



# The Ebenezer

14 September 2011

## From the Governing Body...

Hello to the Rhenish family

We have already passed the half way point in the 2011 academic year so I'd like to take the opportunity in this copy of the Ebenezer to provide an update on some Rhenish Primary School activities in 2011.

A review of school results at the end of the second term shows that our learners continue to excel in the fields of academics, sport and cultural activities. These results are a consequence of hard work put in by all our learners and the superb leadership and focus provided by the skill and dedication of all our educators. Congratulations to all and remain encouraged to keep up the hard work through the remainder of the year.

That said, your Governing Body is aware that the world is evolving and developing at an ever increasing rate. We know that what was excellent in the past, might not be sufficient in the future. Academic institutions cannot merely keep up with global trends but need to get ahead of these trends to ensure that our learners have the wherewithal to be able to make meaningful contributions in the future. With this in mind, the Governing Body is currently focused on two critical tasks. The first is the recruitment of an insightful and energetic headmaster to take over the reins from Mr Niland when he retires at the end of the year after 27 years at the helm. The Governing Body is currently in the middle of this process and consequently we have no results to share at this time. We will make an announcement as soon as we have concluded the recruitment process. The second task that will require considerable attention in the remainder of the year will be the completion of a Whole School Development exercise which will measure how our school is serving the needs of our learners and to identify areas for improvement. The results of this exercise will be fed into a School Improvement Plan which will serve as the School's Operating Plan for the next five years. The Governing Body will be holding some update evenings early in the 2012 school year during which we will take parents through the results of the Whole School Development exercise and the details of the School Improvement Plan.

We are aware of the criticism that the Governing Body may not have communicated as fully as might have been expected in the past. We will endeavour to address this with more frequent Ebenezer reports and report back evenings in the future. We will also post pictures, short bios and contact details for your Governing Body members on the School's website. If you require any additional information or wish to place an item on the Governing Body Meeting Agenda, please do not hesitate to email me and I will ensure that you receive feedback on a timely basis.

Finally, thank you to all of the members of the Rhenish Family who provide such terrific support to the school on a daily basis. I have spent some time recently with various organisational committees (the PTA, the Golf Day Committee, etc.) and I have been literally blown away by the dedication and energy put into ensuring that all activities pertaining to the school are executed with excellence. Thank you to the members of these committees. And to our parents, thank you for all your support both at home and at school. The parents are the backbone of the school and I urge you all to remain informed and involved in all aspects of the school's activities going forward.

With warm regards

Frans

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## **From the PTA ...**

### **2011 Golf Day, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011**

As mentioned in a previous issue, we would like to recognize and thank our sponsors and those donating prizes, auction or goody bag items via The Ebenezer.

The 2011 Golf Day Committee has decided to list the sponsorships of holes in this issue. All prizes, auction and goody bag items will be listed and thanked in The Ebenezer **after** our Golf Day on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2011. We are still receiving these items and would not like to offend anyone by not including them in the list due to the timing of printing of The Ebenezer.

A very big thank you for the great support from sponsors who have participated previously as well as new sponsors who have showed an amazing interest in the event this year.

We only have a couple of hole sponsorships available now (see below), a **full** 4 ball field and very generous donations of prizes, auction and goody bag items.

### **THANK YOU!**

#### **Your support and enthusiasm for our 2011 Golf Day is greatly appreciated!**

The hole sponsorships for 2011 are as follows:

