



# PRETORIA BOYS HIGH

NEWSLETTER NO: 132  
JUNE 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS

With Covid now a thing of the past, it has been wonderful to allow the school to once again gain momentum. This has not only happened on the academic, cultural and sporting fronts but also in terms of infrastructure maintenance and development. Having said this, I would like to share with you the maintenance and infrastructure developments that have taken place over the past twelve months, those that are currently taking place as well as those identified going forward.

### Infrastructure developments over the past twelve months:

1. The replacement of four asbestos Pollock Campus classrooms (in addition to the five replaced last year) with brick and mortar classrooms  
This is an ongoing project with twelve additional classrooms and two administration blocks at Pollock Campus which still need to be replaced as well as eight classrooms on the koppie.
2. The installation of a 200kVa generator (over and above the 300kVa generator installed in 2021) to power the Central Dinning Hall, astro turf, basketball courts, Sommerville Pavilion and surrounds.
3. The upgrading and in some places replacement of the main sewerage and storm water drainage systems.
4. The restoration of the main school sandstone buildings as well as the restoration of various parts of the inner passages of the main school.
5. The building of two new basketball courts.
6. The relaying of the sports fields irrigation system.
7. New lighting and a water pump system on the schools astro turf.
8. The installation of a 56 unit closed circuit security surveillance system. The system has been installed and will be operational early in the third term.
9. A double header project currently underway is the refurbishment of the Central Dining Hall together with an upgrade of the tuckshop. It is anticipated that both these projects will be finished by the time school opens next term.
10. Another project currently underway is the beautifying of the area around the Water Polo pool and behind the Battisphere. This area will be made more attractive and will include seating for parents and boys.

The total value of the above projects amounts to R13.5 million.

### 11. Water Filtration Plant

The installation of a water filtration plant which delivers 100k/l of potable borehole water daily. This plant guarantees potable water for the entire school property despite municipal infrastructure failure such as that which we have experienced on a number of occasions recently. This project cost R3 million and will be paid off through the savings generated through the use of borehole water.

## **Infrastructure developments as of the third term:**

### **1. Solar Power Project**

The school is currently busy with the final applications and approvals for the installation of a solar power project which will be placed on the roof of the Desmond Abernethy Hall and the Bill Schroder Centre. Had council and municipal process been simpler and easier, the implementation of this project would have started already.

This 198kWp installation will provide the school with 288MWh (in Year 1) of power and will supplement our Eskom electricity consumption by 27%. This in turn will reduce the amount of diesel consumption used by the generators.

This project will cost the school R4 million but will, for the time being, be funded through a crowd funding scheme which will alleviate the initial capital required.

The next step in the solar power project of the school will be to, as far as possible, supplement the three boarding houses with solar energy.

### **2. Multi-Purpose Building**

The biggest project of all that the school is currently busy with is the final planning and preparation for the building of a multi-purpose building. The building will be built in the area between the koppie classrooms and the boys toilets on the western side of the school.

The purpose of the building:

- To serve as a group/team teaching venue which would allow the doubling up of classes. This will allow for specialist teaching as well as more productive substitute teaching in the case of absent teachers.
- A dedicated set of venues for the special concession exam candidates
- An art and photographic gallery for exhibitions.
- A meeting venue for clubs, societies and houses.
- A meeting venue for parents and invited guests to the school. This will include evenings and weekend bookings.
- A location for the school stationary shop at the start of the year.
- To serve as additional classrooms while we continue the process of replacing the asbestos classrooms.

The architectural plans, costing and contracting are all but complete. The school is currently awaiting final approvals from council and the Education Department. It is expected that building will commence during the third term.

The total cost of the multi-purpose building will cost the school R14mil.

### **Additional infrastructure projects that school will consider going forward include:**

1. Building a dedicated hockey and basketball pavilion.
2. Upgrading the cricket nets and the building of indoor cricket nets.
3. Upgrading our entire gymnasium centre.
4. Upgrading our water-polo facilities including the covering the water-polo pool.

