



# Prep Patter

our weekly news bulletin

99 Gordon Road, Durban 4001 | Tel (031) 312 2154 | Fax (031) 303 2361 | mailbox@dphs.co.za | www.dphs.co.za

Prep Patter is available online at [www.dphs.co.za](http://www.dphs.co.za)

Follow us on twitter @durban\_prep and Facebook at "Durban Prep Parent Community"

## DPHS NEWS AND RESULTS

### BULLETIN 11: FRIDAY 24 MARCH 2017

The Headmaster	: <a href="mailto:bwilson@dphs.co.za">bwilson@dphs.co.za</a>	Admissions	: <a href="mailto:denise@dphs.co.za">denise@dphs.co.za</a>
Media Centre	: <a href="mailto:mmuthusamy@dphs.co.za">mmuthusamy@dphs.co.za</a>	Marketing	: <a href="mailto:cmccarthy@dphs.co.za">cmccarthy@dphs.co.za</a>
Finance	: <a href="mailto:michellew@dphs.co.za">michellew@dphs.co.za</a>	Sports Office	: <a href="mailto:michaeldick@dphs.co.za">michaeldick@dphs.co.za</a>
DPHS Trust	: <a href="mailto:trust@dphs.co.za">trust@dphs.co.za</a>	Association	: <a href="mailto:rneave@dphs.co.za">rneave@dphs.co.za</a>
TELEPHONE: 031-312 2154		FAX: 031-303 2361	

*Please note that the next Prep Patter - Bulletin 12 - will go out on Friday 31 March in order to publish Beanland Cup results as soon as they are announced in assembly*

### MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE HEADMASTER

Down to the single figure of '5' school days left to enjoy for the remainder of this term. You will thus note that this newsletter has been sent at the end of the week due to the shortened week that we have just experienced. Please note that an end of term message will also be forwarded in the report envelopes on Break-up day next Friday.

### Excursions

It really has been so encouraging to note the combined efforts in partnership of staff, parents and learners in ensuring that our children from Grades 5, 6, 7 could enjoy a worthwhile, life-skill experience through these excursions. I highlight and appreciate the staff for taking this valuable time away from their own families and going beyond the call of duty to be with the boys over these days. Thank you too, to the parents/families for your financial support and encouragement for your son to attend this grade opportunity. The boys need to be acknowledged for their enthusiastic response prior to the departure and I am sure, even whilst on this trip. The staff and I have been communicating each day/night to touch base with all reports coming back as extremely positive. There are so many learning aspects that each child will gain from having been actively involved with his staff and peers away from the school environment and I am sure that there will be many fond memories that your son will have to share with the family on returning home. A Proudly Prep event - thank you to all partners!

### Homework

I have reminded the boys of their reward for their amazing efforts noted during the school academic day and the extra mural activities programme. I can proudly reflect back on the cricket and tennis results with special credit given to our outstanding results and achievements in the D & D swimming galas at Kings Park. I as Headmaster, also enjoyed a birthday in

February, so as promised at the time, a 'No Homework' period of celebrating all the above would be given at the end of the term. Please note that there will be no homework on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Enjoy.

### Junior Primary News

We have recently enjoyed two fun events held for our younger learners in the phase namely: The Grade 1 'Letterland Day' where these boys came to school dressed up representing a letter from the alphabet that they had chosen e.g. 'Kicking K' for a king character. Thank you Mrs Langley (Grade 1 leader) and her Grade 1 team for this programme.

Yesterday our Grade 2 learners 'braved' the school grounds as 'Pirates' and really expressed themselves in the various activities and outfits relating to the theme. Ahoy - me maties! Our appreciation is extended to Mrs May (Grade 2 leader), Mrs Murphy Co-ordinator of this Pirates Theme Day and the Grade 2 staff.

I also know how proud our Junior Primary HOD Miss Gilroy was of these children and their enthusiastic approach noted for each of these events.

Well done Prep!

