

# The DHS Herald

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Durban High School  
Head Master : A D Pinheiro



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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ HOLIDAYS!!
- ◆ Staff Return
- ◆ Grade 8s Start School
- ◆ Boarders Return
- ◆ School Opens for Term 1
- ◆ Parent Information Evenings
- ◆ Grade 8 Orientation & Leadership Camp
- ◆ Grade 8 Bell Ringing Ceremony

## From the Head Master's Desk

The end of the year brings about the festive season and a time to spend with loved ones. I'm sure the Matrics have this tinged with some angst as they await their results, which will undoubtedly reflect their efforts.

The rest of School showed a marked improvement from the previous term and special mention must be made of the very good Grade 8 results in general. The boys in the Nonpareil class have shown excellent improvement which has in turn engendered greater demand necessitating expanding their venue. The construction is presently under way and will hopefully be ready for the start of the year. We thank the DHS Foundation for funding this project as well as other classroom refurbishments.

Project Pegasus which is mentioned later in this publication, is nearing completion and will make a positive contribution to the school. We thank the Victor Daitz Foundation, Chris Seabrooke, Sabvest and Datatec for their funding.

There is further construction work on the go at the corner of St Thomas Rd and Essenwood Rd in preparation for NewBridge. The school tuckshop will also undergo a face change and a change in ownership which promises to be an exciting addition to the school landscape.

The cricket nets, as well as the Indoor Cricket Centre, are being upgraded presently, once again through funding from Old Boys.

The start of 2019 should be both hectic and exciting with all these changes.

At the end of the year we also bid farewell to some staff. Mrs Hardy has immigrated to New Zealand; Ms Le Roux is off to teach in South Korea; Mr Denny is off to study towards his Doctorate and Mr Wehrmeyer takes up a post in Pretoria in the new year. We wish all these staff all the best in their respective endeavours and thank them for their commitment to our boys. We also look forward to the energy that the new staff that will be joining us will bring in the new year.

The saddest farewell, however, is to one of our brothers. Sandiso Mleya, a boy in Grade 11, sadly passed away in the holidays in a motorcar accident. Sandiso was both a bright as well as talented young man that had the world at his feet. He will be sorely missed by family and friends alike. Rest in peace.

As we enter a time of festivities and celebrations, I ask that all members of the DHS family remember those that have made a difference in our lives, those that are not as fortunate as us and those that have lost loved ones. I wish everyone a blessed holiday and a safe return to what promises to be an exciting 2019. The Blue Typhoon is gathering momentum.

Deo Fretus.

*A D Pinheiro*  
15<sup>th</sup> Head Master



*Head Master, Mr Pinheiro, signing in with the Biometrics system*



*The bank of biometrics units*



*Staff receiving training for the new telephone system*



*Installing a security camera*



*The screen to view the cameras*

## Project Pegasus

As the year draws to a close, so too does Project Pegasus, the ambitious communication and security upgrade which commenced at School at the start of the term. The project has involved a great deal of planning, meetings, behind-the-scenes preparation and two months of onsite installations by a number of workmen. The disruptions to school life and activities, for such a large scale operation, has been minimal, mainly due to the extent of the preparation and organisation, and the cooperation of the Staff and Boys.

Next year all the projects will be fully operational and this is what we have to look forward to:

**PABX** - A new telephone system has involved the installation of a state of the art switchboard, with new telephones and an automated call directing service which will save time and increase efficiency. Callers are now given the option to dial a number to go straight through to the department they require. In addition, for everyone's security, all telephone calls will be automatically recorded. We are already enjoying the benefits of this impressive new system.

**Intercom** - A brand new intercom system has been installed throughout the School, reaching into every single classroom and beyond; we are very pleased with this project as it has been difficult over the past 18 months without one. This project is 90% complete, one switch needs to be cleared by

customs before it can be released and installed to finalise the job.

**Biometrics** - a biometrics system has been installed for efficient registration and timekeeping for the Boys and Staff. Registration, signing in and entering absentees on a computer will now be a thing of the past as, with a simple press of the thumb, the new system will talk to our database and record all attendances.

