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Deputy Headmaster: Dave Ernstzen
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WEEKLY NEWS

Dear Parents, girls and boys

This has truly been an "Alice in Wonderland" week. The grade 6 and 7 pupils have entertained us with a remarkable version of the play specially adapted for Uplands and indeed South Africa. The acting, singing and dancing was excellent and the children are to be commended for their effort. Congratulations to Mrs Cheryl Calmeyer for getting over 100 pupils on stage and the brilliant casting of the grade 7s. Well done! Thank you to everyone who made a contribution towards making this a highly successful play. If you missed it, you did miss out, but not to worry there are more productions throughout the course of the year. It is wonderful to see children perform so confidently on stage.

Welcome back to our Mpumalanga swimmers who travelled to the Nationals in Cape Town this past weekend. Uplands Prep had six swimmers that achieved provincial colours this year. Well done to Devon Eaton, Ashleigh Smart, Annabel Rood, Lauren Ogg, Landau Van Rooyen and Anton Van Dyk. They all performed well and many achieved new personal best times. Anton however achieved outstanding results walking away with the gold in the U10 Freestyle, silver for the individual medley and a bronze for the freestyle relay. This is the best performance by an Uplands pupil in the history of the Uplands schools! Well done Anton you have made us all proud.

This week we also managed to inoculate almost 400 of our pupils on Wednesday morning. Thank you to the parents for your prompt reply to the letters that went out. We needed to act quickly because of some reported cases of Measles and the Health Department was working the White River area. Your children were very brave and very few tears were shed as they got jabbed. I must mention that Wooden School children were the bravest of all with not a tear in sight. Well done to our 4 year olds (and I am sure that it had nothing to do with the sweets!)

This is also report season and you would have received your child's assessment in the form of comments by the class teachers. Please reflect upon the report with your children and praise them for their achievements. If there are areas of concern please help your child set new goals for next term. The term is rapidly drawing to a close with the senior primary field trips taking place next week.

This has been a busy and productive term. We look forward to new challenges in April. Have a blessed Easter and a happy holiday!

Green tip for the week: the inter-class paper collection competition will start next term.

Have a wonderful weekend!

**Best regards,
Dave Ernstzen**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY....

Sarah Sutton 15/03, Aidan Viljoen 16/03, Amy Prior 18/03, Idiatou Diallo 18/03, Kirsty Robertson 18/03, Tapiwa Tarwa 18/03, Campbell Davies-Webb 19/03, Randy Khoza 19/03, Zandr  de Kock 20/03, Mantombi Makhubela 21/03, Cray Archdeacon 22/03, Sara Archdeacon 22/03, Jessica Frost 22/03, Joshua Cooper 24/03, Wilmeri Ehlers 24/03, Tristan Gilday 26/03, R ne Ferreira 27/03, Xenia Malaza 27/03, Vuxa Hlatshwayo 28/03, Savannah Kempthorne 29/03, Cameron Black 29/03, Ntsako Silinda 31/03, Liam Brain 02/04, Bukky Dunmoye 03/04, Leo Radford 04/04, Sibonelo Buthelezi 04/04, Edward Smith 04/04, Tirhani Mkansi 04/04, Brett Korb 09/04, Amy Russell 10/04, Rachael van Reenen 11/04, **Staff:** Mari t Boshoff 16/03, Ansa Schalekamp 24/03, Gavin Sinclair 29/03, Cherie le Roux 31/03

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

Individual Achievements...

CYCLING - SABIE CLASSIC MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE (2 WEEKS AGO)

The following pupils took part in the Sabie Classic 15km:

KIRSTY SHUTTLEWORTH

TAMZYN EMERY (3rd sprog girl)

JAMES EMERY

AMY RUSSELL

JOSHUA BIRCH (10th overall)

40km

MURRAY JAMES

came 12th in the junior boys category (14 - 17 years).
Murray is only 11!

GUPPIE GALA

ETHAN SCORGIE

2nd in butterfly and 3rd in freestyle

AIRIN SCORGIE

1st in freestyle, 3rd in freestyle. Airin also received the floating trophy for the longest Guppie swimmer (10 years).

JAYLA-JADE ADAMS

2 gold medals and 2 silver medals

LUKE EDMONDSON

trophy for top freestyle swimmer

EMMA EDMONDSON

trophy for top junior achiever

SWIMMING - SA SCHOOLS NATIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS (CAPE TOWN)

LANDAU VAN ROOYEN

U10 freestyle, 7th overall, U10 individual medley 8th overall

ANTON VAN DYK

U10 50m freestyle GOLD with a time of 32.95

U10 200m individual medley and bronze in the 10 - 13 freestyle

TENNIS

AIDAN MAILEY

won the Lowveld U14 tennis tournament

FIRST AID

The following girls completed a First Aid course:

KIRSTY SHUTTLEWORTH

CHLOE PAKENDORF

Congratulations everyone!

