



The world awaits your  
wonder. ~

Vince Gowmon

# A world of wonder!

"See the world through the eyes of your inner child. The eyes that sparkle in awe and amazement as they see love, magic and mystery in the most ordinary things." ~ Henna Sohail







The annual Club and Sports Fair was held on 16 January. This fair gave the learners the opportunity to decide which extramural activities they would like to participate in. This event aimed at getting learners involved in the cultural, service and sporting aspects of Riebeek.

In preparation for the fair, the clubs and sport teams had to put their decoration skills to the test! Heads of clubs and captains of sports set up their tables the afternoon before which was the first day of school. This shows dedication and deserves mention!

Riebeek has a vast variety of sports and clubs to choose from, therefore there is no doubt that it was difficult trying to choose between all of them! Each club and sport had something to offer, whether it was finding your inner vivacious actress in the Drama Club or helping to make Riebeek a cleaner environment in Going Green. Before the learners have a chance to walk around to the various stalls and asks questions from the teacher in charge or head of club or a committee representative, there was an assembly.

The speakers spoke of how learners are able to form friendships with other learners outside of their realm and make memories. This helps everyone to be a part of a team and contribute. It is about discovering what team spirit is all about and experiencing it first-hand. Meledy Jones spoke about Tennis,

Keely-Ann Maritz spoke about Swimming, Brazil Kilian spoke about Hockey and Amber Du Plessis spoke about Netball. Romesa Muhammad ended off with our general rules to avoid any kind of inconvenience for teachers in charge and the rest of the group. Azraa Rockman shared about the importance of taking part in extra murals and how it can help us in the future.

The hall was fully packed as learners went to each table to sign up and hear what each sport and club had to offer. A huge thanks goes to Alexandra Dennis for being in charge and creating an awesome Club and Sports fair. Her words of encouragement were, "At Riebeek, we value academics as well as after school activities. The Sports and Society Fair is an annual event where every high school learner can find an extra mural that they can become actively involved in. We are privileged to have such a large variety of committees and sports at our school! From my experience, I can say that getting involved AFTER 14:00 has made my high school career memorable. The moments shared and friendships formed in my respective committees have allowed

me to become a stronger person and more organised student."

The girls in charge were complimented on their efforts in the Cultural Board meeting on Thursday afternoon where the Board met to discuss the clubs and committees – this is a quarterly meeting. Thank you to the members of clubs and sports and the teachers.

Always remember, team work makes the dream work









Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." -- Andrew Carnegie

The annual Society Team Building Afternoon was held on 17 January. It gives attendees the opportunity to learn more about effective decision-making, communication, the importance of individual commitment to a group effort and, in the words of Ken Blanchard, helps attendees understand that, "None of us is as smart as all of us." The Team Building event teaches these important life lessons through a series of games and an educational and motivational speech given at the end of the event by Mrs Gerber. After a fun afternoon of games and learning important life skills, Cultural Board claimed 3rd position, SCA second position and in 1st position was Alpha Leo. The award for best spirit went to Choir Committee.

The event got off to a great start as girls were very excited about Team Building. Teams were dressed in different, vibrant, "Alice in Wonderland" inspired costumes. Teams competed against each other in a series of games: Mad Hatter human knot, tea cup dash relay, cat got your tail, caterpillar hula hoop race to claim first position. Erinn Kettledas said, "I had so much fun, some great laughs and learned so much about ways to work with a team."

A big thank you goes to Mrs Gerber, Miss Tetani, Miss Klassen (Old Girl and a student teacher of last year who stepped in to help supervise), Miss Klaas and Miss Mxoli for taking time out of their schedules to help out at Team Building. In addition, thank you so much to New Old Girls of the Cultural Board of 2019: Amy Schambril, Monique Balie, Casey Els, Amee Exford and Nuraan Kasmed who came to assist co-ordinate the event. It was also very special that Grade 8s and 9s came to support and helped with a clean-up. And we loved seeing a few Old Girls who came to watch their younger sisters at this memory making event! On behalf of Cultural Board, Chaneal Labercensie co-ordinated and ran the event and she is commended on her excellent leadership skills.











The Grade 4s to 7s were filled with excitement in preparation for the annual Stay Awake in February. The theme was Go for the Gold #LET THE GAMES BEGIN! This was in line with the Olympics scheduled to take place this year. The learners are sponsored in this annual event to stay awake all night. The events of the night are educational ones and include team work, art, physical education, life orientation and dance.