Morning registration will continue to be performed manually so that the boys do not lose that personal contact with their class tutors, however, latecomers, afternoon registration, extra mural practices, sport fixtures and compulsories will be done via the biometrics. Stations can be found at the security hut, in reception, outside the Marketing Department and outside the Staffroom. Portable handsets will be used for extra mural activities.

**CCTV Security Cameras** - CCTV cameras have been installed in every classroom, in passageways, courtyards and areas throughout the school for the safety and security of all. Security cameras are a major deterrent for theft and, with the introduction of iPads at School next year, the timing of the installation of these cameras is perfect. Installation of new lockers and upgrading of current lockers will also be occurring over the following month.

**WiFi, Network and Cabling** - all the above projects require WiFi and internet access which necessitated upgrading



*The Nonpareil Cambridge Academy upgrade in progress*



*The Newbridge upgrade in progress*



*AutoCad Elective*



*Drawing Skills Elective*

## Project Pegasus cont'd

our network, cabling and server room infrastructure.

Grateful thanks must be extended to our very generous donors, particularly The Victor Daitz Foundation as well as Chris Seabrooke in his personal capacity and via Datatec Limited and Sabvest Ltd, without whom these projects could not have transpired. Thank you to the companies who undertook the projects and worked so well together: Universal Networks, Wavelengths and SAMCOM. Finally, our grateful thanks to our Staff who worked tirelessly to ensure all went smoothly, Mrs Lynne Worth who led the project, Mr Chris Green, Mr Gavin Goodwin, Mr Alan Norton, Mr Gerhardt Aylward and Head Master, Mr AD Pinheiro, whose vision has become a reality.

Over and above these exciting projects, upgrading of the Nonpareil and Cambridge

Academy area, due to a huge demand as the number of boys has more than doubled for next year, has begun and the area is being increased to encompass two more classrooms. These will be ready for the start of the school year.

And finally, the conversion of the old Art Block, corner of St Thomas and Essenwood Road, into the new tertiary education campus, NewBridge, has begun and will be ready early in the New Year.

2019 promises to be another incredible year in the life of our School, and with these extraordinary initiatives in place for the start of the year, we look forward to an exciting future.

Deo Fretus!

*Sharon Drew*

*Marketing & Communication*

## Elective Programme

The introduction of the Elective Programme in 2018 has given Durban High School boys the opportunity to develop vital skills that are not necessarily addressed in the normal school curriculum. These skills include critical thinking, problem solving, creativity and entrepreneurial thinking. It has also given boys the opportunity to spend additional time on sports and cultural activities they want to excel in.

Electives were launched for the first time at DHS in February this year, and like all new programmes we did have some teething problems. However, these problems

have been overshadowed by the fantastic opportunities this programme has given to our boys.

The Elective programme has introduced a long list of new courses, these include:

- AP Maths
- Ashoka Entrepreneurship
- Autocad
- Community Engagement
- Drawing Skills
- Film/Photography
- First Aid
- French
- Game Programming
- Music Academy
- Performing Arts Academy
- Portuguese
- Rocket Building
- School Enterprise Challenge



*School Enterprise Challenge Elective - Awande and Luyanda, were winners of the Most Innovative Business award*



*First Aid Elective*



*Mr Pinheiro presents to Mr de Sousa the Fernando Pessoa biography, "The Poet With Many Faces"*



*Seluleko Sabela hands the giant cheque for R1500 over to representatives of the Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre*

## Elective Programme cont'd

Science Club  
Sports Academies  
Toastmasters

All these courses exposed our boys to new ways of learning and any many case provided certification for their efforts. As a result of the Elective Programme a record number of boys completed courses like AP Maths, Autocad, Toastmasters and First Aid. While other boys were exposed to completely new language courses and computer programming.

The level of our sport has certainly improved over the past year, with results against our main rivals improving dramatically. This is a direct result of the academy programmes.

