

College Chatter

Issue
#46



NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

From the Helm

Celebrating College

As this is my last editorial for the Chatter during my tenure at College, you'll forgive me for indulging in celebrating 'my' College. The uniqueness of our school is tangible as you step through its doors. The space is charged with expectation - an energy, warmth, a sense of history, but most of all, a feeling of belonging - you're 'home'. The buildings have their part to play, but, it's the people that leave their imprint on the annals of time - 141 years of it.

There are many individuals and personalities that make up the fabric of our school, but for me, it's the girls, our most precious asset, the future of our country, the leaders of our world. We seek to nurture and empower them as they emerge from childhood, finding their 'butterfly moment' and growing into significant women. It is my joy each day to see engaged faces who eagerly greet me with a smile. They are the reason I am a teacher, the reason, always, the determiner when it comes to decisions that are sometimes very complex.

The awesome responsibility of such a journey does not escape me or any other teacher here, at our school. Teaching girls to think and function independently underpins all our learning. It is my hope that, in years to come, we can look upon this phase in our school life with pride as we see the girls who pass through its corridors, flourish and fly.

College is indeed, such a special place and my blessings go with you, its people as the Galleon undertakes her journey. It has been a privilege to be part of its crew.

Lynne van Dellen
Head of Senior Primary

College Moment



Rachel Wedderburn-Maxwell competed in the Atterbury National Piano competition hosted in Pretoria last week. She competed over four days and was selected as a finalist to perform at the gala evening on Friday. She was placed third in the 19 years and under category. Bravo Rachel!

Junior Primary



We opened the doors to our Grade 00 and R classes this week as the new girls for 2019 met their teachers and enjoyed a happy morning at College. Two cheerful faces adorned the climbing apparatus.



Our Creation Station proves to be an innovative and popular learning space. The girls acquire knowledge, learn new skills, are challenged and grow. 'De Bobo's Hats' and 'Thinking Maps' are used regularly in the JP to help develop and enrich deeper thinking and learning.



Senior Primary



Grade 4 girls mastering a new spelling technique.



Grade 5 Drama girls participating in their masked plays.



Grade 6 girls working on 3D shapes and designs



Girls busy at work in the SP Art classroom!



The audition for 2019 Claire Segers Singing Bursary took place on Friday, 2 November and was awarded to Lily Corbett, currently in Grade 4G. Bravo Lily!

High School

Sumayya Peer, Grade 9, took part in the National Archery Tournament held in Durban. With many competitors and tough opposition, Sumayya took home the Bronze medal for her event. Well done Sumayya we are so proud of you!



From Our Chaplain

I love this rendering of Proverbs 1 from the International Children's Bible, a translation which uses simplified language to get the meaning of the original across to younger readers. And whilst the context here is of listening to one's parents in regard to life and faith in order to be wise, I don't think it's too much of a stretch to include the role that other adults play in the shaping of one's thinking. Children are encouraged to honour the teaching of significant adults in their lives, but these verses also emphasise the responsibility of parents (and teachers) to teach them well. Here at College it is our ongoing privilege to ensure that our words and instruction are like flowers in the hair of each one of our girls, a beautiful crown of grace which helps her live wisely.

Michelle Edgecumbe

My child, listen to your father's teaching. And do not forget your mother's advice. Their teaching will be like flowers in your hair, or a chain to adorn your neck.

Proverbs 1:8,9



Debbie McWilliam

Meet our Staff

I arrived in 1992 as a locum at DGC and never left. I was a thirty-something mother of three children, at that time, and my daughter is now the same age as I was when I joined DGC.

I have fulfilled various positions in the school, my first being a non-academic assistant in the Junior Primary. This was a very special year and I am still in touch with many of those JP pupils, one of whom is my daughter-in-law. On my return to the JP, after doing a locum as the Headmistress's PA for a term, one entire class tried to hug me at once, I felt like a crinoline lady with all the little girls forming a skirt of hugs in being welcomed back. This was a heartwarming moment.

After a year in the JP I was then employed as school secretary, responsible for both the junior and senior phases of the school. Five years later I was appointed admissions secretary. In this department one experiences the joy of letting a family know that their daughter has been awarded a place at the school tempered by the difficulty of imparting the news that an applicant hasn't been accepted. Highlights have included enrolling the daughters of past pupils whom I remember wearing their green dresses and hats.

