

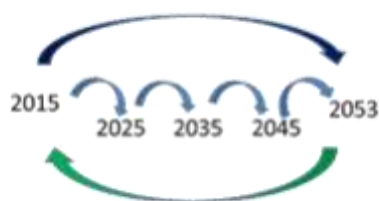
Rector's Newsletter

Dear Saints family

Saints 2053

At the beginning of this term, I addressed each of the schools, the campus administration staff, and a parents' meeting on the evolving Saints 2053 concept. The idea is to take a long view towards our centenary in 2053 and so open up fresh thinking about the nature and unique qualities of our network of seven schools – the five on the St Stithians campus, Kamoka Bush School and Thandulwazi Academy. In a cycle of iteration, we stretch towards 2053, return to the present, then plan our strategic future forwards. We are currently busy with the formulation of our Strategic Plan 2015-2025 and with our Campus Development Plan 2015-2030.

Start with the end in mind: Saints 100



As we consider our long-term future, we look afresh at the institutional DNA of St Stithians today. Our greatest opportunity is to develop as a school of synergy, a place of educational combinations, a cutting edge and values-based laboratory of learning, an incubator of leaders and citizens. There is no other school like ours in South Africa, and I know of only a couple worldwide which equate to our value proposition. We have on one campus the capacity to surprise and delight in our network of schools, to engage with best practice in boys' and girls' schooling, and to bring boys and girls together in healthy socialisation.

The attraction of synergy as a concept for St Stithians is that we can be educationally more than the sum of the parts: we can release energy flows, perspectives and relationships that take us to new places. I have launched a challenge to our community to develop visual images of synergy that will inspire us.

A Zimbabwean stone carver in a local market provided an image that caught my attention last weekend. Our gateway is our Junior Preparatory, a remarkable school of 480 little ones. We then grow into our Boys' and Girls' Preps and, from these, the Girls' and Boys' Colleges, each with their own distinctive qualities. If we draw insights from the stone carving into the possibilities of synergy, we observe that each component is inter-connected – the flows between the figures are continuous and multi-directional. The bonds are created through touch, eye-contact, and through inhabiting the spaces in-between. This carving holds up a beautiful picture of symmetry, a challenge to St Stithians as it embraces the future.



News from the Rector's office



Edition no 07
15 October
2014

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Editor:
Jill Wheeler
Rector's Office

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Letter from the Rector (continued)

Foundation Office and institutional advancement

In order to ready St Stithians to face the future with confidence we need to advance our sustainability. It is important to have capacity to do so. An important arena will be the growth of our Foundation Office, seeking to build a spectrum of relationships between the custodians of the present and our past parents and alumni. We need as St Stithians to draw on diverse human and financial resources as we grow as a centre of excellence. To this end, we are proceeding with the appointment of new positions in our Foundation Office, specifically a fund-raising manager, and an alumni relations co-ordinator who will work in alliance with the Old Stithian Association.

Journey of Faith

It is my privilege to speak at chapel services for each school once a term. In recent services with the Girls' and Boys' Colleges, I chose to speak of my journey of faith. I have in my possession a Bible published in the 1890s and handed down through five generations of Nuttalls. Referring to this Bible, I spoke about how I was socialised into the Christian faith through regular Sunday worship and church participation. I outlined my personal journey of phases of faith, through adolescent rebellion, a deepening of faith as a university student, the Christian inspiration to reject and oppose apartheid, and a framework for marriage parenthood. My Christian faith embraces reasonable belief, childlike acceptance, the marvel of life and nature, and living with purpose – committed to causes and service beyond myself. Jesus – both human and divine – is at the centre and wonder of Christian faith: an invitation to a life-long relationship.