Old Mutual Corporate (Hole 1)  
VinochemSpecialities CC (Hole 2)  
Home of Origin Wines (Hole 3)  
Zevenwacht Wine Estate (Hole 4)  
Cape Office Machine (Pty) Ltd (Hole 5)  
Seeff Properties Stellenbosch (Hole 6)  
Fedhealth (Hole 7)  
Gino's Restaurant (Hole 8)  
PricewaterhouseCoopers (Hole 9)  
Permitz Film Locations and Crew (Halfway House)  
Available for sponsorship (Chipping Green)  
Available for sponsorship (Stairs)  
Schliemann Incorporated / The Black Horse Bed & Breakfast (joint sponsorship - Putting Green)  
Eikestad Mall (Pty) Ltd (Veranda)  
Donford BMW (Hole 10)  
Coastal Hire (Hole 11)  
Available for sponsorship (Hole 12)  
Braxton Consulting (Pty) Ltd (Hole 13)  
Die Boord Spar (Hole 14)  
Available for sponsorship (Hole 15)  
Dr Joseph Huskinsson (Hole 16)  
Available for sponsorship (Hole 17)  
Checkers (Hole 18)  
Tanya Rabie (General sponsorship)

Should you be interested in sponsoring a hole, the chipping green or stairs, please contact:

**Tracey Evans**, 082 900 6439, [tracey@zevenwacht.co.za](mailto:tracey@zevenwacht.co.za)  
**Sonia du Toit**, 082 532 5055, [sonia@dylanart.co.za](mailto:sonia@dylanart.co.za)

All other contact details for the 2011 Golf Day Committee are on the school's website homepage:  
[www.rhenishprimary.co.za](http://www.rhenishprimary.co.za)

### **Our very own Tree Trail!**

The Tree Trail posters will be installed within the first week of September to coincide with Arbor Week. Louise Ehret has agreed to print an additional 20 copies of the trail and will leave these booklets with the school secretaries. We will put a note onto our website homepage once these booklets have been delivered. Please collect one and follow the trail using the map and booklet. **PLEASE** return the booklet to the secretaries once

you have completed the trail to give other parents an opportunity to use them. Our sincere thanks go to **Riaan van Zyland Louise Ehret** for their incredible work on our Tree Trail!

### **Donkey Derby, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

Thank you to all the parents and teachers for their support of our Donkey Derby event being held for the first time at Rhenish Primary School.

It is going to be a casual, relaxed, fun evening for **parents and teachers** with the six donkey races, lucky draws, music and dancing! Wine, beer, cool drinks, etc. will be on sale via a cash bar.

We have very few tickets available for sale. Should you still be interested in attending this event, please contact me on 083 567 0215.

From the previous issue, just as a reminder: During the evening, 6 races will be run and before each race, the donkeys will be up for sale and the highest bidder owns the donkey for that one race. The donkeys run at the throw of the dice. The coloured dice determines which donkey (all different colours) will move forward and the numbered dice indicates how many blocks the donkey moves. The owner of the winning donkey will receive a percentage of the total amount bid for that race. Before commencement of each race, everyone can bid individually on a donkey for any amount (buy a ticket from the bookies for their favourite donkey or donkeys). When your donkey wins, you receive a percentage of the total amount bet, divided by the number of tickets sold. If you play your donkeys right, you could make money.

### **2011 Wish List**

The new hot tray has arrived and is kept by The Bursar. Should you need to use it, please ensure that it is collected and signed out before the end of the school day. My apologies for the administration involved in using the hot trays, but the last one managed to find another home!

A new office chair was purchased for Mr Niland's office and has been delivered.

We are in the process of obtaining quotes for pin boards in the Senior Primary corridors to display the learners' work and art.

The painting of playground games will hopefully be done towards the end of this term (if the weather improves!) or alternatively first thing in the fourth term.

We are still investigating some basic décor items suitable for the foyer and will start by moving some of the artwork around within the next week or so. A carpet will also be purchased for the foyer to make it a little more welcoming.

Additionally, the PTA is trying to obtain a sponsorship for one bottle of sun block per classroom for the summer months. Should we not be successful, we will investigate other options.

We are also investigating a "Cyber-Smart Parenting" presentation and open-floor discussion.

