

VERITAS

The Newsletter for the Dominican Convent School



DOMINICAN CONVENT SCHOOL

Cnr Marshall and Boom, Belgravia, Johannesburg

[t] (011) 614 6943 • [f] (011) 614 8780 or (011) 624 3124

[w] www.dominican.co.za

Mr Mike Thiel, Headmaster

Ms Marina Burger, Head of High School

Mrs Dalene Rostovsky, Head of Primary School

Mrs Rosalia Motha, HS RE Co-ordinator

Mr Sidrick Moore, Director of Boarding

Mrs Kathleen Whitaker, Director of Admin

Mr Tshepo Mogase, Chairperson of Parent Council

Submit articles to: Ms Sandi Ngongo

[e] head@dominican.co.za

Parent Council queries to: parentcouncil@dominican.co.za

[facebook.com/dominicanconventschool](https://www.facebook.com/dominicanconventschool)

Grade 7 Mass at Regina Mundi

It is always special when the Grade 7s from all the Johannesburg Catholic Schools gather to celebrate Mass at Regina Mundi in Soweto. What a blessed day much appreciated by the children. Thank you to the Catholic School's Office for their organisation.

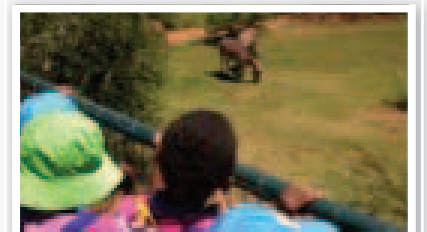
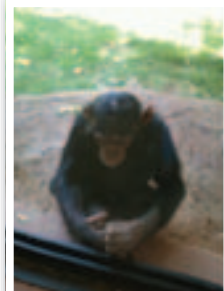


Excitement at the Joburg Zoo

The pre-primary children all enjoyed their outings to the zoo. The Grade 000 and 00 classes were so excited, with sun hats on and delicious lunches packed. Songs were sung on the bus and when we arrived the learners stood wide eyed and ready! We walked past goats, peacocks and small monkeys on this perfect day, and also saw crocodiles, zebras, lions, polar bears and monkeys. Halfway through our walk Grade 000 decided to picnic next to the elephants and watched while one elephant threw grass on another's head. The Grade 00 children settled at the avery, looking at all the beautiful birds while they ate. When we got back to school, the one

thing all the children remembered was how pink the monkey's behind was! Thank you to Mrs Dlamini and Mrs Ncube for joining us on our very eventful outing.
– Ms T Olding, pre-primary teacher

The monkeys were also the talk of the day with the Grade R children, who also enjoyed watching the lazy crocodiles just lying in the water; they were bigas the children said, "as big as a tree." After walking for miles and miles the children couldn't wait to eat their lunch, and even Ms Cynthia took a nap on the grass, after walking that distance. It was a day to remember!
– Grade R Educators



Grade 1 puppet theatre

What fun the Grade 1 class had with the puppet theatre made by Mrs Sithole's art students. We made our own puppets, wrote our own dialogues and showed off our puppets to our class. Thank you to the moms and dads who helped.



2012 Senior leaders

Congratulations to our new leaders:

SCHOOL:

Bontle Serai, Mokgadi Lebea, Mpho Radebe, Tsakane Sambo (Head Girl), Kgaugelo Konopi, Zukiswa Mbasa, Nonhle Ndaba, Nkamogeleng Letsie, Genesis Manney, Thato Semoko, Zanele Semoko and Mmamatswane Sefoka, Kabelo Phalatse, Tshireletso Mentor (Head Boy), Rabareng Khoreadira, Sandile Malawana, Neo Koenane, Andiswa Nyathi, Mohale Moloj, Carlos Belchior (Deputy Head Boy), Mongezi Mackade, Ayanda Dlamini and Monde Ndlumbini.

HOSTEL:

Bontle Serai, Nkamogeleng Letsie, Kabelo Phalatse, Sandile Malawana (Head Boy) and Monde Ndlumbini

Notices

Thank you!

The RE Department would like to thank Mrs Maclare for her generous donation of flowers worth R1000 for the First Holy Communion Celebration.

AVAILABLE TRANSPORT

Henri who is one of DCS parents would like parents needing transport from the Lyndhurst, Bramley and Kew areas to contact him at 084 405 2290.

REPORT COLLECTIONS

Parents are reminded that final promotion reports for the 2011 academic year will be available for collection from the admin offices on Thursday 8 December (08h00 to 14h00) and on Friday 9 December (08h00 to 12h00).

Matric results packages will be available from the admin offices between 08h00 and 12h00 on Wednesday 4 January 2012.

ADMIN HOLIDAY HOURS

The admin office closes for the Christmas holidays at 12h00 on the 9 December. Parents are asked to make all payments and do all collection of reports and delivery of forms before this time. The administration opens again on Thursday 5 January at 08h00 and will be open until 14h00 daily until Friday 13 January, with normal opening hours from Monday 16 January.

TERM 1 CALENDAR

The planning calendar for Term 1 – 2012 will be distributed in your report envelope next week. Please note particularly that all children are to be formally registered at school on the Monday and Tuesday prior to the first day of term, which is Wednesday 18 January 2012.

RIP THEMBI NTSHELE

It is with deep sadness that we announce that Dominican School has lost a staff member. Ms Thembi Ntshele worked in the Tuckshop since April

2010 and died in mid-November after a short illness. The school remembered Thembi's life in a memorial Mass on Thursday attended by her family, and we assured them of the prayers of the entire Dominican community for them and the repose of the soul of their daughter, mother and grandmother. May her soul rest in peace.



From the Headmaster

This is the final newsletter of the year, and it reaches you as the children write their final exams and attend Mass, where each child is blessed individually as they leave their Dominican family for the holidays and enter their home families. It is always a time of mixed emotions, and the opportunity to close the door on one chapter of your life and go through a door to the next is what life is all about for these youngsters. Schools are structured to teach this lesson and to give an increasing amount of independence to our learners as they get older. What our matrics will learn very soon (and what is the challenge for all of us adults every day) is that they now need to structure their own lives, and plan themselves what their day

consists of. There is no longer somebody telling you exactly what you need to do next, with your only responsibility to do it. We are, however, social beings and like to structure ourselves into communities that have specific practices and ways of supporting each other, and there is nothing wrong with that, as long as we remember that we can make decisions about what we do. For parents in this holiday season, provide healthy and positive options for your children and allow them to choose from these, and for the children, remember that the end of the holiday will come. Ask yourselves now what you want to have achieved in that time, plan for it and do it, so that you have no regrets when you return to school. Remember to add in rest and entertainment, but remember also to keep exercising, enjoying your personal hobbies,

keeping up good habits like reading and contributing to those less fortunate, and remember that ultimately the message of Christmas is about what God did for us in sending His son to Earth, and therefore what we in turn can do for others. I wish you safe travels and a restful holiday in the company of family and friends. Thank you to all for your part in ensuring a successful year for this special place called Dominican Convent School.

Have a good holiday,

Mike Thiel
Headmaster