



THE HERON

TERM ONE 2010

ISSUE 1

Contact numbers for HeronBridge College

0861 HERONC (0861 437 662)

Main reception 082 771 4470

WELCOME BACK

Mr Klein, College Head, writes: It is a privilege for me, at the start of 2010, to extend a warm welcome to all associated with HeronBridge College. This is the year that had been so keenly anticipated in our country. We shall, doubtless, all have set goals for the months that are ahead of us. I am wont to choose theme words for myself for the years. Quite contextually, I've chosen 'Score!' for this year. Let's trust it's a year of goals – many scored by Bafana Bafana and our own achieved.

2010 sees us celebrating the 10th year of HeronBridge College. Various events are planned to mark this milestone. I invite all to join in the celebratory spirit as we both joy in what has been achieved and thank the Lord for his goodness to the College over such a period.

It is good to be back at school, anticipating keenly the potential of all that lies ahead of us. We greet particularly warmly those families joining us for the first time. May your experience of HeronBridge College be positive always.

HeronBridge College Website:

www.heronbridgecollege.co.za.

Our website is full of information, including academic calendars, bus timetables, past newsletters and lots more.

Suggestions email!

If you have any suggestions pertaining to our school please send your idea to :

suggestions@heronbridge.co.za

Message for the Week

“Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it”
Hebrews 13:2

MATRIC 2009 RESULTS

We did it again!

100% pass rate & 100% access to tertiary study!

We are extremely proud of the College's 2009 NSC results. This was only the fourth group of pupils to complete their schooling at HeronBridge. Over the four years a reputation has now been firmly established for excellent academic results and the pattern places the College at the forefront of good schools.

Writing the IEB examinations, all of HeronBridge College's 62 candidates passed, thus achieving a 100% pass rate. The Bachelor Degree pass rate (the number of candidates qualifying for university access) was 92%, or 57 of the total. The other 5 candidates all achieved the Diploma pass, qualifying them also for tertiary education. That's a 100x100 rate: 100% pass and 100% access to tertiary institutions! 7 of our pupils attained overall averages above 75%. The pupils achieved a total of 70 distinctions, followed by 116 B symbols and 118 C symbols. The Dux Scholar was Jordyn Laubscher, with a total of 7 distinctions (English, Mathematics, Mathematics Paper 3, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Information Technology, Life Orientation) and an average of 85%. Particular congratulations go to Jordyn.

We are genuinely very pleased with these results. We congratulate the pupils on what they achieved, acknowledging that their hard work and determination stands behind it all. Equally, the results speak of a most significant input by the teachers. I watched with great gratitude as teachers gave freely of their time and energy throughout the year. I know that, apart from their dedication in the classroom, they were phoned at home by pupils, had pupils in their homes for extra lessons, gave of their holiday time for the Winter School and made every effort to ensure proper preparation. I have seldom seen so much time and effort given by Grade 12 teachers. Our staff went the extra mile to ensure the very best for the pupils and deserve themselves to be congratulated on these fine results.

DATES TO DIARISE : WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY, 18 JANUARY

| | | | |
|----------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Mon 18 | 15h00 | College Tennis: Boys A vs St Peters | @ Home |
| Tue 19 | 10h00 | College Swimming : Inter-House Gala | School Pool |
| Wed 20 | 18h00 | Gr 000 / 00 Parents Orientation Evening | Childs Class |
| Thurs 21 | 14h00 | Prep Softball : Snr/Jnr Girls vs Dainfern | @ Dainfern |
| | | Prep Tennis : Snr Boys A vs Kyalami | @ Kyalami |
| | | Prep Tennis : Snr Boys B vs Crawford Lonehill | @ Home |
| | 15h00 | College Swimming @ the American School | |
| | 18h00 | Gr R Parents Orientation Evening | Childs Class |
| | 19h00 | Grade 7 Parent Orientation | School Auditorium |
| Fri 22 | 16h30 | Prep Swimming : Inter-House Gala | School Pool |
| Sat 23 | 08h00 | College Cricket : 1st / U16 vs St Martins | @ Home |
| | | College Cricket : 2nds / U15 / U14 vs St Martins | @ St Martins |
| Sun 24 | 08h00 | College Open Water Swim near Hartbeespoort | |

**WARM HERONBRIDGE WELCOME
TO OUR NEW STAFF****Pre-Prep:**

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Pascale De Villiers | Grade 000 |
| Candice Kemp | Grade 00 |
| Tracey Carstens | Grade R |
| Lynne Mann | Grade R |
| Hilary Campbell | Grade R |

Admin:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Richmond Masimbira | Functions & Events Assistant |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|