And lastly, we will be purchasing additional picnic benches for the lawn area outside the Grade 1 classrooms (so those Moms who sit under the tree at 1pm everyday don't have to sit on the grass ☺) specifically for the younger learners to sit at during break. Two of the damaged tennis court concrete benches will also be replaced.

Our 2011 PTA Wish List will then "close" and "re-open" early in 2012. Once again, all these items would not be possible without funds raised by the PTA. Thank you to everyone for supporting our various initiatives and to the PTA and Golf Day Committees for their commitment and hard work!

### **My School Card**

The amount we received at the end of July was substantially lower than normal. Please could I remind everyone to swipe their cards – every swipe makes a difference! At the bottom of this newsletter we have included the latest MySchool newsletter to keep you informed, and details of **a great competition from MySchool**.

As you can see, the next couple of months are going to be pretty busy! Please keep reading The Ebenezer to stay informed. Check our school's website as we are trying to update you electronically, be more environmentally conscious on cutting down on paper printing and working hard at improving communication.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any PTA queries, ideas or concerns.

Until the next issue....

Kind Regards,

**Sue Chapman**

[schapman@telkomsa.net](mailto:schapman@telkomsa.net) / 083 567 0215



**Congratulations to Nolan, Gail and TarrynSiebritz on the birth of little Gaylin. She was born on Friday, 19 August inPaarl at 12:24pm. Mom and baby are both well, and Nolan is a very proud and happy daddy!**

### **Light Music Concert**

On Tuesday, 14 June 2011, we hosted the first ever Rhenish Rock Festival, an informal concert staged by the Light Music Department. The parents were able to bring picnic blankets and baskets and found themselves a spot on the floor where they could sit back and enjoy the entertainment in true rock festival style.

It was a great evening that gave the learners the chance to showcase some of their talents. It included a number of different groups playing a wide range of genres from a host of different artists. An eight piece Djembe group and three different marimba bands added some African spice to the evening.

The sound and lighting was provided by E.M.E.N.E.F Events who did a fantastic job in helping the event to run smoothly.

**Ina O'Reilly**



### Drakensberg Boys Choir

The Drakensberg Boys Choir has been widely acclaimed as one of the finest boys' choirs worldwide.

Recently, the choir has successfully toured Korea and the United States of America. Through its renowned vocal harmonies and vibrant rhythm movement, the Drakensberg Boys Choir's matchless performance style has become a worldwide phenomenon.

The repertoire on the Cape tour will cover a wide variety of musical genres, which demonstrates the versatility and depth of the Choir's ability. The Choir is also internationally recognized for its unique African folklore repertoire, which incorporates most of the 11 official languages of South Africa.

See the Drakensberg Boys Choir live as they will perform on 24 September 2011 as part of their Cape Tour. The performance will take place in the Stellenbosch High School hall, starting at 7pm. Tickets are R100 pp and available from **Annalie at 021-8877030 / 0825610695** or Computicket.

With limited spaces available, auditions for a once in a lifetime opportunity to be a part of the Drakensberg Boys Choir, will be held at the concert venue for boys between the grades of 4 – 7.

**Currently, a brother of a Rhenish Primary pupil is a member. A whopping eight boys from the Western Cape are currently members! Should any of our families be interested and willing to host any of the 32 touring members on 24 September and possibly on 21 September, please call Annalie at either of the above numbers.**

For additional information on the Drakensberg Boys Choir, please visit our website [www.dbchoir.co.za](http://www.dbchoir.co.za)

**Ina O'Reilly**

### Chess

We again played matches (different age groups were accommodated) against Bridge House and Laerskool Eikestad during Term 3 and won 50 of the 56 games. One game ended in a draw.

