



CIRCULAR 18

THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2016

Dear Parents & Guardians

Term 4 has only 3 and a half weeks to go! I cannot believe how quickly this year is going. Our spiritual focus for this term is 'THRIVE' and it is something that we are passionate about. We feel it is important that what gets taught at school, also gets taught at home and so we have designed an 'information' guide for you.

THRIVE CHALLENGE

You were not meant to struggle to make it through the week. You were not meant to be shackled by anxiety, worry, and fear. No, you were meant for so much more. You were meant to live life and to have it more abundantly. That is the promise of the eternal God. You were meant to dig deep and reach out. You were meant to know God and make him known. Surviving is for those who have no hope. That's not you - not if you're God's child. To thrive, we must:

- Dig deep into the roots of our relationship with Jesus. This helps us understand who God is and who we are in him. We dig in to know God.
- Reach out to others. This helps us to show the world that we belong to Jesus and that Jesus is God. We reach out to make God known.

THRIVE THROUGH LOSS

John 15:2 tells us that "He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." This means that GOD cuts off dead branches and prunes fruitful ones. When we experience GOD removing branches from our lives we should get excited because it means that HE is working in us so that we can bear even more fruit, fruit that will last!

JESUS also uses Himself as an example in this passage, HE says "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener." This means that when we are pruned HE too experiences that loss, but HE endures it because HE knows it will mean that we can produce more fruit through HIM in the future. HE tells us over and over that we need to ABIDE in HIM so that we can be what thriving things are... FRUITFUL!

THRIVE THROUGH TROUBLED TIMES

Things in life are not always easy, but GOD is always good and working all things for our good as Romans 8:28 tells us. Daniel and his friends knew that even when things looked bad, GOD was working for their good and this is how they were able to say "GOD is able to save, but even if HE doesn't we will still serve HIM". It was from this place that GOD worked an incredible miracle to save Daniel's friends and show the King how Good HE was. Again when Daniel was thrown into the lion's den things looked bad, but Daniel trusted in GOD. Even the king said, "May the GOD who you serve continually save you!" The king had seen Daniel's faithfulness and GOD answered his prayer to show HIS Goodness to the king!

THRIVE BY PERSEVERANCE

"There's the easy way and the right way. Which will you choose?" – This is the question we posed our students. When looking at being a THRIVING people, we often forget how much 'grit' or perseverance it takes. Perseverance is defined as: '...the ability and self-control that pushes you to work through challenges.' If we are to truly thrive, then we need to instill perseverance in our kids. However, perseverance isn't just pushing through challenges – it is aligning ourselves with God's plan, no matter the process it takes to fulfil or the outcome.

One of the greatest examples of perseverance in the Bible is a man named Paul. Paul endured many hardships during his life – imprisoned at least four times, shipwrecked three times, beaten up, bitten by a poisonous snake, rejected and mocked – despite all of this, he was able to say that he was 'content in all circumstances'.

Let's work through these examples and become a people who thrive!

Yours in Education,
MR. A VAN NIEKERK
VICE PRINCIPAL



SCHOOL CALENDAR WEEK 35 & 36 (MON 14 NOVEMBER – FRI 25 NOVEMBER 2016)

DATE:	WEEK THIRTY-FIVE	DATE:	WEEK THIRTY-SIX
MON 14/11	-	MON 21/11	-
TUES 15/11	Mini Cricket Tournament	TUES 22/11	-
WED 16/11	-	WED 23/11	A Little Princess <i>(Schools Performance)</i>
THURS 17/11	-	THURS 24/11	A Little Princess
FRI 18/11	Tennis Match	FRI 25/11	Grade 4-12 Outreach A Little Princess

ADMINISTRATION

RAFFLE

We are delighted to announce the winners of our annual raffle competition! A huge thank-you to all the families who participated in this initiative. We raised over **R15, 000!**

The raffle prizes are as follows:

- **1st Prize:** T.S Sokhela
- **2nd Prize:** Rhudolf Muller
- **3rd Prize:** Wendy Simson
- **Most Books Sold:** Angus van Niekerk (8 books)
- **Bonus Prizes:** Sean O'Sullivan and Liviwe Majikjela



LEGO CY 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.



