

Veritas College Springs

(Formerly Convent & CBC, Springs)

NEWSLETTER No. 6

27 July 2015

Pre-Preparatory & Preparatory

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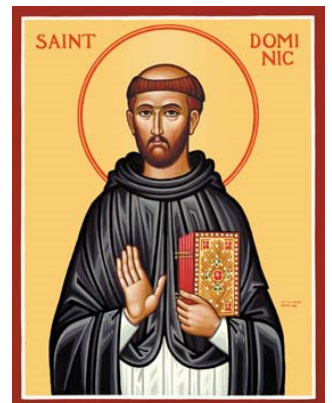
Dear Veritas Families

The past 13 weeks of Term 2 have been very busy for all teachers, learners and parents. Our learners have been actively involved on the Netball, Soccer and hockey fields while the 'culture vultures' have enjoyed their Choir, Marimbas, Art Club, Chess and Bible Quiz. Our Inter/Sen Phase learners have completed a comprehensive set of Examinations while all learners enjoyed productions by 'Red Head Productions' and 'Hooked on Books'. Families enjoyed the very successful Food Fair and now we all look forward to slowing down to a well-deserved holiday.

To end off our very busy Term we will be celebrating the feast of St Dominic with a Mass on Monday, 3 August at 07:45. Family members are welcome to attend.

Prayer of St. Dominic

May God the Father who made us bless us.
May God the Son send his healing among us.
May God the Holy Spirit move within us and
give us eyes to see with, ears to hear with,
and hands that your work might be done.
May we walk and preach the word of
God to all.
May the angel of peace watch over us and
lead us at last by God's grace to the
Kingdom. Amen.



ACADEMIC NEWS

The Inter/Sen Phase completed their Mid-Year Examinations on the 15th of July. We were pleased with the efforts that many of our



GRADE 7:

1. LINDIWE MABANGA 84,97%
2. CALVIN RYAN 84,14%
3. GEMMA REES 80,02%
4. MNDENI RADEBE 77,84%
5. CLAUDIA BREIMAIER 75,31%

Grade 7 Standardised Assessment Tasks (SATs)

Grade 7 pupils will be writing externally set SATs in English, Afrikaans and Mathematics as part of their November examinations. These are assessments written by Grade 7 pupils from affiliated ISASA (*Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa*) Schools.

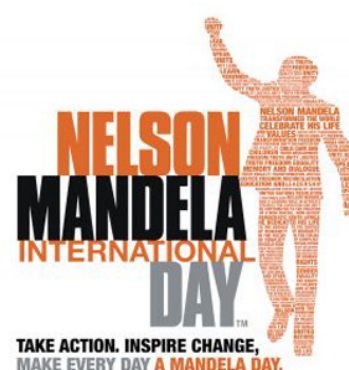
The Standardised Assessment Tasks (SATs) are assessments developed by a group of teachers and written annually by Grade 7 pupils. These assessments are available in Mathematics, English, Afrikaans and Zulu. The results are collated centrally and are available to heads of participating schools to determine their school improvement strategy. All information is strictly confidential.

PASTORAL CARE

"It is in your hands to make of our world a better one for all, especially the poor, vulnerable and marginalised."

- Mandela –

From Thursday 16 July our pupils heeded the call to give 67 minutes of their time (in most instances a lot more) to honour Nelson Mandela's Legacy. The various Grades adopted a community service project and donated necessary items and/or gave of their time to offer assistance where needed.



<u>GRADE</u>	<u>ORGANISATION</u>
Squirrels, Kittens & Care Bears, Teddies	'Reach for a Dream'
Grade R	Catholic Church
Grade 1	Environmental Awareness
Grade 2	Community Service Veritas
Grade 3	Community Service Veritas
Grade 4	S.P.C.A.
Grade 5	Nigel Old Age Home
Grade 6	Koponang Children's Orphanage
Grade 7	Kwasa School

We would also like to thank all the families who contributed to our Mandela Day initiative.

