



**ST ANNE'S
DIOCESAN
COLLEGE**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The mid-year break is probably a distant memory, particularly for those of you who have daughters in Form 6 who are now focused on preparing for their fast-approaching Trial Examinations. The staff commenced their Third Term with a challenging workshop on “*Decolonised Education*”. **Prof. Gerald West** from the Department of Religion, Philosophy and Classics at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal led us in an examination of what this label means and of possible implications for the way we go about our business at St Anne’s. The school programme since the start of term has been varied and busy, as a perusal of the D6 Communicator will confirm.

2018 ENRICHMENT TOURS

While making mention of our school programme, allow me to remind parents that St Anne’s does not embark on “representative overseas tours”. Those tours that are sanctioned by us involve voluntary participation and have a cultural/general enrichment focus. In this regard, I have attached to this letter early notice about two optional tours provisionally planned for next year. Comprehensive itineraries will be provided in the very near future that should be of assistance to parents who may consider involving their daughters in one of these tours. While any pupil from Form 3 to Form 6 in 2018 may apply to participate in the tours, in the event of over-subscription, Form Order and relevant subject choice will be taken into account.

STAFF

I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Mr Trevor van Niekerk** as Deputy Head: Academic at St Anne’s as from the beginning of next year. Trevor will be replacing **Mr George Niven** who retires at the end of this year. He is currently Head of Science at Hilton College where he has taught since 2009. Prior to that he taught at Windsor High and Muizenberg High in the Cape, and was Head of Science at Bishops. He has a Master of Science degree conferred on him by the University of Reading in England, is married to **Lizelle** (a Counsellor at Hilton College), and has three children, two of whom are pupils at St Anne’s. I look forward to Trevor joining our staff, confident that he will add great value to our academic programme as well as to our College in general.

WOMEN OF THE WORLD LUNCHEON

The St Anne’s Old Girls Guild is hosting a lunch at St Anne’s on **Friday, 8 September** and invites interested parents to join them in celebrating “women making a difference”. The Guild has lined up a fascinating speaker, **Tracey Webster**, who was instrumental in starting the Starfish Foundation in South Africa. **Jane Linley-Thomas**, Master of Ceremonies and an Old Girl, will create a lively and fun atmosphere while guests enjoy a delicious harvest table lunch and complimentary glass of wine. Tickets are limited to 300 and all funds raised will be used for St Anne’s Old Girls’ Bursaries. See the attached pdf invite for full details.

Kind regards

Dave Arguile
COLLEGE HEAD

“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.”
Robert Louis Stephenson, writer

PROPOSED EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT TOURS – 2018

1. April 2018 – Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

Measured by square mile, Ecuador is the most biologically-diverse country on the planet. It is home to some 1,650 bird species, 4,500 species of butterflies, 345 species of reptiles, 358 species of amphibians and 258 species of mammals, among others. With so much wildlife in such a small space, it's no surprise that Ecuador is one of the planet's 17 most biodiverse nations. What's more, just about any climate of the world can be found within a three- or four-hour drive from Quito. Quito lies at the heart of the "Avenue of Volcanoes", the two parallel lines of volcanoes which run along the Andes' spine. On clear days, take to the Teleferiqo cable-car and spot at least four snow-capped peaks from the heights above the city and get a feel for the geography of the country – the cloudforests are just the other side of the mountains! The Galápagos Islands are home to many endemic species (species that are found nowhere else in the world), such as the well-known Darwin's finches and giant tortoises.

This tour is of a natural science/geography nature and involves 11 touring days of the above areas. Included in the trip are flights to and from Quito in Ecuador as well as transport to, around and from the Islands, accommodation and most meals. In Quito there will be sightseeing of an historical and cultural nature as well as visiting the equatorial line. From here, trips include a visit to a butterfly farm; trekking and zip-lining in the cloud forest; biking to the world's highest active volcano; canoeing and jungle walking. At least three islands in the Galapagos group will be visited and will include the Galapagos National Park, the Darwin Station and a snorkeling site. **The full tour programme will be sent to you and your daughter in the next few days.**

No visas are required for South African passport holders. The cost per pupil will be in the region of R65 000. As there is little opportunity for "shopping", pocket money can be kept to a minimum. Two or three staff members will accompany the girls depending on the number of girls showing interest, a minimum of 23 girls is required. **An information evening for girls and/or parents with the tour operator is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon 16th August at 17h00 (evening before half term).** As time is limited, final decisions as well as the first payments are due at the end of August for this tour. For a person interested in the natural sciences, this promises to be the trip of a lifetime!

Contact staff for queries: atheron@stannes.co.za; aarmstrong@stannes.co.za

2. July 2018 - Music, Art and Drama Tour - MAD TOUR to Europe

A tour of 13 days is proposed and the plans thus far are to visit Munich, Salzburg, Mandsee, Vienna and Prague.

Included in the initial planning are highlights such as:

- tours of Munich, Vienna, Old Town Prague and Salzburg;
- visits to the Prague National Theatre, Prague Castle, the National Theatre in Munich, the Museum der Moderne and Neuschwanstein Castle;
- attendance of a concert in Salzburg and a ballet show;
- entrance to the Passion Play Theatre, a Sound of Music bike tour, a river cruise and participation in a Viennese Waltz Dancing class.

At present, the cost of the tour is around R38 900 which includes economy class airfare from Durban. This amount does not include the cost of a Schengen visa and is subject to air fare increases and currency fluctuations. A maximum of 40 girls will be taken on tour; 5 staff members will accompany the girls. **A parents' evening will be held in October to provide further details and comprehensive information on this tour.**

Contact staff for queries: ahibbert@stannes.co.za