

BE PLUGGED IN WITH OUR DID YOU KNOW SERIES !

BISHOPS PREP AND PRE-PREP PA

Dear parents, our days are all busy and full...juggling, juggling and even more juggling! It's easy to miss information shared and even easier to feel like you're not quite plugged in.

As parents, we get that and we're here to help.

We know that having access to information is as important as having a good sense of the approach and style the school is following. This, after all, influences the culture of the environment our boys are in. So, we're testing out a series called...

Did You Know?

PA areas of focus are :

- ✓ Transformation, diversity and inclusion
- ✓ Outreach
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Fundraising and events
- ✓ Integrating and liaising with Pre-Prep

Bishops is a Christian school, embracing the following values:

- ✓ To respect, nurture and value each person;
- ✓ To inspire individuals to open their minds and hearts and to reach their dreams;
- ✓ To offer an excellent, all-round education fully up to date with the best educational and technological advances;
- ✓ To address global issues including the sustainability of the environment both as part of the curriculum and as demonstrated in school operations;
- ✓ To embrace and celebrate diversity in the communities of our school and nation.

Bishops has an active Council of twelve members who represent a diverse set of skills and experience. Our Council is made up of a number of sub-committees each responsible for a specific portfolio:

- ✓ Investment Committee,
- ✓ Buildings & Grounds Committee
- ✓ Finance Committee and
- ✓ Transformation Committee.

“Discrimination & racism are still with us, here in our own environment. We are and will address this across the school and you will be part of this process.....you can ensure that Bishops is different, that no boy or staff member ever has to feel inferior or discriminated against because of the colour of their skin, background, culture, religion or sexual identity.

How?

By never discriminating against or insulting others and standing up, calling others out, if they do it. It’s often easier to ignore but if I ignore it or you ignore it, it carries on and the people who do it get more powerful.”

Greg Brown addressing Grade 7’s

“This (transformation) is not a quick-fix process. This is not an exercise to tick a box and move on. I understand the frustration from some quarters for action and I share your desire to get going but am always conscious of the need to do this in a way that effects lasting change. I want us to look back in 20 years’ time and say we did well rather than having to repeat the exercise in a few years.”

“In many ways our mouth is our most dangerous weapon – more so than sticks and fists – and the scars our words leave last far longer than bruises. The words we use as insults to others are carefully chosen to cause maximum hurt. And if we say them often enough, people believe them”

Tony Reeler via newsletters to college boys

Did You Know?

The school’s Principal Tony Reeler, has called for

“...our entire community (to be) behind the co-creation of a new space where all people feel welcome, where people feel they belong, where they don’t have to leave anything of themselves behind and where they are accepted for who they are, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief or indeed any of the many things that make us different and can potentially cause division.”

NOTE: The BishopsTransformation Committee, along with the school’s exec have appointed a South African consultancy **m_Power**, headed by skilled transformation expert **Lele Wessie-Mehlomakulu** to spearhead our **Transformation and Inclusion Plan**.

(Look out for our Principal, Mr Antony Reeler’s newsletter highlighting this phased approach and how you as a parent will be involved and how your son is able to participate.)



St. Pauls Primary

**we continue to provide monthly delivery of breakfast provisions;
assistance with improvements of ablution facilities continues;**

Did You Know?

Athwood Primary

we continue to provide vouchers for Tuesday sandwich & fruit drive

**Next Term: we'll need parents to support the students with bread,
spread & fruit**

Fundraising enables us to:

- a) make a contribution to communities Bishops supports such as St Pauls Primary, Athwood Primary and the Vusa Academy**
- b) come together as a community to build our sense of belonging with each other**
- c) contribute to projects at the school e.g as the PA we contributed R100k toward the total cost of R11 million to refurbish the library that our boys love so much!**

Did You Know?

no new fundraising is planned for remainder of 2020

however, we need to think together about how to raise funds responsibly in 2021

we welcome your input - what would work best for you?

we'd love to hear from you
what's on your mind?

you can contact us on PrepPA@bishops.org.za

Did You Know?

our survey is planned for the new term, help shape the content by letting us know what matters to you.

A good way to get a sense of the ethos of the school is to read the Principal's bi-weekly assembly message to the College boys. This can be found on the College website under Principals' newsletters. The Prep and Pre-Prep PA is committed to supporting you by working in partnership with the school. **We will ask tough questions on process and progress toward a safe and inclusive learning environment.**

Let's work together to strengthen our Bishops community for boys and parents