

# Veritas College Springs

(Formerly Convent & CBC, Springs)

## Pre-Preparatory & Preparatory

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## Senior School

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## NEWSLETTER 2

**17 February 2015**

Dear Parents

The first few weeks of term have been productive, successful and exciting. In general, learners are working well and are committed to achieving academically. They are also immersed in the Sports programme and have participated enthusiastically in various events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents, Mr Connors, staff, learners and other stakeholders for the incredible support and encouragement shown to me in my first months as Head of the Senior School. It is a privilege to work closely with all of you; we make a truly excellent team and we are a very motivated and close-knit family.

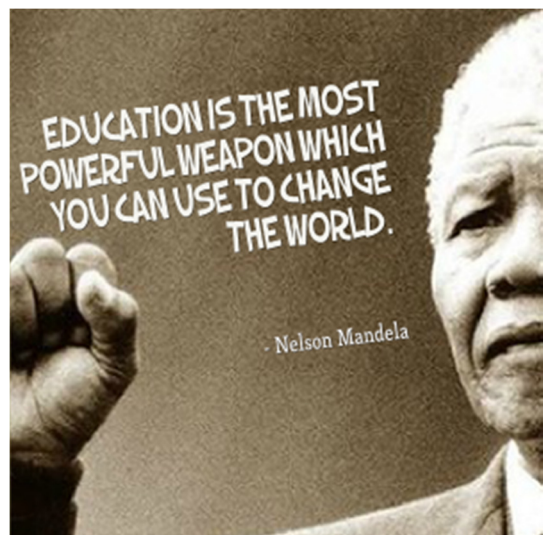
Staff members are currently attending many development programmes: Subject Conferences, Teaching Workshops, Cluster Meetings, Catholic Schools Office courses, Principals Meetings, Thinking Skills Conferences, Team Building courses, Internet Safety courses, CSO retreats and other programmes that support the drive toward continual progress at Veritas College.

In the interests of maintaining communication between staff members and parents, teachers' e-mail addresses have been posted onto the Communicator. Installing the School Communicator is dead simple. Download the installer from the School Communicator website: [www.school-communicator.com/downloads](http://www.school-communicator.com/downloads). While downloading, click "Save" and thereafter "Run". You can install the School Communicator on as many computers as you like.

You can also install the School Communicator on your mobile phone. There are specific apps available for Blackberry, iPhone and Android. All you need to do is visit our School Communicator website: [www.school-communicator.com/downloads](http://www.school-communicator.com/downloads) from your mobile phone browser and download the app.

The College website is being revamped and will soon be up and running.

The Facebook page now promotes the Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior School as one College.



Evidence of the dynamic enthusiasm of our staff members is in the number of activities that have already happened in the past month:

1. **The Annual Awards Ceremony honoured academic achievements of 2014.**

**Grade 8 & 9:**

Subject Awards and academic scrolls.

Zulu/Afrikaans and English	80%
Maths	80%
Other subjects	85%
Scroll	80%

**1.1 Grade 8:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Subjects:</b>
Thozama Ndudula	Zulu
Nontobeko Sithebe	Zulu
Sivuyile Thethe	Zulu
Diane Bada	Hospitality
Nondumiso Mnguni	Mathematics
Graeme Selkon	Mathematics
Grace Holdt	Arts & Culture
Boitumelo Nkuna	Mathematics
Mbali Tshona	Arts & Culture,
Danela Venturi	Arts & Culture, Hospitality
Paballo Mokoena	Mathematics, Computer Literacy,
Michael Venter	Computer Literacy, Hospitality
Emily Taylor	Mathematics, Social Science, Hospitality
Nkanyezi Kubeka	Mathematics, Computer Literacy, Social Sciences
Allyssa Jardim	Mathematics, Arts & Culture, Hospitality
Lanessa van der Westhuizen	Mathematics, Social Science, Computer Literacy,
Haneef Mahommed	Mathematics, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Hospitality Academic Scroll
Fabio Pellizzon	English, Mathematics, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Hospitality, Academic Scroll
Luna Asefaw	Mathematics, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, EMS Academic Scroll 3 <sup>rd</sup> in grade
Zakithi Khumalo	English, Afrikaans, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Economic Management Science, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll 2 <sup>nd</sup> in grade
Amy Brits	English – Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Science. Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Economic Management Science, Hospitality Academic Scroll 1 <sup>st</sup> in grade

