

## SCHOOL MATTERS

### FROM THE HEADMASTER'S OFFICE



*Without training, they lacked knowledge. Without knowledge, they lacked confidence. Without confidence, they did not get a win.*

*Julius Caesar*

On Friday, 21 February, we marched like the Romans of old to the Pilditch Arena. On and off the track, this was truly an Excellentia day for Midstream College. A special trumpet salute to all our coaches, teachers and organisers who made this spectacle possible. Thank you for everyone's months of careful planning and selfless service. Thank you also to all the parents without whose help and support on the home front this would not have been possible.

I hope every Midstreamer can look back on the day with pride and may the immortal words of Julius Caesar stay with you: Veni, Vidi, Vici. I hope every athlete, spectator and helper will sail over the proverbial hurdles and obstacles in your lane and always see yourselves as victors.

My sincerest thanks also to our grade 12 parents who attended the information evening in your masses last week. It is always heartwarming to see how many parents attend such events. May the favourable winds of fortune be at the matrics' back. I believe all the academic practice will lead to knowledge and confidence with which you will ace the final exams.

We have created an opportunity early next term where an expert will come and talk to learners during school hours, and to parents one evening, about the digital dilemma we find ourselves in. (See elsewhere in this newsletter for more detail.) The College is currently taking an in-depth look at our cell phone policy and will appreciate input from your side.

The proverbial king (summer sports) is dead; long live the king (winter sports). I hope to see many of you at our annual derby against Cornwall Hill on Friday and Saturday. Carpe Diem!

## OPEN DAY - 12 MARCH 2025

### ACADEMICS

#### FIRST TERM REPORTS

These reports will be available on the parent portal on Tuesday, 22 April.

#### PARENTS' EVENING

The first parents' evening of the year will take place on Thursday, 24 April from 16:00 to 19:00.

# SUBJECT CHOICES FOR GRADE 10 (2026)

Your child's final subject choice, which will eventually lead to his/her tertiary studies and career choice is probably one of the most important decisions you and your child will ever have to make. An intensive scientific testing programme will assist you and your child in making an informed final subject choice.

Our school offers psychometric testing to assist grade 9 learners in choosing the right subjects. The assessments will be completed in groups during June. Ms Esmarie Cilliers, the school counsellor, will facilitate the process. The aim is to minimise subject changes and ensure better career alignment. Participation in this process is voluntary. The cost is R400 and will be debited to your school account should you enrol. More information will follow next term.

In addition to the focus in the grade 9 LO curriculum, the school has acquired the services of Dr Mari Laas ([mari@careercounsel.co.za](mailto:mari@careercounsel.co.za)), Ms Elsabé Botha ([elsabe@embotha.co.za](mailto:elsabe@embotha.co.za)) and Ms Leonie Taljard ([info@leonietaljard.co.za](mailto:info@leonietaljard.co.za)) to conduct the appropriate tests with those learners who may be interested. If you wish to acquire these services, please contact them via e-mail. As reference, use Midstream and your child's name and surname. The cost for this service is payable to the service provider directly. You are also welcome to use any service provider of your own.

Our subject choice information evening is on 14 August. Your child's final subject choices must be handed in by Monday, 18 August.

## TESTS ON 20 MARCH

You are reminded that there is a scheduled term test on the day the school closes. Learners cannot be excused for extended holiday purposes.



## BOOST PROCUREMENT

We now have an alternative supplier available for all your stationery and textbook requirements – Boost Procurement. A quick link to their website is available on our website (Academics – Textbooks – Boost Procurement).

## Cell phone use at school



We are currently reassessing learners' use of cell phones at school. Many schools, and even entire countries, have taken a firm stance on this. Research indicates that limiting their access during the school day has yielded significant positive outcomes. A variety of stakeholders will be consulted before any final decision is made.

Dr Anke de Beer will present a talk titled "The Digital Dilemma" to grade 6 and 7 learners from both primary schools, as well as high school learners, on Wednesday, 23 April. Dr De Beer has also agreed to share the same insights with parents, and a suitable date for this session will be communicated in due course.

Dr De Beer is a respected speaker, researcher, consultant, and author on the pressing issue of technology and its devastating effects on mankind. She uses her extensive academic knowledge and experience in the counselling room to guide people in the use of digital media. She has worked with schools, organisations, churches, and law enforcement.

SPORT



Click on the link for sports results

# THE UNIFORM SHOP

Herewith the business hours during the holidays:

- 20 March: 07:00 – 15:00
- 21 March to 2 April: Closed
- 3 & 4 April: 08:00 – 16:00
- 7 April: 08:00 – 17:00
- From 8 April: 07:00 – 17:00