

St Pat's Newsdesk

Headmaster's Newsletter No 01/2012 (19 January 2012)

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

- *FROM THE HEADMASTER...*
- *FROM THE PRO...*





FROM THE HEADMASTER

Welcome back to everyone after, what I hope, was a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. I also take this opportunity to welcome new families to the St Patrick's Community. 2011 was a very successful year for the school and we are confident that 2012 will take off from the sound platform set by our Matric results last year.

Well Done Matrics 2011

The Matrics of 2011 did us proud, achieving a 100% pass rate accompanied by an 82% Bachelor Degree pass rate. To put this into perspective, the average for all IEB schools in South Africa was a 98% pass rate and an 80% Bachelor Degree pass. You may have seen the photograph of Melody Fitch in the newspapers. She achieved an aggregate of 80% for her NSC – an outstanding effort. I congratulate all the Matrics who, I hope, have joined the Shamrock society and are, therefore, receiving this newsletter by e-mail.

Start-Up and Sport News

Our academic start-up has been good this year and the sporting calendar begins next week with the Annual Inter-House Gala in just two weeks' time. On the sporting front, we hope to begin work on the concrete foundation for the Astro carpet shortly. I thank James Anderson for his generous donation of two large rolls of synthetic turf, which will make up for the original sections that were damaged in transit. Hopefully we will have the artificial surface ready for use early next term.

EG Tractors Fun Cycle Marathon

EG Tractors are, once again, sponsoring the annual cycle marathon, which is to take place between 13h00 and 19h00 this Saturday. The event, which sees relay teams of four cycling on the school track for a period of six hours, is open to all. I would like to see as many family teams as possible entering the event, but so long as there is a minimum of two school pupils in a team, you are welcome to make up sides as you please. Last year's event was one by the "Tarr Family" team. I know that they have some serious cyclists – is there anyone out there who can take them on? The emphasis of the day, however, is mainly on family fun and riders of all ages are welcome. Should you wish to participate, but can't make up a team, please contact our PRO, Ashley Wills and give her your name. We will then attempt to make up teams from these individual names. The entry fee of R25 per rider entitles you to a boerewors roll and a cooldrink on the day. A lucky draw for various prizes and the 2011 final 100 club draw will also take place after the ride.

Parents' Evenings

Yes, I have to succumb to the temptation of beginning the year with a reference to the three-legged pot! Please remember that you, as parents, are vital contributors to the educational well-being of your child. The school, pupil and

parents make up the three legs of the pot in which your child gets his or her education for the future. Please take note of the dates and times of the various Phase parents' evenings next week and make the effort to come and meet your child's teachers. Your involvement in the educational "stew" is essential.

I wish you all well as we join together to, once again, "Strive for the Highest" in 2012.

Best Wishes



FROM THE PRO

And so, after 3 years of studying Media and Human Resource Management at the University of Kwazulu-Natal, I now start my new venture as PRO at St Patrick's College. I will be getting married to Struan Stanford in March, and look forward to many happy years in the Kokstad community.

Ashley ☺



Inter-House Gala 2012

Our annual gala will take place on Saturday **4 February** at the school swimming pool from **08h00** in the morning. Children are to please arrive & leave in the correct sports uniform (Maroon sports shirt, Navy sports shorts & Navy crocs or slops).

Please come and support our swimmers!

- Individual & Medley Relay Gala **2 February** 14h00; 15h00 College



St Patrick's Wishes all those participating in the Global Trader Drak Challenge all the best and may the racing conditions be pleasant!

Important info



25 January

Pre-Prep Parents meeting - 17:30 at Pre-Prep

Prep Parents evening - 18:00 at Prep
(Headmaster's welcome)

26 January

College Parents Evening - 17:30 in the Pavilion

EG Tractors Fun Cycle Marathon

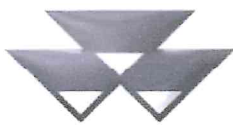
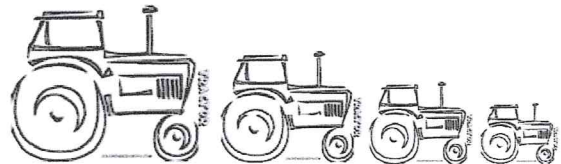
Saturday 21st January 2012

2012 has started off with a bang and plenty to do. We begin the first of our events with the **EG Tractors Family Cycle Ride**; which I encourage you all to take part in, as it is a great fun filled family event.



Event info

- Enter between 12:00/12:30
- Race takes place between 13:00 & 19:00
- Teams of 4 (preferably teams of 2 children & 2 adults)
- Entry fee R25 per rider (includes a boerewors roll & drink)
- Braai Packs available for sale after the event
- Tuckshop & limited bar available
- Music all day & into the evening!!!



MASSEY FERGUSON

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