

HIGH SCHOOL

MAGAZINE

2017



TMC

Thomas More College

PASSION

PURPOSE

VISION

VALUES



CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ethos & Mission Statement | 3 |
| Aerial View of the Campus | 4 |
| Campus Developments | 5 |
| Letter from the Chairman..... | 6 |
| Thomas More College Executive Principal's Address | 7 & 8 |
| Tribute to Shane Cutbertson | 9 - 11 |
| Association Day Gallery | 12 |
| Past Pupils' Association Report | 13 & 14 |
| Long Walk Gallery..... | 15 |
| Parents' Council Chairman's Report | 16 |
| Country Fair Gallery..... | 17 |
| Admin, Marketing, Catering & Estate Staff News | 18 |
| School of Music, Womens' Month Campaign & Community Cultural Showcase | 19 |
| Christmas Wonderland Carol Service & The Christian Arts Festival | 20 |
| Christianity at Thomas More Collage | 21 |
| Sponsored Walk, Valentine's Day & Spring Day..... | 22 |
| Outreach Community Projects..... | 23 - 25 |

HIGH SCHOOL [Grade 8 – 12]

| | |
|--|---------|
| High School Introduction & Gallery | 26 & 27 |
| Headmaster's Address | 28 & 29 |
| Grade 8 – 11 Prizegiving | 29 & 30 |
| Matric Prizegiving | 31 |
| Staff News | 32 - 34 |
| Grade 8 Orientation, Dale Carnegie Course, STIC | 35 |
| Debating, Model UN Debating, Design & Technology Club, Robotics Club | 36 |
| Current Affairs Youth Council, Art Club, World Challenge Expedition to Nepal | 37 |
| Kloof Conservancy Project, Grade 9 History Projects | 38 |
| Expo for Young Scientists, Careers Exhibition, Grade 12 Zulu Tour | 39 |
| Retrobeats, Vocal Tenacity | 40 |
| Marimbas & Grahamstown Arts Festival | 41 |
| Supper & Song | 42 |
| Inter-house One Act Plays | 43 |
| High School Production: Noises Off | 44 |
| Art Gallery | 45 |
| High School Outings | 46 & 47 |
| Matric Photos Gallery | 48 - 52 |
| Matric Dance Gallery | 53 |
| Matric Farewell & Together since Grade 0 | 54 |
| Extra Mural Awards | 55 |
| High School Sport | 56 - 74 |



WHY TMC?

- MORE** *love, care & nurturing*
- MORE** *self-esteem*
- MORE** *value for money*
- MORE** *engagement in sport & equal opportunities*
- MORE** *cultural opportunities*
- MORE** *growth – proven academic track record in IEB*
- MORE** *young people equipped for the world of tomorrow!*

Editorial Team

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Editor | Kim Hooper |
| High School Liaison | Penny Thompson |
| Senior Primary Liaison | Annette Sewchuran & Barbara Taljard |
| Foundation Phase Liaison | Colette Jagles & Deni Hornsey |
| Layout & Design | Blue Hue Designs |



Ethos

Thomas More College is a Christian-based co-educational school with dedicated and professional staff, running classes from Grade 000 to Grade 12.

Through a balanced programme of academic, cultural and sporting activities as well as a measure of fun, the school prides itself on developing Christian love and self-esteem in children and a moral code as espoused in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, ensuring that they are able to make a meaningful contribution to an ever-changing society.

Focus is given to developing the whole child and equipping him/her with relevant leadership and life skills.

Mission Statement

Thomas More College is a School that:
Meets children where they are and strives to bring out the very best in each individual, whatever their ability.

Nurtures their social, emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual development.

Produces happy, confident, self-motivated individuals who strive to achieve their goals, whilst being sensitive to the needs of others.

Is always at the leading edge of educational thinking and development.

Endeavours to improve on its previous best.

Remains centred in Christian values.

CAMPUS





CAMPUS Improvements in 2017

- **GORDON BURNETT BLOCK** – An extra storey was added to the Grade 7 block with a complete revamp of the ground floor providing a new home for the Grade 6 and 7 classes.
- **RECEPTION MOVE AND UPGRADE** to a lovely new reception lounge with flat screen TV
- **A NEW SENIOR PRIMARY MUSIC OFFICE AND CLASSROOM** were created in the Villa.
- **THE SENIOR PRIMARY COMPUTER LABORATORY** was given an extreme makeover.
- An additional storey was added to the **HIGH SCHOOL "B BLOCK"**, adding 4 new classrooms with a complete revamp of the 4 ground floor rooms.
- **THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE** was converted to a **NEW BOARDROOM**.
- Alterations were done to the **VILLA OUTBUILDINGS** to provide accommodation for teacher interns.
- A High School classroom was expanded and converted to a **NEW SCIENCE LABORATORY**
- A **HIGH SCHOOL BIOLOGY LABORATORY** was expanded and upgraded.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

ROY ALDERDICE

**THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Over the past 15 years that I have been Chairman I have often wondered whether in fact the parents and indeed the staff really know what the Board of Trustees actually do, so this year I have decided to give you an insight into what we are all about.

First and foremost, it is important to know that Thomas More College is controlled and directed by The Thomas More Trust which provides for the appointment of a maximum of 18 Trustees. Only the Chairman and Treasurer are subject to election or re-election as the case may be on an annual basis. The Chairperson of the Parents' Council and the Past Pupils' Association are automatically elected onto the Board. The remaining Trustees are selected by recommendations from within or they are Exco members from the College.

The main functions of the Board are as follows:

1. To develop short, medium and long term strategies which include the core elements of education, culture and sport.
2. To uphold and protect the Ethos which is the Pole Star of the College.
3. To ensure that the Mission Statement works in harmony with the Ethos.
4. To advise and give guidance to the Executive Members of the College.
5. To ensure the financial sustainability of the College.
6. To ensure that all stakeholders are treated fairly.

In order to uphold all of the above functions it is necessary to establish various portfolios which are allocated to an appropriate Trustee. The Board meets at least five times a year, however, the Chairman and Treasurer meet with the Heads and the Bursar on a regular basis to give advice and guidance when required, and importantly to know what is going on in the College.

The Board is well structured and well balanced which greatly assists with the achievements of our goals and objectives.

I trust that this brief summary has given you a better understanding of the functions of the Board of Trustees, and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all Trustees for giving up their time and expertise to support Thomas More College.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY TWELVE PORTFOLIOS WHICH ARE CHAIRED BY THE FOLLOWING TRUSTEES:



ROY ALDERDICE

Chairman of the Thomas More Trust
Past Chairman of the Past Pupils' Association
Founder pupil in 1962
Joined the Board in 2001



LARRY RIDDLE

Vice-Chairman of the Board
Parent
Serves on the Finance and Scholarship / Bursaries sub-committees
Joined the Board in 2007



OTTO HIRZEL

Custodian of the Ethos
Past Chairman of the Board
Past Parent
Chairman of the Thomas More Education Trust
Joined the Board in 1994



JOHN BATCHELOR

Legal Affairs
Past Parent
Joined the Board in 1997



WAYNE JAGGARD

Treasurer / Finance / Capital Development
Parent
Past Chairman of the Parents' Council
Joined the Board in 2011



DR JUSTIN BARNES

Strategies and Benchmarking
Parent
Joined the Board in 2013



RENÉ MISSEN

Human Resources
Past Pupil and Past Parent
Joined the Board in 2003



PATRICK SMITH

Capital Projects and Environmental Affairs
Parent
Joined the Board in 2008



T C CHETTY

Chairman of the Parents' Council
Parent
Joined the Board in 2016



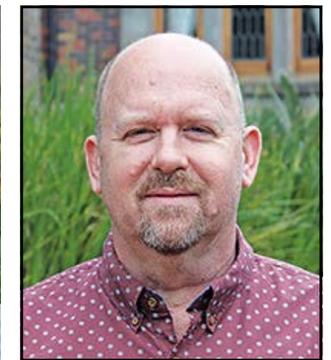
MELANIE KÜSTER

Chairperson of the Past Pupils' Association
Past Pupil and Parent
Joined the Board in 2011



DAVID ROOME

Christian Education
IT Specialist advisor
Parent
Joined the Board in 2015



GARY GREEN

Marketing
Past Pupil
Joined the Board in 2016

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, THE BELOW COLLEGE EXCO MEMBERS ARE TRUSTEES AND EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS



SHANE CUTHBERTSON

Executive Principal
Joined the Board in 2002



DAVE WIGGETT

Headmaster of the High School
Joined the Board in 2016



BARBARA TALJARD

Headmistress of the Primary School
Joined the Board in 2009



DENI HORNSEY

Headmistress of the Foundation Phase
Ex-Officio joined the Board in 2016



COLLEEN WOODLEY

Bursar/ Business Manager
Ex-Officio joined in 2013



KIM HOOPER

Head of Marketing
Ex-Officio joined in 2009

SHANE CUTHBERTSON

Mrs Küster, Mr Alderdice and members of the Board of Trustees, Honoured Guests, Mr Wiggett, Mrs Taljard, Mrs Hornsey, Staff, Parents, guests, pupils and most of all Matrics of 2017. It is a great honour to address you this evening, particularly in this, my last year at Thomas More College.

I have been immensely fortunate to have spent the last 16 years at this wonderful school. I would not have wished to be anywhere else. Prior to coming here I was the Headmaster of Lowveld High School in Mpumalanga for 5 years. I was very happy there and absolutely loved the environment. It was an excellent school, but having attended one myself, I wanted to move to a well-funded ambitious independent school. The Chairman of my Board at Lowveld, had previously been a school headmaster and circuit inspector. He was a man for whom I had an immense amount of respect. He warned me that things might be very different in the private school environment. The parents who after all paid my salary, would be demanding and unreasonable, and the children would be spoilt.

Nothing could be further from the truth! I cannot remember a time when I have been unhappy at Thomas More College. This is a supportive and co-operative community. Parents are involved and the vast majority are prepared to work constructively towards helping the school. There has never been a time that a parent told me in anger that he pays my salary. This parent body sees themselves as part of the team. Although they do not get paid, I see immense levels of both emotional and physical commitment. I do not believe that there is another parent community in South Africa that would take on staging something as challenging as the Long Walk. Almost 600 parents are involved. The Country Fair is also on another level. I cannot imagine any other being as complex and well organised as ours.

My bosses, the Board of Trustees, have been immensely supportive. A number have been on the Board for longer than I have. Roy Alderdice, Otto Hirzel, John Batchelor, René Missen have all been on the Board for longer than 16 years. The other 8 trustees average about 7 years on the Board. Melanie Küster, our speaker tonight, who is the chair of the Past Pupils' Association was in matric when I started here in 2002.

Before I started in the January at Thomas More I came down to meet the staff for a few days. I remember a particular meeting with a very enthusiastic young man called Gavin Belman. I had been the Chairman of Gauteng Schools swimming and Gavin saw the gap. Within a few minutes Gavin wanted to know when we were getting our pool.

I should have known. Thomas More was going to be a roller-

coaster ride of new projects. There has hardly been a time when there isn't some new structure going up on campus.

I first moved in next door to the legendary Gordon Burnett, who sadly passed away last year. The new Senior Primary building is named after Gordon who was the Treasurer of the school.

That first weekend, Gordon and his wife Helen took a large group of us out to the Chantecler Hotel for drinks and then on to the Rob Roy Hotel for dinner. We were settling down to look at the menu when the flustered manager of the Chantecler rushed in to the dining room. We had apparently absconded from the Chantecler pub without paying our bill. I knew then that Thomas More College looked after its money diligently.

I soon had to adapt from being a teacher and Headmaster at Thomas More to more of a designer and project engineer. In the next 16 years we built 39 classrooms, the Akal Pool, the Astro, the Boardman Field, netball courts, the music school, the coffee shop, the stock shop and numerous car parks. Library revamps, tuck-shops, classroom and staffroom revamps were the order of the day.

I am definitely a bit ADD and hate sitting down for too long, so I have absolutely loved getting on my feet and out of my office to check up on the latest project or go to support the sport in the afternoons.

I simply love the Ethos at Thomas More College. In 2002, my first year here as Headmaster I had a weekly meeting with the Chairs of the Matric Leadership Council. James Lees and Zuriel Naicker. Melanie knows them well. James and Zuriel took it upon themselves to tell this new headmaster how the school should be run. To this day I truly believe that the Ethos is driven by the pupil body. The compassion, caring and emotional intelligence is endemic and doesn't have to be taught. This school truly understands that children need to be happy before they can learn properly. Relationships and self-esteem are given a huge priority. For us there is no doubt that happy children do better academically. We want our children to develop a sound moral compass, to sort behaviours, impulses and feelings into "appropriate" and "inappropriate" and be able to justify judgements about their choices. We encourage parents to not use rewards (like sticker charts, lollies, chocolates and TV time as "bribes") and punishments (taking away "privileges", time-out and

smacking) but to encourage good behaviour, for the sake of "doing the right thing". Rewards and punishments can override a child's natural inclination towards appropriate behaviour by teaching them to behave in certain ways purely to receive a reward, or to avoid punishment. We want our children to do the right thing because they know it is right, and because they want to do right.

We do not really know what kind of jobs we are preparing these children for. Research shows that most of the jobs that these children will do have not yet been invented.

If we cannot prepare them for a specific career then we can at least give our children skills and a value system that will give them control over their lives and help them to make the right decisions. Building character and resilience is our duty at Thomas More College.

I recently came across a fun article by futurist Deon Chang who was speculating about unusual careers.

HERE ARE SIX OF HIS FAVOURITES:

PROFESSIONAL SLEEPER: A hotel in Finland has a position for someone to test the comfort of their beds. The person is required to sleep in a different hotel bed each night and then write a review about his / her sleeping experience.

ODOUR JUDGE: To test the effectiveness of new products, some personal goods companies hire "odour judges" who are employed to smell volunteers' breath, feet, or armpits. The odour judges, in turn, have their sense of smell retested regularly.

FULL-TIME TV WATCHER: A company like Netflix hires someone to watch all their content before releasing it to the public. The watcher's responsibility is to review each programme and assign it its correct tag, which ensures viewers find exactly what they're after, by category.

HUMAN PET FOOD TASTERS: Ever wondered how they get to describe the taste of the pet food you buy? Pet food companies hire people to test the quality and taste of their products. Human pet food samplers also evaluate the nutritional value of the food, but I'm not sure how they do that, as they spit out the food once they've tasted it.

FRIEND FOR RENT: In Japan, Ryuichi Ichinokawa is a professional stand-in for a variety of roles, including fake spouse, best man, family relative, friend, work colleague and even boyfriend, to spare his clients embarrassment at



social or work functions. In the US, Samantha Hess is a "professional cuddler" and will cuddle you – platonically – for \$60 (R800) per hour.

PROFESSIONAL MOURNER: This one seems tailor-made for South Africa, although it is already a service provided in the UK and in south-east Asia, where it is believed that a loud funeral will help the dead as they travel to the afterlife. Professional mourners are therefore hired to weep loudly throughout the funeral.

If none of these jobs inspire you and you're thinking, "I'd rather watch paint dry", then your prayers have been answered. A man in the UK actually earns a living doing just that. He spends his days painting sheets of cardboard to test how long new paint mixes take to dry and watches for changes in colour and texture.

We say we need more entrepreneurs in South Africa, but not everyone has the skill, the means or appetite for risk. However, we can encourage and support initiative and you might just find work in the unlikelyst of places

Independent schools in South Africa have been riding the crest of the wave in the twenty years that I have been a Headmaster. This has been largely as a result of perceived declining standards in Government Education. Unfortunately, with more demand, the cost of independent schooling has sky-rocketed and school fees have been increasing well above the rate of inflation. Glamorous facilities like astros, heated pools and sports halls have sprung up and the provision of first world computer facilities with Wi-Fi has become the norm. Most private schools have however been non-profit and at least the increasing school fees could be seen to lead to improving academic results and facilities. Now there is a new threat as "for profit" chain schools have entered the market in search of getting their slice of the pie.

A part of these school fees go to the shareholders. 10 years ago I would never have thought that there was money to be made out of education. I still don't know how. Every cent that we make at Thomas More College has always been ploughed straight back into the infrastructure of the school.

The chain schools come in with complete campuses and certainly make a good initial impression. Shareholders are however their highest priority so there is no doubt that finally frugality has to be paramount. Academically many chain schools are yet to prove themselves and I have no doubt that with the quality of the staff that are at schools such as ours, the chain schools will not be able to match our results. We put a very high priority on hiring the best staff with the best experience, hopefully in the IEB. I do not see this happening in the for profit schools. It is simply not affordable to do this as well as to make a profit for the shareholders! The potential shortage of teachers in the near future is extremely worrying. Research has shown that in South Africa there are four times as many teachers in their late 40s than in their early 30s. Independent schools paying better salaries will hopefully be less affected. The staff here are great characters and I am not surprised that past pupils often come back to visit their teachers.

These are however very difficult times financially and Thomas More College is acutely aware of the financial pressures faced by our parent body. We have in the last few months taken a long hard look at our financial model. This is not the time for generous budgets and financial efficiency is the name of the game. Just a few weeks back we announced a fee increase of less than 5% for 2018 with Grades 11 and 12 increasing by only 3%. This is the smallest increase that I have seen in my 16 years at Thomas More College. We do not make enough of the fact that fees at Thomas More College are largely inclusive. There is no extra charge for things like personal accident insurance, grade trips and outings, printing, Wi-Fi etc. this is not the case as the vast majority of other private schools where your account at the end of the month is often more than expected. We hope to keep school fee increases at Thomas More very modest for the next few years.

What changes might we see in education in the near future? Currently pupils are streamed in terms of ability, which generally means on a basis of their marks. The future may

see this change to streaming on a basis of how they learn. Children will be in classes with others who like to be taught in the same way.

Smart phones and tablets will be endemic as we concern ourselves more with the pursuit of skills rather than the accumulation of knowledge.

Classrooms which have looked the same for hundreds of years will look quite different as more emphasis is placed on collaboration than on working on your own. The new high school classrooms that are currently under construction will have a very different interior look to the classrooms that we are used to.

The curriculum might also change considerably. The South African curriculum is extremely broad with children doing far too many subjects in far too little detail. This has counted against us in international benchmarking tests. Children writing the Cambridge (A levels) examinations or International Baccalaureate examinations overseas or in fact in the rest of Africa do much better than we do because they do a lot fewer subjects than us in a lot more detail. While we have a broad education however we do look bad when comparing subject for subject.

I have wonderful memories of my time at Thomas More College. This is a magnificent environment to work in. The beauty of the buildings and gardens brings a calm and tranquillity and a very special feel. When you come onto this campus you get the feeling that things are cared for and nurtured here. They are!

I will always be immensely grateful that I met my wife Carolyn here. She has been just perfect for me. I needed a second chance and she gave it to me. I knew her as a parent here and off course as a head at St. Mary's. Having lost her first husband many years back in a tragic car accident, Carolyn had been on her own for some time. Her children who were finished school by then were threatening to sign her up for internet dating if she didn't find a partner soon. She actually had a deadline. One day the phone rang and Carolyn asked if I would join her for coffee. Seeing the gap I managed to convince her that lunch would be a much better idea, but for fear of being seen she refused to meet me within 20km of either of our schools, we eventually settled on Umhlanga.

Subsequent dates got slowly closer to home. But it did take quite a while for us to be seen in the suburb together.

The Matriculants of 2017 were born in 1999 and are the last group of pupils who will have been born in the 1990s.

They have seen the launch of YouTube, e-readers, Skype, iPods and even the Cloud. Smartphones, GPS and even Blue tooth have been invented since they were born. This is a very different world to the one that we adults grew up in. I am confident that the education that the Matrics got at Thomas More College has prepared them well for the next phase of their lives. I would like to thank the staff who have invested so much in these matrics over the years. Their commitment has been enormous and way beyond the call of duty. I know that the staff probably get just as stressed as the matrics about the exams.

I wish our Grade 12 students who are leaving us, every success in their examinations and future endeavours. You have been an outstanding group and have led the school magnificently this year. Your commitment and dignity will long be remembered, I hope you will remember your time at Thomas More College fondly. Don't forget that the gates are never closed and keep in touch.

I believe that you are well prepared to make a huge difference in this country and in the world. If there are two human qualities that I believe will mark you as you go forward from this school it will be the qualities of commitment and caring. Commitment is expected of you here and participation is obligatory. Yet so many of you have wildly exceeded our expectations and been totally involved. This value will get you a very long way in the future. Thomas More pupils are pupils that care.

Sadly, having come of age, I must retire at the end of this year. I will look back on my time here with very fond memories. The school is in very good hands with Mr Wiggett, Mrs Taljard, Mrs Hornsey and Mrs Woodley at the helm. With the Board and the outstanding staff, parents and pupils, I know that Thomas More College will continue to flourish. I will follow the progress of the school with a great deal of interest.

I was a Science teacher and not a great student of language. I am thus going to end with the words of a man who was much wiser and certainly a whole lot better at putting things

into words than I am. Rudyard Kipling: The poem goes by the simple title of:

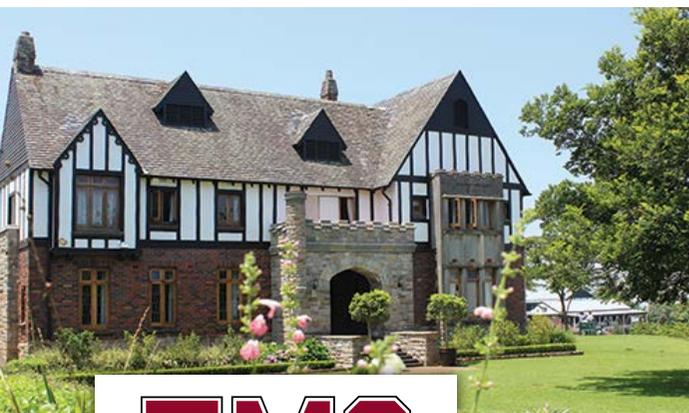
IF

*If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:
If you can dream – and not make dreams your master;
If you can think – and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:*

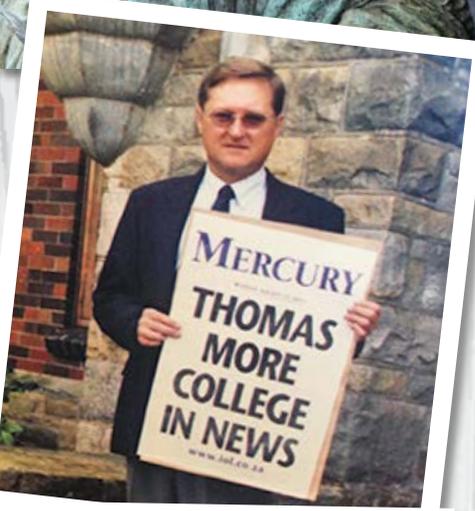
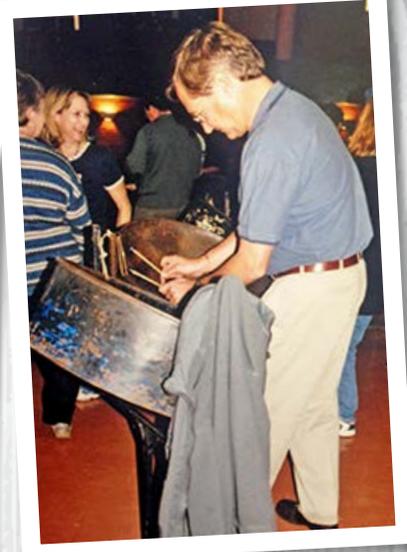
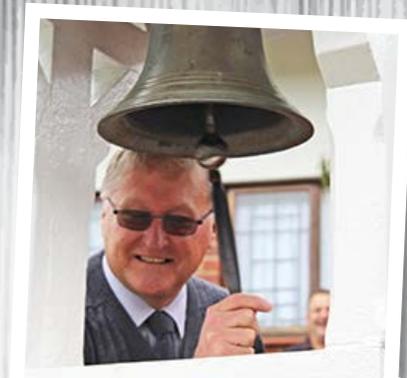
*If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'*

*If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!*

Thank you for giving me this last and very special occasion to address you.



Farewell Tribute to SHANE CUTHBERTSON



Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.

It is indeed an honour for me as Chairman of the Board of Trustees to pay tribute to our Executive Principal, Shane Cuthbertson, whom I have enjoyed working with and learning from over the past 15 years.

It is fair to say that it took me a good two years to gain an insight into the position of Chairman and Shane showed patience and understanding, and he taught me a lot. We developed a good relationship and understanding over the years, which is a prerequisite for any Chairman and the Head of a school.

Shane's wise counsel at board meetings was ever present and he never pushed his own agenda, always allowing others to have their say.

Shane's mandate was to improve the IEB matric results and to develop the facilities on the campus and in so doing put Thomas More College on the map.

There is absolutely no doubt that he achieved all three objectives and more. Thomas More has become a school of choice as evidenced by the number of learners here present this morning. We have grown from 55 learners in 1962 to 1185 today.

During his tenure, he has implemented the Boards' master campus plan consisting of 39 new classrooms, the Ken Garside Centre, the Ken Mackenzie Centre, new and improved library blocks for the Primary and High School, a full sized heated pool, netball courts, an astroturf, music school, AEU facilities, coffee shop and stock shop. In addition he has expanded the pre-school programme from crèche to Grade 00.

On behalf of all the board members I thank you for what you have achieved for Thomas More College. I would now like to read to you a tribute from the Exco of the College:

"It has been an honour and a privilege for all of us to work with someone of the calibre of Shane Cuthbertson, who will long be remembered not only in the annals of ISASA history but also in the history of Thomas More College, as a visionary and initiator who is able to prioritise well and with humility, and has worked tirelessly and with principled dedication for quality education. He is a leader among leaders also known for his wisdom, integrity and commitment as well as his ability to uplift morale and communicate and interact with the people of all age groups and walks of life."