### Reception Unit

It is so heart-warming to receive such a positive vibe and hearty welcome from staff and boys down in our Grade R section when I visit and/or bring prospective parents to tour through the school. The hive of activity is so clearly felt whether it be during lessons, free-play time, art, design, exercises, woodwork, etc. Today our younger learners held an 'Open' swimming lesson during their PE time for parents to attend so that each boy could proudly show his swimming progress made during this term. I must also emphasise the highlight of the week for these Grade R children i.e. when the "Prep Bus" arrives on Friday morning to transport class by class from the Reception Unit, past Windermere Centre, up Rosetta Road to the DPHS Jubilee Swimming Pool at Gordon Road Girls and then back to school after each PE period. Our learners now save time by walking to and from the lesson and welcoming Raymond (our bus-driver) and our bus with much excitement. Yes - 'from small beginnings better fortunes follow'.

### Camp Out

Wow! Wow! - I am amazed and so appreciative of the combined efforts of our Mothers Committee Chairlady Mrs Carlyne van Jaarsveld and her team in the programme that has been planned for this weekend's Camp Out. I do believe that we have the largest attendance for a camp out in some years and judging by the attention to detail and the programme, it is clearly obvious that this promises to be a 'super-duper' event. Big screens are in place for the live broadcast of the Sharks vs Cheetahs rugby fixture and a movie later on, fun rides and games will create a fun-park experience and ball-games have been arranged for boys in teams to participate in - never mind the delicious eats/treats and refreshments available.

I do remind all families of the school rule that **no alcohol will be permitted on campus**, at any stage during this camp-out, as the focus is on quality parent/son time! Please respect this non-negotiable decision to avoid any unnecessary monitoring and debate on this 'no alcohol' issue.

We do hope that the weather plays its part as thorough planning has taken place with this being a most suitable date in our very busy year planner of events.

Enjoy the camp out!

### Forthcoming Events for the week ahead

- |                        |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Friday/Saturday</b> | - | Start of Inter School rugby fixtures vs Merchiston at home U9/10/11/13. Please be there to support! |
| <b>Saturday</b>        | - | Camp out - start 15h00  |
| <b>Sunday</b>          | - | Depart latest - 07h00   |
| <b>Monday</b>          | - | "Fire Side Tales" professional show in the Maurice Wilkinson Hall at 10h00.                         |
| <b>Tuesday</b>         | - | Chris Cubitt Memorial Assembly - Rehearsal.   |

- Grade 1 to visit the Reception Unit.
- Rugby 14h00 1st XV vs St Andrews (from Kenya)
- DPHS Mothers Committee cocktail function.
- Wednesday**
  - 7h30 - 8h00 - Chris Cubitt Memorial Assembly.
  - 8h00 - Prep Pal Meeting.
  - 15h00 - Music Progress Concert.
- Thursday**
  - 7h30 Academics Assembly for Senior Primary. Top 10 in each class.
  - 8h15 - Headmasters tea with top 10 academics from each class.
- Friday**
  - 7h30 Final Assembly for Term 1.
  - 10h30 Reception Unit closes.
  - 10h45 JP Phase closes.
  - 11h00 SP Phase closes.

Enjoy this final week.

### Honour Our Helper

We will be expressing our warmest appreciation to our General Assistant Staff this coming Thursday 30 March at 11h45 by honouring these ladies and gentlemen with a braai-meal at lunch-time. These staff members are here each day at the earliest hours of each day and way into the evenings preparing our fields, setting up and clearing after school/sport activities, cleaning of the classrooms, toilets, buildings grounds etc. in other words quietly maintaining our school to the standards of excellence that we enjoy on a daily basis. We as staff, learners and parents must never expect or take this service for granted and it will be out of due respect that we honour these staff members accordingly for their service behind the scenes under the direction of our Mr Gilbert Edouard-Betsy. I will personally visit each class from Grade 4 - 7 and randomly draw 2/3 learners names to serve as waiters, braai-masters (under supervision), assist with the buttering of rolls, pouring cold-drinks etc. on behalf of our 'DPHS family'. I do hope that those children drawn from the random selection will be honoured to serve in this capacity for this term and that others will be eagerly awaiting their chance for further 'honouring our helpers' during the year. I am sure that each family will value and emphasise to their son/s the importance of hosting this 'thank you' event for these dedicated and proudly loyal staff of DPHS.