**1.2 Grade 9:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Subjects:</b>
Britney Govender	Arts & Culture
Tshepo Mkwazi	Zulu
Demi-Lee Blommestyn	Arts & Culture
Zinhle Makane	Zulu
Shannon Fortuin	Afrikaans
Abram Sibeko	Zulu, Computer Literacy
Matthew Hamman	Mathematics, Arts & Culture
Nicole Patao	Afrikaans, Arts & Culture

Leigh Waters-Maine	Mathematics, Arts & Culture
Nicole Veludo	English, Afrikaans, Arts & Culture, Academic Scroll
Zakhna Dhiraj	Mathematics, Arts & Culture Academic Scroll
Tshiamo Tshipi	Zulu, Social Science, Arts & Culture Academic Scroll
Deidrê Jacobs	Afrikaans, Mathematics, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy Academic Scroll
Keisha Jacobs	Afrikaans, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture Academic Scroll
Nicole Koopman	English, Afrikaans, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Academic Scroll
Eleanor Lea	English, Afrikaans, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Academic Scroll
Jemma Pellizzon	English, Mathematics, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Hospitality Academic Scroll
Kerryn Potgieter	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Hospitality Academic Scroll
Bertie Swart	English, Afrikaans, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Hospitality, RE/LO, Economic Management Sciences Academic Scroll
Ipeleng Lentsoe	English, Zulu, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Economic Management Science, Hospitality, RE/LO, Computer Literacy Academic Scroll
Courtney Human	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Economic Science, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll 3 <sup>rd</sup> in grade
Hannah Mitchell	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Economic Management Science, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll 2 <sup>nd</sup> in grade
Nkateko Shilaluke	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Arts & Culture, Computer Literacy, Economic Management Science, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll 1 <sup>st</sup> in grade

### Grade 10 + 11

Subject Awards	80%
Scroll	75%

### 1.3 Grade 10

Name:	Subjects:
Taryn De Klerk	Mathematics
Jonathan Nel	CAT
Lesego Sehume	RE/LO
Abigail Bourbon	History
Sibusiso Motsoene	Zulu
Tegan Mynhardt	Hospitality
Rirhandzo Nkonyane	Zulu
Simphiwe Nxumalo	Zulu
Timothy Santos	CAT
Rory Treu	CAT
Jamie-Lee Allison	Maths Literacy
Asalele Kalima	RE/LO

Siyamthanda Kalima	History
Shaneel Sewnandan	Geography
Anastasia Dravillas	English, History,
Saalihah Rajool	Geography Academic Scroll
Claudia Jardim	English, History, Life Sciences Academic Scroll
Nikola Matic	AP Maths, Mathematics, Life Sciences, Physical Science, RE/LO Academic Scroll
Micaela Colaco	AP Maths, Mathematics, Geography, RE/LO Academic Scroll
Lesedi Morare	Afrikaans, Mathematics, Accounting, RE/LO Academic Scroll 3 <sup>rd</sup> in grade
Tsholofelo Modiga	Mathematics, Life Sciences, Physical Science, RE/LO Academic Scroll 2 <sup>nd</sup> in grade
Maxine Watt	Afrikaans, Mathematics, Accounting, Life Sciences, Physical Science, RE/LO Academic Scroll 1 <sup>st</sup> in grade

**1.4 Grade 11:**  
**Subject awards 80%**  
**Scrolls 75%**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Subjects:</b>
Itumeleng Macatolle	Zulu
Bavumile Mkhonza	CAT
Gabriella Katsapas	RE/LO
Elrique Visser	Afrikaans
Stanley Mabonga	Mathematics, CAT
Dylan Van Biljon	English, RE/LO
Diane Athiemulam	English Academic Scroll
Thomas Perikli	RE/LO, Information Technology Academic Scroll
Nonduduzo Simelane	English, History, CAT Academic Scroll
Giorgia Silvaggi	English, Afrikaans, Life Sciences, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll
Whitney Howell	English, Afrikaans, History, Life Sciences, Hospitality, RE/LO Academic Scroll
Stephanie Loock	English, Afrikaans, History, Hospitality Academic Scroll
Chloe Mitchell	English, Afrikaans, Accounting, Business Studies, History, RE/LO Academic Scroll
Steven Selkon	English, Maths, Afrikaans, Accounting, CAT, RE/LO Academic Scroll 3 <sup>rd</sup> in grade
Damian Borien	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, AP Maths, Geography, Physical Science, Information Technology Academic Scroll 2 <sup>nd</sup> in grade
Iandro van der Linde	English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Geography, Life Sciences, Physical Science, RE/LO Academic Scroll 1 <sup>st</sup> in grade

