

The Ebenezer - 15th February 2011

It is 2011 and by the time you read the Ebenezer, the year would have progressed to February. Wishing you and the whole Rhenish family a very fulfilled and satisfying year. At the start of the year, I would like you to take note of the passage below, which appeared in an Ebenezer some years ago:

This is an extract taken from *"The Prophet"* by *Kahlil Gibran*. Take cognisance of the words and ponder upon them as this year progresses:

"And a woman who held a baby against her bosom said, speak to us of children.

And he said:

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,

And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts.

They have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls,

For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them, but not seek to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor carries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth."

Just some formalities to follow. Please take note.

HAIR

It has become very apparent that a large number of children are ignoring the rules and regulations regarding hair at our school. This goes for boys and girls.

I would like to draw your attention to the following quotations taken from the school's information brochure:

"Boys: Hair must be kept neat and reasonably short, i.e. not over eye-brows, ears or collar. Fashionable and extraordinary hair styles e.g. steps, crew cuts etc. are not permitted. No colouring of hair or the use of gel are permitted."

"Girls: Long hair must be tied back neatly with **navy** or **white** ribbon, bobble or "Alice Band". Hair may not fall into the girl's face. Fashionable or extraordinary hair styles, braided hair styles, perming and colouring of hair are not permitted."

Please support the school in its quest to maintain standards.

CHILDREN COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS

Children have one of two options when wishing to communicate with parents, i.e. using a cellular phone, using the public telephone facility with a telephone card. The telephone in the secretaries' office is not for the use of any children, except in the case of an emergency or at the discretion of the admin staff. Parents may purchase a telephone card at R20. Children will NOT be accommodated at the office, if they have forgotten clothing or academic items at home or if they have forgotten to communicate with the parents about the sporting programme.

PARENTS IN SWIMMING POOL ENCLOSURE

As we are of the view that the swimming pool is, in effect, no different from a classroom, and to

ensure that effective “teaching” takes place, all parents are requested to remain OUTSIDE the pool area during Rhenish swimming lessons. We often find the children distracted by the presence of the parents. This problem is compounded by the presence of younger siblings. This request does not include swimming lessons during the Matie swimming programme in the evenings.

Mr Neil Pretorius

PTA NEWS

As many of you will now know, Alison Brand has decided to step down as Chairwoman after more than two years of incredible service, in order to enjoy being with baby Christie. Many many thanks from all those who have worked with her over this time — Alison, you have done a fantastic job!

After a short search we are very pleased to have **Sue Chapman** on board as our new Chairwoman. With her highly organized catering experiences of 2010, it already feels as if she is an integral part of the team. In the next issue of the Ebenezer, we will be clarifying the role of the PTA at Rhenish Primary, but should you have any PTA queries before then, you can address them to schapman@telkomsa.net or 083 567 0215.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We welcome Miss K Daniels to our staff. She teaches saxophone, clarinet, recorder and Arts and Culture. She is also the conductor of the School Orchestra.

The Senior Choir had a weekend camp at school recently at which they made new friends, learnt a large percentage of their repertoire and had great food and fun. On Saturday evening, they presented a mini concert to their parents.

Mrs van Amstel, the Choir leader of the Rhenish Girls' High and Paul Roos Choirs, inspired our Senior Choir at their first Thursday morning rehearsal. They were encouraged to sing as naturally as one speaks and “ride the (sound)wave” in order to produce a beautiful legato line.

The following weekend, the School Orchestra had a chance to get to grips with new sounds, new friends and their new conductor. The string section of the orchestra is particularly large this year, and two young cellists have joined the orchestra. The orchestra performed, with great promise, “Under African Skies” to their parents at the end of the camp.

We wish all our music learners a super year of music making. Sometimes, when we “just have to do it”, it surprises us what beautiful sounds we can indeed make!

Ina O'Reilly

FOUNDATION PHASE INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

One week into term and on a bright hot Friday morning we had the Big Big race. Every morning before the bell went for the start of a very hot sunny new day, all the grade ones were ready for another practice round on the field.

After four days of running straight, “on your marks” and “BOOM!”, we were ready.

It was a cloudless day, not an inkling of a breeze, a perfect athletics day. The officials were ready, the catering committee at their posts and the athletes ready to run. It was a proud moment for the athletes marching behind their different house banners in front of parents and teachers.

What a lovely, enjoyable morning! Thanks to all and everyone who made this day a great success. It's much appreciated. Congratulations to all the athletes who made it through to Coetzenburg on 31

January.

