



## Prep Patter

our weekly news bulletin

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## DPHS NEWS AND RESULTS

### BULLETIN 02: WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY 2017

|                        |  |                  |  |
|------------------------|--|------------------|--|
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#### MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE HEADMASTER

I raise my Prep cap to each partner of our wonderful school, i.e. Staff, Learners and Parents and Old Boys as I pay my personal respects to you for the overwhelming support and encouragement that I have received since taking up my position on Monday. Even our good friend to DPHS, Mr Jeremy Oddy came in to inform me that I happen to be first "Old Boy" Principal of DPHS - that fact makes my appointment even more special. May the next 50 academic school days (i.e. Monday to Friday) left of this first term be even more rewarding for all of us to enjoy until break-up day on Friday 31 March.

I have been so impressed and appreciative of the many boys of Prep, throughout the grades who have taken up my offer to visit me in my office to find out how my day has been and to introduce themselves. My office is not in the 'fear factor' corridor but is in the 'respect' corridor where mutual respect can be expressed amongst all partners. I am determined to drive my belief throughout 2017, as I strongly stand by the call of "Happy staff and Happy parents = Happy children = Happy functionality." There is thus no place for the "trespassing" of unkind words, sarcasm, bullying, disrespect, lack of team spirit etc. amongst young and old partners and I thus call on us as 'seniors' to set the example here at school and at home.

Please find out from your child if he has been to my office yet to pay a friendly visit and if 'Yes' congratulate him and if 'Not', find out why not ..... The door is open!

It has been so heart-warming to hear from the boys and parents that their son did place the Prep cap on their bed on Monday night and shouted "Go Prep" before turning off the lights. Long may this continue! I will share with the boys that they do not wear a uniform or clothes to school but that they wear a 'flag of Prep" at all times. That flag is to fly in its bold colours of Blue, Gold and White at the top of their personal "life-mast" at all times. That flag represents each and every partner of Prep - past, present and future. So please assist me and the staff in ensuring that 'your flag' is neatly presented for school, outside of school, at extra-mural

practices, for fixtures and whilst shopping with the family. The ‘flag’ that is untidy with unpolished shoes, shirt out, tie lowered, etc. will be the eyes of the public or any critics - thus lowering of a ‘Prep flag’ would damage my soul and the soul of Prep on any day. Just look at our Prep uniform on your son - our flag - and be the breeze behind him to fly his colours proudly.

I have really enjoyed the warm reception each night at the respective parent evenings and getting to meet our Prep parents. Let us continue with this positive synergy in going forward as there will be challenges at times that may lie ahead. However, with this combined input, with all partners working together for that ‘happy solution’. I am sure that we will continue to reach our Prep desired outcomes.

Please be there to support your child in the classroom and in the extra-mural activities as often as possible. I have a major interest in the academics, cultural activities and the sports codes and wish to see all learners enjoying the commitment to those chosen interests, no matter their strengths and abilities. The Prep day does not end for any child when the last bell of the school day is rung - to continue with your friends at school into the afternoon is a necessary life-skill of forming friendships, outside of your specific class mates.

In conclusion, I stand proud as the 12th Headmaster of DPHS. Let us continue to build on the solid structures that are already in place. “Go Prep!”

**Remember: Headmaster’s Quote for this week.**

**“Positive energy attracts positive experiences”**

Thank You - Yours in Prep!

**B Wilson**  
**Headmaster**

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Jedd Poovan** swam the KZN Championships in the December holidays and won 3 gold medals, 3 silver medals and 1 bronze medal.

## CALENDAR

|                         |  |                         |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Wednesday<br>18 January | Reception Unit Parents Evening<br>Grade 4 Parent’s Evening<br>Grade 6 Parent’s Evening | 17h30<br>18h00<br>18h30 |
| Thursday<br>19 January  | Mothers Committee AGM  |                         |
| Friday<br>20 January    | Cricket vs Amanzimtoti Primary<br>House Assembly - House Leadership Elections          | 07h30                   |
| Saturday<br>21 January  | Cricket vs Glenwood Preparatory High School  |                         |
| Sunday<br>22 January    |  |                         |
| Monday<br>23 January    | Grade 7 Leadership Tie Presentation - Full<br>School Assembly                          | 07h30                   |
| Tuesday<br>24 January   | Governing Body Meeting   | 17h30                   |
| Wednesday<br>25 January |  |                         |

## RECEPTION UNIT NEWS

Our Reception Unit boys are settling happily into their daily routine and many special friendships are in the making. We were excited to meet our new headmaster, Mr Barry Wilson, when he took time out of his busy first day schedule on Monday to pop in and greet the boys. He has promised to visit again soon and the boys are also looking forward to seeing him during their visits to the main campus.