It is now my privilege to award Shane his Thomas More Honours Blazer – the Thomas More honours blazer is awarded to the Executive Principal for 16 years of noteworthy leadership, upholding the ethos of the college and his unwavering support of improved academics, sport and culture and for truly believing in every child who has formed a part of this tremendous Thomas More Family.

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Roy Alderdice

Dear Lord Jesus
We pray that this would be a wonderful new beginning for Mr Cuthbertson. Please lead him and guide him each day. May he take hold of new opportunities and explore the skills and gifts that You have given him, so that they may be used to glorify Your name.
We ask, Lord, that you would bless him today and always.
In Your name we pray, Amen.
Riordan Govender

The scriptures for today's assembly are being read from:

PSALM 40:5

Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done, and Your thoughts toward us; there is none to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, they would be too numerous to count."



It has been an honour and privilege to work with someone of the calibre of Shane Cuthbertson. He will long be remembered, not only in the annals of ISASA history, but also in the history of Thomas More College, KZN as a visionary and initiator. He is able to prioritize well and has worked tirelessly and with principled dedication for quality education. He is a leader among leaders, also known for his wisdom, integrity and commitment as well as his ability to uplift morale and communicate and interact well with people of all age groups and walks of life.

Shane completed his entire schooling at St John's College, Houghton. He holds a B.Sc. and HDE through Wits, a B.Ed. through UNISA and has done the Wits Head of Schools LDP.

Shane started his career in 1981, teaching Biology and Science at Northview and then Bryanston High Schools. He then became HOD Natural Sciences at Northcliff High where he also became Chief Biology Matriculation Marker for the Central Rand Region (1994-1997). He also became Chairman of the Old Transvaal School Swimming Association (1983-1991), having been MIC of Swimming in his previous schools. In addition he coached cricket, rugby and athletics. In 1989 he was promoted to Deputy Principal of Bryanston High. In 1998 he became Headmaster of Lowveld High School, the then leading English medium school for both sport and academics at Nelspruit, now Mbombela. Here he finally realized his erstwhile errors in joining a co-educational school! During the four years of his Headship, the school grew to approximately 1060 pupils of whom 300 resided in hostel. Shane also became a member of the Executive of the South African Principals Association (1999-2002). He chaired the Mpumalanga Principals' Association. He also was the co-author of six General Science text books that were approved for use in South Africa.

In 2002 he was appointed Headmaster of Thomas More College and then Executive Principal in 2009. In his time in KZN he has risen from being Secretary for the KZN region for 7 years, from 2005, to being chairman of the KZN region (2011), National Vice Chairman (2013-2014) and part of the organising committee for the Durban ISASA/SAHISA conference in 2015. He is now National Chairman of SAHISA.

Shane's collegial, but strong style of leadership has impacted significantly on the growth of Thomas More College. He has also shared of his expertise in presenting many talks both locally, nationally and at Heads' conferences here and abroad. Furthermore he has served on the Governing Board of Umhlanga College when they were an ISASA School. Our own school has benefitted immensely from his leadership

strategies. It has grown both exponentially and in stature, acquiring 39 new classrooms, two teaching/ meeting Centres, new and improved PS and HS library blocks, a full size heated pool, netball courts, a Past Pupils' pavilion and Coffee Shop, an Astroturf, Music School, upgraded and expanded facilities for extra pupil support, an expanded Pre School programme from crèche to Grade 00. In addition to all of this, Shane has assisted vastly in improving our IEB matric results.

Shane has contributed much to the lives of pupils who have struggled and yet, sometimes against all odds, achieved a matric pass and gone on to shine in later life. He has also added value to those with great ability where they have been challenged, extended, and have achieved remarkable results. Past pupils always make every endeavour to pay him a visit - speaking volumes of his impact on them! Shane has the exceptional ability to see the "big picture" and to follow through projects meticulously to fruition. With his tireless energy and passion for what he does, he is also the only Head I know who has broken into a building from which he was locked out! He shimmied up the drainpipe to continue working in his office, after working late. There were however two secretaries who were most surprised to see his manner of entrance!

Shane has been a community builder who has truly placed TMC on the educational map and will be sorely missed when he retires at the end of 2017! We have benefitted from his friendship and input- and he has personally touched the lives of many at TMC whether staff, parents, pupils, or Board members!

Shane is happily married to Carolyn, Head of the Junior Primary of St Mary's DSG, in Kloof and has two step children, Mandy, a teacher, and Douglas, an accountant, as well as two much loved grandchildren, Adam (2yrs) and Ella (4yrs), who call him "Bumpy". He has gravitated from his earlier personal interests of scuba diving and mountaineering but still remains an avid hiker and lover of outdoor pursuits and the Bushveld, 4 x 4 trips, bird watching (the feathered kind!), photography and watching sport.

We thank Shane for being a leader among leaders! For his immense contribution to education also, and know he will continue to make a difference and embrace life with interest and purpose, remaining true to his values in the next stage of his journey. We salute you!

EXCO OF THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
Deni Hornsey, Barbara Taljard, Dave Wiggett, Colleen Woodley & Kim Hooper

JEREMIAH 29:11

*This is GOD'S Word on the subject:
I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out - plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for."*





Good morning staff, friends and special guests. This morning I shall be speaking about this wonderful man, who is so special to each and every one of us here at TMC.

He walks around the school with his heart-warming smile and passion for what he does. His humble nature makes everyone feel warm and bubbly inside, knowing that he is at the helm of our wonderful school. Mr Cuthbertson, you are an inspiration and role model, not just to the students of TMC, but to the whole TMC family.

You are an amazing gentleman, with a heart full of love, which makes you an incredible Principal. You bring a smile to everyone around you, and you brighten up our day. I am sure that most children sitting here today will agree with me that we used to get so excited to have your warm, friendly hugs, and then we walked away with a huge smile on our faces, feeling super special, because the big boss remembered our names.

From our little Thom Teenies, to our studying matrics, we have all been so privileged to have had you as our Principal. You have always been there, supporting and motivating us from the front row at plays, and enjoying yourself, to standing on the side of the field, encouraging us to do our best.

On behalf of the Senior Primary, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you have done for us; by improving the facilities we learn in, and giving us the opportunity to continue to learn and grow. We are truly blessed at TMC, and appreciate everything before us.

Mr Cuthbertson, we wish you love, and God's grace for your retirement, as you take time to reflect on the special memories of your time spent with us at TMC. We will miss you dearly, and look forward to your visits on special occasions. Once again, your love and leadership will not be forgotten, as we walk in the legacy you have left.

Micaela Wight - Grade 7

It's great to see so many people here to honour a great servant and friend of Thomas More College, Mr Shane Cuthbertson. Even though we are of many different ages and have many different functions and experiences within the Thomas More community, it is certain that we all have one thing in common: our admiration of a man who never quits until the job is done and who will leave a long lasting impression on the Thomas More Family as a whole.

That man, of course, Mr Cuthbertson. The great Albert Einstein once said, "Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value". We believe this simple quote perfectly describes Mr Cuthbertson as while he was a Headmaster he was also an exemplary science teacher.

As Thomas More scholars, Mr Cuthbertson has been present in our school lives from the very first day. His presence at all school events and most sports matches is a testament to his endless energy and commitment to the Thomas More family. Our own parents have regularly remarked on his amiable nature and willingness to engage with children of all ages as well as their parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles all while having the ability to remember their names with ease. Mr Cuthbertson is and will continue to be a pillar that strengthens us and our TMC family and he will be truly missed.

Tatum Olivier - Headgirl 2018



As all of you know, Mr Cuthbertson has been instrumental in a massive expansion of our wonderful school.

Take the time to listen to Mr Cuthbertson and one will learn so much from the man who is ever present and tireless. He can tell you what Thomas More Collage was like before we were enrolled and how the school has grown in such a short space of time as well as the place for the future of scholars of Thomas More. He keeps his hand on the pulse of the TMC community better than anyone I know and never seems rushed or flustered. We all know something else about Mr Cuthbertson, he sees possibilities where others see only difficulties. He doesn't just look around and see things that need attention, he takes action.

So Mr Cuthbertson, on behalf of everyone here, we would like to say thanks for being a man of action and not just words. Thomas More College will be poorer without you and you will be missed by us all.

So could I please ask the school to show our appreciation by giving Mr Cuthbertson a round of applause.

Brandon Davies - Headboy 2018



Mr Cuthbertson is a kind, gentle man who always gives us nice hugs.

He comes to watch all our sports and also watched our play and we think he is generous and supportive.

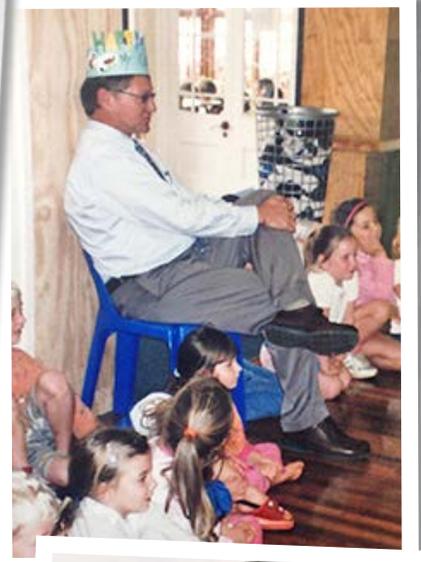
We want to thank him for looking after our school and helping to make it a special place where we can learn well and make new friends.

We love our fields, the tuckshop, playing hockey matches on the Astroturf, and visiting the library.

Mr Cuthbertson lights up Thomas More and his smile makes us happy. We will remember his kindness and sense of humour and we will miss him.

We hope that you will always have special memories of your Thomas More years, Mr Cuthbertson.

Emma Heslop and Gubhuza Mlambo - Junior Primary





PAST PUPILS'
ASSOCIATION DAY
Esprit de Corps



MELANIE KÜSTER



COLLEEN WOODLEY



GARY GREEN



RAË GRIESEL

PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION

Report



I believe that as an Association, there is no greater indicator of success than the anticipation of potential members when they join your ranks. As such, it is both with privilege and immense pride that I attend the Matric Farewell each year. The Past Pupils' Association has grown from being an unknown entity to our newest crop of members to an entity where they race to don their **#proudpastpupil** t-shirts as badges of honour. That simple beginning makes the years' work worthwhile and truly reinforces that our **#proudpastpupil** momentum is growing in exactly the right direction. Our newest members clearly think so, and we as a Committee can only hope that the rest of you feel the same.

Both 2017 editions of the **Moorcock Chronicle** were distributed to much success, with our main goal of highlighting changes to the campus and the staff achieved, much to the apparent enjoyment of our members. Yet another indicator of our momentum is that our July edition was distributed to over 3300 email addresses, from which we received not one response requesting removal from our distribution lists. When you compare this to a database of just shy of 2000 email addresses 5 years ago, and numerous removal requests, the momentum of our growth is obvious, as well as the fact that the growth is in the right quarters. We have migrated from a Facebook profile to a Facebook page with 2159 followers, which has

opened up the opportunities of using Facebook's paid promotions. Thus far our use of it shows that we reach on average 400 more members per post than we do via unpaid posting, and thus, as a communication tool for critical messages it is proving a very worthwhile step.

Our **Sports Clubs** are truly representative of the wider Thomas More Family. Each Club hosts members from the pupil, parent, teacher and past pupil bodies, alongside members from the greater Upper Highway community, and all Clubs are serving members of both genders. Our hockey ladies

are currently undefeated, and sitting at the top of their league. Our cycling team, made up of entirely current pupils won the KZN League at the end of 2016 and our Waterpolo Club, in its turn, hosts a very successful winter warm up league each year which draws schools as far abroad as Pietermaritzburg.

In response to the obvious marketing opportunity that these Clubs present for Thomas More College, we will be changing our sports-funding model to one where, instead of sponsoring money towards player subscription fees, we will instead provide fully sponsored or reduced-price Thomas More College branded kit for each Club. This will become effective in 2018.

2017 has seen our dedicated and hard-working part-time archivist, Lynn Bregman, spend 98 hours sorting and integrating all of the physical photographs. The archives are now a pleasure to visit as they are sorted, easily accessible, and easily decipherable wherever information was available. There are currently 2 active projects underway within the Archives. One is the ongoing identification of un-annotated or unidentifiable records, which is a very time-consuming job requiring the attention of someone with first-hand knowledge of the approximate era in which the record arose. The second is the collation of digital records, and the transferral of records from outdated media such as stiffy discs, floppy discs and VHS onto digital hard drives. Once that is completed, the next mammoth task will be the sorting and integrating of the unidentifiable and or un-annotated records of digital format. We are also collecting current material, as well as any old material our members are willing to part with.

Despite the last minute route change and the weather being better suited to aquatic life, **Long Walk 2017** was a huge success in our opinion. The camaraderie generated by the use of the campus, as well as the increased interaction between walkers on the different loops created an amazing atmosphere that was wonderful to be a part of. Logistically we also experienced a much smoother, faster supply and resupply process for the Past Pupils Stop. With our gazebos, new teardrop banners and energetic sound, we are confident that the Past Pupils' Stop was both memorable and successful. It was also 100% manned by Past Pupils and Board Members, with huge thanks going to Otto, Patrick and Roy for assisting us on the day. It has been said on many other forums, but the agility and outright class of the Parents' Council Long Walk Committee in adjusting to a difficult situation cannot be overstated, and our thanks go out to each and every one of them!

The **Madiba Exhibition** was a very successful last minute addition to the PPA and School calendar for 2017. Matthew Willman's loan of his Madiba Heritage Collection was an opportunity, to educate and enrich our community, that could not be missed. The programme began with an open evening, free to the general public, which drew an estimated 250 visitors onto campus, followed by tours of the exhibition for Thomas More scholars, parents and staff. Our thanks are extended to Lynette Dunlop and her History Department for their assistance throughout the week, but most of all, thanks is owed to Matthew Willman for his very generous offer, and his presence and assistance throughout the week.

Our **Proudly Mzansi Pub Quiz**, set to the backdrop of the Madiba Exhibition, was a wonderful evening, thoroughly enjoyed by all 144 of our attendees. We are prodigiously proud that in just over 2 years we have managed to grow attendance of this event from 87 to 144, and have just successfully hosted our 4th edition! We hope that all of those who attended found it to be the value for money social event that we intended, and are proud to say that our audience was a delightful mix of Past Pupils, Staff, Parents and Friends of Thomas More! Our idea for this event has always been to position it as an event that will draw Past Pupils back onto campus, but that can also easily be elevated into a fundraising event if and when we should have need to, and we feel that we are very close to perfecting that recipe. Our thanks here are extended to Claudia Levarelli, Kerry White and Keryn Brophy for their assistance in setting up.

Our new kid on the block, the **Homegrown Expo** was a resounding success, and really it was never going to be anything but. Every adult sitting in this room has the lingering question in their minds, of how different their life may have been if they had experienced such an exposure to so many varied career paths, given by people who truly have their best interests at heart. Thomas More pupils need never have that lingering question from 2017 forward. The venues used on the day were a buzz of activity, with real, serious interest shown by the pupils in the 48 careers on display. In addition, many of the mentors present continued on to offer their assistance and facilitation during the upcoming work experience week for the Grade 11s. I personally believe that many a students' future choices were informed by the interactions facilitated that day, and that no PPA event will prove, in future, as valuable to the students of Thomas More as the continued success and growth of the Homegrown Expo. We can't thank Dave Wiggett enough for his passionate championing of this event and for



providing the PPA with a platform from which to turn our idealistic Mentorship Programme into something real and meaningful in the lives of the scholars.

Country Fair 2017 was a resounding success for the PPA. Our stand proclaimed our identity, and we saw in excess of 120 past pupils on the day – a record number for us, with 15 of them being members for which we previously had no contact details at all. Our **#proudpastpupil** mugs were well-received, and will be thoroughly enjoyed. What was wonderful to see were 2 brothers from the 1970s, who now live in Barcelona, but who had come out for a visit and used some of that time to attend the Country Fair. We see this every year, but not usually in our older members – yet another nod to the Parents' Council on the affection in which this event is held by our members!

As always, **Association Day** was our flagship event, and what a wonderful success 2017's edition was! In addition to our standard programme of events, 2017 saw us introduce a catch up session, hosted in Café de More, with those current and past staff that we were able to entice to attend the proceedings. A wonderful initiative from Dominic King, and Emily Barnes, the current Head Boy and Girl, saw the addition of a 'soundtrack' to the campus for the day. The PPA have worked towards revitalising Association Day for the last 6 years, and to finally see our plans bear fruit was a feeling of pride like no other!

Association Day 2017 was well attended and had such a happy, energetic vibe. We are very pleased to say that each and every **#proudpastpupil** and each and every teacher, past or present, who attended enjoyed themselves thoroughly! We have definitely finally found our winning recipe.

In addition, Association Day saw us host two lunchtime reunions, for the classes of 1977 and 2007 respectively. What a privilege it was to host both of these events! The 40 year Reunion for the Class of 1977 was attended by **#proudpastpupils** from as far afield as Australia and Tanzania, and with the wonders of modern technology we also linked in more international jetsetters via Skype. We were all also blessed to have Mr Bill Pickering and Mr Peter Mackay join us for the festivities. Class of 1977, you are true **#proudpastpupils!** Thank you for sharing your memories and fun with us!

The 10 year Reunion for the Class of 2007 was an intimate luncheon, and such fun was had that we can only hope that by their 20 year Reunion we will see

many more of them! Thank you to the **#proudpastpupils** of the Class of 2007, we loved hosting you and your families!

In order to accommodate a class member on holiday from America, the 20 Year Reunion for the Class of 1997 was held on campus at the beginning of December. We were so privileged to enjoy the memories of those that attended and experience their joy in friendships re-united. Thank you Class of 1997, we are blessed to call you **#proudpastpupils!**

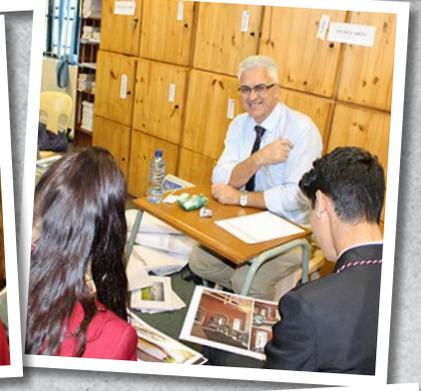
As far as the PPA Executive Committee goes, we were delighted to add Bronwyn Burnett to our ranks during the course of the year. Her passion for the school makes her a perfect fit for the PPA, and if I may take the liberty of saying this, would make her Dad, the late Gordon Burnett, incredibly proud. Sadly, we lose 2 members this year, Shane Cuthbertson and Reg Hoddinot, both due to retirement, both of whom were inducted as PPA Honorary Life members on Association Day – a small honour in return for their incredible commitment to Thomas More College. We also welcomed Dave Wiggett to our committee – his energy and enthusiasm are so welcome and we look forward to what we can achieve when our combined passion for Thomas More College is unleashed! To René Missen, James Baker, Kathryn Kure Steenkamp, Kelsey van Wyk and Colleen Woodley, thank you for a great year, your efforts for our **#proudpastpupils** do not go unnoticed! To Gary Green and Rae Griesel, I pray that the wider Thomas More College community may one day know just how much you do for this amazing school – the respect I have for you both is truly beyond words!!

I finish 2017 as a Chairperson who is incredibly proud of what we have achieved this year. I can remember in my very first Chairman's report I took great pride in its brevity, knowing that I was not going to bore all of the attendees... Well in 2017, I take just as much pride, but my Report is nowhere near as brief! We are now an active committee, with a repertoire of worthwhile, successful events; we are of interest to our members and have now also added real value to the offerings of Thomas More College, and the lives of its current pupils. Nobody is ever going to respond "Who are they?" when questioned about the PPA in future!

Melanie Küster



HOMEGROWN



MADIBA EXHIBITION with Matthew Willman





The Long Walk



PARENTS' COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

TC CHETTY



Why your school needs YOU!

I always like to begin by reminding everyone that as parents at TMC we are all members of the Parents' Council, which has two primary objectives – these objectives are to raise funds and to build Esprit de Corps.

However, it is as important to understand that the Parents' Council is so much more than that in the impact that it has on the school, the broader school community and particularly on the learners – our children.

Yes, we have heard many times that children perform better when parents are engaged in their school and school activities. And yes we have heard that parental involvement boosts student achievement. By getting fully involved in all of your school's Parents' Council activities and initiatives, you are providing a positive example. Your children will see first-hand the importance you place on education, and on their school activities in general. I firmly believe that our TMC Parents' Council strives to create a positive and caring atmosphere in the school.

Involvement in the TMC Parents' Council also helps you as a parent. Such involvement helps you stay connected with the school and allows you to gain a broader perspective of how you can play a supportive role. You also network and make connections with other parents, business partners in your community and agencies that share a common goal of student achievement. Working in partnership together helps build a stronger foundation for our children, and our community, to grow and thrive. Volunteering with the TMC Parents' Council allows you to contribute your skills and knowledge. Not only will it benefit your children but your school community as a whole.

I like to think that our TMC Parents' Council is flexible and open to new ideas in order to ensure we can effectively represent the Thomas More College community and interests, and that we achieve the best results by working

closely together with Academic and Administrative staff of Thomas More in order to determine our projects and priorities. I urge you to share your ideas with us. Our Parents' Council provides an opportunity for parents to get involved in ways that suit them, and to support their school in getting the best environment for all the learners.

With the above being said, I must acknowledge the many members of the broader body of the TMC Parents' Council who unselfishly gave of their time, resources, and considerable talents in co-ordinating, volunteering, donating and participating in many other ways at all of our various events during 2017.

With your help, enthusiasm and dedication we raised over R570 000 in 2017, this ahead of our commitment of R550 000. Such an achievement would not have been possible without our regular band of co-ordinators, volunteers, participants and attendees throughout our programme of events during the year where such outstanding *esprit de corps* was displayed.

The **LONG WALK** was held on 25 March 2017 with an altered route, due to potential health issues to walkers as a consequence of the problems related to the environmental emissions in the area. Despite changes having to be made to the route just 2 weeks prior to the event, and poor weather during the event, the event was, once again, a huge success. Huge thanks must go the Long Walk Committee for the way in which they handled the changes and the adverse weather conditions, which necessitated changes to the route during the event.

On 12 May 2017, another successful **GOLF DAY** was held. Despite poor weather conditions, a full field started the day and an enjoyable day was still had by all involved. The prize-giving dinner was again well attended and enjoyed and we were still able to ensure that all golfers received a prize, thanks to perseverance of our committee and the generosity of a number of donors.

Another hugely successful **COUNTRY FAIR** was held on 5 August 2017, once again show-casing not only our beautiful campus and array of facilities, but also the extra-ordinary ability of Gareth Curtis and his Country Fair team to stage a truly awesome event. A huge number of attendees enjoyed what turned out to be great winter weather (even though it became somewhat blustery) and the various activities on offer. The Country Fair certainly remains one of our flagship events and is testimony to what we can achieve as the Thomas More Community. The event goes from strength to strength and is an important element in marketing Thomas More College as we have numerous non Thomas More College visitors on the day.

Last, but certainly not least, we held our year end **80'S PARTY** on 3 November 2017 where over 200 party-goers celebrated the achievements of 2017 and also celebrated the contribution to Thomas More College of our retiring Executive Principal, Shane Cuthbertson. A great time was had by all in a fitting send off for Shane. We wish Shane well on his retirement.

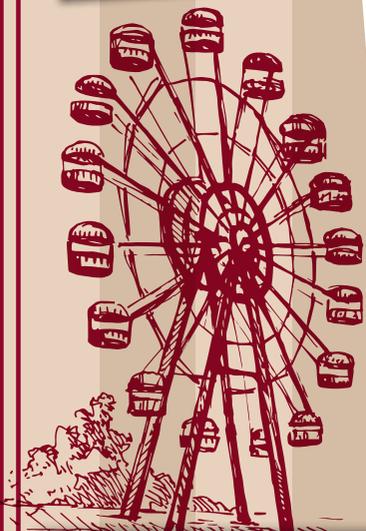
All of these events were reflective of the great sense of community and involvement within Thomas More College. For this we, the Executive Committee of the Parents' Council, are so appreciative and sincerely thank everyone who helped in one way or another and we thank you for your loyalty and support. It is also important that I acknowledge the committee, both the parent members of the committee and the executive staff who play a vital role and provide such insightful support. On behalf of the PC I would also like to acknowledge, as always, the tireless input of Rae Griesel, without whose support, dedication and passion the PC would cease to function. We look forward to your continued support in 2018.

TC Chetty



PARENTS' COUNCIL
GOLF DAY

Country Fair



ADMIN & GENERAL STAFF



ADMINISTRATION STAFF

[L-R]: Mrs G. Marais; Mrs R. Griesel; Mrs U. Armitage; Mrs G. Doran; Mrs C. Woodley; Mrs D. Hardcastle; Sister B. Bentley; Mrs S. Kalacharan; Mrs J. Hartley; Miss C. Levarelli; Mrs A. Swanson.



CAFÉ DE MORE STAFF

[L-R]: Mr M. Khanyile; Ms Z. Mavundla; Ms N. Zungu; Mrs L. Moffat.



CATERING STAFF

[L-R]: Miss J. Lawson; Ms H. Dlamini; Ms M. Sikakan; Mr M. Hlengwe; Mrs L. Moffat; Mr J. Ngcobo; Ms S. Xaba; Ms V. Mohlokoane; Ms Z. Sithole.



MARKETING STAFF

[L-R]: Mrs K. Hooper; Mrs M. Wight; Ms Z. Shange.



TUCK SHOP STAFF

[L-R]: Ms. Z Mfazwe; Mrs B. Wadsworth; Ms J. Mgenge.



ESTATE STAFF - MAINTENANCE

1st Row [L-R]: Mr J. Mthelu; Mr I. Makhanya; Mr E. Sithole; Mr M. Wight.
2nd Row: Mr E. Mambo; Mr N. Moodley; Mr J. Laljeeth; Mr I. Msomi.



