



### Principal's Corner

Dear Theodorians

*"Defeat is not the worst of failures. Not to have tried is the true failure."*

[George Edward Woodberry](#)

Although a whole-school letter from me is sent out each Friday, today's brief but important one is reflective of the High School news. With Matric results the hot topic, this is the obvious focus along with other relevant and important information.

George Woodberry's words above are certainly true for our Matric class of 2021. The statistics do not lie and those reflected below are indicative of the fact that our students, along with our staff, have put in the many hours of "trying". The results of "persevering, trying and trying again" have paid off and these results are evidence of this.

Theodor Herzl Schools is hugely proud of the class of 2021. Our young men and women have triumphed academically and overcome the challenges of the last two years of Covid-19. Despite the obvious effects of Covid-19 for the past 2 years, I believe one of the effects is that it has created in many of us a greater determination to persevere - and in the educational realm this is no different. It has been team-work: staff, students and parents. You cannot beat that.

The class of 2021 consisted of 31 Matrics. The statistics mentioned below are a snapshot of the results. Yes, it captures our successes, but it does not capture the deeply personal and individual "triumphs" that, for obvious reasons, could not be reflected. Of those "triumphs, there were many too.

I welcome all our new parents to the Theodor family. The first day is behind us...onwards and upwards! Day 2 (today) has already seen tennis and golf

practices at 7am. We are off to an exciting start to 2022.

In addition, as reflected in my final newsletter last year, I again welcome our new staff: **Mr Harold Wienand** (Mathematics, Advanced Programme Mathematics), **Mr Ryan Peter** (Life Science and Natural Science), **Mr Warwick Osmond** (Geography) **Mrs Alice Kruzekopf** (Mathematics - locum teacher for Mrs Natalie Weatherall Thomas, who is away on maternity leave), **Mr Jason Hyam** (Head of Sport), **Mrs Robyn Parker** (Gr 8 and 9 isiXhosa) and **Mr Wesley Petzer** (IT Manager).

### GRADE PARENT MEETINGS

These are important meetings to diarise and attend and provide an important opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers and other relevant people in your child's life while at Theodor Herzl High School. Vital information will be shared with you on these respective evenings. We look forward to meeting you at these meetings - the Grade 12 and 9 meetings commence this very evening!

### PARENT/PUPIL GUIDELINES BOOKLET

These booklets will be made available at the Grade meetings as well as being made available to our students. It contains all the relevant information of and for the High School. Although it is an initial attempt at reflecting all pertinent information, it is a document in progress. **COMMUNICATION CHANNELS** is a topic in this booklet which is certainly an important one if we are all to be efficient and effective in our communication. It is an important read.

### COVID -19

For obvious reasons, we continue to follow the protocols, with daily temperatures taken, masks

mandatory, sanitizing and social distancing enforced (taking reasonableness into account).

Despite this being the third year of the pandemic, there remain uncertainties and anomalies. We still second-guess ourselves. There are no perfect answers or solutions to many situations - and we have learnt to be comfortable with that. We have all had to learn to live with uncertainty. One does what one can with the information one has. **Common sense (without being irresponsible) must prevail** as we react to and decide on solutions to individual cases. With this in mind, the following applies:

- If your child is not feeling well, with obvious symptoms, err on the side of not bringing your child to school. Work missed on the day (or two) will be caught up as was the case prior to Covid -19 days.
- On-line lessons will be offered if your child tests positive for Covid (or has to be quarantined). Lessons will be available via Zoom as per normal.
- Formal assessments will not be offered online. Assessments will be arranged as per normal with your child's teacher once your child has returned. A doctor's note/test result is still a requirement upon your child's return.
- As per the COMMUNICATION CHANNELS expectations, notifying your child's Grade Head if your child will be away, is important (email details are in the booklet).

## CO CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

The programme commences this afternoon. We are excited about our offering...compulsory sport and involvement in the co-curricular programme is an important part of our holistic approach.

This afternoon sees us commence with athletics trials as we choose teams and House Captains for our first-ever Inter House athletics event - Wednesday 26 January. As reflected in the calendar, the event takes place at an appropriate venue, with parents invited to attend. It takes place early evening (6pm) and is intended to be for the whole family to enjoy. I look forward to seeing many of you there. I trust that you have been preparing for the "parent race"!

With the year having started with a flourish and all of us back at work, I thought that the following "simple" but helpful article was appropriate. Entitled, "*The 7 types of rest that every person needs*", it serves as a valuable reminder of what many of us have possibly neglected. The link is: <https://ideas-ted.com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/ideas.ted.com/the-7-types-of-rest-that-every-person-needs/amp/>

I wish you a good weekend ahead!

**Viktor**

**Viktor Kurz**  
Executive Principal

## High School News

Well Done Matric Class of 2021!

### Theodor Herzl Schools

Unique education for individual excellence



#### Congratulations Class of 2021!

Theodor Herzl Schools is hugely proud of the class of 2021. Our young men and women have triumphed academically and overcome the challenges of the last two years of Covid-19. We congratulate each member of the Class of 2021 and each teacher on the following achievements:

- An impressive **100 % pass rate** in the IEB examinations
- A **100% Bachelor's Degree Pass rate**
- **6 awards for Top 1%** in the country for 3 different subjects
- **1 Student on IEB Commendable List** (in Top 5% in country for 5 subjects)
- **23%** of the class achieved an overall aggregate of **80%** or higher
- An average of **2 distinctions** per student
- **60%** of all subjects written achieved over **70%**
- A class average of **72%**

#### TOP 10 ACHIEVERS IN THE CLASS OF 2021

- **1<sup>st</sup>**: Emma Stow: 90% aggregate, 6 subject distinctions, IEB Commendable List,
- **Placed in Top 1% for English and Geography**
- **2<sup>nd</sup>**: Roxanne Willems: 90% aggregate, 7 subject distinctions,
- **Placed in Top 1% for English and Geography**
- **3<sup>rd</sup>**: Caelin Falconer: 87% aggregate, 6 subject distinctions,
- **Placed in Top 1% for English and Business Studies**
- **4<sup>th</sup>**: Sarah Sharp: 85% aggregate and 7 subject distinctions
- **5<sup>th</sup>**: Tiana Moodley: 85% aggregate, 5 subject distinctions
- **6<sup>th</sup>**: Lathi-Thaa Mlahleki: 83% aggregate and 6 subject distinctions
- **7<sup>th</sup>**: Sabiha Dudhia: 81% aggregate and 3 subject distinctions
- **8<sup>th</sup>**: Siobhan Kluckow: 79% aggregate and 4 subject distinctions
- **9<sup>th</sup>**: Amy von Ruben: 79% aggregate and 5 subject distinctions
- **10<sup>th</sup>** Shameek Chetty: 77% aggregate and 2 distinctions



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We said farewell to our Matric Class of 2021 and welcomed the Class of 2022 back to Theodor on Wednesday.



Our Grade 8 pupils are hugely excited to start their High School journey here at Theodor Herzl.



Our sportsmen and women are all fired-up and already enjoying early morning practices.

