

VICTORIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL



13 December 2023

Newsletter: Term 4

Dear Parents

As the end of this year is rapidly approaching, I trust that each member of the VP family will get a chance to slow down, breathe and reflect on what has been a very positive year for most. We are aware that some families have had a tough year and have had their own difficulties and adversities to face. For those who have been resilient and have made it through these, well done! Personally, I am very proud of what we, together as learners, parents and staff, have achieved!

Staff News

The success of this year would not have been possible without a team of committed, professional and motivated staff. With reference to our cleaning, maintenance, admin and teaching staff members, I am forever grateful for what they have done for the learners at our school. Collectively and individually, they have gone way beyond the extra mile in order to ensure that each pupil receives the best opportunities to learn, grow, discover and be inspired.

We unfortunately have to bid a sad farewell to some staff members who have, over the years, made enormous contributions to our school. Each staff member has added their own flavour and given unselfishly of themselves for the development and growth of our learners. We celebrate their contributions and say a heart-felt goodbye to:

Mrs Simone Falco: Mrs Falco joined the VP family on 1 March 2021. She taught English from Grade 8 to Grade 12. During her short stay at VP, she has made a huge impact on the lives of our learners. She emigrates with her family to Australia at the end of the year.

Mrs Alice Rossi: Mrs Rossi started at VP in 2015 as a SGB-employed Geography teacher. During her time at VPHS, she has successfully run the Geography department whilst also teaching with much passion. Mrs Rossi is also emigrating to Australia, where she will be living with her sister. We wish her all the best for her move and we trust that she will enjoy every moment of her well-earned retirement!

Mr Noel Staples: Mr Staples has run our school tuckshop since 1 September 2015. However, his involvement with VPHS began way before he took on the role of Tuckshop Manager. He was the chairperson of our school's SGB for many years where his

From the desk of
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knowledge and wisdom were put to good use. He has also assisted in the success of our school's clothing shop. We are certainly going to miss his smile and the enormous contribution he has made to our school.

Mrs Anne Sterley: Mrs Sterley has run our clothing shop for the past 20 years, during which time she has been instrumental in many upgrades and improvements. She always served our parents and learners with much care and pride. She has the patience of a saint and we will truly miss her warm and caring nature.

Mrs Angelique Jennings: Mrs Jennings has served the school with passion, heart and enthusiasm for 26 years. Whenever she was asked to teach and coach, she always went the extra mile for her learners. She has taught many subjects, including English, Afrikaans, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Natural Sciences, History and Geography. She has also been extensively involved in the extra-mural aspect of our school, being the founding member of ACC and passionately coaching and managing soccer. Mrs Jennings has also added value in many other areas in the life of VP, including the German Exchange programme and being the Head of LO. She will be sorely missed!

We are very excited to announce that **Mrs Spangenberg** is pregnant with a baby boy. She will be going on maternity leave at the end of January 2023. Congratulations to Mrs Spangenberg and her husband Kobus. We welcome back **Mr Bruce Zlokovich** who will be filling in for Mrs Spanenberg's classes in her absence.

We have appointed the following new teachers in permanent positions as of 1 January 2024:

Mrs Sarah-Jane de Beer, who is currently teaching Grade 8 – 12 English at Willow Academy, will be taking up an English position.

Mrs Shenees Assam, who is currently teaching Grade 8 – 12 Afrikaans at Urban Academy, will be joining the Afrikaans Department.

Miss Kelsey Scheepers will be joining Mrs van der Walt in the Drama Department, teaching Grade 10 and Grade 11 Dramatic Arts.

Ms Vuyokazi Magugu, who is currently teaching Grade 10 – 12 Computer Applications Technology at George Randall, will be teaching Grade 10 – 12 Computer Applications Technology.

Miss Melindi Engelbracht has just completed her PGCE at our school and she takes up a Social Science / Geography teaching post.

We would also like to welcome **Mrs Yolandi Stone** in a full-time capacity where she will be involved in the Sports Department, heading up Netball, Swimming and Athletics.

Ms Sharnè Feinauer and **Mr Jason Fortuin** have been appointed as the managers of the Clothing Shop and Tuckshop respectively. Congratulations on their appointments and we welcome them to the VP family!



School Shop Arrangements

The school shop will be open at the following times at the start of the 2024 school year:

Tuesday 2 January to Friday 5 January: Grade 8 Uniform Fitting by appointment only

(For Pre-Bookings, please contact Ms Sharnè Feinauer on **041-5086420 / 041-5086400** to make bookings)

Monday 8 January to Friday 12 January: 08h00 – 13h30

Monday 15 January to Wednesday 17 January: 08h00 – 13h30

2024 School Term Dates

Term 1: 17 January (learners) – 20 March

Term 2: 3 April – 14 June

Term 3: 9 July – 20 September

Term 4: 1 October – 11 December (learners)

(Please could all parents ensure that your child / children are correctly dressed on the first day of the new term, in terms of the dress and uniform regulations).

I would once again like to thank all of our parents for your unwavering support this year and in particular your commitment to your children and the school during these past November Exams. Our learners have worked hard and can be proud of their achievements. We are extremely proud of our Matrics of 2023! Congratulations on getting through your final set of matric exams. We are confident that your hard work and dedication will reflect in your results. Results will be available in the new year, late January or early February. As soon as we have been informed of the exact date, we will notify you as parents

Lastly, I would like to wish you and your families a blessed Christmas and a relaxing and restful holiday. May you enjoy family, friends and loved ones during the festive season and return refreshed and ready to go!

VIVITE FORTES – LIVE, CHALLENGE & DARE

Regards,



GARRETH JACOBSON

Principal