ESTATE STAFF - CONSERVANCY

[L-R]: Mr M. Wight; Mr C. Nomaqhiza; Mr A. Wohlo; Mr S. Clark.



Farewell

TRACY MORGAN

We bid farewell to Tracy, after 10 years of service to Thomas More College. Tracy, who was a TMC mom at the time, with triplets, joined the Marketing Department in 2008, and then moved to front Reception in 2016. Her knowledge of the school and warm, endearing nature added great value to the positions that she held.

With Caitlin, Megan and Jonathan matriculating, Tracy has opted to pursue new adventures in her life. We wish her and her family well as they embark on this new chapter.

Kim Hooper



ESTATE STAFF - GARDENS

1st Row [L-R]: Miss F. Wohlo; Mrs P. Redding; Miss D. Madubane.
2nd Row: Mr A. Ntshangase; Miss M. Mbaniwa; Miss T. Zungu; Mr G. Mfeka.
3rd Row: Mr T. Mntungwa; Mr L. Mkhiza.



ESTATE STAFF - GROUNDS & POOL

1st Row [L-R]: Mr P. Ntshiliba; Mr T. Sibi; Mr S. Magwaza.
2nd Row: Mr S. Clark; Mr M. Wight.

WOMEN'S MONTH Campaign

2017 welcomed the first 'Women's Month Campaign' in the High School. For the month of August the High School pupils were exposed to various issues pertaining to women in different forums. The campaign started off with a presentation by the Jess Foord Foundation giving the pupils practical advice if they or someone they know ever finds themselves in the unfortunate situation of being a rape victim. In support of Jess Foord, a past Thomas More pupil, and her Foundation, the pupils were encouraged to buy a green ribbon they could wear on their blazer during the campaign as well as bring in items for the Foundation's Handbag project.

The pupils were also privileged to hear the stories of influential women in our community, namely Mrs Melanie Küster, the Past Pupils' Association Chairperson and a mother at Thomas More College; Miss Megan Coleman, Miss South Africa 2006 and the co-owner of Image Insured and Mrs Giselle Buckley, a cancer fighter and aftercare facilitator in the Senior Primary.

The theme for the month was Proverbs 31 verse 25, 'She is clothed in strength and dignity and does not laugh without fear of the future.' Mrs Tracy Taylor, Dean of Girls addressed the junior girls and senior girls what it means to be a woman of dignity, strength and a woman who has no fear of the future. The junior boys were addressed by Mr Gavin Belman, Head of the Middle School on how to treat a woman and Mr Stephen Ireland, Deputy Headmaster invited the mothers of the Heads and Deputies of the Matric Leadership Council, namely Mrs Vanessa Barnes, Mrs Kirsten King, Mrs Kerry Harper and Mrs Lucy Smith to a panel discussion with the senior boys on how to treat a woman.

On 8 August the Matric and Grade 11 girls held lit candles in a darkened hall during assembly and the pupils were made aware of the historical significance of Women's Day in South Africa. The Matric Leadership Council Peer Support Committee facilitated a discussion highlighting the way boys treat girls and the way girls treat boys in the high school. It is hoped that this campaign made our boys and girls think about the various challenges that women in and outside of the Thomas More Community face daily. It is also hoped that as their awareness has been heightened they will take up the challenges that were put to them and that they will aspire to be a better person, a better citizen and make a positive contribution to their community and society in general.

Tracy Taylor



GENERAL

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Music School has had a wonderful year of growth. Children have excelled in Trinity school exams and Rock and Pop. We have also been able to start offering saxophone and clarinet lessons and music appreciation classes. Pupils are still enjoying the variety of violin, piano, drums, guitar and voice lessons. Each term we host two evening recitals where parents can see the progress that is being made.

The pupils have enjoyed playing in small groups / bands at our recitals too, which gives them experience that is very worthwhile. They are all encouraged to participate in recitals throughout the year.

It has been said that "Without music life would be a mistake." Thanks to all who have invested music into the life of their children as they are being richly blessed. We look forward to seeing many new faces in 2018.

Dee Clarkson



COMMUNITY Cultural Showcase





Christian ARTS FESTIVAL





5 good renewed
6 The Lord
ness and judgment
7 He made known his
oppressed.
8 The LORD is merciful and gra-
Moses, his acts unto the children
9 He will not always ch
cious, slow to anger, and
in mercy.
10 He hath not dealt
11 He will keep his anger fo
12 He hath not rewarded
quities.

MESSAGE FROM REV. EASSON

The Chaplaincy at Thomas More has come to an end. Each phase of the school, from 2018, will be looking after your child's Christian Education. I bid you a fond farewell and, as **PSALM 2:12** encourages us, 'Blessed are all they that take refuge in the LORD'.

Shalom
Rev. Martin Easson



MESSAGE FROM SHANE CUTHBERTSON

There has been considerable change in the focus of Christian education in the past few months.

Reverend Easson, who is an inspiring History teacher, has been taken into the High School teaching team, filling a gap vacated by Lynette Dunlop. Christian Education is now to be managed separately in the phases by members of the individual management teams. Heads of Department, Collette Jagles and Barbara Robb now head up Christian Education in the Foundation Phase. Deputy Headmaster Gary Balarin is in charge of this in the Senior Primary. In the High School, Head of Department Cheryl Selley will be taking the lead. All are highly committed Christians and are dedicated to ensuring that Christian values and practices continue to play a pivotal role at Thomas More College.

The appointment of young Christian interns will be a priority in the future with regard to creating a new energy at the level of the children. Two of these appointments are already in place with past pupils Josh Wiborg and Stephen Tshuma appointed as interns in the Senior Primary.

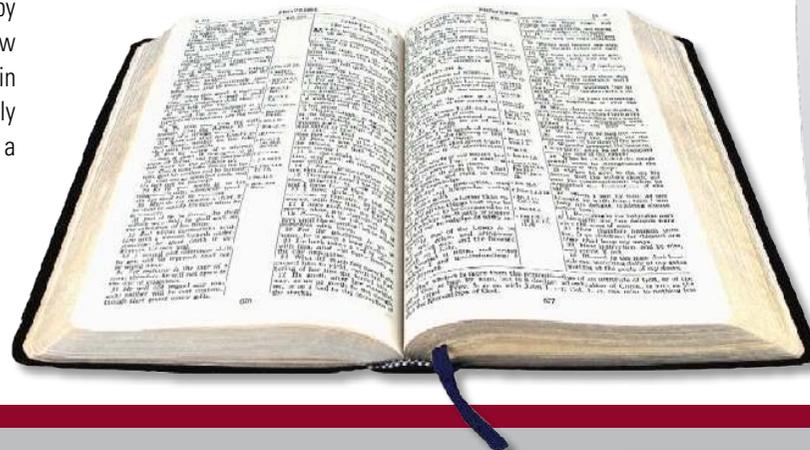
Shane Cuthbertson

Foundation Phase SCRIPTURE UNION

The Foundation Phase Scripture Union had a fabulous year – meeting together twice a month to learn and grow in Christ. We used the "Armour of God" as our main theme and the children embraced it with great enthusiasm and curiosity.

The highlight of the year was when the High School STIC team joined us to end off the theme where we enjoyed a song and creative activity together whilst also sharing our love for the Lord.

Collette Jagles



"IGNITE" Senior Primary Christian group

Our lunch time Bible study group, "Ignite", has been a great joy! Through this year we have covered; *2 Ways 2 Live, Kingdom Living (MATTHEW 5-7)* and *Parables of the Kingdom (JESUS' PARABLES)*.

I have been blown away by their wisdom, and their love towards one another. This group has grown a lot, had lots of laughter and become like a family to one another. It is wonderful to have seen some come to know Christ, mature in Christ and my hope is that they will continue to live brightly for Christ throughout their lives.

Barry Thatcher

Senior Primary RE ASSEMBLIES

Our Senior Primary assemblies this year highlighted the fact that "There is nothing ordinary about Jesus".

We looked at some of His miracles in the first term before exploring the fact that God prepared the hearts and minds of people to recognise His Son through the nation of Israel in term 2.

In the third term we learnt the importance of a mind-set change called "From Me to We" and how God wants us to be more community minded instead of "self-y" orientated.

Time was taken in our final term to highlight the brilliance of the star that the wise men or magi followed. So often we just read the words or take for granted that God placed "a star over the [very] place Jesus was born" to which the magi travelled. From the Old to the New Testament, from then until now and including tomorrow, God wants to connect with mankind because of His divine love for us.

Gary Balarin

SPONSORED WALK

On 19th February 2017 we held our Sponsored Walk and we were blessed with a beautiful hot day. The theme required walkers to dress up as their childhood dream job. The MLC also continued with Unity Day which saw the High School pupils walking with the grades that will be in Grade 8 when they were in Matric. Also a lot of the MLC walked with the JP and FP showing great leadership and unity between the phases at TMC.

The Thomas More College family showed they do care for those less fortunate than themselves by collecting over R185 000. By 2017 we have raised close to R 2.2 Million for our outreach from the Sponsored Walk alone. In these difficult economic times we showed that it is still COOL TO CARE. With this money we continue to run our very comprehensive Outreach program and support numerous ventures.

In the whole school Sponsored Walk Assembly pupils who had made significant contributions were rewarded with tuck-shop vouchers and the classes who brought the most in each phase with Pizzas (great excitement when these are announced). The second placed classes received treats and the whole school enjoyed a free civvies day.

THE SPONSORED WALK HAS BECOME A TRADITION AT THOMAS MORE COLLEGE AND LONG MAY IT CONTINUE.

Philip Lanz



VALENTINE'S DAY



SPRING DAY





Outreach OVERVIEW

We once again had a very good year with our various Outreach Projects. These are all reported on below but I would like to emphasise that over and above the projects that the various phases do we as a school also made a difference in many people's lives. In these difficult economic times the TMC family still reaches out to those less fortunate.

We have continued our **BREAD BUDDY** contribution on a Wednesday. We have also all contributed to the Christmas Hamper for our support staff and continued with our various projects. We have also funded Hlengiwe Msibi (Bursary student in 2013) as well as sponsoring Pamela Maphumulo with fees and transport for their studies at UKZN Westville and UKZN Edgewood. They are both doing very well in their BSC and Education degrees.

The **POP-UP STREET STORE** was once again a resounding success at Philangethemba in Lower Molweni. It was held on 1 July 2017 in partnership with St Agnes and Philangethemba.

Good second-hand clothing (400 big black bags) was collected at Thomas More College and we planned a simple meal for the shoppers of sandwiches and juice after they had shopped. We needed over 120 volunteers to run the store and once again parents, teachers and mainly pupils of Thomas More came to the party.

There were about 1400 shoppers which was almost double last years attendance and even though there were some logistical problems it was a very successful day where we blessed the community of Lower Molweni. A BIG THANK YOU to all those who donated clothes, helped make sandwiches, ran the various departments in the store or helped on the day, we could not have done it without you.

We also collected good second-hand clothes and shoes from the whole school but mainly the Matrics as they leave school and we distribute these to many needy communities.

Outreach is an integral part of the ethos and education at Thomas More College. Well done to the whole Thomas More community and in particular the MLC Outreach Portfolio for driving the Outreach this year

Philip Lantz



PRIMARY SCHOOL OUTREACH





GR. 8

The Grade 8's worked on a variety of projects during the year. The main project for term one was with the **KLOOF REST HOME**. Pupils blessed the elder folk with hand-made gifts and treats during an afternoon tea. This proved to be enjoyable not only for the residents, but our pupils as well.

BEANIES were collected during the second term and these were distributed to poor and homeless children through churches in and around Durban.

In the third term, pupils made bookmarks with inspirational thoughts together with a chocolate treat which were given to matric pupils to wish them good luck for finals. Our matric pupils were overwhelmed by the hard work and the thought that were put into these precious tokens.

Moreover, during the course of the year, our pupils co-ordinated the collection of food and visited the **KLOOF SPCA**.

We hope that by involving our children in a variety of needy causes that we will plant a seed that would enable our children to grow up as caring adults and to reach out to people that are less fortunate than them.

Vasantha Moodley



GR. 10

The Grade 10 outreach programme involved our pupils assisting **GRADE 5 PUPILS FROM BAZAMILE HIGH SCHOOL** with their homework assignments on the computer. Our pupils helped them access information from the Internet and taught them how to use the Word program. This took place in the TMC High School's computer room after a snack of sandwiches, fruit and juice. The Grade 5 pupils loved the interaction with the "big boys and girls" and gained useful computer skills as well as getting to practice their English

Sandra Pooley



GR. 9

The Grade 9 pupils continued to work with Primary School children from the **EMBO COMMUNITY**. Every second week a group of Grade 9 pupils planned a program and then implemented it the following week when the Embo children visited our campus. The Grade 9 pupils enjoyed time with the children by providing a lunch time snack, playing games, teaching them a new craft and using some of their pocket money to give these children a treat when they went home. The Embo children enjoyed their visits to Thomas More. It was heartening to see that many of our Grade 9s enjoyed the time that they spent with those less fortunate than themselves and as a result they attended Outreach for the experience not just to gain points.

The year ended with a **CHRISTMAS PARTY**. The children were treated to a special lunch of hotdogs, fizzy drinks and cake followed by time playing games. The pupils left with a cake box of party food and gifts donated by a few of our Grade 9 pupils. Thank you to the pupils and parents who made this possible.

A special thank you to all the Grade 9 pupils and their families who made our Outreach Program the success that it was.

Tracy Taylor



OUTREACH COMMITTEE

1st Row [L-R]: R. Gibson; M. Stott; Mrs. S Pooley; A. Roberts; L. Renard.
2nd Row: R. Kerdachi; J. Mac Dougall; T. Freese; J. Simpkins.





SMILE COMMITTEE

1st Row [L-R]: K. Kalicharan; Mrs P. Munian; J. Ireland; Mrs M. Vermaak; R. Nel.
2nd Row: G. Mayo; S. Alborough; S. Kelly; C. Blackbeard.



GR. 11

Our achievements with our Grade 11 Literacy Outreach programme was so impressive in 2017 that **LAMULA PRIMARY SCHOOL** approached us in 2017 and asked us to try and increase the number of Grade 4 learners who could benefit from the programme. As a result, we started teaching basic literacy skills to 60 learners who were divided into 2 Groups of 30 and taught over a 4 week period on a rotational basis.

The Grade 11's embraced this change with added zeal and achieved successful results with the little Grade 4 learners.

Petra Munian



GR. 12

In Grade 12, the Outreach programme is more in-reach than outreach, whereby the matrics bring in various items to bless our ground, cleaning and kitchen staff.

The items collected termly include **STATIONERY, BLANKETS AND TINS OF FOOD**. A big thank you extends to the class teachers who motivate the pupils and monitor the collection of these items throughout the year. These items are sent to Mr Lanz who distributes some of the items to the needy in the larger community and the tinned food goes towards the **CHRISTMAS HAMPERS** for the Estate and Cleaning staff.

The Estate and Cleaning staff are also treated to **BIRTHDAY PARTIES** once a term. These take place on the lawns in front of Great House. Each staff member who celebrated their birthday in the specific term receives a special birthday card. The registration classes had a turn to host the parties.

There were a lot of laughs and cheers by the staff when the Matrics sang 'Happy Birthday' (Usuku olumnandi lokuzalwa) in isiZulu. The staff were treated to cake, cool drinks and lots of sweet treats.

Thank you to the matric group for their generosity and we hope as they venture out into their chosen paths that they will remember to continue to think and give to those less fortunate than themselves.

Cheryl Selley



CONTENTS

| | |
|---|---------|
| High School Introduction & Gallery | 27 |
| Headmaster's Address | 28 & 29 |
| Grade 8 – 11 Prizegiving | 29 & 30 |
| Matric Prizegiving | 31 |
| Staff News | 32 - 34 |
| Grade 8 Orientation, Dale Carnegie Course, STIC | 35 |
| Debating & Public Speaking, Model United Nations Debating, Design & Techology Club, Robotics Club | 36 |
| Current Affairs Youth Council, Art Club, World Challenge Expedition to Nepal | 37 |
| Kloof Conservancy Project, Grade 9 History Projects | 38 |
| Expo for Young Scientists, Careers Exhibition, Grade 12 Zulu Tour | 39 |
| Retrobeats, Vocal Tenacity | 40 |
| Marimbas & Grahamstown Arts Festival | 41 |
| Supper & Song | 42 |
| Inter-house One Act Plays | 43 |
| High School Production: Noises Off | 44 |
| Art Gallery | 45 |
| High School Outings | 46 & 47 |
| Matric Photos Gallery | 48 - 52 |
| Matric Dance Gallery | 53 |
| Matric Farewell & Together Since Grade 0 | 54 |
| Extra Mural Awards | 55 |
| High School Sport | 56 - 74 |
| CROSS COUNTRY ATHLETICS WATER POLO HOCKEY SOCCER RUGBY CRICKET NETBALL SOFTBALL TENNIS GOLF EQUESTRIAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ROCK CLIMBING DANCE SPORT | |

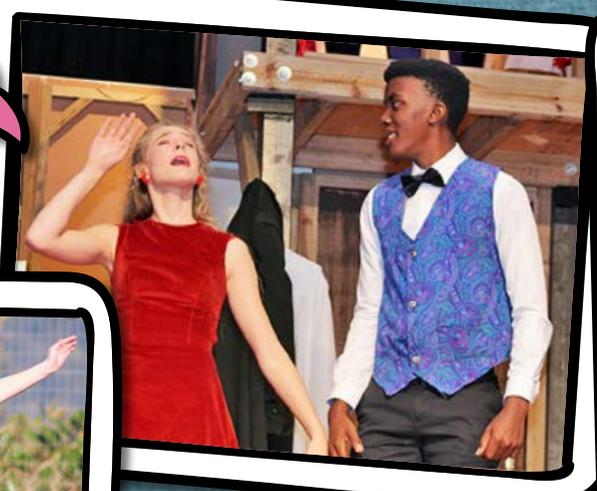
HIGH SCHOOL



GRADE 8-12



DRAMA!



TEAMWORK



GRADE 8-12

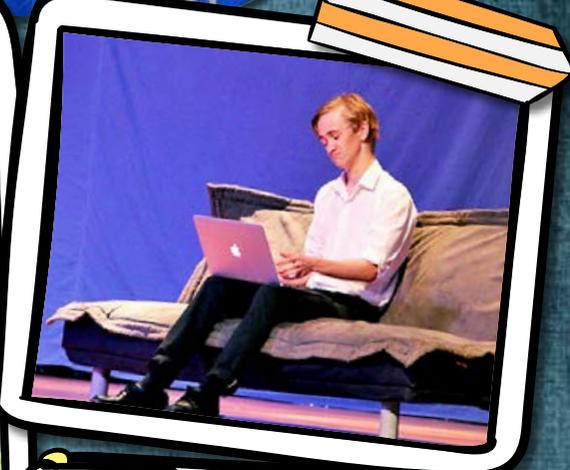


STUNNING



The High School has the auspicious and weighty privilege of being the final chapter of schooling at TMC. The Crèche, Pre-school, Junior Primary, Senior Primary and High School all have wonderfully unique programmes and are dynamically different; however, we are synergized in a seamless continuity of our core truths. Each individual truly matters at our school.

While we celebrate excellence and hard work is duly recognized, every child is nurtured and encouraged to discover, explore and express their unique, God-given capacity for living with passion and purpose. Our high school provides an inspired education for our children.



SMILE



DAVE WIGGETT

Good evening Mr Alderdice, Mr Ireland, Mrs Kerdachi, members of Manco, high school staff, Primary School staff, members of the board and alumni, parents, and our boys and girls.

I want you to think of a song that holds very specific memories for you. It might be one of those songs that, whilst walking through a shopping mall, you hear it over the PA and suddenly takes you back to a very distinct memory, or memories. I have ones that take me straight back to boarding school. Ones that take me to varsity days. Ones that take me back to family moments. Try to pick one that holds a distinct memory for you. Let me give you a few seconds to think about it. Right, please close your eyes, think of the words of any two consecutive lines of your song, and focus on the memory.

OK, open your eyes now. I’m sure the memory brought back a feeling, a piqued emotional response of some sort. Is there anyone who would like to sing us their two lines now? Such a request also elicits a distinct emotional, physiological response in your body. Memories do that to us. IN this case, it is a song that can be a powerful, compelling trigger for an emotional response to a memory. Now, most people have a similar emotional response when you ask them to think back on their schooling, be it positive or negative. We distinctly recall interesting characters, relationships and interactions, and NOT what to do with that infernal split infinitive when meeting people for the first time at a party. Sir Ken Robinson attests that most adults will pin you down to tell you about their school memories. I get that regularly when confronted by parents. “You know Mr Wiggett, when I was at school... You know Mr Wiggett, the good old days... You know Mr Wiggett, don’t make them like they used to... You know Mr Wiggett, we just got caned when we stepped out of line... You know Mr Wiggett, I was good at these subjects at school so my child should be too... You know Mr Wiggett, have you ever thought of doing it this way because it worked when I was at school...”

Often times, particularly now in this fast-shifting world of uncertainty and ambiguity, adults fall foul of the LILO syndrome: we Lock In to what we think schooling should be, and Lock Out what it could be for our children. Change does not have a place in our distinct memory of what a good education should be. One of the reasons is that it was automatic to find our **WHY** when our generation was at school.

- YOU WENT TO SCHOOL. **WHY?**
- TO GET INTO UNIVERSITY. **WHY?**
- TO GET A DEGREE. **WHY?**
- TO GET A JOB.

Our generation’s **WHY** was simple, and it was brutal if you didn’t have access to a privileged education, money or opportunity or so-called intellect to follow these steps.

A year ago, the following statistic about our education system was shared at an IEB principals’ conference (I shared this in one of my Horse’s Mouth articles last year, but please humour me in repeating this here):

- Out of every 100 learners starting in Grade 1 annually in South Africa, only 40 will reach Grade 12;
- of those 40, only 28 will pass;
- of those 28, only 4 will go to university;
- of those 4, only 1 will graduate.

My question is simple: where are the 60 young who didn’t progress to Grade 12? My dreaded guess is that the system failed to inspire them to find their **WHY**. As an educator, I am ashamed to be associated with a system which loses its most critical outcome: human beings. Our children.

Our children here are 100% our future, our destiny. *“Destiny is important, but people go wrong when they think it controls them. It is the other way around.” Terry Pratchett.* Thomas More College must be a teaching and learning space that seeks earnestly to inspire our children – every single one of them – about their futures, about creating their destinies.

This is a tall order in a system designed to have winners and losers, losing 72 of its charges of every 100 by the end of Grade 12. Where are they? Most are “spiralling in the ever-widening gyre” of poverty.

JFK, in a 1963 speech to which a parent drew my attention just this week, made the following stark insights whilst discussing America’s GDP and its related statistics:

“Yet the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education, or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages; the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials. It measures neither our wit nor our courage; neither our wisdom nor our learning; neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country; it measures everything, except that which makes life worthwhile. And it tells us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans.”

Similarly, matric results provide interesting statistical data. Matric results are vitally important. And in their current format, they will remain important for some time. And yet, one must remain cognisant of – and work vigilantly to avoid – the now almost-clichéd accounts of top performing scholars at school bombing out in their first-year university studies. This could variously be because of burn-out from school, or the sudden and vast sense of freedom experienced at university, or the performance pressure of being amongst a diversity of cultures, hitherto unknown, or because a grounded sense of independence is required to manage the transition from school to the tertiary space. Furthermore, matric results speak little of compassion, empathy, kindness, love, gratitude, integrity, curiosity and independent thought.

Our children will be required to do hard things. Boys and girls, you will be required to do inordinately hard things, and it is our privilege and onerous commitment to prepare you to do so. Just last week at the World Economic Forum in Davos,



Jack Ma, CEO of Alibaba, postulated that 830 million jobs will be lost worldwide by 2030 to Artificial Intelligence. The Oxford University Research Unit thinks that England will lose 35% of their current jobs, mostly white collar, middle-class jobs, by 2030. The Bank of England estimates it at 15 million jobs, in England alone.

I share this here not to instil fear. I do, however, share it to exhort our children to explore and grow their passion into a state that these passions overpower and outshine their fears. As T. Alan Armstrong shares, *“Champions do not become champions when they win the event, but in the hours, weeks, months and years they spend preparing for it. The victorious performance itself is merely a demonstration of the champion character.”* Simply put, they do hard things that others don’t. Your high school years should be those hours, weeks, months and years that prepare you for your victorious performances.

I want every Thomas More child to find their “champion space”, and this requires inspiration, to be inspired, to be part of An Inspired Education. In your inspired champion space, you will welcome doing hard things. You will readily acknowledge that hard things involve facing adversity. According to unknown, *“Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which, in prosperous circumstances, would have lain dormant.”* Parents, allow us to allow your children to do hard things, and not just hard things when it suits them.



Our children's capacity to engage with, listen to, empathise with and see value in adversity and diversity will empower them exponentially. Boys and girls, you will encounter multiple truths and perspectives when you leave this protected cove. You are part of a global village that is more polarised than ever before. People are killing people just because they pray slightly differently to each other. You will not like or agree with everything your teachers, parents and peers say, or how we will challenge you, but I must urge you to face the challenges we offer up, because they will strengthen your depth and strength of character for the unforgiving and robust diversity awaiting you. Do hard things, boys and girls. And let those things inspire you.

Education cannot simply bumble along any more. In terms of our current paradigm which remains largely based on knowledge transfer, we must acknowledge that our children cannot compete with machines, with Artificial Intelligence. Thankfully, our IEB examiners do value our children's voices, and much care is given to setting our examinations to hear those voices. One of my deepest sadnesses is when children ask their teachers for model copy-and-paste answers which will get them the A. Universities are frustrated by the deluge of students who no longer want to think for themselves, but would rather be told where to find the model answers. Fortunately, our IEB examiners not only want to see evidence of what our children think, but how they think too. I often have Physical Science pupils question why there was a question or two in their cycle test or exam that they hadn't seen before. That's exactly the point: apply what you have learned to a new problem. Like the IEB, we too must do these brave, uncomfortable things. We must consciously teach, role model and imbue independent thinking, values, believing, teamwork, attitude, compassion, love, gratitude, empathy, grit, curiosity and leadership. Learning content for copy-and-paste recall purposes doesn't teach these things, but the manner in which we engage with content can. If a machine can do it, we must think differently, and our children must think differently too.