### **A world class school at a fraction of the price**

It is important to note that despite being a public school NONE of the infrastructure maintenance and development projects listed above are funded in anyway by the state. It, therefore, goes without saying that without payment of school fees PBHS is unable to continue to maintain and develop the school property in the manner that it does and in doing so, offer our boys the educational opportunity they deserve. I continue to believe that the value for money education your sons are offered at this school remains as good as any school in the country. I am of the belief that the education offered by our school is, in fact, superior to many of our competitors at a fraction of the price.

As you reflect on the list and figures shared above, I remind all parents of the importance of paying school fees if we are to remain the world class institution that we are.

### **RETIREMENT OF MRS ELAINE MULLER**

Mrs Elaine Muller began teaching at PBHS in 1995. After 28 years of dedicated service to the school, Mrs Muller will retire at the end of this term.

During her time teaching at the school Mrs Muller proved to be a passionate, enthusiastic, loyal and valuable teacher. Not only has she played an important role in the classroom where she was an outstanding Biology teacher and Departmental Head but outside of the classroom and in the extramural field of the school, she has also proved to be just as valuable.

During her 28 years of service to the school Mrs Muller has held the following positions:

- Biology teacher and Head of Department
- Athletics and hockey coach as well as swimming official
- Mrs Muller became the MIC of tennis in 2005 where she was also the fitness coach. She was very involved in the organising of tournaments, tennis functions and accompanied the 1<sup>st</sup> Tennis team to numerous national tournaments. She also drove the fund raising campaign that raised the funds to upgrade the tennis clubhouse to what it is today.

In terms of personal achievements, Mrs Muller has always been a keen mountain biking enthusiast and has completed a number of marathons including the Two Oceans Ultra Marathon and the Comrades.

While the above list of responsibilities clearly lists Mrs Muller extensive involvement in the school, they do not explain the passion and enthusiasm she adopted towards every aspect of these responsibilities. Any boy who had the privilege of being taught or coached by Mrs Muller will remember her for these attributes. For those of us on the staff who have got to know Mrs Muller over the years, we will attest to the fact that she is no ordinary person. The boys who had the privilege of being taught or coached by her would also very quickly have realised this. The nature of the relationship so many past pupils and working colleagues have with Mrs Muller are testimony to the impression and impact she has made on so many lives.

While Mrs Muller has been employed by the school for the past three years, she has to a large extent, been on leave during this time. After being severely injured in a mountain biking accident in 2020, she returned to school during 2021. Unfortunately there were complications to her injury and she had to once again, be booked off early in 2022. It is for this reason that Mrs Muller has not been with us over the course of the last year and a half.

Mrs Muller will retire at the end of this term. Her service to the school has been exemplary and she will be remembered for all the right reasons by all with whom she worked. As a school we are deeply grateful for the outstanding and loyal service she has offered the school over the past 28 years. We wish her everything of the best as she leaves Boys High knowing that she made a significant difference in every aspect of her job and more importantly in many people's lives.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO STAFF**

### **Mr Moodley appointed as Deputy Headmaster**

After having taught at the school for thirty six years, Mr Illsley will be retiring at the end of this year. After a lifetime of service to the school, the school will be bidding farewell to Mr Illsley appropriately towards the end of the year.

With Mr Illsley's forthcoming departure, a deputy headmaster position will become available. It gives me great pleasure to announce the Mr Moodley has been appointed to this position and will assume the position of Deputy Headmaster at PBHS as of 1 January 2024. We congratulate him on his appointment and look forward to the value he will add in this promotion post.

## **SPORT FOR LIVES**

As you all might be aware, the school launched its Sport for Lives campaign at the end of the first term. The campaign is using the hockey and rugby season to encourage generosity within our community by creating opportunities for individuals and teams to play for a greater cause.

PBHS's Sport for Lives campaign involves raising of funds for young cancer patient Donald (13 years) who, after having been diagnosed with bone cancer, had to have his leg removed. All funds raised by PBHS will go towards the prosthetic limb Donald will receive.