It is our pleasure to welcome staff new to the:

College:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Mrs Brenda Beukes | Science |
| Mrs Annette Liebenberg | Mathematics |
| Mr Nicholas Paidas | Geography |
| Mrs Adelle Ramsami | Afrikaans |
| Miss Mia Russell | Learnership |

Prep:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Mrs Jeannine Cloete | Gr 1 Bridging Class |
| Mrs Margie Peel | Gr 1 Substitute Teacher |
| Mrs Helen Jennings | Gr 2 |
| Mrs Julie Moore | Gr 2 Substitute Teacher; |
| Mrs Caron Botha | Gr 5 |
| Ms Lara Goodman | Drama |
| Mrs Karen Goggin | Art |

We wish all a happy and successful stay with us!

DIARISE NOW!

The ever popular soccer and netball clinic hosted by Upward Sport will take place from 12th-18th April. Watch this space for further details.

**ERRONEOUS DATE GIVEN**

We apologise: We have picked up an error on the Prep letter that was handed out on the Registration Days.. Please note that the Grade 1's and 2's come out on a Friday at 1:20 and not at 1:30 as stated in this letter.



Melissa Jade Gordon

CONDOLENCES: MELISSA JADE GORDON

Dave Klein writes : It is with great sadness that I write here to Melissa Gordon's family to express the condolences of all in HeronBridge College on her recent passing. We wish that she had been healed, but that was not so. Melissa was due to study in Grade 12 this year. She had been seriously ill for more than a year and sadly succumbed to her illness on Wednesday 6 January. Her funeral was held last Monday. A large number of our pupils attended and I thought their presence spoke most eloquently of their fondness for Melissa and of her impact on the College. **Melissa meant much to us and there is a pall now over the year's start.** We are grateful for having come to know her. We enjoyed her company and participation in our College. We miss her already.

I thought she bore her illness with great fortitude. There were times when we did not know whether or not she would be able to attend school and she certainly missed more days than she liked. The examination

period at the end of last year was particularly difficult for her. She wrote some exams at school and some at home, but she wrote them all. Her results were excellent and they stand now as a tribute to her plucky spirit. I'll remember Melissa for her humour, her sense of fun, her determination and her bravery.

We express our sympathies to her family, especially to Diane, Paul, Brendan and Nicholas. Thank you for placing Melissa in HeronBridge. We continue to pray for the Lord to comfort and strengthen you in these difficult days..



We would like to invite you to join us every Sunday at 09H00. Our services are held in the HeronBridge College Auditorium and are open to all denominations. We offer Kidz Church for the young as well as a youth group for the teens. We look forward to hosting you and your family.

MOMS IN TOUCH 2010

We would like to invite all HeronBridge Moms to join us as we pray for the needs of our School Community. We meet every Thursday morning at 07H15 in the meeting room in the College Administration Block. Any personal or anonymous prayer requests can be forwarded to:

Maryna: 083 553 4598 or Helen: 082 490 1568

If there is any person or family able to donate a fridge to Moms in Touch, please contact Maryna or Helen at the above numbers. We are aware of a desperate need.

Charles Wesley said: **"Faith, mighty Faith, the promise sees, and looks to God alone, laughs at impossibilities, and cries it shall be done"**. God bless you and your family at the beginning of 2010!

COLLEGE PARENT ORIENTATION EVENING

You are cordially invited to attend our annual **PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING**, scheduled for **Thursday 28 January 2010 at 19h00 in the Auditorium.**

The evening will provide you with the opportunity of meeting the teachers, being briefed on the expectations of each Grade and of meeting the respective Chairs of the PTA and PCF.

We look forward to hosting you and to enjoying a pleasant time together. Please make every effort to attend.

PREP PARENT ORIENTATION EVENING

You are cordially invited to attend our annual **PARENTS' ORIENTATION SESSIONS**. These evenings will provide you with the opportunity of meeting the teachers and being briefed on the expectations of each Grade. The dates, times are as follows

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Grade 2 | Tuesday 26 th January @ 18h00 |
| Grade 3 | Tuesday 26 th January @ 18h00 |
| Grade 4 | Wednesday 27 th January @ 18h00 |
| Grade 5 | Wednesday, 27 th January @ 18h00 |
| Grade 6 | Wednesday 27 th January @ 19h00 |
| Grade 7 | Thursday 22 th January @ 19h00 |

Venues will be confirmed in next weeks Heron.

We look forward to hosting you and to enjoying a pleasant time together. Please make every effort to attend.

