College Chatter

Special Issue:
The Parents' Association

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

From the Helm

The Durban Girls' College Parents' Association is made up of a group of committed and enthusiastic parents representing all phases of the school. The objects of the PA are communication, community and fundraising. Under these objectives, the PA seeks to provide an avenue of communication between the parents of College pupils, the Executive Committee and Board of Governors, to cultivate, build and enhance the school spirit, family and community of College and, lastly, to carry out fundraising events and use those funds for the general benefit of the school.

Committee members hold various portfolios, and are responsible for MySchool promotion, the Rites of Passage, environmental issues, College House Liaison. We also have one Committee member as the phase head for the JP, SP and High School. The phase heads communicate directly with the liaison parents in their phase. The finances of the PA are ably managed by our Treasurer and the Committee is supported by a Secretary.

Funds raised are used to purchase items for the school via the "Wish List" process. These requests are submitted by EXCO and agreed by the Committee. Consideration is given to the durability of the item, the reason for the request as well as where and how the benefit will be derived. Examples of past purchases include marimba sets, sports notice boards, College House upgrades as well as the projector for the hall, hall lighting, sound and photographic equipment, sports gazebos, stage for the JP hall, bags for the Aquatics festival.

The PA holds a number of events during the school year, which is challenging given the very busy school calendar. Included here are both "give back" events and fundraising events. There has been a shift towards family events, such as the recent JP and SP movie night, which has resulted in much more fun and a broader participation.

The PA has a special Rites of Passage programme, which recognises the significant milestones as pupils enter and leave a phase of the school. This is signified by a PA gift for each girl, commencing with the teddy bears in Grade R, and ending with the very special Matric Galleon pendant.

As we head towards the end of the school year, it is fitting that this edition of the Chatter showcases the PA members. Some of us, myself included, are coming to the end of our term of office. I'd like to thank the Committee for their service, support and commitment. A new Chairman will be elected at our next meeting. The PA will be calling for nominations in the new year, so keep a look out if you are interested in getting involved.

Bronwyn Blades
Chairman of the PA

College Moment

Brandee Adams

Brandee Adams joined the Parents' Association in 2018. This is her first year. She has 2 daughters at DGC, one in Grade 8 and one in Grade 3. She also has a son at Clifton in Grade 5. Brandee graduated from Arizona State University, USA, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, and worked in the Motor Racing Industry after school. She moved to South Africa 14 years ago with her husband who is a Westville Old Boy. They currently own and run a textile factory in Pinetown, Finlam Technical. She has chosen to remain in South Africa to raise her children, as she is firm believer in the DGC ethos and would like her daughters to benefit from such a wonderful school .

Bronwyn Blades

Bronwyn joined the Parents' Association in 2013 and served as Secretary before taking over as Chair in February 2018. This is her last year in office on the PA. Her daughter, Shannon, is now in Grade 8 and has been at College since Grade R.

A Chartered Accountant by profession, by day Bronwyn is a Company Secretary for a pharmaceutical manufacturer responsible for Corporate Governance, Risk and Strategy.

Bronwyn is an Old Girl, having attended DGC until the end of what was then Standard 6, before moving to St Mary's DSG where she matriculated in 1988. Bronwyn has been an active parent at College, having been a liaison parent in the Junior and Senior Primary.

Caley Rosenberg

Born and raised in Durban, Caley is married with three daughters and lives in Umhlanga. She has a BA in English & Communications, and Post-Grad in Intermediate Education. She worked in PR and Advertising before settling down to have children, and then open her party and design business, LuluPop. Her daughters Sophie & Ellie are currently in Grade R and Grade 00 with her third daughter joining the school in 2021.

Fathima Essack

Fathima is a new member of the PA having joined this year -2018. She is a proud mum of three girls, two of which are College girls, Liyana (10) in Grade 4 and Hannah (8) in Grade 2. Zaynah (5), is soon to start Grade R at College in 2019. She is a graduate of the Nelson R Mandela, School of Medicine. Ever since her qualification, in 2006 she has served the KZN Department of Health, having rendered her services at several government hospitals and clinics in KZN. She practices as a GP with a special interest in paediatrics and is currently based at Addington Hospital where she works part time at the Children's Clinic since 2010.

Feroza Joossub

Feroza Joossub is a Chartered Accountant by profession. Feroza worked in industry for 8 + years in the field of external auditing thereafter deciding to pursue her passion for teaching and join the world of academia at DUT. She currently serves as lecturer and Head of Department for the department of Financial Accounting and is a member of various committees at the DUT bringing her wealth of knowledge and experience to these respectively. As part of her giveback to the community, Feroza serves as a member on the Audit and Risk Committee of the KZN Cricket Union, Treasurer for the Durban Girls' College Parents' Association and member of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants, Accounting Professional Transformation and Education Committee. Feroza is married to Bilal Asmall and they have three children, Aaliyah in Grade 5, Muhammad in Grade 3 at Clifton and the latest edition and future College girl, 5 month old Maariyah.

