



Prep Patter our news bulletin

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DPHS NEWS AND RESULTS

BULLETIN 01: FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2018

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MESSAGE FROM THE DESK OF THE HEADMASTER

Goodbye to 2017 and a loud "good morning" to 2018. Let us now store the fond memories that we celebrated last year as we now prepare to embrace the exciting adventures ahead in 2018. I call on each partner in our 'DPHS family' to make this year even "better" than before as we stand committed and united in serving and promoting our beloved school to the highest levels of excellence in all aspects.

STAFF NEWS

It gives me great pleasure again to formally welcome the following staff members into our staff team. I have shared their names with you during last year but you will now get the opportunity to officially meet them at the respective grade "Information Evenings" to be held next week.

WELCOME TO:

Miss Paige Knight	-	Reception Unit
Miss A J Logan	-	Grade 3
Mr Barry Thatcher	-	Grade 5
Miss Rebecca Hammond	-	Grade 6
Mrs Phillipa Nixon James	-	Music and Academic Support
Mr Gareth May	-	Teacher Intern

We look forward to their expertise and service that each person will bring to DPHS.

I call on our DPHS community to please keep our beloved staff member, Mrs Sue Dinsdale, in our prayers and thoughts. Mrs Dinsdale is part of our Administration Team here at school and

has not been well, especially during the latter part of 2017 and again into this year. We as DPHS express our love and support to Mrs Dinsdale and the family at this time.

Thank you, in abundance, to the staff in all departments and grades of the school for your dedication and positivity so clearly expressed in preparing for this year. The staff have been in to school throughout the holidays to maintain our facilities and standards, to prepare their academic programmes and to provide DPHS practices for the boys, before school began. The staff are well prepared to now launch our 2018 year, with a “full-steam” ahead energy.

WELCOME

My heart was filled with pride as I stood at the front-door this week welcoming our families into DPHS. I so greatly appreciated the positive and friendly greetings, with our boys young and old, showing such happiness and exemplary manners on arrival. The “first-day” back programme ran so smoothly because of the attention to detail provided by our director of the programme, Mr Ross Bedford who was so well supported by the staff. Thank you Mr Bedford and staff - A Proudly Prep effort!

I, personally, am raring to steer the 2018 DPHS journey with passion and dedicated service as I enter into my second year as Headmaster of our great school.

I do not believe in “routine’ functionality but rather an approach of “good, better, **Better**” so that each year we can aspire to build higher on the success of the past activities. The day, one feels, that we have reached the level of ‘**Best**’ is the day that, I believe, complacency can creep in. At a leading school like ours we may not have to “re-invent the wheel” but we can definitely “pump the tyres and/or replace them”, provide that firmer grip as we travel down the “DPHS Freeway” each year.

Let us live our school call of “From small beginnings **better** fortunes follow”

May 2018 be another year for all Prep partners to proudly remember!

CELLPHONES

I remind you that our boys are **not permitted** to bring their cellphone to school unless it is an absolute emergency and this need is clearly expressed in a letter from the parents. This phone is to be handed in to the respective class teacher on arrival at school for safe-keeping which will then be handed back at departure time. Please make sure that this request is respected.

PARENTS - “MEET AND GREET”

I have informed the staff that I will be writing to our Prep families to respectfully ask for their appreciation of this new initiative to “**ban**” parents from using their cellphone when they walk their child into school in the morning or when they, as parents, arrive to fetch their child from school throughout the day. Please can you rather spend these moments, as quality time, in wishing your son well for school or immediately sharing with him his exciting news of the day, when you arrive to collect him. I have noticed that there have been days where the “cellphone” has taken preference at these special times whilst **our** Prep son is waved goodbye to or arrives after school to see his parent engrossed in the phone call. By all means, use the cellphone if you are here to support your son whilst he participates in a fixture etc., but please respond positively to this message which I strongly feel is made with only the warmest intentions on behalf of our Prep boys and school.

That ‘**farewell**’ hug or that ‘**open-arm**’ embrace are far more important at these times than that cellphone call which can rather be made a little later. Thank you.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

Please make sure that preferably both parents attend these information evenings that each grade will hold next week. The grade leaders and staff are ready to share with you their vision and structures for this year which are essential to the well-being and development of our son throughout 2018. These evenings are of the utmost importance and we at school look forward

to a full-attendance per register when signing. I also look forward to meeting with you at each of these evenings. See you there!

EXTRA MURALS

You will have received the extra-murals activity list which our Director of Sport Mr Dick has also run through with the boys at assembly. However it is required that parents are well aware of the programme each term and that each boy is thus encouraged and monitored to become actively involved in any of these activities. Please support us in ensuring that your son has the correct kit as stated for practices and fixtures and that he is committed for that season. We call on you to plan visits to the dentist etc on his non-activity day so as to avoid any clashes with the DPHS programme.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

PREP BOYS

DON'T	DO
Start their new year in neutral.	Get into 'gear' as quickly as possible.
Return to school waiting to be spoon-fed.	Show their immediate initiative from day one.
Forget their PE and/or extra mural kit.	Pack their PE and extra mural kit themselves.
Stand back in 2018.	Lead the way in 2018.

HEADMASTERS QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

“Put your heart, mind and soul into even your smallest act.
This is the secret of success”

B WILSON
Headmaster

CONGRATULATIONS

A reminder to send us your news and achievements to cmccarthy@dphs.co.za for inclusion in the Prep Patter

Wade Veitch was named the U12 KZN Dolphins player of the festival at the U12 IPT Cricket festival which was held in December.

