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**FIRST FIXTURE FREE WEEKEND NEWSLETTER – LENT 2019**

**FROM: THE RECTOR**

Friday 25 January 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I write at the end of somewhat challenging few weeks for us all! I am, of course, sorry that so many fixtures and events have been cancelled in the recent past and I hope that going forward there will be some sense of normality both at Peterhouse and across Zimbabwe as a whole. Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

You will have already received information concerning our public examination results for 2018. The A level pass rate of 99.7% (just one fail) was the highlight of a very satisfactory set of results overall. I would like to congratulate both our examinees and their teachers on all that was achieved – well done to them all.

I am pleased to be able to report that work on the conversion of our old library into a new gym is once again forging ahead (there have been some inevitable delays); I anticipate the new facility being ready for use at the start of next term. Once the new gym is up and running, work will begin on conversion of the exiting gym into the Michael Johnson rowing room – that should be ready for use sometime next term.

Finally, may I draw your attention to ATS letter to Parents which is available below?

I wish you and your children a very pleasant FFW.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Howard Blakett'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Howard Blakett MA (Oxon)  
Rector

## 1. ACADEMIC MATTERS

### 1.1 Academic Colours

#### IGCSE level

- i. The overall pass rate at Peterhouse Girls was 91.1% with 60.6% of all papers graded A\* to B; this is the fourth year in succession that PHG has achieved a 90%+ pass rate – another excellent set of results.
- ii. Academic colours for 8 A grades or better have been awarded to Shirea Brits.
- iii. The overall pass rate at Peterhouse Boys was 83.3% with an A\* to B grade rate of 52.4% – very much in line with as expected.
- iv. Academic colours for 8 A grades or better have been awarded to 4 boys – Nigel Chiwara, Simbarashe Govore, Tapiwa Muranda and Kudzaishe Nyengerai.

**Half-Colours were awarded to Takura Nyatsuro and Kudzaishe Wazara.**

**Full-Colours were awarded to Nigel Chiwara, Simbarashe Govore, David Mhlanga, Tapiwa Muranda and Kudzaishe Nyengerai.**

## 2. OF INTEREST

### 2.1 Gosho and Calderwood Parks

A message was sent out last week informing everyone that we have had to increase our entry and camping fees at Gosho and are now charging for entry into Calderwood. If anyone wants a season ticket please see Mrs. Steynberg at the Peterhouse Girls office.

### 2.2 Fly Fishing at Peterhouse – Girls and Boys any age.

There will be a fly fishing workshop at Peterhouse Girls on Sunday 17 February at 09.00 for both GIRLS and BOYS – how to set up a rod and practice casting, how to tie flies etc. Please remind pupils to bring any kit they have back after FFW – we do have some Peterhouse kit so they can borrow if they are keen to learn. There is no cost for this and we are trying to get pupils prepared for the fly fishing weekend at Nyanga 22, 23 and 24<sup>th</sup> March

### 2.3 Appeal from the Natural History Society and Snake Club

The Snake Club is in the process of being revived under the umbrella of the newly established Natural History Society at Peterhouse Boys. The Peterhouse Snake Pit is in an extreme state of disrepair at the moment and work has begun in getting the Pit back into a state where it can contain a decent menagerie of reptiles. Our resources are very limited currently so the Society is appealing to any and all parents for any donations of cement, chicken wire, bricks, paint, fish tanks, or snake boxes. We would be very grateful for any of the above. If you can help or if you have anything else you think we may need then please contact the head of the Natural History Society, Mr Scott Walraven, at [sjw@peterhouse.co.zw](mailto:sjw@peterhouse.co.zw).

## 3. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

### 3.1 Captains of Extra Curricular Activities 2019

Bridge	Ian Fowlds
Chess	Prince Sithole and Tadiwa Kondo
Debate	Praise Jaravani
Interact	Zivai Sinemani
Kukura Neshungu	Munashe Rushawaya

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Leo (vice president)  
Model United Nations  
'The Crown' School Newspaper Editor  
Quiz  
Robotics  
World Scholars Cup

Mudiwa Manikai  
Rufaro Hoto  
Praise Jaravani  
Munashe Rushwaya  
Kennan Callaghan  
Prince Sithole

### 3.2 Duke of Edinburgh International Award

Benjamin Palmer was awarded a Silver Award.

