9 pupils on Trek. The Soutpansberg is a stunning setting and our children are blessed to be able to spend time in such a beautiful space. It was this group's last Trek and the feedback from them has been amazing. It is gratifying to see how much our pupils enjoy these activities, with the solo being a highlight for many of them.

The Matric trial examinations are well under way, thus far the feedback has been good and our pupils have felt well prepared and confident. Walking around campus this week, I have heard excited chatter in the corridors. It seems Spring has lifted spirits and renewed energy in us all. Yesterday afternoon, walking my dogs up to the field, I was nearly knocked over by three junior cyclists as they rushed past my gate bellowing an exuberant greeting of "Evening sir!" before disappearing

down past the dining hall at a 100 miles an hour. Upon getting up to the Scholefield Oval, I loitered on the side of the soccer field to watch our senior boys' team take on a local team from the village. Despite playing against adults, it was good to see that our boys have not lost their competitive edge, flying into tackles, chasing every ball and giving 100% in all that they did. They went down 2-1 but playing competitively once again is all they wanted.

The term is flying by. Before we know it, we will be heading off on holiday. I pray that the next three weeks allows us to keep doing what we have been able to do this week. Dare I say it again... "a sense of normality".

Have a wonderful weekend and keep safe.

God Bless

IL



Michael Scriven competed in the Lowveld Enduro Motorbike series in Malelane last weekend, riding in the Silver A category. The route included riding several steep, rocky climbs and downhills, off-camber slopes, a short section through an old motorcross track and an exciting spectator-friendly section through a quarry. After three tough "red" loops, he finished the race in second place, putting him into contention for the overall championships for the series. The next race is at Loskopdam in October. With three races left of the series, there is everything to ride for.



Thank you to the Feedem staff for putting a "spring" on our step on Spring Day, serving delicious Hawaiian burgers and decorating the kitchen so beautifully.



Congratulations to Ruben le Roux who has been chosen to represent the Limpopo Province at the SANESA National Championships to be held on 6-9 October 2021 at (KPC) Kyalami Park Club. This rider-horse-combination has been selected to participate in the following classes:

- As part of the Limpopo team with TI Quinta in the following classes: Dressage and Equitation
- As part of the Limpopo team with Thembinkosi in the following classes: Showjumping and Working Hunter
- As part of the school team (non-provincial colors) with Capital Clooney in the following classes: Showjumping



Grade 11 Titration Practical.

SOUTPANSBERG EXPLORERS

On Tuesday, 24th August, the Grade 9 pupils embarked on their last Trek of their Stanford careers. The grade of 54 pupils was whittled down to a group of only 33 as so many students were in COVID isolation. The intrepid explorers boarded the bus to Louis Trichardt and soon their adventure began at the boom gate to Hanglip Forest Reserve. From there, they followed instructions to self-navigate a 13-kilometre hike to their first sleep out spot; where, under a completely clear night's sky, the group were treated to the most phenomenal sighting – a large orange ball of light with a long orange tail, passing slowly overhead. Pupils and staff alike stared into the sky with mouths aghast. Was it a bird? Was it a plane? At first the assumption was that it was a meteor shower; however, upon returning to "civilization" a week later, word had spread that the sighting was thought likely to be the upper stage of the Chinese Yuanzheng-1S rocket being deorbited. A once-in-a-lifetime sighting and certainly not something the Grade 9s will be forgetting anytime soon.

The following morning, the pupils packed up their tents to take on another 13-kilometre walk to "base camp" – a fly camp of the Schoemansdal Environmental Education Centre. This was the last time in four nights that the group was all together. On the morning of Thursday 26th, half of the group set off on their three days of self-navigation whilst the other half of the group did activity rotations in the morning, followed by the dreaded "SOLO"! During the activity rotations, the pupils had the opportunity to take on an obstacle course with Mr Hageman, abseil down a 13-metre cliff face with Mr Haarhoff and Mr Fullard and learn more about animal tracks and signs as well as explore a cave with Mrs Coetzee. That afternoon, they plunged into "SOLO" – a 24-hour experience of solitude where the pupils are placed a distance apart from one another with only basic cooking equipment, sleeping bags and a poncho. This time offers the students an opportunity for reflection and

introspection. In the fast-paced world we find ourselves in, when else do our youngsters get such an opportunity for a complete digital detox and to be alone with their own thoughts? The experience is always so dreaded, with scare tactic horror stories passed down from the grades before them - every tiny noise exaggerated into a man-eating beast! The first group got through their experience unscathed and largely enjoyed the opportunity to relax, unwind, catch up on some Z's and be alone with their thoughts.