**Keenan Ribeiro** was subsequently selected for the **Western Province U/14 team**. Well done, Keenan!

On Saturday 26 August, 23 Rhenishers participated in the Laerskool Stellenbosch Chess tournament (91 participants). A number of our players did very well and must be congratulated: **Sung Jun Chung** (5<sup>th</sup> overall and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Grade 6), **Ye Ho Kim** (3<sup>rd</sup> in Grade 6), **Matt Britz** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Grade 3) and **LeonardiPanzeri** (2<sup>nd</sup> in Grade 2). **Julian Herreilers**, **Willem Swartz** and **Jesse Hattingh** were also amongst the top 16 players. We also want to commend the other 16 players for a good, hard day's work.

**Marietjie Vink**

**Happy Birthday to the following staff : Michele Yeatman (2/9) Gail Siebritz (11/9), Greg Hinds (14/9) and Leigh Pina (19/9). Have a wonderful day!**

### **Urgent Request**

PHOTOS FOR SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Dear parents

We are collecting photographs for the school magazine. If you have taken any photos (even if it is only of your child), please could you send these to school for our archives. They might be published in the 2011 magazine! You are welcome to give your digital copies (on flash disk or CD) to Shelley at the office, Miss Graser or Miss Lanham. Thank you very much!

#### **Classified Ads**

- **French lessons offered @ the Alliance Française de Stellenbosch** situated @ 37 Erfurthuis, Ryneveld Street, Stellenbosch. All levels: beginners, intermediate, advanced, conversation. Introducing "Fun French" morning classes - For more information, contact Christine on 021 – 883 8119 or 084 920 6966
- **Custom designed invitations by Christian Olivier**  
Cell : 071 452 1797: or design@telkomsa.net  
Web address to view the portfolio: www.cdawg.co.za
- **Toyota Hilux 2007 SRX single cab canopy for sale-** Seldom used, good condition. R3750. Contact Paul on 082 455 8007
- **Miniature Schnauzer Puppies** for sale. 3 Most Beautiful Males, good to go from 18 Sept. R2800 each. Contact Maryke 0825670111
- **FOR SALE: Silverback Alpine Mountain Bike.** (Extras on bike) EXCELLENT CONDITION! R2 800.00. Contact Phillipa 0822549699.
- **The Festive Fair** - Hathersage Farm – Gordon Rd, Somerset West 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2011 from 10am FREE ENTRY! Contact Sharon - info@tomarketwithlove.co.za See Facebook page "The Festive Fair at Hathersage" for competitions and directions

- **KUMON STELLENBOSCH** for Maths & English... where every child is an achiever. Monday & Thursday afternoons at Eikestad Primary. Pre-primary – Gr 9 students. Contact Leana: (021) 930-5990/ 082 789 0431
- **Short term accommodation** in the centre of Stellenbosch - [www.stellenboschapartment.co.za](http://www.stellenboschapartment.co.za) or call Steffi on 082 6898100
- **Happy Faces Playgroup in Die Boord** - Ages 2-4. Mondays to Thursdays. 9h00 to 12h00, extended hours by arrangement. Carol 021 887 9051/084 505 3666

We have attached the latest news from MySchool for you to read:

## **MySchool NEWSLETTER:**

Dear Schools

In celebration of International Teachers' Day on 5 October 2011, Woolworths Educational Programmes: Making the Difference in conjunction with MySchool Fundraising Programme pays tribute to: "The teacher who changed my world".

We know the vital role teachers play in shaping the young lives of children in South African schools and in schools around the world. We believe that International Teachers' Day is a great opportunity to involve learners in acknowledging and appreciating how their teachers have positively impacted their young lives.

We are proud to launch our "The teacher who changed my world" Competition. The competition invites learners to express their appreciation for those teachers who go beyond the call of duty. Be it a hug on a rough day or an extra lesson after class, we want to hear about the teachers who make a real difference.

Learners are requested to write us a letter of no more than 200 words on why they think their teacher has changed their world. Entries can be supplemented with photographs or colourful drawings of their favourite teacher or activities they have been involved in with their teacher.

We believe this competition will inspire greater awareness and gratitude for the role that teachers play in inspiring and shaping the lives of future generations.