This is an inconvenient truth, because we come from a paradigm that values results, largely based on accurate recall. But, as John Dixon warns, "If you focus on results, you will never change."

"If you focus on change, results will follow." Great companies do not focus on excellence, or on immediate gains and results, but on constant improvement in constant change.

Fred Swaniker, founder of the African Leadership Academy and African Leadership University has his university students pick a mission, not a major. He and his faculties have identified the 7 key challenges facing Africa in our children's lifetime: agriculture, education, youth unemployment, governance, health care, infrastructure and urbanisation. Their students pick a mission in and amongst these challenges, and curate their mission and build their degrees around it. Their mission must be designed to affect positively a million lives once they graduate and return to their countries. Our education policy makers should be writing these into our curriculum, along with leading technology integration pedagogies.

I work with a Board of Trustees and a Management Committee who want our children to thrive. I work with an incredibly dynamic staff who want to deliver an inspired education that loves – and sometimes that means tough love – the child into being, and they are willing to interrogate our educational "truths" to change our game when we're on top of our game by adopting a growth mindset. They are a staff who will endeavour earnestly to manage the contradiction of preparing children to master their examinations to the very best of their unique, individual ability, whilst also engaging meaningfully with our children's hearts and minds, so that they will thrive in their world.

This is difficult. It is inconvenient and takes effort. It means challenging our own habits, our professional familiarities and our long-held paradigms. It challenges parents' powerful, distinct memories and ideas of what education should be.

In closing, I can't wait for the day when I hear a parent bragging thus:

"I am the proud parent of a compassionate, thoughtful, empathic, loving, kind and independent child. My child cares enough to follow their passion with unabated joy, and celebrates opportunities to do hard things."

*You may say I'm a dreamer,
But I'm not the only one.*

GRADE 8-11

PRIZE WINNERS

SUBJECT PRIZES

| SUBJECT | GRADE 8 | SUBJECT | GRADE 9 |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Afrikaans | Tyla Christie | Accounting | Lola Lee |
| Biology | Tyla Christie | Afrikaans | Jan Koegelenberg |
| Business Studies | Tyla Christie | Art | Michelle van der Merwe |
| English | Tyla Christie | Biology | Lola Lee |
| General Science | Tyla Christie | English | Lola Lee |
| Geography | Tyla Christie | General Science | Lola Lee |
| History | Tyla Christie | Geography | Blake Jackson |
| isiZulu | Zintle Nozipho Gugushe | History | Dale Harper |
| Mathematics | Simon Daniel | isiZulu | Lindelwa Ndawo |
| Speech & Drama | Tyla Christie | Mathematics | Faran Steenkamp |
| Technology | Sydney Blackbeard | Technical Drawing | Lola Lee |
| SUBJECT | GRADE 10 | SUBJECT | GRADE 11 |
| Accounting | Daniel Barrett | Accounting | James Ireland |
| Afrikaans | Andani Mashige | Afrikaans | Estrelita Kotze |
| Business Studies | Daniel Barrett | Business Studies | Cuan Thomson |
| Design | Ashley Roberts | CAT | Kendall Beech |
| Dramatic Arts | Kellen Daniels | Design | Robyn Forbay |
| EGD | Joel Robb | Dramatic Arts | Caitlin Sumadraj |
| English | Daniel Barrett | Engineering Graphics & Design | Estrelita Kotze |
| Equine Studies | Rachel Kerdachi | English | Megan Canning |
| Geography | Deane Terblanche | Equine Studies | Tyler Olivier |
| History | Gabriella Greeff | Geography | Benedict Robbins |
| isiZulu | Ketso Malahleha | History | Megan Canning |
| IT | Joel Robb | IT | Daine Ric-Hansen |
| Life Science | Gabriella Greeff | isiZulu | Lwandle Mseleku |
| Maths Core | Daniel Barrett | Life Orientation | Estrelita Kotze |
| Maths Literacy | Travis Wright | Life Science | Eleanor Canning |
| Physical Science | Daniel Barrett | Maths Core | Estrelita Kotze |
| Visual Arts | Alexa-Mae Guilhermino | Maths Literacy | Kelly Sinead |
| | | Physical Science | Clifton Wilesmith |
| | | Visual Arts | Kelly Sinead |

SPECIAL PRIZES

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| LEFFLER TROPHY – for Outdoor Pursuits | Benji Daniels |
| WILMS TROPHY – for Public Speaking | Thandolwenkosi Dlamuka |
| GRADE 11 TROPHY – for Community Outreach | James Ireland |
| JULIAN DU PLESSIS CUP – for Dedication & Service | Skye Embleton |
| FIKAN AGRIPPA DLAMINI CUP – for Overcoming Adversity | Kayleigh Guise-Brown |
| KINSEY CUP – Outstanding Thomas More Pupil in Grade 8 or 9 | Lola Lee |
| THE BLAKE KERDACHI TROPHY – Junior Sportsperson of the Year | Lola Lee |
| THE BENJAMIN THORPE MEMORIAL TROPHY (The Benji Badge of Honour) – for Integrity, Courage, Compassion, Moral Rectitude and being True to Oneself | Trent Cairns |



| ACADEMIC COLOURS - GRADE 8 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| HALF COLOURS | | FULL COLOURS |
| Mitchell Barrett | Justin Keep | Sydney Blackbeard |
| Melissa Barrett | Aphiwe Khumalo | Rachel Boulle |
| Emma Beyers | Samukelisiwe Kweyama | Dominique Chetty |
| Bronwyn Cason | Jessica Mills | Tyla Christie |
| Simon Daniel | Jens Ringelmann | Aveshan Govender |
| Rebecca De Klerk | Danielle Rockey | Chloe Kyle |
| Zintle Nozipho Gugushe | Leah Sachs | Julia Leisegang |
| Ashleigh Heenan | Caitlin Simon | Leya Mohabir |
| Julie-Ann Ireland | Jessica Swanson | Saien Moodley |
| Michaela Kapnias | Sydney Swanson | Melissa Roome |

| ACADEMIC COLOURS - GRADE 10 | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| HALF COLOURS | | FULL COLOURS |
| Cassy Balarin | Jessica Kenton | Daniel Barrett |
| Benedict Boulle | Andani Mashige | Ruby Gibson |
| Kellen Daniels | Léa Renard | Gabriella Greeff |
| Thandolwenkosi Dlamuka | Joel Robb | Necolin Naidoo |
| Sunel Esterhuyse | Megan Roberts | Courtney Sim |
| Sarah Gonggryp | Deane Terblanche | |
| ACADEMIC CUM LAUDE | | Daniel Barrett |

| DILIGENCE | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| GRADE 8 | | GRADE 9 | GRADE 10 | | GRADE 11 | |
| Mitchell Barrett | Chloe Kyle | Keona Banziger | Sarah Abraham | Kayla Loubser-Goldblatt | Cassidy Blackbeard | Sinead Kelly |
| Emma Beyers | Jessica Mills | Caylyn Brehany | Cassy Balarin | Necolin Naidoo | Trent Cairns | Estrelita Kotze |
| Sydney Blackbeard | Leya Mobabir | Kayleigh Fenner | Daniel Barrett | Charlotte Nathanson | Eleanor Canning | Rory Lütz |
| Rachel Boulle | Saien Moodley | Dale Harper | Kaylee Coombes | Léa Renard | Megan Canning | Avikar Maharaj |
| Kirsty Canham | Ashton Nicholas | Christine Heyns | Kellen Daniels | Joel Robb | Megan Collins | Sophie Manzie |
| Bronwyn Cason | Erin Nyland | Angelica Jacobs | Ruby Gibson | Ashley Roberts | Britnea Courtis | Thato Maoela |
| Dominique Chetty | Daena Robb | Lola Lee | Gabriella Greeff | Megan Roberts | Alexandra de Swart | Jamie Meyer |
| Tyla Christie | Rebecca Robb | Jordyn Muir | Rachel Kerdachi | Megan Stott | Emma Dedekind | Kaylan Naicker |
| Rebecca de Klerk | Danielle Rockey | Hannah Patterson | Megan Kimber | Deane Terblanche | Helen Descoins | Wesley Price |
| Aveshan Govender | Melissa Roome | Catherine Ronald | Brendan Kuhnert | Carmen Van der Westhuizen | Skye Embleton | Hannah Robinson |
| Julie-Ann Ireland | Leah Sachs | Michelle van der Merwe | | | Laura Emery | Caitlin Sumadraj |
| Michaela Kapnias | Jessica Swanson | Gemma Weeder | | | Robyn Forbay | Thabiso Thabede |
| Justin Keep | Sydney Swanson | | | | Chantelle Hannah | Cuan Thomson |
| NaYeon Kim | Isabella Velleman | | | | James Ireland | Estevan van Wyk |
| | | | | | Kinara Kalicharan | Clifton Wilesmith |
| | | | | | Tiffany Keep | Jessica Williamson |
| | | | | | | Kaitlyn Woods |

Congratulations!

| ACADEMIC COLOURS - GRADE 9 | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| HALF COLOURS | | FULL COLOURS |
| Arabella Balidis | Anna-Rose Munn | Sarah Du Plessis |
| Sarah Chelius | Kaylin Naik | Dale Harper |
| Caitlyn Fowler | Lindelwa Ndawo | Lola Lee |
| Christine Heyns | James Pooley | Kurt Schwimmbacher |
| Blake Jackson | Rachel Thomas | Regan Scott |
| Shreya Maharaj | | Debra Williams |
| | | Faran Steenkamp |

| ACADEMIC COLOURS - GRADE 11 | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| HALF COLOURS | | FULL COLOURS |
| Micah Camp | Cassidy Blackbeard | Sinead Kelly |
| Benjamin Daniel | Eleanor Canning | Estrelita Kotzé |
| Brandon Davies | Megan Canning | Benedict Robbins |
| Emma Dedekind | Megan Collins | Hannah Robinson |
| Laura Emery | Alexandra De Swart | Cuan Thomson |
| Robyn Forbay | Chantelle Hannah | Robynne Van Der Merwe |
| Kinara Kalicharan | James Ireland | Clifton Wilesmith |
| Kimberly Lerwick | ACADEMIC CUM LAUDE | Estrelita Kotzé |
| Jean-Herman Rautenbach | | |
| Bianca Redman | | |
| Daine Ric-Hansen | | |

| PROGRESS | | |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| GRADE 8 | GRADE 10 | GRADE 11 |
| NaYeon Kim | Emma Bouttell | Shannon Lilly |
| | Courtney Bray | Rory Lutz |
| | Cameron Buchanan | Thomas Manzie |
| | Sinothile Khumalo | Byron Mostert |
| | Matthew Kriegisch | Che St Clair |

| MERIT | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| GRADE 8 | | | GRADE 9 | |
| Anna Ahlschlager | Liam Krautz | Rebecca Robb | Caylyn Brehany | Ziyanda Mchunu |
| Brad Ballack | Luke Leppan | Daena Robb | Micky-J Cazin | Ntandoyenkosi Nyanderi |
| Tinyiko Baloyi | Alison Loubser-Goldblatt | Marisha Roberts | Jessica Dorning | Hannah Patterson |
| Ilé Bothma | Ben Léudemann | Nicolas Segura Sanchez | Jarryd Eigenmann | Tatym Prigge |
| Hannah Buhr | Simiso Luthuli | Michael Sim | Dinah Frey | Sarah Robertson |
| Kirsty Canham | Mathew Maree | Isabella Velleman | Qwinton Knöcklein | Ruaan Rossouw |
| Bailey Chatterton | Jared McArthur | Tristan Webster | Jan Koegelenberg | Christy Schwimmbacher |
| Devon Duerholz | Ashton Nicholas | Thomas Wileman | Dylan Launspach | Travis Stedman |
| Liam Harris | Erin Nyland | Kathleen Young | Michael Maclean | Jessica Trotter |
| Lara Kellerman | Nelisa Nzuzza | | Shekar Maharaj | Michelle van der Merwe |
| | | | Sumanth Maharaj | |

| GRADE 10 | | | GRADE 11 | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Sarah Abraham | Cole Miles | Shaun Alborough | Tiffany Keep | Tatum Olivier |
| Erin Bamber | Dayna Morck | Jenna Bentley | Rebecca Kramer | Tyler Olivier |
| Alexa-Mae Guilhermino | Mikaylen Munian | Kyra Blakeway | Rory Lütz | Brodi Schonewolf |
| Rachel Kerdachi | Charlotte Nathanson | Matthew Coleman | Avikar Maharaj | Gregory Schultz |
| Brendan Kuhnert | Ruan Rossouw | Anne-Marine Comarmond | Thomas Manzie | Jaydon Segura Sanchez |
| Dayna Le Roux | René Sachs | Britnea Courtis | Thato Maoela | Daniel Shewell |
| Muller Loubser | Bridget Theunissen | Lindie Crous | Michelle Matthew | Che St. Clair |
| Kayla Loubser-Goldblatt | Carmen Van Der Westhuizen | Helen Descoins | Lwandle Mseleku | Hannah Stiebel |
| Rhys Loxley | Claire Vosters | Kate Duke | Viasan Murugan | Caitlin Sumadraj |
| Ligudu Mashige | Kieran White | Skye Embleton | Rachel Nel | Samantha Taylor |
| Akuse Mhlanzi | | Eryn Esterhuizen | Keagan Olivier | Joshua Youldon |
| | | Kim Jooste | | |



2017 MATRIC PRIZE WINNERS

SUBJECT PRIZES

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Accounting | Parusha Raidoo |
| Advanced Programme English | Hugo Renard |
| Design Practical | Jessica Esmonde-White |
| Design Theory | Talia Ballack |
| Engineering Graphics and Design | Parusha Raidoo |
| Geography | Andrew Smith Jemma Daniel |
| Information Technology | Jordan Pieters |
| Maths Literacy | Rowan Bettany |
| Dramatic Art Practical | Tiffany Miller |
| Dramatic Art Theory | Tiffany Miller |
| Visual Art Practical | Tiffany Miller |
| Visual Art Theory | Lerato Malahlela |
| Afrikaans Oral | Helenke Roussouw |
| Afrikaans Written | Parusha Raidoo |
| Business Studies | Kendall Scott-Moncrieff |
| IsiZulu Oral | Sithandiwe Mdakane Siyamthanda Luthuli |
| IsiZulu Written | Sithandiwe Mdakane |
| Life Orientation | Lerato Malahlela |
| History | Nicholas Leisegang |
| Advanced Programme Mathematics | Parusha Raidoo |
| Maths Core | Parusha Raidoo |
| English Oral | Raelee Seymour-Brown |
| English Written | Nicholas Leisegang |
| Life Science | Jemma Danie |
| Physical Science | Jemma Danie |

LEVEL 3 LEADERSHIP AWARDS

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Emily Barnes | Hugo Renard |
| Dominic King | Parusha Raidoo |
| Ashley Harper | Kendal Scott-Moncrieff |
| Andrew Smith | Nicole van Heerden |
| Jemma Daniel | Jenna Sykes |



ACADEMIC HALF-COLOURS

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Talia Ballack | Megan Schneider |
| Jordyn Hardie | Reuben Smith |
| Elizabeth Hughes | Tiffany Smith |
| Ryan Loubser-Goldblatt | Jenna Sykes |
| Megan Morgan | Nicole van Heerden |
| Brooklyn Neveling | Guy Vaubell |
| Erin Robson | Holly Young |

ACADEMIC COLOURS

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Emily Barnes | Ciarán Mons |
| Chloé Brown | Jordan Pieters |
| Jemma Daniel | Parusha Raidoo |
| Kirsten Elliott | Hugo Renard |
| Dominic King | Kendal Scott-Moncrieff |
| Nicholas Leisegang | Raelee Seymour-Brown |
| Lerato Malahlela | Andrew Smith |
| Tiffany Miller | |

SPECIAL PRIZES

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Service Award | Parusha Raidoo |
| Interhouse Trophy | Dalberg |
| Schofield Cup for Outdoor Pursuits | Joel Visser |
| Ramlaken Trophy for Public Speaking | Nicholas Leisegang |
| The Neil Vaughan Trophy for The Long Walk | Tommy Grant |
| Mathie Cup for Most Outstanding Sportsman | Tayne Olivier |
| Burns Cup for Most Outstanding Sportswoman | Ashley Harper |
| Bata Cup for Scholar and Sportsman | Andrew Smith |
| College Trophy for Music | Hugo Renard Nicholas Leisegang |
| Parents' Council Arts Award | Megan Schneider |
| Moerdyk Shield for Dedication to Vocal Tenacity | Hugo Renard |
| Allan Chandler Trophy for Excellence in Cultural Pursuits | Tiffany Miller |
| Privani Moodley Trophy for Service to School and Community | Jenna Sykes |
| Standeaven Family Trophy for Strength of Character | Jordan Larken |
| Broughton-Maxwell Trophy for Overcoming Adversity | Guy Vaubell |
| Halstead Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in an Outside Extra-Curricular Activity | Talia Ballack |
| Hodgkiss Cup for Good Fellowship (voted by Grade 12 pupils) | Andrew Smith |
| Staff Cup for the Embodiment of The Thomas More Ethos | Hugo Renard |
| Past Pupils' Trophy | Dominic King |
| Headmaster's Award for Outstanding Leadership, Commitment, Dedication and Moral Rectitude | Emily Barnes |
| Honours Blazer for Cum Laude Academics, Full colours Vocal Tenacity and Full colours Service | Parusha Raidoo |

THOMAS MORE CUP

FOR SERVICE & DEDICATION TO THE SCHOOL

Emily Barnes

MCKEOWN TROPHY

THIRD IN GRADE 12

Nicholas Leisegang

HAYNES TROPHY

FOR EXCELLENCE – Dux Proxime Accessit

Jemma Daniel

JULIAN HOFMEYR TROPHY

FOR DUX OF THE SCHOOL

Parusha Raidoo

ACADEMIC CUM LAUDE

Aggregate over 90%

Jemma Daniel

Nicholas Leisegang

Parusha Raidoo





ACADEMIC STAFF

1st row (L to R): Mrs T. Taylor (HOD); Mr G. Belman (Senior HOD); Mrs D. Kerdachi (Senior HOD); Mrs L. Dunlop (Senior HOD); Mr S. Ireland (Deputy Headmaster); Mr S. Cuthbertson (Executive Principal); Mr D. Wiggett (Headmaster); Mr P. Lanz (Senior HOD); Mrs C. Selley (HOD); Mrs C. Steenkamp (HOD); Rev M. Easson.

2nd row (L to R): Ms Z. Magagula; Mrs K. Cousins; Mrs J. La Grange; Mrs P. Thompson; Mr E. Gwanzura; Mrs R. Cowie; Mrs C. MacFarlane; Mrs V. Barnes; Mrs C. Conradie; Ms S. Ndlovu.

3rd row (L to R): Mrs C. Brehany; Miss S. Carter; Mrs T. Kotze; Mrs B. Taylor; Mrs T. Patterson; Mrs O. Van Zyl; Mrs C. Lanz; Mrs S. Pooley; Mrs M. Albers; Mrs P. Munian; Ms N. Mkize.

4th row (L to R): Mrs L. Erwee; Mrs V. Moodley; Mrs E. Wolmarans; Mr C. Conradie; Mrs L. Paterson; Mr G. Camp; Mr T. Ngcobo; Mrs L. Bonella; Mr E. Jeffrey; Mrs L. McKenzie.

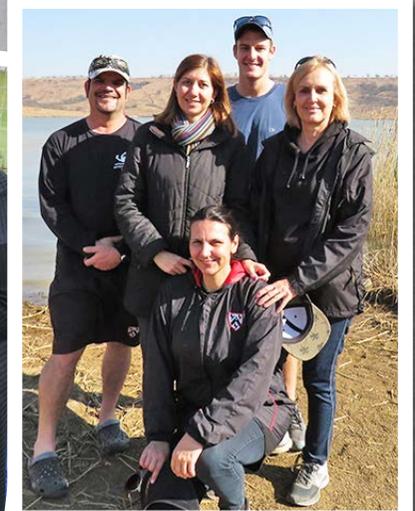
5th row (L to R): Mrs M. Vermaak; Mrs M. Logan; Mrs P. Thorpe; Mrs A. Bonsor; Mr G. Robson; Mr S. Drew; Ms W. Venter; Mr V. Oberholzer; Mrs M. Van Wyk.

6th row (L to R): Mrs B. Edwards; Ms H. Pattenden; Mr R. Dove; Mr R. Bauermeister; Mr J. Lanz; Mr W. Maurice; Mrs H. Breedt; Mrs T. Richardson.



Congratulations to Justin Lanz on his marriage to Roxanne.

STAFF Antics



STAFF Farewells

VANESSA BARNES

Vanessa Barnes moved seamlessly from being a Thomas More College parent to being a valued member of the Thomas More English Department. Although she acted in a part-time capacity, teaching three classes for two years, her passion and commitment were full-time. She brought to the Department experience, wisdom and enthusiasm. Her pupils were very lucky to have her teach them and we will surely miss her professionalism, reliability and willingness to help above and beyond her required duties. We wish Vanessa all the best as she commits her time and love to her own children.

Michelle Albers



HEATHER PATTENDEN

Heather Pattenden joined the Thomas More College Visual Arts and Design Department in 2015 and brought with her a wealth of creativity and a true love for art and design. She has been instrumental in helping grow Design as a subject in both student numbers and the quality of work produced. Her fun loving nature, passion, commitment and excellent organisation skills will be missed by the staff and pupils alike. Heather is following her career dreams as she takes up the post of Senior Exhibitions Officer at the KwaZulu-Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg where she will be responsible for the planning, delivery and installation of individual permanent and travelling exhibitions. We wish her well as

she embarks on this new and exciting career path.

“Every great design begins with an even better story.” – LORINDA MAMO

Leanne Frisinger

BURNETTE TAYLOR

Burnette Taylor joined Thomas More College in the Physical Science department in January 2015.

She brought with her a passion for her subject and a love for the children she taught. She became a good friend to many of the staff members with her vibrant and positive attitude. The staff and pupils could easily interact with her. She was also actively involved with water polo and netball as a team manager. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

Marika Van Wyk



LEIGH-ANN MCKENZIE

Leigh-Ann joined the Thomas More College staff 24 years ago. She started as a Computer Studies and EGD teacher which included a Standard 1 class, but was soon required as a full-time teacher in the EGD-department.

Leigh-Ann also made a valuable contribution on the extra-curricular front in a variety of different sporting pursuits which included hockey, tennis, netball and soccer.

She will always be remembered as one of the super-fit staff members having completed 10 Long Walks and 3 Comrades Marathons.

She is kind, considerate, ultra-organised, resilient, efficient, hard-working, punctual and compassionate. Leigh-Ann could always be relied upon to take new staff members under her wing and show them the ropes in her own inimitable way.

She has also been a Grade Controller for Grade 8, 10 and 12 during her time at Thomas More College. In this capacity she was a mother figure to many pupils.

Leigh-Ann, we thank you for your professional dedication to Thomas More College. You will be greatly missed. May the sunsets and sunrises in your new country be spectacular and may health, wealth and great happiness be in abundance.

Ora Van Zyl

STACI CARTER

Staci joined the High School at the beginning of 2017 after spending time in the Primary School as an intern. She proved herself to be very enthusiastic and willing to embrace change. This made her a wonderful addition to the Business Studies Department. She is very creative and this shows in her lessons. Her quiet organised manner ensures that all that needs to be done... is done.

Staci has a great rapport with the pupils and fitted in very well in the High School. She is also passionate about netball and water polo. She worked well in the Business Studies Department and always offered to help where she could.

We wish her well in her new adventure at St Mary's and we know that she will be very happy there with her Grade 7's.

Candyce Brehany



MICHELLE EDWARDS

Michelle Edwards joined the Thomas More College family in October 2004 as a grade 7 teacher in the Senior Primary. Her gentle and compassionate nature soon made her popular amongst both her pupils and fellow staff members.

Michelle coached netball, along with Senior Primary boys and girls water polo. The Edwards Cup for water polo was donated by the Edwards family and is still awarded annually.

In 2011 Michelle taught in the remedial unit, helping pupils with learning difficulties. In that time, she also assisted the High School Maths department, giving individual tuition within the classroom context. With Michelle's patient and caring teaching style, she gave pupils the confidence to persevere despite their difficulties in Maths.

The following year she moved up to the High School, where she has taught part time, both junior maths and maths literacy to matric level, for the last 6 years.

Michelle and her husband, Greg will be travelling abroad and visiting family in Australia next year.

Michelle leaves a big hole in the Maths department and her bubbly, friendly personality and positive outlook on life will be greatly missed by her colleagues and friends at school.

Sandra Pooley

Farewells



GAVIN BELMAN

Gavin Belman arrived at Thomas More College in 1997 as the young new maths teacher from Hillcrest High School. In the following 21 years his passion for working with young people became evident in his teaching, coaching and mentoring. Since then he has been involved in many areas of the school life, giving unselfishly of his time, energy and expertise.

Gavin aspired to high standards in the classroom, teaching with a firm hand as well as a gentle heart. His love of maths rubbed off on many of his pupils. He will fondly be remembered for that “warm, fuzzy feeling” that maths gives you!

As head of the Maths Department he led with integrity and wisdom, displaying great leadership qualities.

Being both a friend and a leader to each teacher in the department, his advice and support was most appreciated. He will be sorely missed!

Gavin was made HOD of extra-murals in 2004 and Senior HOD of Middle School in 2010. His contributions at management level displayed insight and honesty, combined with integrity.

