



# Micklefield School

Term 4, 2020 Newsletter

## Farewell to our Fabulous Interns

What would we have done without our amazing interns this year? Saarah Vayej and Séan Robson joined our staff as interns at the beginning of 2020. Saarah's job description was to assist in the Grade 1 and 2 classroom and Séan was meant to assist in Grade 3 and 4. Both were ready and able to assist Sandi Blackbeard on the sports field. The Covid-19 pandemic threw a spanner in the works and they both found themselves adapting, changing and discovering new skills. Saarah became the 'in class' teacher, dealing with the Grade 1s face-to-face, whilst Debbie Nunneley became the virtual teacher. Séan quickly learned new IT skills, and some isiXhosa too, as he stood in for Titshalakazi when she zoomed in for lessons. Both Séan and Saarah have been positive, motivated and enthusiastic, handling each new challenge with a smile.

We are going to miss them both tremendously in 2021 and wish them both everything of the best for their future adventures. We are confident that they are more than ready to take on the challenge of teaching their own classes and we know that their future employers are lucky to have them.

Thank you Miss Vayej and Mr Robson.



## A Feast of a Fourth Term

The Grade 00 girls have had a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> term. They had such fun exploring the many wonders of spring, planting beans and watching them grow. The Fairies and Princesses theme is always a highlight in the Grade 00 year where the girls make shiny crowns and wands and paint beautiful pictures of fairies and listen to all the many fairy tales and stories. Mrs Patel came and taught them about the Hindu celebration Diwali. The girls enjoyed the story and the sweet treat that followed and made beautiful Diwali firework art. They then enjoyed the Christmas theme and the antics of the Elves – not always naughty as they also do good deeds!

A highlight for the girls was being able to reconnect with their Grade 7 Partners. We do hope they are able to keep in touch once the Grade 7s venture off into the world of High School. The girls have thrived being back at school and coped so well with the way school happens in these Covid times. Never underestimate a Pre Schooler!



## A Delight-Full Term

The Grade 0s have had a wonderfully busy 4th term. We explored our themes of spring, life cycles and fairy tales with wonderment and awe. We observed the full life cycle of our pet silkworms; expressed our creativity through art and learned so many interesting facts through discussions and stories. We ended off our fairy tale theme with an exciting evening of dress up, dancing and storytelling at our Twilight Tales evening.

Mrs Patel shared her Diwali celebration with us with a discussion and story. We made our own sparkly Rangoli designs to share in the celebration. We sang and danced for our parents in a zoom meeting to show the fun we have had this year in class music lessons.



## Grade 1s Get Measuring

The Grade 1 girls have been measuring the mass of different objects found in the classroom using homemade balancing scales with hangers and cups! They used their cubes as units. They found all sorts of things to weigh from school shoes to sharpeners and had so much fun while counting, weighing and recording their results with a partner.



# A Myriad of Activities

This term has been an exciting, fast-paced term full of socially distanced activity in the Grade 2 class.

The Grade 2s have researched a celebration or festival this term, written fiction and non-fiction stories, performed stick-figure puppet shows and presented amazing orals. They made flower crowns in celebration of Garden Day, wonderful paper lanterns and bright and colourful Rangoli patterns!



## Gr 3s Take on 2020

Ava Klerk

I loved 2020 because in grade 3 Mrs Steffen taught me to write in cursive. The one thing that really didn't go so well was lockdown. We had lockdown because of Covid-19. We had lockdown for 5 months! The lockdown started on the 17 of March and it ended in August. My favorite thing about this year is when I got back together with my friends. I finally got an iPad.

Ella Lewis

This year has been a rollercoaster ride. We were homeschooled because of a virus called Covid 19. We survived on toilet paper, food and water. It was scary. I was stuck at home for 6 months. Lots of people caught the virus. 2020 was an experience I would never forget!

Lise Muller

The year 2020 was an interesting year for me Lise Muller. In March the country was locked down as a result of Covid-19. We could only go to school in September, so in the meantime we had to homeschool. In lockdown we had to wear masks. When we went to school we had to social distance and sanitize.

Leah Farlam

This year we had a new virus around called Covid 19. We had a six month lockdown, meaning we had to home school. I didn't like home schooling in most ways but in some ways I liked it. My favourite things about lockdown were the movie nights and the games I played with my dad. My least favourite things were being stuck at home and not seeing my family and friends. We came back to school in August for hybrid learning and then this term we came back full time. But one of my favourite things this year was getting my ears pierced.