**1.5 ACADEMIC TROPHIES –**  
**Grade 8**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Name</b>
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Gino Vitale Trophy - Top Grade 8 pupil	Amy Brits
Viljoen trophy for the most improved in Afrikaans throughout the year.	Sizwe Maseko

### **Grade 9**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Name</b>
Jonathan Bell Trophy grade 9 mathematics	Nkateko Shilaluke
Hutchinson Cup for Junior Science	Nkateko Shilaluke
Grade 9 English	Hannah Mitchell
Junior Afrikaans	Hannah Mitchell and Courtney Human
Junior Chef	Bertie Swart

### **Grade 10**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Name</b>
Bagley Trophy Mathematics grade 10	Nikola Matic
Marc Howarth Trophy for English Grade 10	Anastasia Dravillas and Claudio Jardim
Br. Sinclair Memorial Trophy grade 10 Life Sciences	Tsholofelo Modiga
AP Maths Trophy	Micaela Colaco
Maths Literacy trophy	Jamie-Lee Allison
CAT	Jonathan Nel

### **Grade 11**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Name</b>
Afrikaans	Iandro van der Linde and Steven Selkon
Grade 11 English Trophy	Iandro van der Linde
Senior History	Nonduduzo Simelane
P.F.G. Building Glass Physical Science Grade 11	Iandro van der Linde
Eloff Trophy Life Sciences Grade 11	Iandro van der Linde
Veritas Mathematics Grade 11	Damian Borien
Life Orientation trophy	Whitney Howell
Geography trophy	Iandro van der Linde
Debra Harrison AP Maths Trophy	Damian Borien
Tewie Bester Trophy for Maths Literacy	Stephanie Loock
Magangane Trophy for isiZulu	Itumeleng Macatolle
CAT	Steven Selkon
Veritas College trophy for Accounting	Steven Selkon
Business Studies	Chloe Mitchell
Information Technology	Damian Borien
Marconi Floating Trophy for outstanding overall performance grade 11	Iandro Van Der Linde

### **1.6 ACADEMIC HALF COLOURS**

Kerry Potgieter  
 Nicole Veludo  
 Bertie Swart  
 Deidre Jacobs  
 Tshiamo Tshipi  
 Keisha Jacobs  
 Eleanor Lea  
 Jemma Pellizzon  
 Hannah Mitchell  
 Courtney Human  
 Nkateko Shilaluke  
 Ipeleng Lentsoe  
 Zakhna Dhiraj  
 Tsholofelo Modiga  
 Dylan Van Biljon

Gabrielle Katsapas

**1.7. ACADEMIC FULL COLOURS**

Saaliah Rajool  
Nikola Matic  
Maxine Watt  
Claudio Jardim  
Micaela Colaco  
Lesedi Morare  
Chloe Mitchell  
Giorgia Silvaggi  
Iandro Van Der Linde  
Stephanie Loock

**1.8 ACADEMIC HONOURS**

Diane Athiemulam  
Nonduduzo Simelane  
Damian Borien  
Steven Selkon

**1.9 SERVICE**

Erin Grobler  
Elrique Visser

**1.10 HUMANITAS AWARD**

The Humanitas Trophy is awarded to a learner who embodies the ethos of Veritas College. This suggests that the learner is courteous, compassionate and kind to others, does not speak about or to others with disrespect, is helpful and considerate, and is held in high esteem by his / her peers and teachers for his/her unselfishness and humility. The person embodies the spirit of Ubuntu, makes us proud to call him/ her a Veritas scholar, and is an example of a good South African citizen.

Gr 8 – Daniela Venturi  
Gr 9 – Athlehang Malaka  
Gr 10 – Micaela Colaco  
Gr 11 – Tristan Fenton

Gr 8s were officially inducted into the College in a meaningful ceremony.

**2. Gr 8 Camp and Orientation**

Mr Swart and Ms Martinuzzi ensured that the Gr 8 camp was an excellent means of integrating Gr 8s into the College. The camp was successful as a means of orientation and the Grade 8s are settling in very well. We are proud of the way in which the leaders ran their respective activities.

**3. The Gr 10 'Social'**

The Social was held outside the hall, around two fires. The Lumo Lights theme was stunning and the evening was a huge success. The Social is a safe and entertaining way for learners to mix with their peers. Many thanks to Mrs van Wyk, Ms Penman and Ms Gillespie who organized it so efficiently. Thanks, too, to the many teachers who ensured that the tuckshop, security and other aspects were perfectly executed, and to the many parents who gave so generously of their time to work on the evening.