Gavin was instrumental in establishing water polo as a sport at Thomas More and it has grown from strength to strength. He has coached both boys and girls, junior and senior water polo teams, taking the first girls and boys teams on an overseas tour to Serbia in 2010. Gavin has spent many, many long hours at the side of the pool coaching, guiding and encouraging players and could be heard from across the school screaming, “Swiiiiiiiiiiiiim!!!”

One of Gavin’s highlights during the school year, was always the Thomas More College Long Walk. Not only was he an avid supporter, but he also completed 17 of the 80km walks.

The many other sports and activities that Gavin either coached or managed include hockey, show jumping, swimming, and marshalling at galas and sports days. He initiated the World Challenge trip to Nepal in 2017 and went abroad with 25 pupils and 3 other teachers. He also initiated the Grade 10 Quest and participated fully in the first year. He was always keen to extend the pupils in various activities and yet kept the nurturing environment of Thomas More in mind.

Most importantly, Gavin displayed his love for Jesus Christ in the classroom, on the sports field and in the staffroom. His often amusing assemblies or preaches at STIC bear testament to his deep and genuine faith and desire to share God’s love with others.

*For they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength
They shall mount up with wings like eagles
They shall run and not grow weary
They shall walk and not grow faint.*

ISAIAH 40:31

Gavin leaves TMC to join Redham College in Umhlanga as Deputy Headmaster in 2018. Our loss is their gain. May God bless you as you take up this new challenge, where we know they will benefit from your wisdom and passion for young people. You leave behind a legacy at Thomas More College.

Sandra Pooley

REID BAUERMEISTER

The Bauermeisters have had a long-standing association with Thomas More College: one that has lasted 22 years. Reid, in particular, began his school career at Thomas More College in 1996 in Standard 2 and matriculated in 2004. He made the transition from past pupil to staff member in 2013, when Allan Chandler offered him a teaching post. His youngest brother, Todd, was in his Matric year when Reid began teaching at Thomas More College.

Aside from being a respected and well-liked IT teacher, Reid was involved in a variety of other areas. Reid believes in the transformative capability of technology in education and that new ways of learning can be made possible through the communication and collaboration potential of technology. Thus, he was instrumental in leading the staff towards using technology for teaching and he helped with the introduction of Google Classroom for the whole school. He shared his expertise generously and graciously with colleagues and even organised a Teaching With Technology conference at Thomas More which was well attended by teachers from many other schools. Reid also initiated the Robotics Club in the high school and helped the primary and junior primary school to get started. This extra mural activity has proved to be both popular and successful.

Reid was very reluctant to leave Thomas More College because of his family’s association and because he believes the school has a unique family atmosphere which he believes helped him immeasurably to grow as a pupil and then to develop professionally as a teacher. However, Reid loves traveling and learning more about other places and people, so when the opportunity to continue teaching IT as well as travel to new places came about, he could not refuse.

Reid left Thomas More College in August to teach Computer Science at Nazarbayev Intellectual School of Chemistry and Biology in Petropavlovsk, Kazakhstan, a school that takes on students from throughout the region with high potential. He has learnt to read and write in Cyrillic and is starting to learn Russian and a little bit of Kazakh.

Thank you, Reid, for your many years of dedication to our school and for the value that you have added to pupils and colleagues alike. You will be sorely missed by all of us, but we wish you the very best as you grow from strength to strength.

Meg Logan



LYNETTE DUNLOP

Lynette joined the staff in 1996 as a History and Geography teacher and was a superb netball coach. In her years at Thomas More she introduced dynamic and innovative History teaching and will also be remembered for the History evenings. Her compassion and empathy soon saw her moving into a counselling role – it is not surprising that she was appointed Senior HOD of counselling because of her deep concern for children. A less judgemental person you could not find. Both students and staff flocked to her for her advice and counsel. Three headmasters were fortunate enough to have her serving on the high school executive team where she brought wisdom, clarity and objective views. Her classes will remember her as an enthusiastic and passionate educator.

Lynette was well known in the IEB circles and was often called upon by various schools to make presentations on Source Based Essay writing. In addition she was a Senior Marker on the Grade 12 examining panel because of her expert knowledge and ability to interpret complex questions.

A quote from one of Lynette’s past pupils Robert Varty: “History as a subject could not have been more awesome and it’s as a result of the slightly sarcastic, no-nonsense, humorous attitude that brought so many laughs to the class and imparted upon us swathes of invaluable information about the world we live in.”

Humour, eccentricity and fun were part of every lesson. The laughter and brutal honesty as well as her orange sunglasses and beautiful eyelashes will be sorely missed on the staff. A truer friend and confidant will be very difficult to replace.

Stephen Ireland & Debbie Kerdachi



GRADE 8 ORIENTATION



DALE CARNEGIE Course 2017

The Dale Carnegie course aims at developing communication skills. It was evident throughout the course that it works for a huge variety of personality types – each person in my group felt that what they said was appreciated, and everyone was encouraged to speak to the group. The group continually supported each other, regardless of whether we stumbled over all our words or spoke fluently.

Prevani, our facilitator, was absolutely phenomenal and made each session extremely exciting and engaging. The course benefited me as it helped to encourage my confidence in social settings. The course is not just to develop public speaking, but rather to help people communicate effectively. As an internationally recognised course, it's highly recommended that



one takes up the opportunity to attend this course. At the end of each session, the groups voted anonymously for the person who best represented the Carnegie ideals and completed the necessary tasks. These special awards, were won by Skye Embleton, Daine Ric-Hansen and Wesley Price. The support and enthusiasm of each member in my group truly made this such a worthwhile experience.

Micah Camp – GR. 10

STIC

STUDENTS TOGETHER IN CHRIST – Being Strong & Courageous

STIC or rather "Students Together In Christ" has become the place where I find the most diverse range of people in one classroom. I meet people who I never would have had the chance to play sport with. Every now and then someone who I didn't expect walks into the room and I'm joyfully reminded of how great God truly is and how he is working in people's lives. Although at times we feel that we are not seeing visible changes of God working in the school, he is changing people's hearts. Our weekly meetings are well supported and we have had a number of guest speakers from different Youth groups come in and share. We are most grateful to the interns from these Youth groups for supporting us. The year saw more opportunities for the committee to share and run the meetings and we have grown in our faith and leadership as a result.

The first ever Praise and Bonfire evening was held, which was well supported by a number of people. It was a truly wonderful evening of praising our Lord under the stars.

The annual Christian Arts Festival definitely summed up what STIC has stood for, namely **"BEING STRONG & COURAGEOUS"**. The theme scripture was taken from JOSHUA 1:9 *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

Many Christians in the school have undoubtedly stepped out of their comfort zones and have grown as a result.

The power of prayer is also an integral part of STIC. We have started praying publicly in the open quad. Thankfully even though our prayers may sound pathetic in our own ears, their power lies in the One who hears them.

The committee also had loads of fun connecting with the primary school; where they truly bring out the joy of the Lord.

It is necessary to give a huge thank you to Kloof Harvest Church who support us at every STIC meeting and to Mrs Selley and Mr Easson who are pillars of strength to us all.

We look forward to what God has in store for us in the years to come as we continue to spread the word in the school.

Este Kotzé – GR. 11



STIC COMMITTEE

- 1st Row [L-R]: P. Pather; C. Sim; Mrs C. Selley; E. Kotzé.
2nd Row: S. Esterhuyse; N. Mbatha; T. Cairns.

DEBATING & Public Speaking

The debaters at Thomas More College have excelled in 2017. Thanks to their passion and hard work, they were able to reap rewards in an outstanding array of achievements.

We entered three teams into the Durban and District League consisting of one Grade 8 team, a Junior team and then a Senior Team. Our Grade 8s did incredibly well, making it through to the Quarter Finals of the League and although our Junior Team did not make it through to the Quarter Finals, they proved to be a force to be reckoned with. Our Senior Team, consisting of incredibly talented and motivated speakers, lost in the Finals against Glenwood. Special mention must be made of Nicholas Leisegang who was placed third overall based on individual speaker scores and Jordan Pieters who came fifth. Both Nicholas and Jordan were also chosen for South African Team selection but decided not to stand due to Matric pressures.

Other fantastic achievements were made in the Public Speaking arena. Mrs Erwee, accompanied by 4 enthusiastic Grade 9 and 10 pupils, went to the National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Competition which was held in Cape Town in the September holidays. These four speakers showed true potential and commitment holding their own in a National Speaking Competition that is of the highest standard. Special mention must be made of Thando Dlamuka who was placed thirteenth overall. This means that she is officially a member of the South African delegation which will participate in the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Competition to be hosted by Bishops in Cape Town in 2018. What an absolute honour and congratulations, Thando!

A sincere thank you must also be extended to Mrs Erwee for her incredible support and expertise both in Debating and Public Speaking.

Anke Bonsor



SENIOR DEBATING

1st Row [L-R]: Mrs A. Bonsor; N. Leisegang; Mrs L. Erwee.

2nd Row: J. Pieters; R. Jeacocks.



JUNIOR DEBATING



GRADE 8 DEBATING

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Design and Technology club was run on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon with the number of students growing to over 30 in the third term. They thoroughly enjoyed the different projects that were completed, including; an industrial inspired table lamp made from recyclable materials, a lino stamp printed book bag with leather straps, a self-built pinhole camera that took film and a wooden pallet Christmas tree.

The students learnt many different skills, having been exposed to woodwork, using a jigsaw, scroll saw, electronics, printmaking, sewing and photography. The highlight of the year was being taken on an excursion to Makaranga Gardens where they took photographs using their pinhole cameras. This instrument explored the first type of image making captured by the camera obscura, very popular amongst the Dutch painters like Vermeer.

Heather Pattenden



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY CLUB

1st Row [L-R]: H. Nel; C. Jolly; E. Whiteford; Miss H. Pattenden; R. Sachs; D. Launspach; M. Roberts.

2nd Row: S. Abraham; A. Roberts; M. Jaggard; K. Robertson; H. Buhr; K. Fenner.

3rd Row: C. Bray; P. Pather; S. Maharaj; A. Guilhermino; A. Nicholas; K. Canham.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS Provincial Debate

The KZN round of the Model United Nations Debate took place at the Pietermaritzburg Legislature. Thomas More partnered with Wyebank Secondary School in a debate on The Legacy of History – Reparations for Colonialism. Our team represented India which was fascinating as India has a long history of colonial rulers.

The team spent many hours preparing for the debate by researching India's relationship with their previous rulers.

18 teams participated in a rigorous debate that was commended by the judges as one of the closest they had witnessed. While the team did not place in the top 3, we were proud of their performance.

REGULAR TEAM MEMBERS M. Canning ; A Mashige

Penny Thompson



ROBOTICS CLUB



ROBOTICS CLUB

1st Row [L-R]: L. Leppan;
D. Launspach;
D. McFarlane; S. Daniel.

2nd Row: F. Stewart;
G. Woodley;
F. Steenkamp.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Youth Council



CURRENT AFFAIRS YOUTH COUNCIL

1st Row [L-R]: P. Raidoo; N. Leisegang; Mr W. Maurice; H. Renard; E. Barnes.
 2nd Row: C. Sumadraj; L. Emery; A.M. Comarmond; S. Kelly; N. Shezi; N. Magagula.
 3rd Row: A. de Swart; B. Robbins; D. Shewell; R. Stedman.



ART CLUB

1st Row [L-R]: E. Joubert; H. Bahr; Mrs L. Frisinger; K. Price; Z. du Preez.
 2nd Row: M. van der Merwe; E. Beyers; A. Loubser-Goldblatt; K. Canham; K. Fenner; M.Scholtes.
 3rd Row: H. Nel, R.Thomas; A. Ahlschlager; A. Jacobs.

ART CLUB

2017 was a fun and creative year for the TMC Art Club. Art club is aimed at allowing students to be creative without thinking or worrying if what they are making is "good enough". The projects were designed to be fun to do so students didn't feel self-conscious about "making- art"- but rather to enjoy the freedom of playing with new media's.

Leanne Frisinger



WORLD CHALLENGE EXPEDITION

Nepal 2017



Twenty eight, High School students travelled to the Himalayan mountain kingdom of Nepal for a three-week expedition with World Challenge in March. The trip consisted of a six-day hike to the top of Poon Hill, in the Annapurna Mountain range in the Himalayas, a week-long voluntary contribution in a village called Palpa, as well as, some other adventures including white water rafting and the exploration of some UNESCO World Heritage sites.

The expedition provided opportunities for our students to not only be challenged physically, but also allowed for the students to dictate their whole experience. They were in control of the budget, the reservations at the hotels and they decided where and when we ate.

The students took on this daunting challenge with much enthusiasm and exuberance. Their charitable efforts, daily planning and sheer determination shone through in all the challenges that they faced. They represented Thomas More College well!

Our next expedition is already planned. We will be going to Vietnam in March 2019.

Ed Jeffrey





KLOOF CONSERVANCY

MOLWENI RIVER HEALTH Schools' Water Project

A group of Grade 10 pupils from Thomas More College, Sunel Esterhuyse, Shivani Govender, Gabriella Greef, Charomonè Roberts and Carmen van der Westhuizen participated in the Kloof Conservancy Molweni River Health Schools Project. This is the fifth consecutive year that Thomas More College has performed the mini SASS and Habitat Integrity Tests on the Molweni River as it runs past the Kloof Conservancy Interpretive Centre.

The pupils worked together with scientists who guided them through sample collection and identifying the macro-invertebrates that they caught. The pupils tested the river in February and in September, reflecting the change in the river during different seasons. This proved to be a fun and educational experience for the pupils. The girls then confidently presented their results to pupils from other schools who had tested different areas of the river, scientists, conservation and municipal officials and other interested parties. The data collected was compared to results collected from 2013 to 2016. The pupils were able to see first-hand how the quality of the river is deteriorating. Since the Molweni River flows through the upper highway area it was evident to all the participants in the project that it is the collective responsibility of us all to ensure that the health of the Molweni River is restored.

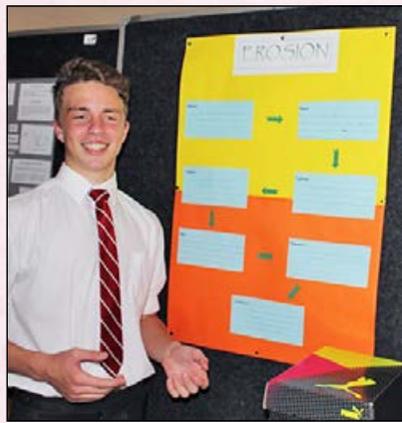
Tracy Taylor



GRADE 9

HISTORY PROJECTS

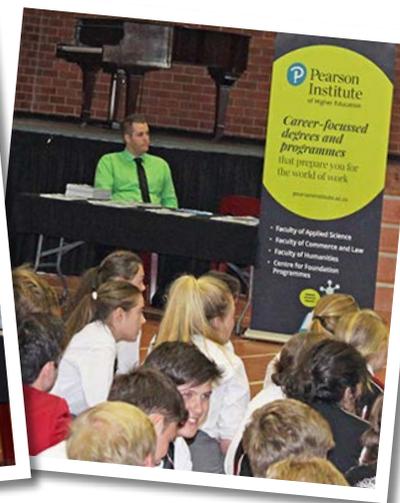




EXPO FOR Young Scientists



CAREER'S EXHIBITION



GRADE 12 ZULU TOUR



The tour left school at first break and drove to Umlazi township. We stopped at Max's Lifestyle for Shisanyama which formed part of the tour. We had a feast of braai meat and got to experience the township lifestyle by eating together from the same bowl.

We then drove to Eshowe to visit the Shakaland Heritage Site. We had a tour of the Zulu Homestead and learned about the history of the Zulus and King Shaka Zulu. Pupils were also shown how to do spear throwing, stick fighting, weaving and got to taste Zulu beer. That night we watched a dance show that exhibited the different traditional dance styles. When eating supper we had to wait for the chief to taste the food first and then everyone was allowed to eat as a sign of generosity and respect.

The next day we went to Fort Nongqayi Museum, where we learnt about the importance of storytelling. We sat for about an hour listening to kids' stories being told by the famous Gcina Mhlophe. From the Museum we drove to Richards Bay, past Esikhawini Township. It was lovely to see how other people live and what they make out of their lives. The whole tour was exciting and taught the children a lot about the Zulu Culture. We got to appreciate who we are and what we have been blessed with.

Zandile Magagula





RETROBEATS

1st Row [L-R]: V. Magagula; R. Stedman; Mrs T. Kotze; H. Renard; T. Miller; E. Robson.
 2nd Row: C. Sumadrajai; A. Munn; S. Alborough; A. Meikle; K. Daniels.
 3rd Row: C. Nathanson; R. Camp; N. Mbatha; A. de Swart; A.M. Comarmond; J. Lamb.

RETROBEATS

RetroBeats participated in a number of exciting events during the course of 2017. One highlight was the live performance at the Rhumbelow Theatre in Kloof on the 11th of April. RetroBeats performed a number of old-time favourites such as Chandelier, Rise, Can't sleep love, Seasons of love, I won't give up, White winter hymnal, Sweet dreams and I've had the time of my life mashup. The performance at the Rhumbelow theatre inspired RetroBeats to record their own CD. On the 26th of June RetroBeats recorded four tracks at Sonic Studios – Professional Audio Production in Glenwood. It was a worthwhile learning experience for all of us.

The grade 12's were the driving force behind many of the RetroBeats school performances at events such as the Open Day, Supper and Song, the Community Showcase, the Country Fair, Sing with One Voice and more. Sadly, we bid the following grade 12s goodbye: Vuyo Magagula; Hugo Renard; Erin Robson; Reece Stedman and Tiffany Miller. A warm welcome to the new members of RetroBeats: A. Comarmond; A. de Swart; A. Munn and J. Lamb.

Special thanks to Chloë Clark (vocal trainer) for her dedication and commitment throughout the year and to Shylo Pereira (vocal trainer) who took over from Chloë in the fourth term.



Tatiana Kotze



Vocal **TENACITY**

Vocal Tenacity enjoyed another successful year although there have been some changes. Early in the year we said goodbye to Tammy Saville and at the end of the third term Chloë Clark. Both of these ladies have exciting new ventures overseas. Vocal Tenacity was privileged to have Shylo Pereira join us as Chloë's assistant when Tammy left and we were very excited when Shylo stepped into the gap and took over the running of Vocal Tenacity. Shylo is a talented performer and experienced vocal coach. In the short time that she has been at the helm of Vocal Tenacity, she has raised the bar and challenged Vocal Tenacity to reach new heights. As we look forward to touring we know that our choir is in good hands and is going to grow and develop further.

Vocal Tenacity performed at a number of school events during the year including open day, prize-giving, the Christian Arts Festival, Supper and Song, the annual Thanksgiving Service and the Community Cultural Showcase where they entertained grandparents and other senior citizens from the Upper Highway area together with the Senior Primary and Junior Primary choirs and marimba bands. A new performance included in 2017 was participating in the "Sing with One Voice" Concert at the Emmanuel Cathedral in Durban. Vocal Tenacity experienced singing in a Cathedral with amazing acoustics and participating in a mass choir song including schools such as St Francis College, Maris Stella, St Benedict's College and Kwa



Thintwa School for the Deaf. The annual "Spring Showcase", at the beginning of term 4, was a celebration of a wonderfully successful year of music where Vocal Tenacity performed together with Retrobeats and the High School marimba bands. Although the year was disrupted with respect to choir coaches, the choir did themselves proud and produced a varied and impressive repertoire of songs. At the final assembly for our Executive Principal, Mr Shane Cuthbertson, Vocal Tenacity was privileged to sing with the Junior and Senior Primary choirs.

We thank the Grade 12s who have served selflessly and mentored the younger singers and look forward to new challenges in 2018.

Tracy Taylor & Tatiana Kotze



VOCAL TENACITY

1st Row [L-R]: P. Raidoo; R. Stedman; T. Miller; Mrs T. Kotze; E. Barnes; H. Renard; A. Kenton; T. Taylor; H. Richardson; E. Robson; T. du Plessis.
 2nd Row: L. Renard; D. Chetty; G. Greeff; A. Munn; M. Roome; C. Sumadrajai; Z. Gugushe; N. Shange; J. Swanson; S. Kweyama; K. Daniels; C. Ronald.
 3rd Row: A. Meikle; D. Morck; L. Emery; C. van der Westhuizen; A. White; V. Magagula; L. Sachs; A. Guilhermino; J. Ireland; K. Govender; C. Nathanson.
 4th Row: T. Dlamuka; S. Alborough; M. Harland; C. Kyle; B. Cason; C. Brehany; A. Ahlschlager; J. Trotter; R. Camp; H. Nel.
 5th Row: J. Lamb; J. Kenton; R. Sachs; A. Hanger; A. de Swart; S. Chelius; M. Ngcobo; A. Shangase; S. Esterhuyse; L. Mohabir
 6th Row: A.M. Comarmond; P. Nzuza; J. McArthur; B. Robbins; N. Mbatha; D. Shewell; A. Woods; S. Guy; I. Arnott; B. Butler.



MARIMBAS

Band & Tour

The high school marimba bands enjoyed a successful year filled with plenty of changes and challenges.

The biggest change was experienced by the high school junior band, as they bid farewell to their much-loved coach, Mrs Mordecai-Jones, at the end of March. Her enthusiasm and dedication to the band enabled them to grow in confidence and resulted in the development of excellent musical skills. She will be sorely missed and we wish her well in Australia. The new coach, Mr Sherwin Ganasen, fitted into his role with ease, and fully involved himself in the nurturing and coaching of the band. The high school junior band performed with gusto for the high school Open Day, the Community Outreach Showcase, the Christian Arts Festival, the Country Fair, the Spring Musical Showcase and the Carol Service. Rory Camp (Captain) and Catherine Reynolds (Vice-Captain) were strong leaders of the band.

The high school senior band's year was a memorable one. 2017 was the first year of matric members who had been in the band from its inception in 2013. Captain, Hugo Renard, and Vice-Captain, Nicholas Leisegang, once again led the band at the International Marimba and Steelpan Competition. Their commitment and ability to foster team work alongside passionate coaching by Mrs Meg Logan, paid off. The band placed second for the "In The Mix" category with Don't Stop Me Now which featured Nicholas on the electric guitar. Their controlled but fiery medley for the "Strictly Classical" section was arranged by Hugo Renard who integrated several Mendelssohn pieces with Macklemore and Ryan Lewis' Downtown. The band's performance was energetic and full of life, and consequently, they came third in this category. For the "Battle of the Bands" category, Hugo and Nicholas arranged Labyrinth's Earthquake. Competition was stiff amongst the 36 or so bands competing in this section. Despite not placing in the top three, the TMC senior band proved themselves worthy adversaries and were certainly in the running for a top place.

The matric members will leave a significant hole in the fabric of the band because of their strong leadership. They have been excellent role models, and have created a powerful sense of unity. We thank them for their service and commitment over the last five years and look forward to seeing the positive influence they have had on the younger members.

In that vein, Sunel Esterhuyse and Daine Ric-Hanson emerged as budding arrangers of pieces. Sunel produced two scores for 2017 – Believer by Imagine Dragons and Radar Love by Golden Earring. The band performed these to an appreciative audience at the Spring Musical Showcase. Daine Ric-Hanson's arrangements of Toto's Africa and Owl City's Fireflies as well as Sunel's arrangement of Chainsmoker's All We Know promise to be crowd pleasers for 2018.

A combination of dedication, commitment, talent and skill was required of both high school marimba bands in 2017. The pupils displayed these qualities in excess.

Meg Logan



SENIOR MARIMBA BAND

1st Row [L-R]: N. Magagula; A. Mthembu; N. Leisegang; Mrs M Logan; H. Renard; R. Pillay; A. Kenton.

2nd Row: L. Renard; G. Greeff; A. Meikle; C. Sim; C. Sumadrajii; K. Daniels.

3rd Row: A. Guilhermino; A.M. Comarmond; M. Canning; ; R. Sachs; J. Kenton; J. Bentley; S. Esterhuyse.

4th Row: E. Robson; R Smith; D. Ric-Hansen; J Rautenbach; H. Richardson; J. Ireland.



JUNIOR MARIMBA BAND



GRAHAMSTOWN National Arts Festival

A mixed bag of emotions started out with us on our 12 ½ hour journey by road to Grahamstown - excitement, apprehension, enthusiasm, anxiety and eagerness. We were lucky to have an experienced professional driver so we could all relax and even nod off as time went by.

The theme of the festival was **Don't Dream It, Be It!** Many educators around the country strive to encourage and foster the conviction in pupils to really make a positive difference in society; and the Grahamstown Foundation supports this quest by providing opportunities and platforms for pupils to engage with topical issues and current affairs. Sometimes the pupils are outraged, sometimes heart-broken, sometimes inspired and sometimes impassioned but always challenged to be the change they want to see.

So, in this safe, creative, inspiring and open-minded space, the pupils were exposed to many different forms of artistic discipline - film, live performance, dance, lectures, hands-on workshops, music and fine art. As one of the accompanying teachers, it was so rewarding to listen to and take part in the varied discussions that the pupils would absorb themselves in. It is quite remarkable to observe the maturity, humanity and compassion in our pupils.

As with many creatives, we seamlessly included lots of silly jokes, lots of laughter and cups of coffee and hot chocolate; never forgetting to issue the pants of shame to those persons who did / said something silly, like leave their phone in the dining hall!

Thank you to Mr R. Dove for traveling with us. I'm sure he would agree that it was quite charming to see the beauty of this small university town again - donkeys and all, through the eyes of the wonderful group of Grade 12 pupils we chaperoned.

For the first time ever, in at least the past 16 years, the Foundation decided to end the Festival with performances by the pupils themselves. Thomas More College does indeed pride itself on the high calibre of live performance from our pupils. It was a great pleasure to watch N. Magagula, N. Leisegang, T. Miller, G. Vaubell, H. Young and R. Seymour-Brown tread the boards of the famous Guy Butler Theatre with confidence, flair and ease. Congratulations to these brave and courageous young artists.