# The Show must Go On

## A Quest for Climate Change

The Grade 3 class of 2020 missed out on being the big girls in the end of year Foundation Play due to their not being one due to COVID.

So Mrs G adapted the story Greta and the Giants by Zoë Tucker (which is about Greta Thunberg's quest for Climate Change to be taken seriously) into a play for the Grade 3s which was then rehearsed during class drama and filmed. Click on the link to share the girls' excitement at performing and be challenged by the strong message:

[A QUEST FOR CLIMATE CHANGE](#)



## The Rainbow Bear

The enthusiastic thespians of Grade 5 were disappointed to have missed out on their 2020 school play and so asked for a mini class play. This took place this term during class drama. Mrs G adapted the beautiful story The Rainbow Bear by Michael Morpurgo into a play. The white snow bear learnt that there is danger in beauty when he wished he could be as colourful as a rainbow. The girls loved rehearsing and performing for the camera. Click on the link to enjoy their performance: [THE RAINBOW BEAR](#)

The Drama Department said a fond farewell to the Grade 7 class as they took to the Mickelfield stage for the last time when they performed their fun plays around the theme of: "Now You See Me, Now You Don't."



## Grade 5s explore Personal Histories



### Heritage Projects

Grade 5 took a stroll into their own personal histories this term, uncovering past family secrets and traditions. Where do we come from? What recipes did great granny enjoy making for her family? Who was Uncle Max and how did I not know he was a secret agent? We creatively put together scrapbooks to showcase our findings, a keepsake for years to come, and to show future generations what we have unearthed about our individual heritage.

### Marshmallow Catapults

Elastic energy is certainly one of Grade 5s favourite types of energy. Our beautifully designed and built catapults were put to the test when the class competed in a marshmallow shooting competition (no marshmallows were harmed in the making of this task, they just got a bit sticky). Well done to Sian and Julia for shooting their marshmallows the furthest!



### We're on Fire!

We take fire safety very seriously at Micklefield, and what better way to learn about this topic than having our very own Firefighter Paul (aka Coach Kylie) come and talk to us! Identifying hazards and working out our own emergency escape routes in our homes, are just some of the important skills we learnt about, and our informative Fire Safety posters are certainly worth a look. STOP! DROP! ROLL!

## Past Pupils inspire at Awards Evenings

Micklefield Past Pupils Aliya and Samiya Borhat and Julia Rubin, best friends throughout primary school and known as the "Trio" were invited as guest speakers for the Grade 4-6 Celebration of Achievement Awards. They spoke fondly of their Micklefield days, reminded the girls to be proud of their achievements and encouraged them to make the most of every opportunity awarded to them. They also paid a visit to the Grade 00 classroom to see how much had changed since they were in Grade 00 13 years ago!



## Gr 7s hone their Leadership Skills

### House Captains host a Movie & Games afternoon

The house captains from Kingfishers, Swallows and Robins hosted a Movie and Games afternoon for the Grade 3s. It was so much fun for the house captains to host one final event for the year. We gathered on the field to play dodgeball before the movie started. Each girl sat in a chair which were all distanced 1,5 metres apart and they each received a snack pack to enjoy during the movie. All the money from the event is going towards the Grade 7 gift to the school. We all had a blast and the afternoon was enjoyed by everyone.

*Written by Rebecca Hewat.*



### Cultural Committee focus on Diversity

This term the Cultural committee focussed on diversity in its various forms. The cultural committee completed our 'Diversatree' this term. The Diversatree is a paper tree where girls were encouraged to create an art/written piece reflecting any cultural and/or family traditions. Each piece of paper stuck onto the tree, represents each growing leaf. We advertised this cultural tree, by giving the school an assembly about it.

*Written by Khethiwe Mashologu*



### Outreach Committee organise a fundraiser

The Outreach Committee hosted a stationery raffle this term. The raffle has had many entries so far and we are hoping that more will come through. Each ticket is five rand and we are hoping to make at least R1500. In the raffle there is a mixture of Typo and CNA stationery, as well as many other interesting items that would appeal to the girls. We look forward to the draw! *Written by Jessica Butler*



### Pastoral Committee show their appreciation

This term the Pastoral Committee organised for all the girls in the committee to make a card and a little treat for their secret angels to show them how special they are! We did this so all the secret angels got something special. We also made care packages for the support staff to show them how much we appreciate them. Each girl in the Pastoral Committee baked a treat and then we gave it to them and they were so thankful. All the girls are so thankful for them and this was just a little act of kindness to show our appreciation!

