



22 May 2015

NEWSLETTER NO. 15

Dear Parents

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA) TASKS AND TESTS

The SBA marks accumulate during the year and are added to your son's final promotion mark. Parents are reminded that if your son misses one of these tests or orals due to sickness, a Doctor's certificate is required.



Sparrow is an online calendar where parents can view and search activities taking place each day at SACS. The link to access the site is: <http://saccollegehs.spa.rw/>

The iPhone app can also be downloaded from the Apple iTunes app store. The android version should be available within in the next three months.

CONCERTO FESTIVAL

Congratulations to our Head of Music, Mrs Greta Graham, the conductors (Messrs Blake, Alexander and Patientia), soloists, members of the orchestras, members of the Springfield and SACS choirs, as well as all music staff, helpers (SACS men) and sound-and-lighting crew. The evening was an outstanding success as borne out by the "full house" at the Hofmeyr Hall. SACS is certainly blessed with wonderful talent and the school is creating opportunities, through evenings like this, for expression to be given to that talent.



GROWTH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

On Tuesday 19 May, SACS, with support from Citadel Investment Services, hosted its first 'Parent and Sons' Leadership Summit. The theme for the Leadership Summit this year is 'Adopting a Growth Mindset.' Andrew Finlayson (SACS Old Boy and Citadel Marketing and New Business Development Director) spoke, with eloquence, to share genuine stories from people he has worked with who show the characteristics of a growth mindset.

After a brief introduction by Mrs Dawn Siso on the theory of Mindset, and the difference between a 'fixed' and a 'growth' mindset, Andrew set the scene by comparing the 'Tyranny of Now' and the 'Possibility of Yet'. We often get stuck in the present and take a results approach as opposed to a process approach, therefore, we do not look to what possibilities there are in the future. Andrew discussed how adopting a growth mindset can help us to work towards the 'Possibility of Yet', before going on to give examples from successful people he has worked with who demonstrate the following characteristics (of a growth mindset):

- 1. Embrace Challenges:** Ernst van Dyk, a South African wheelchair racer and hand-cyclist who has won a record of ten wheelchair titles in the Boston Marathon, amongst other titles. Ernst showed determination to achieve what many might see as impossible.

- 2. Persist in the face of set-backs:** Jean De Villiers (South African Springbok Captain) who seeks out, and acts upon criticism, to positively achieve his goal of playing in the Rugby World Cup, despite numerous injuries which many people may not have overcome.
- 3. See effort as the path to mastery:** The South African Rowing team who won Gold at the 2012 Olympics and knew that their rigorous training programme took them on their path to success.
- 4. Learn from Criticism:** Siyabulela Xuza, an energy-engineering Harvard graduate who grew up in Mthatha. Siya won the Intel international Science and Engineering prize for formulating the key recipe of a rocket fuel. After seventy-seven failures and over six months of building his rocket, he was able to find the winning recipe, learning from continuous feedback.
- 5. Find lessons and inspiration from the success of others:** Andrew asked us to look in the mirror to realise what successes we have within ourselves and our community, and to be aware of the people who might be able to share their wealth of knowledge with us in order to help us grow.

Since the summit we have had much feedback from parents and their sons. Comments include:

- 'I learnt that having a fixed mindset can hold you back' (Grade 9)

- 'Changing your mindset is vital to achieving your goals and as a young man learning from my mistakes and taking criticism positively can help me grow' (Grade 12)
- 'The video of Siya was very interesting and entertaining. He is an inspiration' (Grade 8)
- 'I will now put in more effort into my school academics and sport as Mr Finlayson said "if you go through the right processes, the results will take care of themselves' (Grade 12)
- 'We loved it. What an awesome inspirational talk!' (Parent of Grade 8)
- 'I found it both informative and thought-provoking, and have no doubt that it has planted seeds for my lad' (Parent of Grade 10)

It is clear that the Leadership Summit has had a positive impact on our boys and their parents. We hope this will continue with conversations at home. Finally, we would like to thank Andrew for his time and continued support for SACS. For more information from the summit and future summits, please contact Barry van Selm ([vanselm@saccollege.org.za](mailto:vanselm@saccollege.org.za)) or Dawn Siso ([sisod@saccollege.org.za](mailto:sisod@saccollege.org.za)), who will also be able to put you in touch with Andrew and his colleagues at Citadel ([www.citadel.co.za](http://www.citadel.co.za)).



### MINTEK QUIZ

The SACS Mintek Science Quiz team comprising Andrew Tucker, Matthew Johnson and Peter Ilsley, participated in the Mintek Minquiz Science Quiz held at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology's Belville campus on Thursday 14 May 2015. The Minquiz is sponsored by Mintek and is a national competition now in its twenty-seventh year.



William Tweddle (Grade 8) has been selected to represent Western Province at the U14 Squash Interprovincial, taking place in Kempton Park later this year. Congratulations to William and we wish him all the best at the upcoming tournament.

This year forty-five schools from around the province participated. The competition is split into two tiers, a Gold and a Platinum tier depending on a school's Grade 12 English, Mathematics and Science marks. SACS participated in the Platinum competition. The way in which the competition works is that all students write a multiple choice test. These tests are marked and a cumulative mark is obtained for each school.

The top five schools in each category go through to a final quiz round where thirty questions are asked, each team has thirty seconds to decide on the answer and then make their choice. SACS placed third overall, winning R550.00 for the school. In addition, Andrew Tucker and Peter Ilsley both obtained distinctions on the written test and Matthew Johnson obtained excellence. They all did the school proud.



### MOUNTAIN BIKING

The SACS Mountain Bike Club performed a time trail from the quarry to the King's Block House above the University of Cape Town. Their results are as follows:

<b>First</b>	<b>Zachary Abel</b>	<b>14:16</b>
<b>Second</b>	<b>Andrew Reaper</b>	<b>14:19</b>
<b>Third</b>	<b>Kieran Horsford</b>	<b>17:17</b>
<b>Fourth</b>	<b>Jamie Sher</b>	<b>17:54</b>
<b>Fifth</b>	<b>Todd Sundström</b>	<b>17:55</b>
<b>Sixth</b>	<b>Dylan Hübner</b>	<b>21:05</b>
<b>Seventh</b>	<b>Louis Hübner</b>	<b>21:45</b>



### THIS WEEKEND

I wish our sportsmen well for their fixtures this weekend against Paarl Gymnasium. The First Rugby Team plays at home on Saturday at 12:00 and the First Hockey Team on Friday at 18:30.

I encourage parents to support your sons and their teams. Best wishes to all teams and may the weekend be most enjoyable.

Yours sincerely

**K. R. BALL**  
**HEADMASTER**