Helen Stichelbout

Helen has a daughter Jenna who is in Grade 10 at DGC . An accountant by profession, together with her husband, they run an export business. She joined the PA in 2014 and is currently the liaison parent for the High School Grades 8 - 10. Helen also helps co-ordinate the Matric Parents' Cocktail Party, which is a fun evening for the parents to meet and de-stress after they have dropped their daughters off at the dance.

Jackie Psannis

Jackie joined the Parents' Association in 2018 and currently serves as Secretary. Sienna, her daughter, is currently in Grade 5 and joined College at the beginning of Grade 4. Jackie is an active parent at College who has embraced being a class mom for both her years at the school and really enjoys being the PA Secretary. These positions have allowed Jackie to meet so many wonderful College families and make the most incredible friends.
After matriculating in 1988 Jackie attended UKZN to do a BA in English and Psychology and she has been an entrepreneur ever since. She wrote a book in 2015 called 'INSANITY – the cause and cure of my cancer' and loves coaching and developing people to both their mental and physical personal best.

Janina Masojada

DGC Old Girl [Class of 1981]
Galleon Award Recipient [2008]
Studied for Bachelor in Architecture at University of Natal Durban and University of Cape Town and received a Masters in Architecture from Massachusetts Institute of Technology [1989]
Founding partner to DesignWorkshop My daughter Klara Robertson is in Grade 10, a 4th generation DGC pupil!
As this is my last year on the PA, my portfolio of chairing the Liaison Parent and Rites of Passage Sub-Committees are being handed over to Tracy Hampson. Both these areas have been formalized over the past few years and are well integrated into our school structure and calendar of events. The class liaison parents together with the PA, represent parents as both stakeholders and as able, generous contributors to the school experience enjoyed by our daughters, beyond the educational realm of 'school'!
Thank you to the fellow parents I have had the pleasure of meeting, the teachers and to our school leadership- I am grateful for this enriching exposure and the insights gained into the complex, challenging, exciting and often with good reason, the celebratory workings of our school community.

Karen Jones

Karen is an Old Girl of Durban Girls' College and her daughter Lara-Leigh is currently in Grade 9. After studying Clothing Management at Natal Technicon she worked for Mr Price Group for 19 years and last year left her job as Merchandise Director to dedicate time to her family and to give back actively to Durban Girls' College serving on the Parents' Association and the Old Girls' Guild.

Kushma Metha

Khushma has a B Com(legal) from Wits and worked at FNB for three years before moving to the Reserve Bank where she worked in the money market department for another three years. She worked in finance at a Packaging Company for a few years and is currently following her passion by working for a recycling company, Planet Care, where she does marketing, procurement and gives talks to various schools about the importance of recycling and taking care of the environment. She has two daughters Pia and Arya in Grades 7 and 8 at DGC.

Lauren Wellbeloved

Born and raised in Durban, Lauren attended DGC from Grade 1 to 12. After matriculating in 1998, Lauren attended the Christina Martin School of Food & Wine, and qualified as a Chef, pursuing her passion of and flair for the food industry. After having worked abroad in her field, Lauren returned to South Africa in 2001, to begin a three year Marketing Degree at UKZN.
Lauren went on to resume a product development role at Rainbow Chicken for several years, combining both her marketing and food background.
After having Ella & Todd, a year apart, Lauren chose to become a stay-at-home mom.
Her daughter, Ella, is now a proud Grade 2 girl at DGC. Lauren views the PA as a way to 'give back' to the school which has such a big place in her heart and she's so passionate about.

Leigh Corbett

Leigh joined the Parents' Association in 2016 as the College House representative. She has also served as a liaison parent in all phases of the school. Her focus on the PA has been organising fundraising events such as the Movie Nights and the College House Christmas Markets.

Leigh has two daughters at DGC – Kelly in Grade 10 and Lily in Grade 4. Her son, Liam, is in Grade 7 at Clifton. Kelly has been a boarder at College House for the past three years.

Leigh attended Victoria Girls' in Grahamstown, and then completed an Honours Degree in Botany at Rhodes University in 1992. She worked as an Environmental Scientist for many years. Nowadays, if she is not lifting children, making lunchboxes or helping with school projects, she enjoys photography and assisting dog rescue organisations.