LIFT REQUIRED

Seeking a lift club from Magaliessig (near Design Quarter) or surrounding areas to HeronBridge **FOR A PRE-PREP PUPIL**. It would be every second week (I could reciprocate the other week) mornings only from Magaliessig to Heron Bridge. Also willing to meet halfway eg: Dainfern / Cedar Lakes etc.

Please contact kirstenw@genesis-analytics.com

THE HERONBRIDGE BUS

Some important facts to note!

- We have introduced three new stops on the Western Morning Route:
 - Eagle Canyon
 - Kya Sands
 - Cosmo City.
- There is limited space still available on the Western and Waterford / Broadacres Morning Routes. All other morning runs are filled to capacity.
- Bus timetables, routes and applications forms can be found on our website : www.heronbridgecollege.co.za
- Casual tickets can only be used for the afternoon runs.
- If you are still in possession of 2009 casual tickets, please come to the College Reception Office, to Mrs Butler. to exchanged these for 2010 tickets.



Please read :
important
information

Watch this space for more exciting news regarding the HeronBridge bus service!

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Please take note that ALL PREP & COLLEGE INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS will be taken during the 2nd, 3rd and 4th February.



Each register class will be told which day is scheduled for them. Please ensure your child/ren are neatly attired in their full SUMMER UNIFORM with blazers. These photos are essential for school records and our 2010 Yearbook, so please ensure your child/ren do not miss out! Pre-Prep individual dates and times will be communicated to you via the Pre-Prep Office.

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING GALA: FRIDAY 22 JANUARY 16H30 (GRADE 3-GRADE 7)

Our annual Preparatory School Gala will take place on Friday 22 January starting at 16h30. (Children are to be at school at 16h00.) The Gala will involve children from Grade 3 – Grade 7. The Grade 1 and Grade 2 children will swim in their junior gala in the third term. Trials for the inter-house swimming gala will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (if required) of this week, during the mornings. Each age group will be told by their teachers what their specific trial times will be. Kindly ensure that your child has the appropriate kit (swimming costume, swimming cap and towel – sun cream is strongly recommended). Should it rain on Friday, 22rd Jan, the gala will be postponed until Monday morning, 25th Jan, @ 09h00.

HERONBRIDGE EQUESTRIAN

Below, please find West Division Show Dates 2010. We wish our HeronBridge team everything of the best for riding in 2010!



WEST DIVISION SHOW DATES FOR 2010

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1 ST Qualifier | 30/31 January |
| 2 nd Qualifier | 13/14 March |
| 3 rd Qualifier | 8/9 May |
| 4 th Qualifier | 5/6 June |
| GAUTENG FINALS | 7/8 August |



Thank you to all our parents who supported the MySchool Card programme during 2009! We are pleased to see that from our Registration Day's we have had 130 new applications! You can look forward to your new card arriving soon & it will either be sent directly to your home address or will be delivered via the school. Your support is so valuable to us all at HeronBridge, so please keep swiping your MySchool card at all the many retailers that advertise the MySchool card programme logo.

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR 2010 "CHAMPION CAMPAIGN" that could see HB winning R100 000, if we come out on tops! Watch this space for info in Mid February 2010! My School and Woolworths are launching one of the most exciting initiatives ever to hit the playgrounds. It's called PLAY IT FORWARD and this is what it means: We are mobilising parents their friends and families to swipe their cards to raise additional funds for your school. **Three schools will have a chance to win R100 000 each** with this promotion (running from 1 March to end May 2010)! The winning schools also get to PLAY IT FORWARD by selecting an underprivileged school or organisation to whom they want to donate R50 000, (that is over and above the R100,000 you would win for your school). There are also class prizes to be won throughout the campaign.

New Partner's in Gauteng where you can use My School Card:

Engen - Ferndale Convenience Centre

Engen - Summerfields

Jack's Paint & Hardware - Chilli Lane

Jack's Paint & Hardware - Heidelberg

Woolworths - Carlton Centre

Supa Quick - Greenstone

Matrix Warehouse Computers - Nigel

Jack's Paint & Hardware - Stoneridge

Woolworths - The Grove

Woolworths - Parkview Kimiad Garsfontein

If you need a card, please come to Prep or College Office or collect forms from Lisa (Marketing); your Class Mom or you can access My School Card website: www.myschool.co.za



THE PTA IN 2010

2010 is an exciting year for HeronBridge as we are celebrating 10 years of excellence in education, and one of the best environments a parent could want for our children.

The PTA is very excited about being involved in the many functions and activities that will be held to celebrate this special year. We'll be doing our usual functions, the Golf Day and the Christmas Craft Market, and we'll be bringing back catering at the Major Production. In addition look out for more information to come about an exciting Carnival Day coming up soon.

