



# Northside News

Issue 6, Term 3  
14 October 2009

## Dear Parents and Students,

It's another short week! Please remember that Friday is a public holiday, due to voting. Northside will be in use as a polling station, so there will be NO school activities on Thursday afternoon and no private activities on Friday and Saturday. School reopens on Monday 19 October 2009.

Congratulations to the following students who were selected for the Southern School U/13 Softball teams - Taylor Brown, Nobanthu Seleka, Andre Jooste, James Shepherd and Bradley Frohlich. They will compete in the North vs South tournament at Westwood on 13 & 14 November.

The visit by the two IBO representatives went off smoothly and we received a lot of very positive and constructive feedback to guide us in our accreditation preparations. We will be sharing more of this with parents next month.

Book Week Assembly takes place at 7.30am tomorrow morning. We look forward to seeing our students (AND teachers) dress up as characters from their favourite nursery rhymes, books, fairy tales, autobiographies and plays. These Assemblies are usually great fun and parents, as always, are most welcome to attend.

Our annual Std 7 PYP Exhibition takes place in the Hall next week. The topic this year is "I am the Change" and focusses on situations and problems in Botswana and how young people can make a difference. All members of the NPS community are invited to attend.

Finally, don't forget the Annual Fair, which takes place in two weekends' time. We have a host of new and exciting class stalls lined up, as well as lots of outside vendors and Young Entrepreneur Stalls. Please help us to make it a great day for the whole Gaborone community by signing up to assist for half an hour on your child's class stall or volunteer for a stint on the PTA stalls.

Have a great long weekend. *M.M. Mofokeng*

## Important Dates

12-15 Oct	Read-a-thon
15 Oct	Book Week Assembly
16 Oct	Voter's Day (Public Holiday)
20-21 Oct	Std 7 Exhibition
24 Oct	School Fair
28 Oct - 6 Nov	Std 7 Trip to Durban
2 Nov	Half Term
6 Nov	Starry Night Braai
25 Nov	Thank You Assembly
3 Dec	Infant Concert
7 Dec	Celebration of Achievement
8 Dec	End of Term 3

## REMEMBER!

School closes at 12 noon  
TOMORROW



## Donation Deadline!

Taelo Dimbunu & Molly White are collecting pens, pencils, crayons, pencil crayons, khokis, rulers, rubbers etc. for the Happy Homes Orphanages, as part of their Standard 7 exhibition project. If you would still like to make a donation, please remember that the deadline for collection is tomorrow - Thursday 15 Oct. Thank you.

## I Am The Change!!!

The Standard 7's PYP Inquiry Exhibition opens next week, Tuesday 20 Oct. **The official opening for Standard 7 parents and invited guests will take place between 6.30 and 8.00pm on Tuesday evening, in the Hall.**

All parents, relatives and other interested members of our community are invited to attend any of the following sessions:

### Tuesday, 20 October

8h30 - 10h30 : Rec -Std 4 students.

### Wednesday, 21 October

7h30 - 8h30 : Standard 5 students

11h00 - 12h00 : Standard 6 students

We encourage all members of our community to make the very most of this event and enjoy the children's learning on topics about Botswana such as:

*Overpopulation of Elephants*

*Drunk Driving, Underage Drinking*

*Orphans, Drug Abuse*

*Bees, Malaria*

*Foot and Mouth Disease*

*Water*

*The Gaborone Dump*

The focus will be on celebrating our students' strengths and ability to research, present and demonstrate their learning.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

## It's Book Week ... Are you READING?

The PTA **Read-A-Thon** is under way this week and students are encouraged to keep reading until Sunday evening. Completed forms and sponsorship monies will need to be handed in to teachers on the morning of Monday 19 October.

Remember, there will be **PRIZES** for the most pages read, as well as for the most enthusiastic readers!

## Book Week Assembly .... Thursday, 7.30am

The various year group themes are as follows, so pick a character and let's all dress up and enjoy the world of Books!!!

Reception	Our Favourite Nursery Rhymes
Standard 1	Fictional Characters - Witches, Pirates, Dragons, Monsters, Fairies
Standard 2	Mr Men & Little Miss
Standard 3	Fairytales
Standard 4	Genres
Standard 5	Autobiographies/biographies
Standard 6	Shakespeare Plays
Standard 7	Picture Book Characters



Northside Primary School has been accredited with the Council of International Schools since 1996 and is a member of the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa.

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## Tennis News!

By Mrs Kitching

On Monday 12 October, Northside hosted the U11 Boys Doubles Tennis Tournament.

It was a wonderful afternoon of tennis where good sportsmanship and an excellent level of tennis were enjoyed by all. It was very encouraging to see the high standard of tennis played by the younger boys.

