



BPS NEWS ISSUE 9

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Dates to Diarise 2018

15 Dec 2017 BPS Aftercare closes for the holidays
 8 Jan 2018: BPS Aftercare re-opens
 13 Jan: BPS Clothing Shop open from 9:00-12:00
 15 Jan: Clothing Shop open from 9:00—11:00
 16 Jan: BPS Clothing open from 9:00-11:00
 17 Jan: Start of Term 1 School at 7:50
 18 Jan: Welcome Function for all new parents @ 7:00pm
 22 Jan: Parent-Teacher Meeting
 24 Jan: Grade 7 Camp
 25 Jan: Choir auditions
 26 Jan: Grade 7 returns from camp

For more Term 3 dates please visit the D6 Communicator

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents

As we reflect on another amazing year at BPS, we have grateful hearts for all we have achieved together this year. It was another successful year on the academic front, with our school being recognised by the WCED for our phenomenal results in the Grade 3 & 6 Systemic Tests. We excelled on the sportsfield, with many of our learners also participating in festivals and tournaments. One of the many, many highlights was when our Under 10 Cricket Team played Kirstenhof under lights in a day - night T20 game. Culturally we made waves again, as our choirs excelled at the Cape Town Eisteddfod. Our learners aced the individual Trinity College Independent exams, our poetry, drama and creative writing teams excelled at the various competitions and concerts. Our learners also excelled at the World Scholars Cup. Our service pillar remained strong, as we supported Glenbridge School as part of our Mandela Day initiative. We also collected many items for various organisations in need this year.

All this and more would not have been possible if all of us did not pull together in the same direction. We wish to acknowledge the following people who helped turn the ordinary into extra-ordinary moments and opportunities for our school:

Thank you parents for all you have done – your contribution made it possible to celebrate BPS. Thank you for supporting your children, helping at the fundraisers, attending all the various functions, transporting learners on outings, helping out in the Clothing Shop and the Tuck Shop, and many more instances. Sometimes just an encouraging smile or a helping hand from a kind parent is all that's needed.

Thank you to our School Governing Body parents, who worked tirelessly to achieve our goals and objectives. Sincere thanks to Mr Apolles, Mr Freese, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Kuhn and Mr Young for their serving hearts in working for the common good of BPS.

Thank you to all our amazing staff for their commitment, dedication, enthusiasm and passion which they display in abundance to help our children realise their talents and potential. I am sure you will applaud them and show your appreciation for all they have done this year.

Grade 7's, we wish you well. Most of you have been part of the BPS family for eight years. You have grown and developed not just physically, but emotionally too. Your individual talents and potential have been harnessed in the safe space at BPS. We now urge you to move forward, embrace the challenges and stay true to your core values. We look forward to hearing only good things about you, and will no doubt be proud of our BPS "babies" in the years to come. Farewell to all families, who end their association with BPS after many years. We wish you happiness and success, and be assured that you will always be part of the BPS family.

It is not possible to mention every pair of helping hands by name in the newsletter, but please be assured that each and every contribution of all our "co-workers and helpers" are appreciated by all at Bergvliet Primary School.

We wish you a wonderful holiday and quality time with your loved ones.
 May you be blessed with the gift of peace, love and joy this holiday season

Mr Pause and all Staff at BPS

STAFF FAREWELLS

End of terms at school are always joyous occasions, as we look forward to the holidays. However, it can also be sad, as we often have to say farewell to staff members or learners. We say farewell to Mrs GR Williams, our Grade 1 teacher and Head of the Foundation Phase. Mrs Williams has decided to retire from WCED employ and will embark on new challenges in her life. Mrs Smal (Bates) leaves BPS after 9 years of working in our Music Dept. to take on a new challenge at a neighbouring school. Mrs Smal brought a freshness to our Music department. and inspired many musicians to love music. She has also received many accolades with our choirs in the Cape Town Eisteddfods. Ms Son, our Grade 3 educator, will be following her passion to work with young learners, aged 4 and will be shaping young minds and laying foundations for later years. Mr Homan, our Sports Administrator and Mr Falcon, our senior primary learnerships, both qualify as full time educators at the end of 2017. Both have secured employments as teachers at Kommetjie Primary and Norman Henshilwood respectively for 2018. Amy Peterson, has been a volunteer with BPS and she moves on to Springfield next year. We wish all of our educators happiness and success in all their future endeavours. We thank them for their passion, enthusiasm, gifts and talents they have shared with our learners over the past number of years in the various facets of our school. They will certainly be fondly remembered by the BPS family.



CONGRATULATIONS—WEDDING BELLS



We congratulate Mr Barnwell who will be tying the knot with his fiancée, Lauren this holiday. We wish them many, many happy and bliss-filled years together.



WORLD SCHOLARS CUP

We congratulate Noah Hoffenberg, who represented BPS at the World Scholars Cup Tournament of Champions at Yale University, New York. Noah competed in various disciplines of innovative thinking, debating, problem solving, creative writing and won a gold and silver medal for his efforts. Well done your achievements. We are sure it was an experience of a life time.



NEW OFFICIAL SPORTS UNIFORM 2018

Our new sports uniform is available for purchase from our School Uniform Shop. The new uniform will be the official sports uniform in 2018 having been phased in during 2017.

Please make sure that you purchase this item and other items of uniform timeously.

The BPS Uniform Shop will be open on Saturday, 13 January from 9:00—12:00



CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION—WHISPERS FROM THE HEART

Results from Whispers from the Heart, Creative Writing Competition:

Third Place: Cassie English (receives R150 & will receive the book with her work published in it.)

