



**CIRCULAR 15**

**THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2016**

**Dear Parents & Guardians**

Wow – how this term has flown! I cannot believe that we are already 3 terms down for 2016. As I have been writing and checking report comments, I am so encouraged by the growth in our students! Nothing makes me more excited about teaching than watching children experience 'light bulb moments' where they suddenly realize that they are capable, powerful and the perfect person to achieve the tasks put in front of them. When children realize who they are and what they can achieve, then you'd better watch out because they will change the world!

We have been talking as a school about our culture and its importance over the last few weeks. The culture of a school needs to be realistic and at the same time, inspirational. Our culture at OPS is summed up as the word 'Effulge.'

So how does 'EFFULGE' fit in to our academic program? Great question! The answer is very simple:

**Extraordinary** – this is best defined in our 'Inquiry based learning days'. These are days where we introduce lessons and concepts in a creative way, where we allow students' questions to lead the lessons and where fun and practical times are most used. We find that these moments are excellent tools to encourage students to look at things from a different perspective.

**Faith** – at OPS, we believe in the Bible unapologetically. Every concept taught and lesson learned is from a Biblical worldview. We also believe that our students are capable of ANYTHING they set their mind to and often encourage students to conquer the 'giants' and 'mountains' that are in front of them. Using David and Goliath as inspiration, I have taught a child to conquer their fear of Maths. It is important to us that the things of God are real and relevant to our students and we aim to ensure that they have practical uses for it.

**Family** – in a family, we learn from each other. This is shown in our peer learning and group work. We allow our students to work together with others, encouraging stronger students to assist other students, peers teaching peers and producing good team work skills all under the watchful guidance of teachers.

**Unique** – we believe each child is unique and, because of this, our aim is to ensure that each child is reaching their personal academic potential. We also have Learning Identity who come in and empower our students by giving them strategies on how to deal with their work.

**Love** – our heart is love. It is our desire to serve your children in love. The way we approach introducing and developing concepts is out of a love for your child. We look for ways to ensure that your child feels empowered, but safe enough to make mistakes and learn from them.

**Generosity** – our students are generous with their academics when they give of themselves, when they do their best and when they make an effort to learn and absorb the information presented to them. Generosity is not just a once off moment, but it is a lifestyle we are encouraging.

**Excellence** – we expect excellence in the way our students present work, in their projects and their work ethic. It is imperative that our students take pride in the work that they produce and we constantly ask them the questions: 'Is this YOUR best work? Is this something YOU are proud of?'

I read a wonderful article, entitled 'The Top 10 Mistakes Parents Make', where it discusses common mistakes that are made, sometimes without our knowledge. In it, it stated that the development of character was not as important as getting good results or learning how to do something. We, however, feel differently! For us, we desire to see your children growing in character and the best way we do this, is through our culture. So let's start to see our students 'effulge' – to cause to shine with abundance of light, to radiate, beam, shine forth.

**Yours in Education,**  
MRS. S VAN NIEKERK  
ACADEMIC HEAD

## SCHOOL CALENDAR WEEK 28 & 29 (MON 19 SEPTEMBER – FRI 30 SEPTEMBER 2016)

DATE:	WEEK TWENTY-EIGHT	DATE:	WEEK TWENTY-NINE
MON 19/09	Innovation Week SNAG Tournament	MON 26/09	<b>Holidays</b>
TUES 20/09	Innovation Week	TUES 27/09	
WED 21/09	Innovation Week Project:Howick	WED 28/09	
THURS 22/09	Innovation Week Parent-Teacher Meetings	THURS 29/09	
FRI 23/09	Final Assembly	FRI 30/09	

### ADMINISTRATION

#### THRIVE

This term our spiritual development program (THRIVE) is focusing on the #IAm series which explores the nature of GOD and what it means for us in our everyday lives. The theme for the last 2 weeks was #IAmSupernatural and #IAmPowerful.



#### RAFFLE

LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN! Each student has until the 24 October to sell as many books as possible. The student who sells the most books will receive a R500 mall voucher! All proceeds will go towards building classrooms for 2017.