### REMEMBER: PREP BOYS

REMEMBER: PREP BOYS	
Don't	Do
Lose focus before the end of term	Give even more of themselves in the final lap of each term
Take the services of our General Assistants for granted	Value and appreciate the overall support received from our General Assistants.
Forget to thank their staff and parents for their recent 'excursion' experience	Express their gratitude for the excursion after returning, even during next week
Stand back in their rugby fixtures	Show 'Taonga' and Prep spirit in their rugby fixtures
Forget to thank their teachers/coaches/ specialists at the end of each term	Wish their teacher/coaches/specialists a 'happy, happy holiday' on break-up day

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

***"Do not go where the path may lead: go instead where there is no path and leave a trail!"***

Thank you - Yours in Prep!

**B Wilson**  
**Headmaster**

---

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Jedd Poovan** has been selected to the KZN Swimming Team. He will swim in Polokwane, Limpopo from 9 to 13 April, 2018.

**Jan Bothma** participated in the U10 KZN South Coast Tennis tournament and won.

## CALENDAR

Friday 24 March	Grade 5-7 Excursion Reception Unit Open Swimming Lesson Grade 1 Excursion - Moses Mabhida Stadium	09h00
Saturday 25 March	Merchiston (H) Camp Out Sharks vs Cheetahs (A)	15h00 17h00
Sunday 26 March		
Monday 27 March	Junior Primary - Sho'Chef Show Senior Primary Reports to Headmaster Staff Meeting	09h30
Tuesday 28 March	Chris Cubitt Memorial Assembly Rehearsal Grade 1 visit to Reception Unit 1st XV Rugby vs St Andrews (Kenya) DPHS Mothers Committee Cocktail Evening	07h30 12h40 14h00 18h00
Wednesday 29 March	Chris Cubitt Memorial Assembly Prep Pal Meeting Music Progress Concert	07h30 08h00 18h00
Thursday 30 March	Top Ten Academics Assembly Top Ten Headmasters Tea Honour Your Helpers Function Staff Development Evening	07h30 08h00 11h50 18h00
Friday 31 March	Glenwood High School Rugby Festival - 1st XV and 2nd XV Final Assembly Reception Unit Closes Junior Primary Closes School Closes (No H/W Centre or P/Place)	07h30 10h30 10h45 11h00

## RECEPTION UNIT NEWS

Thanks for the wonderful support received at our open swimming lessons this morning. We were so proud of the boys for their efforts in the pool. Water safety and stroke correction are key aspects of these lessons, with special emphasis on developing the correct breathing technique. This was our last swimming lesson for the term. During the 2nd and 3rd terms, the boys will have Tuesday morning ball skills sessions on the DPHS Smith field.

The Grade R pupils were excited to receive their DPHS house allocation and house dress kit (shirt and cap) yesterday. Please remember to check that you are happy with the shirt size sent home for your son before clearly labelling both items. Our first House Dress Day will be on Friday 5th May.

A letter regarding the opening of our puzzle library was also sent home yesterday. Please return the completed reply slips by Thursday 30th March.

**Please note:** The Reception Unit breaks up at 10h30 on Friday 31st March and after-care will be closed on this day.

## **JUNIOR PRIMARY NEWS**

The JP Invitation Gala last Thursday afternoon was a great success. With 2 teams in each age group representing Prep, there was a large group of fine swimmers who competed against the 8 other teams from 5 visiting schools. Our boys did themselves proud and are congratulated on the skill, determination and team spirit which they demonstrated. Co-ordinator Jacqui Everitt as well as her assistant Kate Martin and all the staff who were officials are thanked most sincerely for ensuring the success of this event as are all the parents who provided delicious refreshments as well Vanessa Ludwig and her team of mums who served the spectators. On Wednesday afternoon the B team swimmers participated in a gala at DGC. We were very proud of each of them for the spirit they showed as they swam against 6 other teams, several of which were A teams. It was a wonderful way to draw a busy and successful season to an end.

The Grade One boys enjoyed a highlight of their year last Friday. There was a high level of excitement as classes were filled with kings, robbers, firemen and many other characters in celebration of having completed learning the alphabet. The arrival at the assembly of special guests Mr Wilson as Kicking King, together with Lamp Lady Lucy (Ms Langley), Quarrelsome Queen (Mrs Everitt), Zigzag Zebra (Mrs Greensill) and Vase of Violets (Ms Twaddle) added an extra element of fun to the morning! The parade of all the Grade One Letterland characters as they left the hall enabled all the boys and staff to admire the superb costumes. This Letterland Day was filled with related activities and discussions and the boys can now look forward to the next stage of learning more complex sounds work.

