



Dear Parents

Last Sunday I attended a Memorial Service, held at Christ Church, to commemorate those soldiers who fell at the Battle of Delville Wood in July 1916.

The wood was the scene of an intense battle between British and German forces during the Battle of the Somme. It was vital to the British plan that the wood be cleared of enemy forces before any attack could be launched on the notorious German Switch Line. The task of capturing the wood was given to the South African Brigade of some 3 150 men attached to the 9th Scottish Division.

The South African forces entered the wood on July 14th and after some of the bloodiest fighting of the war, some of it hand to hand, and one of the deadliest artillery barrages that completely denuded the wood, they were eventually withdrawn on July 20th, 1916. Of the over 3 000 men who entered the wood, only a handful emerged. The dead outnumbered the wounded by four to one.

The wood was subsequently purchased by the South African Government of the day and today a memorial on the site honours the fallen.

On their return to camp the remnants of the brigade paraded for General Lukin. As he took the salute he was heard to say, with tears running down his face: 'Is this all that is left of my brave boys?'

When he gave his address at the unveling of the Clock Tower at St Andrew's College seven years later, General Lukin said that when a regiment marches, it is believed that those who have fallen march with their comrades, under their colours, in company still. There is no doubt that he had his 'brave boys' of Delville Wood in mind (many OA's among them), and the 5 days and nights of hell that they had once endured.

In November last year, Mr David Wylde, then Headmaster of College, visited the site and unveiled a plaque:

'In memory of the 125 Old Andreans who gave their lives in the Great War (1914-1918).'

It is recorded that between the founding of this great school in 1855 and the end of the Second World War in 1945, one in eleven Old Andreans has laid down his life in service of his country. For a small colonial school on a far-flung frontier of the British Empire, this was a remarkable sacrifice.

At the outbreak of the Great War over 1 000 old boys of military age volunteered to serve. Of them 125 lost their lives, proportionately the highest number of any school in South Africa.

These servicemen are laid to rest in 48 cemeteries in England, France and Belgium. A significant number are also buried in Africa.

One hundred and two awards for distinguished service were won by Old Andreans, including 1 Victoria Cross, 11 D.S.O.'s and 51 M.C.'s.

It is indeed, a remarkable and proud history.

Graham

Pre-Primary News

Just a reminder that PAT Chat Week starts on Monday 27 July. You will receive your allocated time slot in the Art Envelope on Wednesday.

Art and Music Evening:

Friday 24 July - 18h30 for 19h00. (Memory Hall)

Tiekkie Aand:

Tuesday 4 August - 18h00. (Memory Hall)

Junior Prep News

Lost Property: Please check all your children's items of school clothing at home. It is easy for them to confuse such similar pieces of school uniform. Parents, it is your responsibility to mark all your child's clothing before they are worn to school.

Next week we will trial-run a change in the midday lunch for Day pupils. As was done in the past, a few years ago, they will have their booked lunch in the dining hall in the form of a cooked meal with the Fairlawn boarders. Those who bring their own packed midday lunch, will join them and eat their own lunch in the dining hall too.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 21 July d5

14:00 Snr Inter-house hockey 1st round (7-a-side)
14:00 Tennis vs Graeme College U11A (h), U11B (a)

Wednesday 22 July d6

17:30 Grade 7 Social

Thursday 23 July d7

17:00 Student Housemasters' meeting (SP Staffroom)

Friday 24 July d1

Duty Master – Mr Mark Tharratt 082 596 4107

13:30 Hockey vs Stirling U13A/B U11A/B (h)
18:30 for 19:00 Art and Music Evening (Memory Hall)

Saturday 25 July

09:00 Rugby vs Stirling U13A/B/C U11A/B U9A (a)

Sunday 26 July

18:30 Evening Prayers Duty Master (Memory Hall)

Monday 27 July d2 PAT Chat Week – all departments

10:45 Combined Schools' Tea (SAP)
14:00 Hockey vs Kingswood U9/U8 boys (a)
14:00 Jnr Inter-house hockey Final (7-a-side)

Tuesday 28 July d3

14:00 Tennis vs Graeme U13A (h) U13B (a)
14:30 Kids' Lit Quiz (St George's)
16:30 Pupil Council meeting (SP Library)

Wednesday 29 July d4

14:00 Rugby vs Graeme - All teams (h)

Thursday 30 July d5

08:00 Grade 2 Outdoor Ed (tbc)
14:00 Hockey vs Kingswood U9/U8 girls (a)
14:00 Snr Inter-house hockey Final (7-a-side)

Friday 31 July d6 Duty Master-Bruce White 071 688 6660

14:00 Tennis vs Kingswood U11A (a) U11B (h)
15:15 Squash League vs VG (DSG)

Saturday 1 August

09:00 Old Prep Association AGM (Mullins)
09:30 Tea on Robert House lawn
10:00 Old Prep Ramble

Sunday 2 August

18:30 Evening Prayers - Duty Master (Memory Hall)

Monday 3 August

07:30 SP Parade practice (SP Quad)

Tuesday 4 August d1

07:30 SP Parade practice (SP Quad)
14:00 Tennis vs Graeme U13C (a) U13D (h)
18:00 Tikkie Aand (Memory Hall)

Wednesday 5 August d2

07:30 JP Final Assembly
09:00 SP Day Pupil Reports ready for collection from the Admin Office
11:00 Pre-Primary term ends
11:00 JP term ends
11:15 SP Parade (SP Quad)
11:30 SP Final Assembly (all SP pupils to wear Full Blues)
12:30 SP term ends
No Aftercare

SPORTS RESULTS

U13C&D Tennis vs Kingswood - 14 July

Rained out

Hockey vs Kingswood—17 July

U13D vs KC 'C' lost 2-3
U13E vs KC 'D' lost 0-1

Squash - Winter League vs SAC 7th

Prep won 14 games to 2

Tennis vs Kingswood - 17 July

U13A Singles	lost	23 games to 42
Doubles	lost	8 games to 20
	Lost overall	31 games to 62
U13B Singles	won	42 games to 24
Doubles	won	20 games to 17
	Won overall	62 games to 41

U11/U13 Cricket Coaching Clinic August 2009

Carl Bradfield, Director of Cricket
at St Andrews College, is planning to run
a Cricket Clinic on 13 and 14 August 2009.
Kindly send an expression of interest to
c.bradfield@sacschool.com.

Format and cost to be decided upon
dependant on interest.

ART AND MUSIC EVENING Friday 24 July, Memory Hall 18h30 for 19h00

Please diarise this event, which is always a highlight of the second term. Senior Prep art will be on display, and the Choir will provide entertainment in the form of a "Sing 4 Afrika!" concert, featuring well known and well-loved South African songs. The Prep staff are also planning to delight you with a musical rendition!

The evening will, as usual, take the form of a supper theatre, and traditional South African food will be part of the menu. A cash bar will also be available. Tables seat 10 people. Please phone Angela to book places, or an entire table if you wish.

Your boys have worked so hard to put this together – do support them!

"SPRING CLEAN COLLECTION"

A reminder
to send **any** unwanted items to school,
for us to redistribute to those in need,
as part of our outreach programme.

Children's Arts Festival

A huge thank you to all those parents who hosted
Prep boarders over the Festival period.