#### The raffle prizes are as follows:

- **1st Prize: 2 nights' stay for 4 people (2 adults and 2 children) at Tala Private Game Reserve inclusive of breakfast valued at R6,480.00**
- **2nd Prize: 2 nights' accommodation at Dunning Country House for 2 people sharing – (bed and breakfast)**
- **3rd Prize: Meat Hamper (A whole sheep)**



#### PARENT – TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher conferences will take place on Thursday 22 September. The meetings are compulsory for BOTH parents as important discussions will take place about your child's progress. You cannot afford to miss out on this meeting! *Please note: term 3 reports will only be handed out at these meetings.*



#### LEGOCY PROJECT

Oasis, together with the Parents in Partnership team, are excited to announce our first fundraising drive for 2016: the "LEGOCY project". With a vision to fund the completion of the Junior Primary classrooms, we will be offering the opportunity for interested parties to 'buy a brick'! Each donation will be in denominations of R200/brick. Businesses who donate will be celebrated on our social media platforms and a plaque will also be mounted to commemorate their generosity.

For all those who are interested in donating to this cause, please see the banking details below:

Account Name: Oasis Christian Academy Development fund  
 Account Number: 62361056990  
 Bank: FNB  
 Branch: 22075  
 Registered NPO: 115-247  
 PBO: 930036997



#### CORPORATE BAREFOOT BOWLS

We are excited to invite all businesses to join us for our Corporate Barefoot Bowls event. This is one of our major fundraisers and all proceeds will go towards student bursaries and building additional classrooms. The event will take place at Howick Bowls Club on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at 12:00pm. The cost is R800.00 per team of 4.

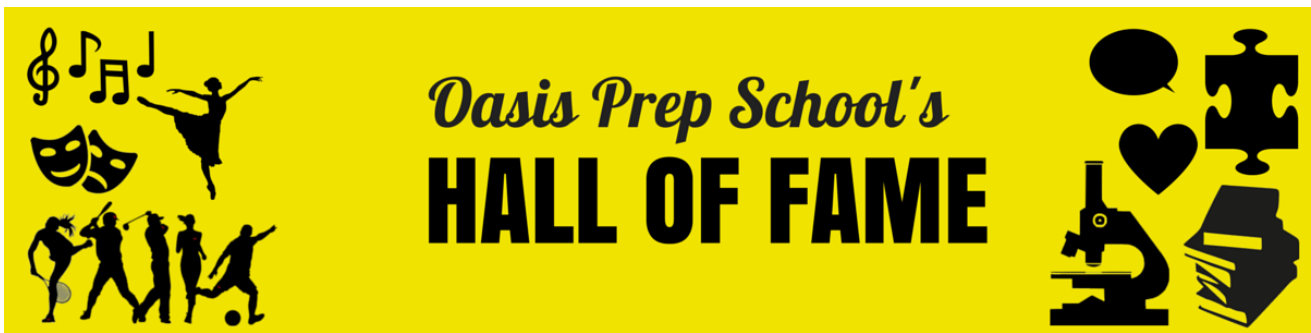
Please can we ask that you 'spread the news' about this event. For more information and/or sponsorship options, please contact [admin@oasisprep.co.za](mailto:admin@oasisprep.co.za), [angus@oasisprep.co.za](mailto:angus@oasisprep.co.za) or 033 330 3456.



#### STAFF NEWS

This term, we bid farewell to Ms. Sam Fryer, our school secretary. Ms. Fryer has left us to pursue a new adventure and we wish her all the best with her new endeavor. We are looking to fill this position for 2017, so please spread the word.

**Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best.**



Leadership is about empowering others, guiding people to fulfil their potential, taking risks and going after vision and values. Everything rises and falls on leadership and we are so privileged to have an incredible principal in Mr. Matt Hogarty! Matt and Doni Hogarty started Oasis in 2008 after seeing a need in the community for a school that will focus on the whole child and not just one or two aspects. Matt is constantly working behind-the-scenes to ensure that OPS is flourishing. When things are difficult, he is our biggest prayer warrior. When things are going well, he is our biggest supporter. Not only does he run the school, but he is also the lead elder at Oasis Church. His heart is to see people of all ages grow and live in the fullness of God's plan for their lives. We shine the spotlight on this phenomenal man:



#### Question 1

Where did you study? [Matt Hogarty] University of Natal – B. Comm (Management & Economics), Post Graduate Certificate in Education – Senior/FET (UNISA), 10 Day MBA Programme (ACE)

#### Question 2

What made you go into what you're doing now? [Matt Hogarty] I have a passion to see people come alive and discover who they are & what they have been created for. I am so aware that we have a unique contribution to make in this world and my desire is to help people find what this is. Education and my role in the Church give me the perfect opportunity to do this. I hope to inspire, equip, develop people and make space for them to discover their dreams.