Foundation Phase Educators and Mrs E Branders, Athletics Organiser

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS COETZENBURG - 31 JANUARY 2011

Congratulations to the following learners who were selected as **House Captains and Vice-Captains** during the kick-off of our athletics season. They will represent their respected houses during the whole year in many different sporting codes:

Captains: Megan Leslie & Kieron Ocober (Weber)
Amy Cupido & Mike Mavovana (Terlinden)
Rosanne Strauss & Freddy Schwoerer (Van der Stel)

Vice-captains: Mia du Toit & Luke du Toit (Weber)
Nicole Blows & Robbie Boyes (Terlinden)
Christina Espach & Shaafee Begg (Van der Stel)

The following **10 new records** were set during our Inter-house Athletics Meeting at Coetzenburg.

| Athlete | Event | time | distance | height |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Amy Ann Bruwer | J - 500g (G - 13) | | 23.9 | |
| Amy Ann Bruwer | SP - 3kg (G - 13) | | 8.61 | |
| Amy Ann Bruwer | 75mH - 76,2 cm (G - 13) | 13.94 | | |
| Amy Ann Bruwer | HJ (G - 13) | | | 1.34 |
| Alexander Velissariou | J - 600gm (B - 14) | | 26.00 | |
| Aslam Sullemann | 60m (B - 8) | 9.82 | | |
| Ludwig v d Merwe | 150mH - 68,0 cm (B - 12) | | 25.55 | |
| Luke Burger | 60m (B - 9) | 9.40 | | |
| Megan Leslie | 800m (G - 13) | 02:39.1 | | |
| Mike Mavovana | 200mH - 68, 0 cm (B - 13) | 33.38 | | |

A super congratulations to these outstanding athletes!
Our **top 11 achievers** on the day are (in order of achievement):

| BOYS | |
|-------|----------------------|
| score | athlete |
| 55 | Mike Mavovana |
| 40 | Ludwig vd Merwe |
| 40 | Nicholas Barnaschone |
| 38 | Robert Boyes |
| 38 | Matthew Ludditt |
| 38 | Jason du Toit |

| GIRLS | |
|-------|----------------|
| score | athlete |
| 80 | Amy Ann Bruwer |
| 43 | Megan Leslie |
| 38 | Anin Olivier |
| 38 | Zethu Mavovana |
| 38 | Inge Weidemann |

Finally, the news everyone has been waiting for – the **final house results** for this year ...

In third position, **Van der Stel with 640 points**, in second position **Weber with 770 points** and in well-deserved first position, **Terlinden with 790 points**.

Very importantly, we would like to acknowledge our **sponsors and donors**.

Rentia Hobbs and Sue Chapman for the bottled water.
Mr Ross, Elsabe Braxton and Tanya Boopchand for the cooldrinks.
Deirdre Cloete, Rhonda Blows and Wendy Probert for muffins.
Mandy Steytler for ice.
Michelle Wentley for grapes.
Noami Joubert (*Tastebud restaurant*) for the discounted price on the official's lunches.
Sue Fontannaz, Natasha Bolognesi and Mandy Morton for monetary donations.

A special thank you to the catering team for ensuring that everyone was well fed and hydrated throughout the day. Thank you to:

Sue Chapman

Nicole Dupper
Astrid Beyers
Franziska Moss
Chardi Dillon
Michelle Wentley
Tracy Evans
Christelle van der Merwe
Jenny Mackintosh

Kerri Janse van Rensburg

Jo Grimbeek
Lizette Asefi
Claudi de Villiers
Harriet Fowler
Mariaan van Elst
Di Carew
Anita Folscher
Patricia Winsnes

The success of this sporting code and all its achievements are dependant on the combined effort of a host of people and therefore the thanks of the school goes to all the coaches, staff, parents, volunteers, athletes, sponsors and friends who put so much effort into getting Athletics off to a promising start for 2011!

Nicole Kramer — ATHLETICS ORGANISER

PLEASE NOTE THAT FROM WEDNESDAY 23 FEBRUARY, A SMALL SUPPLY OF RHENISH HATS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE FROM THE BURSAR

The next issue of the Ebenezer will close on Friday 25 February 2011. Please email your news/articles/photos to jan.sleet@gmail.com or place them in the Ebenezer box in the school foyer. Classified ads cost R20 for approx 2-3 lines of text (no logos).