



THE GIFT OF LOVE Dominican students help support the work of the Kgosi Foundation to feed, educate and give dignity to those in need.

## ETHOS

# Be a Gift to Others

**W**hen last were you a gift to somebody? As people of God, we are not only called to live our lives in the spirit of *veritas* (truth), but also the spirit of *caritas* (charity). The Dominican Saint Thomas Aquinas called *caritas* “the most excellent of the virtues” where we put our love for God and others before our love of time, money and worldly comfort.

The question got me thinking. When last did I do something to make someone feel better simply by being there and lending them an

ear? When last did I randomly get up and cooked a meal for my mom without being asked to? When last did I show my teachers how appreciative I am for the effort they put into my success in school

In the spirit of *veritas*, I must admit that it has been quite a while.

As I reflected further, I realised that charity doesn't demand anything material from me. In some ways giving the gift of material things is easier, as it does not take a student's most precious resource, time. Charity demands nothing

but my being helpful to everybody around me and offering myself wholeheartedly to people in need of my help. It demands presence, not presents. It requires us to put ourselves second.

As we approach Lent, I'd like for every student to look deeply and ask themselves how they plan on being a gift to others.

—PHILA ANATHI LUFELE, HEAD GIRL

**Upcoming Events**

**Saturday, 9 February**

Sacrament Meeting

- 10:00 Parents Information Morning & Workshops
- 12:15 Dominican Family Bring & Braai
- U13 Basketball Festival at Holy Family
- IP Basketball U11 at Saheti

**Tuesday, 12 February**

Grade 12 Geography Outing

**Wednesday, 13 February**

- 08:00 Grade 4 Outing to Rand Water
- 09:40 Deputy Assembly
- 13:00 TSSA - The Learning Pit
- 14:00 IP Basketball vs Marist Linmeyer
- 15:00 Board Finance Subcommittee Meeting

**Thursday, 14 February**

07:40 School Mass (Readings: G11 Ms Motha )

**Friday, 15 February**

- MDC: Valentine Civvies R5 (Gr 000-12)
- 07:30 FP Cluster Meeting at St Andrews
- 13:15 Headmaster's Staff Meeting
- Jeppie U/14 Basketball tournament



**SPORT**



**vs Germiston High**  
POINTS

OPEN GIRLS

**41 | 6**



**Get Connected**

Dominican began 2019 with a new school administration programme which allows you to be more connected to your child's school and education. To prepare for the rollout, download the d6 communicator app on the App Store or Google Play Store to get important notices, check your account, and more. Training will be available at our parent information morning.

**FROM THE HEAD OF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Speaking Face to Face**

The following quote by an unknown author states "The basic building block of good communication is the feeling that every human being is unique and of value."

Parents, we are all living high speed lives and many of us are looking for meaning and purpose in our lives by chasing better paid jobs, bigger properties or the next luxury vehicle. All have material value but are not permanent.

One of the things that can bring true meaning and happiness to your life is to invest in the education of your children and the people in your immediate environment, your family, friends and the community.

It is important as a family to sit down as a family at the end of a busy day, where every member of the family has the opportunity to communicate the experiences they have had that day. It is also important to laugh, cry and be able to disagree on a topic without fear. This communication enables us to better understand each other.

Good communication is essential for establishing close, positive relationships in the workplace, as well as with family and friends.

Communication needs to be open and honest. We will also benefit from learning to listen by concentrating on what is being said

without distraction and the strong desire to react. A good sense of humour is also imperative for positive communication, particularly the ability of being able to laugh at oneself. We need to teach our children that we need to laugh with others not at others.

May we all continue to work towards improving our communication skills in an attempt to forge better relationships with all.

DALENE ROSTOVSKY  
Head of Primary School