

TMC

Thomas More College

COUNTRY FAIR

27 July 2019 | 8am - 3pm

15 Sykes Road Kloof 3610 Tel. 031 764 8640 for more info contact rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za



THOMAS MORE COLLEGE | MORE TALK | EDITION 18 | 07 JUNE 2019

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

An Alphabet Story

Herein a [true] tale of two teachers; a generation apart, a girl, the girl's sister and their observant mother. To add creativity to this simple story, random alphabet letters have been selected for the above-mentioned people - as if it were a timeline of sorts. The teachers could be A and H, the mother L, the older sister, R and the girl, T.

One fine day, not so long ago, teacher H praised T in a specific manner. Unbeknown to H, mother L had observed the encouragement of her daughter and chose to pass comment to H about what she had heard. She remarked that this encouragement was a carbon copy of another teacher she knew (teacher A) who had taught her eldest daughter R. Daughters R and T were at the time being educated at different schools some forty plus miles apart.

Coincidence? It transpired in the conversation that teachers A and H were both from a foreign land, and that teacher A had in fact taught H as a young adult in high school!

So A's positive impact on H was passed on to that particular generation, and also to the next! L's observant and inquisitive nature pulled the threads together through conversation and, she was kind enough to express her appreciation – this then returned a blessing to A and H. Daughters R and T learnt from the parallels drawn by L, as well as from their mother's expressed gratitude. In time to come their own children, possibly W, X, Y and Z will all benefit from A, H and L as R and T pass on what they have learnt. And so the cycle of blessing continues.

In a similar way, we at Thomas More College, "... will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done." Psalm 78 vs 4

Gary Balarin
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GENERAL NEWS

Country Fair - Raffle prizes needed

If you know someone who would be willing to sponsor a prize, or donate items for the Country Fair Raffle - please chat to Rae Griesel, or deliver items to the Great House for Rae's attention - please remember to leave your details/or email your business logo to appear on the raffle sheet.

Country Fair - Book Stall

The Book Stall needs your unwanted books - if you have any books you no longer need or want, please send these to Mrs Griesel in the Great House.

Country Fair - Calling Crafters/Vendors

Interested in having a stall at the Country Fair, or know someone who would be (no food vendors) - please contact Rae Griesel rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za for more info and to book a spot - space is limited.

Pop-Up Street Store

The preparations for the Pop-up Street Store are in hand and we have delivered the clothes to City Hill. Quite a few pupils have already put their names down to help and I have signed up for them but if anyone else would like to volunteer (parents or pupils) they can sign up at popupstreetstoremarys@gmail.com. Gr 10-12 will get Community Service hours for LO and Gr 8 and 9 will get participation points. All those helping must be at City Hill Pinetown before 6am on Saturday 15th June. We will have 3 kombis leaving from school at 5.40 am sharp for anyone wanting a lift. Helpers must bring their own food and drinks for the morning. The store will open at 8am and close at 12pm. We will then clean up and return to school at about 1.30pm.

HS Outreach Committee

Stock Shop

Junior Hockey bags have been marked down to R200 per bag. Stock is limited.

MESSAGE FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL HEADMASTER

As we wind down to the end of what has been a fiercely busy, and somewhat “concertina’ed” term, the high school’s Leadership Team is undergoing our review of the term. From the timing, number and placement of fixtures, to the placement of cultural activities, and synergising all of this with the academic programme, we are reviewing our strengths and growth opportunities to ensure increased relevance, competitiveness, enjoyment and challenge for our young people.

I want to share with you some wonderful bits of news:

- Both Courtney Sim and Rene Sachs achieved a Gold Award in this year’s National English Olympiad;
- Faran Steenkamp is one of only two students from KZN to make it through to the Computer Applications Olympiad – we wish Faran every success in the final round;
- Miss Wanri Venter is off to Spain to umpire in the FIH Hockey Open Series Finals;
- Mr TK Ngcobo has just been appointed as Manager of the KZN U15A Boys’ Water polo team which will be competing in the national tournament in December.

These wonderful achievements are a timely reminder of the inspired industry which is ongoing behind the scenes at Thomas More College. There are many other similar stories. This is a multi-dimensional, multi-tasking and multi-talented learning community.