CULTURAL NEWS

SENIOR CHOIR

On the 17th of September our Senior Choir members will **attend a Choir Workshop for Catholic Schools at the Holy Rosary School organized by the Catholic School's Office.**

- Choirs will be grouped according to age and each group will spend the morning learning two to three songs.
- At the end of the morning, choirs will perform what they have been taught



Senior Choir practises take place on Wednesdays from 14:30 – 15:00

SPRINGS FESTIVAL

Many of our pupils have, once again, entered the Annual Springs Festival in the following sections: Verse Speaking; Sight Reading; Prepared Speaking; Unprepared Speaking. The festival takes place during the August holidays. Pupils have all received the dates and times when they will be performing. Parents will be expected to get their children to the venue. We wish these pupils good luck.

SPORTS NEWS

We have started our hockey programme for the year and the coaches have been encouraged by the number of girls and boys that have attended the practice sessions.

The Foundation Phase continues with their Netball and Soccer practices.



We entered our Foundation Phase Netball and Soccer teams into the **St Dunstan's Foundation Phase Winter Sports' Day**. Both the learners and teachers enjoyed the day and we were encouraged by the results that the pupils achieved at this festival.

The month of July is all about preparing our under 13 Netball, under 13 Soccer, Girls' Hockey and Boys' Hockey teams for the upcoming **Edmund Rice Winter Festival** being hosted by St Joseph's CBC, in Bloemfontein, from Thursday, 30 July to Saturday, 01 August 2015.

Provincial Achievements

Congratulations to the following learners and staff members, who were selected for provincial representation.

They are:

- Matthew Bourbon – selected for the under 13 B Eastern Gauteng Hockey Team
- Jaryd Schmid – selected for the under 13 B Eastern's Action Cricket Team
- Mr Keagan Billson – South African Country Districts Men's Hockey Team
- Dr David Payaniandi – manager of the under 16 Eastern Gauteng Girls' Hockey Team

Tennis

Tennis practises take place on a Monday from 13:45 to 15:30. During this time players will play against each other and a results ladder formed so that teams can be selected.

HOOKED ON BOOKS

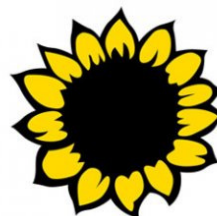
The Hooked on Books team will be visiting Veritas Preparatory on the 29th of July 2015. There will be an opportunity for the pupils to order any of the books that are going to be acted out. An order form will be sent home. The money and the order form should be returned to the class teacher by Monday 3 August 2015. The books will then be sent to the school and handed out to the children.



BANDANA DAY

12 October 2015

Mrs Dennis will be selling bandanas at school from the beginning of September at a cost of R25. Learners may wear their 2015 Bandanas to school on Monday, 12 October together with their green Veritas College T-shirt, blue jeans, white takkies and Veritas Tracksuit jacket (if it is cold).



The Sunflower Fund
share a little save a life

Please support this initiative in an effort to save the lives of those suffering from life-threatening illnesses.

'HERITAGE DAY' FUN WALK – Wednesday, 23 September

This year we will be combining our Grade 7's Entrepreneurs' Day with a fun walk for Heritage day.

- Learners are requested to dress up in an outfit that pertains to their heritage.
- Prizes will be awarded for the most creative outfits.
- Learners are required to ask 5 friends and/or family members to sponsor them to complete a 'walk' around the school while dressed in traditional dress. A route will be mapped out for them. They will need to find clues along the route to assist them in answering a 'Heritage Day Quiz'.
- Once they have completed the walk learners will be able to support the Grade 7s who will be selling food and gift items as part of their Entrepreneurs' Day.

COLOURS AND AWARDS 2015

The **Requirements for Colours and Awards** at Veritas Preparatory, as well as an **Application Form** will be distributed to all learners before the end of the term.

These 'Application Forms', for Cultural Activities, can only be completed and submitted after the Springs Festival and the Veritas Art Festival and pupils are to hand them in to their class teacher by, **NO LATER THAN, Wednesday, 30 September 2015.**

The application for some sporting awards, namely: Swimming, Athletics, Hockey, Soccer and any other Extra Curricular Sports (e.g. Indoor Cricket, Gymnastics) must be handed in to Mr Wild by 9 September 2015.

