

# BOARDING TIMES

DCS HOSTEL, YOUR HOME FROM HOME

26 MARCH 2010

Volume 11 Issue 1

## A Little Moore

*To fully understand Laura's effects on Dominican Convent, here are some simple yet effective words to keep in mind as you read this letter – daughter, friend, colleague, dependable, trustworthy, hard working, leader, sister.*

*And so the most appropriate way to describe Laura's early leaving – unjust, unfair and an excellent display of very poor common sense by government officials.*

*In August 2009, Laura Grossick arrived at Dominican Convent bright eyed and filled with vigour and excitement – something in short supply in South Africa and, to a less extent, the school.*

*Laura has since been involved in so many aspects of the school –*

- Teaching three-year-olds
- Taking morning running sessions
- Marking Life Orientation exercises
- Mentoring and counselling
- Mentoring Gr 10 female boarders
- And many other areas in some way or form

*The exertion of endless energy, ideas and enthusiasm will be missed. When Laura explained to me that she would be leaving us earlier than expected, I told her not to shed a tear, as we will all be sobbing uncontrollably whenever she leaves.*

*This being the calibre of student that Stowe School*

*has developed in Laura means that we can rest assured that the world is destined to be a better place. – An extract from the letter I sent to the Headmaster of Stowe School about Laura Grossick.*

The questions we should now ask:

- Are we preparing our children to be just as outgoing, adventurous and helpful outside the confines of a good education?
- Are we setting our children up to be educated and degree-carrying failures?
- Are our children prepared to deal with banks, foreign affairs and travel companies in another country/continent, in a foreign language without our supervision?

If the answer to any of these questions is no, then we are not prepared, nor are we preparing to play a role in the global development of the world.

It is important for us, as parents and children, to measure ourselves against our visitors.

So let us adjust our focus to see Africa and the world at large as our place of being, and encourage our children to aim further than a degree and good job.

Mr Sidrick Moore  
Director of Boarding

## Inter-House Plays

The Inter-House Plays, held on Wednesday 24 February, were entertaining, vibrant and colourful. With many thrilling performances to entertain, the audience remained captivated and in stitches at the comedies.

The following boarders were among the best performers:

- Best Director – Makhotoso Maiko (Gr 11)
- Best Actress – Makhotoso Maiko
- Best Supporting Actor – Noxolo Dlamini (Gr 11)
- a great achievement by a girl in a man's role!

## Remember

Correspondence to the Director of Boarding can be sent via e-mail to [smmoore@dominican.co.za](mailto:smmoore@dominican.co.za) or by fax to (011) 614 8780. Alternatively, you can phone 079 388 9274.

an appointment to discuss any concerns you might have, or bring forward your concerns in writing.

Please feel free to contact the School to make

Mr Sidrick Moore  
Director of Boarding



## Diary Dates

Monday 12 April – Boarders return  
Tuesday 13 April – Term 2A Begins

Tuesday 27 April – Public holiday  
Wednesday 9 June – Term ends

These are just a few of the many important dates in the second term. Please check your DCS Planning Calendar for more exciting events taking place at the School.

Remember that, due to the World Cup, Term 2 has been divided into two parts: 2A and 2B. This means that there will not be any mid-term breaks.

## CONTACT US

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# Boarders' Achievements



The school prides itself on hosting various inter-house activities during the year. As such, one of the first matters for each house is the election of house captains. The Boarding House is proud to house the following school captains:

## St Catherine (Red)

Mkini Maseko – Captain  
Tshepiso Tsotetsi – Captain

## St Thomas (Yellow)

Shadadi Karikumbula – Captain

## St Dominic (Green)

Malefetsane Mpitso – Vice Captain  
Remfilwe Sebobe – Vice Captain

## Swimming

The High School Gala allowed some of our boarders to step into the spot light, with some amazing results:

## Victor and Victrix Ludora winners:

Senior Girl – Palesa Thai (Gr 11)  
Senior Boy – Sandile Malawane (Gr 10)

## New records were set by:

Sandile Malawane  
Malefetsane Mpitso (Gr 11)  
Masego Selebogo (Gr 9)  
Palesa Thai

The gala also allowed some records to be broken

twice in the space of two days. Five records that were set at the Inter-Catholic Gala on Tuesday 23 February were smashed at the Inter-House Gala, one of them by Masego Selebogo.