Matric Valedictions

Over the past week, we have bid our Matrics farewell – and with style. We have a wonderful sense of rites of passage at Saints, and through these we reflect on the journeys of school and we affirm the contributions of our Matrics, parents and teachers. There have been great and moving speeches and ceremonies in our landscape of belonging. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a poem entitled “Soar” and written by our English teacher, Ruth Everson, to the Girls' College Matrics of 2014, and it is with similar sentiments that we give flight to our boys as well. We wish our Matrics focus, insight and all the best as they tackle their final examinations, and as they embark on the next phase of their young lives of promise and opportunity.

Good wishes



Dr Tim Nuttall
Rector

“Thank you for the ways you nurture, guide and inspire every child at Saints.

That is our noble calling.”

Rector's message to teachers in celebration of World Teachers' Day,
5 October 2014



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Skyline@Saints

Megan van der Poll—Marketing Director



The band of Watershed entertaining the crowd—view from the One & All clubhouse

Dr Tim Nuttall, with the Watershed members



...and our very own Below Ice

(Left to right: Stephane Marais, Dr Tim Nuttall, Steven van Wyk, Craig Howden, Chad Kennedy (missing Tshekiso Kepadisa))

Heritage Day 2014 took on special meaning at St Stithians with our inaugural Skyline@Saints event. This is intended as an annual event for the Saints family to gather on the Wayne Joubert field and at the One & All clubhouse for a concert and afternoon of fun, with the skylines of Sandton and Johannesburg as our backdrop.

This year some 1 300 people were entertained and moved by Watershed, who launched their new song 'Don't Give Up', and by Below Ice, our very own award-winning school band. We were blessed with beautiful spring weather and a wonderful festival atmosphere. Dancers gathered on the platform in front of the musicians, children ran and played on the field, families sat on chairs and picnic mats soaking up the sun, while others enjoyed lunch and afternoon drinks on the balcony of the One & All. What a view! And the music was inspirational. Spread the good news and we look forward to 2015's Skyline@Saints.



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Thandulwazi

Bev Johnson – Foundation Director

Closing ceremony for the Thandulwazi Teacher development programme



Prof Habib addressing the ceremony

Thandulwazi – “a moment of hope”

“Teachers are the cadres for transforming the South African education system,” said Professor Adam Habib, when he addressed nearly 1000 teachers at the closing ceremony of the Thandulwazi Teacher Development Programme held on Saturday, 27 September 2014 at St Stithians Boys’ Prep School.

Habib, the Vice-Chancellor of Wits University, referred to the Thandulwazi programme as a “moment of hope”, as it strives to up-skill teachers so that they can positively impact on the education of the youth, whom Habib referred to as “our most precious resource”. Habib urged teachers to be passionate about their vocation; to become lifelong learners and continuously seek to grow their content knowledge and upgrade their skills; and to understand their context and “create an enabling environment for education.” Habib applauded the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy for “building bridges of solidarity” and “creating an educational platform for a new education system in a new world.”

The St Stithians Foundation and Thandulwazi wish to offer sincere thanks to the donors, staff and parents who attended the Teachers’ closing ceremony on the 27th; the Rector and Alistair Stewart for their involvement in the morning’s programme; Emily Wharton Hood and Kathryn Walstra for taking photographs at the event; and the Boys’ Prep marimba band and Mike Sibanda, who were on sparkling form.

Established in 2006, the Thandulwazi Teacher Development Programme annually offers up-skilling workshops for nearly 1100 teachers (Pre-school to Grade 9) and principals currently working in under-resourced schools serving disadvantaged communities. The programme provides professional development for educators on 11 Saturdays each year. Sessions are hosted by the three Saints prep schools; and workshops focus on the curriculum (numeracy/ maths, literacy, natural science and technology), classroom management and leadership skills. There is no charge for teachers wishing to attend the sessions, which are funded by Thandulwazi’s generous corporate and individual donors.

Registration for 2015 is scheduled for Saturday 07 February 2015.
For further information please contact thandulwazi@stithian.com.