UPLANDS OUTREACH NEWSLETTER NO. 3, 2010

Uplands is a well-resourced and privileged school, especially compared with our Outreach partner schools. Included in our understanding of 'resources' should be well-trained, well-supported, well-remunerated teachers. No transformation of South African education can take place without dedicated, hard-working, motivated and well-educated teachers. We must hold teachers accountable for high standards, but at the same time we must improve their working conditions, which are often very difficult in township and rural schools with large classes, inadequate facilities and too little in-service training.

The Uplands Outreach "Teachers in Partnership" project provides such in-service training on the Uplands campus. Last week ten teachers from Majika, Maqamela and Majika primary schools came to Uplands Prep to immerse themselves in a typical week – from the academic viewpoint, as well as the cultural, spiritual, sporting and social aspects. They partnered with their Uplands counterparts who took them under their wings. They were also given workshops by several Uplands teachers on topics of interest; Sue Kloeck presented her popular "Group Poetry" workshop; Renata Stewart inspired the teachers with her "Going Green across the Curriculum" workshop; Alex Frost opened their eyes to innovative ideas on making their own teaching aids by showing them how to "Make the most of what you have"; Lucretia Bell's workshop on "Behavioural Problems – Strategies to Cope" was, once again, of enormous benefit; and Jane van der Merwe's Maths workshop for Foundation Phase was extremely helpful.

I have immense respect for all the teachers from our partner schools. Not only do they have to teach huge numbers of kids to read and write under less than ideal conditions, but they also have to contend with all the social and economic problems in their schools' communities that inevitably have an impact in the classroom as well.

Imagine a school where three children share one desk and one pencil. Imagine three classes from one grade (between 80 and 100 children) housed in one room because there are not enough classrooms and the Department of Education does not allow them to teach outside under a tree, like at Majika. Imagine a child in your Grade 3 class coming to school with her baby brother tied to her back because her mother is too sick to look after him, like Pretty had to do at Maqamela. Imagine the responsibility of having 80 orphans in your school (double orphans that is, not counting a couple of hundred other vulnerable children with only one parent or with sick parents), like at Copetsheni. Imagine receiving the wrong text books, or not enough textbooks, or no textbooks at all. I could go on forever

Imagine also what a breath of fresh air it is for teachers from schools with challenges such as these to come to Uplands for one short week. They so appreciate the warm welcome and hospitality they receive at Uplands, not to mention all they gain professionally while they are here. Without exception, all of this term's Teachers in Partnership returned to their own schools with renewed motivation and enthusiasm and brimful of new creative ideas to implement in their classrooms and to share with their colleagues. Most of all, they are determined to "go the extra mile", an observation that they made about all the Uplands teachers.

Thank you to everyone at Uplands Prep for leading by example and for helping to make a difference.

Liz Mackintosh

EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITIES

Please note that the extras forms will not be sent out with the reports at the end of this term as you will be receiving them by email.

Lorraine Kirk

Forthcoming Attractions...

Fr 12 Mar	17:30	Pre-school families social at the Pavilion
Mon 15 Mar	08:00	Grade 6 field trip departs
Tue 16 Mar	08:00	Grade 5 and 7 field trips depart
	14:00	Uplands committee meeting
Wed 17 Mar	08:00	Grade 4 field trip departs
Fri 19 Mar		Field trips return
	12:00	END OF TERM
Tue 6 Apr	14:00	Boarders return
Wed 07 Apr	07:45	School starts

UPLANDS HAS TALENT

The search is on to see if Uplands has talent! Judging by the standard that was set in 2009, we can expect outstanding talent from our stars on stage this year!

The dates are as follows:

13th April - knock-out round

22nd April - Semi-finals in the Prep hall. Tickets at R20.00 p/p will be on sale early next term.

12th May - Finals at the Barnyard. Tickets at R50.00 p/p.

Please encourage your child to participate. It is not only for the enjoyment and fun but there are also big cash prizes for the winners.

Please note that the Music department can not be held responsible for obtaining back-tracks. These can be ordered from Pro-Trax in Pretoria at 012 342 1133 or Peter Echo Studios in Nelspruit at 072 194 2133. Please be also aware of the fact that music used for dancing and singing must be **age-appropriate**. The school reserves the right to censor music that is inappropriate.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Annelie Malherbe

As this is the last newsletter of the term,
we would like to take this opportunity to
wish you all a blessed Easter!!

MOMS IN TOUCH

Psalm 30: 5

*"Every word of God is flawless;
He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him."*

A group of moms from both the Prep and the College have been meeting weekly to pray for matters concerning the Prep and College staff, children and families for over 10 years. We meet every Thursday morning from 7.30 - 8.30 at the **Prep Pavilion**, to pray together and to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. Compassion and confidentiality is required. You are most welcome to join us or to contact Linda Lagerwey on 0824412675 or by email lagerwey@afrika.com for further details