The Music Academy and the Performing Arts Academy have also been instrumental in the school being able to put on a school production for the first time in many years.

Our Entrepreneurial programme has also given our boys the opportunity to develop and run their own businesses. Both the Ashoka course and the School Enterprise Challenge and been hugely successful. Both groups of boys have won a number awards for their innovation and business plans. A special mention must be made of the three boys who were part of the School Enterprise Challenge. The businesses were required to submit business plans and annual reports. X2TION who is represented by Awande Ndlovu (Grade 10N) and

Luyanda Koboka (Grade 10X) submitted the required and were shortlisted as nominees for a prize. Thereafter the boys were invited to attend the annual award event which was held at Ladysmith on Friday 19 October 2018. Sandile Masombuka (Grade 11) who represented the Power of 8 was amongst the invitees. The event was hosted by Teach A Man To Fish. They enjoyed a day of activities where they were taught how to develop sustainable businesses that wouldn't harm the environment. Businesses were given the opportunity to showcase their business ideas or their final product. At the awarding ceremony, X2TION won the Most Innovative Business award and R3000,00.

In 2019 we will be expanding the Elective to include even more certified courses. We will focus on Technology Innovation as well as Leadership. We will also be introducing two more languages in Mandarin and German.

I would like to thank all our external partners, who have come on board this year and provided the boys of Durban High School with the unique opportunity to extend their learning and better prepare them for an ever changing world.

We look forward to the introduction of some exciting new electives in the New Year.

*Bryan Adam  
Head of Electives*

## Nonpareil Cambridge Academy

The best opportunities that come along sometimes are magically timed just for you. This has been true for myself, and for a number of the boys who have spent this inaugural year in the Nonpareil Cambridge Academy. The brainchild of our Head Master, Mr A D Pinheiro, has become an exciting reality.

The goals for the academy are twofold. We gained recognition from the Cambridge International Assessment Education and began this year with our first candidates. The staff involved were positive in their approach to taking on an international syllabus and examining structure. Their efforts to master a different syllabus, assessment style and marking expectations is commended. For many of us it was a refreshing and stimulating change from the state syllabus. Commendation must also go to the eight young men who together adapted and mastered this totally new system and approach. They have been extended in such a positive way where their critical thinking and evaluation skills have been tested and developed further.

approach. This means that the boys are taught the basic concepts and are then guided into delving deeper into the content and applying it to real life situations eg: more case studies both local and international. The boys are taught to look further than the basic concepts and this allows for a lot of peer and facilitator collaboration as opposed to the group learning between the boys.

It has been an exhilarating year with many of the boys achieving greater success in their respective subjects. There have also been many individual success stories of boys who were unhappy in school but bright and deflated. Their personalities have been ignited and their interest and commitment to their work has multiplied. They have all shown a growth in maturity and have accepted greater responsibility for their personal character growth and their work. We know boys work differently in classrooms and the academy seems to provide the right environment that is more dynamic and more suitable to boys' education.

Extensions and renovations are underway to welcome a new group of boys both for the extension and for the Cambridge programmes. More timetables and teachers have been brought in to manage the increased size, grade groups not exceeding 15 boys. The interest and growth has been staggering and a big thank you must go out to Mr Pinheiro for his vision, support and drive in this area, as well as to the Foundation who have shown such wonderful support in terms of the alterations.

*C Dickinson  
Head of Nonpareil Cambridge  
Academy*



*The Nonpareil Cambridge Academy  
Boys and Staff*



*Thank You for Our Benches!*

The second part of the Nonpareil Academy has been an extension programme for those with higher order thinking skills still doing the state syllabus. The selection process for this programme began in the second half of 2017 for grade 8 and 9 boys who showed potential in extending their learning approach and style, and who also were achieving academically already. The boys and the teachers went through an extended training course to change the mindset of traditional teaching to a more self-directed, facilitator approach. In this style of learning the facilitator guides and extends the learning outside of the set curriculum using a more autonomous, self-discovery

## The Interesting Story of Fernando Pessoa's Biography

Head Master, Mr AD Pinheiro, presented to the Honorary Consul for Portugal in Durban, Mr Elias de Sousa, a book. What is noteworthy about this particular book, is that it is written about one of Durban High School's most famous Old Boys, world renowned poet Fernando Pessoa; it is written by a former teacher at DHS, Mr Hubert Jennings; and was "found" by DHS Old Boy, Chris Jennings, Hubert's son. And now, decades later, it has been published.