We arrived home safely, thanks to the careful driving of Mr C. King; all exhausted but knowing that our minds had been opened, our attitudes and hearts challenged and our creative spirits revived - ready to take on the world.

Tanya Conradie

Supper & Song

The astounding range of talent evident at Thomas More College was again showcased in the annual Supper and Song evening.

A gritty band performance by A. Boardman, G. Comarmond and J. Pieters kick-started the evening and certainly gave the audience a taste of things to come. This was followed by sensational and very varied vocal performances from N. Phipps, K. Daniels, E. Robson, J. Trotter, D. Turner, R. van der Merwe, G. Hardy and T. Miller.

Poignant instrumental performances were given by T. Grant (piano), H. Renard (piano), N. Leisegang and H. Renard (duet on piano and drums) and a very energetic and comedic drum off between R. Camp and K. Schwimmbacher.

Touching and powerful contemporary dances were presented by H. Patterson, R. Gibson, L. Renard, T. Brickley, S. Cohen and M. Murray. A funky, energetic modern dance to a Michael Jackson medley was performed by an accomplished group of girls, namely P. Blair, A. Hangar, M. Kimber, L. Renard and M. Schneider.

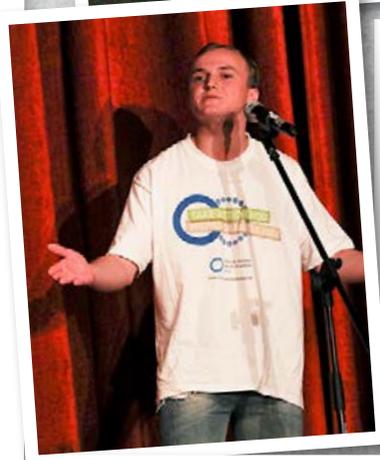
In recent years, the performance of acted scenes, spoken word and stand-up comedy has been encouraged. So, it was lovely this year to hear a self-written slam poem from S. Alborough and a comedic scene from G. Vaubell and T. Grant.

To perform musical theatre successfully is always very challenging but A. de Swart, D. Shewell, A.M. Comarmond and A. Meikle certainly rose to the challenge and 'wowed' the audience with their heartfelt characterisation and captivating singing.

Duet performances included C. Sumadrajai and Mr Ganesan (piano and vocals), J. Pieters and M. Schneider (guitar and vocals), S. Tshuma (haunting vocals) accompanied by beautiful dancing from G. Wentzel. M-J. Cazin and J. Perreira (Piano and vocals) continued the charming duets; and furthermore, G. de Gaspary and E. Lacon-Allin (guitar and vocals). It is always a treat for the pupils and parents alike to enjoy performances from teachers – so seeing Mr J. Lanz singing with Mrs Logan on piano to accompany him brought the house down! V. Magagula and Mr Dove (vocals and guitar) closed our fabulous show with a mesmerising rendition of U2s Ordinary Love.

Much acknowledgement and heartfelt thanks to Mr Dove, Mr Ganesan, Faizel from Surround Sound and our technical crew of high school boys – G. Woodley, J. Robb, S. McKenzie and T. Wright for exceptional sound and lighting support to enhance the magic of this wonderful evening!

Ron Dove & Tanya Conradie





INTER-HOUSE

One Act Plays

It is always so rewarding to observe the journey of personal and performance growth that the pupils, especially the Grade 11 Dramatic Arts pupils, experience by being involved in our annual Inter-house One Act Play competition. This year, almost 70 pupils participated – either on stage or backstage. Our adjudicators Mr J. Lanz and Mr I. Ewok Robinson complimented the pupils on their tremendous application.

"All In The Past", directed by A.M. Comarmond, S. Taylor and S. Alborough from Dalberg, was very thought-provoking. It reminded us that the things we say and do in the past do not always remain in the past!

Savory presented a very quirky play called, *"A Little Box Of Oblivion"*, directed by R. Forbay, P. Nicholas and S. Embleton. It demonstrated how vivid our imaginations can be as well as how quickly people jump to conclusions due to their interpretations and speculations surrounding an ambiguous happening.

"The Babysitter's Story" directed by C. Bennett, L. Crous, K. Jooste and G. Mayo also from Savory, provided much enjoyment through the use of mistaken identity, misunderstandings and plot twists! Well done to S. Gonggryp who received an adjudicator's award for best use of humour.

After interval, Dalberg presented, *"Figment"*. Aply directed by H. Descoins, S. Mthethwa and A. de Swart, this was awarded Best Play of the evening and went on to represent TMC at the Kearsney Arts Festival. Congratulations to K. Daniels who received the Best Actress award and S. Tshuma who received

an adjudicator's award for her excellent character work as The Waitress.

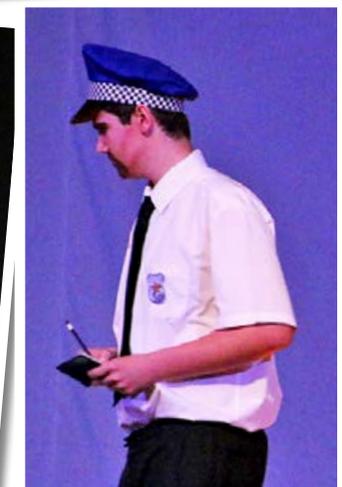
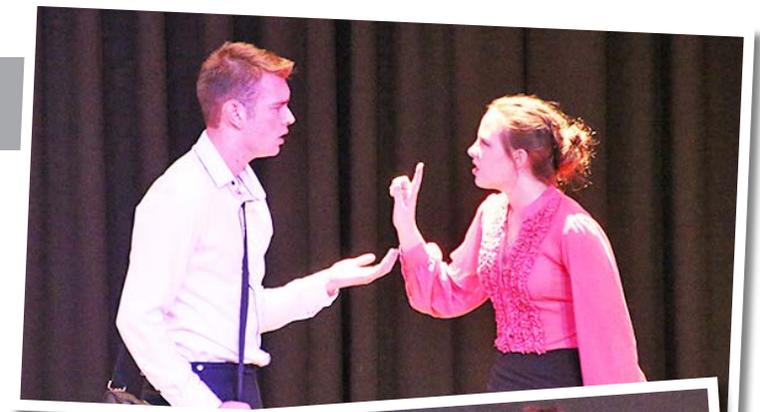
Next, Hurley performed a dark, disturbing nightmare called *"Circus"*. This play used excellent lighting effects to enhance the eerie mood and was directed by S. Lilly, J. Williams, D. Shewell and R. van der Merwe. Circus was also our audience favourite!

Finally, the second Hurley play, *"Tick Of The Clock"* reminded us how valuable time is. This, with very complicated action, was admirably directed by C. Sumadraj, K. Duke and K. Olivier. We observed with fascination how the main character - played by G. Vaubell, who also received the Best Actor award, stopped and started time according to his whims, but steadily realised that his life was actually unraveling!

With excellent choices of plays and a wonderfully supportive audience, this evening proved most successful.

Every year we are reminded not only of the talent that our pupils display but of their exceptional dedication and effort. This is true not only of the directors and actors, but also true for our backstage and technical crew, J. Pooley, F. Stewart, G. Woodley, S. McKenzie, J. Robb, T. Wright and J. van Heerden, who spend hours setting up and preparing for the show.

Tanya Conradie



High School Production

NOISES OFF

"... bags, boxes, doors, words, SARDINES! You know what I mean?"

Misunderstandings, mistaken identities and mishaps; a rapid pace, witty lines and a quick exchange of dialogue – the typical elements of farce – were the ingredients that lead to much hilarity and chaos on stage.

Quite remarkably, Mrs Logan and Mrs Conradie decided to work with a double cast this year. They set the bar of this complex style of performance incredibly high and both casts came out victorious! Just from watching the play the complicated nature of the staging, dialogue and acting was very clear.

Much of the comedy emerged from the hysterical and highly intricate variations of the performances from Act One through to the end of Act Three. The contrast between players' relationships off-stage undermined the on-stage play-within-a-play *"Nothing On"*. An additional dose of humour in *"Noises Off"* was derived from both the verbal wit and the physical antics of the characters.

The actors' polished performances was clear evidence that many, many hours had been spent rehearsing every single moment of action and reaction. It was most pleasing to note that both casts consisted of a balanced spread between Grades. Congratulations to both casts for performing with astonishing skill, cohesion and conviction.

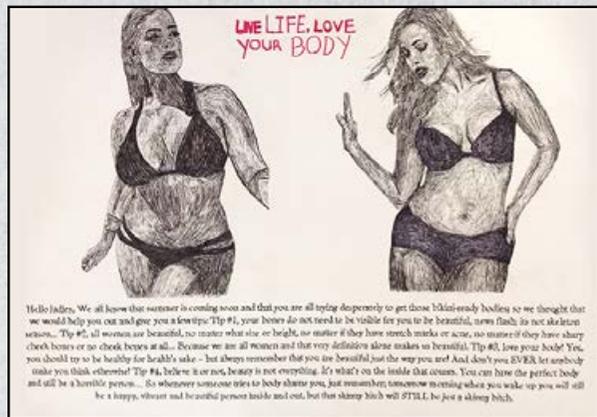
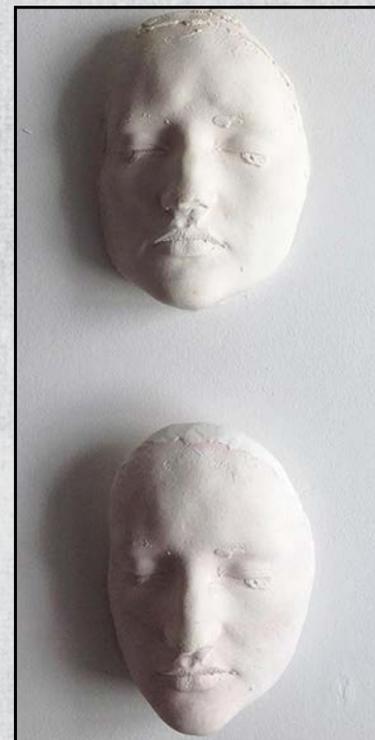
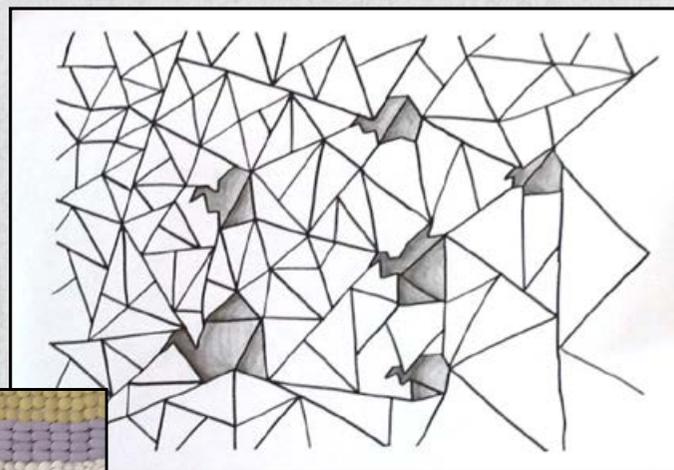
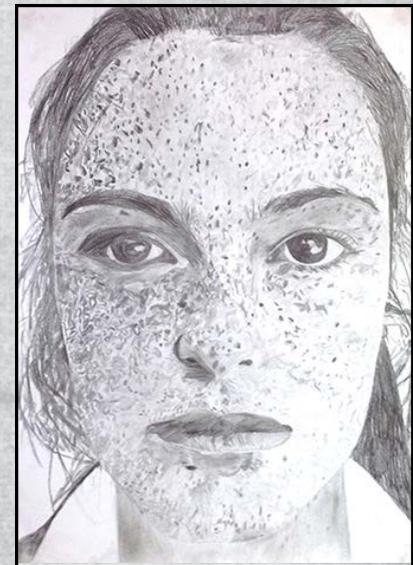
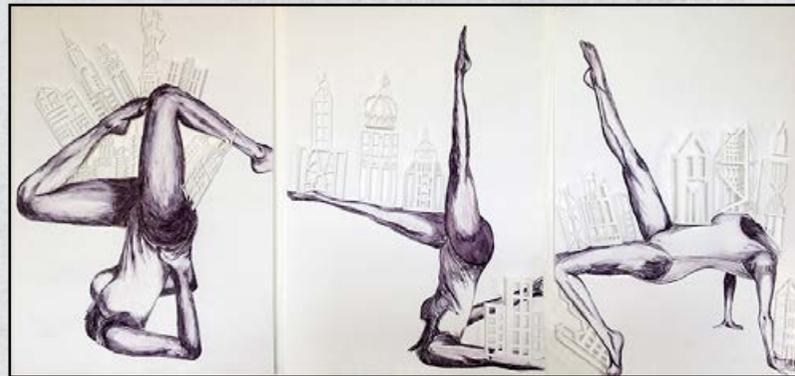
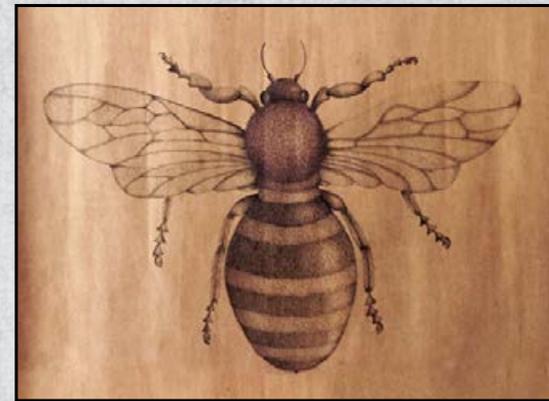
The set used for *"Noises Off"* was indeed a force to be reckoned with. The Thomas More Drama Department are known to have used elaborate sets before, but this set, to say the least, is the most complex one that I have seen on their stage. The detachable parts facilitated it having to be turned around – twice! Much admiration must go to Alan Pearce for his excellence in designing and constructing the set within two weeks. Furthermore, Mrs Lanz, the Stage Manager, together with the cast and backstage crew must also be highly commended on how easy and smooth looking they made the turning of the set appear!

A fantastic evening of hysterical entertainment was had by the appreciative audience.

Penny Thompson



ART



GRADE 8 TRIP TO

Wagendrift Eco Camp

The Grade 8 group of 2017 visited Wagendrift Eco Camp on their annual Outdoor experience.

The buses made their first stop at the Nelson Mandela Capture site where the children were able to do some exploring and visit the museum – a most interesting and worthwhile experience! From there the buses headed to the Mooi Plaza where it was time to stock up on treats for the remainder of the trip.

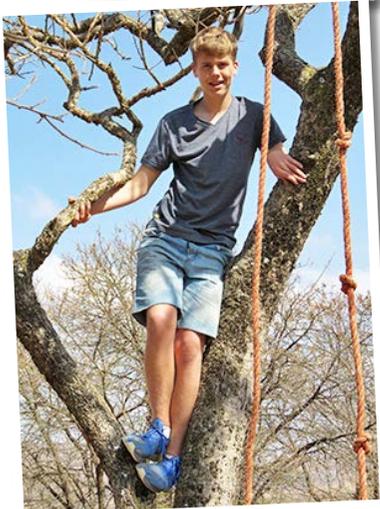
On arrival at Wagendrift the children and staff were transported on small motorised boats across the dam to their accommodation for the next three days. The water was “refreshingly” cold after the recent snowfalls in the area.

The children participated in three rounds of activities during the course of the day, ranging from kayaking (a firm favourite) to group dynamics and problem-solving tasks. Other activities included an amazing race, an orienteering exercise and further water activities. The evening activities consisted of star gazing, stalk the lantern and a short night hike. There was much fun and laughter, and a little trepidation, as each group took on a new challenge.

The food was delicious and plentiful – a must for any successful camp! Although the accommodation was in large tents, the children coped well and many “bedtime stories” could be heard.

The bus trip home was significantly quieter than the one to camp. Many tired children enjoyed a peaceful sleep before arriving home to share their camp stories with their parents.

Rozanne Cowie



GRADE 9 TRIP TO..

Sweetdale Camp

Our 2 hour bus trip down to Sweetdale began with a long wait on the morning of the 29th of August. The trip was fun and exciting and there was never a moment's silence.

Upon arrival at the camp the excitement began to rise as we waited in anticipation before moving towards the dormitories where we would be able to “bunk” with friends of our own choice. Our week away from home had finally begun.

Although we were separated into bigger groups amongst the whole grade, majority of us were still with close friends and the rest made new friendships that have continued on a day-to-day basis.

For most, the highlights of our trip were as follows: abseiling, canopy tour, climbing up a high rock, climbing wall, high ropes, jacobs ladder, water obstacles and one for the books, the disco...

During our free time we were able to spend time with our friends as we played soccer, swam and even sang around the camp fire. The staff at Sweetdale were absolutely amazing. They were incredibly supportive in all that we did and always encouraged us in all our activities and to try harder if we were battling.

Last but definitely not least, incredible friendship bonds were created. We overcame fears and learnt how to trust a lot of people. We were pushed beyond our comfort zones but nevertheless, we had an amazing four days with our peers.

Thank you to the staff – Mr Dove, Mrs Brehany, Mrs Wolmarans, Miss Carter and Mr Drew – who looked after us on the trip.

Caylyn Brehany – GR. 9





GRADE 10 TRIP TO...

Camp Soloman

The Grade 10's of 2017 embarked on an adventurous quest to Camp Solomon, located in the small town of Estcourt in Pietermaritzburg. The seven-night and eight-day stay began from the 26th of August and ended on the 2nd of September.

The whirlpool of anxiety and fear created by the idea of leaving the comfort of our homes and the petrifying thoughts of having to fend for ourselves for an entire week in the bush made most of us exceptionally terrified for the journey that was ahead of us. Many of us, however, enjoyed The Quest and learnt valuable life lessons such as responsibility, perseverance, gratitude and most importantly, friendship. From the minute we arrived, The Quest began and we were given a taste of independence when we were required to navigate ourselves to Camp Solomon

with a little help from our geography skills as we were equipped with a map and compass. Our next serving of independence and responsibility was dished out to us when all the groups eventually found themselves to camp and were required to set up their own tents and prepare our own meals. The Quest was jam-packed with hikes on hiking-trails and to the peaks of mountains, bonding with peers and developing new friendships through the team building and group activities, some self-reflection time in solitude, difficult yet humbling work as we were required to pick oranges and many more exciting activities just to name a few.

The highlight of the trip amongst the Grade 10s was the hike up the mountain, which was the highest point between the Drakensberg and the sea. The terrain was wet and slippery and gale-force winds initially caused problems but we did not allow this to stop us achieving the goal of reaching the top.

The Quest was an amazing experience and many of us would love to return to Camp Solomon to relive the experience.

Andani Mashige – Gr. 10

GRADE 12 LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

Spirit of Adventure

Matric is continually hailed as the most important year of one's schooling career. The fact that each of us would be placed under immense pressure was been drummed into our skulls from our very first day of Grade 8. The importance of a consistent work ethic and the swiftness with which this year would come to an end made us feel that the class of 2017 already had one foot out of the door.

A leadership camp-style weekend was how we spent our first weekend as Seniors of the school – a Friday afternoon session in the Thomas More College Habberton Hall and a dreaded 8am start at Spirit of Adventure the next day (Saturday). Not one of the 120 Matric students had any idea as to what to expect from this first Friday.

We were then greeted with a familiar face in the form of David Allen, the chief instructor of Greystone Camp. The rest of the afternoon was filled largely with leadership lessons from Dave, talks from our Principal, Heads of school and other significant school leaders to welcome us, encourage us and

teach us as to what to expect from our Matric year. The talks were hugely beneficial, allaying our initial matric-related fears and trepidation in a friendly, open way.

The bulk of the weekend saw us engaged, with a team of dynamic team leaders, in activity groups specifically designed to encourage mixing with people who we did not normally mix with. It did not take long to realise that we were all friends, that we all had been through the same years of High School and we were more connected than we had previously thought.

The end of the course and the time spent waiting for our parents – cold and shivering at 7pm – is, with the luxury of hindsight, arguably one of my fondest memories of Grade 12. The sense of community one gets after completing a demanding programme as a united group is truly awe-inspiring and the familiarity and comradery the exhausted Matric class experienced was truly extraordinary.

Hugo Renard – Gr. 12

GRADE 11 TRIP TO...

Greystone Camp

As our last actual Grade trip together it was a marvellous one to close on. Now, a few months on the nostalgia has begun to manifest within our memories and we now cherish the time that we were gifted and the lessons we were taught about ourselves and the world that surrounds us. The realization set in that our time at school is coming to a close and this inspired us to drink in every last drop of the experience.

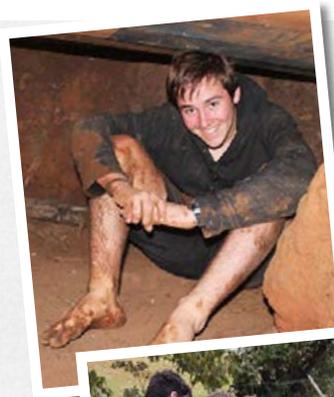
The camp consisted of a multitude of activities ranging from song composition competitions to crawling through muddy underground tunnels. We had peaceful moments of self-reflection atop a majestic mountain embedded in the timeless Kwa-Zulu countryside and eye-opening sermons that allowed us a more mature perspective of the real world.

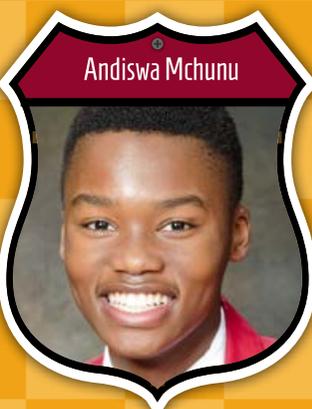
The councillors were very down to earth with their approach to interacting with us, facilitating a relaxed environment which encouraged our fellow scholars to let their true colours shine through. This allowed everyone to gain a better view into the inner workings of the individuals that our Grade is composed of.

With help from the camp co-ordinator, Dave, we gained a vast amount of insight into the art of reaching ones fullest potential and capturing the true essence of life...with the help of a few cheesy magic tricks.

Overall it was an enriching and refreshing adventure that each member of our grade really benefited from. Being our last opportunity to truly connect as a Grade we seized every moment to solidify the future of us as the Matrics of 2018. Even though it is over, the time that we spent growing and nurturing our ties has really developed our oneness as a Grade.