Like true sports women of great mettle, the girls spent many hours practicing for the inter-grade dances. However, these practise sessions were met with another difficulty often faced by those in sport; the weather. There were days where the heat was blatant and unforgiving and others where the ground was a muddy mess, which made it impossible to practise. Not to mention load shedding! But true champions are spurred by adversity, not discouraged by it.

On the night, the foyer was decorated with podiums, the Olympic rings, depictions of different sports, gold banners and ribbons and chalk boards with encouraging messages created by the Grade 7s. The hall was set up as the arena and the games were awaiting their champions.

The prospective champions arrived and with help from their pit crew, their parents, they were able to set up their team camps. The ceremonial pop of the first balloon marked the first hour and the beginning of the games. The first activity had the girls creating posters of different athletes and sports.

The next activity was a fan favourite for the girls, staff and parents. So, you think you can dance? Yes, Riebeek girls can dance, and well too. The group dances were spectacular.

The girls were then challenged to create a model of a real-life athlete. They had to dress one Grade 7 from each group in the sports gear of the athlete they had chosen and write something for them to say to introduce themselves. Some of the memorable ones included Unakho Ndiaye's portrayal of Cristiano Ronaldo and Viwe Mali's Siya Kolisi.

The time for the Midnight Feast finally came and the athletes ate with abandon because they needed to carbo-load for the next activity. Unfortunately, the wonderful feasting inevitably introduced the prospective champions to their biggest opponent, sleep. Luckily, the next item called on them to get up and get the blood pumping with an awesome dance cardio workout.

The Olympics are an international affair, and so after the work out the ladies had to find their torches and take a 60-minute trip around the world. The Treasure Hunt had them searching for the flags of some of the countries participating in this year's Olympics.

After this came the Inter Grade Dance Competition, where the flame of competition burned bright and hot. The girls went head to head and held nothing back. They left their last drop of sweat on the dance floor.

The hula hoop passing game was heavily contested.



Each group vying to be the quickest in getting the hoop from one end of the circle to the other, without breaking the chain. This intense competition was encouraged by Mr Maschaka's commentary, which even drove the teachers to participate by going head to head with the prefects!

Finally, as light began to find us, the journey to find the rising sun had to begin. It was a chilly trek to the top hockey field, some already spent, but we trudged on because winners never quit. The reward was a magnificent glow, although some missed it because they fell asleep on the stands. Then it was back to the hall for the final pop and a fond goodbye to a wonderful night. As per tradition, the Grade 7s stayed behind for a pumped up clean up session with music by Miss Hattingh.









Miss O. Mxoli

# Mini Fun Gala

The junior school was positively pumped up for the **Go for Gold Mini Fun Gala** of 13 March, held just before school broke up for the holiday and after a postponement because of bad weather forecast for the original date. The Grade 7s spent weeks practicing their dance routines after school, making their chalkboards and collecting treats for the tuck shop.

Even pesky loadshedding at the beginning of the morning could not spoil the fun ahead. In fact, it showed the ingenuity of the girls and staff. Mrs Carstens, who made splendid pancakes which were a big hit that morning, brought her entire gas stove to school to make them! The girls played music out of portable speakers to accompany their dance routines. The girls were full of enthusiasm and excitement and their cheering could be heard all over the school grounds.

The dance routines were well choreographed and expertly performed, as always, which made judging extremely difficult for Mrs Stear. Ultimately, the honour went to Elton with Eleanor close behind and Elizabeth completing the golden trio.

We did not have the Ashes this year but we definitely had the teacher-learner race. This is a part of the gala that both parties take very seriously! Mr Jonas and Mrs Haynes-Africa went stroke for stroke against Lauren Labercensie and Callan Elie but the girls were simply faster and claimed the bragging rights. However, Mrs Haynes-Africa still maintains they "let them win".

The Balloon Race was a favourite for the girls and brought many laughs with it as some girls struggled with blowing the balloons and ended up carrying barely inflated balloons across the pool. Dive for Gold was arguably the event the Grade 7s were looking forward to the most. When it finally came, they did not want to leave the pool because some were certain there were still pieces of silver winking at them from the bottom of the pool. Deenah Dollie told everyone who she bumped into how she found R13!

The tuckshop was scrumptious with pancakes, rotis, samosas and a variety of cakes and sweets on offer. The parents who practically ran the tuckshop were lovely, helpful and deeply appreciated.