#### Question 3

What do you love most about your job? [Matt Hogarty] I am a born leader and so I love leading people & organisations into spaces of creativity, innovation and maximum potential. I am a 'dreamer' always seeing potential and 'what could be' and so I love the Oasis environment, where I am surrounded by other dreamers who are all working together to bring life to people, push the boundaries of normal and create an culture that helps people find freedom and purpose.

#### Question 4

What are your hobbies? [Matt Hogarty] I read a lot, enjoy writing, swim various times a week and love spending time with my beautiful wife and kids. I also have a magnetic pull to quality coffee, architecture and all things 'design'.

#### Question 5

Sum up yourself in 20 words. [Matt Hogarty] Human, Jesus-lover, husband, father to world-changers, visionary, creative, hope-fuelled optimist, strategist, people-loving, transformational thinker, who desires to be faithful to God in all that I do.

We want to honour Matt for everything he does – our school would not be the same without him. He is definitely the heart of OPS and are looking forward to continued growth under his leadership.

## ACADEMICS

Each term, we have a general emphasis that we focus on. This focus culminates in an entire week at the end of term dedicated to this theme. These weeks are known as ENRICHMENT WEEK time! The aim of Enrichment Week is to broaden and expand learners' horizons. This time provides exciting opportunities for discovery, application of concepts learned in real-life environments, cross-curricular integration and lots of fun! Part of our aim as a school is to ensure that our learners are well-rounded individuals and Enrichment Week is one tool we use, ensuring that learning is not merely taught but caught through real-life experiences.

This term our focus has been: **INNOVATION!** We have such an exciting week planned and we cannot wait to get our students thinking, exploring and innovating! On Thursday, we are hosting an Innovation Convention. This is where all students will present their innovations, the Senior Primary will present their projects and the High School will discuss their essays. Parents are more than welcome to join us. Parents are also invited to join our Final Assembly on Friday at 09:30am.



**Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower.**

## ACADEMICS CONTINUED

We need some items for next week. If you have any of these items, please can you send them to school with your child:

- Old socks
- Felt or any material off cuts
- Pipe cleaners
- Rope/string
- Boxes
- Plastic bottles
- Duct tape
- Wood glue
- Any glitter, beads, buttons, other 'decorating' things



Below is a general timetable for next week.

	MON 19/09	TUES 20/09	WED 21/09	THURS 22/09	FRI 23/09
<b>08:00 – 08:30</b>	Devotions				
<b>08:30 – 09:00</b>	JP SNAG Tournament / SP iNNOVATE Time	Grade 2 Outreach / Get Out-Of- The-Box	Cr8 Your World / SP PROJECT: HOWICK	Innovation Convention	Class Room Clean Up
<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>					Final Assembly
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>BREAK TIME</b>				
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	JP SNAG Tournament / SP iNNOVATE Time	iDEA Revolution	iNNOV8 Fun	Innovation Convention	<b>Break Up</b>
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>					
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>					
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>					
<b>12:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>HOME TIME</b>				
<b>12:30</b>					

Please note: There is aftercare on Monday – Thursday until 16:30, however we do NOT offer aftercare on Break Up Day.

Our term 4 theme will be **'World Affairs'**. We will be focusing on the world around us – what is happening and how we can make it better. 'Be the change you wish to see in the world.'



## ADVERTISING

**OASIS**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

GRADE 1 - 7  
CO-ED SCHOOL

REGISTERED NPO: 115-247-FED-930036997

033 - 330 3456  
72 Main Street  
Howick KZN 3290  
www.oasisprep.co.za  
admin@oasisprep.co.za

Affordable private school with family values...  
Small class sizes with focus on individualized education...  
Top quality teaching with great sports, arts & outreach programme...  
International curriculum - Singapore Maths & Science; Keys to Reading Success...

Oasis Preparatory School proudly presents

# A Little Princess

An Adapted Musical

Where: Oasis Preparatory School, 72 Main Street, Howick  
When: 23-25 November  
Time: 18:00  
Cost: R20/Adult - R10/Child - Children under 5 free  
Booking: admin@oasisprep.co.za or (033) 330 3456

Refreshments will be on sale

**OASIS**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## CORPORATE

# bareFoot

### BOWLS

DATE: 04TH NOVEMBER 2016  
VENUE: HOWICK BOWLS CLUB  
TIME: 12:00PM  
BOOKINGS: ADMIN@OASISPREP.CO.ZA  
COST: R 800 / TEAM OF 4

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS STUDENT BURSARIES  
AND BUILDING ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS  
FOR SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS, PLEASE CALL 033 330 3456

The best way to predict your future is to create it.