Fourth Place: Ropa Kapembe; Leine Goddard; Quanita Harris; Kaley Coetzee & Morgan Thompson (they will all receive a copy of the book)

SCHOOL STARTING AND DISMISSAL TIMES—2018

The school day will start at 7:50 from 2018. There will only be one bell, not two as in the past

Grade R:	07:50 – 13: 10	Monday to Thursday
Gr 1 & 2:	07:50– 13:15	Monday to Thursday
Gr 3:	07:50– 14:35	Monday to Wednesday
Gr 3:	07:50– 13:15	Thursday
Gr 4 – 7:	07:50– 14:35	Monday to Thursday
Gr R – 7:	07:50 – 13:00	Friday



Please make every effort be punctual, present and prepared.

IMPORTANT DATES TO DIARISE FOR 2018

The **SCHOOL CLOTHING SHOP** will be open for purchases on:

Saturday, 13 January 2018 from 09.00 – 12.00, Monday, 15 January 2018 & Tuesday, 16 January 2018 both days from 09.00 – 11.00.

BERGVIET PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL CARE: Will close on Friday, 15 December 2017 and re-open on Monday, 8 January 2018.

START OF TERM 1: 17 January 2018

New Parent Welcome Evening Function: Thursday, 18 January 2018

The first and very important **Parent-Educator Meeting** of 2018 will take place on **Monday, 22 January 2018**

18:15 – 18:45 Parents of Grade Four—Seven learners meet the educators in their classrooms will meet in their respective classrooms

19:00 – 19:50 General Meeting for ALL PARENTS (Reception Grade to Grade 7) in the Hall.

20:00 – 20:30 Parents of learners in Reception Grade, Grade One, Two and Three learners will

SCHOOL CAMPS:

Grade 5: 31 January—2 February

Grade 6: 14 February—16 February

Grade 7: 24 January—26 January

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RECYCLING: - 2018

We are in desperate need of volunteers to assist our dedicated team at our recycling depot. If you are able to help out for even one hour a day, it will certainly go a long way in assisting with this vital service to the community. Grannies and Grandpas are most welcome. Please contact the office and hand in your name. We look forward to many more volunteers joining our team of regulars in 2018 to keep this important service to the community going. Thank you to all who supported and volunteered their time this year!!



WOOLWORTHS AND MY SCHOOL CARD:

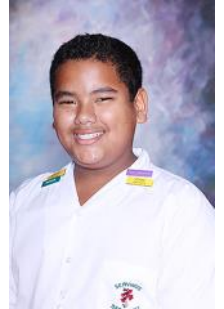
Thank you to all family and friends who continue to swipe their MYSCHOOL card and have BPS as a beneficiary. Every swipe helps BPS, no matter how big or small. Please swipe during the holidays. If you need a new card, please contact Mrs Bettie Shaban who will gladly assist in ensuring that you receive a card.



We're on the web.
www.bergvlietprimary.co.za

SENIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING WINNER 2017

FALL DOWN SEVEN TIMES, STAND UP EIGHT: BY: NICHOLAS HECTOR



This proverb has huge meaning for me personally. I sincerely believe that the values it expresses are not just important, but are in fact necessary, for us to achieve success and reach our goals in life. I can say this with absolute certainty for these two reasons:

Firstly, I have read many accounts of people who have done some amazing and extraordinary things. These people have come from all walks of life, and different places around the world. But they all have one vital quality: the ability to persevere in the face of obstacles. Secondly, there have been many times in my own life when I've grappled with feelings of negativity and failure. I don't think that there is anyone reading this who has not experienced these feelings for him or herself. But what those tough times have taught me, is that sometimes there is nothing else for it, but to push through.

Let's take a moment to examine the wording of the proverb: "Fall down seven times...". Eish! That's a whole lot of falling down! The originator of the proverb must have had someone like me in mind, as I have it on good authority that I have been somewhat clumsy my whole life. I keep pointing out that I must have inherited these 'clumsy genes' from someone....!

"Falling": the very word is linked with feelings such as pain, regret, suffering and failure. Typical examples are: "Falling from grace", "Falling down in one's duty" or "Falling before the last fence". Anyone who has ever failed to reach a target, failed an exam or failed to be selected for a team or group, knows first-hand that this is not a happy place in which to be. I think we can all identify with the pain of disappointment. Life has a way of teaching us lessons, and failure often teaches us what doesn't work, so that we have a chance to learn what does.

Which brings me to the last part of the proverb: "Stand up eight...". Here's the thing: the only way to judge whether we have learnt anything from our failure or setback, is to get right back up and try again. Easy to say in theory, yes. In practice, not so easy at all. But if we are to grow and mature, it is something we simply have to do: pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and try again. This spirit of determination, self-discipline and perseverance is absolutely crucial if we are to fulfil our dreams and ambitions.

So: Fall down seven times, stand up eight... The "falling down" part is easy; I seem to do it on a regular basis! It's the standing up which sets us apart. Our ability to persevere through adversity is what reflects the strength of our character. At this point in time, I am just a few days away from leaving the safe haven of Primary School. Bergvliet Primary has nurtured and supported me for eight years, and the thought of leaving everything familiar behind is both exciting, and very, very scary. It was here that I learnt the value of hard work, and that success only comes if we are willing to make the effort, for as long as it takes to get the job done.

I am sure that all my sports coaches over the past eight years will agree that hand-eye coordination and athleticism are not my strengths. But the life lessons that they taught me are far more important:

It doesn't matter whether you bat at number 1 or number 11, or whether you can swim a lap faster than your fellow House Captains. What really matters is that you see the job through, support your team-mates, and do your very best to stand up, no matter how many times you fall down.

THANK YOU

NICHOLAS HECTOR, GRADE 7 HILL, 2017