### 3.3 Interact Induction Lunch Speech by Zivai Sinemani

"It is our job to be good Rotarians, and one who lives up to the principles will be a good neighbour, a kind friend, a loving spouse, a companionable parent, and an asset to the community in which he or she lives" – Paul Harris, Founder of the Rotary Club.

A pleasant Afternoon to the Rector and Mrs Blackett; Rotarians, Mr and Mrs Griggs; The Head of Extracurricular Activities, Mrs. Shoemith.

The word Interact stands for international action. The international objectives are to develop leadership skills and personal integrity, to demonstrate helpfulness and respect for others, to understand the value of individual responsibility and hard work and to advance international understanding and goodwill. The Rotary Club being the Mother of Interact has similar principles. For more than 110 years, Rotary members have been addressing challenges around the world. It started with the vision of one man — Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on 23 February 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas, form meaningful, lifelong friendships, and give back to their communities. Rotary's name came from the group's early practice of rotating meetings among the offices of its members. Since then the organization has expanded, reaching just over 100 nations. Over the years the club has achieved remarkable things including fighting against polio in 1979 with a project to vaccinate 6 million children in the Philippines. Today, polio remains endemic in only three countries — down from 125 in 1988. This just goes to show how privileged we are to be a part of something bigger than ourselves that has helped the lives of millions of people across the globe.

What does this all mean for us right here in Marondera. We are privileged to be at a school that offers us so many opportunities. The most important one being that we are learning to give back to the community through this club. As we all know not everyone is as fortunate as we are. For that reason we should make it our duty to better the lives of the people around us here in our community. Showing love to the orphans at Mushavana, The handicapped at Kukuru Neshungu, the Elderly at Ida wekwako and to all the other organizations that Interact is involved in. We have been given the honour of bringing stupendous joy to so many people through this club. Rotary's Motto for 2019 is "Be the Inspiration" and I feel as if we ought to adopt it into our future actions as a club. We must do our best to give hope to the hopeless. It is high time we make a dramatic change to our community that makes headlines. It is our duty as a board and a club to do so. Not only this year, but for the many years to come. I for one believe that if everyone is thinking on the same page, then no one is really thinking. I urge each member of the club to continuously ask themselves questions like "How can we make life better for the less fortunate", "What long lasting Projects can we do this year". Thus increasing the likelihood of achieving our goals as a club.

Although we stand upon the morals of zero self-indulgence, through this experience we will all gain something? We will learn the importance of being selfless. We will learn what it truly means to serve others not for self-gain. We will learn to be responsible and develop maturity. We will learn how to work with others. Most importantly we will learn to love. And once we learn these precious life values,

reaching true happiness is inevitable. “To be philanthropic is to give something, to be charitable is to give one's own heart.”

Let us make a difference, one smile at a time.

### 3.3 Results

**Chess** Peterhouse Girls Chess Tournament **P7 W4 D1 L2**  
Outstanding players were Prince Sithole and Nigel Mushayavanhu who both played 7 games, winning 5 and losing 2

Craig Shoko who played 7, winning 6 and losing 1  
Overall Peterhouse was ranked 3rd out of 8.

## 4. SPORTING ACTIVITIES

### 4.1 Sports Captains 2019

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Captain</b>	<b>Vice-Captain</b>
Athletics	Tafadzwa Mahari	Ronald Chibowora
Basketball	Mudiwa Gova	Mufaro Mungoni
Cricket	Farai Musimwa	
Cross Country	Prince Sithole	
Karate	Vasheel Solanky	
Rowing	David Rogers	Cullen Shoesmith
Squash	Timothy Elton	
Swimming	Angus Fergusson	Felix Le Boulenge
Table Tennis	Trevor Manhanga	Tavonga Muchena
Tennis	Ethan Gillward	Tristin Barron
Triathlon	Marcel Paulser	
Volleyball	Sandile Ncube	Wandile Ncube
Water Polo	Kirk Barnes	

### 4.2 Results

**Athletics** Congratulations to Archibald Boka who went to Cape Town and ran in the 10km Reconciliation Day Race (48 minutes) and the 15km Gugulethu Tigerberg AVBOB (1hr 5 min); winning a Bronze and a Silver medal.