Our attention now leans towards waterpolo, soccer, softball, mountain biking, Supper and Song, the International Marimba Festival, Country Fair, Robotics Competitions, Debating Final Rounds and our Grade 12 Preliminary Examinations. Term 3 promises to be yet another dynamic, demanding and delightful period of growth opportunities for our young people. I encourage every single child to seek out and use opportunities which resonate with him/her.

I want to thank the scores of parents, students, staff, alumni, Board members and community members who came out to support our teams this past Saturday. This is a momentum upon which we are determined to build. One of my highlight moments of the day was observing the high school’s 1st XV orchestrating the tunnel through which the u13A rugby boys ran on for their match against a spirited Atholl Heights team. It evidenced a togetherness as the Thomas More community. Equally special was when the entire tunnel, along with our Thomas More parents, turned to clap for the Atholl Heights lads as they ran onto the field. My heart brimmed with pride and gratitude at these acts of service, connectedness and respect.

And so, may we guard fiercely against being “scoreboard obsessed”. Winning, of course, is wonderful. But our encouragement of integrity, grit, resilience, respect and total effort – irrespective of the situation or challenge our young people may face – is unbeatable. Because character growth is stretched and maximised when navigating challenge, we must welcome challenge, and not guard our children from it.



Dave Wiggett
HS Headmaster

2

NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS

It is that time of the term once again when children try to push boundaries and forget to behave in a disciplined manner. Collectively we as staff are doing our best to tighten the discipline, as having parameters makes a child feel safe and secure and they then know what they may and may not do, and need to be responsible for any consequences their actions may cause.

We have all heard the expressions, "*Tough Love*" and also "*This hurts me more than it hurts you...*" It is hard, yet essential, for us as parents to discipline our children with love and not to give in to their every wish.

In this regard, may I appeal to you once again not to give your child a cellphone until they turn thirteen, which is the present legal age to be on Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram or other social media apps. Our children do not yet have the emotional maturity to cope with the nuances of social media and the harm it can cause. If you have given a cell phone to your child, it is your moral obligation as a parent to monitor your own child's use of this and to check his or her phone daily as you are ultimately liable for how they use it, having put it in their possession. This is why we have banned cellphones from school except in extenuating circumstances, where permission has to be officially requested to have a phone at school.

It is hard to start discipline during a crisis, as we then get a knee-jerk reaction. The following steps are suggested from an early age and should be continuously practiced:

- ✓ Do what you say you will do or don't say it, otherwise your child knows that they were simply idle threats with no substance and therefore he or she may well not listen to you.
- ✓ Have realistic expectations of your child, bearing in mind his/ her age, ability and experiences before asking something that needs to be done.
- ✓ Where possible, make the punishment fit the crime, so it is more readily understood by your child. If a privilege was taken away, reinstate it once the desirable behaviour returns.
- ✓ Make the consequences of your child's behaviour predictable, so that your child knows beforehand what the consequences will be for a particular misdemeanor.
- ✓ Explain to your child, in an age appropriate manner, why you are asking him or her to behave in a certain way. It is easier to follow a type of behaviour if you know why you are doing it.

Common mistakes sometimes made when disciplining a child include:

- Becoming angry and emotional. A child often ends up retaliating to anger that then worsens the situation. He / she will be far more responsive when addressed calmly.
- Disagreeing as parents on rules or punishment in front of the child only serves to undermine the authority of both parents and can lead to your child becoming manipulative and playing you off against each other.
- Inconsistent discipline confuses the child as it sends out misleading messages on the appropriateness of the behaviour.
- When the punishment meted out is perceived by the child to be unfair or inappropriate, he/she may well focus on the unfairness of the punishment and not on the lesson to be learnt.
 - Bribery as a means of motivating your child. Children need to learn right from wrong and behave in an appropriate manner whether or not they receive a reward or not

While it is important to treat your child lovingly and fairly, and to listen to what they have to say, they are not small adults. Parents need to let the child know that he/she does not have an equal say and that it is not a parent/ child democracy. Being a parent is a huge responsibility that requires patience and commitment. I wish all of us God's love and guidance in our parenting roles...

May we continue to work closely together as partners in the education of those precious charges entrusted to us! With good discipline and a measure of fun and firmness, together we can provide a fertile ground for developing character and enabling learning.

Best wishes to all those running the Comrades Marathon on Sunday.