**4. Coca Cola Competition**

2015 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the iconic Coca-Cola contour bottle. As part of the celebrations, five learners from Veritas College had their unique and creative artistic impression of the bottle chosen and printed on this 2015 special calendar. These learners' bottles now sit alongside the likes of Yvonne Chaka-Chaka (singer), Dr Ali Bacher (SA Cricket), John Vlismas (stand-up comedian) and Gary Player (golfer).

The learners are: Sienna Pellizzon (Grade 4), Fabio Pellizzon (Grade 9), Eleanor Lea (Grade 10) and Erin Grobler (Grade 12).

**5. Hospitality Practical**

The Gr 12 Hospitality learners served a scrumptious 3 course meal with a Valentines Day theme. Décor, flavour and service were all top quality and made for an excellent evening.

6. **Tutankhamun's Treasures**

One hundred and eighty Senior School pupils had the privilege of visiting Tutankhamun's Tomb at the Silver Star Casino, in Mogale City on the West Rand, on Friday 30th January. This magnificent exhibition is touring the world and is currently in South Africa. What a fascinating experience!

We were spellbound by all the glittering gold treasures which were buried with the Pharaoh. The exhibition boasts 1000 perfect replicas of his treasures, such as clothing, shoes, chariots, caskets, furniture and toys. There were several mini-cinemas which showed and explained the history of this ancient Egyptian dynasty and the discovery of the tomb by Howard Carter in 1922. The visit was certainly worthwhile and most enjoyable.

7. **Red Carpet Day**

The Gr 12s and many teachers dressed up as Super Heroes for the first phase of the technical assessment of two Matric Film Study films, *Batman Begins* and *The Dark Knight Rises*. The Grade 11 paparazzi had a field day collecting gossip and 'incriminating' photographs for their tabloid articles based on the celebrities and Super Heroes who were on the Red Carpet.

Red Carpet Day has been celebrated for a number of years at Veritas College as a fun way to conduct Film Study.

8. **Gr 12 Re-Mark:**

Cameron Maistry applied for a re-mark of his Matric Advanced Programme Mathematics examination and his mark increased to 80%, thus bringing the number of distinctions to 64 for the 2014 Matric group. Congratulations, Cameron!

9. **Tours**

Mrs Duncan is currently investigating the cost and interest from learners of a potential trip to the Galapagos Islands in 2016. She will ask the Travel Agent to address parents sometime in the next few weeks.

Father Lewis and Ms Gillespie are planning to tour the Cape with their Business Studies and Hospitality learners. Every year learners travel to the USA for the People to People International Leadership Summit, a Washington-based programme that accommodates Gr 8 – 11 learners in various US Universities. Individual learners who may be interested have been told to see Mrs Holland. Parents of those interested will liaise with agents in Washington to make arrangements.

10. **Internet Safety Workshop**

Some learners appeared on television following a Google and YouTube training course where cyber safety was the main focus. Thanks to Mrs Moodley for co-ordinating the trip. It was an eye-opening and fascinating experience.

11. **Grade 12 Life Sciences/Geography outing**

Mr Ngidi and Mrs Duncan took 20 Grade 12 pupils on a Life Sciences/Geography outing. These pupils are doing the Research task in their portfolios and are required to submit a research document by August of the matric year. The topic has to be researched in depth in order to prepare them for this type of task at a tertiary level next year. The topic which Veritas has chosen for Life Sciences and Geography is Acid Mine Drainage (AMD). They visited various West Rand sites such as several tailings dams, an informal settlement called "Tudor Shaft", a water treatment plant, a mine dump where reclamation was taking place, several areas where Acid Water could be seen, and the Krugersdorp Nature Reserve.

The tour was an eye-opener as it revealed the extent to which mining has destroyed our natural environment and made the environment unhealthy with acid water toxins. Radioactive waste in some areas is equivalent to the outskirts of Chernobyl! People in the informal settlement are using acid water for drinking washing, cooking, irrigating crops and watering cattle. Most people are blissfully unaware of how toxic and dangerous the whole Witwatersrand actually is! Our pupils learnt a lot and this outing will serve them well in putting together their Research Task for the portfolios, submitted to the IEB.

12. **'Book Fair and Coffee Morning'**

Learners bought books at an exhibition held in the hall. Afterwards they enjoyed coffee and eats while they perused their newly purchased books. The Book Fair is held annually to promote reading which is vital in all academic subjects.