Lauren Labercensie said her favourite memory of the Mini Fun Gala was the inter-house races because they all got to work together as a team and cheer each other on which made the race super fun and a joy to swim in. Zaneta Louis remembers that when the Grade 6 and 7's were swimming the 25m Freestyle race: "Everyone was cheering, and there was just something about everything, just cheering on their friends, willing them to win with their words." Caslynn Sodien says one of her favourite Gala memories is of herself, Callan Elie, Lauren Labercensie and Ciara Jantjies who have been unbeaten in the intergrade gala since Grade 4.

The Mini Fun Gala was exactly as it was meant to be, fun in the sun. The atmosphere was electrifying and pleasant and the weather was gorgeous. Thank you to all of the staff who made this event possible, to the families who came to support their children and to the girls themselves who made the day what it was!



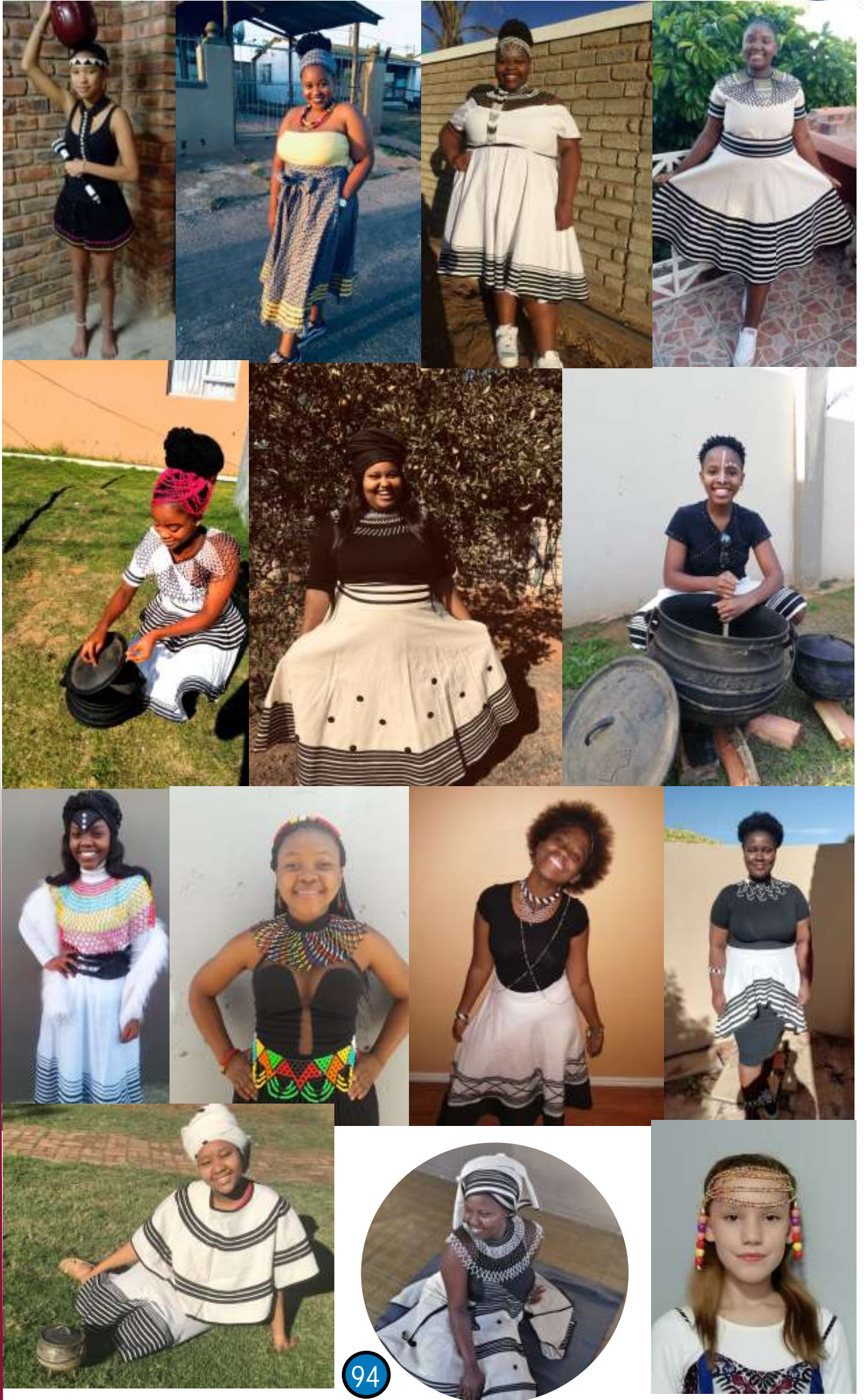






# Virtual Cultral Cívies Day: April

By Pholisa Madiavu







White traditional clothing seemed to be the most popular with a garden setting being the best venue. Lockdown gave us many headaches, but it gave us the chance to experience Cultural Civvies Day as a way of connecting and it gave Freedom Day celebrations stuck at home a new twist with a chance to be get out of our pyjamas and into modelling mode for a photoshoot. Sometimes reluctant, sometimes enthusiastic photographers were roped in to mark the occasion and many photographs were submitted to the Cultural Board.