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: 220725
 Registered NPO: 115-247
 PBO: 930036997

A LITTLE PRINCESS

We are excited to invite all parents to our school production entitled 'A Little Princess.' The play will be performed on 24- 25 November. There is a 'schools performance on the 23rd' during school hours. Tickets are now available – seats are limited so book today! The cost is: R20/adult, R10/child. (Children under 5 are free.) Please note: OPS students are not required to pay as they are performing in the play. It is compulsory for ALL students to attend these performances. We look forward to seeing you there!



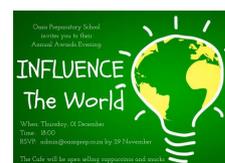
BIG BOOK BAKER DAY

This year, our Big Book Baker Day fundraiser raised over **R 1,000** for new readers in the Junior Primary. The Grade 3 class also donated an additional R100 to this cause. Thank you for supporting this initiative – we look forward to increasing our JP library for 2017!



PRIZE GIVING 2016

We are pleased to invite you to attend our Annual Awards Evening! This year our theme is 'Influence the World.' Prize giving will take place on **Thursday, 01 December** at 18:00. Please note that it is compulsory for all students to attend. Please RSVP by Monday, 29 November.



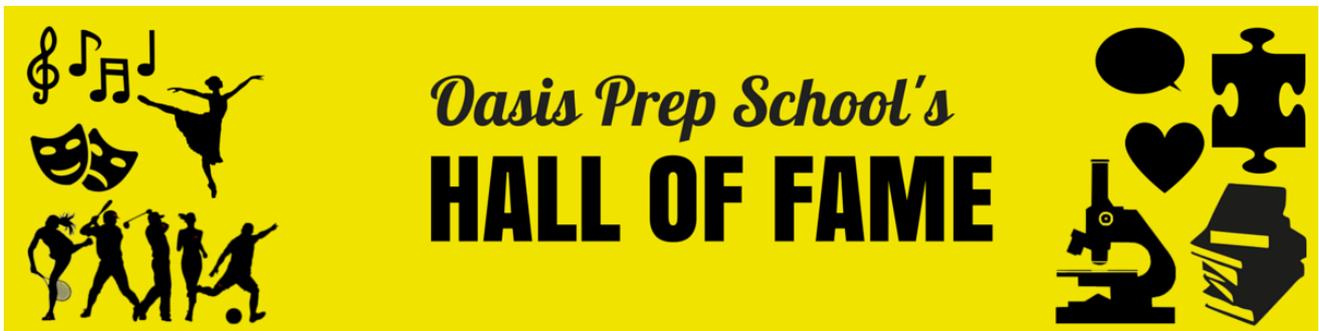
WOOLWORTHS & MYSCHOOL COMPETITION

Woolworths and MySchool have a new competition! 50 lucky customers will each win R20, 000 towards a bursary or school fees. To enter, simply swipe your MySchool card or linked Woolies card when you pay before 31 January 2017.



If you do not have a MySchool card, pop in to the office and we will help you. MySchool cards are free, so get swiping today!

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.



Our 'Hall of Fame' spotlight shines on two awesome teachers: Mr. Ricard Mouton and Mrs. Shanelle van Niekerk! Both these teachers mainly focus on the Senior Primary, but they are also fortunate enough to interact with all the students in the school. Thank you Mr. Mouton and Mrs. Van Niekerk for all that you do for the school. We value and appreciate your hard-work and determination.

Question 1

Where did you study?

(Ricard) I studied at the University of Stellenbosch. I got my B.ENG. I am currently studying my PGCE through UNISA.