Our Northside students played extremely well with the results as follows:

### Section A

- 1st Dries Borstlap & Pragash Maniccadevan
- 3rd Marko Jurusic & Reece Duthie
- 4th Zameer Dada & Michael Frolich

### Section B

- 3rd Jaryd Ivins & Zheng Cheng
- 4th Callym Oxley & Ojasvi da Silva

<b>October</b>	12	13	14	15	16	17
	U11 BD Tennis Fest, 2pm Notwane		Chess vs Baobab	Book Week Assembly	ELECTION DAY	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	U11 GD Tennis Fest, 2pm	Std 7 Exhibition	Std 7 Exhibition	Softball vs Acacia Boys - Acacia Girls - NPS	Skills Relay Gala B'hurst Night Softball	U11 Boys Softb Fest, 08H30 SCHOOL FAIR
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Lollipop Relay Galas A - Th'hill B - NPS C - B'bab	Chess vs Bothale	Softball vs Thornhill @ Thornhill		Sun City Swim
				Std 7 Trip		
<b>November</b>	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Lollipop Relay Galas A - WW B - WW C - NPS	U9 T-ball vs B'hurst at NPS	Softball vs Crescent U/11 @ CR U/13 @ NPS	Skills Relay Gala NPS Night Softball Starry Night Braai	Komatso Tennis Tourn, Baobab, 08H00
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Interschool Relay Gala A - B'hurst B - Th'hill C - NPS	U9 T-ball vs Th'hill, 1.30pm @ NPS Chess vs Westwood	Rec 2010 Orientation Morning	N vs S	Softball, WW
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Immunization Std 1-7		Chess vs Thornhill	Softball vs Legae Boys - Legae Girls - NPS		ISSA Cricket Tourn
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Thank You Assembly		Aft Act End	
<b>December</b>	30	1	2	3	4	5
				Infant Concert		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Celebration of Achievement	SCHOOL CLOSES				

## You & Your Child's Teacher – How to become True Allies.

Extracts from an article in the Feb/March 09 Edition of Psychologies Magazine

### Think on this... research shows that:

- Parents, particularly those who work and lead busy lives, often hand over responsibility for their children's academic performance to the school
- Kids whose parents are actively involved in their lives, and offer support and guidance, are usually those who excel in their studies.

Parent - Teacher relationships can sometimes be tricky. Perventhi Pillay, an educational psychologist in Pietermaritzburg, gives the following advice on how to build a constructive relationship with your child's teacher:

### • Avoid passing the buck

While parents expect teachers to produce brilliant learners with very little or no support from home, teachers are disillusioned with parents who have become increasingly disengaged from their children's education. Parents are often so busy trying to cope with their own hectic, pressurized lives that they tend to shift responsibility for their children to their educators. Thiru Naidu, HOD for Life Orientation at a primary school in Gauteng maintains that "today's parents feel that it is up to the school to be accountable for their children's education. They also seem to have abdicated when it comes to instilling good habits in their offspring, who aren't trained to be responsible for their own behaviour and learning, something well within the capabilities of average 10-15 yr olds."

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### • Resist Overcompensating

Ilze van der Merwe, an Educational Psychologist, maintains that parents are doing their child a disservice when they try to fix a situation at school by apportioning blame. They should be teaching their child how to deal with his/her circumstances rather than continuously trying to rescue them from situations. Ms Naidu believes that this tendency is on the increase as a result of the "me" society we live in. Parents don't look at the class or the school as a whole, but focus only on their child, expecting teachers to bend over backwards to accommodate them. "They don't consider that we teach a collective group and that adequate individual attention needs to be given by the parents themselves". Lilian Lomofsky, a Cape Town based Educational Psychologist, believes that effective schooling requires involvement. "Parental participation and taking responsibility greatly improve relations between teachers and parents. Education is very much a joint venture and when parents are supportive and get involved, the children's results are far superior."

Private schooling also puts additional pressure on teachers – Elaine Pienaar, a Grade 4 Teacher at a private school in Somerset West, says "when you're paying expensive fees, you expect results. Some parents get quite demanding - if there is a problem they walk into the classroom and want to be seen immediately. We are also professionals and while we like meeting with parents, and sitting down to discuss problems, it is common courtesy to make an appointment, thus setting a good example for their children by showing some respect".

### • Honour the Rules

A lack of respect, in general, is a problem among students today and parents tend to add to it when they bad-mouth teachers or the school, in private or public, or allow their children to flout rules. When parents enroll their children in a school, they are made aware of the rules, regulations and code of conduct, and it is vitally important that they enforce these in areas such as uniform, appearance and behaviour. This will reinforce student's perceptions of boundaries and "who is in charge".

*So, it would seem that mutual respect, trust and understanding are undoubtedly the keys to constructive Parent - Teacher relationships. At Northside our policy has always been to encourage dialogue - if you are dissatisfied with a situation, first approach the teacher concerned and try to resolve it for the benefit of all concerned.*