The Cultural Board members in charge of planning this event decided to seize the lockdown as a chance to get creative and do something different since the normal way was no longer an option. The Cultural Civvies Day photographs were accompanied by a compilation of videos by many different learners explaining the importance of their culture in their lives. The photographs of the learners were posted onto the Riebeek facebook page, Instagram, website and the d6. The girls certainly became supermodels attending a Met Gala, with their garden being the red carpet! One of our contestants in the senior category, Siphosethu Vena in Grade 12, looked ravishing in her matching black and white attire which she accessorised with a matching black head scarf.

Despite this year's cultural Civvies Day being virtual, there was still participation from the whole school. Enthusiastic participation is the way Riebeek girls do it! Yomelela Maphondla in Grade 5 decided to add a bit more colour to her photoshoot, with a flower cultural attire and a beaded head piece. Sibabalwe Daniels In Grade 7 decided to get creative by showcasing a traditional Xhosa pot in her photographs. She said, "I loved dressing up for cultural civvies day, because it reminded us to take time to embrace our cultures. In modern world we live in today, we seem to forget about our cultures and where come from. And Cultural Civvies Day also makes us acknowledge the diversity we have." Although the learners and staff were physically separated due to the corona virus, that did not stop them from all taken part together In celebrating Cultural Civvies Day. We saw that no lockdown nor pandemic can stop the learners and staff from being innovate, enthusiastic and creative.

President Obama said; "Our differences unite us. You and I are blessed to live in a country where we are born equal no matter." This was clearly shown this year as 2020 was the first time that cultural Civvies Day had to be virtual but the learners of the school managed to work together to make it a success. The spirit of Ubuntu has truly been prominent among the learners and staff.







# Grade 7 Radiant Royalty Day

By Mrs J. Bolwes







The final day of Grade 7 saw the girls dressing up as the queens that they are. They proudly walked into the school gates wearing tutus and tiaras, and a pair even came dressed as the royal Spongebob and Patrick duo. This set the tone for a memorable last day as a junior school learner!

The girls spent time leading up to their final day creating a memory envelope that will be opened when they are in matric. Their beautifully designed envelopes reflected who each learner is as a young girl at the moment and was filled with letters from friends, photographs, a Covid-19 time capsule task, and even a letter to their future selves in matric in 2025. They eagerly showed each other their special treasures before sealing their envelopes for the next 5 years.

A surprise of the day came in the form of a video from their former Creative Arts teacher, Mr Maschaka. Time in his class was a highlight for many girls so it was fitting that he made an "appearance" on their last day. This left some girls emotional. The reality of the finality of the day was realised as the prefects presented their assembly to the Grade 7s while they sat on either side of the royal red carpet on the top hockey field. They went down memory lane and relived special, funny, and mischievous moments that they shared together since Grade 4. The queens of the day walked down the red carpet and received a personalised certificate and a Playtime ice cream, fittingly marking the end of their play time as a junior.

Keeshia Van Der Bergh and Dareyah Rossouw agree that the best part of the day was being able to spend time with their friends before going to high school. Dareyah adds, "I will miss all of the great memories that I made with Mrs Bowles and Mr de Beer. Nothing can replace such awesome teachers. I will cherish the Grade 7s in my heart." Deenah Dollie felt that her favourite part of the day was, "seeing the Grade 7s laugh together again after everything we have been through. Even though we couldn't do most of things we were meant to, the teachers made our day so special with the red carpet."





# From Civvies Day to Civvies Every Day









# Family

“Feelings of worth can flourish only in an atmosphere where individual differences are appreciated, mistakes are tolerated, communication is open, and rules are flexible — the kind of atmosphere that is found in a nurturing family.”  
Virginia Satir







# Family

"I think family is key, and if you have love for family, then you have love for others – and you have unity as a people."  
Marlon Wayans







# Family

"The most important thing in the world is family and love." John Wooden

