



PREP SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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4 October 2019

Issue No 11



Dear Prep School Parents,

Tomorrow is **World Teacher Appreciation Day**, so in my message to you today, I want to be a voice for the amazing angels that we call teachers. There is so much that teachers do on a daily basis, a great deal that goes into each day, that parents do not see, and I want to share some of that with you.

I want to share it with you to give you a window into what unfolds in a classroom each day over and above the academic curriculum.

Teachers like ours, have a **child-centred approach** in the classroom – the class is not centred around the teacher's direct instruction, but rather around interactions with other children, giving children the opportunity to process information, question it and make decisions.

As a seasoned teacher who has been in education for twenty-five years, I know that we are helping to set the foundation for children, not just for the year they are entrusted to us, but for a lifetime. We are teaching the **whole child!** It's not just about getting them academically ready for the next grade, it's about growing every aspect of that child.

I found such a beautiful, heart-felt and genuine piece of writing on the Preschool Inspirations Blog by a teacher called Katie. I want to share it with you as it epitomises the vision our teachers have to grow the whole child, rather than just their academic skills. In so many schools, the focus is solely on covering the correct academic



WHERE CHILDREN LEARN, NATURALLY

content and proving it by testing children. What about all the other vital and necessary aspects of learning that children need to do?

(I have used poetic licence below and adapted the blog slightly.)

“When a child sets foot into my classroom, **it isn’t ABC’s and 123’s that we focus on**. Yes, academic skills are a priority, but they are certainly not the sole focus. **Those things will come, I assure you**. They always do.

When I teach the children in my care, **I teach the whole child, not just their brain**. I teach them to live, to love, and to grow.

I encourage children to be **confident**, so that they can speak up when they need something.

I teach children to share, so they can practice **generosity**.

I encourage children to observe creatures that fly away, to help them understand that **sometimes love means letting go**.

I encourage children to **care**, so that they can offer a hug to a hurting friend.

I offer children **choices** to show them that what they are interested in matters.

I provide children with open-ended activities, so that they can **create, imagine, explore, and discover**.

I provide children with items that can spill or break, so they can practise **life skills**.

I provide children with items that are fragile, so that they can practice being **gentle**.

I provide children with **time** when they disagree with one another, so that they have a chance to work it out.

I provide children with **unhurried moments**, so that they develop **persistence** in whatever they are doing.

I allow children to be **angry, frustrated, or upset** because it happens to even the best of us.

I teach children that **mistakes are allowed** because that is how we grow.

I encourage children to **hope** because sometimes we need it to see the other side of the rainbow.”

I want to take this opportunity to give a huge shout-out to my staff – to say thank you for nurturing the children’s hearts and souls, as well as their minds and their bodies at Broadacres Academy. This is what I call educating the whole child!

For all the little aspects learning that go unseen, I salute you, for the enormous learning that takes place because of what you do and how you do it each and every day, in your classrooms. We see it and appreciate it. Parents, what a blessing that your children are being educated with an approach that prepares them for the real world.

Much love,

Tammy

INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE

- We are so looking forward to our first ever Prep School **Outdoor Family Movie Night tonight (4th October at 6pm)** on the prep school field. We have had a fantastic response and it is sold out, as you know. Please refer to the specific information sent out on your class WhatsApp group yesterday regarding the housekeeping rules on the night. Please take careful note of this information.
- We had a super **Heritage Day Celebration** at school last Friday starting with a special Heritage Day Assembly followed by a traditional Boerewors Braai. The children and staff looked amazing in their Heritage Day outfits and we so appreciate the wonderful effort our parents put into this.
- We also had our **Birthday Book Assembly** last Friday and our August/September birthday children donated so many lovely new books to our class libraries. Thank you to all the parents who made this happen. We are always very grateful for your kindness in supporting this. Our next Birthday Book Assembly takes place earlier in the month on 18th October, due to the fact that the following Friday we will be on Half-term. A reminder that if your child has a birthday in October, and you would like to donate a book, you can hand it in to Caroline by Wednesday, 16th October at the latest.
- Our Grade Ones are hard at work preparing their **‘Around the World in One Day projects’**. They will be displaying these outside their classrooms on Friday, 11th October so that the rest of the school can share in this wonderful experience with them. I am so looking forward to this!



- The **Grade 0's** will be doing a **Cake & Candy Sale** on Friday, 18th October during the school morning. Specific details regarding this will be sent out on the class WhatsApp groups closer to the time.
- Our **Grade 4's** will be going on their very first school **Campout at Brookwood on 18/19th October**. There is much excitement about this, and we wish them a wonderful time away.
- School closes for Half Term on **Thursday, 24th October at 12h00 (NO AFTERCARE) & re-opens on Tuesday, 29th October**. Please make sure that if you use transport companies to fetch your children from school, that you inform them of the time change on the Thursday.