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.

OWL SEASON



Great excitement – we have 2 newly hatched owlets in the owl box! We suffered a set back with our mommy Spotted Eagle Owl being killed, so we had no nesting last year. It is with great joy that a new mommy took to our box and laid eggs, much earlier than what we have had in the past and the chicks are thriving and will be ready to leave the box soon.

DERBY ROAD IS A ONE WAY

Derby Road traffic has improved recently, with flowing traffic and vehicles not going against the new signage that has been erected indicating the road being a one way between 07:00 – 08:30 and 12:00 – 14:30. It has taken a 4 year battle since our original signage was stolen, to get this official signage erected, but within a week of having a meeting with Mrs Ndaba (a mother from our school), the Road has officially been legislated as a one way and signage has been completed. Thank you, Mrs Ndaba, for your help.



VEHICLE SAFETY

Mr Barton met with all the school drivers to discuss various safety issues with them including what is expected of them before they embark on any journey.

An instruction has been issued to all Staff at Veritas that when transporting pupils to any venue, seatbelts must be worn by all passengers. Drivers will not depart for their destination until all passengers are 'buckled in'.

Our vehicles are monitored continuously for roadworthiness and drivers are reminded of the need for adhering to the rules of the road.

SECURITY

- Parents and transport services are reminded that no child may leave the school grounds to wait for their parents/transport on the sidewalk. Children have been instructed to remain, under the 'big' tree, within the school grounds, until their transport arrives. This is for security reasons. Parents are also reminded that Gate 2 at the front of the school will only be opened from 14:00 for parents to drive in to collect their children from sporting activities.
- All children should be off the property by 14:30 in the afternoon unless they are in our Aftercare Centre or attending sporting/cultural activities. We request the co-operation of parents/guardians in this respect.
- Parents are required to sign their child out at the Administration Office if collected during school hours.

STAFF NEWS

- We were deeply saddened to hear that **Mrs Karen Gilbertson** had lost her fight against Cancer and passed away on the 18th of June. Many of our Veritas staff members and parents attended her funeral on the 25th of June and were comforted in knowing that she is no longer suffering.
- All in all it has not been a good term health-wise for many of our staff members:
 - **Ms Sharon Edwards** is still receiving treatment for her illness and is hoping to be strong enough to return to school in the third term. We thank Mrs Geraldine Greville for making herself available to take up Ms Edwards' Grade 2 post.

- **Mrs Freda Kelty** unfortunately had to have surgery on the 14th of July. We thank Mrs Lee for stepping in to the Grade R position during Mrs Kelty's sick leave.
- **Mrs Ann Billings** was in hospital last week having tests done. We are pleased to have her back at school again and feeling much better.
- **Mrs Debbie Shardlow** is also due to have surgery and will miss the last two weeks of the term. Ms Schroder will look after her classes during this time. We thank Ms Schroder for always being willing to assist in various classes and for doing such a fine job.
- **Mrs Bea Goss from our Tuck Shop** was admitted into hospital on the 13th of July, but is back in the Tuck shop already.
- **Mrs Billson** is having scheduled surgery on the 4th of August and will recover in time for Term 3.

We wish all these ladies a speedy recovery.

- On the 'good news' side.
 - **Mrs Sandy Kapp** gave birth to a baby boy whom they have named, Bryan.
 - We congratulate **Dr David Payaniandi** on his engagement. We wish him and his fiancé, Chantal, much happiness.

PSA FOOD FAIR

Thanks to all our families for supporting our recent, very successful PTSA Food Fair.

We are so grateful to all our staff and families who helped on the day especially all those who organised and worked in the wide range of stalls that makes this event so special. Thanks also to those committed PTSA members and Staff who spent many long hours preparing for the food fair. It really brought our school community together including many past pupils who enjoyed the day with us.

