



Three Schools, One Campus

30 July 2021

Principal's Corner

Dear Theodorians

"Try not to become a man (woman) of success, but rather try to become a man (woman) of value."

Albert Einstein

As I typed the date at the beginning of the letter, the reality of "where we are in the year" hit home yet again. We are about to enter August and we are fast heading on the last stretch to the end of the year. Time is waiting for none of us. The age-old clichéd question, "where has the time gone?" is more than true. I am sure that the founding fathers (and mothers) of Theodor Herzl in 1959 have thought the same thing as we celebrated our 62nd birthday last week.

The High School student leadership team for 2022 was announced this past week and will be reflected in next week's newsletter. In addition, last night saw our Matrics and staff enjoy each other's company at the Matric Dinner/Dance. Let us say, that despite Covid -19 restrictions firmly in place, much fun was had. No partners, masks and an early departure from the venue due to curfew, all reinforce the new norms - for the moment at least!

The beginning of the term we welcome **Mrs Elzaan Cothill** our new Counselor at the High School. A qualified Counseling Psychologist, Elzaan is certainly going to be a significant asset to our School(s).



In addition, I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Mr Louis Nel** who will be teaching Life Orientation from 1 September when Mr Evan Engelbrecht leaves. A keen sportsman, who hails from East London originally, Louis has an interesting and diverse skillset with much experience. We look forward to his arrival.

We say farewell after many loyal and devoted years of service to **Ms Simone Williams**, our Accounting and EMS teacher (who leaves for the UK on Monday to take up a teaching post there) and **Mrs Janet Price**, PA to Mrs Hilary Goldberg, who also leaves for the UK in the next few days. Both ladies will be sorely missed - passionate about Theodor to the core, we wish them well in the next chapter of their respective lives.



As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, **Mrs Felicity Austin - Day** takes on the role of PA for Mrs Goldberg - and has been at the Primary school learning the role for the past few days already.

I am sad to announce the resignation of **Mrs Tennielle Ah Shene** (our Geography teacher). She and her husband return to their roots in KZN, with the intention of becoming involved in full-time Church work, as well as take up an appropriate teaching post in the immediate future. The appropriate farewells will be had towards the end of the year.

As you would have noted, I have begun Zoom meetings with all High School parents, with the Grade 8 one having taken place this past week already. I look forward to the opportunity to meet and share ideas and thoughts. Grade 9 - 12 will take place from Monday- Thursday this coming week. It is an opportunity for us to "meet" informally; with the weirdness of Covid, I have met very few of you and this virtual forum allows me to chat to you about relevant issues and matters of interest. A time for question and answers is part of the format too. The appropriate Zoom links will be sent to you prior to the daily 6pm meeting.

I walked around the Pre-Primary School with Mrs Megan Oosthuizen the other day. It was an informal and spontaneous visit - what a paradise for children! Children allowed to be

children in a free, happy and secure environment. The “off road racing track” for tricycles and little scooters, designed by one of the men, is most certainly a hit!

With the new position of Head of Sport: High School having been advertised in recent days on the appropriate national websites and on Facebook, we look forward in positive anticipation to a time when sport and other activities can return to being “normal”... or take on some semblance of normality. It is a time to be creative and proactive. Watch this space!

As mentioned in my recent letter to you (the letter has also gone out to past pupils and the other “stakeholder groups”) we embark shortly on the exciting process of confirming and embedding our values, mission and vision, along with positioning ourselves appropriately in the independent school space in Port Elizabeth and beyond. It IS an exciting journey. You will be informed of the process every step of the way.

I came across the following article by Sean Kernan, entitled, “*You aren’t lazy. You are overstimulated*”. It is an interesting one. Insightful, practical and **scarily true**, it is worth a read.

The link is <https://link.medium.com/xpskcZiPiib>

I wish you well, trusting that you will have a good weekend and week ahead.

Kind regards

Viktor

Viktor Kurz
Executive Principal

Pre-Primary Fun

Our “Theodorables” celebrating their school’s 62nd Birthday.



So happy to be back at school and enjoying KinderKinetics.



Primary School Activities

The Birthday celebrations continued at the Primary School.



High School News

The High School pupils voted for the new leaders of their school.



Our Matrics had a spectacular evening *UNDER THE STARS*.



Our Grade 8s and 9s beginning the Digital Technology journey with Naledi Malunga, our CAT teacher. A welcome addition to our digital technology offering.



The Grade 10 Life Sciences students spent the day at Shamwari Game Reserve, learning about conservation and ecotourism.