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE WEEK 7th October – 11th October

Monday	
Tuesday	Sports Specific extramural session for any interested Grade 2, 3 & 4 boys and girls. 1.45pm – 2.45pm on the field.
Wednesday	Senior Preparatory Choir Practice (Grade 4's) 1.45pm – 2.30pm in the music room
Thursday	Sports Specific extramural session for any interested Grade 2, 3 & 4 boys and girls. 1.45pm – 2.45pm on the field.
Friday	Assembly (Grade 0 – 4 in the music room with Mrs Letcher) Around the World in One Day (Grade Ones) Computer lessons (Extra curricula) with Cathy on Friday afternoons.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE WEEK 14th October – 18th October

Monday	
Tuesday	Sports Specific extramural session for any interested Grade 2, 3 & 4 boys and girls. 1.45pm – 2.45pm on the field.
Wednesday	Senior Preparatory Choir Practice (Grade 4's) 1.45pm – 2.30pm in the music room
Thursday	Sports Specific extramural session for any interested Grade 2, 3 & 4 boys and girls. 1.45pm – 2.45pm on the field
Friday	Birthday Book Assembly (Grade 0 – 4 in the music room with Mrs Letcher) Grade 0 Cake & Candy Sale (specific details regarding this to follow on Class WhatsApp groups closer to the time) Computer lessons (Extra curricula) with Cathy on Friday afternoons.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE WEEK 21st October – 25th October

Monday	
Tuesday	Sports Specific extramural session for any interested Grade 2, 3 & 4 boys and girls. 1.45pm – 2.45pm on the field.
Wednesday	Senior Preparatory Choir Practice (Grade 4's) 1.45pm – 2.30pm in the music room
Thursday	Early close for Half-term at 12.00 (No Aftercare – please make necessary arrangements with transport companies)
Friday	Half-term (School closed)

BIRTHDAYS

PREP SCHOOL BIRTHDAYS			
BIRTHDAY DATE	NAME	SURNAME	CLASS
OCTOBER			
10 October 2012	MUSA	PHUNGUZWA	GRADE 0T
10 October 2012	THERESHO	SEIMA	GRADE 10
11 October 2013	OLIVIA	EMUTH	GRADE 0T
11 October 2013	PAIGE	EMUTH	GRADE 0Z
12 October 2011	ISABELLA	VAN HEERDEN	GRADE 2H
15 October 2010	ALEX	NIEKERK	GRADE 2F
22 October 2011	AVA	MZIMELA	GRADE 2F
26 October 2009	HAYLEY	CRANSTON	GRADE 3T
26 October 2012	ZARA	SUKDEO	GRADE 1V
28 October 2010	ALEXIS	WILKINS	GRADE 3N
31 October 2012	MONTELLO	MENSAH	GRADE 1V
31 October 2012	JAIME	VILJOEN	GRADE 10

STAFF BIRTHDAYS		
NAME	SURNAME	DATE
Selina	Gunda	06-Oct
Melissa	Bergstedt	18-Oct
Alice	Mokoena	21-Oct
Michele	Hala	27-Oct
Vanessa	Clarke	28-Oct



KIDDIE TALK - 😊😊😊

Grade 0

Last Wednesday, Miss Teixeira was discussing public holidays with her class and she asked them why we have the day off. **Samora (Grade 0T)** said, **“Because it’s BRITAGE DAY!”**, instead of Heritage Day.

Miss Zweifel’s Grade 0 class were playing Eye Spy the other day. The children kept on guessing, but they weren’t getting the correct answer, so **Ryan (Grade 0Z)** said to Miss Rusche, **“This is a tough nut to crack!”**

Grade 1

On Monday last week, the day before the Heritage Day public holiday, Mrs Oshry was saying goodbye to the children at the end of the day and she said, **“I won’t see you tomorrow, but I’ll see you on Wednesday.”** **Kgaugelo (Grade 1 O)** replied and said, **“Mrs Oshry, I’m going to miss you like strawberries!”** (She was wearing a red top with black dots at the time – so sweet!)

Miss Harmse was walking around munching on her snack and **Paballo (Grade 1N)** looked at her and said, **“What are you eating Miss H?”** She told him she was eating peanut butter and carrots, to which he replied, **“Mmmm, I haven’t had that in years!”** (priceless!)

Sadie (Grade 1V) told Mrs Vlietstra that it was her Granny’s birthday on the weekend. When Mrs Vlietstra asked Sadie how old her Granny was turning, she replied, **“Maybe 22 or 23?”** (Just adorable – if only that were the case!)

Grade 2

Nipho (Grade 2H) said to Mrs Hala, “Please put a block on my head so that I can stay in Grade 2 next year.”

Nala (Grade 2H) asked Mrs Hala, **“Are you older than Mrs Oshry?”** Mrs Hala looked at Nala with a puzzled look on her face, to which Nala responded, **“But she has a walking stick already!”** (Mrs Oshry has been on crutches due to an operation on her knee during the holidays)

Grade 3

Stefan (Grade 3T) bashed into a table and started crying. Miss Terry told him everything was ok and that he just got a fright, to which he replied, **“No Miss Terry, I didn’t get a fright. My eyes are just running.”** (Needless to say, her heart just melted)

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HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE PREP SCHOOL