CALENDAR

Friday 19 January	Reception Unit Staggered Intake Cricket vs Glenwood U10 and U11 Cricket Trials	13h00
Saturday 20 January	Cricket vs Glenwood	
Sunday 21 January		
Monday 22 January	Reception Unit Parent's Evening Grade 5 Parent's Evening Grade 7 Parent's Evening	17h30 18h00 18h30
Tuesday 23 January	Junior Primary Parent's Evening	17h30
Wednesday 24 January	Grade 4 Parent's Evening Grade 6 Parent's Evening	18h00 18h30

RECEPTION UNIT NEWS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our 2018 DPHS Reception Unit families. The boys are settling happily into their groups and the staggered intake has definitely assisted in making this an easier transition. Thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

We hope that you have had a chance to read through the letters and complete all the forms sent home in your son's notebook on his first day of school. Please remember that our Reception Unit Parents' Information Evening is taking place this Monday 22 January and will start promptly at 17h30. This is an informal meeting in your son's classroom with his teacher and teacher assistant, to explain our programme and outline our aims and expectations for the year. It will also give you a chance to ask any general questions that you may have and to meet parents of boys in his class. Please note that this evening is for the parents and we urge at least one of you to attend. We look forward to seeing you all on the night.

JUNIOR PRIMARY NEWS

Welcome!

We have had an extremely positive start to the 2018 school year! The first day went very smoothly and it was wonderful to welcome all the boys, both new to Prep and those returning after the holidays, on Wednesday. The smiles and comments from the boys were a testament to the success of that first morning. Sincere thanks are extended to our parents for ensuring that the boys were properly equipped and well prepared for the first day.

Staff:

The teachers are acknowledged for the time and care they invested during the holidays to ensure that their classrooms were meaningfully prepared and inviting and their programmes were ready for an educational and stimulating start to 2018.

A special word of welcome is extended to new Grade 3 teacher, Alison-Jayne Logan. She is well acquainted with DPHS having been involved in swimming coaching in the past and she is also an experienced Grade 3 teacher. We are delighted to welcome her as a permanent member of the JP team.

While some teachers have moved to different grades, the team remains strong and committed to providing the best for the boys.

The class teachers for 2018 are as follows:

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade3
Delene Langley(<i>Section Head</i>)	Jacqui Everitt(<i>Section Head</i>)	Desiree Veerasamy(<i>Section Head</i>)
Xenia Greensill	Lydia Bush	A-J Logan
Sandra May (<i>JP HOD</i>)	Kate Martin	Glenda Marklew
Kirstin Twaddle	Liz Murphy	Shahnaz Vawda

Junior Primary 30th Birthday:

For those who were part of the Prep community in 2013 when we celebrated the 25th Birthday of the JP Department, it may be hard to believe that five years have passed by already! On that occasion the celebrations involved fundraising in order to install the JP Adventure Area on the Walshaw Field, an addition which has been invaluable from an educational and enjoyment point of view. As we celebrate our 30th birthday we plan to place the emphasis on "Giving Back" and further details will follow as the year progresses.

Extra-Curricular:

The busy Prep programme has begun. Since the initial priority is for the boys to settle into their new classrooms, the Extra-Curricular activities will enjoy a staggered commencement. The initial U9 Cricket trials took place yesterday afternoon, Grade 2 Ball Skills will begin next week and the remaining activities will start the following week.

Parents' Welcome and Information Evening:

This is a very important function at the start of the new school year and it is scheduled for **Tuesday 23 January at 17h30**. The meeting will begin with a presentation entitled “Time to be Exponential” by Kerry Salvesen, who is a well-respected Counselling Psychologist and dynamic speaker. This will be followed by meetings with the class teachers. These enable the teacher and parents to meet each other in the classroom environment and to establish positive communication between school and home. The teacher will discuss the work to be covered during the year as well as matters relating to homework, sport and general school policy. There will be a short period of time allocated at the end of the talk for questions. Michael Dick, Director of Sport, will brief the parents of Grade 3/U9 boys and Annette Briscoe, Director of Performing Arts, will be available to discuss the private Instrumental Music programme on offer with interested parents. Weather permitting, parking will be available on the school field. The Grade Two meetings should be finished by approximately 19h00 and the Grade One and Three sessions by 19h30. This promises to be a very informative evening and time well spent. The teachers are looking forward to meeting the parents on Tuesday evening.

SPORTS NEWS

CRICKET FIXTURES AS SUPPLIED BY THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

WEEK 1				
Day/Date	Team	Opponents	Venue	Time
Trial matches v Glenwood (30 over matches)				
Saturday 20-Jan-18	Mr Dick Snr DPHS XI	Glenwood Prep	Glenwood Prep	08h30
	Mr Mazwi Snr DPHS XI	Glenwood Prep	DPHS (Smith)	08h30
	Mr Reece-Edwards Snr DPHS XI	Glenwood Prep	DPHS (Walshaw)	08h30
These boys will be notified on Friday afternoon if they are playing.				

DPHS ASSOCIATION

Director: Richard Neave - rneave@dphs.co.za

Good wishes from the DPHTSA to the Headmaster, boys, staff and parents for a happy and successful 2018 DPHTS school year.

An especially warm welcome and good wish from the DPHTSA to all the new DPHTS boys and their parents and family members. May your school days at DPHTS be a truly happy and rewarding experience!

Congratulations and good wishes to the Headmaster and Carolyn Gilroy, Head of the DPHTS Junior Primary Department, her staff and boys on the celebration this year of the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the DPHTS Junior Primary Department in 1988.

GENERAL

2018 TERM DATES

(Learners will return to school on 17 January 2018 and school will end for the year on 12 December 2018)

TERM 1: 17 January - 28 March

TERM 2: 10 April - 22 June

TERM 3: 17 July - 28 September

TERM 4: 09 October - 12 December

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