The PTA in 2009 was a fairly small group but we managed to achieve a lot. In 2010 with so much going on we would like to invite any interested parents who feel they would like to make more of a contribution, to connect a little more or who would like to just be a little more involved to join us. Don't worry if you feel you might not have enough time, or you are a little concerned about what you might be able to contribute, we have all been there and I have to tell you that all hands are welcome and everyone finds their niche!!!

We promise we won't take more of your time than you are able to offer. The PTA meets once a month and for functions. Some of us have hectic work days and can only organize things after hours, others are only available on an odd weekend, some cannot attend all the meetings, but have a knack of finding good contacts for services and sponsorships. So, if you think you might be interested, even if it's only offering a pair of hands at the odd function, please contact **Caron on 082 445 8458**.

**REGENERATION
TOUR
2009
PART VI**

**JOHN ELLIS
of treeb3
&
REASON**

**HeronBridge College
29 & 30 January 2010**

**36 Lion Park Road, Nietgedacht
0861 HERONC**

R80 // Please contact the college for tickets
www.myspace.com/regenerationtoursa

FGL **MUSIC MATE** **GreenRoom** **Broken Records** **www.wins.co.za** **SALVATION ink**

Our 2010 Councilors are running with this exciting event. Friday night tickets can be bought from the councilors at school. Friday is open to teens only so teens bring along your friends. Food and drinks will be sold on site. People can start coming at 18:30



TO LEARN ABOUT ECO-SCHOOLS

What is an Eco-School?

HeronBridge is one of the 850 South African schools that have joined the Eco-School Challenge. The programme currently operates in 40 countries worldwide. The aim is to improve the management of our environmental resources as well as to enhance the curriculum to develop within the children a love for the environment, a desire to care for it and an awareness of the problems it's facing.

What is our goal?

Our school is required to embark upon a project each year according to given themes. The previous year's project must continue to run productively as new projects are introduced. At the end of the year we submit a portfolio outlining how we improved the management of our resources and environment and how we incorporated learning about the environment into our daily curriculum.

- 1 project = bronze certificate
- 2 projects = silver certificate
- 3 projects = green flag
- 4 projects = gold certificate
- 5 projects = international flag
- 5 projects along with special themes = special merit

HeronBridge began in 2008 with the theme: **Resource Use**. We looked carefully at saving water and electricity as well as starting up our paper recycling initiative - We were awarded our Bronze certificate.

Nature and Biodiversity was the theme for 2009. Along with the project from 2008, we looked at exposing the children to the fauna and flora found on our property and how we can protect it. We are awaiting the results from our portfolio submission.

What's in store for 2010?

As HeronBridge is celebrating their 10th year in education and South Africa is hosting the World Cup, we have chosen the theme: **Community and heritage**. We have a lovely project planned which will involve the children researching our community and heritage. We are also hoping to expand our recycling project....so **WATCH THIS SPACE!!!**

PREP CLASS MOMS 2010:

Thank you for the positive response and for volunteering! Most classes have secured a Class Mom as well as assistants for 2010. A list of those names will go out this week and those on that list are requested to please attend a meeting on Friday, 22nd @ 13h30 in Mrs Goggin's Art Class. Still waiting on volunteers for Gr 1V; 2F;2T;5B & 6H. Warm regards Lisa @ Marketing.

BRAG PAGE: These letters speak for themselves!

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Tel: +27 (0)46 603 8400/1
Fax: +27 (0)46 622 2264
Email: C.Booth@ru.ac.za
http://www.ru.ac.za/english

The Principal
Heron Bridge College
Postnet Suite 707
Private Bag X153
BRYANSTON
2021

Tuesday, 15 December 2009

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: KATHLEEN LOUISE SAMSON

I thought that you would be pleased to know that the above student, formerly a pupil at your school, has achieved excellent results in our English I examinations. This success reflects very favourably on the quality of training and preparation offered by the English Department at your school, and I hope you will encourage present and future promising students in English to consider Rhodes for their university studies.

I would like, through you, to convey my congratulations to the members of your English staff, and to wish you all continued success in your endeavours.

RECEIVED
07 JAN 2010

Yours sincerely

P S Walters BA (Hons) Ph.D.
HA Molteno Professor and Head of Department
p.walters@ru.ac.za

Dear Mr Klein and all the College teachers who taught Darren

I just want to say thank you so much for everything you did for Darren. We are incredibly grateful for the "grounding" you have given him and for all the hard work you put in so as to assist Darren in achieving the results that he did.