Barbara Taljard

PS Headmistress

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ACADEMIC, SPORT & CULTURE ACHIEVEMENTS

Please remember to submit your achievements to the cultural or sports HOD in your phase for inclusion in the weekly newsletter.



Weekly Achievers

Sponsored by Roman's Pizza (Kloof). We encourage our families to please support Roman's as a token of appreciation for all that they do for Thomas More College.

1B	Nissi Mujuru for the cheerful and respectful manner in which she greets adults and visitors to our school.
1R	Oratile Lebenya for his wonderful sentence writing! Keep it up.
1S	Aiden Callister for his excellent behavior, kind consideration of others and giving of his best at all times.
2D	Arya Boshoff for her consistent hard work, respectful attitude and delightful, infectious smile.
2K	Ayabonga Hadebe for the extra effort that he put into his special homework this week resulting in beautiful work. I am so proud of you. Keep this up.
2R	Alastair Farquharson for improved diligence and work ethic. Well done.
3B	Travis Asbury for his beautiful manners and for being so brave and courageous when getting inured at rugby.
3M	Jonas Brophy for working hard at self-control.
3V	Gabby Pillay for consistent results in Maths and English. I am proud of you.
4J	Emma Croucamp for her quiet and diligent manner in which she goes about her day.
4D	Jordan Pretorius for her positive and diligent approach to her school day.
4C	Angel Gamede for doing so well in her Maths and for always trying her best.
5McG	Rhys Maritz for his positive attitude and giving of his best in and out the classroom.
5M	Demi-Lee Clarkson for her positive and enthusiastic approach to her day and for always helping others.
5V	Isabella Nadauld for her good work ethic and positive approach to her school day.
6F	Elisabeth du Buisson for her part in supporting the sterilization of feral animals at the SPCA.
6L	Connor Cadle for his improved progress in all subjects.
6McC	Troy Wentzel for his pleasant nature and hard work.
7J	Not awarded due to exams.
7C	
7M	
7H	

Triathlon

Congratulations to Bididi Theunissen on an excellent race at the All Africa Triathlon Champs held in Mauritius, where she achieved 2nd place (pictured right). South Africa took the Top 3 finishes. Well done Bididi on an outstanding achievement

We also congratulate Bididi on being selected for the South African Triathlon 2019 Junior Tour to Europe from 2 - 16 July 2019. Bididi will compete in Macedonia and Hungary. Well done Bididi and all the very best for the event.

Cycling - Sappi Karkloof 40km

Well done to our cyclists on their fantastic results in the recent Karkloof event

Mitchell Potgieter 1st overall

Jordan Bolt 3rd overall

Reece MC Callum 10th overall



Cycling - Enduro

Well done to Keagan Brand who placed 4th in U18 category and 15th overall.

Equestrian

Congratulation to Jamie van Rooyen on competing in the Pre-Nissan Warm up Show Jumping event this past weekend where she had a

great day jumping Femme Fatale 33, they were placed 2nd and 3rd in their two classes competing in the 1.10 junior category. Well done Jamie. Shannon Wilhelm also competed in the Pre-Nissan Warm Up Show where she achieved 2 first prizes on her new horse Attic View. One 1st was for the 70cm Two phase jumping class and another 1st was for the 70cm championship jumping class. Well done Shannon.

CAT Olympiad

Faran Steenkamp participated in the Second Round of the Applications Olympiad and has been selected to compete in the Finals being held in Cape Town from 17 - 20 June. All the very best Faran.

IT Talent Search

Gold Certificates for outstanding achievement in the Talent Search which was written on 6th March 2019 were awarded to the following pupils:

Intermediate Phase

Conall Steenkamp

Connor Harris

Leo Barnes

Shivdhir Seeraram

John Robbins

Senior Phase

Jarryd Eigenmann

Luke Leppan

Kurt Schwimmbacher

Qwinton Knöcklein

Faran Steenkamp

Elite

Cole Miles (Silver)

Kellen Daniels (Silver)

Joel Robb

SP Rugby vs Atholl Heights

U10A lost 45 - 0

U11A lost 27 - 0

3rd Team lost 25 - 15 (10 man)

2nd Team lost 10 - 7

1st Team won 5 - 0

QUICK LINKS / WHATS ON

Academic Calendars



Sporting / Cultural Calendars



Portals

PARENT

STUDENT

ALUMNI

D6 School