On Tuesday morning we had a surprise visit from *Sharkie*, who arrived to help promote the GARVZ private extra-mural programme which starts next week. Garvz takes place from 12h15 to 13h00 every Monday and Wednesday. For further details please refer to the brochure that was sent home or call 086 72 77678.

This Wednesday we will be beginning our weekly Music, Drama and Computer lessons at the main campus, where the boys will get to meet their specialist teachers. Our swimming programme commences this Friday, during the school morning. Please remember to send your son to school with his prep costume under his shorts as well as his towel and swimming cap in his bag.

All parents are reminded to please attend the Reception Unit Parents' Information Evening this Wednesday 18 January from 17h30 to 18h15. This meeting will be hosted by your son's teacher, so please meet in his classroom by 17h25. This evening is for adults only and we look forward to seeing you there.

## JUNIOR PRIMARY NEWS

We are only one week into the school year and yet there is already a strong sense of the year being well on its way! The first full school assembly was on Monday morning, made all the more special by the fact that the new Durban Prep Headmaster was officially welcomed along with the Grade One boys. As the boys lined the corridors and doffed their caps in greeting to Mr Wilson there was a great sense of pride in this wonderful school and anticipation for the 'journey' ahead. The first JP Assembly of the year then followed on Tuesday morning, ending on an exciting note with the guest appearance of Sharkie. Bruce Dragt told the boys about the Garvz sports programme for which parents may enrol their sons if they so choose. The U9 cricket is well under way, the Grade 3 Swimming Squad begins tomorrow and the Grade 3 Club activities start next week. Ball Skills for Grade 2 has begun this week and the Grade 1 boys will enjoy their first lesson next Tuesday.

The turnout at the JP Parents' Evening last night was confirmation of the wonderful support which the boys and the school enjoy. Positive communication between home and school is essential if the boys are to enjoy a constructive year. It was a great pleasure to introduce Mr Wilson to the JP parents and his passion for Prep was clearly evident to everyone present. The presentations which followed provided a great deal of useful information and invaluable insights to assist parents as they guide and support their sons through this year.

The evening started with a talk by Kerry Salvesen entitled "Top Parenting Tips". A combination of Kerry's professional insights, extremely useful guidelines and dynamic presentation ensured a thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile experience for the audience. The parents then went to their sons' classrooms where the class teachers addressed them, giving them important information and insights into the expectations of that particular grade. Thereafter the parents of U9 boys attended an address by Michael Dick, Director of Sport, and interested parents were able to discuss the private Instrumental Music programme on offer with Annette Briscoe, Director of Performing Arts.

All parents are reminded that their son's well-being and progress are of paramount importance and they are encouraged to make an appointment with the class teacher if they have any concerns during the year.



Mr Wilson walks through the school corridors greeting staff and boys on his first day as Headmaster

## **DPHS ASSOCIATION**

Director: Richard Neave - [rneave@dphs.co.za](mailto:rneave@dphs.co.za)

**PREP FOLK IN STEP ALL THE WAY**

Association members will be very happy to learn that the School's new Headmaster, Barry Wilson, DPHS Old Boy '72, past teacher and HOD at DPHS and Association member, arrived on Monday to a typically warm DPHS welcome from the boys and Staff at a special whole school assembly. In the assembly Mr Wilson was warmly welcomed and handed the keys to the school by the Deputy Headmaster, Grant Phipson. Mr Wilson replied saying how happy and proud he was to be back at DPHS and what a joy it would be to serve the boys, staff and school family as Headmaster. He thanked the School for his warm welcome and good wishes and asked that he be allowed to ring the School Bell to signal his arrival and greet all the DPHS boys and staff personally.

The boys and Staff lined the corridors of the school. Mr Wilson, in the company of the Deputy Headmaster, walked along all the corridors of the school offering the boys and everyone he encountered a warm and friendly greeting. Most importantly, Mr Wilson, to his delight and insistence, was able to enjoy the courtesy, in the long standing and proud tradition of PREP boys, of every boy doffing his cap smartly as a mark of respect, welcome and friendliness. In reply Mr Wilson lifted his DPHS CAP TO THE BOYS!

The welcoming Assembly was all the more special because it marked the first formal and whole school assembly that the Grade 1's were attending as Junior Primary boys. Best wishes to our brave and talented Gr 1 boys!

I was privileged to attend this historic occasion and represent the good wishes and kind support of the DPHS Association.

## **GENERAL**

### **2017 TERM DATES**

**(Dates for learners are as listed below. Staff returned to school on 09 January 2017 and will finish the year on 08 December 2017)**

### **2017 TERM DATES as supplied by Naptosa**

TERM 1: 11 January - 31 March

TERM 2: 18 April - 30 June

TERM 3: 24 July - 29 September

TERM 4: 09 October - 06 December

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