College Chatter

Issue #5

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

From the Helm

As emphasized in our strategy which was shared with you this week, each girl's journey and potential is unique. Whilst we celebrate different phases and ages, we are one school which paradoxically sees that our journeys are unique. Our educational journeys encompass far more than just academics and we endeavour to contribute towards the holistic development of the child in partnership with you as parents. Learning does, and should, take place both inside and outside the classroom, in the halls and corridors, on the fields and in the pool and on educational outings, both day trips and overnight excursions.

And herein lies the challenge: the risk for you as parents in letting your daughters go on outings, and for us as an educational institution in managing the risk. A number of staff members, including EXCO and staff who engage in activities off campus, underwent training on 28 and 29 August in recognizing and evaluating risk as well as putting in place procedures to handle incidents should they occur. We were made aware of the responsibilities which rest with the school and the legal implications surrounding risk and negligence.

The course, delivered by Nic Shaw of Entabeni Expeditions and Outdoor Centre based near Giant's Castle, is based on an international expedition and field work safety standard BS8848. A number of real life situations were shared and practical activities were engaged in. Case studies based on international incidents were unpacked and the choices made by those involved were discussed with a specific view to taking action that reduced risk and addressed the situations.

Can we therefore say we are fully cognizant of every eventuality? No. Do we need parental trust and support in engaging in off-site activities? Yes. Do we need to continue offering the opportunities we do, knowing of potential risks? I believe the answer is yes, but only after making educated and informed decisions subsequent to exploring the options we have available to us regarding service providers and the nature of activities.

Nic ended his presentation by reminding us that whilst caution and safety are of paramount importance, one can become paralyzed by them and then deny opportunities for learning to take place. He quoted Goethe who said: "The dangers of life are infinite, and among them is safety."

Marianne Bailey
Executive Head

College Champions

Kiara Lakaram

Kiara, Grade 12, was awarded with the Best all round Karateka Award 2017 at the KZN Karate annual awards Banquet held on Saturday 2 September at Westville Civic Centre.

Kiara Lakaram

Willow Eberle

Willow, Grade 7, participated in the Ocean Open Invitational Gymnastics Competition on Sunday 27 August and placed 2nd overall in the Level 8 u13 division.

Alexia Mitchell

Alexia, Grade R, was awarded a medal for being the best tennis player in her group at Roscoes Tennis Academy.

Junior Primary

JP Sports Day

We are so proud of all our Junior Primary girls who participated enthusiastically in the annual Inter-house Sports Day last week! The girls displayed much excitement and good sportsmanship on the track, and did themselves and their school proud! Well done to the winning house, Rutherford, and to Hunter for winning the spirit trophy.

Readathon

Our JP and SP girls enjoyed reading together and dressing up as their favourite story character. 386 books were donated by the JP girls to underprivileged schools. Well done, girls!

Senior Primary

SP Field Events

The SP Field Events took place last week, and it was an impressive display of school spirit and energy! Well done, girls!

Grade 5 Egyptian Day

Our Grade 5 girls had an Egyptian Day on Friday 8 September. The girls had fun dressing up and eating Egyptian-styled food!

High School

Senior Primary and High School Sports Day

The Senior Primary and High School Sports Day took place on Tuesday. What an energetic and spirit-filled day it was! Well done to Cottam for winning the HS competition and to Hunter for winning the SP competition, and a big well done to Greenacre for winnning overall! Also, congratulations to Churchill for winning the Spirit trophy!

Alumna

Michelle Posemann matriculated from DGC in 1989 and went on to study law at Stellenbosch and then UKZN. She is an advocate, accredited arbitrator and commercial mediator and specialises in labour and employment law. She has lectured at the Durban School for Legal Practice in High Court Practice, Appropriate Dispute Resolution, and Labour Dispute Resolution, and also ran a pilot project in Mediation Skills.

She has held the positions of President of the KZN Chapter of the South African Society for Labour Lawyers, Consulting Regional Manager for Equillore Dispute Settlement, Regional Director of ProBono.Org, Acting Judge in the Labour Court, Trustee on the Governing Body Foundation, Governor on the DPHS SGB and has returned to DGC as a parent and Chairman and then Vice Chair of the DGC Board of Governors.

Online Portal: https://dgcogg.alumnet.co.za www.facebook.com/DGCOGG/

From our Chaplain

"The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job 1:21

Last week during a Grade 1 R.E. lesson, one of the girls commented that "We can't always get what we want, when we want it! That's just how it is!" Wise words from a six-year old! We were revising our series in the Bible's poetry books, one of which is Job. It tells the story of a man who chose to trust God even when life was difficult and confusing. A great lesson in what it means to actually trust God.

When we don't get what we want when we want it, I pray we'll remember that God is still good and knows exactly what He's doing.

DGC Online

If you would like to keep up with daily life at DGC, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram! Our likes have increased from 1 898 in April to 2 453 in August 2017. Also be sure to check out our new and improved website!

www.facebook.com/DurbanGirlsCollege/

www.instagram.com/durban_girlscollege/

www.dgc.co.za

Meet Our Staff

Born and bred in East London, I attended Clarendon School for Girls and completed my four year nursing training at Frere Hospital where my dad, who inspired my interest in the medical side of life, also worked as a doctor.

Besides working at a private hospital, I worked in psychiatry for many years and after moving to Durban twelve years ago I worked with teens and adults in the addiction field.

