

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

STREET ADDRESS:
40 Derby Avenue
Springs Extension
Springs

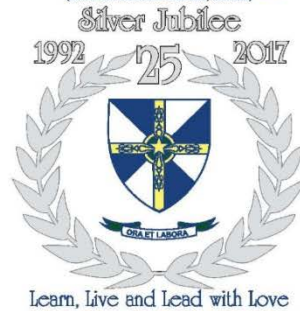
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Veritas College

(FORMERLY CONVINT AND CBC, SPRINGS)



SENIOR SCHOOL

STREET ADDRESS:
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NEWSLETTER No. 5

18 September 2017

Dear Veritas Families

Welcome back to the last stretch of the 2017 school year. We trust that you were able to relax with your children at some point during the August break.

Each year seems to fly by quicker than the previous and this year has been no exception. The reason for this can be attributed to our busy lives and looking at our Calendar of Events for this final term it is certainly going to be a busy three months.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- We started term 3 with a combined Mass, with the Senior School, celebrating the **Birthday of Mary, the Mother of Jesus**, on Thursday, 7 September.

Once again our children proudly took up to the altar their offerings during the offertory procession. Thank you, Veritas Families, for all the donations of food.

- On Sunday, 24 September, six of our pupils will make their **1st Holy Communion at the 10 am Mass**. Congratulations to them!



Thank you to Mrs Shardlow for, once again, preparing these children for this blessed Sacrament.

- Sunflower Day** – Friday, 15 September.



The Sunflower Fund
Hope begins with you

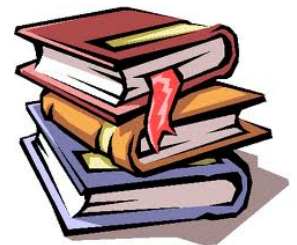
A very big, **thank you**, to our Veritas Families for supporting this initiative.

The school sold out of TOPES very quickly and we believe that there is no longer stock available at our local PNP's. Children without TOPES may still wear their denim jeans and green school golf shirts to school on Friday and pay R5.00 for a Sunflower Day Sticker.

ACADEMIC NEWS

At the end of the second term and during the first two weeks of the third term teachers will be completing interviews with parents of children who are not performing well academically. Veritas College

has a very clear policy regarding promoting and retaining pupils. By the end of September parents will have been informed if there is a possibility of their child having to repeat their present Grade. This decision is not taken lightly and is not



finalised until the end of November. It is not in a child's best interest to progress to the next grade if they have not mastered the necessary skills in their present grade. Various factors are taken into consideration when making this decision i.e. age appropriateness, recommendations by Teachers, Educational Psychologists and/or Occupational Therapists.

Term 3 is a very short term and parents are urged to keep abreast of their children's academic progress and make an appointment to see the teacher if they are at all concerned.

- **Final Examinations**, for the Grade 4 – 7 pupils begin on **Wednesday, 8 November**. 'What to Study Lists' will be distributed early in October.
- Please note that as from **Tuesday, 7 November** (the start of the final examinations), until the end of the year, school will close at 12:00 for **ALL** pupils. There will be waiting classes available until 13:00 for children who are unable to be fetched by 12:00. After-School Care will commence at 13:00.



- Congratulations to the following pupils who attained **Top 5** positions in their respective grades for Term 2.

GRADE 4:

1. ABIGAIL BOTTGER	85,36%
2. OFENTSE MODUBU	83,00%
3. RENEILWE MOLEFE	79,01%
4. MIKAEL GOVENDER	78,45%
5. MAIA MEZZATESTA	77,72%

GRADE 5:

1. LAURA DRAXL	82,66%
2. ROSALY FERNANDEZ	81,11%
3. SAMEER MAHOMED	80,75%
4. GOMOLEMO LENTSOE	78,51%
5. KARABO MAHLANGU	77,69%

GRADE 6:

1. LUKA BEKKER	83,84%
2. ADRIAN DRAXL	81,77%
3. KYLE DA SILVA	81,36%
4. KIARA JACOBS	80,25%
5. DISHANDREE MAISTRY	76,55%

GRADE 7:

1. ZAZA MATHE	90,19%
2. KYRA STOCK	87,12%
3. ANTONI SAMARAS	86,16%
4. LAYLA-ANN SACHSE	84,55%
5. HANNAH REES	83,86%

PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

Our little 'bodies' in the Pre-Preparatory are being kept very busy as they currently enjoy the opportunity to dance, sing and perform on the stage as they practice for our upcoming Revue.

