 Riebeek College

 Term 1 Newsletter

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* **Please ensure that we have your correct contact details so that you can receive important notifications via sms.**
* **Do visit our website riebeekcollege.co.za and our facebook page Riebeek College Girls’ High School (look for the thumbnail that has the school badge)**

**Winter Uniform**

As of April 2013, all girls will be allowed to wear long grey flannel pants and grey socks during the winter months of June, July and August. These items may be bought at any store stocking school clothing as this is most cost effective. This addition to the winter uniform is optional. It is required that the girls wear the pullover (which is stocked at the clothing shop) with the grey flannel long pants to preserve the neatness of the uniform of which we are so proud. The outer garment remains the blazer.

**Junior Afrikaans Olimpiade**

The following girls participated in the Junior Afrikaans Olimpiade and the following results were obtained:

Carla Ferreira – 5th in the Top Twenty in the Eastern Cape as well as making the Top 100 National List, Nicole Noeka – 8th in the Top Twenty in the Eastern Cape as well as making the Top 100 National List, Kauthar Ravat – 15th in the Top Twenty in the Eastern Cape, Michaela Balie – 17th in the Top Twenty in the Eastern Cape, Ziva Isaacs – 19th in the Top Twenty in the Eastern Cape, Yolanda Mni.

**English Olympiad**

The English Olympiad was written on 5th March. Fourteen learners enthusiastically took part in this challenging and rewarding examination. The girls are Sameera Musa, Sinovuyo Mnyazi, Olwethu Mxoli, Micaela White, Nicola McEwan, Khanyisa Milisi, Nikita Karsan, Palesa Nyaka, Sesona Mahlahla, Olwethu Kulati, Tonielle Prince, Asisipho Tsotsa, Athi-LilithaTyumbu and Inge Laubscher

**Writing Competition**

Learners were encouraged to participate in the One Act Plays competition organised by Mrs Peltason. A short story competition is being run in which different age categories can take part. Prize money of up to R5000 can be won. A poetry competition is also being run with cash prizes from the school.

**Team Building Afternoon**

The annual Team Building Afternoon was held in which all of the Cultural and Service Committees participated in a fun-filled and competitive afternoon of games and activities. Special thanks to Mrs Gerber, Mr Reynolds and Nikita Karsan. The results were: Best Teamwork – Cultural Board, Tug of War – Cultural Committee, Best War Cry – Magazine Committee, Best Dressed – Loren Buchner, Frog Jump Champions – Choir Committee, Treasure Hunt Champions – SCA Committee.

**Children of the Wind Drama Production**

The Drama Committee performed their annual drama production on 21st February. Special thanks to Mr Calitz, Mrs Gerber, Mrs Stark for her administrative work, Miss du Preez and the Interact girls for running the tuckshop, the Cultural Board for assistance with front-of house (special thanks to Courtney Hickson for these arrangements), Shayna and Priyanka Kooverjee, Lelethu Dube, Manali Kapadia, Andrea Siwak, Xhamla Kona, Stephanie McAuley for back stage work and Chwayita Mbebe for lighting. Well done to the directors of each section, the drama deputy Yolanda Mni, previous director Kelly Griffiths, director Francesca Gottini and the cast and crew of *Children of the Wind.* The Theatre Dinner of 23rd February was a fund raiser initiative of the Grade 9s and we thank Mrs Stark, Miss du Preez, Mrs du Plessis and the Grade 9s for their support.

**Valentines Dance**

The Valentines Dance was hosted by the Dance Committee on 15th February. The theme was *Only Cupid Know*s and, to add mystery to the evening, girls and their partners were required to wear masks. Miss Valentine was Courtney Hickson.

**Miss SA Teen Junior**

Carryn Booysen in Grade 9G is a finalist in the Miss SA Teen Junior competition. This competition will take place from 26th to28th April in Pretoria.

**Representative Council of Learners**

The following girls were selected as RCL members for the year of 2013: Head of RCL – Claire Ferguson, Grade 8C – Asemahle Gqubule, Grade 8G – Sanelisiwe Jikeka, Grade 8R – Ambesa Daniels, Grade 9C – Kristen Hunt, Grade 9G – Siposethu Gwedashe, Grade 9R –Megan de Beer, Grade 10C – Kauthar Moosa, Grade 10G – Robyn Plaatjies, Grade 10R – Sinovuyo Jantjies, Grade 11C – Andrea Siwak, Grade 11G – Athi – Lilitha Tyumbu, Grade 11R – Laa – Iqah Panday, Grade 12C – Lelethu Dube, Grade 12G – Nisha Panchal, Grade 12R – Claire Ferguson.

**Interact**

The Interact Club Members attended the Interact Club Welcome, which featured the new members dressing up as clowns. Interact girls took part in litter clean-ups and organised a Breast Cancer Awareness Civvies Day which saw our girls dressing up in pink. Prizes were awarded to girls who went crazy for cancer by dressing up: Jade Rudman(3rd); Stephany McAuley and Staci Weitz(joint 2nd) and Sarah Gopal(1st). The Interact Club visited Rosa Munch on 19th February and took flowers to the elderly. Interact also ran a program in which they collected and donated shoes to a needy school. The Interact Committee donated R2000 to CANSA.