However, that being said, whilst we were very happy with his marks, our greatest thanks is for what you all did for Darren as a person. When we look back at what Darren was like when he joined HeronBridge to what he is today, words cannot express our absolute appreciation. When Darren joined HeronBridge he had no self-confidence and very little (if any) direction or motivation. In fact the best way to describe him at that time was "a blob". With your years of teaching and guidance you have moulded him into the most amazing person and whilst I would like to take some credit, I believe that most of the credit goes to all of you as he spent much more time with you than he did with us. We are so proud of Darren (as I write this email he has just registered at "Tuks" for his BSc Engineering which will form the grounding for his future teaching career with yourselves) and I can only hope that your teachings and principles have the same positive effect on Devon and Bryden.

Thank you!!

Mandy Ruiters

Dear Mr. Klein and staff

Let me firstly say, well done to HeronBridge College (heads, staff, matriculants and parents) on **OUR** 100% pass rate and the 100% entrance to tertiary education. This is truly a good result and an achievement to be proud of.

I would like to thank each of the teachers for the significant role that they have played in my daughter, Veronique's education (from grade 5 to 12) and for being the trusted partner in shaping her future. Not to take away from any teacher, a special thanks to Mrs. Klein for assisting Veronique almost every afternoon after school. It is with this dedication and hard work that Veronique was able to convert her mathematics average from 58% in Grade 11 to 81% in her matric finals. This has also resulted in her being accepted by University of Witwatersrand for her first choice of study, in the field of Medicine.

Many thanks and please continue the outstanding work. I am relying on this because I still have a second daughter starting grade 4 this year.

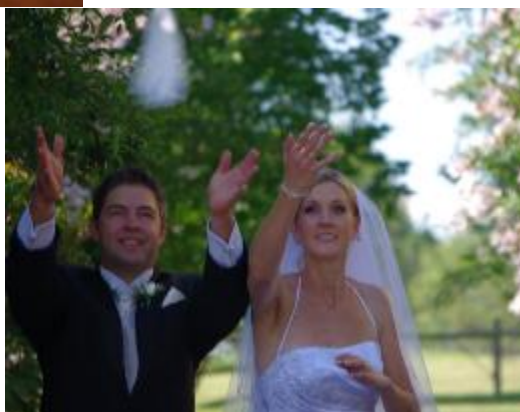
Proud parent.

Shuntelle Gow

AND FINALLY.....

Welcome to the world baby Mckenzie Kate Brunsden. She weighed only 2.4kg and is tiny but she is a real cutie! Congrats to Mom and Dad. Mom Gina is one of our Gr 3 teachers.

Teacher Natalie (Gr 00) got married in the December holidays. Congratulations, Mrs Hayes! Doesn't she make a beautiful bride?

**HERONBRIDGE STAR**

Kayley Cock, in Gr 8, has been invited to participate in "The Dream Programme" to be held in Korea from 20 to 30 January.

The programme is hosted and funded by the Korean Government. It is a training programme to prepare children in Winter Olympic sports.

Kayley will be participating in the figure skating course.

She is one of 3 children and a coach that have been selected to represent South Africa. Congratulations!



Congratulations to Daphne Motsoeneng from Clean environment on the birth of her baby. Daphne is one of the Clean Environment staff members who works so tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the college reception and accounts department are kept clean. Daphne's baby was born 2 months premature. The baby is ill at Coronation Hospital. Daphne does not have her own transport and is currently catching 3 taxis from Nietgedacht daily to go and see her baby. If you feel it in your heart that you would like to assist Daphne in any way, your small contribution will be appreciated! Please contact Carryn Boden on 0861 HERONC should you wish to help.

REGISTRATION DAYS

Thank you to all parents for taking the time and making the effort to join us at the registration days on the 9 and 11 January. The event was very well attended and the feedback received was mostly positive. Thank you too all of the administration staff, the accounts staff, retreat, estate staff and Clean Environment staff who worked for weeks and months in advance to ensure that the registration days were successful. Thank you to our Marketing team who assisted us graciously. Thank you to RSS for ensuring the continued safety on the HeronBridge property and for your assistance on Saturday and Monday mornings at our gate. Thank you to Adrian, Tatum and the Gr 12 councilors who assisted the registration team in so many ways, the teacher bursary students for their support, availability and loyalty that they continue to show, "Moms in Touch" for being available to share and for your continuous prayer for our school, Rockerson's stationers, Book Bound, Robert from Monahan Farms for the delicious latte and cappichinos that were sponsored, the extra co-curricular service providers for their time, ER 24 for the loan of their gazebos and last but not least to the Heronbridge College Senior Leadership Team. Thank you for helping us in ensuring that the pupils education commences on day one.