



Stanford Lake College

"A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance" (Ecclesiastes 3:4)

HEADMASTER'S FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 2011

Dear All

It was not all plain sailing, but 2011 was a good year.

I have had the privilege to submit a good annual report to our Board. My report was subsequently circulated to parents, debenture and other stake holders and is available on www.stanfordlakecollege.co.za

We have had excellent all-round results. The Snapshots for the year reflect many successes in academics, sports and culture. The SLC flag flew high and proud!

We concluded with a strong finish and two highlights: the Christmas Carols service and the final assembly.

I would like to thank our Board and parents for their support and guidance.

Mr. Grant Daly, our Chairman was very visible and active during the year. I would like to thank Grant for the huge sacrifice in terms of time, passion and effort!

I would also like to thank our Gr. 12s who took the lead in their own special way. Thanks to Thato Ramashala and Lizanne Steenkamp who led the effort. We are looking forward to their final results in early January. A summary of the results will be posted under the heading *Breaking News* on 5 January 2012.

I was privileged to work with a competent staff this year. We have had an excellent mix of youth and experience this year. They all have made a difference.

It is sad to say good bye to the following people: Ed Goodier and Hanré Pieterse, our excellent GAP year students and Des Turton, our Adventure Facilitator - you guys were really excellent. Mr. Andrews and Mr. Slater were offered promotional opportunities at Bridge House and Lebone II respectively. Congratulations!

Mr. Holloway will continue with his farming operations.

Mr. James Quibell (Hilton College) and Mrs. Bridget Painter (Summit College) are moving sideways to bigger schools and challenges. They both will leave a legacy.

Our Academic Secretary, Mrs. Shirley George, is retiring. She has rendered excellent service and I wish her many happy years in her retirement.

GROWING TOGETHER FOR LIFE

PO Box 271, Haenertsburg, 0730, Limpopo, South Africa. Tel: 015 276 6103 Fax: 015 276 6114,
email info@stanfordlakecollege.co.za
Website: www.stanfordlakecollege.co.za
(Ass. Incorp. ITO 521) 1997/012338/08



Independent
Day/Boarding
High School

Mrs. Sue and Mr. Rhoan Abbott will be our new English teachers and will join us from the Emirates. Miss Sam Olney, our intern teacher, has been given a permanent appointment as Natural Sciences teacher. Mr. Wik van der Walt will be redeployed as an Adventure Facilitator. Miss Rennie will assist us during the first term. Mr. Rob Britton will replace Mr. Andrews as Economics teacher. Mr. Johan Bester is the new IT manager. Mrs. Robin Gardner will be our new Academic secretary. We will also have three ladies as GAP year students: Ester Rijk, Charlotte Hudson and Marmari Pieterse.

These appointments will all bring new ideas and fresh energy into the College.

We recently have had an Excellent Strategic Planning session to map out the next three years. I would like to dwell on this briefly.

Our main focus will be the delivery of quality well rounded education and employing the latest techniques in education.

It is common cause that the teaching and learning in the 21st century will have to be very different from the traditional forms that are still alive and well in most schools today. Many experts have outlined the changes that schools need to initiate to meaningfully engage and challenge what Friedrich and his colleagues (2011) are calling "Generation C" because they are connected, communicating, computerized and always clicking. Equally, the skills that students will need to meet the challenges of life and work in the 21st century have been spelt out.

In our digital age, students will have to keep learning and processing new information all their lives as the unceasing avalanche of new data renders the content of the disciplines they study outdated and irrelevant with each passing year.

To respond to the challenge of preparing pupils to truly become life-long learners, the College needs to articulate an explicit, coherent and comprehensive theory of learning that underpins our entire curriculum. This means that our staff need to understand the advances in cognitive science, research how best to help pupils acquire the full range of cognitive skills, and implement these learning strategies to ensure that all the cognitive skills are addressed in their teaching, learning and assessment.

Mr. Carolan, our new Deputy is the most suitable individual to lead this effort and to guide, mentor and train the SLC staff to be at their best in 2013, when a number of the planned activities will commence. He will develop Pastoral Care strategies and action plans which will ensure the general welfare and continuing personal development of students and staff. He will also design and implement whole school programmes of thinking and study skills. He holds Masters of Science in Applied Sport and Exercise Psychology and PGCE. He is a Master trainer in De Bono Thinking skills and a trainer of Neuro-Linguistic Programming.

Mr. Carolan will join us in January for the first week and will relocate in March. Mr. Friedrichs will be the acting second Deputy until then.

During final assembly I used the fable of Kotter, "Our Iceberg is melting" to explain to students that exiting times are ahead of us.

We are fully committed to be the first school in Limpopo to introduce blended learning opportunities, and we intend going digital by 2013!

We can look forward to the introduction of new subjects such as Business Studies, Sports Science and Speech and Drama in Grades 10 - 12. In 2012, we will introduce Thinking Skills programmes in Grades 8 and 9. In dream and do, we will introduce Birding and Tree Spotting as new material.

Parents will receive a letter regarding discipline from Mr. Llewellyn Bragin, our Director of Discipline. Please make sure that you read this.

I am very pleased to report that the campus developments are continuing as per our Master Plan.

Staff salaries have been kept in line with other ISASA schools both nationally and rurally and we are committed to improving the packages of our staff over the next few years.

These very important factors in our school's life do not come cheap and in order to maintain this momentum we had to consider an increase of 8% in Tuition Fees.

Boarding fees have had to increase by 10,4% due to astronomical increases in food prices and the unprecedented increases in electricity charges.

Please peruse Annexure A.

The College is financially stable and we are within the financial constraints as set by the Board of Trustees.

I wish you a happy festive season and a prosperous 2012!

Kind regards



Johann Ueckermann
HEADMASTER

GROWING TOGETHER FOR LIFE

PO Box 271, Haenertsburg, 0730, Limpopo, South Africa. Tel: 015 276 6103 Fax: 015 276 6114,
email info@stanfordlakecollege.co.za

Website: www.stanfordlakecollege.co.za
(Ass. Incorpor. ITO 521) 1997/012338/08



*Independent
Day/Boarding
High School*