College Chatter

Issue #56

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

From the Helm

At our recent Junior Primary Open Day, I was reminded again of just how beautiful Durban Girls' College really is. Many families visited our school to experience a morning in the Junior Primary. Over tea, a father commented on how many incredible activities take place behind the high College wall in Musgrave Road, a wall that he had driven past so many times before. This is why Open Days are so important, as it gives prospective parents the opportunity to look beyond the wall, and see our light.

Durban Girls' College is the lighthouse of the Berea. In order to enjoy and appreciate the full College experience, one needs to step into the light of our Junior Primary, even if for a moment, and feel the spirit and energy that brings this part of our school to life. The sound of the Marimbas, the songs of the choir and the shrieks of our girls playing on the jungle gym and caterpillar all add to this magical spirit of our phase.

The Sherwood Tree standing in the foyer, the heart of our Junior Primary, intrigued many parents at the Open Day. This tree symbolizes the coming together of the old and new, mixing history and heritage with innovation and modernity. It is a constant reminder of the Sherwood Forest that once stood on the Junior Primary grounds, and is now a hub of education, interaction and excitement.

College has so much to celebrate! So much is taken for granted and on Open Day we are reminded about how blessed we are being part of the fabric of College. It is a privilege working in this innovative, 21st Century learning environment with such passionate teachers, our lighthouse keepers!

Step into our light for a while, you will not be sorry!

Carol-Anne Conradie
Head of Junior Primary

College Moment

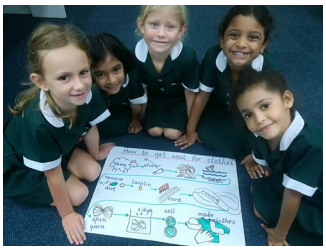
"To shine your brightest light is to be who you truly are." - Roy T. Bennett

Junior Primary

As part of our Thinking Skills programme the Grade 2s have been learning how to use Double Bubble maps, which teaches them to compare similarities and contrast differences.

Our Grade 1 girls had such fun making ice-cream this week.

We made a Flow Map to show where wool comes from.



Grade 3 movement and mythical creatures. Yes, our Grade 3 fairies do fly.

Our girls are loving our fabulous new reading table.

Our Grade 2s shared their musical talents at the recent music module.

The Grade Rs have been role playing various scenes and discussing the differences between feelings and facts during Thinking Skills lessons this term.

Senior Primary

Special visitors to the Grade 6B Classroom!

Congratulations to Lia Primach, who participated in the KZN Feis Irish Dancing Competition held at Pinetown Girls' High School on 9 March. Lia received two gold and one bronze medal and one 6th place award in the solo section. She also performed a three hand dance (a trio) placing 2nd overall in a tough section of some highly experienced dancers and a four hand dance (a dance with four dancers) also placing 2nd overall. Well done, Lia.

Grade 4 girls, enjoying doing their Natural Sciences and Technology work outdoors!

The SP girls, parents and staff enjoying every minute of the end of swimming season party!

The theme for the SP SCA end of term party was 'Fire-flies'. We enjoyed fairy lights, special themed cookies, and ate only yellow snacks! Each of the girls took home a set of the term's memory verses cards and we toasted to lots of happy, meaningful times spent at SCA!

High School

Congratulations to our High School girls who participated in the KZN Feis Irish Dancing Competition held at Pinetown Girls' High School on 9 March.

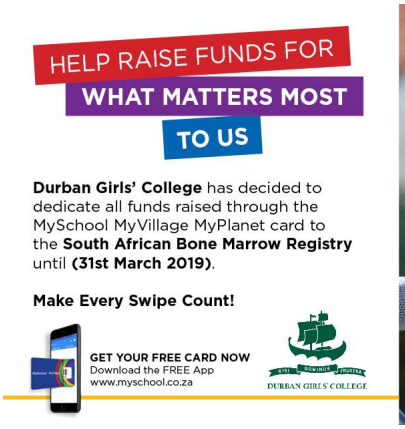
Louisa Hancock received one bronze medal and two 5th place awards in the solo section, as well as placing 6th overall in the intermediate prechampionship section. She also performed a 3 hand dance (a trio) placing 4th overall in a tough section of some highly experienced dancers and a four hand dance (a dance with four dancers) also placing 1st overall in the senior age group.