Important Dates

- Wednesday, 27 September – **Grade R School Readiness Assessments**
- Friday, 6 October – **Pre-Preparatory Grandparents' Day.**
- Monday, 27 November – **Pre-Prep Christmas Party**



CULTURAL NEWS



If your child entered the Springs Speech and Music Festival then I'm sure that August proved to be quite a busy month for you.

August, September and October are important months for our 'Culture Vultures' of which we have many!

- Many of our pupils participated, with much success, at the **Springs Festival** in the following sections: Verse Speaking, Dramatised Poetry, Prepared Speaking, Unprepared Speaking, Afrikaans Voordrag and Music.

A special thank you to Mrs Howard, Mrs O'Donoghue and Mrs Rothman who are our co-ordinators of the Springs Speech and Music Festival.

- We were informed by the Springs Festival Committee that the Top Trophy for Junior Speech Excellence was awarded to Zakithi Mathe (Gr. 7) at the conclusion of the Speech Section.
- Our **Veritas Art Festival** will take place from 2 – 6 October. Parents are welcome to come and view the beautiful art pieces that will be on display during this week.

SPORTS NEWS

The month of September, for the Sports' Department, is a busy time for the coaching staff and for the pupils.

- **The Lex Liston 8-a-Side Cricket Tournament** will take place on Saturday,

16 September 2017 at the Senior School and we encourage our Veritas families to come and support our cricket team on the day. Matches start at 09:00 and the final will be played at 15:20.

- **Foundation Phase** extra mural activities for Term 3 will commence after the school Revue. We will continue with mini-cricket and mini-tennis this term. If time and weather allows it, we will start swimming again, but parents will be notified.
- Our athletes will be participating in the **Catholic Schools' Athletics Meeting** on Friday, 15 September. Good luck to all our athletes.

COLOURS AND AWARDS

The **Requirements for Colours and Awards** at Veritas Preparatory, as well as **Application Forms** for awards were sent out last week.

Due dates for 'Application Forms':

- **Cultural and Music Scrolls:** 29 September 2017
- **Art Scrolls:** 19 October 2017
- **Sports Scrolls :** 29 September 2017

A reminder please: If your child has achieved the necessary criteria to receive an award (as set out in the Requirements Form), it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to complete the Achievement Form, attach the necessary proof of achievement, and return it to school by the given dates.

Please note: If no form has been submitted by the closing date, we will assume that the pupil has not qualified for an award.

ENTREPRENEURS' DAY **Friday, 3 November 2017**



Our Grade 7s will once again be hosting the annual Entrepreneurs' Day on the 3rd of November.

- Food and Fun is the aim of the day!
- Parents are welcome to join us at school on this day.
- More information will follow closer to the time.

RONNIE RECYCLE NEWS

Thank you for the on-going support for our Ronnie Recycler Project. Please continue sending in your contributions until the end of the year. As of the end of August, Veritas Preparatory was in the lead in the **MPACT RECYCLING - PAPER COMPETITION!** Last year we won R10 000 – let's see if we can do the same this year. A special thank you to Mrs Freedman for co-ordinating this project.

MAINTENANCE & UPGRADES OF CAMPUS

During the August holidays, Mr Mike Hirst our Estate Manager, and the Support Staff were very busy painting, cleaning and generally giving the Preparatory Campus a 'facelift'.

The following projects were completed:

- The **Junior Boys and Girls' Bathrooms** had new ceilings hung, lights fitted, and were retiled and painted.
- The **Boys and Girls' changing rooms** at the swimming pool had new ceiling hung, lights fitted and they were painted and retiled.