Pledges towards this cause can be made in the form of a once off donation or through the process of supporting your sons team whereby you commit to sponsoring a certain amount of money for every goal (for hockey) or try (for rugby) your son's team scores. Sponsoring a team does not have to be limited to your son's team and can include any team in the school. In this way, your son's performance and his team's performance or any other team for that matter, becomes something far greater than simply their success but rather something of significance whereby every contribution is making a difference.

With only three winter sports fixtures left, the season will very quickly come to an end. I encourage all parents to please commit to their once off donation or pledge so that we are able to assist Donald in the best possible way.

Please see the following link for further information on this campaign:

<https://sportforlives.org/campaigns/pbhs-tries-and-goals-for-lives/>

And the following link for the pledge form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQmeoyKpdeThUuf0Mkvn8SEAbXOQ3rofYACtXvTIpbihus4Q/viewform> which allows you make your contribution.

We look forward to your support.

## **END OF A POSITIVE TERM**

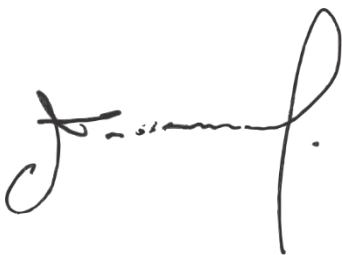
Thank you for what I believe has been a very positive term. It has been a busy and successful term with a number of highlights. These highlights for me include the very successful hosting of the Pretoria Speech Festival, a wonderful inter-house play festival, the Maritzburg and Hilton exchanges as well as the first Michaelhouse exchange in over twenty years, the very important hosting of the 60 Year Reunion and the very successful hosting of the PBHS Highland Gathering this past weekend. But perhaps most of all the highlights of the term for me, was this year's Founders Day Assembly.

The school this year invited past headmaster Mr Bill Schroder (1990-2009) to be the guest speaker at the assembly and I am sure that all the boys will agree with me in saying that it was an extremely special occasion. To have a past headmaster speak about his time at the school and to listen to him share his stories and experiences was such an important occasion as it helps us to consider where we come from and everything we have to be grateful for. I believe that like me, all of the boys deeply valued the assembly as it gave each one of us a deeper understanding of this school and what we stand for. It is occasions such as these that remind us just how unique and special our school is.

I believe we can look forward to next term with just as much excitement. There are a number of exciting events we have on the calendar and especially so, early on in the term on the sports calendar with the KES winter sports fixture at home first up, followed by the Maritzburg Exchange away and then the annual derby against AHS (away) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August.

## **HAPPY HOLIDAY**

I wish you all a well-deserved break, after what has been a busy and positive term. Please encourage your sons to take the time to relax and keep themselves constructively busy with those things they do not normally get time to do. Limited time on their electronic devices is a good thing and more time spend outdoors and reading can only be a good thing. I look forward to seeing you all safe, fit and healthy at the start of next term as we look to build on the positive term we have just had.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GJ Hassenkamp', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**GJ HASSENKAMP  
HEADMASTER**

## **ISSUING OF REPORTS**

The academic department has sent you details on how to register on Saspac software app through Google (<https://app.saspac.net>) in order for you to view your son's **midyear examination** results. The full Term Two report as a hardcopy, with comments, will be issued on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

## **PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATIONS**

This will be held on Tuesday 8 August 2023.

## **START OF TERM THIRD TERM ARRANGEMENTS**

The new term will start on Tuesday 18 July with Day 2.

## **THIRD TERM WINTER SPORTS FIXTURES**

The final three winter sports fixtures will take place over the first three weekends next term. These three fixtures are commonly referred as the "Tri-Nations" amongst the boys where both rugby and hockey teams will go out and make every effort to achieve bragging rights by being unbeaten.