Arin Pincus received one gold, two silver and one bronze medal as well as one 4th and one 5th place awards. She also performed exceptionally well in her two prechampionship sections. In the beginners prechampionship she won round one and placed 2nd overall, she also placed 5th overall in the intermediate prechampionship. Arin also performed a three hand dance (a trio) placing 1st overall in a tough section of some highly experienced dancers and a four hand dance (a dance with four dancers) also placing 1st overall in the senior age group.

Taja, Olivia and Sam are getting creative in our beautiful art room!

Help Raise Funds for Robbie Eddles

Our Matric girls received their Matric Dance invitations this week. There was much excitement through the corridoors. It is going to be a spectacular evening!



SANBS BLOOD DRIVE

One unit of blood can save up to as many as three people's lives.

The South African National Blood Service will be coming to DGC to hold a Blood Drive on Tuesday, 19 March. The Blood Drive is open to staff and parents and you are urged to participate.

All girls who are at least 16 years old, weigh 50kg or more and are in good health, are encouraged to please donate.

The Blood Drive will be held in the Centenary Hall foyer from 9:00 - 14:00.

Meet our Staff

Leigh-Anne Honeywell - High School Consumer Studies

Growing up in Amanzimtoti and attending Kingsway High School, I knew very little about a school called Durban Girls' College. But, it's interesting to note that DGC won the hearts of former Kingsway High School staff namely, Mr Elliott (a former principal) and Mrs Bannister (my life sciences teacher!).

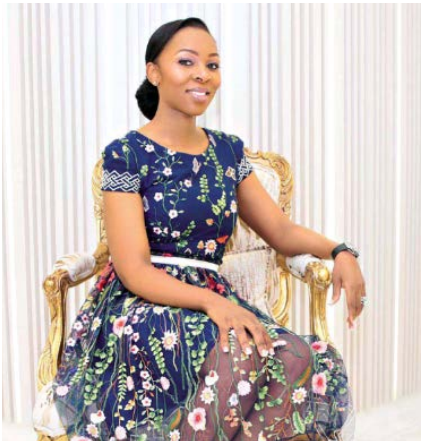
Shortly after completely my studies to become a Home Economics teacher, I said ' I do' to the love of my life, Michael. My first teaching position was at Centec as a lecturer which proved to be a sharp learning curve for me. Next, I was to become part of the Durban Girls' High School family. This was a wonderful time and it instilled a love for teaching in me. But after a few years I had to bid a sad farewell as hubby was being relocated to Sandton for work. We also joined a local church which impacted our lives and we felt called to serve as pastoral leaders in this church

In 2010 we decided to move back to Durban. I was eager to get back to teaching and first at Virginia Preparatory before being offered a position to teach a grade of Consumer Studies at Danville Park Girls High. During this time I was approached by DGHS to come back as Head of Subject which I accepted without hesitation. I taught there for a few more years before spotting an advertisement for a DGC position for Consumer Studies and I applied within the hour! I was completely overwhelmed by the offer from DGC to be able to join the family! I feel so privileged to have my dream of being able to teach at DGC fulfilled and I look forward to meeting and making an impact in many more young lives.

Both my daughters Caitlin and Amy are in the high school and my son Samuel attends Virginia Preparatory

Meet our Alumna

Dr Portia Gumede - Class of 1993



Meet Dr. Portia Gumede, a 2019 Forbes Women Africa Summit panelist and also one of the most prominent black female doctors in South Africa and of course a DGC Old Girl!

Portia's parents, a clerk and a nurse with five children from Clermont in KwaZulu-Natal, knew they wanted to fight apartheid with education. Portia did well at school and she was awarded a bursary by Independent Media to attend Durban Girls' College.

After matriculating from DGC, Portia went on to earn a medical degree and a diploma in aesthetics. Last year, she opened an aesthetics centre in Hyde Park, Johannesburg. The aesthetics centre specialises in darker skin concerns and has attracted huge interest from South Africa and from neighbouring countries.

From our Chaplain

Michelle Edgcumbe

But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed their sinful desires to his cross. They don't want these things anymore. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Galatians 5:22-25

Last Saturday the Junior Primary hosted their Open Day. As I stood under the Sherwood Tree in the JP foyer and spoke to our visitors about the College Cares programme, which teaches and celebrates courage, attitude, respect, empathy and self control, I was reminded that the things we teach the smallest girls at College are often the things that the rest of us also need to hear. In the whirlwind of busy days it's easier to just plough on rather than to stop and consider what we might have done over the last week that, if we were all JP girls, might result in a College Cares award at assembly! God also knows how challenging this is so he has kindly provided a Helper who gently convicts and encourages us to grow good fruit.