"The Poet with Many Faces" is the first biography of Fernando Pessoa in English and there is quite a story attached to it. In the words of Chris:

"I presume you want to know a bit on how a one-time teacher at DHS came to be interested in Pessoa, learnt Portuguese and became fascinated by the genius of Pessoa long before most people in the English speaking world became aware of this. Went twice to Portugal, once on a Gulbenkian

scholarship, befriended Pessoa's family and was given access to a room full of Pessoa's papers. As a remarkable classical scholar, who wrote beautiful English and was a published poet in his own right he was able to do some beautiful translations of numerous of Pessoa's poems. Apart from an earlier publication on Pessoa in Durban, his book on Pessoa "The Poet with Many faces" was written in the 60's and was being prepared for publication in 1968 when a revolution in Portugal and the suicide of one of the main promoters of the book caused it to be shelved. 24 years after my father's death it was found in the rafters of my daughter's garage when she moved to Cape Town. This, together with boxes full of my father's papers mostly on Pessoa.

Not knowing whether these were of interest to anyone in the Pessoa world we sent an inventory of these to Universities round the world including, Oxford,

Lisbon, Yale, Brown, South America, etc and to our huge surprise were amazed at the interest these engendered. We eventually handed everything over to Brown who had promised to scan everything and make it all available to anyone interested. This has been done and several symposia on my father's work have been held at Brown with attendants coming from all over the world. I understand a number of books and theses are in progress based on my father's work about which my sister and I were completely unaware."

A fascinating story indeed.

If you would like to learn more about it, "In search of Fernando Pessoa" is an article written by Hubert Jennings giving in-depth details:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20100806133733/http://www.umfernandopessoa.com/estudos/in-search-of-fernando-pessoa.pdf>

## Blue Ribbons Project

As part of the community service projects that honoured Nelson Mandela's centenary birth year, Durban High School collaborated with the Durban Youth Council (DYC) in a Blue Ribbons fundraiser. The Blue ribbons symbolised awareness against child abuse.

Blue ribbons were created by the Grade 11 DYC representatives from Durban High School with great support and assistance from the School's Director of Community Service, Mrs G Joshua. Through the support and permission of Durban High School's management, the Ribbons were sold to students during a two week period. More Grade 11 boys volunteered to facilitate the sales of the ribbons under Mrs Joshua's guidance. A number boys and staff supported the project and wore their blue ribbons pledging solidarity against any form of

abuse against children in our communities. A total of R1500 was raised and the funds were donated to the Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre in Queensburgh.

To Mr Pinheiro, for supporting and allowing the collaboration between Durban High School and the Durban Youth Council; to Mrs Joshua, for her insurmountable support, time and energy which ensured the success of the project; to my Grade 11 brothers that also gave their time and energy to assist with the project; to the Durban High School staff and boys that bought ribbons and helped raise the funds donated to the Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre; to Ms S Drew, for creating the beautiful large cheque that was presented at the handover ceremony; not forgetting my DYC colleagues for their never ending support - a huge thank you to all of you! The

Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre also gives their heartfelt thanks for our hard work and support for their Centre and the work they do.

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead."

It is up to all of us, young and old, to take action and build each other up. This project proves that it is not impossible nor hard to make a difference or be part of making a difference in people's lives.

