



Matters of Principal

I am sure that many of you are aware of the fact that this week we commemorate National Child Protection Week in South Africa. The mere fact that we have to dedicate a full week to this malady, in order to draw attention to the plight of so many of our children is an indictment on our society. It is common knowledge that violence in the home is one of the greatest threats facing our children today. This scourge has only been heightened during the current pandemic. Studies have revealed that up to 82% of children in South Africa have either experienced violence or been exposed to it. More disturbing to me is that in the majority of cases the perpetrator of the violence is known to the victim, the very people who should be looking out for and protecting our children are abusing them!

Studies have revealed that the impact of these experiences can be catastrophic. The emotional scarring of violence is long term. Violence can have negative impacts on (children's) brain development and is what the scientists call toxic stress syndrome. It also has an impact on the ability to form relationships with other children and in later life with other adults. Children who report being sexually assaulted are twice as likely to suffer from anxiety and depression. The school performance and school readiness of the child is also affected. Pupils who experience violence are also more likely to be involved in violent actions and bullying of their peers. We cannot underestimate the impact that this

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

— Nelson Mandela, 8 May 1995

behaviour has on our society, we only have to look at the tragic case of Lufuno Mavhunga, a Limpopo scholar who took her own life having been bullied and publicly shamed.

The onus rests on us as adults to do something about this. Our children are our future and we have a responsibility to look after them. As mentioned in the first paragraph it is an indictment on society that this disease is a reality, that adults can use their position of power to abuse and harm our children. We need to do everything in our power to educate adults and children alike as to our rights and responsibilities and how we can help those in need. These are discussions that cannot be swept under the carpet, we certainly won't be doing that here at our school and I encourage you to have honest conversations with your children about this issue. We need to do all we can to break the cycle of abuse and violence. As Nelson Mandela said "Our Children are the rock on which our future will be built, our greatest asset as a Nation. They will be the leaders of our country, the creators of our national wealth who care for and protect our people."

God Bless, have a lovely weekend.

RACING ON HOME TURF

With contact sports on hold, it was fantastic to see our Stanfordinian cyclists taking part in the Insect Science Limpopo XCO Championships on Saturday. The tracks were a great mix of tough hills and fast, fun single tracks. Mr Fullard put a big effort into completing a new section of single track inside the school, which was a big hit and provided some excellent viewing.

This was the last event in the Limpopo XCO series and it was great to see pupils, teachers and parents on their bikes, enjoying the competition and achieving several podium positions between them.

Lungile Sithole-Wiltshire completed his third race of the season and was joined by Ngoako Machaba and Benno Kotzé in their respective categories. Gordon Noel finished a full 6 minutes ahead of his nearest rival to win the Sub-Junior boys category in style; while Gunther Katze and Herman Fourie put in a great home ground showing, finishing first and second respectively in the Junior Men category.

Congratulations also to Tiaan Fullard, Shane Friedrichs and Sean-Michael Ceronio for their impressive efforts! Sean-Michael finished third in the Sub-Vet Men category.

Events like these need lots of hands and helpers to make them a success - thank you to the many parents, pupils and teachers who rolled up their sleeves to help with marshalling and catering, cheering the

riders on and adding to the vibe. All in all, it was a great way to spend a Saturday. The final standings for the Limpopo series have yet to be confirmed, but we expect to hear that some of our cyclists will receive Limpopo Colours in the near future. Unfortunately, we heard last week that the annual Spur Schools Cycling Series, which was due to start in July, has been postponed until further notice.



SNAP SHOT

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ADVENTURE RACING NEWS

Jarryd Gosling and Heidi Katzke once again raced for Team Balega in the 120km Expedition Africa Adventure Race in Parys this past weekend. The weather was bitterly cold but Balega pushed through and finishing at 22:54 at night, they came in 9th position. Alumni, Casper Venter (Head Boy 2019) and Brian Gardner (Head Boy 2002), raced together as part of Team Red Ants and finished in 5th position.

ENTREPRENEURS CASH IN

The Allan Gray Entrepreneurial Challenge (AGEC) seeks to inspire young high school pupils to explore and develop their entrepreneurial skills. The AGEC ran for five weeks during the first term. Pupils were encouraged to start a small business of their own. They had to find potential funders, hire skilled employees and make strategic business decisions to keep their businesses afloat for the full five weeks. As an incentive, each week 25 of the top players were awarded cash vouchers. The following Stanford pupils were among the top 25:

Week 2

Michael Pieters – 5th place – R1 500,00 voucher
Rhain Skordi – 25th place – R550,00 voucher

Week 3

Rachel Rix – 23rd place – R550,00 voucher

Week 4

Diego Vieira – 4th place – R1500,00 voucher

MCCLEAN SWEEP FOR CAMPBELL



Campbell McLean took part in a virtual public speaking competition named “Oppi tong af” on Saturday. He represented Stanford and got 91% for his presentation. He took part in the English division with a persuasive speech titled: Handshakes...not a simple task anymore! We await to hear if Campbell will represent Limpopo at the national competition. Well done, Campbell!

STAFF PROFILES



Mr Tiaan Fullard

- 1 What subjects do you teach?
DAD Grade 8 and Geography Grade 8 & 9
- 2 What year did you start working at the school?
2014
- 3 What type of music are you in to?
Worship and old school rock
- 4 Tell us something we don't know about you...
I am in a band - Church
- 5 What's your favourite thing to do in downtime?
Spend time outdoors with my wife and our dog
- 6 Name one thing on your bucket list...
9 Peaks challenge
- 7 Does pineapple belong on pizza?
Yes
- 8 Tea  OR Coffee?  but proper “moer-coffee”
- 9 iOS OR Android? but have a secondhand i-phone, was free
- 10 Melktart OR Malva Pudding?
- 11 Cups in the cupboard: Right side up  OR upside down? 
- 12 Beach  OR Mountains? 
- 13 Dogs  OR Cats? 



Stay connected

We **have made the transition** from D6 Communicator to D6 Connect. Please ensure you have downloaded the new app so that you stay connected with school news and important updates.