13. **Staff Changes**

Congratulations to Mrs Chirawi and to Mrs Maris who have taken over the duties of Head of House and of Head of English respectively. Ms Shelley Bent has also been busy in her role as the new marketer and shares her time between campuses.

#### **14. Staff Recoveries**

We are happy that Mr Kwangwari's little girl, who was in hospital for a month following surgery, is back home and is recovering well; Mrs Martinuzzi is recovering well after an operation on her foot; and Mrs Billson will soon be back at the Prep School following her surgery.

#### **15. Maintenance**

On-going improvements are being made to the hall, the foyer and to classrooms. The litter problem is much improved since the implementation of the new system of ensuring that learners leave the property after school if they have no planned, formal activities.

#### **16. Confirmation**

Diane Athiemulam, Micaela Colaco, Leandro Leitao and Hannah Mitchell received the sacraments on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February during a Confirmation ceremony. The College congratulates them.

#### **17. Compulsory**

- Every child has homework every day. Even if homework is completed early, there is much study to be done for upcoming tests for the CASS report that will be handed out on 24<sup>th</sup> March and for the examinations that commence at the beginning of April.
- Also compulsory is the PT programme: it has been implemented to fit in with the LO programme, is a prescribed part of the curriculum and every child is expected to participate in every PT lesson, without exception. PT uniform must be worn in every lesson.
- Leaving school early for appointments is unacceptable except in absolutely unavoidable circumstances, as missed lessons puts immense pressure on learners to catch up.

#### **18. Mid-term Break**

The school will close on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 12pm for mid-term break; it will reopen on Tues 3 March.

#### **19. Sports Report**

The 2015 sporting year at Veritas College has just begun and we are excited at the prospects with which this year holds for all our teams.

The majority of our practices have already commenced this year and we are pleased with the initial numbers of learners that have attended these early season practice sessions. We must remind everyone that it is school policy to participate in one summer and one winter sporting code at Veritas College.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of January we hosted the Inter-Catholic Cricket festival for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. Our boys' team played 3 good games of pro20 cricket. Unfortunately, we lost out to Sacred Heart College and Marist Brothers Linmeyer but were able to beat St Ursula's on the day.

We also hosted our Inter House Gala at the Brakpan Swimming Pool. This year we had only our swimmers at the event while the rest of the school were on an educational outing. This proved to be a success and at the Senior School, it was Catherine who came out on top with Dominic in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Edmund 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We have also competed in our first 2 League galas of the season. Veritas College were in fact the hosts of the first league gala of the year. So far our results have been respectable with 2<sup>nd</sup> overall at the first gala and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the second gala.

In the upcoming weeks our Swimming team dominates our calendar. Our Inter-Catholic Gala is on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February, while we will be going down to Kimberly from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February for the Inter CBC Gala. The rest of our sports teams will continue to train hard through February as we ready ourselves for our fixtures in March.

Our Midmar swimmers' results were extremely pleasing:

Midmar swimmers fared very well:

Jonathan Nel finished in 23'09", Fabio Pellizzon 26'35", Dylan Van Biljon 28'16", Daniella Venturi 30'48", Nicole Patao 32'14", Maxine Watt 33'04", Jason Taylor 33'30", Jemma Pellizzon 36'11", Cheryl Stapelberg 39'22.

We are very proud of these wonderful achievements.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – FEBRUARY**

17 February	Shrove Tuesday
18 February	Ash Wednesday – Mass in the church 07:30
19 - 20 February	Swimming gala - Kimberley
25 - 26 February	Gr 11 Job Shadowing
25 February – 1 March	Assisi weekend
26 February	School closes at 12:00 for mid-term break

**SATURDAY SCHOOL**

<b>DATE</b> <b>09:00 – 12:00</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Saturday 21 February	CAT
Saturday 7 March	ENGLISH
Saturday 14 March	ACCOUNTING
Saturday 21 March	HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
Saturday 28 March	AFRIKAANS
EXAMS – School closes 16 April and re-opens 7 May	
Saturday 9 May	MATRIC FAREWELL (08/05)
Saturday 16 May	MOTHERS DAY TEA
Saturday 23 May	PHYSICAL SCIENCE
Saturday 30 May	MATHS
Saturday 6 June	IT
Saturday 13 June	AP MATHS
Saturday 20 June	CAT
Saturday 11 July	ENGLISH
Saturday 18 July	LIFE SCIENCE

**MRS T A HOLLAND****Head: Senior School**