



18 July 2018

Dear Saints Family

I greet you in the spirit of 'One and All'. This letter addresses the following themes, with associated links to our website pages on [www.stithian.com](http://www.stithian.com) :

- Mandela 100
- Founders' Day 2018
- St Stithians Procurement and current projects
- Velaphi Gumbi – New Head of Thandulwazi Academy
- Tapestry of Inspiring Excellence, Making a World of Difference on the world stage
- Virtual Campus Tour

### **Mandela 100**

I write to you on the centenary of the birthday of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. It was my privilege to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture at the Wanderers Stadium yesterday. The four main speakers – Njabulo Ndebele, Graça Machel, Cyril Ramaphosa and Barack Obama – highlighted the magnitude and significance of Mandela's legacy, nationally and globally.

Following on from our commemoration of the Mandela centenary during our Founders' Day Service, our schools have been actively preparing for [Mandela Day](#). The intent to honour Mandela reinforces the core values of St Stithians as a school which educates active citizens who make a contribution and affirm human dignity. The College's M100 photograph symbolises our collective appreciation and recognition accorded to Nelson Mandela by the staff and students of St Stithians.

The iMadiba micro museum has been built, overlooking the Ridgway Field from the Girls' Prep side: we look forward to this symbolic replica of Nelson Mandela's Robben Island cell being an important place of gathering, reflection and conversation. Thank you to the Chair and Deputy Chair of Council, Carel Nolte and Ntombi Langa-Royds, and alumni donors for their generosity in funding the iMadiba project on our campus.

### **Founders' Day 2018**

Our website article on [Founders' Day](#), including the speech of our Guest Speaker, Ben Kodisang, and the Rector's Address, provide a record of our profound whole-College gathering on 2 June, when we focused on the theme of Saints Character – 'Know Ourselves, Be Ourselves, Make our Contribution'. Thank you to One and All for your contribution and participation.

### **St Stithians Procurement**

The St Stithians Council has approved a substantially revised [Procurement Policy](#) and Procurement Procedure, which creates a coherent and thorough framework for the College's procurement processes.

**INSPIRING EXCELLENCE. MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE**

I wrote about this earlier in the year, alerting our parent and alumni community to keep a check on our website for procurement opportunities.

[Current procurement projects](#) are listed on the website and are posted with a notice period. Current projects which have been posted for the past two weeks include ICT Managed Services, ICT Network Infrastructure, Catering and the planned Solar PV Plant.

### **Velaphi Gumbi: new Head of Thandulwazi Academy**

We welcomed [Velaphi Gumbi](#) to his new post at the beginning of July. As announced at the time of his appointment, Mr Gumbi comes to St Stithians from the position of General Manager of the Osizweni Science Centre, a Sasol project which has many similarities to the programmes of the Thandulwazi Academy. Velaphi is already making an impact in the conversations of the College Executive Committee and in bringing fresh perspectives to the leadership of the seventh school of St Stithians. I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Karen Walstra for her sterling contribution as Acting Head of Thandulwazi Academy while we recruited the next Head – her passion for the institution she has long been involved with, and her institutional knowledge, have been greatly valued.

### **Tapestry of Inspiring Excellence, Making a World of Difference on the world stage**

We can celebrate and reflect on three remarkable recent achievements on the world stage, associated with St Stithians. These highlight the diverse tapestry of inspiring excellence and making a world of difference. The choirs of our girls' schools achieved three gold medals in the recent World Choir Games held in Pretoria. Kevin Anderson (Old Stithian, 2003) reached the finals of the Wimbledon Tennis Championship after two epic matches in the quarter-finals and semi-finals; joining fellow South Africans Raven Klaasen and Kgothatso Montjane in their tennis successes. Third, Brandon Kynoch (Grade 11, Boys' College) has designed a mobile game, Torus, which is topping the charts in Apple's App Store and drawing extensive media interest. These stories are covered in the news pages of the College website.

### **Virtual Campus Tour**

I draw your attention to the new [Virtual Tour](#) of our beautiful campus and extensive facilities – please click on the link in the top navigation bar of the main web page of [www.stithian.com](http://www.stithian.com).

Yours sincerely



Dr T A Nuttall  
Rector