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Human Resources

Kim Urquhart — HR Director

Interns

An integral component of the St Stithians community service programme is the development of skilled, young teachers. As part of this programme there are 25 interns working and studying at the College this year. Each newsletter we draw on their experiences and demonstrate the value of this programme in changing the face of education and assisting young people enhance their careers. Below are reflections from two of our interns on their experience at St Stithians:

"The first term as an intern at St Stithians College flew by: I learnt a lot about the profession but to my surprise I also learnt a lot about myself. I am doing my internship at the Boys' College. I've had the pleasure of spending time with the learners in the classroom and on the sports fields; assisted by my mentor Mrs. D Robertson. The manner in which the boys conduct themselves is inspirational. Learning from a school and staff which have groomed these learners, I can't help but imagine the kind of teacher I am going to become in the future. Thanks to the Thandulwazi Intern-Teacher Programme, I will be part of the teaching force which will better the standard of education in our communities and our country."

"I am profoundly gratified to be assigned Ms Julia —Anne Pechey as my mentor because she has a passion for teaching that radiates daily without fade in the classroom. Through her mother-like approach to teaching and disciplining learners, I have learnt that teaching and discipline need to come from the heart in which love forms the basis of the intention. Each day spent at Saints is like continuously having light being shone on a dark area, revealing more and more unknown ground as more experience is gained. Being here is of great benefit to me and I humbly appreciate this opportunity."



The St Stithians interns 2014

Ensuring the safety of the children in our care

During the week of 14 – 18 July two technicians, Cecil van den Bergh and Jeremy Martin, from The Guardian, assisted by Hengie McInnes from HR, conducted the very important process of ensuring all staff and contractors employed at the College are compliant in terms of the Sexual Offences Amendment Act. Besides the legal requirement we believe we have an obligation to our student, parents and to the broader community to ensure we lead the way in being one of the first ISASA schools to complete this vitally important process. As a College we strive to be fully compliant with the Act by January 2015. In a period of 5 days over 600 staff and contractors completed the screening process.



Dr Nuttall participating in the finger print process



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Human Resources (continued)

Teachers Day

Saints presented to each teacher and professional support/administrative staff member a Saints umbrella in recognition of World Teachers Day and their contribution to the provision of

quality education at the College. Let's hope we get to use the umbrellas!



Each umbrella carried a tag with a message from the Rector: *"Thank you for the ways you nurture, guide and inspire every child at Saints. That is our noble calling."*

Tech Corner

Paul Mayer—IT Director

In March this year we launched Mobile e-Learning and Teaching (MeLT) into grade 6 at both of the prep schools. In the Girls' Prep each student in grade 6 was required to bring an iPad and in Boys' Prep students could bring any mobile device. The majority of grade 6 student brought iPads as their device. The second phase of this pilot programme will be launched into the Colleges in grade 8 at the beginning of 2015 and each student entering grade 8 will be expected to bring their own device (either iOS or Windows 8 operating system). More details will be sent to parents shortly. The teachers have been working hard in preparation for the launch of MeLT into the Colleges in 2015 and each school will have an Ed Tech Coach (ICT Integrator) who will be focussed on staff professional development and assisting staff with meaningful ICT integration into their curriculum.

The school has also been experimenting with Flexible Learning Spaces in different areas. In the Junior Prep, the computer lab has been converted into a Flexible Learning Space with movable writable furniture. The old "industrial-type" lab has been replaced with Windows 8 tablet devices and iPads and the once very cramped space has been transformed into a vibrant flexible learning space. In the Boys' Prep both the Ntsika room and the Library have been transformed into flexible spaces by changing the furniture and painting walls bright colours. It has been amazing to see how changing spaces has had a positive impact on the students wanting to be in these spaces. We will continue to monitor the effect this has on the learning that takes place. The concept of the environment as the Third Teacher continues to be a driving factor in transformation of learning spaces around the school. Boys' College is currently experimenting with Flexible Furniture in one of their English Classrooms.