During this time, the other group (split into two smaller groups) were navigating the Soutpansberg, using the skills they had learned in their dad lessons to read maps, plot points and plan routes. Their routes and decisions were under the watchful spying eyes of the staff – being viewed from high points, koppies and bushes to make sure the groups were safe. At times, staff were covertly less than two metres away, unbeknownst to the pupils. On the Saturday, the two larger groups swapped - the "soloists" were now navigating and the explorers descended into solitude. Only on Monday were the two larger groups reunited and base camp came alive with the roar of stories being shared and tales being told.

The now 'experienced trekkers' were treated to boerewors rolls, dessert, cool drink and snack packs that evening – a huge thanks to the Kalan and Schultz families for organsing this and to the Straughan's for delivering! It was certainly a lovely way for the pupils to spend their last ever evening on Trek. As part of the evening's celebrations, the group voted for the boy and girl who they believe benefitted most from the Trek experience. Congratulations to Matt Allison and Tanatswa Machaka for receiving the most votes. On the Tuesday morning, the weary travellers descended down the mountain, following a beautiful winding path through indigenous forest to meet the bus at Schoemansdal Environmental Education Centre.

























MATRICS CONQUER CARA CARA

Congratulations to Herman Fourie and Jarryd Gosling who participated in the Cara Cara MTB and Trail Run competition at Groblersdal this past weekend and did very well. Herman was awarded first place in the 60km MTB race, whilst Jarryd came first in the 40km MTB and the second in the Dual Race (12km run, 40km MTB). Herman's younger sister, Lianke, who used to be at Stanford, also took part and came first among the ladies in the 40km race.

STAFF Profiles



Mr Lucas Ludick

- What subjects do you teach?
 Afrikaans.
- What year did you start working at the school? 2011.
- What type of music are you in to?
 Jazz, American Soul and German folk songs.
- Tell us something we don't know about you...
- What's your favourite thing to do in downtime? Dreaming.
- Name one thing on your bucket list...
 Visit India.
- 7 Does pineapple belong on pizza?
 I do not like pizza. Don't care.
- 8 Tea OR Coffee? Normal Ricoffy.
- 9 iOS OR Android? Who is that?
- Melktart OR Malva Pudding? Koeksisters.
- Beach OR Mountains? Both.
- Dogs OR Cats? Both. Any animal. Always wanted my own pet donkey or cow.







STAY ALERT
CONTROL THE VIRUS
SAVE LIVES

HANDS

FACE

SPACE

We are proud to have the following players represent Stanford Lake College in their respective Provincial Hockey sides. With the disappointment of the hockey season being cancelled, it is wonderful that our young hockey players could get the opportunity to make the Provincial side. We would like to congratulate them on this achievement.

U/14 A BOYS



Amu Chauke

Parth

Patel



Campbell McLean



Basani Msimeke



U/14 A GIRLS

Buhle Mukwanazi



Nsovo Mabila

U/16 A BOYS



Marc Day



Kgedi Manthata



Relotilwe Sekhula



Travis Sithole



U/16 A GIRLS



Nanaki Kgopong



Maki Inama

U/18 A BOYS



Carmen

Veldsman

(reserve)

Devon Coad (reserve)



Niemann

(reserve)

Jason Freestone (reserve)

U/18 A GIRLS COACH



ARBOR WEEK CELEBRATIONS

As South Africa celebrates Arbor Week, we are once again reminded of how fortunate we are to live and learn on this beautiful campus. The surrounding forests serve as our playground for mountain biking, trail running and all things adventure!

Moreover, the trees on our crest represent the school's seven values; Integrity, Courage, Commitment, Respect, Quality, Ubuntu and Tshanduko. These values lay the roots for growth, allowing Stanfordians to stand tall and strong.

This week, the Grade 8 pupils planted 10 Wild medlar / Wilde mispel (Mespilus germanica) trees, kindly donated by ZZ2, on the campus.











