



Matters of Principal

Invictus

by
William Ernest Henley

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.

We woke up this morning to a winter wonderland. Jack Frost has crossed our campus and left an icy trail behind him. The lowest recorded temperature on campus was -6° early this morning. We certainly are having a cold winter's snap. Yet, regardless of the chill, walking to breakfast this morning I was met by smiley faces with bright red cheeks sneaking out from behind their masks, warmly wrapped in winter jackets and scarves. Last evening was cold, but despite the power failures on the mountain and a few issues with the generator, by 7pm last night we had power and we were all warmly snuggled up indoors, roof over our heads and heaters on. We can count our blessings.

Tomorrow, 18 July, we celebrate Mandela Day. We take time to reflect on the life of a man who did so much for us as a nation. Respected across the globe for his statesmanship, this was a man who lived the most remarkable life. I watched *Invictus* again this last weekend - the story of the 1995 Rugby World Cup and the role Mandela played in supporting and driving our team to victory whilst at the same time trying to heal a broken, divided nation. It gives us a small insight into the life of this amazing man, his compassion, his humility and his genuine love for his country. We can learn so much from his life.

We live in a country where millions of people don't have power to heat their homes, don't have running water to cook and clean with and don't have warm clothing. I have thrown out a Mandela Day challenge to our pupils through their tutor groups. I would like each one of our children to do something to acknowledge and celebrate this day, to recognize their privilege and to do something for those not as fortunate as themselves. We can make a small difference in the lives of others. The tutor group who does the most inspiring thing will earn tea and cake with the Headmaster (I assure you it will be a treat). As a leadership group, the PEX and I have also committed to reach out to our community in a small way. I take this challenge further and challenge all members of our community to do something tomorrow that mirrors the qualities that we all so admire in the Father of our Nation, Nelson Mandela. I can't promise you tea and cake, but I have no doubt that the intrinsic reward will be well worth it!

God Bless

MEET OUR PUPIL LEADERSHIP TEAM

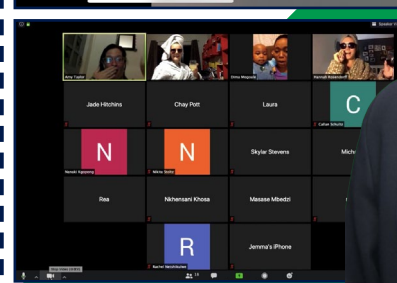
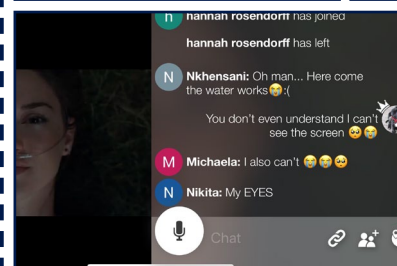
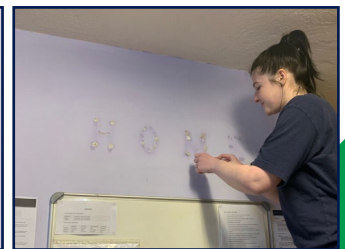
Courtney Penrose, Head of Lakeside House

This year has been a rollercoaster ride. Taking the position of being Head of Lakeside I've faced many difficulties due to the nationwide lockdown which was unexpected. Sadly, I have not been able to do everything that I wanted to do in Lakeside this year due to all the restrictions.

Us Lakeside ladies see each other as a family, which creates the warm, home away from home atmosphere that we have come to know and love. In my four and a half years in Lakeside, I have felt nothing but happiness. I still remember my first day at Stanford in Grade 8; I felt like I belonged here immediately as the students here are not only fellow peers but they grow to be your second family. I am really privileged to be a Stanfordinian.

My vision for Lakeside this year was for us to engage with each other more, go out for dinners as a boarding house more, have movie nights or game nights. Obviously, this cannot fully be seen out but I hope to find ways around these wishes and make at least some of them happen before I leave. During the lockdown period, I had found a way for us ladies to engage with each other with a movie night via an app, where we watched "The Fault in Our Stars". I was happy to see how the ladies in Lakeside were engaging with each other.

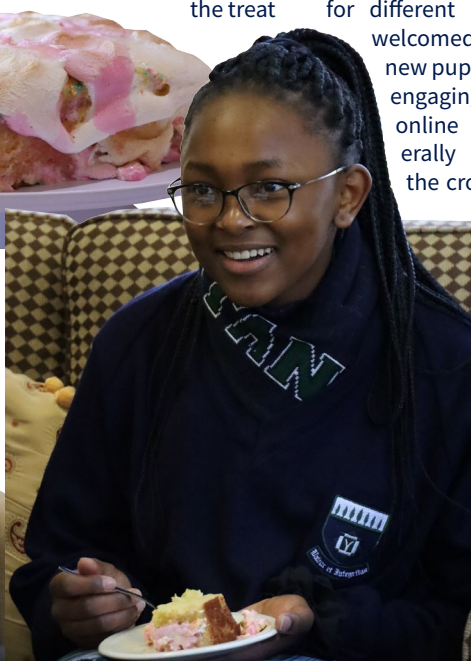
When the Grade 11s and 12s finally arrived back to the boarding house last term, we decided to make the common room more homely, so we started to design a new layout for it. On the last night (before the end of the second term) we had begun to paint the walls in Lakeside, I had only wished that the rest of the boarding house could have joined us. I was happy to see everyone back in Lakeside as I had missed them dearly and I was excited to welcome three new bridging year students into our family. I have no doubt that this year will end off on a positive note. As Albert Einstein said "Learn from yesterday, Live for today, Hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."



Tea with the Headmaster

A number of pupils were selected to have tea and cake with the Headmaster on Tuesday (appropriately socially distanced). They were selected for the treat for different reasons, from being welcomed to the school as a new pupil, for being incredibly engaging and enthusiastic in online lessons and for generally standing out from the crowd due to their

positivity,
kindness
and focus.



We are excited to tell you that we have launched a new online shop for Stanford Lake College. The platform is called Allxs. A tutorial was also loaded onto D6 to assist with the how-to order online – “The Allxs In App Ordering”.

Purchases such as bus tickets, meal tickets, weekend boarding fees and uniforms will now be purchased through this system.

An email has been sent to all parents and pupils with details on how to use the system and a parent user guide can be viewed on the school website:

[Parent User Guide](#)

slc.allxs.co.za

KEEP SOMEONE WARM THIS WINTER

For Mandela Day, we are hoping to collect old clothes (especially winter warmers) and blankets for those less fortunate. Should you have old clothes lying around at home that you would like to donate, please bring to school with you on Monday or throughout the course of next week. All items can be given to Mrs Jack.

STAFF SMASH THE IRON CROWN VIRTUAL RACE

The SLC Sport's Department and various other staff members took on the Iron Crown Trail Run over the weekend. The race was held as a 'virtual run' with runners doing their chosen distances on a route of their choice and submitting the results online to the organisers. All entry fees went to Haenertsburg Rotary Club. Well done to Mr. Pretorius and Mr Swann for completing the 5km, Mr Friedrichs, Mr Haarhoff, Mr Bennett, Mr Ceronio, Miss Mogoale, Mr Swanepoel and Mr Pietersen for running the 10km. Well done also to Miss Taylor, Miss Scheepers and Mr Willson who tackled the 23km. Ms Scheepers was the first lady in and Mr Willson ran the actual Iron Crown Trail Route in a time of 2:28 minutes.