Alexandra de Swart & Benedict Robbins – Gr. 11

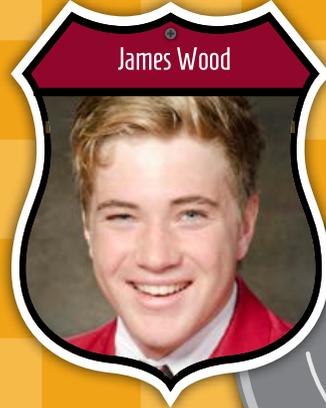




Andiswa Mchunu



Megan Morgan



James Wood



Dean White



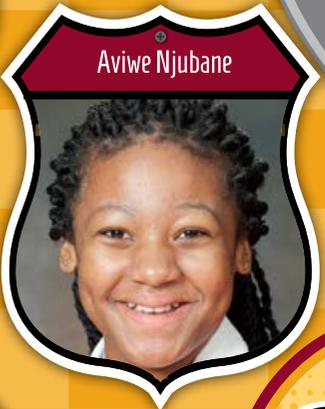
Cornelia Mokwape



Emily Lacon-Allin



Claudia Scilipoti



Aviwe Njubane



Amy-Lee Hayward



Jordyn Duminy



Nikisha Govender



Reece Abraham

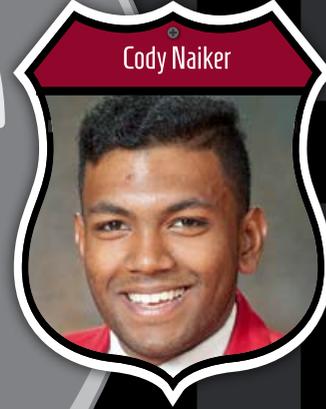


MATRIC CLASS 12A

WHEREVER YOU GO...
*Always take the
Scenic Route*



Tommy Grant



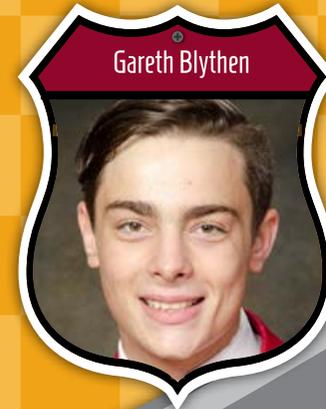
Cody Naiker



Paige Haarhoff



Lebogang Madondo



Gareth Blythen

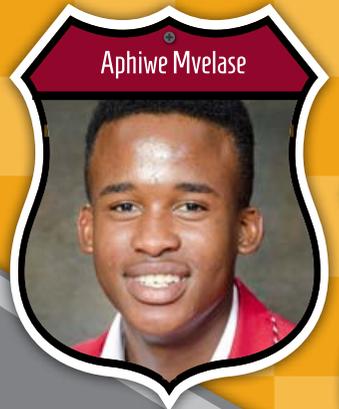
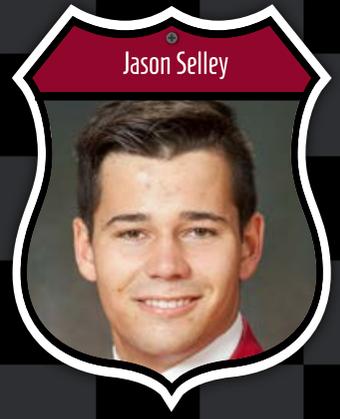
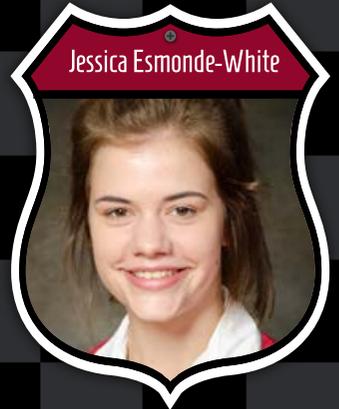
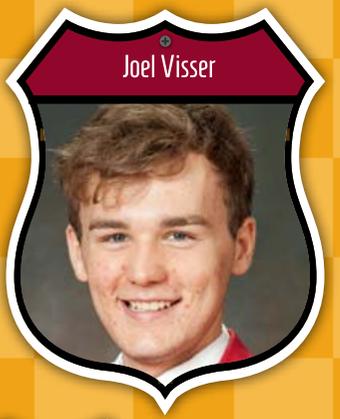


Sheldon McAllister



Sithandiwe Mdakane

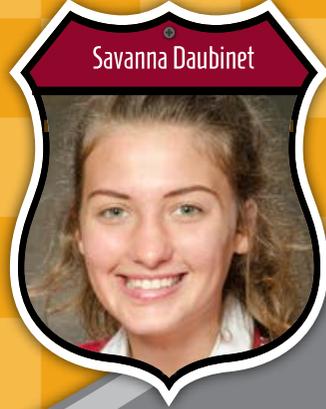
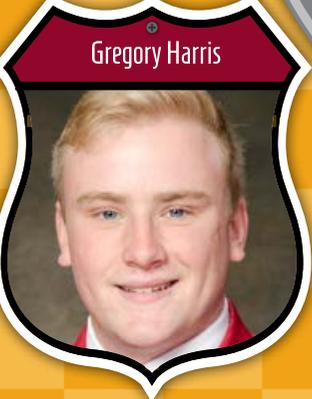
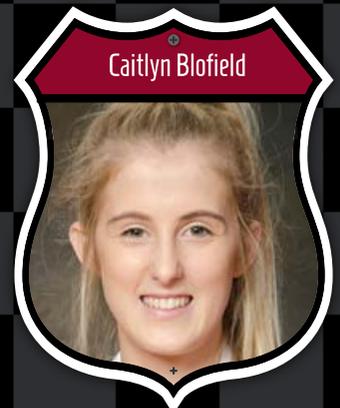
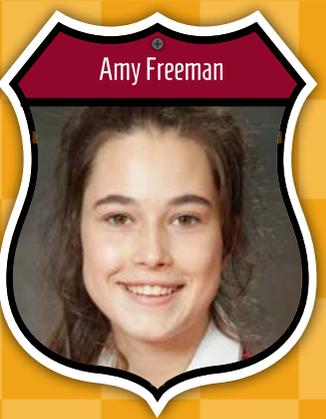
WHEREVER YOU GO...
*Always take the
Scenic Route*

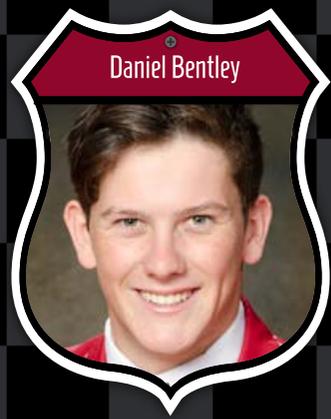




MATRIC CLASS 12M

WHEREVER YOU GO...
Always take the Scenic Route





Daniel Bentley



Ryan Loubser-Goldblatt



Courtney Doyle



Samantha Parker



Rowan Bettany



Michaela Hardstone



Ashley Kenton



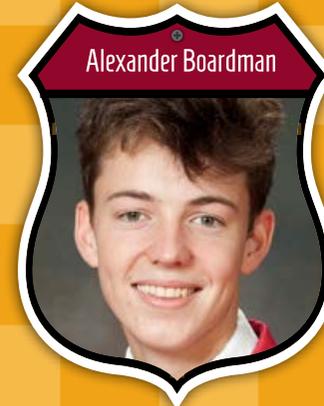
Ntsika Shezi



Daniella Turner



Matthew Bartman



Alexander Boardman



Ntando Mdladla



Gabrielle Hardy



Eden Fritz

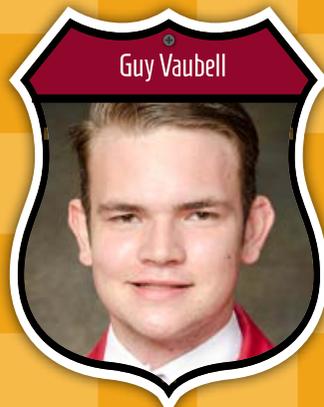
MATRIC CLASS 12R



WHEREVER YOU GO...
Always take the Scenic Route



Brooklyn Neveling



Guy Vaubell



Megan Schneider



Jenna Sykes



Robyn Phipps



Michael Barrow



Jordyn Hardie



Jemma Daniel



Reuben Smith

Tiffany Smith

Lerato Malahleha

Chloe Brown

Tayne Olivier

Amy Ryan

Ashley Harper

Jordan Pieters

Caitlin-Rose Torry

Andrew Smith

Tiffany Miller

Parusha Raidoo

Erin Robson

Raelee Seymour-Brown

Kirsten Elliot

Dominic King

Holly Young

Helenke Rossouw

Emily Barnes

Tiffany du Plessis

Hugo Renard

Ciarán Mons

Kaylee Taylor



MATRIC CLASS
12V

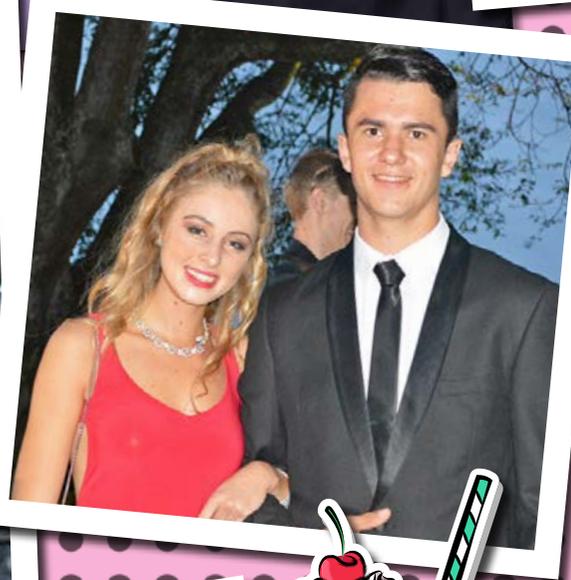
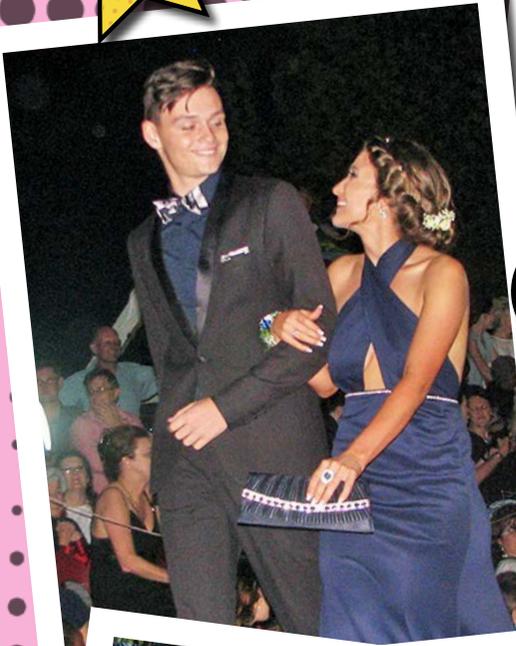
*WHEREVER YOU GO...
Always take the
Scenic Route*



MATRIC

DANCE

CLASS OF 2017



TOGETHER SINCE GRADE 00



1st Row [L-R]: H. Renard; E. Robson;
C. Brown; C. Visser; H. Banfield;
D. King; M. Morgan; M. Bartman;
G. Comarmond.

2nd Row: D. Turner; M. Hardstone;
J. Esmonde-White; H. Young;
A. Freeman; J. Pieters; A. Harper

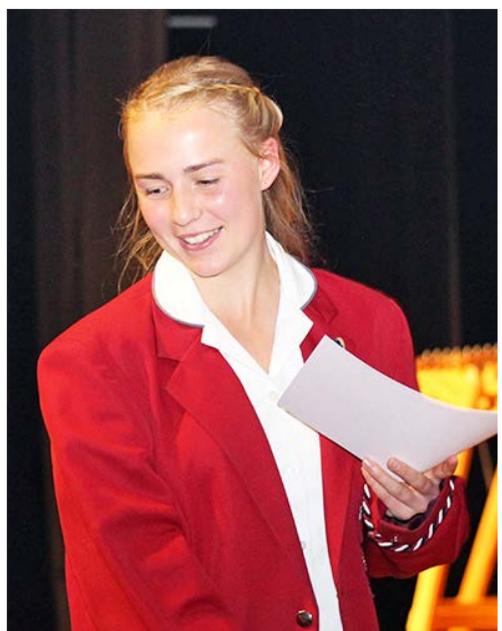
3rd Row: M. Bartlett; J. Selley;
A. Smith; C. Doyle; H. Rossouw;
K. Scott-Moncrief; N. Leisegang;
R Bettany; J. Woods

4th Row: Mr D Wiggett;
Mrs D Hornsey; Mrs B Taljard;
A. Boardman; R. Pillay; R. Smith;
Mr S Cuthbertson.



MATRIC FAREWELL





KZN PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVES



1st Row [L-R]: K. Lerwick; H. Banfield; R. Phipps; A. Harper; D. Bentley; C. Torry; J. Sykes; S. Alborough; G. Weeder; S. Tshuma.
 2nd Row: A. Mashige; R. Gibson; Z. Mchunu; L. Mashige; C. Sim; A. Heenan; K. du Toit; P. Blair; T. Stedman; F. Steenkamp; J. Clark.
 3rd Row: C. Balarin; L. Lee; A. Vicent; M. Potgieter; T. Dlamuka; H. Sida; K. Wiggett; C. Vicent; B. Theunissen; Y. Sibisi.
 4th Row: C. Layden; T. Christie; D. Rockey; A. Hanger; T. Olivier; I. Bothma; T. Jelf; N. Phipps; K. Woods.
 5th Row: J. Blofield; R. McCallum; B. Kuhnert; J. Nozaic; T. Keep; J. McArthur; C. Leveridge; K. Olivier; J. Munstermann; B. Cason.
 6th Row: B. Daniel; D. Harper; B. Davies; C. Smith; J. Meikle; D. Launspach; J. Schoeman.



INTER-HOUSE GALA





CROSS COUNTRY

1st Row [L-R]: E. Kotze; Mr C. Conradie; B. Theunissen.
2nd Row: J. Butler; K. Woods.

CROSS COUNTRY

The inter-school league races were attended by a small group of enthusiastic runners. We also had occasional appearances from runners able to take time out from their other sporting commitments.

Bridget Theunissen was an outstanding performer, consistently finishing in the top four or five female athletes overall, despite only being under 16.

Julia Butler and Kaitlin Woods were selected to represent our circuit at the next round of trials. Bridget was selected to attend the Kwazulu Natal Trials, but unfortunately was unable to attend due to competing in an International Triathlon. Well done runners.

Cameron Conradie



INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

Blake Kerdachi INTER-HOUSE SPORTS DAY



BOYS' WATER POLO



BOYS' WATER POLO –1ST

1st Row [L-R]: T. Olivier; D. Bentley; D. King; A. Smith; J. Everett; M. Bartlett; J. Morgan.
 2nd Row: T. Stedman; J. Courtney; M. Watts; W. Van Zyl; M. Maclean; J. Haynes.
 3rd Row: Mr. G. Belman.

We started off the year with a very informative boy's water polo clinic in January before school opened for the new school year. This clinic was very well attended and we saw some rough diamonds in the water. Term 1 saw our 1st team boys, led by Mr Gavin Belman, competing in our first annual Summer Water Polo festival, in which they came out victorious, making TMC very proud. Our U15 side, led by Mr Stefan Beier and Mrs Colleen Lanz, which was a force to be reckoned with in 2016, just grew stronger and stronger as the term progressed. Our U14 age group, led by Mr Chad McKenzie and Mr Vincent Oberholzer, grew in confidence as the term progressed and we saw some very encouraging results.

In term 3 all three sides came out guns blazing ready to prepare for Top 10 tournament where Thomas More College is the only Co-Ed school competing against the monastic schools. We are very proud of our improvement in this tournament and had some very pleasing and inspiring results, with our 1st team placing 9th, U15's placing 8th and our U14's placing 10th. We see a big improvement in placement and results in the Top 10 every year and we are looking forward moving up the ladder step by step.

The 1st team also prepared for the National Co-Ed Tournament which was hosted by Pearson High School in Port Elizabeth. Our boys' did us proud once again placing fifth out of 19 schools across the whole country. This is one of the biggest Co-Ed tournaments in the country and the boys never cease to amaze us at this tournament.

Our U15's entered into a night league for the first time which was definitely a huge learning opportunity for our boys which payed off with the phenomenal results these boys have produced for the remainder of the year. The U14 age group grew by leaps and

bounds and grew in confidence and produced some very pleasing results during the year.

There are always sad goodbyes at the end of each year, and in 2017 we are saying goodbye to players that have been great servants to Thomas More College Water Polo for many years. Jono Morgan, Matt Bartlett, Josh Everett, Daniel Bentley, Dom King, Tayne Olivier and Andy Smith, you guys will be sorely missed. Just having you guys next to the pool always smiling and having fun, has laid the foundation for the juniors in being someone to look up to. Good luck with your new adventures and we hope you guys come and visit!!

We are also sadly saying good bye to two coaches as well.

Mr Stefan Beier, it was an honour having you next to the pool seeing you working with our boys in the professional manner you do. What you have achieved with these boys is amazing and it is shown by the respect all the water polo players, not only your team, show you. We wish you all the best for your new adventure in Pretoria and we hope to see you next to the pool at Thomas More College again, sooner rather than later.

We also say goodbye to, as called by Old Boys, their "water polo father", Mr Belman. Sir, we all salute you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for what you have done for water polo at Thomas More College. We couldn't have asked for a better person to teach and guide us. You are leaving a legacy at Thomas More College and we will try our utter best to keep moving forward. It will feel weird being next to the pool and not seeing you around. We wish you all the best for your new chapter in your life and we are looking forward hosting you guys at TMC in the near future.

Vincent Oberholzer



BOYS' WATER POLO – U15A



BOYS' WATER POLO – U14



GIRLS' WATER POLO



GIRLS' WATER POLO –1ST

1st Row [L-R]: A. Harper; Mr R. Belman; J. Sykes; Mrs E. Wolmarans; H. Banfield.
 2nd Row: K.Woods; J. Blofield; K. Lerwick; C. Torry; C. Roberts; E. Kotze.
 3rd Row: C. Vosters; D. Harper.

The beginning of the first term saw many eager and very energetic girls arrive for practice. For the first few practices we focused on working on their fitness and ball skills. All the girls were very excited and determined to dominate against the other schools.

As the year progressed, the 3rd and 4th term showed a slight decrease in numbers but all the remaining players kept on giving it their all and working hard to improve their skills and remain competitive.

The Top 10 tournament was a proud moment for our teams. Our u/14s played with passion and determination. Their hard work paid off when they ended 4th in the tournament after losing to a Durban school. The 1st team however started their tournament by having to play one of our local competitors. Just coming back from the National Co-Ed tournament the week before the girls were ready for the challenge and they managed to end 1st in their pool, securing them a play for position 3 or 4, once again

facing our local rival. The first team played with strategy and after a very close match, they were victorious, securing them a 3rd place position.

It was a determined year for girl's water polo. The players, coaches and managers were committed and passionate. At the end of the season we had to say goodbye to not only our matriculants but also two of our coaches who have been with Thomas More for quite some time. We wish our matriculants: Jenna Sykes, Ashley Harper, Hannah Banfield and Caitlin-Rose Torry all the best for the next phase of their lives. We know that they will proudly fly the Thomas More flag wherever they go. To our two coaches Ross Belman and Andrea Ho we wish to thank you for your commitment to Thomas More College water polo. Your presence next to the pool will be missed but we know your next adventure will be filled with success.

Elisma Wolmarans



GIRLS' WATER POLO – 2ND



GIRLS' WATER POLO – U14





BOYS' HOCKEY – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: J. Wood; Mr S. Drew; B. Davies; D. King; Mrs C. Steenkamp; M. Bartlett.
 2nd Row: S. Alborough; G. Blythen; L. Zondi; B. Berry.
 3rd Row: L. Mashige; A. Mhlanzi; M. Kriegisch; J. Miekle; K. Olivier; K. Sibisi.

BOYS' HOCKEY

The 1st boys' outdoor hockey team began their season with a pre-season tournament at Crawford La Lucia where the boys' fared well against other local opposition. This set the tone for what was to be a hugely positive and enjoyable 2017 season for all concerned.

One particularly strong feature of this group of players was their tenacious approach to their hockey and their ability to bond as a team both on and off the field. In some narrow encounters, it was their 'we go forward' attitude that kept them going. The boys also attended a tournament at St Dunstan's College in Johannesburg where they played against some strong opposition and the boys knew that they were going to have to work hard. In a strong and highly competitive set of outdoor fixtures, the boys recorded some excellent wins vs Crawford La Lucia (2-0), Kloof (4-0) and Hillcrest (5-0). The highlight of the season would have to be the B Section of the KZN Schools' hockey tournament hosted at Crawford North Coast where the boys' finished in 1st place.

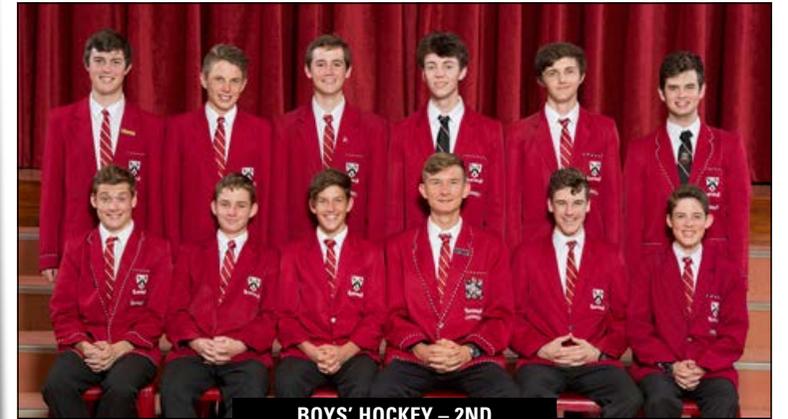
We would like take this opportunity to thank Dominic King who led the team by example throughout the season. We would also like to congratulate Brandon Davies and Keagan Olivier who represented the KZN U18C team, Jordan Miekle and Ligudu Mashige who represented the KZN u16B team and to Konke Sibisi who represented the KZN U16C team. I commend the boys' for the positive and well-disciplined manner in which they approached their hockey and the camaraderie they displayed both on and off the field.

The 2nd team boys also had a great season with some competitive matches. The team consisted of a number of different combinations of boys so it was difficult to build momentum but nevertheless they had an extremely successful season.

The u16 Boys also took part in the B Section of the KZN Schools' hockey tournament. The u16 tournament was hosted by Thomas More and the boys finished second which was a phenomenal result. This tenacious attitude continued throughout the season for both the u16A and the u16B teams and overall the boys had a highly enjoyable 2017 season.

The u14 boys are a talented group with many strong and skilled players. Their first season of hockey at High School was a memorable one and we can look forward to some excellent hockey from these young men in the years to come.

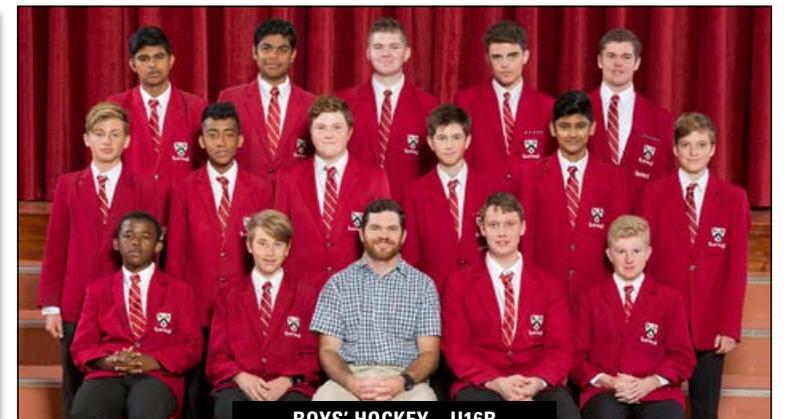
Coral Steenkamp



BOYS' HOCKEY – 2ND



BOYS' HOCKEY – U16A



BOYS' HOCKEY – U16B



BOYS' HOCKEY – U14A



BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: S. Alborough; S. Drew; J. Wood; B. Davies; C. Steenkamp; K. Olivier.
 2nd Row: L. Mashige; J. Zondi; J. Meikle; M. Coleman; A. Mhlanzi; K. Sibisi.

BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY

The indoor season picked up in the 3rd term which saw all our boys' team take part in the KZN Coastals A – league. They had to face schools such as Westville Boys High School, Clifton, Northwood, Glenwood and Kearsney. It promised to be a tough season, especially with all of the boys having to juggle playing multiple sports.

Although our U14A boys did not enjoy the best return of results throughout the season, they by no means have any reason not to hold their heads high. They showed true grit, and fought all the way to the final whistle – something which served them well in their victory against Northwood B and their draw against Westville B.

Ntando Nyandeni and Tristan Chessa must be commended for the way in which they led the team and Hayden Brimelow for his consistently outstanding performances on the court.

Our U16A team had a difficult season. With some of our U16A players playing for the 1st Team we had an extremely young team who showed heart throughout the season. This group grew tremendously during the season and we look forward to watching them play in 2018.

The 1st team had a solid season. The highlights of their season must have been beating Clifton College and more importantly Glenwood High School. Glenwood was the overall winner of the league. The team missed out on a semi-final spot by 1 point. We are sure that they will aim to make a semi-final in 2018. We will miss our Matric, James Wood. James played some really creative hockey and scored some exceptional goals this year. We would also like to congratulate Brandon Davies, Shaun Alborough and Keagan Olivier on making the KZN U19 squad. This team certainly will be a team to watch in 2018.

Wanri Venter



BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U16A



BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U14A



GIRLS' HOCKEY – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: C. Hannah; Mrs C. Steenkamp; R. Phipps; Ms W. Venter; C. Vicent.
 2nd Row: K. du Toit; C. Balarin; B. Schonewolf; K. Lerwick; H. Robinson; C. Sim.
 3rd Row: T. Olivier; A. Hanger; K. Scott-Moncrieff; J. Meyer; H. Rossouw,
 ABSENT: A. Reeves.

GIRLS' HOCKEY

As a school, Thomas More College had the most successful year of Outdoor Hockey in the history of the school, ending third in the Coastal League behind St Mary's and Durban Girls' College, both big girls' schools. This is a commendable result and the 1st and u14A teams were largely instrumental in getting the school to this position. The u14A team only lost to St Mary's and we are very excited about the incredible talent which we have coming through the high school.

We are very lucky to have a great deal of depth in hockey players and this allowed for us to field a 2nd team, U16B, U16C and u14B team. The 'Sassy Seconds' enjoyed a fun and constructive season, despite having only one session a week on the Astro. The Boardman grass practices were just as much fun. The girls' attendance at practices was excellent and they all showed, as individuals and as a team, a consistent improvement in their skills. The results were excellent: these Sassies lost only one game all season, and that was a respectable 0-2 loss to a strong St Mary's team. In many cases, the first half was a settling-in time and then in the second half the girls played hockey any coach would be proud of – structured, aggressive possession hockey. We commend these girls for their commitment, fighting spirit, and their desire to make every moment fun.

The U16A Team had a real "heartbeat" season with some amazing highs but at times, some terrible lows. This, however, led them to keep persevering with huge commitment and enthusiasm. This certainly is a talented group of players and we know that this year's experience will help them in having a bumper season next year.

The U16 B girls' hockey team started the season with a group of diverse players that differed a great deal in terms of their skill and experience. It was encouraging to see the players develop and improve in leaps and bounds as the season progressed. The strong players had a positive influence on the weaker players and this resulted in a cohesive team with a great team spirit. The results show that the girls were tenacious and determined even when playing against very strong opposition and it is a season the players can be proud of.

As mentioned above, the u14s had an incredible season with just one loss. They are an incredibly talented group of hockey players with great skill and technical ability. We are super proud of the season they had. The u14B girls also had a wonderful season of hockey and they enjoyed every minute of being coached by Mr Ireland. This age group has great depth and this can only mean positive things for hockey's future at Thomas More.

As a result of our excellent season, we had more KZN players this year than ever before. We would like to congratulate the following players: Tatum Olivier, Carmen Vicent, Courtney Sim, Alex Hanger, Lola Lee, Andani Mashige, Alexa Vicent, Gemma Weeder, Nicole Phipps, Kayleigh Du Toit, Cassy Balarin, Stephanie Tshuma, Ile Bothma and Daniella Rockey.

Coral Steenkamp



GIRLS' HOCKEY – 2ND



GIRLS' HOCKEY – U16A



GIRLS' HOCKEY – U16B



GIRLS' HOCKEY – U16C



GIRLS' HOCKEY – U14A



GIRLS' HOCKEY – U14B

GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY

The 1st Indoor Hockey team had an incredible season and were unbeaten. Miss Venter regards this season as the "highlight of her coaching career". The team had an amazing team spirit at all training sessions and all the girls were committed and gave their all on some really hot days. The girls trained with the U16A team and soon a bond grew between the two sides. The girls were consistent throughout the season and they must be commended on the manner in which they took to heart everything they were taught, and applied it during game situations. Tatum Olivier was the top goal scorer with 16 goals followed by Carmen Vicent with 7 goals. We will certainly miss our Matrics who have given their all to Thomas More Hockey. Robyn Phipps and Alexandra Reeves led the team with passion and heart and were great role models for the younger players. Thank you to Robyn, Alexandra, Kendal and Helenke for your dedication and commitment to Thomas More College sport. You have been great ambassadors and we wish you all the best for the future. We are lucky that you have helped us to get back into the A-league.