*Seluleko Sabela  
Grade 11 Boy and a 2018  
representative of the Durban  
Youth Council*



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Committed to our future*

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[www.durbanhighschool.co.za](http://www.durbanhighschool.co.za)



## The Weeks Ahead

Wednesday 12 December

All other public schools close

Friday 14 December

Staff leave for December holidays

Thursday 3 January 2019

The Kit & Coffee Uniform Shop  
Opens

1<sup>st</sup> XI Cricket Tour to Grey High,  
PE : 3 to 8 January

Friday 4 January 2019

Management & Admin Staff Return  
to School  
Release of NSC Matric Results

Saturday 5 January 2019

Foundation Awards Evening : AJ  
Human Room

Sunday 6 January 2019

Grade 8 Boarders Arrive

Monday 7 January 2019

Educators Return to School  
Grade 8s Start School  
Music Auditions : 7 & 8 January  
Grade 8 Sport Trials : 7 & 8 Jan

Tuesday 8 January 2019

Grade 9-11 Boarders Arrive

Wednesday 9 January 2019

School Opens for Term 1  
Grade 8 Information Evening : DC  
Thompson Hall : 17h30

Thursday 10 January 2019

Grade 12 Information Evening : DC  
Thompson Hall : 17h30

Friday 11 January 2019

Grade 8 Orientation & Leadership  
Camp: 11 to 13 January  
Staff Function to Welcome New  
Staff  
BE Closed Weekend : 11 to 13 Jan

Sunday 13 January 2019

Grade 8 Bell Ringing Ceremony

Monday 14 January 2019

Grade 11 Information Evening : DC  
Thompson Hall : 17h30

Tuesday 15 January 2019

Grade 10 Information Evening : DC  
Thompson Hall : 17h30

Wednesday 16 January 2019

Grade 9 Information Evening : DC  
Thompson Hall : 17h30

## Thank You for Our Benches!

Earlier in the year a drive to replace the benches around our sports field was initiated by Mr Richard Smith, a Grade 8 parent and member of the School Governing Body. The existing benches were old and sad and badly in need of renewing.

An appeal was made to members of the DHS community to contribute by purchasing a bench for R2500, this included a plaque to indicate who had donated the bench.

The response was immediate and phenomenal! Old Boys, current Boys, Old Parents, New Parents, all came to the party and 17 benches now sit proudly around Van Heerden and Nourse fields.

We want to thank and acknowledge the generosity of our incredible friends and

families ... your response was more than we expected and we have to admit to being absolutely thrilled. Thank you!

And thank you to staff member and Old Boy, Lyle Matthysen, who did all the hard work ... and donated a bench!

Below is a list of the wonderful folk who contributed:

- 1) The Matthysen Family:  
Wayne - Class of 79  
Anthony - Class of 79  
Ryan - Class of 2007  
Lyle - Class of 2009  
Darryn - Class of 2014
- 2) The Carson Family
- 3) Revel Williams - Class of 1980
- 4) Basil Williams - Class of 1941
- 5) Nirav Singh - Grade 8 of 2018
- 6) Class of 1987

- 7) Class of 1987
- 8) The Grade 8 Class of 2018
- 9) Future Class of 2023 and MMA Cars
- 10) SGB and Moms Comm
- 11) Moms Comm 2011-2015
- 12) Class of 1980
- 13) Class of 1978 - In memory of Nick Robinson
- 14) Class of 1978 - In memory of Chris Wells
- 15) Nick and Jeremy Chandler  
Nick - Class of 1995  
Jeremy - Class of 1996
- 16) The Paul Family:  
William - Class of 1907  
Norman - Class of 1941  
Justin - Class of 1980  
Michael - Class of 2016
- 17) The Class of 1979





*Best wishes for the  
Holidays!*

*May your Home be filled  
with love, peace and joy  
May these blessings follow  
you throughout the year.*

*From the  
Head Master  
and Staff  
of DHS*



**SHARON, SHOP AND WIN  
THIS FESTIVE SEASON**

Shop at **Woolworths** or **Loot.co.za** and win one of 10 x R5 000 cash prizes.

Each time you spend R750 or more until **31 December 2018**  
you boost your chances of **WINNING**.

**Make your festive swipes count for what matters most.**

[Ts & Cs Apply](#)