After a successful winter sports season so far where the school has enjoyed tremendous support from the parents, we look forward to more of the same. The only home fixture left for the season is the match against KES. The final three fixtures for the season are as follows:

Saturday 22 July	vs KES	Home
Saturday 29 July	vs Maritzburg College	Away
Saturday 5 August	vs AHS	Away

## **SOCIAL OUTREACH**

I would like to thank everyone for the very generous donations of clothing and blankets. We have been able to provide the following organisations with plenty of warmth for winter – Bramley Children's Home, Dynamic Women and Children, Mohau Center, Kingdom Life and AL Harvest.

We have two collections for the third term – the canned food and non-perishable food collection and in August as part of the BLOOM campaign, we will be collecting dignity bags for rape victims.

Your donations really do make a difference in the lives of all the people at the different organisations. Thank you again for your support.

Mrs P Vlag (MIC Outreach)

## **BOYS ACHIEVEMENTS**

Our warm congratulations go to the following boys:

### **SPORT**

#### Athletics

Half Colours                    Leema Maruma 400m

#### Cross Country

##### Gauteng North

U17 Inter-Provincial Championships      Hiro Keet

##### Central District (qualified for GHSCCA Championships)

Senior                            Bokgoni Mampuru, Hiro Keet, Ciano Titus, Joel Donkin, Eduard van Driel

Junior                            Melvin Mashishi

Team (Silver)  
(Jhb League)                    Bokgoni Mampuru, Hiro Keet, Ciano Titus, Vincent Makhari, Joel Donkin, Eduard van Driel

#### Hockey

##### Northerns

U14A                            Rorisang Ledwaba

U14B                            Milan Booysen, Wilje Du Toit, Morero Gumbi

U16A                            Rorisang Boshomane, Junior Moloisane, Takalani Mulautzi, Brighton Sibiya

U16B                            Victor Louw, Sashin Moodley, Christiano Samuels

U18A                            David Baxter, Ruard Booysen, Likho Dube, Stewart Pringle, Micah Sonn, Marco Upton

U18B                            Cameron Davids, Robert Hassenkamp

#### Rugby

##### Craven Week

U18A                            Kitso Mokoena, Ntsako Ndhlovu, Shaun Schurmann

##### Academy Week

U18                            Ofentse Moeng, Randy Muzungu, Thapelo Mphela, Tebogo Nchabeleng, Tshepiso Shikhibana

Bulls U17                        Itumeleng Baloyi, Ompfuna Tsanwani

##### Grant Nkomo

U16A                            Shiloh Beaton, Banele Mashaba

##### Noordvaal

16A                            Luyanda Khumalo, Lwazi Khumalo, Mufunwa Masibigiri, Tumisho Motswi, Jeffrey Singo

U16B                            George Zwane

Rhino U15A                      Ofentse Matlebjane

### Swimming

Half Colours Daniel Manley, Vian Schutte, Joshua Venn (re-awards); Jared Greeff, Alex Ongley, Joshua Ongley, Jason van der Merwe (new awards)  
Full Colours Grant Lightening  
Honours Ben-Johan Laubscher, Tumelo Mahan (re-awards)

### Squash

Northerns  
U14A Milan Raffa  
U14B Janco Otto  
U16B Benjamin Southwood

### Tennis

Half Colours Anrich De Kock, Andrej Ristic, William Scott  
Full Colours Tshepang Thlhatlha  
Team Award Daniel de Villiers, Luka Jovanovic, Roché Pio,

## **CULTURE**

### Merit Awards

#### **Archery**

Half Colours Ivor Magill  
Full Colours Broden Exter

#### **Ballroom Dancing**

Half Colours Sebastian Rainsford

#### **Business Club**

Half Colours Jason van der Merwe, Joel Donkin, Shaun Rein, Andre Duvenhage, Caleb Burrow

#### **Debating**

Full Colours Aleks Sik (re-award)  
Junior-Justice Mdhluli (re-award)

### Service Awards

#### **Aeronautical Society**

Half Colours James White, Ethan Butler

#### **Boys Highlights**

Half Colours Tapuwa Makombe (re-award)  
Half Colours Tristan Visagie, Simon Holm

