



**WATER WISE** Grade 4 learners journeyed to Rand Water to better understand the challenges of water use and recycling in Johannesburg.

OUT IN THE WORLD

## Water Wise

**A**frica's rapidly growing cities are running out of water, particularly in Ghana, Mozambique, and the Ivory Coast. In cities like Accra, Ghana, taps may work only once a week, and families must buy water from tanker trucks throughout the city.

Globally, more than two billion people live in water-stressed nations. South Africa is one of these water-stressed nations. Cape Town has already experienced water rationing, and Johannesburg is one of the larg-

est cities in the world that was built with no local source of fresh water.

To better understand these challenges, the Grade 4 learners went on an outing to Rand Water in Vereeniging. They witnessed how wastewater from the Johannesburg metropolitan area is collected, then treated through a complex mechanical and biological process in order to be re-used and consumed again. The learners also discovered ways to be water wise at home and steward this increasingly scarce resource.

"Ms Lizzy from Rand Water taught us a lot about the water resources, pollution and water purification. We also did experiments to see how rivers get polluted and how do water get cleaned. Most importantly we learnt about the 5 ways to be water wise. Don't waste water. Respect water. Don't pollute water. Pay for water services and be responsible. Take environmental action."

—REFENTSE MALEASENYA, 4S

**Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, 23 March**

Grade 5-7 Parents' Intro to High School

**Monday, 25 March**

Grade 12 Marks and Comments Due

**Tuesday, 26 March**

Grade 10 Girls Retreat  
Grade 1 Outing

**Wednesday, 27 March**

08:00 Grade 10 Boys Retreat  
08:00 Grade 6 Retreat  
09:40 Assembly

**Thursday, 28 March**

07:40 School Mass: Readings: Prefects

**Saturday, 30 March**

10:00 Grade 12 Business Studies Test



**ON THE BOARD** Oplong Rapodile (5P) has been chosen as a representative for the Junior Board of South-gate Mall.

**FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK**

# An End to "Us and Them"

The notion of othering is something that is weighing heavily on my mind at the moment. This is the process whereby we characterize people, individually or collectively, as fundamentally different or alien to ourselves. It manifests itself in a viewpoint whereby people become objectified and labelled as the 'other' or "not one of us".

In its most basic form it creates a "them" and "us" culture in which the group or individual is regarded with suspicion and often with hatred. One only has to listen to what some of this country's politicians spew out to see evidence of this in reality.

Sadly the horror in Christchurch last week is a stark reminder of the extreme consequences of such beliefs.

Othering leads to an inability to see people as human beings and this is its greatest danger. It gives licence to denigrate people simply because they might be of a different race, culture, religion, gender or ethnic group.

In so doing, we rid that group or individual of their humanity and their humanness, the result of which is a world comprised of sectarianism and exclusion.

In building Islands of Sanity we need to embrace our neighbour,

irrespective of who he or she might be and afford them the respect and dignity to which we are all entitled as members of God's race.

Apartheid was a classic example of othering and despite the way the world embraced the Rainbowism of the new South Africa, it appears that we have quickly forgotten what it means to be human.

**GRAHAM HOWARTH**  
EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER