CLIFTON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
NOTTINGHAM ROAD

Nottingham Road, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
Private Bag X01, Nottingham Road, 3280 South Africa

Telephone: +27 (0)33 266 8200
E-mail: reception@cliftonprep.org.za

NPO Reg. N^{0}: 016-621
Co Reg. N^{0}: 2000/011970/08

2 December 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians

"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all the others."

Marcus Tullius Cicero

I sit here and write the final brief (but significant) newsletter for the year 2020. As I stated in my Prize Giving speech this past Saturday, I am, as many of you are too, in reflective mode. I could trot off many clichéd expressions about Covid and Corona and how the year has been – but what purpose would that serve? All the letters from me since 16 March reflect our thoughts and the realities of the various moments.

The reality is simply (as the Nike tagline states) – "just do it" – and we "did it" this year. Lessons have been learnt by everyone – young and old. Lessons we never even knew we needed to know. But we all (parents, staff, children) can look back at and acknowledge our resilience, adaptability, strength, courage…the list is endless. Those attributes must and will stand us in good stead for the years to come.

We have ended the year in a strong position. I believe that our final SP Prize Giving provided a fitting culmination to an extraordinary year. My congratulations to all recipients of awards and prizes. Our acknowledgment of ***Mr Bill McQuaide*** (former Head of St Anne's) who has served on the Board of Directors and Trustees for 25 years and who has retired, was a moving moment.

From philosophising and reflecting, to some facts and dates that need to be remembered:

- Final School reports will be released today, **2 December 2020**
- Boarders will be returning on **19 January 2021**
- The full academic programme commences on Wednesday **20 January 2021**
- As per the calendar, the mid-term break of Term 1 commences after sport on **Wednesday 17 February, with school resuming on Tuesday 23 February.** The change has been made to ensure that we are in line with most of the other schools
- The PA/Parent welcome tea is on the **Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 07h30.** It is designed for you to attend after you have dropped off your child/children. It is hosted in the Pavilion to welcome everyone back to Clifton Notties - this is for new and existing parents. It is an important time to hear new information and be reminded of what we should know. Our Chairman of the Board, Chairlady of the PA and I will speak about pertinent issues. As per the calendar, parent/staff/class teacher meetings will be held after the PA meeting. No timing is perfect, but with a "captive audience", more parents will be able to meet class teachers etc.

- The *Edana* app (set to replace the D6 and Names and Faces), continues to be trialled. It is not without its complications and we do not want to rush into anything. For the moment, the lines and channels of communication remain the D6 and emails until further notice.
- I wish to thank ***Mrs Caireen Laing*** and ***Mrs Lisel Silk*** for their hard work in creating our latest Clifton full colour, online magazine, which can be downloaded as a pdf file onto any device or can be forwarded to your family and friends. This is a new and exciting initiative and the link is as follows:
  CLIFTON NOTTIES ANNUAL SCHOOL DIGITAL MAGAZINE - 2019
  Should you still wish to receive a hard copy, please click on the link to access the google form:
  CLIFTON SCHOOL MAGAZINE 2019 ORDER FORM

I am pleased to announce that ***Ms Monique Langlois***, currently Head of Learning Support at the Ridge School in Pietermaritzburg has been appointed in the position of Learning Support Co-ordinator from 1 January 2021. A Remedial Therapist, she will bring a wealth of experience and passion for her role. In our drive to put the topic of SUSTAINABILITY at the forefront of our thinking, we have appointed ***Mr James Henderson*** (a former intern) as our Sustainability Officer. His role is a multi-facetted one, ensuring that sustainability (in the full sense of the word) is incorporated into the curriculum, while we also harness and "clean up" our campus. I look forward to him growing his new role, and thank ***Mr Tim Smythe*** and ***Mr Gavin Erasmus*** (both parents) who have provided and will provide valuable guidance as this role grows.

I came across this article about "Perennials" – an alternative title to all the various so-called generation titles that have been used over the years. It provides an interesting perspective on traditional beliefs about the various generations. It is worth a read. The link is ***https://www.thewhatlist.com/daily/meet-the-perennials***

All that remains for me to do, is to wish you and your respective families a more than blessed Christmas.

I look forward to welcoming you back on 19/20 January 2021.

Kind regards

Viktor

VIKTOR KURZ
HEADMASTER

Headmaster's Service Award – *Jessica Fly*
Dux for 2020 – *Kerrin Wynne* (Far right)

"Our 2020 Trophy Award Winners"

Sports Results:

Swimming Championship Gala Results:

U9
Girls Champion – Reese von Mayer
Boys Champion – Tom van Duren
U10
Girls Champion – Iva Kahlan Buratovich & Thandolwethu Sentongo
Boys Champion – Caleb Boshoff
U11
Girls Champion – Georgina Davies
Boys Champion – Laird Lombard
U12
Girls Champion – Amy Gerber (2 x Records)
Boys Champion – Joshua Strudwick
U13
Girls Champion – Madison Watt-Pringle
Boys Champion – Craig Cribbins (Record) & Noah Bates

- Amy Gerber
  4 x 25m Individual Medley Record – 01:29:03
  50m Backstroke Record – 00:41:23

- Craig Cribbins
  50m Freestyle Record – 00:31:86

KZN Squash Results:

Although only three of the four compulsory KZN Squash tournaments were held this year due to Covid, we have recently had notification from the KZN Schools Squash Association that the following children qualified for selection and would have been selected for the Inter-Provincial teams' tournaments. Congratulations to all these children for their commitment to Squash, for their selection to the respective KZN teams and keeping the Clifton flag flying!

U13 Girls:
Amy Macaskill
Imibongo Somhlahlo
Lisa Oellermann
Kaitlin van Aardt
Tamlyn Galliers
Rebecca Pringle

U13 Boys:
Justin Higginson
Nicholas Baker
William Ridl

U11 Girls:
Chloe Pringle
Gemma Ridl
Lucy Fyvie

U11 Boys:
Callum Fly
Graeme Higginson

Clifton Social Responsibility:

Junior Primary SPCA collection:

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the recent SPCA collection. All donations, no matter how big or small were greatly appreciated! We enjoy supporting these and other voluntary initiatives to teach our children to think of others and not only themselves…

Thank you for your support!