#### **SNIA**

Half Colours Dirk-David Krause (re-award)

#### **Social Outreach**

Half Colours Lubasi Kamuwanga (re-award)



## **Technical Support**

Half Colours            Abelerona Buys

## **Cultural Awards**

### **Choir**

Half Colours            Lesedi Nkoana, Nyeleti Mabasa, Hugo Uys, Talent Ncube, Leatile Malope (re-awards)

Half Colours            Thando Martino, Kholisile Xaba

Full Colours            Cobus Kok, Marshal Guswani, Azanda Nyangintsimbi, Taariq Raffieyudeen

### **Music (FIV)**

Half Colours            Neil Ehlers

## **Cultural Highlights**

### **2023 House Play awards**

#### **Best actor in a Male role:**

Town House; Simon Holm

Special Mention to Kholisile Xaba (School) and Nipho Mcuba (School)

#### **Best actor in a Female role:**

Armstrong House; Cody Steenkamp

Special Mention to Ethan Butler (Hofmeyr) for standing in and stealing the show in the last minute.

#### **Best Director:**

School House; Alex Sik

Special Mention to Michael Tabane (Solomon)

#### **"Best rendition of a One-Act Play":**

Solomon House

Adjudicators would also like to give a special mention to James Hugo for being one amazing living prop.

### **House Play Ranking**

1 <sup>st</sup> Solomon House	369 points	82% Average
2 <sup>nd</sup> School House	363 points	81% Average
3 <sup>rd</sup> Town House	361 points	80% Average
4 <sup>th</sup> Armstrong	357 points	79% Average
5 <sup>th</sup> Hofmeyr	314 points	70% Average

### **Inter-House Art Competition**

The Inter-House Art Competition took place for its third consecutive year, and we are proud to announce the Top three winners in the Painting and Drawing Category. As in the past, all artworks are adjudicated by external judges who are celebrated artists and old boys. These include Hannes Elsenbroek and Old Boy, Sibul Masters. The third judge for 2023 is one of our very own ex staff members, Mrs Joni Jones.

#### **Painting:**

First - Arjun Venter – Form III Sunnyside

Second - Tiego Mokhele – Form III Matheson

Tied third - Jean-Pierre le Grange - Form IV School

Tied third - Arjun Venter – Form III Sunnyside

Drawing:

Tied first - Azanda Nyangintsimbi – Form IV Armstrong

Tied third - Liam Pretorius – Form IV Abernethy

Tied third - Jenson Breetzke – Form III Arcadia

House Rankings

1<sup>st</sup> Sunnyside

2<sup>nd</sup> School House

3<sup>rd</sup> Abernethy

### **Science Club**

The Science Club competed in the Pretoria SAICE (South African Institute of Civil Engineering) Aqualibrium water competition hosted at Hoerskool Oos-Moot. The competition required the boys to build a pipe network that delivered water to three different locations at the same rate.

PBHS sent two teams to the competition and one of the teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall. The winning team consisted of Luc Louw (Arcadia Form III), Michael Malan (Town Form III) and Philip Anspach (Hofmeyr Form I). They represented the school at the National finals but unfortunately were not placed in the top three.

Further to this achievement, the Science Club also entered a Global Science Experiment run by the Royal School of Science. The 'Take Charge' experiment they entered had them build several chemical batteries. This made Boys High part of the nearly 15,000 participants worldwide and the Club was awarded a certificate for this valuable contribution to Science.

### **Archery**

Matthew Moorhouse placed first out of 238 Archers in the Riebeeckrand Archery competition and placed first out of 146 Archers at the Wildcrete Archery competition with scores of 295 and 286 respectively.

### **Debating**

Our Junior and Senior Debaters participated in the Atheneum Debating League along with 11 other High Schools and made it through to the quarter-finals. The Pines Senior Team of Aleks Sik Form V (School), Thando Mshumpela, Form IV (Armstrong), Michael Lovell, Form IV (Armstrong) and Datis du Preez Form IV (Town) lost the quarter final against St. Andrews Brown.