My years working at DGC have been happy and fulfilling, I have made lifelong friends. Although I am sad at disembarking from the Galleon at the end of this year, I look forward to spending quality time with my husband and my family.

Meet our Alumna

"My years at College were full of fun and I made lifelong friends. The stately buildings and beautiful grounds instil a sense of pride in me. I still get excited when Palmer house wins competitions. Seeing College girls wearing their uniforms smartly makes me proud. This shows utmost respect for the school. I was a second generation College girl and my two daughters attended College as well. My mother Mavis (class of 1938) is equally proud of her alma mater. College to me represents an institution of excellence in education - a place where pupils are nurtured to be the best that they can be - where opportunities abound but one has fun experiencing them and where courtesy, common sense and consideration for others prevails.

College is such a grand old lady and an enormous part of the history of our city. I take enormous delight in assisting Lynne Neilson with the College archives on a voluntary basis. I have green running through my veins and will always be proudly College!"

Meryl Marshall (Warder-Griffin)



Meryl Marshall
Class of 1969

Results

HIGH SCHOOL

Archery:

Sumayya Peer took part in the National Archery Tournament held in Durban. With many competitors and tough opposition, Sumayya took home the Bronze medal for her event. Well done Sumayya we are so proud of you!

SENIOR PRIMARY

Claire Segers Singing Bursary:

The Audition for 2019 took place recently. The recipient of the Bursary is Lily Corbett from Grade 4G. Well done Lily.

Water Polo:

On Friday 2 November our U11A&B teams, played in a tournament at St Mary's and they performed exceptionally well:

U11A vs Maris Stella U11A won 6 - 2

U11A vs St Mary's U11A won 10 - 3

U11A&B Mix vs Thomas More U11A won 7 - 2

U11B(Grade 4's) vs St Mary's U11B won 8 - 0

Indoor Hockey:

Monday 29 October at Reddam Umhlanga

U11 vs Our lady of Fatima U12B drew 0 - 0

U11 vs Crawford La Lucia U12A lost 1 - 2

Swimming:

Our Swimming team participated in a Gala at Umhlali Primary to celebrate the opening of their pool. Thank you to the Grade 7s who participated and finished their swimming season off with two relay wins. DGC came 3rd overall out of 10 schools so well done to all girls who participated.

Action Netball:

Congratulations go to the following girls who made the KZN

Midlands Action Netball Teams for 2019:

U14 2019 – Jessi Ramini and Chelsea Murray

U12 2019 – Isabella Fletcher, Kayla Andrews, Madison Freeman, Isabella Baitz, Amber Curtis, Lara Mervis, Isobel Officer, Sophia Barbieri and Khanyi Brauns

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY 18 NOVEMBER - MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

Monday 12	<p>Day 6 <i>HS: Gr 8 & 9 Examinations Start</i> <i>SP: 14h50: Indoor Hockey: U12 vs Crawford NC: Reddam</i> <i>SP: 17h30: Indoor Hockey: U12 vs Northlands: Reddam</i></p>
Tuesday 13	<p>Day 7 <i>JP: 07h30-08h10: Gr 1 – Parents’ Orientation for Gr 2 (2019) with Mrs Conradie: JP Hall</i> <i>JP: 08h10-09h30: Gr 1 Moms’ and Daughters’ Activity: Classroom</i> <i>JP: 09h10: Gr R&00 Makabongwa Christmas Party: JP Hall</i></p>
Wednesday 14	<p>Day 8 <i>JP: 08h00: Gr R girls meet their Gr 1 (2019) teacher: Classroom</i> <i>JP: 17h30: Gr R Parent Orientation for Gr 1 (2019): JP Hall</i></p>
Thursday 15	<p>Day 9 <i>JP: 07h30-08h10: Gr 2 Parent Orientation for Gr 3 (2019) with Mrs Conradie: JP Hall</i> <i>JP: 08h30-09h30: Gr 2 Moms’ and Daughters’ Activity: Classroom</i></p>
Friday 16	<p>Day 10 <i>SP: 08h00-10h10: Gr 7 Photographic Course: Lecture Theatre, Classrooms & Peace Garden</i> <i>SP: 11h00-13h00: Gr 4 (2019) Fun Day: Peace Garden & SP Classrooms</i> <i>SP: 14h00: U11 & U13 Water Polo Tournament: St Mary’s</i></p>
Saturday 17	
Sunday 18	

“ There are far, far better things ahead
 than any we leave behind. ”
C.S. Lewis