**Grahamstown Science Festival**

Rotary kindly sponsored two Grade 11 learners, Priyanka Kooverjee and Nicola McEwan, allowing them to attend the annual National Science Festival in Grahamstown.

**Swimming**

B-Group Gala: The following girls competed in the Eastern Province B-Group Gala: Desire Ferguson, Claire Ferguson, Samantha Jones – 2nd in 50m breaststroke and 3rd in 50m backstroke.

2nd B-Group Gala: The following girls swam in the second B group gala at the Newton Park swimming pool on Saturday:Samantha Jones, Courtney Norman, Carmen Collins, Phillipa Robinson. The following girls took part in the Muir Junior Gala: Mateenah Langford, Megan Taylor, Mishka Moosa, Phillipa Robinson. The reserve was Sarah Werth. The following girls took part in the Muir Senior Ashes Gala at Muir on 15th February: Lindsay McFarlane, Samantha Jones, Desire Ferguson, Claire Ferguson.

The following girls were invited to swim in the Top 8 Invitation Gala in Port Elizabeth in March: Claire Ferguson – Breaststroke, Samantha Jones – Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle, Mateenah Langford – Backstroke and Breaststroke. Congratulations to Claire Ferguson and Samantha Jones who received the following certificates at an EP Gala event held on the 16th February: Samantha Jones – 2nd place in the 50m Breaststroke, Claire Ferguson – 2nd place in the 50m Breaststroke, 2nd place in the 50m Backstroke, 2nd place in the 50m Freestyle.

**Tennis**

Team Tennis girls played an exciting match against Collegiate where they won 8-4.

The senior First Team Girls won their match against St. Dominics Priory. Rushni Salie, Tahlia Naidoo, Laura Bakker and Yolanda Mni won their match 10-2.

**Hockey Festival**

The annual hockey festival was held on 1-2 March and this year saw us hosting 7 teams from across the province. Our 2 Riebeek teams fared very well, as the U16A team remained undefeated throughout the course of the weekend. Some of the weekend’s most memorable results are as follows: Riebeek A (1) vs KHS (1), Riebeek A (1) vs VG (1), Riebeek inv. (2) vs Strelitzia (0). Both Riebeek teams displayed good sportsmanship and we are proud of all our players. Special mention must be made of the following girls: Shanice Pietersen, Siviwe Tole, Ziva Isaacs and Sanelisiwe Zitho. This weekend could not have been possible without the help of many able and willing individuals. A big thank you to our First Aid Committee, Interact Committee and club, RCL, Senior Prefects and staff for contributing to the success of the weekend.

**Mini Fun Gala**

The mini fun gala was a success and all the juniors had an amazing time. A big thank you to all the teachers involved, especially Miss Johnson. Eleanor won!

**Soccer**

Anelisa Mhletywa in Grade 4C was selected as an Orange Africa Cup of Nations 2013 Standard Bank Player Escort. SibabalweTiti, Nomtha Salamntu and Asemahle Gqubule were also selected to be flag bearers.

**Debating**

The senior debating league took part in a debate against St Georges School. The topic was “Juveniles should be tried as adults for violent crimes”. Micaela White, Imkitha Mani and Asisipho Tsotsa represented Riebeek. Micaela White was selected as the Best Speaker. The drama production’s Kaapse Kloppers joined the debators as it provided a chance to rehearse and support the debators, and Sameera Musa accompanied the team too. The girls also debated the following topic: “Changing technologies: cellphones should be allowed in schools.” Congratulations to Lelethu Ntshangase on her speech. Riebeek debated against Alexander High at Woolhope High School, proposing that “The American Dream is over-rated”. Sameera Musa, Asisipho Tsotsa and Micaela White argued capably. However, the Alex team won.

**SPCA**

The SPCA group visited the Uitenhage branch of the SPCA to spend time with the animals and help out. Colouring-in and photo competitions were also held to fundraise.

**Quiz League**

The following girls are representing Riebeek in the High Schools Quiz League: Lindsay McFarlane, Nicola McEwan, Anovuyo Selani, Yolanda Mni, Inge Laubscher and Sinovuyo Mnyazi.

**Cyber Hunt**

The Computer Club hosts the Cyber Hunt every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon from 14:00 – 15:00 in which Junior School girls are invited to have fun and gain new computer skills.

Winners of the First Round: 1st place – Amy Schambril, 2nd place – Taryn de Klerk, 3rd place – Andisiwe de Booi.

**Elton House Day**

Elton hosted a colouring-in competition in order to raise funds towards their selected charity. Elton also hosted a Valentine’s Day Sing Along in the Hall in which anyone in the school could attend and sing love songs. The money was donated to the Rape Crisis Centre at an assembly where the guest speaker spoke from the heart of her experiences. Well done to Mr Jonas, Sphosethu Joni and the Elton girls.

