



13 January 2016

Dear Saints family

It is with anticipation and excitement that we welcome you to the beginning of the 2016 academic year. I make special mention of our new families joining St Stithians in 2016 – may you experience a warm and meaningful Saints welcome.

The excellent Matric results, and the impressive qualities of our matriculants, remind us annually of the opportunities and responsibilities of the Saints Journey.

A number of successful pre-term camps and activities have taken place. Our staff members have been busy and productive in recent days, creating readiness to inspire excellence and to make a world of difference.

I write to draw your attention to a few important points relating to the start of the year.

Whole Campus Staff Development: Walk the Talk

The whole-campus staff development event on Monday took the form of a programme of walking to various stations on the campus where members of the Executive Committee spoke about the priorities and preoccupations of their schools and departments. There was a lovely sense of a community of interesting and talented individuals exploring the spaces of the College, and committing themselves to ‘walk the talk’.

2016 Windscreen Stickers for Parents and Students

To obtain the 2016 St Stithians windscreen stickers, please use the Portal login on the website to register the vehicle details of the cars used in the family to access the campus. The Operations Department will take 48 hours to collate the information and to deliver the stickers to the school reception of the oldest child. Parents will be required to sign for the stickers. Please display the sticker in the top right hand corner of the windscreen so that this can be easily identified.

After the start of half term (18 February), drivers of cars which do not display the 2016 sticker will be requested to sign in as a visitor.

Regular visitors to the campus who are not parents are requested to contact Deanne Schnaier in the Operations Department on opspa@stithian.com with “2016 Windscreen Stickers” in the subject line and she will forward a form to you to be completed. These individuals are requested to collect their stickers from the new Operations Department building behind the One & All Clubhouse.

Building the new Boys’ Prep learning spaces – progress and parking and traffic implications

During the past six weeks, the current Boys’ Prep Grade 4 classrooms have been demolished, and the earthworks are being prepared for the new building of eight classrooms and a staff room. We appreciate the memories of the many generations of boys and teachers who have passed through the Grade 4 classrooms. In order to make way for the new building, a number of trees will need to be felled. As with the demolition of the building, the cutting down of trees is not a decision we have taken lightly. Many of

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE. MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

the existing trees will be incorporated into the design of the new building. The new buildings reflect an exciting and innovative design, and the artist impressions will be displayed on the website shortly.

The Boys' Prep has made special arrangements to house the Grade 4 boys during 2016. The building site has been fenced off, and we appreciate that the process of construction will be noisy and disruptive for the duration of the year. We ask you to bear with us as we construct this signature building.

The construction vehicles will be accessing the building site from the car park, and this will have implications for parents dropping off Boys' Prep and Junior Prep students. I make a special appeal to our Junior Prep parents to use the parking at the Astros and to enter the Junior Prep through the new 'gateway'.

Keeping the Saints campus clean

The College Executive is preparing a plan to allocate sections of the campus to each of the schools for the purpose of monitoring litter and organising clean-up activities. This is in addition to the regular work of our grounds staff. An earlier published version of the College calendar included a 'Rector's Campus Clean Up' morning on 16 January. This event has been postponed and the new date will be communicated in due course.

The Year Ahead

There is a lovely sense of energy and new life on the campus as the students once again inhabit this College of lifelong learning. We look forward to a year of fulfilment and significance.

Good wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Nuttall".

Dr T A Nuttall
Rector