In 2014 I was ready for a new path and I was extremely blessed to join DGC. From the time I start my day down at College House with our boarders, throughout the school day and the afternoons during sports matches, health and safety takes top priority. I love looking after the girls and staff and I so enjoy the high level of health and safety which is upheld at our school and which makes it an absolute pleasure to work here.

Results

HIGH SCHOOL

Athletics Day Results:
Shannon Verster competed in a total number of 11 events over the 2 days of our Athletics competitions, and broke 6 records in the process.
Results:
80m Hurdles old record =12.62secs (S. Verster 2016) ; New record S. Verster 12. 09secs
400m old record = 1min 01.58secs (1986 V. Morphet); New record S. Verster 59.51secs
1500m old record = 5min 20.64secs (2012 Lushano Smit): New Record S. Verster 5min 20.09secs
High Jump old record = 1m53cm (K. van Zyl & E. Morgan 1992) ; New record S. Verster 1m63cm
Discus Throw old record 23m86cm (D. Horsfield 1987) ; New record S. Verster 25m40cm
Shot Put old record = 9m10cm (V. Morphet 1987) : New record S. Verster 9m45cm

Athletics:
Gabriella Halford and Amber Schlebusch participated in the Grey College and Menlo Park athletics trials.
Gabby achieved a 3rd place in the 1500m. Amber ran in both the 1500m and 3000m and won both events. She broke a 26 year old record in the 3000m event in a winning time of 10min 26sec.
Amber has been selected to participate at the Grey College meeting in the 3000m and 1500m on the 14 October.

Swimming:
Zoë Frank participated at the Annual Action Swim Academy Championship Gala 2017 at Kings Park Swimming Pool from Friday to Sunday this past weekend.
Zoë medalled with 1 x Silver & 4 x Bronze and based on her points was awarded overall 2nd position for the women's open.

Karate:
Kiara Lakaram, was awarded with the Best all round Karateka Award 2017 at the KZN Karate annual awards Banquet held on Saturday 2 September at Westville Civic Centre.
Congratulations Kiara on this wonderful achievement!

Tennis:

Team	Opposition	Result	Score
U16A	Westville	DGC won	3 matches to 0
U16B	CLL	DGC lost	2 matches to 1

Water Polo:

Team	Opposition	Result	Score
U14	TMC U14	DGC won	12-0
U14	TMC 2nd Team	DGC Won	18-0
U16	TMC 2nd Team	DGC Won	16-0
U16	TMC 1st Team	DGC lost	3-2
U16	TMC 1st Team	DGC Lost	3-2

Results

SENIOR PRIMARY

Hockey Fixture vs Umhlali:
U10A lost 3 - 0
U10B drew 1 - 1
U10C won 2 - 1
U11A lost 0 - 6
U11B lost 0 - 1
U13A won 2 - 0
U13B won 3 - 0
U13C lost 0 - 2
Well played to all our hockey players!

Athletics:
The Inter-House field events were held on Wednesday 6 September and all athletes performed exceptionally well and a wonderful morning of true sportsmanship was evident throughout the morning.
Congratulations go to Shannon Blades and Kayla Andrews who broke records in the High Jump and Shot Put respectively. Well done!

Action Netball:
Congratulations go to Kadence Ribbink who was selected for the KZN U12 Action Netball Team for 2018.

Cross Country:
Congratulations go to the following girls who were Top 20 finishers at the Atholton league on Friday.
U11 - Kadence Ribbink 2nd; Julia Harvey 15th
U12 - Maxine Port 8th; Kira Altshuler 11th; Zoe Grindrod 12th; Amy Chapple 15th; Jessica Adams 16th and Jessi Ramini 19th
U13 - Katia Economou 11th; Amy Sang 12th; Danni Wiseman 13th; Monay Mouton 14th

The Week Ahead

Monday 18	**Day 6** 10h30 JP: Hooked on Books Gr R & 00: JP Hall 15h00 HS: Tennis League U16A vs St Mary's B: DGC 16h00 HS: Tennis League U16B vs St Mary's D: DGC 16h00-18h00 HS: Gr 12 Final IEB Drama Prac Exams: Lecture Theatre 18h30 SP: Gr 7 Production Performance 1: Centenary Hall
Tuesday 19	**Day 7** 07h30 JP: Gr 2 Music Module: Blue Steps 07h30: DGC Mums' Who Pray: College House 09h30-10h10: JP Gr 2 Leaders' Tea Party: JP Veranda 09h10-10h10 HS: Social Media Presentation: Centenary Hall
Wednesday 20	**Day 8** HS: ABRSM Practical Examinations: Music Hall 10h00-11h30 HS: Final IEB Life Sciences Prac Exam: Science Prac Room 17h00 HS: Athletics Sugar Relay: Kings Park SAHISA Heads away at Conference in Cape Town Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashana
Thursday 21	**Day 9** 07h30 JP: Gr 3 Music Module: Blue Steps 18h30 SP: Gr 7 Production Performance 3: Centenary Hall HS: Water Polo 1st Team depart for Reddam, Cape Town Hindi Festival Navaratri Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashana
Friday 22	**Day 10** Break-up Day: Closing Times: Junior Primary: Staggered times starting from 10h30, Senior Primary: 11h15, High School: 11h30 High School Leavers vs Stayers: House vs School HS: Water Polo 1st Team depart for Reddam, Cape Town
Saturday 23	HS: Water Polo 1st Team away at Reddam, Cape Town
Sunday 24	HS: Water Polo 1st Team away at Reddam, Cape Town

"Spread love everywhere you go.
Let no one ever come to you
without leaving happier."
Mother Teresa