



# Stanford Lake College

*"Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood"* Thomas Carlyle

31 July 2009

Dear Parents, Students and Staff

Welcome back to the College for the third term.

I trust that all of you had a wonderful holiday and that families have spent quality time together.

Parents had an opportunity to peruse the students' reports and to meet with staff last Friday. As always, we had a mixed bag of results. I had questions from parents regarding our academic approach and internal assessment and the perceived low College averages in certain subjects.

I would like to use this opportunity to address certain of these issues.

As you are aware, Stanford Lake College prepares students for the university entrance examinations of the Independent Examinations Board (IEB).

In line with international trends, the IEB seeks to create life-long learners who can solve problems, analyse, synthesise, and apply and integrate what they have learnt.

Benchmarking with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) confirms that the IEB Senior Certificate Examination meets international standards.

The examinations are run to the highest professional standards in consultation with UMALUSI, the General and Further Training Quality Assurance body and with top educationalists.

Recent research has shown that only 1% of all Gr. 12s nationwide are IEB students, but that 15% of first year graduates at RSA universities were IEB students, that 25% of all recent RSA graduates were IEB students and that 97% of all past IEB students graduate. These are indeed impressive statistics.

Within the context of independent schools, teacher forums (clusters) meet regularly to network and further develop their assessment skills to make the assessment of these outcomes possible.

GROWING TOGETHER FOR LIFE

Po Box 271, Haenertsburg, 0730, Limpopo Province, South Africa. Tel: 015 276 6103 Fax: 015 276 6114,

email [info@stanfordlakecollege.co.za](mailto:info@stanfordlakecollege.co.za).

Website: <http://www.stanfordlakecollege.co.za>

(Ass. Incorpor. ITO 521) 1997/012338/08



Independent  
Day/Boarding  
High School

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail



Stanford Lake College staff play a leading role in the northern region clusters. Several of our teachers are cluster leaders, regular markers and moderators. All of our FET staff attended the IEB Assessors Course held at the College in January this year. We also liaise with teachers from top Independent schools in Gauteng and elsewhere.

The School is extremely proud of its record in these examinations. Since its inception, the College has maintained a 100% pass rate. The percentage of students obtaining university entrance is normally well above 80%. The College has already produced three students in the IEB Top 50: Dario, Tercia and Talia Da Silva.

Rigorous moderation procedures and monitoring have ensured quality assessment and consistent good performance. When our students produce lower averages in subject at this stage of an academic year, I have the fullest confidence that our teachers will lead our students to produce final marks in Gr. 12 of which we can all be proud.

Mr. Noné, our Bursar, will retire in September. The vacancy will be advertised in this Sunday's edition of the Sunday Times. A Selection Committee, chaired by Mrs. Karin Baragwanath, will lead the process to replace our Bursar with a worthy candidate.

There will be several opportunities to bid Alf farewell. At this point in time, I would like to thank him for his outstanding contribution.

The term has started on a hectic note. The first two weeks are out of the way. We have concentrated on the choreography of the production "Roots of Rock". It is going to be a stunning production. Now we can get back to a rigorous academic programme. Prelims are around the corner.

Congratulations to our First XV Rugby side, the u/14 Girls Hockey team and our Mountain Bikers for outstanding results over the weekend. It was wonderful to see our proud team on the front page of the *Letaba Herald*.

Have a wonderful term.

Johann Ueckermann)  
**HEADMASTER**