

In our special Madela Day Assembly, we welcomed Mr Andrew Russell and Mr Igsaan Amlay. Andrew attended Bishops Prep and College, and completed his schooling in 1982 – the same year Mandela was moved off Robben Island to Pollsmoor Prison. Christo Brand, one of Nelson Mandela’s former prison guards, asked Andrew to become his Business Manager and the editor of his book which is called *Doing Life with Mandela: My Prisoner, My Friend*.

Andrew interviewed Mr Igshaan Amlay, a former political prisoner who was actively involved in the struggle against apartheid from a very young age. He was born in Grassy Park and grew up in Wynberg. In 1985 at the age of 16, as a student activist, Igsaan attended a student rally at Wynberg High School with a group of fellow students. They were arrested and stood trial - this trial became known as the Wynberg 7 Trial. After a lengthy trial they were sentenced to serve imprisonment in Pollsmoor Maximum Security Prison. – Igsaan was the youngest political prisoner to ever be sent to prison. In prison he met and developed a special friendship with Christo Brand. Today we were privileged to hear Mr Amlay share his story – one of struggle and of service, and a message of hope as he encouraged our boys to make and be the difference as the future leaders of our country.

2024 Mandela Day Theme #It is in our hands.