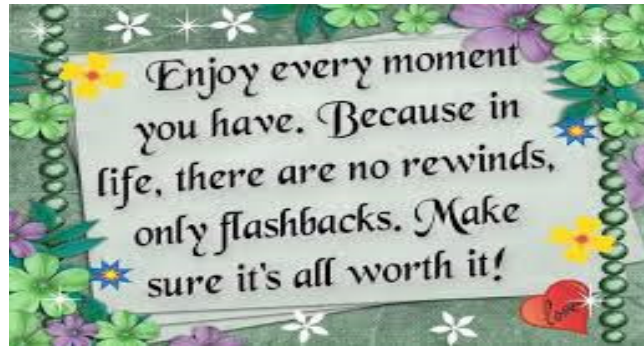


In closing ...

As a long, and rather cold term, draws to a close we would like to thank our Veritas families for their support in all our activities this term, be it by contributing towards our outreach programmes, attending fundraising activities, making themselves available to assist our PTSA, signing their child's homework diary or sitting on the side of the sports field cheering our teams on, we really do appreciate it.

If you are travelling during the holidays, travel safely and enjoy the rest with your children.

A thought for the day:



MRS S. BILLSON
HEAD OF PREPARATORY

MR N.D. CONNORS
HEADMASTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

1 August (Saturday)	Edmund Rice Winter Festival - Bloemfontein
3 August (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass- Feast of St Dominic • Reports Issued • Parental Interviews by invitation begin
6 August (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Redhead Production' • Inter-House Chess
7 August (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-House Sports' Day • End of Term 1 – School Closes @ 12:00

TERM 3

September

8 September (Tuesday)	Term 3 Begins <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Birthday of Our Lady</i></div>
9 September (Wednesday)	Achievement Forms handed out
11 September (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass – Birthday of Our Lady
12 September (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.T.S.A. Golf Day
15 September (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veritas Art Festival Begins – 18 Sep
16 September (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gr R School Readiness
17 September (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO Choir Workshop – Holy Rosary
18 September (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSSC Primary Athletics
19 September (Saturday)	Lex Liston 8-a-side Cricket Tournament
23 September (Wednesday)	Heritage Day Fun Walk
24 September (Thursday)	Heritage Day (Public Holiday)
25 September (Friday)	School Holiday
30 September (Wednesday)	Achievement Forms Due

October

1 October (Thursday)	CSSC Foundation Phase Athletics
2 October (Friday)	Pre-Preparatory Grandparents' Day
3 October (Saturday)	CSSC Primary Tennis Festival
10 October (Saturday)	P.T.S.A. Barn Dance
15 October (Thursday)	School Revue
16 October (Friday)	School Revue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SISA Cross Country @ Woodlands
19 October – 22 October	Grade 6 Thaba Morula
22 October (Thursday)	School Closes @ 12:00 for Mid-Term Break
23 October (Friday)	SISA Cross Country 2 Kathstan
27 October (Tuesday)	School Reopens
30 October (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO Gr 7 Mass tbc • Mass for All Souls • SISA Cross Country @ St Dunstan's
31 October (Saturday)	CSSC Primary Chess

November

1 November (Sunday)	All Saints' Day
5 November (Thursday)	School closes @ 12:00 until the end of the year
6 November (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S/Phase Exams Begin • CSSC Foundation Phase Swimming • SISA Cross Country @ Serengeti
7 November (Saturday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 1 Orientation Day • CSSC Foundation Phase Chess
13 November (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S/Phase Exams End
17 November (Tuesday) 18 November (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travelling Bookshop
19 November (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 3 Retreat
20 November (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 4 Retreat • Christmas Concert
23 November (Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 5 Retreat
24 November (Tuesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 6 Retreat
25 November (Wednesday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F/Phase Awards Ceremony • Grade 7 Retreat
26 November (Thursday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S/Phase Awards' Evening
27 November (Friday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Assembly • Grade 7 Valedictory Mass 10:30 <p style="text-align: center;">School Closes for the end of the Year @ 12:00</p>
29 November (Sunday)	1st Sunday of Advent
30 November (Monday)	Staff Administration Day

December

1 December (Tuesday)	Staff Administration Day
2 December (Wednesday)	Staff Administration Day Reports Issued 07:30 – 09:00