



# South African College High School

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26 May 2017

## NEWSLETTER NO. 18

Dear Parents



### SACS BRASS PLAQUES

Scott Warwick (Grade 11 History Society Committee member and stalwart of the Archives Group) discovered, while cleaning up and looking for artefacts, the plaques that were once mounted at the entrance to the original campus in Orange Street. The plaques were covered in cement and paint and, after much tender care, restored to their former glory by Scott. These plaques are of enormous historical significance and value. They have been placed in the Memorial Quad for viewing.



### CRICKET

Congratulations to Michael Levitt (Grade 8) on receiving the award for WPCA U13 Cricketer of the Year 2016.

The following boys have been chosen for the Western Province Winter Training Squads: Gregory Willows and Khanya Dilima (U19); Hayden Byrne and Ethan Burger (U17); Daniel Smith, Anda Dilima, Kai Curran and Michael Levitt (U15).



### THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Matthew Begg (Matric '16) received the Gold President's Award and Daniel Tukker (Grade 10) the Bronze President's Award for their work in 2016, while Nishen Naidoo (Grade 12) represents SACS on the Cape Town Youth Committee, earning him the Youth Leader badge. Congratulations.



### CYCLING (PART ONE)

SACS cycling is pleased to present the new cycle jerseys for 2017. Complete Cyclist (Hout Bay) have generously sponsored the cycling team, as well as providing them with technical support in terms of labour and parts.

Greg Holt from Complete Cyclist and his team are experts in their field, yet are more than happy to help all ability levels and ages of cyclist. For more information, click on the following link:

[https://www.bikehub.co.za/features/\\_/news/industry-news/specialized-elite-store-complete-cyclist-hout-bay-r6248](https://www.bikehub.co.za/features/_/news/industry-news/specialized-elite-store-complete-cyclist-hout-bay-r6248)

Please pay our partners in our newest primary sport a visit. The cyclists are looking forward to proudly wearing their jerseys in the upcoming races around the Western Cape.



### CYCLING (PART TWO)

Congratulations to Jamie Sher (Grade 12) who placed second in the elimination series at the Zevenwacht Wine Estate in Stellenbosch on Saturday.

Jamie is pictured far right in the photograph on the right.



### PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Parents are reminded that insurance is not available through the school. Parents are to ensure that their sons are adequately covered in the event of any accidents or injuries occurring at school or during sporting activities.

## LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

The Grade nine, ten and eleven boys were addressed by Kirk Wernars, a SACS Old Boy who gave up playing professional cricket to pursue a career in Fire and Rescue. Kirk gave a very passionate presentation, encouraging the boys to enjoy and live each day to the full.

At the age of eight his father, who had been very fit and sporty, suddenly suffered a stroke and spent fourteen years recovering. For Kirk, this taught him to use the support structures around him – his family, his friends, his teachers and his sport.

Kirk said he neglected his academics and other opportunities because sport was his priority. Rather than go to university after matriculating, Kirk pursued a cricket career. He was playing at an amateur level for Western Province and the emerging Cobras, and was having to borrow money to make ends meet. It was thus exciting to be selected for the South African U19A team and to travel with them. After that, Kirk was offered a six-month contract at Sussex in the United Kingdom and he took the plunge and moved.

Having a goal in life is important, but Kirk says you must be excited about the journey, as he

was when he first moved to Sussex. He said that if you enjoy your journey, the passion comes naturally. He was given a two-year contract after his initial six months, but playing professional cricket was a lot more serious than school-boy cricket. The passion subsided.

One afternoon in Sussex, Kirk witnessed an accident. A young man was knocked down and Kirk felt the urge to help, but did not know how. Many people and emergency services arrived and the man was flown away by helicopter. That feeling of helplessness led to a change of direction as he returned to Cape Town with a view to a career in emergency services.

Kirk began by volunteering for Volunteer Wildfire Services and when he was on a burning mountain for fifteen hours he realised that, although he feared death, he was having the best time of his life! He qualified after nine months of training and has had an 'incredible' three years since.

The best learning for Kirk has been around the kitchen table at the Fire Station. He impressed on the boys how important it is to 'listen and learn.' Not everyone can be a leader, but

everyone can learn.

Kirk discussed a few of his role models and how easy it is to be a leader when everything is going right, e.g. leading a team when you are winning. However, he said the true test of leadership comes when you jump into a "war zone" or a crisis, and the decisions you make during that time. Sometimes those decisions can be painful.

Kirk ended the presentation with a video made by one of his role models – Casey Neistat, who made a video for Nike entitled '#makeitcount'. The video shows Casey making the most of the opportunities given to him by travelling the world in ten days and making sure that every minute counted.

We would like to thank Kirk for taking the time to speak to the SACS boys and for sharing his insights. The next seminar will take place during term three and we will release more details closer to the time. In the meantime, if you require any further information on last week's seminar, or if you would like to nominate a speaker, 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)).

## PERCY MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION

The SACS Percy Montgomery Foundation is looking for volunteers to assist on Saturday mornings in the tuckshop, the catering van or the cooldrink van. Please contact Nichole ([Nichole.Harding@maitlandgroup.co.za](mailto:Nichole.Harding@maitlandgroup.co.za)) if you are able to assist.



### THIS WEEKEND

Our hockey and rugby teams host Paarl Gymnasium this weekend. The First Hockey team play on Friday at 6:45pm on the SACS AstroTurf (H) and the First Rugby Team on Saturday at 12:30pm on Memorial A field (H).

Click on the below link to access the programme for the weekend:

<http://sacsrugby.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Paarl-Gim-2017-update.pdf>



Yours sincerely

**K. R. BALL**  
HEADMASTER