Results

SENIOR PRIMARY
Action Netball
Results from Monday 4 March
U11A drew 12 - 12 with Ashton. An extremely exciting match, very well played girls!

U13A vs Northlands U13A lost 6 - 14

Results from Saturday 9 March:
U10A vs Ashton College U11A won 8 - 6
U11A vs Crawford La Lucia U11A lost 5 - 6
U12A vs Northlands U12A won 20 - 10
U13B vs Ashton College U13B lost 2 - 12
U13B vs Umhlali Prep U13A lost 4 - 17

Swimming
The B team participated in the D&D 'D' League gala on Tuesday 5 March. They came 6th out of 10 schools. Well done and thank you to every girl for their passion, pride and dedication to swimming this term.

The A Team participated in the D&D A League Gala on Thursday 7 March. We finished in 8th place. Even though the final position appears disappointing there were many noteworthy performances and 25 personal best times that were achieved on the night. Special mention and thank you to the following girls who beat their personal best times by two or more seconds on the night. Your fierce determination has made your coaches and school very proud:

Joesphine Macduff - U10 Backstroke (4 seconds)
Nikita Scruby - U10 Breastroke
Sarah Firth - U11 Backstroke
Julia Butcher - U12 Backstroke
Nastasjia Reddy - U12 Breastroke
Micheala Lewis - U13 Butterfly (5 seconds)
Leah Droyman - U13 Backstroke
Sophia Barbieri - U13 Backstroke

The star of the night was Torey Adams (Grade 4), who started the Ladder Relay and not only touched first in her leg, but she swam the fastest 50m Freestyle out of the whole DGC team.
A phenomenal achievement, well done Torey!

Music Results
On Saturday, 9 March, The South African Society of Music Teachers had their annual High Achievers Concert. Twelve DGC girls performed which is a great achievement. Hiranya Pillay was announced as a winner in Grade 1 to 3 Trinity Examinations Category. This means that she came first in the whole category, in Durban. Well done, Hiranya.

Irish Dancing
Congratulations to Lia Primach, who participated in the KZN Feis Irish Dancing Competition held at Pinetown Girls' High School on 9 March. Lia received two gold and one bronze medal and one 6th place award in the solo section. She also performed a three hand dance (a trio) placing 2nd overall in a tough section of some highly experienced dancers and a four hand dance (a dance with four dancers) also placing 2nd overall.

HIGH SCHOOL
Hockey
The 1st Team hockey took part in the annual first round of the Spar Hockey Tournament this past weekend. The event took place at 3 Schools Astro and had a number of our local Durban Central schools taking part.

It was an exciting Sunday of hockey and the DGC team remained undefeated beating Durban Girls' High 1-0 in the final.

Congratulations girls on this fantastic result and good luck for the next round in July.

Netball
U14 vs Reddam: DGC lost 17 - 12
U15 vs Ashton: DGC won 27 - 7
2nd Team vs Crawford La Lucia: DGC won 13 - 12
1st Team vs Ashton: DGC won 23 - 13

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The Week Ahead

18 March - 24 March 2019

Monday 18	**Day 6** SP: 08h30 - 10h30: Interhouse Gala: DGC HS: 13h30 - 14h30: Interhouse Gala: DGC
Tuesday 19	**Day 1** JP: 09h30 - 11h30: DGC Clifton Gala: Clifton HS: 09h00 - 14h00: Blood Drive: Hall Foyer HS: 17h00 - 19h30: Gr 8 Midsummer Night's Shakespeare evening picnic: Field HS: 18h00: uHambo Parent's Information evening: Lecture Theatre JP: 18h00: Choir Festival: Centenary Hall
Wednesday 20	**Day 8** JP: Breakup Day Times Gr 00: 10h35 Gr R: 10h45 Gr 1: 11h00 Gr 2: 11h15 Gr 3: 11h30 SP & HS: 11h00 - 11h30: Assembly Centenary Hall: School Ends
Thursday 21	HS: Eunice Hockey & Netball Tour: U16: Eunice
Friday 22	HS: Eunice Hockey & Netball Tour: U16 HS: 09h00: Hockey 1st Team vs St Mary's Waverly: DGC
Saturday 23	HS: Eunice Hockey & Netball Tour: U16
Sunday 24	HS: Eunice Hockey & Netball Tour: U16

We wish our DGC families well and happy holidays.
Term 2 commences on Tuesday 09 April 2019.

> **"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within"**
>
> *Maya Angelou*