Michelle Lewis

Michelle's daughter Julia joined DGC in 2014 in Grade 6, when the family moved down to Durban from Johannesburg. Julia joined DGC as her paternal grandmother had been a DGC girl.
Michelle is an attorney by profession and joined the PA in 2014. She serves in the Communications Portfolio and as one of the event organisers for the Matric Parents' Cocktail party on the night of the girls' matric dance. Having served on the Parents' Associations and Boards of her children's schools in Johannesburg, it made sense to join the PA of Julia's new school as it was a quick and enjoyable way to meet both the parents and the teachers.

Tracy Hampson

Tracy has been a parent at DGC for the past 13 years. Her daughter, Sarah, matriculted last year (2017) and her youngest daughter, Jenna , is currently in Grade 8. Both her daughters started DGC in Grade R.
Tracy has just recently taken over the portfolio : "Rites Of Passage",
The Rites of Passage gifts are given to the girls when they either enter or leave a phase within the school. For example, the PA present the Matric girls with a silver nugget branded with their initials and the Galleon.
Tracy has served on the PA since 2016 and has aso served as a liason parent in the Junior and Senior Primary. She is also currently a liason mom for Grade 8.

Theroshnie Kisten

Theroshnie has been a member of the PA since 2016 and served as liaison to the Junior Primary from 2017 to present. Her daughters joined Durban Girls College in Grade R, with Hiranya currently in Grade 5 and Kaisara in Grade 3.
Theroshnie is a specialist Anaesthesiologist and sub-specialist in Critical Care based at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital. She is also a post-graduate clinical lecturer, supervisor and researcher at the Nelson R Mandela Medical School (UKZN).

Trisha Parshotam

Trisha Parshotam is an old Girl from Durban Girls College, where she spent her entire schooling career.
She is a Marketing Strategist by profession and currently owns a nationwide security company and eventing business.
Her love for DGC and serving the school continues as she sits on the Old Girls' Guild and recently Joined the PA in 2018 Trisha runs the MySchool portfolio and her daughter is currently in Grade 2. Her Motto in life "life's a journey not a destination"... Something she remembers and lives by everyday.

JP & SP Movie Night

Matric Parents' Cocktail Party

Results

SENIOR PRIMARY

Indoor Hockey:
U11 vs Crawford North Coast U12A lost 0 - 2

Water Polo
On Friday 9 November our U11 & U13 teams played in a friendly tournament at St Mary's again.
Our U13A team were dominant in the pool again with convincing wins against St Mary's,
Thomas More and Highbury U13B team. Well played girls!
U11 results:
U11A vs Highbury lost 1 - 4
U11 mix vs St Mary's won 7 - 2
U11 mix vs Thomas More won 6 – 3

The Week Ahead

MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2018

Monday 19	**Day 1** SP: 08h30-12h30: Gr 7 to Mariannhill Monastery: 08h30 – 12h30
Tuesday 20	**Day 2** Muslim Birth of the Prophet SP: 08h30-13h00: Gr 7: Etiquette Course: 08h30 – 13h00: SP Drama Room JP: 13h00: Gr 2 Mothwa Haven Visit: Mothwa Haven SP: 16h00: Water Polo Inter-House Dads' vs Daughters': DGC Board of Governors Meeting: Trust House
Wednesday 21	**Day 3** 10h35-12h35: Inter-House Quiz JP: 11h00: Tennis Tournament: Gr 2 JP: 12h30: Tennis Tournament: Gr 3 SP: 18h00: Gr 7 End of Year Dinner: Durban Country Club
Thursday 22	**Day 4** SP: Gr 7 Outing: Gateway: Movie & Lunch: 08h30 – 13h30 SP: Gr 6J: Outing: Vida Café & Mitchell Park: 08h30 – 13h00 SP: Gr 5 Outing: Treasure Beach: Brighton: 08h00 – 13h30 SP: Animal Club Fundraiser: 13h20 – 14h10: Field SP: Grade 4 2019 Parents' Orientation Evening: 17h30 – 18h30: Lecture Theatre
Friday 23	**Day 5** JP: 09h50: Birthday Treats for Term 4 with Mrs Conradie: JP Foyers JP: 10h00-12h30: Gr 3 Christmas Market (Moms' and Daughters'): Peace Garden SP: Grade 4: Pirates' Pool Party: 08h30 – 10h30: Swimming Pool SP: Gr 6B: Outing: Vida Café & Mitchell Park: 08h30 – 13h00 First Aid Course: 11h00 – 17h00: SP Drama Room SP: 13h00: U13 Water Polo Tournament: DGC
Saturday 24	**Day 6** SP: 08h00: U13 Water Polo Tournament: DGC
Sunday 25	