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Kamoka

Kate Doyle – Director of Kamoka

It might surprise some people to learn that Kamoka Bush School is not solely used by students from St Stithians College. In addition to the camps from St Stithians College, which include visits from all six schools (Junior Prep, Boys' Prep, Girls' Prep, Boys' College, Girls' College and Thandulwazi), Kamoka is used for another 150 nights by other schools.

Most notable is our very valued relationship with Pretoria Boys High School who uses Kamoka for 140 nights each year, accompanied by Mr Malcolm Armstrong, the Master in Charge of Bush School at Pretoria Boys.

Upcoming activities at Kamoka Bush School:

14 to 16 October - Girls' Prep Grade 5 visit to Kamoka

11 November to 1 December - Boys' College Grade 9 Bush School at Kamoka

Please have a look at www.kamokabushschool.com for more information and follow us on our Facebook page!

Facility campus news

Rene Swart – Director of Operations

Spring has sprung and the grounds have transformed – such a beautiful sight to witness.

The 2014 building projects are going “full steam ahead”, and although slightly affected by the steel strike, the Girls’ College Art Classrooms and Amphitheatre are on track whilst the Junior Prep Hall is running behind schedule and is now expected to be completed by the end of February 2015.



Work-in-progress: Girls’ College

The Physiotherapy rooms currently located in the HPC will be moving shortly to the D&T block. A section of the building has been renovated to accommodate the Physiotherapy rooms and a new on-site clinic, which will mainly be for the use of College support staff. The use of a basic life support paramedic on-site is also being trialled from 12h00–18h00, Monday to Friday and from 07h00–13h00 on Saturdays. The paramedic will focus on campus sporting events, attending to any injuries and referring to hospital as required. The paramedic is not allowed to administer medication or drips, but is qualified to stabilise a person, whilst waiting for an ambulance if required.



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Facility campus news (continued)

The College is in the process of implementing a new system of applying for Hurlingham and Lyme Park access cards, as well as dog and fishing permits. We will notify our community when the changes will be made.

Litter, litter everywhere – please be mindful of where you put your waste while making use of this beautiful campus. There are many bins provided around campus for the placement of litter and your support would be greatly appreciated.

There is an inordinate amount of lost property in all the respective schools! So much money spent on replacement items when a simple label would do the trick. Clothing, lunch boxes, bags, shoes, musical instruments... please mark them clearly. A lost property day will be introduced each term, where all lost property will be placed in a venue and students / parents can use the opportunity to claim their “lost” property. Any items not claimed at the end of that day will be donated to charity.

Cell phones, ipads and tablets are expensive, fragile items so please remind your child to be vigilant and not leave these items unattended. Activating the tracking on these items will really help security to locate these devices should they be misplaced or stolen.

Green campus news

Rene Swart – Director of Operations

Thanks must go to the Angling Club members on making a huge effort to “de-weed” the dam – not an easy task and one greatly appreciated by the ducks!

Weed free swimming!



Fire at the recycling centre



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Saints Family News

Editor

We would like to congratulate the following members of the Saints Family on their new family additions:

- ◆ Jonathan Dale on the birth of his son
- ◆ Tracey Harvey on the birth of her daughter
- ◆ Bethuel Khoza on the birth of his son
- ◆ Bethuel Galane on the birth of his daughter
- ◆ Radha Govender on the birth of her grandson
- ◆ Lynda McCurrie on the birth of her grandson



We wish to express our sincere condolences to the following members of the Saints Family on the loss of their loved ones. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers:

- ◆ Piet van Tonder
- ◆ Debbie Rosslyn-Smith
- ◆ Martin Perold
- ◆ Carel Nolte
- ◆ Francois Conradie



We also think of those in the community who are struggling with illness and sadness and pray for a time of renewal and healing.

