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Dear Parents

"Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses."

Alphonse Karr

And so, just like that, our grade 7s left last week on their much-anticipated Grade 7 trip. Although the destination was not Botswana, I know that the experience has been a memorable one in Pongola. With the trip "hanging in the balance for a long time" I am thankful and grateful that it has happened. It has been a well-deserved treat for them.

I am in fact delighted that all our trips have taken place. More on these, with reports and photographs to follow...

You may have seen the Senior Primary Choir singing the song "Brave", "virtually". It has been posted on Facebook and Youtube. My thanks go to **Mrs Donna Moor** who has stepped into the role of "Choir Mistress" and helped make this beautiful moment happen. Wonderful footage of the children and campus makes for a moving experience. My thanks go to Mr Lee Stopford, Mrs Rebecca Stopford and Gary Mortimer for their role in sound, drone footage and videoing. The link to the video is <https://youtu.be/cfKBOICSdO4>.

The Squash Championships (with all protocols observed) took place recently, whilst the Swimming Championship Gala will be taking place next week. It is good to see children in action and competing again, although sad that spectators are still not allowed as per Covid protocols.

I am hugely proud of **Benjamin Spencer** (see right) who frequently catches fish (he caught a total of 21) which he then takes to FreeMe Wildlife Society to feed a Cape Clawless Otter. Service above self – a wonderful spirit to have.

Enjoy your weekend!

Kind regards

Viktor

**VIKTOR KURZ
HEADMASTER**





Amy Macaskill – Girls' Champion



Squash Championships



Justin Higginson – Boys' Champion



Grade 2 Trip to Spirit of Adventure

As always Spirit of Adventure really lived up to its name! As we arrived on the morning of Wednesday the 4th of November, the children were welcomed by their guides, split into groups and directed to their cabins. Once unpacked, they were briefed on the 'magic beans' and their importance for the next few days. Who would have guessed that so much adventure could be packed into two days? The canoe safari, nature walk, beach games, campfire cooking, stalk the lantern, abseiling down the Shongweni dam wall (our Clifton Grade Twos are the youngest children to do this), zip lining and the Pick a Box Show in the evening were enjoyed by all. There was an obstacle course to be conquered and the children even braved a pirate in their hunt for treasure on Treasure beach. True to the Clifton spirit our children took part in each activity with much enthusiasm and loads of laughter...



***"Enjoying
the Great
Outdoors!"***



Grade 4 Trip to Roselands

We were absolutely thrilled when we heard that we were able to go on our trip to Roselands. Being a firm favourite spot, the teachers did not hesitate to book the bus.

On arrival we were shown to our dorms and immediately met Pat the Snake Man. Pat spoke to us about snakes and why we should not be afraid of them. He was very interesting to listen to and then the best part was that he had snakes with him AND we were allowed to hold them! Some, who were nervous, showed courage and in the end couldn't get enough of holding and stroking these beautiful creatures.



From then on it was an adventure and education fiesta. We saw the endangered Blue Swallows, who were building a nest and caught grasshoppers in the grasslands. The muddy course was a highlight (mainly for the teachers) as the children were covered in mud. The obstacle course offered a chance to be each other's cheerleaders and we were very proud of how supportive our children were of each other.

The steep hike down into the ravine, up the river and to the waterfall was a highlight of the trip. Even Mrs Stokes got her takkies muddy much to the amusement of Akim. What a beautiful country we live in, just look at the photos below. The days were filled with parachute games, chicken chasing, egg collecting and songs. We ate delicious meals and learnt all about how to grow Kiwi fruit, as well as why bees are so important to farming and the planet. Night walks followed by hot chocolate, Roselands did not disappoint. Thank you Roselands for the education and just great outdoor fun. What a fantastic trip we had.