Linked to their theme work and in celebration of the end of a busy first term, the Grade One teachers organized a trip for their boys to People's Park. Despite high winds the boys enjoyed a picnic lunch and relished the time they were able to spend on the range of climbing apparatus. It proved to be a very worthwhile and enjoyable excursion.

Thursday saw the Grade Two section overrun by pirates, both friendly and fearsome, all well prepared for a perfectly planned Pirate Day, and what a superb day it was! The appearance of Captain Blackbeard (aka Mr Wilson) set the tone for a fantastic morning! The boys were divided into 8 teams, each with a pirate name, and they spent the morning participating in 8 different pirate activities, including digging for treasure. It was an active, fun-filled and extremely successful way of completing their first term Pirate Theme.

There is much excitement ahead this weekend. The U9 rugby players are wished well for their first fixtures as they play against old friends Merchiston and all the boys attending the Campout on Saturday are looking forward to this 'adventure'!



Captain Blackbeard addresses a crew member to discuss the disappearance of his treasure

## **SPORTS NEWS**

**RESULTS AS SUPPLIED BY THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT**

### **SWIMMING**

Results of Inter-House Gala held on Thursday 16 March 2017 at the DPHS Jubilee Pool in Gordon Road.

### **TROPHIES**

George Armstrong Cup U10 Team Freestyle Relay  
L Chalom Cup U11 Freestyle Relay  
Bartlett Trophy U12 Freestyle Relay  
G Chalom Cup Open Freestyle Relay

**Stubbs**  
**Haysom**  
**Bullimore**  
**Evans**

## OVERALL PLACINGS

1st	Evans	with	583 Points
2nd	Haysom	with	561 Points
3rd	Bullimore	with	560 Points
4th	Stubbs	with	540 Points

Turnbull Trophy Winning House:           **Evans**

## DPHS ASSOCIATION

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

'DRAWING THE LINE' Graham Linscott - The Idler

DPHS vs MERCHISTON many a fierce rugby battle between Merchiston and DPHS

A few years ago an article appeared in the Mercury written by a Merchiston Old Boy, Graham Linscott of 'The Idler' fame in the Mercury Newspaper. Graham gave a humorous account of a match he had played in for Merchiston on the Walshaw Field at DPHS. Graham recalls the DPHS referee allowing a Prep boy to be carried over the dead-ball line into the hedge that grew between the rugby field and Gordon Road. When the Merchiston boys released the Prep boy he proceeded to ground the ball in the hedge and the referee promptly awarded the try and DPHS won the match!

My reply to Graham after reading this edition of The Idler reads:

Dear Graham.

You will be happy to know that DPHS have cut the bank back and built a retaining wall at the Gordon Road end of the top field, the hedge is gone and the dead - ball line is now at playing field level!

I know how crafty Durban Prep people can be! None smarter on the rugby field or craftier or more passionate about rugby than Dave Henry, Berea Rovers, Hilton and DPHS'56! If it's any consolation to you, my Merchie Mudrat U12A team captained by Craig Jamieson, way back in the early seventies had to pull out every trick in the book to contain their crafty Durban Prep opponents. When I arrived to teach at Durban Prep in 1982 I was met by a friend of yours, Dave Henry, Chairman of the DPHS Parents Advisory Committee.

Yes, you are correct, the dead-ball line was part way up the bank when I arrived at DPHS but never in the hedge! The hedge and the bank are gone but thankfully the small DPHS top field, used by the U9, U10 and U11 teams, is still the scene every year of many a fierce rugby battle between Merchiston and DPHS.

Thank you for the reading enjoyment 'The Idler' provides

Yours in Merchiston, Durban Prep and Rugby

Kind regards  
Richard

Richard Neave - Director - DPHS Association

**...PREP-FOLK IN STEP ALL THE WAY**

# **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**

**Follow us on twitter @durban\_prep and on Facebook at  
“Durban Prep Parent Community”**