**Volunteers**

Riebeek girls volunteered to help clean up our props room on a Saturday morning. They were Khanyisile Tshazibana, Kimberleigh Lingham, Shariffa Khan, Phelokazi Nocanda, Sanelisiwe Klaas, Aviwe Naki, Ambesa Scott, Janine Jackson and Noluyolo Nyati. The following girls volunteered to assist with decorating the hall on a Saturday morning: Clair Malgas, Ashlin Klaasen, Demaine Jansen, Lesedi Adams.

**NMMU Accounting Evening**

Riebeek hosted the NMMU career evening on 26th February. Xhamla Kona and Khethiwe Mpshe did Riebeek proud when they
co-ordinated the technical side and the welcoming. They were complimented by the NMMU presenters on their helpful manner. The presenters were delighted with the friendly manner and technical knowledge of our girls. One of the guest speakers was Andrea Christoffels, who is the holder of the prestigious VC scholarship for a second year. She says she is coping so well at university because she was used to responsibility and being involved in many activities at Riebeek. Tamsyn Campbell and Lache Windvogel are part of the Thutuka programme at NMMU. Riebeek prepares their learners well for life after school!

**Incubator Programme**

The following girls have been chosen to attend enrichment classes for Mathematics and Physical Sciences at NMMU on Saturdays. They qualified by writing an exam at the Education Department Uitenhage Branch. Grade 12 – Urslynn Machui, Taryn Balie, Tonielle Prince. Grade 11 – Nicola McEwan, Micaela White, Yusra Lukie, Priyanka Kooverjee, Sesethu Dodo.

**Master Maths Bursary**

Congratulations to Sanelisiwe Mrubata, in Grade 11, who was awarded the Master Maths Bursary for six months free tuition for 2013.

**Go Green**

The following girls received spot prizes for bringing recyclable material to the school: Gabby Ownhouse Grade 6R, Amy Higgins Grade 6R, Ganeefa Sirkhotte Grade 5R, Caitlyn Cockcroft Grade 4R. Riebeek learners were encouraged at an RCL assembly to participate in Earth Hour. Register classes are enthusiastically designing trash fashion for their register teacher to wear in a special fashion show in Term 2 to draw attention to the value of recycling.

**Chris Mann**

Mrs Peltason accompanied a group of Riebeek learners to Collegiate on 12th March. The renowned poet, Chris Mann, performed his poetry set to a backdrop of music and visual art.

**Hamlet**

The Shakespearean play of *Hamlet* was put on by the Shakespearean Society in the PEMADS Little Theatre on 23rd January. A group of Riebeek learners thoroughly enjoyed the performance. Thanks to Mrs Peltason for organising this outing.

**Hostel**

Mrs Sandells, a hostel matron, is a granny again. The outings this term included a leader development session and a leaders’ outing to the Boardwalk on 11th March. A welcome programme for the new girls was also held.

**Karate**

Angelique Tee, Grade 8R, entered the SANSA

All Styles Karate Open Championships 2013 on 2013-03-09. She entered in U/16 white to orange Kata & Kumite Division. She achieved a silver medal for Kata and a gold medal for Kumite.

**Latecomers**

Lateness is a sign of poor time management skills. When you are late for appointments, late for class, late for school; you show a lack of respect for other people’s time and your own time. You disrupt the administrative staff, teachers and the girls in class. If learners are late more than five times in a month, learners have a detention. Learners must be at school by 7.35 when the first bell rings. Life is less

stressful and it is really worthwhile to always be on time.

**Reminders**

Windbreakers may not be worn in the classrooms or corridors as they are for outdoor use only. Name badges are compulsory. Learners need to remember that personal hygiene is best attended to in bathrooms and therefore lip gloss or lip balm should only be applied in the bathroom. It is not permitted to apply it in the classroom. Learners may not eat or drink in class or the passages. Learners are expected to walk quietly and in single file in the passages. The office staff are not permitted to accept money from parents at the office to be passed on to the learners. Projects and items forgotten at home may not be handed in at the office by parents for learners to collect. The learners need to develop a sense of responsibility and need to face the consequence of their actions should they leave something at home.

**New staff members**

A warm Riebeek welcome to Mrs Gunter, our new senior Life Science teacher, and Miss Panayiotou, our new Grade 6 teacher. Another warm welcome to Mrs Boscombe, our new secretary, whose bright smile lightens our mornings, and Mr and Mrs Schoultz, our new tuckshop managers.

**Stay Awake**

The annual junior school Stay Awake was held on 14th March. The theme was “All things bright and beautiful”. Thank you to all the staff involved.

**Staff Congratulations**

Congratulations to Mrs S. Woods (our former public relations officer) who has obtained her Masters. Congratulations to Mrs Stevens who successfully completed the Argus Cycle Tour.

**Magazine**

A reminder to all learners to take photographs of special events to Mrs Gerber or Mrs Stroebel for inclusion in the school magazine, social media sites and the website. A request to all the creative writers and artists of Riebeek to submit poems, stories and art work for inclusion in the school magazine.