Dedication of Ingrid Wustrow's garden

Editor

Ingrid joined St Stithian's Girls' Prep in 1996 and was one of the founding members of the Girls' Prep. Sadly, Ingrid passed away in March this year. This week a memorial garden, created outside her classroom, was dedicated to her life at the school; a place of sunshine and flowers for her family and friends to reflect fondly on their memories of her. The garden was opened by her daughters Claudia and Stephanie and we continue to hold them, and her sister Erica, in our prayers.

Claudia, Stephanie and Erica seated in the garden.



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Alumni

Julia Phipps— Alumni database administrator



Stacey Shaw-Taylor matriculated from St Stithians Girls' College as the Dux scholar in 2002. She went on to study Physiotherapy at Wits. Upon completing her degree she practised as a physiotherapist in Rustenburg and Johannesburg. Looking for a new challenge, Stacey decided to take a year off to study a Postgraduate Diploma in Management (PDM) at Wits Business School. Thereafter she was offered a position to work as a management consultant at Letsema Consulting. Her tenure at Letsema included a wide variety of strategic projects with a strong focus on enterprise, supplier and community development.

Stacey has recently joined an NGO called the New Leaders Foundation (NLF), in a senior consultant role. The NLF works in the education space with the aim of driving systemic change in education – improving teacher and learner performance through district transformation. Stacey works across the business in project activities, including the national roll-out of the organisation's district capacitation model in partnership with the Department of Education.

If you have any Alumni cameo stories to tell, we would love to hear from you. Please email alumni@stithian.com.

Saints snippets!

Editor

Grade 12s and little Saints play together!

Grade R to matric ... did it really go by that quickly? Was I really this small? Ever? As part of the Grade 12 rites of passage, a morning is planned for those students who have journeyed through the Saints schools from grade R to grade 12. Can you feel the emotions from both sides? The grade 12 on the verge of adulthood remembering those childhood, carefree moments in the safe space of the Junior Prep and the wide-eyed stare of the grade R who just cannot imagine ever being that big! What a special time for those grade 12s as they are able to reflect on their growth and feel grateful for the diverse educational opportunities they have been afforded in the Saints village of schools.



Good luck grade 12s as you move beyond the world of school.



Mrs Linda Glass with her class in 2004 and now ready to fly in 2014!



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PSG Collection week

This term we are collecting donations of anything in those cupboards! Clothes, toiletries, curtains, household items.... please start sorting through your cupboards – we are happy to take anything you don't need. Please contact Jeanette on 0824126746 for queries and collections. Thank you Saints for your generosity.

Saints seconds

The Saints second hand shop is a facility offered to parents who require second hand uniform items and is situated next to the swimming pool at the Boys' College. This facility is staffed by parents on a volunteer basis and is open on Tuesday and Thursday during term time from 2-3pm. One of the current parents will be leaving at the end of the year and we are looking for additional volunteers. If you are able to help please email Karen Blunn at Karen@blunn.co.za

Remembrance Day Service 31 October 2014

The Remembrance Day Service is held annually to commemorate the lives of loved ones in the Saints community. This year the service will be held on 31 October in the chapel at 08:30 followed by a ceremony in the memorial garden. The College memorials policy can be found on the College website for anyone wishing to know more about the memorial garden and other memorials on the campus.



Calendar 2016

The school calendar for **2016** has been finalised and can viewed at the end of the newsletter, along with the 2015 calendar. Both calendars are available in pdf format on the website under the calendar link.

Chaplain's prayer for the term

Rev Dan Nkomo – Superintendent Chaplain

Gracious God, creator and preserver of all life. During this time of the year help us to turn more readily to You and honestly open our lives to your healing grace.

Help us to render willingly to You a greater measure of devotion which signifies our increased discipline of thought and action; and our increased stewardship of resources and talent.

Help us to be concerned with the needs and concerns of others that we willingly bear with others their pain, despair and loneliness.

