



ST STITHIANS COLLEGE

A South African School Making a World of Difference

22 April 2015

Dear Parents

I wish you a fulfilling and enjoyable holiday time with your children.

The first term of 2015 has been an exciting period of new beginnings and building on our impressive legacy. There have been some outstanding achievements in many facets of education across our schools. In the nature of a school, it is also important that we reflect on our best practices, that we grow, learn and improve.

We have taken occupation of the two new 'signature' buildings on the campus, the Junior Prep Hall and the Athena Centre in the Girls' College. Landscaping the surrounds of these two venues is underway.

In the letter below, I address the following points:

- Campus Administration Offices closing 28-30 April
- Strategy 2025 and our Intent and Purpose
- A call for skills, expertise and a willingness to contribute in our governance committees
- Easter Sports Festival
- Three Pavilions Campaign – progress report and call for donations
- Standard Bank Tap and Go Prepaid Debit Cards

Campus Administration Offices closing 28-30 April

Our Campus Administration Offices will be closed next week, with the exception of the Operations Department. Our receptionist at the switchboard in the Girls' College/Rector's Office Reception (011 577 6300) will receive any urgent messages.

Strategy 2025 and our Intent and Purpose

During March the Council approved a new Statement of Intent and Purpose, as well as *Strategy 2025*, a strategic framework for the next ten years. The document and its bold vision will be officially launched at Founders' Day, 6 June 2015.

Inspiring Excellence. Making a World of Difference – this is our new Statement of Intent. On this platform we will continue to develop and offer a dynamic and distinctive St Stithians education.

A call for skills, expertise and a willingness to contribute in our governance committees

We are conscious of the diverse and influential skill-sets and networks among our parents and alumni. I make a general invitation to our parents and alumni to assist the College by

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offering to participate in our governance structures and the achievement of our strategic objectives. If you have the appropriate interest and expertise and wish to serve on Council Sub-Committees (Finance, Planning and Development (campus facilities and landscape), Transformation, Church, Remuneration) or as a governor of the St Stithians Foundation, please be in contact with Carel Nolte, the Chair of Council, on carel@carelnolte.com.

Easter Sports Festival

St Stithians experienced a bumper 2015 Easter Sports Festival. The event began with the inaugural Prep Sports Festival during the weekend before Easter – rugby under lights on the Wayne Joubert field, and netball under lights on the Girls' courts. The success of the Prep Sports Festival will result in its expansion in 2016. In the main Easter Sports Festival, 1 200 players from 47 schools took part in six sporting codes: rugby, hockey, netball, tennis, basketball and squash. There was significant media coverage.

The standard of sport and the Festival spirit were of high quality, and this was a proudly St Stithians event – the oldest and largest school sports festival in the country. A huge thank you to the team of staff, parent and alumni volunteers, as well as our sponsors, for making this event happen. Thank you to all our Saints families for your support.

Three Pavilions Campaign – progress report and call for donations

We intend to build a Boys' Sports Pavilion next to the High Performance Centre, a Girls' Sports Pavilion at the courts behind the girls' schools, and to redesign the Conference Room at the One & All as a Sports Pavilion.

We are busy with the advanced planning stage of the Boys' Sports Pavilion, which will consist of changing rooms and sports offices downstairs, a long room, entertainment space and viewing area upstairs, overlooking the Cricket Oval and Baytopp Field. The upper floor of the Pavilion will be accessible from the Jamieson fields. A graphic of the architect's design is reproduced below (Phase 2 of the project is to redesign the existing High Performance Centre, as indicated in the background):



We seek to harness sufficient funds by the deadline of mid-May, so that we can decide to build the Boys' Sports Pavilion this year with the goal of completing it before the 2016 Easter Sports Festival. The funding target is R10m. The College has committed R4m to the project in the 2015 capex budget. The St Stithians Foundation and the My School fund are each contributing R500,000. Donations are being sought to match the combined

school contribution of R5m. To date R3m has been pledged in donations, leaving R2m to raise. Interested donors are requested to contact Carel Nolte (Chair of Council) on carel@carelnolte.com, David Knowles (Head of Boys' College) on dknowles@stithian.com or myself on rector@stithian.com. It will be a great achievement to reach our funding target during May.

Our plan is to build a Girls' Sports Pavilion at the Girls' courts in 2016, as a major project in celebration of the 21st birthday of the girls' schools. Concept drawings are in progress, and we will fund the building through a school contribution and matching donor funds. The specifications include changing rooms, sports offices, and social and viewing spaces which will look out over the courts. Interested donors are requested to contact the individuals listed above, as well as Ivanka Acquisto (Head of the Girls' College) on iacquisto@stithian.com.

The One & All Pavilion is intended to improve the facility to host sports teams and spectators. This is the first step in a bold plan to create additional fields and sports facilities in the upper campus zone. The OSA Committee and the College are jointly keen to progress this project, which is currently being drawn up by the architect, and individuals interested in assisting are requested to contact Shaun Edmeston (OSA Chair) at shaun@youcalled.co.za or the individuals listed above.

Standard Bank Tap and Go Prepaid Debit Cards

Standard Bank has notified us of difficulties experienced since the Festival by some users of Tap and Go cards (purchased during the Easter Sports Festival) at certain vendors. At the Bank's request, I remind you of the following:

- The prepaid debit cards cannot be used at ATMs
- All transactions must be below R200
- When a cashier inserts the card in a payment terminal to process a chip transaction, the user must enter the PIN created when the card was purchased at the Easter Sports Festival.

If you prefer a cash refund for the remaining value on your card, please call **0860 222 688** or send an email to easterfestival@standardbank.co.za to make the necessary arrangements.

Good wishes



Dr T A Nuttall
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