Dear Parents

It seems like just yesterday that I was scolding myself for typing “2013” at the top of my letters instead of “2014” and now, in just over a month, “2014” will be obsolete. Thank you for your support during the course of what has been another jam-packed, generally happy and successful year for St Anne’s.

END OF TERM
The girls’ school year concludes with tonight’s Carol Service and tomorrow’s Final Assembly. Teachers, on the other hand, end their school year with a Marks Meeting and Christmas lunch on Tuesday, although 16 of them still have Matric marking on behalf of the IEB to deal with before they can properly relax. The markers depart for Johannesburg later next week to carry out this task.

There was great excitement early yesterday afternoon when the bulk of our Matric pupils, after having written their final examination, English Paper 2, gathered around Annie in front of the Admin Block. In keeping with a longstanding tradition, they each released helium-filled, bio-degradable balloons the colour of their respective Houses. The remainder of the Matrics wrote Accounting 1 and 2 today. They will all now patiently wait for their results which are due to be released at midnight on 30 December 2014.

As a farewell gift to the College, the Matrics purchased a clock for the Dining Room. It is already in position, as is evident from the accompanying photograph.

I will not say much about last night’s Staff Variety Show other than don’t believe a word of what your daughter tells you.
PARENT PORTAL
For quite a while it has been our intention to create a Parent Portal in order to improve communication between the College and home. The launch of this Portal had been delayed as a result of us waiting for Telkom contractors to install a cable that will significantly increase the College’s potential bandwidth. However, in the light of the current Post Office strike, we have increased our pressure on Telkom to complete the installation by the end of next week. Your daughter’s end-of-year report will thus be available to you via this portal and not via normal post, whatever “normal” now means.

Please refer to the attached document entitled “Getting Started With the Parent Portal” which should be helpful. The Parent/Guardian ID and Password referred to in the document will be e-mailed to you on Monday 8 December and your daughter’s report should be immediately accessible.

SPORTS RESULTS
Please use the following link to access the latest results of our various sportswomen and sports teams. While I may from time to time highlight a particular sporting achievement in a newsletter, sports results are regularly posted on our website and can be accessed via this link. SPORTS RESULTS

STAFF
At our staff lunch on Tuesday, we will be expressing our thanks and bidding farewell to the following staff members:

Ms Jessica Skeeles (Intern); Sister Sheryl Sivraman (San Sister); Ms Mary Lotto (Housemistress – Andrews); Ms Colleen Powell (Housemistress – Macrorie) and Ms Shirley Ward (Information Technology).

The vacancies created by their departure will be filled by Ms Alison Coleman, Sister Sharlene Mills, Ms Bev Philpot, Ms Judy Schorn and Mr Chris Hornby, respectively.

In January next year, Ms Heather Robb will move from the position of Boardermistress to that of Housemistress of Andrews, and at the beginning of Term 2, Ms Joy Preiss, currently Head of Art at Michaelhouse, will assume responsibility for our Art Department, taking over from Mrs Jean Christodoulou, who has agreed to remain at St Anne’s until the end of Term 1.

COLLEGE BOARD
At the end of the year, Mr Pierre Berrangé, Chairman of our Board of Governors, will hand over the reins to Mrs Sharon Wells. At our recent Prize Giving I thanked Mr Berrangé for his years of dedicated service to St Anne’s. Mrs Wells’ appointment is a historic one in that she will be the first female to head the Board in the College’s 137 years of existence.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY
I had the privilege a fortnight ago to congratulate Ms Helen Coxon, a St Anne’s Old Girl, on the occasion of her 100th birthday. She informed me that she had been thoroughly spoiled by her extended family and that she felt that she had done very little to warrant all the attention she was receiving.

TERM DATES
Our Term Dates for 2016 are attached for the benefit of those of you who plan well in advance. I remind you that the process of arriving at these dates is a long and thorough one, involving most of the Independent Schools in the Midlands. In the few instances that our dates differ from those of our neighbours, you can rest assured that good reasons exist.
CHRONICLE
I encourage you to spend a little time paging through the latest edition of the Chronicle which your daughters will receive tomorrow. It is a colourful, happy summary of the past semester, thoughtfully compiled by Ms Jenna McKenzie, Head of our Marketing Department. The Chronicle can also be accessed on our Website.

Finally, may I use this opportunity to wish you some quality time with your daughters this holiday, as well as a very blessed Christmas.

Kind regards

Dave Arguile
COLLEGE HEAD

“Happiness is like a butterfly: the more you chase it, the more it will elude you, but if you turn your attention to other things, it will come and sit softly on your shoulder.”

Henry David Thoreau, American writer and naturalist

Sports Results
Click to view the latest Sport’s Results
Visit the College website to keep up to date with What’s On in the Sports Department

Message Board:
2015 Calendar & Dates
Dates to Diarise loaded on the College Website
1st Term Calendar available for printing and loaded on d6 & College Website

WHAT’S HAPPENING?
Keep up to date by viewing the Latest News page on the College website... OR

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Happy Holidays