**Basketball** vs St George's **P8 W2 L6** 1<sup>st</sup> Team Lost 59 – 37

**Cricket** vs Lomagundi **P9 W8 L1** 1<sup>st</sup> XI Won by 5 wickets

#### Ring Road Relay

Ring Road Facts  
One lap of the Ring Road is 1344m (1.344km)  
Each individual from each block / form runs 224m

#### 2019

16 laps so a total of 21.504 kms completed

Winning Time 53 minutes 43 seconds  
Therefore average of 3 minutes 36 seconds per lap  
At an average speed of 24.02 km/h

Final Placings

1. Founders
2. Ellis
3. Malvern

**Rowing**

**HRC Rowing Regatta held at Mazowe**

Joel Royston came 1st in the men's D scull.

Joel Royston and Josh Eggersglusz came 1st in the men's D double.

Thomas Gray, Josh Eggersglusz, Noah Madziva and Joel Royston came 1st in the men's D quad.

Reagan Evans came 1st in the men's C scull.

Reagan Evans and Emmanuel Nyamupingidza came 1st in the men's C double.

James Weller came 1st in the men's B scull.

James Weller and Zvikomborero Charera came 1st in the men's B double.

**Tennis**

Mtandazo Nyashanu came second and won a Silver medal in the Anne Martin Junior Tennis Tournament that he participated in over the holiday.

**Waterpolo**

Hellenic and St John's

**P12 W2 L10**



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January 2019

Dear ATS parent

**JUST ASK JOHNNY!**

There is a story about a new teacher who stood in front of his class and (unwisely) asked the pupils, "Anyone who thinks he or she is stupid, please just stand up." After a short while, Johnny looked around and stood up. The teacher turned to him and asked him, "Do you think you are stupid, Johnny?" Johnny replied, "No, sir, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself." Smart young man! Even if Johnny is not necessarily academically gifted we can see his logic, which is not always the case, it may be said, when we look at parents. Please let me explain before you shout me down.

Every parent (obviously) wants their child to do really well at school; every parent wants their child to be an A student; in fact, it is almost the case that every parent demands their child will be an A student. There is an expectation among some parents that if I pay such large school fees for my child's education (or if I send her to extra lessons, get her lots of homework, ensure the school gives practice tests) then she will come out with straight 1s or A\*s. Parents look at school league tables and wonder why their child's school is so low in the

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league when they are paying such large sums of money. Let us just think about the logic of that (leaving aside everything else the school is offering).

If we think that every school must get straight A\*s, then it follows that every child must get straight A\*s and to do that my child (without question) must get straight A\*s. However, if we (grudgingly) admit that not every child will get straight A\*s, what makes us think that our child must get straight A\*s? We are saying, if we go by this logic, that with the same opportunities, teaching, resources and facilities every and any child will do well academically.

If we do think on such lines, then we need to consider how the same logic must be carried through, across all aspects of life. It means that every child can succeed at the highest level in sport, in fact, in all sports (and do so while all the time getting those straight A\*s). It means that every child can (and will, if given the right conditions) also play a musical instrument (in fact, all musical instruments) brilliantly, while still getting those straight A\*s and playing sport at the highest level – if they can gain the top grades in academics then they must be able to do the same in any or indeed all of the other areas, to which we still have to add drama, public speaking, debating, chess, First Aid..... In fact the same logic implies that all children should be six feet tall with a perfect figure! Oh, and it also means that every parent will have (or should have) got straight A\*s!

If all of that does not apply, then no part of it applies. So what can we take from all of that? Of course, we all as parents want our child to do really well academically but reality (let alone logic) shows that not every child will get straight A\*s, or play for their country, perform in orchestras and so on. And if that is the case, then it may well be that my child will not gain such results. Some children will not do as well as others – after all, how else would we get pass marks or sports results? The fact is though that it is not the end of the world. We must just be realistic and logical and maybe think along the lines of Jack Handey who said, *“Before you criticise someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, you’ll be a mile from them and you’ll have their shoes!”* Smart thinking again! Come on, let’s be smart; just ask Johnny! Let us just help our children think for themselves to the best of their ability and delight in whatever progress they can make in all areas of their life.

For further thoughts on the matter consider the article on the ATS website entitled, “Let Them Fail” on <http://www.atschisz.co.zw/category/parents-articles/>

T.D. MIDDLETON Executive Director, ATS



## Conditur in Petra

Link to the PHG Newsletter: <http://www.phg.co.zw/newsletters/newsletters-ffw-previous.html>

Link to the SVH Newsletter: <http://www.springvalehouse.co.zw/news.html>