## Athletics

For the Boarding House, the spirit of winning was not restricted to swimming; many took to the athletics track and proved themselves there. Their achievements include:

## Discuss:

Sipho Makhuru (Gr 8)  
Shadadi Karikumbuga (Gr 12)

## Shot-putt:

Jambese Magwentshu (Gr 12)

## High Jump:

Noxolo Dlamini (Gr 11)

## 800m:

Dibaba Ekangele (Gr 8)

## 100m:

Remofilwe Sebobe (Gr 11)  
Thembi Masondo (Gr 11)

## Victor and Victrix Ludora:

Junior Girl – Elizebete Cassimiro (Gr 8)  
Junior Boy – Peter Mbimala (Gr 9)  
Senior Girl – Remofilwe Sebobe, Palesa Mosebi,  
Thembi Masondo

## Boarders Say

Dominican Convent is proud to be hosting Laura, Felix and Claudia at our School and in the Boarding House. Laura and Felix are from England, whilst Claudia is from Germany. Unfortunately, Laura's stay has come to an abrupt and unexpected end. And so, by 20 February, we will have said our goodbyes to our sister, friend and colleague.

### Felix:

After my delayed start to the Gap Year, I had spent a lot of my time wondering what life was like here in South Africa. I was not disappointed. The people here are so friendly and welcoming. School life is extremely busy and vibrant, and I have (gradually) been adjusting to the very long days – boys go for showers at 03h45 and don't go to bed until 22h00!

However, despite this change in my body clock and thanks to the staff and children (and Laura!), I have quickly adapted to school life here. My first few days were spent convincing everyone that Laura was not my wife, nor was she my fiancée. We had to compromise on sister!

I have been very fortunate in being given the opportunity to help with the Drama Department, assisting in lessons and helping with the House Plays. The energy that the children have is incredible, particularly when it comes to dancing and singing. There is a (totally unjustified) rumour that I am incredible at dancing. Unfortunately, the Valentine's Ball is tonight and I feel my status in the school may take a violent knock!

Laura and I seem to find something to laugh at every day, normally regarding a joke we made earlier that non-one laughed at! No changes there!

### Laura:

After spending the month frolicking around the Western Cape over December I was very excited to return to Dominican for the start of a new school year. This term, like the last, has been absolutely fantastic and I continue to enjoy every minute of it – not to mention my excitement at Felix's arrival (unsurprisingly, he has fitted in perfectly).

We have had a fantastic time setting up a running club in the morning for the boarders and have also started to take Gr 10 study in the evening, so our days are wonderfully full. We are also hopefully joining the choir – in time for Jenny Nelson's arrival! As Felix mentioned, there have been more fantastic rumours around the Primary School, although hopefully we have dispelled such myths.

During the days I continue to work with Wings of Hope and the Gr 2s. You will be pleased to hear my adding to 10 is coming on remarkably well. In the afternoons we have had a busy set of athletics sessions and a colleague and I have started hockey, which has been welcomed by the students – we have had 40 sign up already! Thank you for the sticks, which we fished out from the back of the cupboard in the sports hall (not sure how much you all know about that...). They have come in remarkably handy for those who cannot afford to buy sticks themselves.

Unfortunately, those wonderful people in the Department of Home Affairs have deemed that my time out here ought to be cut short and, sadly, I have to leave South Africa by 20 February – after seriously considering the thought of becoming an illegal immigrant and hiding out within the school

compound (not sure what Cambridge would have to say about that...).

I have quickly managed to find a project in Zambia, which I will be starting next Saturday. I will be very, very sad to leave what has now become my home, having really started a whole new life out here, and I will miss all of my new friends tremendously. I will, however, leave with a new zest for life and having learnt a tremendous amount about culture, people and myself. What an idyllic six months!

We are both very much looking forward to the arrival of Jenny Nelson next week and will send along some photos shortly. We are delighted to hear that Stowe students will be visiting in the summer, and we can also proclaim good things about our time out here and the continuation of our strengthening relationship.

All the very best,  
*Felix and Laura (Gap students)*

