



Matters of Principal

"We don't have a choice on whether we DO social media, the question is how well we DO it"
– Erik Qualman

This week we had two very productive Board sub-committee meetings. One of the topics that came up in discussion during the PR committee meeting was that of social media and the effective use thereof. We considered the value of positive messages being spread in our community and the manner in which social media could be used to promote the excellent work that is being done in our school. Yet, as with so many things in this world, social media platforms come with some high risk factors. Irresponsible or inappropriate use of social media platforms can be extremely harmful.

The use of technology has become a significant component that facilitates harm in the sexual exploitation of children, radicalization, sexual predation and more. To foster awareness, an effective approach to online safety needs to be in place to empower a school to protect and educate the whole school community in their use of technology and establishes mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate any incident where appropriate.

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but can be categorized into three areas of risk:

- **content:** being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material; e.g. pornography, fake news, racist or radical and extremist views.
- **contact:** being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; e.g. commercial advertising as well as adults posing as children or young adults (cat-fishing).
- **conduct:** personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; e.g. making, sending and receiving explicit images, or on-line bullying or blackmail.

The widespread availability and use of social media applications such as Facebook, Instagram, Instant Messaging, Snapchat, TikTok and Twitter bring opportunities to understand, engage, and communicate in new and exciting ways. It is important that we are able to use these technologies and services effectively and flexibly. This must, however, be balanced with our duties to our school, the community, our legal responsibilities and our reputation.

With this in mind, it is essential that as adults we take responsibility for how we use social media platforms ourselves and, equally importantly, how we educate our children to use it safely and effectively.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Erik Qualman



A warm thank you to all

Thank you to each and every one of our pupils and parents who contributed clothing items to the drive that was initiated by Mr Ludick as part of Mandela Day. The response was incredible and we received more than we could have imagined. On Wednesday, Mr Ludick and Mrs Jack delivered the bakkie load (yes, bakkie load!) of donated items to St Paul's United Church in Haenertsburg, where they were received by Reverend Jonathan Meintjes (pictured). The items will be handed out to communities in the local area alongside the Church's COVID 19 Relief Initiative that delivers food parcels to those in need. Each household will receive an assortment of clothing items.



SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

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The academic and administrative staff teams were fortunate to participate in a Racial Literacy Study Group, facilitated by Social Justice Strategist, Lovelyn Nwadeyi on Friday afternoon and Saturday. It was an extremely informative workshop.

SCIENCE IN THE SUN



Some budding ecologists in Grade 8 studied the interactions among organisms and their environment during Ms Hlungwane's Life Sciences lesson this week. The pupils chose the lake area to also study human impact on the ecosystem.

FIRST TEAM HOCKEY GIRLS 2020

Although the school first teams have not been afforded the opportunity to play for the school in 2020, we would like to use the Snapshot as a platform to recognise their contributions to sport during their time at Stanford. Here is the Girls 1st Hockey Team:



Dani Ramalepe



Danica Altenroxel



Hannah Rosendorff



Tshedza Moila



Tayla Coad



Chay Pott



Courtney Penrose



Lia Revelas



Petra Macchiarullo



Husnaa Dada



Michaela Gosling



Tanatswa Murasiranwa



Cara Prinsloo



Heidi Katzke



Isabella Drewett