(Shanelle) I studied my BA and my PGCE through UNISA.



Question 2

What made you go into what you're doing now?

(Ricard) I had a dream in Dubai and knew that Howick was the place for us. My mom was a teacher and it is in my blood!

(Shanelle) I started out as a secretary for Oasis! I then moved into teaching and that is what I have been doing since 2009. It is not something I planned to do, but it is something God clearly told me to do 😊

Question 3

What do you love most about your job?

(Ricard) The fact that you can shape and mold young people and see them grow.

(Shanelle) I love the 'light-bulb' moments that children have – those moments when they realize what they are truly capable of and that their hard work and perseverance has paid off. I love getting to know my students and seeing them flourish.



Question 4

What are your hobbies?

(Ricard) Reading books, playing tennis and spending time in nature.

(Shanelle) Reading books or researching topics and writing. I also love watching movies to unwind – especially classics or musicals!

Question 5

Sum up yourself in 20 words.

(Ricard) Hard-working, responsible, determined. I like sport and I love my family. God is important to me and I love life.

(Shanelle) I am passionate. I love the Lord, my incredible husband and family/friends. I am one-of-a-kind!

ACADEMICS

TAKE THE CHALLENGE – FINISH STRONG

With only a few weeks to go, I found this article about finishing strong and why it is important.

“Usain Bolt, a Jamaican sprinter in the summer Olympics dazzled the 91,000 spectators in China's Bird's Nest stadium in the Summer of 2008 to win his country's first gold in the 100 metres dash in a record time of 9.69 seconds. Bolt was seen to slow down and wave his arms in celebration before the finish line on his world-record 100 meters, prompting some to think he could turn in an even better time in the future. He was running world record time, and he slows down to slap his chest and celebrate before crossing the finish line in the 100 metres race. A missed opportunity for not finishing strong were confirmed with research by Hans Eriksen from the Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics at the University of Oslo. They analyzed Bolt's position, acceleration and velocity in comparison with second-place-finisher Thompson, and figured that the runner could have clocked 9.55 if he had not slowed down to celebrate.”

Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.

ACADEMICS CONTINUED...

How many of us have started something with the full measure of energy and focus only to see it dissipate with time?

We can get distracted by the early success or difficulties that are prone to show up. Why do so many people give up late when it comes to the important things in life? Why don't we run hard in that last part? I think we back off because we see some early success and lose our focus or determination to take it to even a greater level. So how do we stay focused to finish strong? Here are some tips:

1. **The race is won or loss in the last stretch** – Setting the right expectation for that last part is critical to your success. Too many leaders relax in that final stage.
2. **Encouragement is a key to staying focused** – don't allow yourself or your child to 'coast' through to the finish.
3. **Second wind is important to finishing strong** – We all get burned out, but finding that secondary burst of energy and drive requires real determination. In most cases, it is a mental test not to allow yourself to give in to how you feel but to mentally focus even more at that stage.

The ability to finish strong will be the difference between winning and losing that promotion or final grade you want. It will allow you to stand out among your peers. Giving it 100% will get you better results which always lead to greater job satisfaction and personal fulfillment. We have all heard the old saying – you get out what you put in. This is so true in the fourth quarter.

What are the areas in your life where you struggling to finish strong? Make a commitment today to take them to the next level. One step at a time – it will be worth the difference. I promise..."

ADVERTISING

Oasis Preparatory School proudly presents



A Little Princess
An Adapted Musical

Where: Oasis Preparatory School, 72 Main Street, Howick
When: 24-25 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
invites you to their
Annual Awards Evening:



**INFLUENCE
The World**

When: Thursday, 01 December
Time: 18:00
RSVP: admin@oasisprep.co.za by 29 November

The Cafe will be open selling cappuccinos and snacks



OASIS
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**GRADE 1 - 7
CO-ED SCHOOL**



REGISTERED NPO: 115-247 PBO: 930036997

A mistake is a crash-course in learning.