It was a great season with the 2nd team girls, which saw the team win 3 games and lose 3 games against tough opposition. The girls improved throughout the season, not only individually but also as a group. It really was great to see how the girls started to understand different structures and implement those structures during games. All of the girls had a great spirit and there was always good 'gees' at practices and matches. Recognition must go to the Most Improved Player, Cassidy Blackbeard and the Most Valuable Player Chantelle Hannah.

The girls' u16A and U16B indoor hockey teams had a very positive and exciting 2017 season. The season commenced with the annual Kloof High School indoor tournament for the u16A team in which the girls fared well against highly competitive local opposition. This set the tone for what was to be a memorable season for both A and B teams. The 'go forward' strategy combined with 'attacking' brand of hockey the girls adopted was the focus of their season. The girls must be commended on their sportsmanship on and off the field as well as their incredible team spirit which resonated through some tough encounters. The u16B girls had an impressive season scoring 16 goals for with only 3 goals against them. The secret to their personal

success lay in their enthusiasm and their passion for the game. Their supportive team spirit was also instrumental in their success. They displayed steely determination and unwavering perseverance when faced with tough opposition.

The u14 season started with the annual St. Mary's pre-season tournament on Saturday 14th January 2017. Twelve girls had the opportunity to play on the day. It was good to get the team together and many of the players showed some early potential. The team ended up losing out on a semi-final by only a single goal difference. Good hockey was played and the team benefited from the experience. With the caliber of players to choose from, this allowed for great strength in both the u14A and u14B teams. It was expected that both teams would face some fairly tough competition. They were very unfortunate in a couple of the games with some soft goals against them but some of the results were encouragingly close. The great support by the parents was definitely a factor in helping the team in trying to achieve their best. The U14B girls were always keen to play their matches, and gave of their best at all times. They faced some really tough opposition, playing certain schools' A teams, but gave each match all that they had, remaining a force to be reckoned with.

They began the season as an inexperienced group but grew in confidence and ability as the season progressed. It was really encouraging to watch their skills improve and develop with each game played. The girls can be proud of the effort, behavior and spirit that they showed at all times. We look forward to watching their progress as hockey players in the years that lie ahead.

I would like to thank Ms Venter, Mr Arnell, Mr Drew, Mrs van Zyl and Mr Lees for the amazing coaching the girls received and Mrs Albers and Mrs Cowie for looking after the girls in their managerial roles.

Coral Steenkamp



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: C. Balarin; Ms W. Venter; R. Phipps (Captain); Mrs C. Steenkamp; H. Robinson.
2nd Row: K. du Toit; K. Lerwick; H. Rossouw; K. Scott-Moncrieff; T. Olivier; C. Vicent.
ABSENT: A. Reeves.



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – 2ND



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U16A



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U16B



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U16C



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U14A



GIRLS' INDOOR HOCKEY – U14B



GIRLS' & BOYS' SOCCER



BOYS' SOCCER – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: B. Dutton; Mr C Humphrey; B. Berry; J. Selley; Mrs C. Selley; J. Courtney.
 2nd Row: L. Zondi; R. Lütz; M. Kriegisch; A. Mchunu; K. Olivier.
 3rd Row: B. Davies; V. Murugan; S. Khanyile; M. Watts; J. Meikle; Z. Khanyile.



GIRLS' SOCCER – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: S. Daubinet; Mr S. Shabalala; T. Olivier; K. Scott-Moncrieff; Mrs C. Steenkamp; A. Njubane
 2nd Row: K. Du Toit; C. Hannah; J. Hardie; C. Sim; G. Greef.
 3rd Row: C. Balarin; K. Lerwick; J. Meyer; H. Stiebel; S. Esterhuyse; C. Vicent.

It must be said that soccer has become the most popular sport in the high school at Thomas More College. 8 boys' and 6 girls' teams participated in the season. Some amazing results were produced through-out the season but what stood out was the spirit in which our players played the game and their love for the game.

The boys played 9 fixtures against many of the top boys' soccer schools in KZN. Some of the highlights of the season were the following:

Our U14A team beat Clifton 4 – 2, Hillcrest 2 – 0, Crawford North Coast 5 – 3 and St. Henry's 1 – 0. The highlight for this team was winning the DHS 5-a-side Soccer Tournament.

The U15As, U15Bs and U14Bs had a tough season playing against many schools with a greater pool of players than us but all of these teams played with heart and guts and never gave up. We certainly are proud of all of these boys.

The U16As had a great season winning 6 out of their 9 matches. On the boys side this certainly was our team of the season. Some of their highlights were beating Clifton 2 – 1, Pinetown BHS 2 – 0, Hillcrest 4 – 1, Crawford NC 4 – 2 and St. Henry's 3 – 0. The U16B's had some great games during the season and the highlight of their season was beating Hillcrest 2 – 1.

The second team was a special team who played for the love of the game. The enjoyment was evident on all of their faces when they got out on the field. The highlight of their season was beating Pinetown BHS 3 – 2.

The 1st team soccer boys again had a really solid season. These boys displayed some exceptional skill during the season and it was always a pleasure to watch. Their stand-out results were beating Crawford NC 3 – 0 and New Forest 2 – 1.

On the girls side all the B-sides had a great season. These girls had a lot of fun playing with their friends and learning lots about the game. Our U14As only lost two games the entire season. We certainly have a bright soccer future ahead of us with this group.

Special mention must be made of the U16A and 1st Soccer girls as both these teams had an unbeaten season. It was an amazing experience watching these girls on the pitch. The highlights of the U16As were beating Kloof 1 – 0, Durban GHS 3 – 0, Hillcrest 4 – 2, Westville GHS 2 – 0 and St. Mary's 4 – 1. The 1st team highlights were beating St. Henry's 2 – 0, Kloof 4 – 2, DGHS 2 – 0, Hillcrest 2 – 1 and WGHS 2 – 0.

We certainly are proud of all of our soccer teams and would like to congratulate the following individuals on making their respective District and KZN teams:

BOYS' ACHIEVERS

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| U14A HIGHWAY TEAM | Mathew Davey |
| U14B KZN TEAM | Kellen Coombs |
| U14A KZN TEAM | Luthando Ndlovu |
| U16A HIGHWAY SOCCER TEAM | Sphelele Sikhosana |
| U19A HIGHWAY TEAM | Sibaphiwe Khanyile |
| DHS 5-A-SIDE U14 – Player of the Tournament: | Hayden Brimelow |

GIRLS' ACHIEVERS

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| U14A HIGHWAY TEAM | Ilé Bothma |
| | Danielle Rockey |
| | Isabella Velleman |
| U14A KZN TEAM | Stephanie Tshuma |
| U15A HIGHWAY TEAM | Gabrielle Greeff |
| KZN U15A TEAM | Lola Lee |
| KZN U16A TEAM | Carmen Vicent |
| | Courtney Sim |
| U19A HIGHWAY TEAM | Kimberly Lerwick |
| | Savanna Daubinet |
| KZN U19A TEAM | Tatum Olivier |
| DHS 5-A-SIDE U19 – Player of the Tournament: | Carmen Vicent |

The Matrics have formed an integral part of these teams and will be missed. We wish them all the best for their future. We hope they will still play the game once they leave school and come back to play against our 1st teams during Association Day. We would lastly like to thank our coaches, staff, players and parents for their support of soccer at TMC. Each of you play an important role in strengthening soccer at TMC.

Wanri Venter





BOYS' SOCCER – 2ND



BOYS' SOCCER – U16A



GIRLS' SOCCER – 2ND



GIRLS' SOCCER – U16A



BOYS' SOCCER – U16B



GIRLS' SOCCER – U16B



BOYS' SOCCER – U15A



BOYS' SOCCER – U14A



BOYS' SOCCER – U15B



GIRLS' SOCCER – U14A



BOYS' SOCCER – U14B



GIRLS' SOCCER – U14B



RUGBY – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: Mr C. Humphries; T. Olivier; Mr V. Oberholzer; J. Larkan; A. Smith; Mr S. Tshabalala; M. Bartman.
 2nd Row: T. Main; C. MacDougall; J. Haynes; C. Wilesmith; J. Selley; R. Lütz; G. Harris; C. Thompson.
 3rd Row: S. Khanyile; B. Mostert; S. Khanyile; V. Murugan; C. Carson; G. Schultz.
 4th Row: J. Segura-Sanchez; B. Calder; T. Joynson; C. Miles; W. Van Zyl; J. Courtney.

RUGBY

The season started with some very eager coaches and players, ready to take on the challenges rugby 2017 was going to throw at us.

The u14 and u15 age group had a very successful season playing some very exciting and attractive rugby, with Mr Lanz Snr and Mr Lanz Jnr assisted by TK Ngcobo and Ben Van Zyl leading their charges. These young charges certainly made us proud to call them our own by showing great sportsmanship and a "Never say die" attitude. The result was very encouraging and we are looking forward to letting some of these players loose in the open age group in 2018.

The Open team had a difficult year concerning numbers, and could unfortunately only field a 7's 2nd side and a full 1st team consisting of 22 players. These 22 players started the season off on a high note while touring to JHB and playing in the St Dunston's festival where they played 3 matches and came out convincing winners in all 3 matches. The highlight of the season must have been our annual Kings Park fixture where we played Treverton as a curtain raiser to the Sharks vs Rebels match in a Super rugby fixture. This was a nail biter but we came out tops when the end whistle blew beating Treverton 15 – 12. From there on we had a very successful season until the dreaded injuries starting plaguing us for our last three matches. With the numbers so low we started battling to get teams together, but the players that came in to play showed us the commitment that our boys have.

At the end of a season there are always sad goodbyes to our matric boys who have played a huge role in the success of this season. Jordan Larkan, Andrew Smith, Tayne Olivier and Greg Harris, thanks for your service to rugby at TMC and being such inspirational leaders to our up and coming players, you guys will be missed.

A final word of thanks needs to go to our coaches, Skye Tshabalala, Andy Ngcobo and Craig Humphries for their time and effort put into moulding these young boys into the players they have become.

We look forward with excitement to the 2018 season.

Vincent Oberholzer



RUGBY – U15A



RUGBY – U14A





CRICKET – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: G. Blythen; V. Murugan; Mr J. Lanz; B. Davies; K. Olivier.
 2nd Row: M. Chohan; M. Heads; J. Meikle; W. Price; N. Naidoo; M. Kriegisch; R. Lutz.

CRICKET

On the whole, 2017 was a very successful season for TMC cricket with the 1st and U15A having good seasons and the U14A going unbeaten against local opposition. The year started with a 2nd team as well as an U14 and an under 15 B team but these amalgamated in the 4th term.

We had 2 cricket tours/festivals during the year; the 1st team went to the Kookaburra Festival where they played against some of the top schools U16A's and acquitted themselves very well and the u14A team went back to the Northwood tournament also playing against some of the top U14A teams in the country.

A big thank you must go to the coaches: Mr Justin Lanz, Mr Aziel Magagula, Mr Skye Thabalala, Mr Craig Humphries, and Mr Luke Smith as well as Mr Ron Dove, the U15's team manager. These gentlemen put in hours of tireless work to ensure that they got the very best of the boys, and the results speak for themselves. Also to Miss Wanri Venter for arranging the fixtures and meals and all the other organisation she does for cricket particularly when the touring sides com to play us.

Good results during the year ensure that the future of TMC cricket looks bright as these cricketers move through the school. We will continue to work at our cricket and play and coach with passion.

Philip Lanz



CRICKET – U15A



CRICKET – U15B



CRICKET – U14A



CRICKET – U14B



CRICKET – 2ND



NETBALL – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: M. Canning; Mrs L. McKenzie; A. Ryan; A. Harper; Mrs R. Smith; L. Sibisi.
 2nd Row: C. Sumadraj; T. Barkhuizen; H. Descoins; C. Vosters; N. Van Heerden; L. Malahleha; A. Hanger.

NETBALL

The netball teams started their season off with lots of energy and excitement. At every practice the girl's skills improved and from the laughter it was evident that they were having fun. The players worked hard and gave it their all at matches. It was great to have such enthusiastic players and we look forward to the future.

There was a good turnout for 1st team trials and the Easter tour at St Dunston's College in Benoni followed with 9 aspiring young ladies attending. Of the 7 games played, they won 4, drew 1 and lost 2. Amy Ryan was awarded the SPAR Sportsmanship award on this tour. Amy Ryan captained the team with passion and enthusiasm, with Ashley Harper as the vice-captain. Throughout our 16 games we experienced some health challenges with four of our players, but we commend them for attending every practice / game and never giving up.

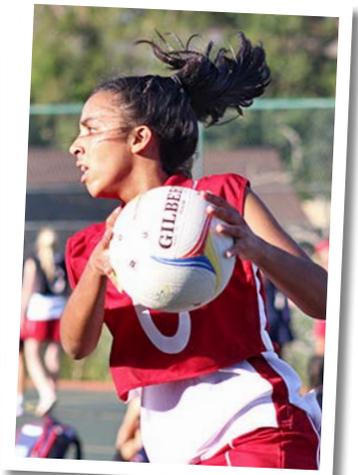
The 2nd netball team consisted of 13 players. It was great to have so many enthusiastic and dedicated girls. The team competed in an action packed league which consisted of many matches. The players grew in strength and confidence after each match and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The U16 netball girls started their season off slowly, but were given the opportunity to play in the Crawford Netball Tournament, which helped the girls to bond and develop their skills.

The U15 girls had a strong year filled with lots of laughter and spirit. They were a talented group of young ladies who showed commitment and passion for the sport. Even during difficult matches the players remained positive and showed great skill on the court.

The U14 sides consisted of enthusiastic and dedicated young girls who were not afraid of new challenges and always gave of their best both on and off the court. They played a number of games against some tough opponents but the girls were confident and persistent and played their hearts out in every match. The versatility of each player in the team always prepared us for any surprises. They never gave up and were always willing to learn new things, as well as, never failing to show true Thomas More sportsmanship.

Elisma Wolmarans



NETBALL – 2ND



NETBALL – U16A



NETBALL – U15A



NETBALL – U15B



NETBALL – U14A



NETBALL – U14B



GIRLS' SOFTBALL – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: K. du Toit; Mrs. O. van Zyl; C. Redelinghuys; Mrs. B. Edwards; L. Hadebe.
2nd Row: R. Nel; A. Vicent; C. Randelhoff; G. Mayo.
3rd Row: C. Brehany; A. Wissing; J. Nozaic; C. Heyns; A. Viljoen.



GIRLS' SOFTBALL

The 1st team softball season of 2017 promised to be challenging due to the loss of many experienced players in 2016.

The team therefore consisted of a hybrid of experienced and inexperienced players. The newcomers had a lot to learn in all aspects of the game but it was wonderful to see the team spirit and support the girls had for each other during practices and matches. The players were all focused on teaching each other and learning from each other's mistakes. The bonds formed in the face of adversity were impressive and stood the girls in good stead as the season unfolded.

Seven matches were played and only three lost in the A-league. This was an excellent result for the team.

Thank you to Caitlin Redelinghuys for her service to softball at Thomas More College. We will miss you.

Congratulations to Kayleigh du Toit, Alexa Vicent and Jessica Nozaic who made the U18A, U15A and U15B KZN teams respectively.

The U16A team had a great season. The team consisted of players who had never played softball before. The girls embraced the sport with enthusiasm and the season ended impressively as they only lost one match.

Tyla Christie, Ashleigh Heenan, Stephanie Tshuma and Bronwyn Cason were selected for the U15B KZN team. Well done, girls!

Softball as a sport has made good progress and we look forward to another good season in 2018.

Ora van Zyl & Berné Edwards



GIRLS' SOFTBALL – U16A



GIRLS' SOFTBALL – U16



BOYS' TENNIS – OPEN

1st Row [L-R]: B Davies; J Rautenbach; Mrs M. van Wyk; J Vergeer; A Ridgard.

BOYS' & GIRLS' TENNIS

It has been great to see so many boys and girls getting out on the court to play tennis. Both courts were full on social tennis days and the school entered four teams this year.

The 1st and U16 Girls' Team competed in league doubles fixtures in the first term. The U16 Girls played four matches and won two. Bronwyn Cason and Jessica Swanson can be complimented for their enthusiasm and regular commitment to their team. Thank you to Dinah Frey for joining the team and playing in the final league match. The girls 1st team played five matches and won two. Unfortunately, due to rain, two matches were cancelled.

The 1st and 2nd boys' team competed in league doubles in the second term. The boys' 1st team had a short but enjoyable season. The boys were gracious losers and ecstatic winners.

The boys' 2nd team gave their best and professionalism and sportsmanship was displayed in every game. The team won all their matches except for one.

Congratulations to all tennis players on a great season. Much fun was had on and off the court. Thank you to our tennis parents who supported the teams at home and away fixtures. It was also great to see some grandparents visiting and supporting too.



GIRLS' TENNIS – OPEN

1st Row [L-R]: C. Redelinghuys; Mrs M. van Wyk; H. Rossouw.
2nd Row: B. Curtis; J. Williamson.

Berné Edwards



BOYS' TENNIS – 2ND

A special mention to the following players for their achievements this year:

BOYS' ACHIEVERS

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1ST TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR: | Jacques Vergeer |
| 2ND TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR | Liam Krautz |

GIRLS' ACHIEVERS

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| GIRLS' ETHEKWINI TEAM | Helenke Rossouw |
| 1ST TEAM PLAYER OF THE YEAR: | Helenke Rossouw |
| U16A PLAYER OF THE YEAR | Bronwyn Cason |



GIRLS' TENNIS – U16



GOLF – 1ST

1st Row [L-R]: B. Maree; Mr P. Lanz; J. Larkan; B. Davies; Mr J. Lanz; M. Heads.
2nd Row: H. Brimelow; B. Dedekind.
3rd Row: M. Sim; B. Ballack; R. Fallet; N. Phungula.

GOLF

2017 saw the team move to the C league which resulted in a very successful year. We had a number of new players, particularly in Gr. 8 which bodes well for the future. The players enjoyed their golf (as did Mr. Lanz Senior and Junior) and did well in their respective games in the betterball and Individual formats.

Mention must be made of Jordan Larkan who has played in all his years in the College and showed tremendous leadership encouraging the new players.

Thanks to Mr Justin Lanz for his help with the team and for driving the Kombi.

Philip Lanz



EQUESTRIAN TEAM

1st Row [L-R]: T. Gourley; Mrs D. Kerdachi; S. Daubinet; Miss B. Edwards; J. Clark.
 2nd Row: A. Balidis; T. Jelf; R. Kerdachi. P. Harhoff; T. Olivier; C. Brown.
 ABSENT: E. Canning.

EQUESTRIAN

The 45th KZN Inter High School challenge took place on the 19th to the 31st May 2017. The following were the results for Thomas More:

| TEAM | PLACE |
|-----------------------|-------|
| DRESSAGE TEAM | 6th |
| EQUITATION TEAM | 2nd |
| PARADE TEAM | 4th |
| SHOW JUMPING - B TEAM | 12th |
| SHOW JUMPING - A TEAM | 1st |

Thomas More Show Jumping A team won out of 17 teams, which was an outstanding achievement and Reine Marshall was the overall winner in the individual open equitation.

Special mention also needs to be made of the following Thomas More College SANESA Riders who were selected to represent KZN at the annual provincial competition – T. Jelf, A. Balidis and J. Clark – Well Done! T. Olivier was also the KZN Open Equitation Champion.

Debbie Kerdachi



MOUNTAIN BIKING TEAM

1st Row [L-R]: C. Brehany; J. Anthony; C. Leveridge; Mr E. Jeffrey; T. Keep; H. Stiebel; S. Daniel.
 2nd Row: C. du Plessis; K. Robertson; M. Jaggard; T. Stedman; K. Naik; C. Smith.
 3rd Row: B. Theunissen; L. Leppan; M. Rall; M. Potgieter; D. Gregson.
 4th Row: L. Hutcheson; Q. Knöcklein; C. Jolly; D. Erasmus; R. McCallum; C. Buchanan.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Mountain biking at Thomas More College was introduced as an official school sport at the beginning of 2017. Our team has a number of very talented cyclists who have already achieved many great feats in previous years.

Weekly practices are held every Friday where we have seen an increase in interest amongst the pupils as they learn new skills on their bikes and form new friendships with the other cyclists. As the season continued the students became more confident in their riding ability. Most of the team participated in at least one of the four races making up the Spur Schools Mountain Biking Series.

The Thomas More team achieved fantastic results and thoroughly enjoyed being able to compete against the other schools at these races. Thomas More achieved top honours and won the overall series, sneaking ahead of Maritzburg College and qualifying to compete at the Spur Series MTB National Final at Bekker Hoërskool in Magaliesburg, Gauteng on the 7th and 8th of October. Fantastic results were achieved in the National Final, the Inter-Schools race and the Inter-Provincial race.

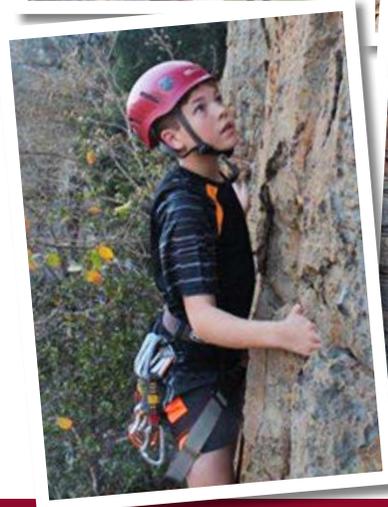
This team is destined for a bright future and hopefully we will see some more young talent coming through the High School in the years to come.

Bridget Theunissen – GR. 10 & Tiffany Keep – GR. 11





ROCK CLIMBING



1st Row [L-R]: J. Bentley; J. Munstermann; D. Bentley; G. Camp; R. Camp; L. Crous; S. Daniel.
 2nd Row: F. Stuart; Z. Mchunu; S. Sikhosana; F. Steenkamp; A. Balidis; C. Smith.
 3rd Row: B. Henwood; Q. Knocklein; A. Freeman; A. Boardman; R. Loubser- Goldblatt; K. Schwimmbacher; J. Pooley.
 4th Row: C. Jolly; J. Robb; B. Robbins; A. Codner; R. Hendry; B. Kuhnert.

ROCK CLIMBING

Thomas More College is leading climbing in the Province, and is the most accomplished school in the country, engaging enthusiastically in indoor and outdoor climbing activities. Our climbers have produced fine results in the various competition leagues. In the Lead League the stand outs in their various categories were Josh Munstermann (1st); Keshav Gounden (2nd); Faran Steenkamp (3rd) and Brendan Kuhnert (3rd). The introduction of a B League enabled up and coming climbers like Joel Robb (1st) and Ben Robbins (2nd) to earn credit.

Fine results were also produced in the Bouldering League, with the following climbers gaining podium positions in their age groups: Faran Steenkamp (2nd), Josh Munstermann (1st), Brendan Kuhnert (3rd), Ben Robbins (2nd), Amy Freeman (2nd) Daniel Bentley (2nd) and Rowan Hendry (3rd).

Faran, Keshav and Brendan all represented KZN in the SA Nationals held in Cape Town and Johannesburg.

It was sad to lose stalwarts like Amy Freeman, Daniel Bentley and "Lobster" Goldblatt after many years of dedication to the cause, but this has also allowed new climbers like Joel Robb, Calhan Rhind, Rory Camp, Simon Daniel, Chris Jolly, Caleb Smith and Kurt Schwimmbacher to develop their strength and technique. Keshav Gounden was chosen as Climber of the Year.

The annual July excursion to White Umfolozi was attended by many climbers and some fathers, all of whom eagerly climbed during the day and when the sun set, they donned their headlamps and went night climbing! Various visits to local crags took place, and in this form of climbing Josh Munstermann made his mark on the climbing community and is climbing some of the hardest routes in the province.

The success of our climbers has been due to the excellent training from Michael van der Ham, a Thomas More Old Boy, and the dedication of their parents.

Gerald Camp



DANCE SPORT TEAM

1st Row [L-R]: H.Sida; Mrs. H. Breedt; K. Wiggert; Miss J. Wiggert; T. Dlamuka.
 2nd Row: C.Smith; L. Rénard; K. du Toit; A. White; P. Blair; R. Gibson.
 3rd Row: D. Chetty; N. Shange; L. Leppan; L. Sachs.
 4th Row: M. Rall; A. Ahlschlager; J. McArthur; T. Logan; T. Ballack; S. Daniel.

DANCE SPORT

Last year Thomas More College introduced Street Dancing into the sporting calendar. The Dance Sport School League (DSSL) is affiliated with Dance Sport SA and SASCOC. This means that DSSL students now have the opportunity to obtain school colours, provincial colours and be part of an official "PROTEA" dance team who would compete at the Olympics and other international events. We started off with enthusiastic pupils, dancing and enjoying themselves at early morning practices.



Every Friday afternoon during the first term, a TMC DSSL team competed in league fixtures and , as a team, we learnt a lot about the sport and did very well. TMC had first, second and third place winners in every fixture across age groups U14 to U18.

Seven girls were chosen to go to the semi-finals and finals which determined the KZN side. Four girls from TMC were chosen to represent KZN in the U16 age group at the National DSSL competition during the July holidays.

Congratulations go to Phoebe Blair, Thando Dlamuka, Hannah Sida and Kailin Wiggert who made the KZN side and were chosen for the National side at the end of the competition. We are extremely proud of these girls and all the other students who practised very hard. The TMC DSSL dance squad is coached by TMC past pupil, Jaime Wiggert, who not only motivates the pupils but really has their best interest at heart. Jaime also coached the U14 KZN girls team.

Heidi Breedt