



ST ANNE'S
DIOCESAN
COLLEGE

Dear Parents/Guardians

I trust that 2018 will prove to be a generally happy and rewarding one for you. Reflecting on our busy school programme, I have to remind myself that our pupils have been at school for only two weeks. I do concede, however, that this period, which included a “closed weekend”, may have seemed like an eternity for a few of our new boarders who are homesick.

NEW GIRLS' DAY

New Girls' Day was once again characterised by much nervous excitement and a sense of it being a significant milestone for the girls and their parents, especially those parents who were having their first experience of a child commencing high school. In my welcome address I reinforced the College's emphasis on holistic education and reassured parents that St Anne's is a place where girls are *educated* rather than *schooled*. There *is* a difference, as **Jonathan Jansen** clearly pointed out in an article written in 2013. He argued that you can be schooled and still be a barbarian. An educated person, according to Jansen, demonstrates the following three characteristics, amongst others:

- An educated person is someone who learns to doubt. She acknowledges that, irrespective of her qualifications, she still has so much to learn.
- She is guided by values such as humility. When education teaches and nurtures a humble spirit, it prepares the ground for reconciliation and creates a foundation for leadership that acknowledges mutual vulnerability.
- Thirdly, to be educated is to have the courage to act on principle and not on the basis of ethnic or political or religious partisanship.

After a little elaboration of these characteristics, I also pointed out that St Anne's aims at balancing the personal growth of each pupil with an increased awareness of the needs of others, especially those people very different to herself. In our Annie Document we state our intention that a St Anne's graduate will “possess a high regard for human rights, and have experienced and understood the issues of social justice, gender consciousness and democracy. As a result she will have an appreciation of, and respect for, her neighbours”.

I am firmly of the opinion that we cannot afford to develop an individual's potential at the expense of the potential of others. Perhaps more than ever in our country's history, we need to appreciate, respect, and learn to live and work with, our neighbours, particularly those neighbours who on first impression appear to be so different to ourselves.

2017 MATRIC RESULTS

We are immensely proud of the 2017 Form 6 girls who, within a context of holistic education that necessitates good time-management as their many “non-academic” commitments are met and goals pursued, generally obtained excellent results in their National Senior Certificate Examinations. I refer you to a summary of these results under “Latest News” on our College's website if you have not yet viewed them. (www.stannes.co.za) In addition to the success achieved in the range of “normal, full subjects”, St Anne's pupils also fared well in Advanced Programme English and Mathematics. Special mention must be made of **Genevieve Field**, **Sabrina Henderson** and **Emma Pitout**, all of whom obtained As in AP Maths.



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STAFF

The following new members of staff were welcomed to St Anne's at the start of the year:

Mr Trevor van Niekerk	- Deputy Head Academics
Mrs Susan Oberholzer	- Sanatorium Sister (Night Duty)
Mrs Leanne Janas	- Consumer Studies
Mr Robin Jones	- Sport, Life Orientation
Mrs Louise Kelmanson	- Part-Time Mathematics and Accounting
Mrs Clea Mofokeng	- Part-Time English
Ms Shanice Govender	- Usherwood Boardermistress/Intern
Ms Yandisa Ndlovu	- Marianne Browne Boardermistress/Intern
Ms Julia Trodd	- Macrorie Boardermistress/Intern

Congratulations to **Mr Jones** who was chosen for the South African Indoor Hockey team that will represent our country at the World Cup in Germany early next month. The team has been using our Sports Centre in preparation for this tournament and it was encouraging to have the SA coach confidently say to me that our surface is, in his opinion, the best in the country, and very similar to that on which the World Cup will be played.

KATY PERRY CONCERT

From time to time I receive requests for permission for girls to have time off school in order to attend music concerts, normally in Johannesburg. Please understand that such requests place me in somewhat of a dilemma. Apart from the financial implications for you as parents, the "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" that such a concert may present, at least from your daughter's perspective, has to be weighed up against the impact that missing school may have on her academic and co-curricular commitments. My dilemma is linked to an awareness that a "no" from me may encourage deceit and would be difficult to enforce, while a "yes" could be interpreted as "the College Head is happy for my daughter to attend the concert", which I am not.

I therefore request that parents give careful consideration to such matters before approaching me for leave and understand that I will simply acknowledge that I know why your daughter will be missing school, and that she will not get into trouble for doing so. I cannot, however, guarantee that she will not get a zero for any assessment she misses out on or that she will lose her place in a sports team if she does not fulfil a sporting commitment. In addition, please note that if your daughter is a termly boarder and is away for a Friday **and** Saturday night, her exeat will count as a double one.

Kind regards

Dave Arguile
COLLEGE HEAD

*"If you want to walk fast, walk alone.
If you want to walk far, walk together."*

African Proverb