Entries can be submitted as follows:

SMS: 33424

MMS: [mtd@woolworths.co.za](mailto:mtd@woolworths.co.za)

Email: [mtd@woolworths.co.za](mailto:mtd@woolworths.co.za)

Mail: PO BOX 34526 Groote Schuur, 7937, Cape Town

Fax: 086273 4051

"The teacher who changed my world" competition opens on 1 September 2011 and **closes on 26 September 2011**.

The prizes are as follows:

POSITION	TEACHER	LEARNER	SCHOOL
Winner	R5 000 Woolworths gift card	R1 500 Woolworths gift card	R1 500 cash
	R2 000 kalahari.com voucher	R750 kalahari.com voucher	
1 <sup>st</sup> Runner-up	R3 000 Woolworths gift card;	R1 000 Woolworths gift card;	R1 000 cash
	R1 500 kalahari.com voucher	R500 kalahari.com voucher	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-up	R2 000 Woolworths gift card	R500 Woolworths gift card	R500 cash
	R1000 kalahari.com voucher	R250 kalahari.com voucher	

\* *kalahari.com vouchers sponsored by MySchool Fundraising Programme*

Winners will be selected for primary school and high school respectively.

Terms and conditions apply. Please read the Terms and Conditions on our website. Thank you for your participation. Visit our Making the Difference website and Making the Difference Through DesignFacebook page for details.

Winners will be announced on International Teachers Day, 5 October 2011. If you have any queries, please contact [mtd@woolworths.co.za](mailto:mtd@woolworths.co.za)

Kind regards  
Woolworths Educational Programmes: Making the Difference Team

## MyPlanet Green Tip July 2011: Water Wise

Less than 3% of the world's water is fresh and drinkable, and of that 2.5% is frozen in glaciers, leaving us with only 0.5% for all our fresh water needs. The solution is that every drop counts. As individuals we often feel overwhelmed when faced with the environmental challenges facing our planet. We think that there is nothing we can do. It's ok to start small - every drop counts.

- Reuse water wherever you can – throw bath and shower water into your garden or toilet rather than down the drain, and put a bucket under the shower while you wait for the water to heat up. Use this water in your garden.
- Make sure that your home is leak free – read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter readings don't match, you have a leak.
- The most water efficient methods for cooking vegetables are microwaving, steaming or using a pressure cooker.
- Stop taps dripping or leaking – A dripping tap can result in 10 220 litres of wasted water a year.
- Put a bowl of water or a plug in the sink when you wash your hands, vegetables, fruit, pots, pans, cups, glasses and cooking utensils – as opposed to simply letting the tap run.
- Reduce toilet flush volume – this can save 20% of water consumption with no reduction in convenience as older cisterns use double the water necessary to function.
- Don't let the water run while shaving or cleaning your teeth – Simply wet your toothbrush before you begin and use a glass of water to rinse your mouth.
- Water your garden early morning or late evening, during the cooler periods of the day, as much of the water used can simply evaporate between the sprinkler and the grass when it's too hot.
- Don't over water your lawn. Water every 5 to 7 days in summer, and every 10 to 14 days in winter. In between, as a treat for your grass, you can throw on your bath or shower water.
- Raise the lawnmower blade to at least 3 inches – a lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the roots and holds soil moisture better.
- Mulch your flower beds, pot plants, vegetable and herb garden.
- Make sure your water feature recycles the water it uses. Create an awareness for water conservation in your children – avoid toys which require a constant stream of water.
- Report all significant water losses to your landlord or the local authorities.
- Conserve water because it's the right thing to do – don't waste water when you are staying at a hotel.

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**The next Ebenezer closes on Friday 16th September – Please send all submissions to [jan.sleet@gmail.com](mailto:jan.sleet@gmail.com) or place them in the Ebenezer box by the secretaries. For any queries, please call 072 575 3451**

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