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BISHOPS PRE-PREPARATORY



The Jungle Book Kids

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PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT



Sharlene Groom

We have had a wonderful, exciting term despite the rain and cold, dark mornings. Our boys have enjoyed many fabulous learning activities and welcomed student teachers into their classrooms, showing them all that they had learnt so far this year. Each grade had exciting opportunities to learn new things. Grade R boys had an international food day, where they experienced food from various countries while Grade 2 boys celebrated their Heritage by tasting food from South Africa. The Grade R boys also invited their grandparents to a special celebration to honour the part that they play in the lives of each boy. They were treated to a lovely tea, visits to the classrooms and a wonderful musical interlude from the boys. Our main focus this term had to be our play, *The Jungle Book Kids*. Each and every Grade 1 and 2 boy had a moment to shine as part of this outstanding production. An enormous thank you to all the parents who helped and to Desire Swanich and Tam Spiers who made this story come alive on stage. The many weekend rehearsals certainly paid off. The Grade R boys have much to look forward to when they present a production in 2017. Readathon 2015 was a fantastic experience. Each classroom decorated a little area and chose an author to learn more about. The

week was filled with a delivery of wooden bookshelves which the boys were invited to fill with quality secondhand books. The shelves were then distributed throughout the community to daycares and little schools in the communities on the outskirts of Cape Town. If you would like to follow the journey and discover where they ended up, feel free to like the Facebook page, Little Libraries to read up and see the pictures. Many, many pages were read by the boys. The individual winners were: Grade 1 Ketan G; Grade 2 Alex L. The winners of the class who read the most pages were: Mrs van Breda's class. Mrs Osborne and Ms Fry's classes received prizes for filling their bookshelves with donated books first. Not only were the boys able to present a production this term, but we were also treated to a presentation from *Hooked on Books* and another of *Matilda* by Roald Dahl. These were both amazing performances to watch and greatly enjoyed by all the boys. What a wonderfully successful Readathon week! We showed our support for people with disabilities by buying and wearing stickers for Casual Day in September. The boys were also encouraged to bring along an item of clothing that they had outgrown as part of an outreach to under privileged children in Villiersdorp. Emma Sadlier came and presented an excellent talk to parents of both Prep and Pre-Prep boys around the dangers and highlights of social media. She shared very pertinent information and left parents and teachers with lots of food

for thought. Tag rugby is always a highlight of our rugby season at the Pre-Prep. This year did not disappoint the enthusiastic participants. We hosted two very exciting internal tournaments, where every team got to

play a selection of games against one another. What fun was had, ending off the season with a lovely family braai and an introduction of Tag to the Grade R boys.

Sharlene Groom

NEWS FROM GRADE R



Three generations of Bishops boys: Jonty, Miles and Maeder Osler

The Grade R teachers and boys returned after a long and refreshing break, and settled back into routine. Term 3 was

filled with exciting activities to look forward to; the first being the all-important Grandparent's Day! At 09h00 Grannies, Grandpas, and even some aunts and uncles made their way to the spring-themed hall where they were entertained by 72 very excited little grandsons. Afterwards, having spent some time with their special visitors, a delicious tea was enjoyed, and their grandsons bid a fond farewell. Amongst other things, this term our boys learnt about the world around us, and went under the ground to discover gems, cities and the world beneath our feet. We then went exploring the oceans,

learning about underwater exploration vessels, spelunking (cave diving) and the zones in the ocean.



Alex Laspatzis and Connor Francis enjoy the shared reading visit!

where the presenters spoke about cultures, differences and similarities. Our boys confidently volunteered to be people from all corners of the globe, and even received a take-home bracelet as a keepsake. We learnt about the South African Heritage sites and our duty as young citizens to take care of, and advocate the protection of our heritage. The ultimate excitement to end our term

Just before Heritage week we went up into space which found our boys revisiting the planets and their specifications, lunar mobiles and a day in the life of an astronaut! As part of the run up to Heritage Day celebrations, we had a visit from the FANSA group which discusses age-appropriate topics with young children. Our boys took part in a multi-sensory and most enlightening session

was having the Grade 2 boys come and read stories to our Grade R boys. The buzz was tangible as the Grade Rs eagerly awaited and attentively listened to their storytellers, and afterwards the little listeners gave each of their reading buddies a Dr Seuss bowtie and a chocolate for their valiant efforts! Well done boys!