The Kamoka Senior Team of Noam Beney, Form III (Arcadia), Imraan Da Gama, Form III (Town), Junior-Justice Mdhluli Form V (Town) and Benjamin Rautenbach Form III (Matheson) lost the quarter final against Resosa

The Junior Team Lebron of Jesse Abache, Form II (Arcadia), Sechaba Maphatsoe, Form II (Arcadia), Caleb Oosthuizen, Form I (Sunnyside), Pieter Vorster Form I (Town) and James Manda Form I (Town) beat St Marys, Waverley in the quarterfinal but lost to Greenside in the semi-final.

## **Junior City Council**

We are proud to announce that the following boys will represent PBHS on the Pretoria Junior City Council (JCC) for 2023/4 term of office:

Form IV - Ave Makonco and Murray Rogers and Form III - De Wet Pieterse and Edward van Greunen

## **Public Speaking**

Boys High hosted the Pretoria Public Speaking Festival. This included an Afrikaans section. The results are as follows:

### Senior individual competition:

Sebastian Windt, Form V (Solomon) was awarded gold ++

Ntando Jele, Form V (Arcadia) was awarded gold++

Bao Le, Form V (School) was awarded gold ++ and

Takura Kufakunesu, Form V (Abernethy) was awarded gold ++ and ended third overall in the senior individual speaking section.

### Junior individual section:

Michael van Staden, Form II (Armstrong) was awarded gold

Michael Maritz, Form II (Sunnyside) was awarded gold

Jordan Dippenaar, Form II (Sunnyside) was awarded gold ++ and came fifth overall.

Achievements by the boys:

Junior Afrikaans Beste spreker - Andre Roets Form I School House

Wenners Beste Graad 8-span - Caleb Oosthuizen, Form I (Sunnyside); Mashego Mabuto, Form I (Town); Milan Booyen, Form I (Armstrong); Philip Anspach, Form I (Hofmeyr).

## **Pipe Band**

### Amanzimtoti Results

Novice Juvenile (School Category)

March Selection: 4<sup>th</sup> Place

March, Strathspey and Reel: 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Drum Corps: 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Overall placing: 5<sup>th</sup> Place

Drum Major

Kai Kelfkens represented the school in the Juvenile Drum Major category. This was a very special occasion as we have not had a competing drum major since 2014.

### Jeppe Cultural Festival

The Pipe Band took part in the annual Jeppe Regional Highland Gathering.

Novice Juvenile (School Category)

March Selection: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

March, Strathspey and Reel: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Drum Corps: 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Overall: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

### Highland Gathering

Novice Juvenile (School Category)

March Selection: 4<sup>th</sup> Place

March, Strathspey and Reel: 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Drum Corps: 5<sup>th</sup> Place  
Overall: 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Drum Major Kai Kelfkens  
Marching & Department 4<sup>th</sup> Place  
Flourish 5<sup>th</sup> Place  
Overall 4<sup>th</sup> Place

### **Ballroom Dancing**

The Ballroom Dancing Club hosted their annual Mother and Son / Dad and Daughter dance class where 60 of our dancers attended the evening and were taught a basic foxtrot routine.

### **EXTERNAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Our congratulations to the following boys:

**Wrestling** – Reins Du Preez (Form I) received his Gauteng North colours on placing first in the Freestyle-President Junior Wrestling Championship and thereafter received his South African Wrestling Champion colours for SA Presidents Juniors Freestyle.

**Swimming** - Grant Lightening participated in both the South African Junior and Senior National Swimming Championships, Tumelo Mahan participated in the Junior National Championship and has been selected for the Junior World Championships in Israel in September and Heindrich Schoeman participated in the SA School Championships.

**Indoor Cricket SA** – André Duvenhage has been selected for the U18 National Team of Indoor Cricket SA.