Please Father, make us more willing to love and forgive; less to judge and condemn. Allow us to learn that the most lasting joy and meaning of life arises from a deeper understanding and experience of your Son's life, death and resurrection.

Bless and heal your people according to your divine will and purpose.

Amen

If there is anything you would like more information about,
please do not hesitate to send your questions to rector@stithian.com



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Reflections on our village of schools



BP production

GC water polo



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JP sports day

BC twins hitting the
line together!



Saints delegates at
the Round Square
conference, India

Saints Trek



GP dedication to Mrs Wustrow



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Soar
For the class of 2014
Ruth Everson

I wasn't born with my feet
on the ground,
I was born to amaze, to surprise,
to astound.
I don't walk on a cold
narrow path,
I dance through wild fields
With a twirl and a laugh.
I know how to look with
Eyes world-wide,
I take the ups and the downs
In the length of my stride.
I know how to love and
Give of my heart,
I'm a strong-gentle woman,
Ready to play my part.
Look at my blood - it will always
Flow blue and white,
But now I'm poised on the edge,
I'm ready for flight.

I'm a child of twenty one four,
This is me - born to rise and soar!

The National Anthem

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.



**News from
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2015 College Calendar



ST STITHIANS COLLEGE CALENDAR FOR 2015 (FINAL: APPROVED AT COLLEGE EXCO 16 SEPTEMBER 2013)

TERM 1

Staff Development Days:	Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 January 2015
School Commences:	Wednesday 14 January
Ends:	Friday 17 April
Half Term:	12:00 Thursday 26 February to 07:00 Tuesday 03 March
Public Holiday:	Saturday 21 March (Human Rights Day) Friday 03 April (Good Friday) Monday 06 April (Family Day)
Easter Festival dates:	Wednesday 01 April to Monday 06 April

TERM 2

Staff Development Day:	Monday 04 May 2015
School Commences:	Tuesday 05 May
Ends:	Friday 07 August
Compulsory Saturday:	Saturday 06 June (Founders' Day)
Half Term:	Normal closing: Friday 26 June to 07:00 Monday 06 July
School Holiday:	Monday 15 June
Public Holiday:	Tuesday 16 June (Youth Day)

TERM 3

Staff Development Day:	Monday 07 September 2015
School Commences:	Tuesday 08 September
Ends:	Friday 04 December
Half Term:	12:00 Thursday 22 October to 07:00 Tuesday 27 October
Public Holiday:	Thursday 24 September (Heritage Day)
School Holiday:	Friday 25 September

IEB Marking at St Stithians College: Begins 05 December



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2016 College Calendar



ST STITHIANS COLLEGE CALENDAR FOR 2016 (FINAL: APPROVED AT COLLEGE EXCO 22 SEPTEMBER 2014)

TERM 1

Staff Development Days:	Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 January 2016
School Commences:	Wednesday 13 January
Ends:	Friday 8 April
Half Term:	12:00 Thursday 18 February to 07:00 Tuesday 23 February
Public Holiday:	Monday 21 March (Human Rights Day) Friday 25 March (Good Friday) Monday 28 March (Family Day)
Easter Festival dates:	Wednesday 23 March to Monday 28 March

TERM 2

Staff Development Day:	Monday 02 May 2016
School Commences:	Tuesday 03 May
Ends:	Friday 05 August
Compulsory Saturday:	Saturday 04 June (Founders' Day)
Half Term:	Normal closing: Friday 01 July to 07:00 Monday 11 July
Public Holiday:	Thursday 16 June (Youth Day)
School Holiday:	Friday 17 June

TERM 3

Staff Development Day:	Monday 05 September 2016
School Commences:	Tuesday 06 September
Ends:	Wednesday 07 December
Half Term:	12:00 Thursday 20 October to 07:00 Tuesday 25 October
Public Holiday:	Saturday 24 September (Heritage Day)

IEB Marking at St Stithians College: Begins 08 December



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