*Written by Ella Bain*

## Music Awards 2020



Congratulations to the following girls who were awarded Music trophies at the final assemblies:

*The Bridget Dilkes Guitar award for the most promising guitarist:* Jorja Henchie

*The Barbara Warner-Smith Flute award for excellent participation, enthusiasm and progress on the Flute:* Rebecca Hewat

*The Barbara Warner-Smith Recorder award for dedication, persistence, participation and excellence on the Recorder:* Amélie Bennett

*The Music Progress Cup, awarded to a girl who has shown diligence and progress in Music. This year it is shared between:* Anjani Gihwala and Grace Unser

*The Suzanne Buchanon Music trophy is awarded to the most impressive first year pianist:* Sophie Gebhardt

*The Mandy van Wyk Piano award for excellence in Piano:* Gemma MacGregor

*The Nomfundo Xaluva Singing award for excellence and diligence in Singing:* Anna Melville

## External Music Events

We are so proud of our musicians for adapting to a very different year of music tuition. Every student has excelled in an individual capacity. We do have a few girls who embraced the concept of online external music events. We wish to acknowledge their achievements here:

### **Western Cape Virtual Eisteddfod**

Salma Variawa and Jemima Kennedy-Smith participated in the newly established Western Cape Virtual Eisteddfod. Salma achieved 87% for her piano solo and Jemima achieved 86% for her keyboard solo.

### **Trinity Practical Examinations (Online)**

Rebecca Eedes did her Initial Level Trinity Piano examination. She achieved 92%

Ella-Grace Gray and Rebecca Hewat did their Grade 2 Trinity Flute examinations. Ella achieved 80% and Rebecca achieved 91%.

Amélie Bennett did the Grade 4 Trinity Recorder Examination on both the Descant and the Treble Recorders. She achieved 82%.

### **Trinity Theory Examination**

Jemima Kennedy-Smith also participated in the Grade 3 Theory examination. We are awaiting these results.



## Gr 7 Music & Art Evening



On a lovely summer's evening, the Micklefield School Hall reverberated with the sound of live music and a happy audience, set against the backdrop of beautiful Grade 7 Art. The Grade 7 girls created beautiful and engaging posters about themselves and their passion for the arts. It was a treat to see and hear the girls performing on their instruments and singing to the delight of all present. The focus was on solo performances as duets and ensemble items were put on COVID-hold! The girls delighted us with their polished renditions of their pieces. proud. May music and art continue to bring you much joy!



## And the Winner is ..

The highly contested annual House Cup for 2020 was awarded to the Swallows, with Robins and Kingfishers in a close 2nd and 3rd place. Congratulations girls!



## Phys Ed & Sport

Our girls have enjoyed their Phys Ed lessons this term using a variety of equipment – hoops, balls and bean bags. The Foundation Phase have been concentrating on learning to throw, catch, bounce, roll and kick balls while the Intermediate Phase have been honing their ball skills. From Grade 3 – 7 they have played tennis, netball and rounders during their Sport Hour. The Gr 00 Little Girls and Gr 7 Big Girls enjoyed the final Phys Ed lesson of the year together.



## Rounders



The Gr 7 2020 Zoom Team took on the Wild, Wacky and Outrageous Staff Team in the traditional end of year game of rounders. The game was played in front of an audience of very enthusiastic supporters with the Gr 7 Zoomsters taking it home with a final score of 27—14! Well done everyone!





Farewell to the Micklefield Class of 2020. You will be remembered as the class who rose above the challenges of 2020 with grace, empathy and determination. Well done to each and every one of you. As the newest recruits of Micklefield Past Pupils we wish you everything of the best for your High School years. You are always welcome back to Micklefield .. the small school with the big heart.



## Grade 7 Fun Walk at De Grendel

The Grade 7s, their parents and staff had a fabulous 5km Fundraiser Walk at De Grendel Estate earlier this term. Glorious weather and stunning views made for a wonderful time and the teachers were treated to a delicious brunch afterwards in celebration of World Teachers Day. Thanks to Gaedry and De Villiers Graaff for hosting and to all those who contributed to the morning's success. Thank you too, to all the families for their donations towards the Big Walk to be held again next year again at De Grendel on 20 February 2021. The fabulous sum of R24 500 has already been raised towards the new Learning Centre.



**Jeannette and the staff would like to thank the Micklefield parents and community for their support throughout this unprecedented year as we have navigated the challenges of online teaching and learning. We wish you all a very happy, relaxing and peaceful holiday and to those who celebrate, a blessed Christmas.**