- The **Ladies' bathroom** next to the school hall is the next venue to be retiled.

The funding for this came from our **Special Projects Funds**. Thank you parents for the extra R50.00 you contribute, each month, towards our 'Special Projects'.

- **Artificial Grass** was laid in our 'Catherine Quad'.
- **Two new awnings** were erected in the Pre-Preparatory.

Thank you to the **P.T.S.A.** for subsidising these projects from funds raised last year.

- The area outside the Art Room and the area between the artificial grass was **paved** thanks to the donation received from the Dominican Sisters.

Our school is looking beautiful thanks to our Veritas Families who give of their time to assist with P.T.S.A. events and fundraising initiatives and for the contributions towards our Special Projects Fund.

P.T.S.A. NEWS

The P.T.S.A. have two important fundraisers planned for this term.

- **The Veritas College International Food Fair** will be held on Saturday, **30 September 2017**, at the **Senior School Campus**. There will be a variety of entertainment, food and craft stalls at this special fundraising event. Gates open at 10am with an entrance fee of R20, per car, or R5 per pedestrian. Entrance is at gate 5, by the railway line. We have some new and exciting entertainment options planned for this year such as dancing, fashion shows, cake

decorating, a pet store, face painting, pony rides, a Fun Park and lots more.

- **The Jubilee Year Raffle**

(A letter was sent out in this regard at the start of Term 3)

The P.T.S.A. request support for this raffle. We ask that all our Veritas Families sell just one (or more) book/s of 10 tickets, per family, to friends and family members.

The cost of a ticket is R50 and the draw will take place on Friday, 27 October 2017.

There are wonderful prizes to be won:

- Quad Bike
- 4 Sets of double tickets to the International Cricket test Match (SA vs AUSTRALIA – 30 March to 3rd April 2018)
- Stand up Fridge
- Tablet
- R5000 spot prizes

Funds raised will go towards further upgrades to both the Preparatory and Senior School Campuses.

REVUE – VC REWIND

'**Revue Fever**' has hit the Preparatory! Dancing and singing has become part of the day as all the children get the opportunity to show off their talents... and what a lot of talent we have!

Ticket sales are going very well with most of the three shows filling up quite nicely. Parents are urged to buy their tickets soon to avoid disappointment. These are available at **R50.00**, per ticket, per night, from the Administration Office.

There will be no tickets sold on the nights of the Revue and families, without tickets cannot be accommodated in the hall.

A few important points regarding the Revue:

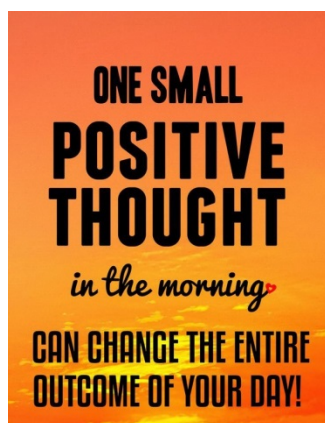
- The dates for the shows are as follows: **Tuesday, 19 September ; Wednesday, 20 and Thursday, 21 September**. All shows begin promptly at **18:00** but the children need to be at their classrooms by **17:30** each night.
- **All pupils**, from our Kittens, in the Cottage, to Grade 7 are required to participate in the Revue over **all three evenings**. Specific sequences have been allocated to specific children and with just one absentee it results in all sorts of confusion for the remainder of the class.
- Parents **do not** need to buy tickets for all three evenings – children can be dropped off and will be looked after by their teachers until the end of the show.
- The Veritas Prep children **will not** be permitted into the hall during the show to watch. Pupils have already seen the show at our dress rehearsal. After the class performances all children will return, with their register teachers, to their classrooms until the end of the show. Parents, who are watching the show, can fetch their children from the classrooms after the show.
- The Revue should end by **20:00**.
- A professional video will be made of the show for parents to order @ R150. We do not want audience members walking around during the show taking photos and private videos as this is very distracting for the children and the audience. The video order form was attached to our previous letter.

