



## Matters of Principal

"Life is beautiful. It's about giving. It's about Family."  
- Walt Disney

As I reflect on the last 11 months it is hard to believe that I have reached the end of my first full year at Stanford Lake College. The year really has flown past, so many firsts, so many new experiences, so many special memories. I have been privileged to have my first headship in such a successful school. I do not take this for granted and more importantly, I do not use the word successful lightly. So what is it that makes me feel that we have had a successful year? We could measure success in terms of the matric results which I am sure will be excellent; we could measure success in terms of all the certificates and awards that we have handed out at awards assemblies and the Valedictory Service, and they were numerous in recognition of so many brilliant achievements; we could measure success by the numbers of victories attained on the sports field and the number of pupils selected to represent our province; we could even measure success by the number of fish caught by our national fly fishermen in Europe. These are all wonderful achievements but in my book, success is so much more. It is difficult to quantify, but to me, real success lies in each and every one of us making the best use of our God given gifts – on the whole I think we have done this well.

When I look at the kind of school I want to lead, I am adamant that it be a values driven environment. Of course, the academic and sporting programmes need to be strong. We have to create environments where you are pushed to achieve, exposed to the learning of new skills and where you grow as individuals, but it is in the learning of a sound set of values that I believe is where the real edge to your children's education lies.

The lessons learnt on the sports field, out on trek and in the building of relationships in the boarding house and around the school are those that make the real difference. This is where their greatest successes lie. Success is not simply achieved overnight, it takes time, it takes hard work and focus and it is often built on perseverance coming out of failure or setbacks, not succeeding at first but trying again and again and again until finally that goal is reached.

It takes a very special set of skills from a very special group of people to ensure that this happens. We have an excellent staff at Stanford who go well beyond the call of duty when it comes to ensuring that our children are exposed to positive role models, who go the extra mile - they are the key to this success; I would like to thank the staff for all that they do for our children. Their success and our success as a school is built largely on their efforts and inputs.

All that is left for me to do is to wish you a happy and safe holiday. Appreciate this time you have with your families, enjoy having your children home. Until we meet again...have a good rest and a Blessed Christmas.

God Bless.

Alan Redfern  
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## DANCING QUEEN



Congratulations to Sumehra De Bruyn, who recently achieved a fantastic 87% in her Modern Dance Exam.

Well deserved, Sumehra.



**ROUND SQUARE MINI CONFERENCE FOR GRADE 8-0s, 8s & 9s**



**"THE DISCOVERY DASH"**



## FARWELL AND GOOD LUCK TO SOME WONDERFUL STAFF

Joy Park - HOD Information Technology



It is with a heavy heart that we have to say goodbye to Mrs Joy Park. She has been part of our Stanford family for almost 20 years and has crept into the hearts of both staff and pupils. Joy truly lives up to her name, as she brings joy, love and kindness to all those around her and it has been an absolute privilege for all the staff to have worked with her and to have been honoured with her friendship.

Joy is extremely passionate about teaching and has definitely been blessed with this unique gift. Her main strength is being able to form a fantastic relationship with each and every child she teaches. All the pupils that have been in Joy's classroom will agree that not only has she imparted such an extensive amount of knowledge, but she has taught them many life skills and taught them the true meaning of compassion. Joy has been pivotal in many service projects that Stanford has driven and her dedication to the Interact Committee is just one example of her extremely empathetic nature.

She will leave a massive hole in our Stanford family. Her smile, giggles and forever positive attitude will be sorely missed by pupils, staff and parents. Joy, we wish you the best of luck in the UK with your family and hope that you will come and visit when you are back on the Mountain for a 'holiday'!

Chantelle Rossouw - HOD Physical Science

Chantelle Rossouw joined the Stanford staff at the beginning of 2017 as HOD Physical Sciences. She brought with her experience of working in a big department at St Stithian's and later at Elkanah House, and introduced solid structures and a sense of team into the department. She encouraged teachers to take responsibility for their classes and to try new teaching methods. This allowed the department to grow and feed off each other and she leaves the Physical Sciences Department in a strong position because of her input. She headed up the STEAM Club during clubs and societies and was always happy to help with marshalling at events and assisting with first aid on sporting weekends. She was also in charge of the Presidents' Award – an integral part of the outdoor component of our school. Pastorally she made a significant contribution to the lives of many girls in her role as Assistant Housemistress of Serala House. We wish her every success as she takes up her new post at St David's in Inanda and hope to see her back on the mountain regularly in the future. Go well, Chantelle and thank you for what you contributed to Stanford.



Titus Steyn - Visual Arts & Mathematics Teacher



The Stanford family say farewell to Mr Titus Steyn. Titus joined the staff in July 2017 after having taught in Japan and Thailand. He has taught Maths, Maths Literacy and Visual Arts during his time here. The travel bug has bitten again and Titus will be travelling to the Netherlands and Portugal before he starts teaching at Mahidol University International Demonstration School in Bangkok, Thailand in July next year. We wish Titus and his precious Italian Greyhounds, Pai and Mui, happy landings in Bangkok.

Lindsay Tattersall - Financial Administrator

Lindsay joined the Stanford Lake College team six years ago and has done a wonderful job as the Financial Administrator since. We wish Lindsay a happy retirement and hope he will have plenty more time for all the things that he loves so dearly - spending quality time with his wife, Lesley, with his grandchildren and the rest of the family. And of course, golf!





## CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR GLENSHIEL PRIMARY HOSTED BY GRADE 8 AND 8-0

This wonderful event in the Stanford calendar was once again a resounding success this year. This very special day with lots of games, boerewors rolls, sweets, Father Christmas and even soft-serve ice cream (!) was attended by 110 students from Glenshiel Primary whose bright smiles and enthusiastic participation in all the activities will remain in our memories for many days to come.

The success of such events is dependant on the varied assistance of many different people. A very big thank you to everyone that contributed. A particular thank you to the Vieira's for supplying enough woks to feed all the Glenshiel and the Stanford students, and also to the Jones' for providing cupcakes for all of the Glenshiel children. A highlight of the day was the soft-serve ice cream which was donated by the Klinkerts, a real treat on a warm afternoon.

Finally a very big thank you to all of the Grade 8s and the Bridging Year, ably guided by Laura-Anne Muller for all of the planning and organisation that went into this party. They can be justifiably proud of what they achieved.



Season's Greetings  
to all our families



HAMPERS FOR ALL



As per Stanford tradition, all the school's support staff were handed a Christmas hamper by the Grade 11s today. This is just a small token to show all of our appreciation to the men and women who work tirelessly to cook, clean and maintain the grounds at Stanford. We hope that this small hamper will bring joy to your families this festive season. Thanks to Mrs Jack who works hard every year to ensure that the items for the hampers have been collected and for all the students, parents and staff for their donations.