Grade R Teachers

NEWS FROM GRADE 1

The boys came back feeling refreshed after their lovely winter holiday and were ready for the long term ahead. We started the term with a theme entitled 'How things work'. We learned about simple machines, gears and potential energy. We visited the

Science Centre where the boys learnt about how electricity is generated and performed experiments turning potential energy into kinaesthetic energy. They also enjoyed a science show and had fun discovering the range of activities on the floor. Our next

theme was Space where we focused on our solar system, and this was followed by a theme on Plants where they discovered what is needed to make them grow. We planted bean seeds and kept a diary as the boys excitedly recorded the growth of their beans. In keeping with this theme, we celebrated Arbour Day by learning about trees, their uses and their importance to our environment. The highlight of the term was our production of *The Jungle Book Kids*. Every little Grade 1 and 2 boy was in this show and it was incredible to witness the boys learning valuable life skills through this unique experience. The boys delighted in putting on costumes and face paint before taking to the stage. The performances were a riot of energy, colour and fun! Another highlight of the term was our Readathon Week. The boys were encouraged to read

as much as possible and we had a pyjama day where they came to school still in their onesies with a teddy and blanket. Parents came to share stories with the boys while they enjoyed delicious treats. The boys also collected gently used books for donation. We were treated to two wonderful productions in the theatre; that of *Matilda* and *Hooked on Books*. It was Heritage Day on 24 September; we explored our heritage with a theme entitled Proudly South African. The boys made posters celebrating our rainbow nation, brought special South African food to school and came dressed as proud South Africans. As it was the end of the winter sports season, we held a Tag rugby tournament at Lutgensvale which ended with a family braai. It was a great way to end a busy term.

Grade 1 Teachers

NEWS FROM GRADE 2

Preparations for our *Jungle Book Kids* production had been long under way when the third term dawned upon us. The boys thoroughly enjoyed all the songs, dancing and humour that this production had to offer. From incredible set design, to amazing costumes, this was a number one hit for the boys, teachers and parents. The Grade 2 boys who were main characters embraced their roles with open arms and shone like stars on the stage. **Joe Bolus** who was tasked with being King Louie said, "I liked being under the big puffy suit." Grade 2HF had the task of being monkeys and, "It was so much fun being a monkey because we could get to do whatever we

wanted on stage," said **Muhammad-Zayd Bhorey**. Grade 2AO did a fantastic job being vultures and Grade 2LF were very convincing elephants. **Liam Chester** recounts, "It was magical!" After this busy production time, we still managed to cram lots more into the third term. We visited the Magic Classroom where the boys got to learn about light and different colours in science. **Austin Johnson** recounts, "I liked it when Prof Bayla juggled with the knives and I also enjoyed watching Magic David." "The most exciting part was to see the magic classroom and all the cool magical equipment." said **Rowan P**. Shortly after our outings the boys enjoyed their final



Grade 2LF boys having fun with our gym equipment

Tag games participating in the end of year Tag Tournament. Some super skills were put into action and lots of fun was had by the boys and dads who participated. **Jack Breslin** remembers, “I jumped really high and scored a try, but then it wasn’t a try! That was my best part!” “I love the feeling when you get the ball,” said **Andoni A.** Our boys are very fortunate to have dads who take time out of their busy schedule to coach every Friday and be involved in tournaments such as these. Thank you to those dads who are able to assist coaching and encouraging the boys. The Readathon was just around the corner and the boys

were treated to *Hooked on Books* coming to pay us a visit in the Memorial Theatre. Two actresses and one actor wowed the boys with short dramatizations of books they recommended. The boys were in stitches of laughter watching the humorous acts. **Bulumko M** recounts, “My best was the story of complete nonsense!” **Keegan L** said, “I liked the story about the hippo who thought he had a spot on his bum, but it was actually gum!” Mrs Groom kindly added these fantastic books to our library and they have been in great demand. During our Readathon competition time, each class was asked to fill up a book



Jesse Arendse at the Magic Classroom



Luka Lehmann enjoying the Readathon Picnic

shelf for Little Libraries Foundation who donates books to schools that do not have many resources. We managed to fill three book shelves with lovely stories to give away. **Ryan Webb** said, “Reading all of

my old and new books for the competition was so much fun.” To celebrate the Readathon and to give the boys a special moment to read, we set time aside where they could bring hot chocolate, a pillow, a blanket and a good book. Sebastian von Bormann recounted, “I enjoyed the reading picnic we had in our classroom. The hot chocolate was very delicious.” Some classes decorated their doors in theme of a book they chose. Others had fun and exciting reading corners, forts and tents. “Reading in the tents, in our classroom was peaceful and calming because everyone was quiet,” said **Ross Jenman**. Our Grade read a total of 37 021 pages altogether over 9 days! Even though there were only prizes for a few boys, the biggest prize for all was the joy of reading and to hear the improvement all the boys have made over this short time. After a full and busy term, the boys head into their last stretch of Grade 2 for the year.

Excitement and intrigue are beginning to gather for their transition into Grade 3 next year. After a short holiday we’ll all be back for an action packed fourth term!

Grade 2 Teachers