We look forward to seeing you all at the show.

STAFF NEWS

- Ms Phindile Mahlasela, from our Support Staff, had a dreadful experience during the August holidays with her house burning down. She unfortunately lost most of her possessions and although many of our Preparatory Staff have assisted where possible, we ask that if families have some blankets, clothing, cutlery and crockery spare, you could possibly let the ladies in our front office know.
- Congratulations to Mr & Mrs McAslin on the birth of their beautiful baby daughter, Kyra Brennan McAslin. May their little bundle of joy bring much happiness. Congratulations to Mrs Shardlow on becoming a proud grandmother.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



Mrs S. Billson
HEAD OF PREPARATORY

Mr D. Connors
HEADMASTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 3

September

5 September (Tuesday)	Term 3 Commences
6 September (Wednesday)	Achievement Forms Submitted
7 September (Thursday)	Mass – Birthday of Mary Mother of Jesus 07:45
8 September (Friday)	Open Day 09:00 – 12:00
11 September (Monday)	Blesbokspruit Cricket Trials
13 September (Wednesday)	Choir Festival Holy Rosary Cricket Matches against Curro
14 September (Thursday)	P.T.S.A. Meeting 18:00
15 September (Friday)	CSSC Primary Schools' Athletics Sunflower Day
16 September (Saturday)	8-a-side Cricket
19 – 21 September	SCHOOL REVUE – VC REWIND
24 September (Sunday)	First Holy Communion Heritage Day
25 September (Monday)	Public Holiday
28 September (Thursday)	CSO Foundation Phase Athletics
29 September (Friday)	Achievement Forms Due
30 September (Saturday)	P.T.S.A. Food Fair

October

2 October (Monday)	Veritas Art Festival begins
5 October (Thursday)	Teachers' Day P.T.S.A. Meeting 18:00
6 October (Friday)	Pre-Prep Grandparents' Day
10 October (Tuesday)	'Lus vir Lees' Production
11 October (Wednesday)	Swimming League Gala @ VC

13 October (Friday)	SISA Cross Country @ Curro Serengeti
14 October (Saturday)	Catholic Schools' Primary Tennis Festival
16 October (Monday)	Grade 6 Thaba Morula Tour – 16 th - 19 th October
19 October (Thursday)	School closes @ 12:00 for Mid-Term Break
20 October (Friday)	SISA Cross Country @ Kathstan
20 – 23 October	MID TERM BREAK
24 October (Tuesday)	School reopens after Mid-Term Break
25 October (Wednesday)	Swimming League Gala SISA Quiz @ St Francis
27 October (Friday)	Grade 7 Catholic Schools' Mass – Benoni Grade R School Readiness SISA Cross Country @ St Dunstan's

November

1 November (Wednesday)	SISA Cross Country @ Woodlands <i>All Saints' Day</i>
2 November (Thursday)	Mass for All Souls' Day <i>All Souls' Day</i>
3 November (Friday)	Entrepreneurs' Day
4 November (Saturday)	Grade 1 Orientation Day
7 November (Thursday)	School Closes @ 12 for start of exams
8 November (Wednesday)	Year End Exams Begin
9 November (Thursday)	P.T.S.A. Meeting 18:00
11 November (Saturday)	CSSC Mini-Cricket
17 November (Friday)	Examinations end.
23 November (Thursday)	Grade 3 Retreat
24 November (Friday)	Grade 4 Retreat Grade 7 Outing

27 November (Monday)	Grade 5 Retreat
28 November (Tuesday)	Grade 6 Retreat
29 November (Wednesday)	Grade 7 Retreat Foundation Phase Awards' Ceremony
30 November (Thursday)	Inter/Sen Phase Awards' Evening Pre-Preparatory Christmas Party

December

1 December (Friday)	Final Assembly Grade 7 Valedictory Mass School Closes @ 12:00
4 December (Monday)	Staff Administration Day
5 December (Tuesday)	Staff Administration Day
6 December (Wednesday)	Reports Issued from 07:30 – 09:00