

NEWSLETTER | 24 January 2020 | VOLUME 1

FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents

At the beginning of this year we welcomed 82 Grade 8 students spread over 4 classes into our College with a moving and meaningful Tie Hand-Over Ceremony on the first day of the academic year.

After our Grade 12 students assisted them in putting on their ties, I challenged our youngest College students to preserve the values that we hold dear:

- That they will do their best in whatever they commit to; seeking to attain excellence in academics, sport and the arts; that they give willingly and unselfishly of their talents to their College as well as their time and service to the underprivileged always remembering our motto "We Shall Give Back."
- That they carry themselves with dignity and humility; wearing their uniform with pride and remembering that others judge our College by their individual actions and behaviour.
- That they understand that everyone is an individual and deserves to be treated with respect and we ask that they exercise tolerance and acceptance of those who might be different from themselves.

In addition, we also welcomed eight new Grade 9 students; fifteen new Grade 10 students and three new Grade 11 students into our College. We were also excited to welcome our new boarders. We currently have 26 boarders – 16 girls and 10 boys in the capable care of our Head of Boys' Boarding, Mr Hadyn Skinner, and the Head of Girls' Boarding, Ms Ann Couzens.

We started the year off with 362 students – 181 boys and 181 girls – which is double than the number of students that we had only three years ago. Our challenge as we grow bigger is to never lose that family feel foundation. That is why I am pleased to let you know that this year we have introduced two new periods into our weekly timetable to enhance the pastoral care of our students.

We have introduced a register teacher period every alternate Friday allowing for the register teachers to have more meaningful engagement with their classes. Whereas the register classes consist of students in the same grade; we have introduced a tutor period for small 'family groups' of roughly 12 to 15 in size and consisting of students in Grades 8 to 12 under the guidance of a staff member who acts as tutor. The tutor groups have been decided based on house affiliation to continue to foster house and school spirit. In so doing we wish for every College student to feel valued as a member of our College family and to provide opportunities for students to connect with other grades in a safe and nurturing environment where respectful, but frank communication and discussions will be encouraged. The tutor groups will remain in place for the duration of the students' high school

careers, with new "family" members being added at the beginning of each new year, and older "siblings" leaving at the end of their Matric year.

As a staff, we have chosen "Confidence is Key" as our theme for the year. Our College teachers have committed themselves to finding creative ways to cultivate curiosity and to develop confidence in our students in order for them to be equipped to handle anything that life throws in your way.

Confidence means feeling sure of yourself and your abilities — not in an arrogant way, but in a realistic, secure way. Confidence isn't about feeling superior to others. It's a quiet inner knowledge that you're capable. Although confidence comes naturally with success, success comes only to those who are confident.

Please would you have confidence in the knowledge that your child's future is in the safe hands of a compassionate, committed and experienced group of Reddam House Umhlanga teachers. They will never leave a single student behind. Our track record as a College following three years' of exceptional IEB NSC academic results must be reason enough for you to have confidence that we do know what we are doing. (For details of our 2019 IEB NSC results please find the detailed synopsis under the Newsletter tab on the Reddam House App).

We look forward to watching the progress and achievements of our incredibly talented group of new and existing College students with much interest in the coming months. I wish every member of the Reddam House Umhlanga family success and much happiness for the year ahead.

ADAM ROGERS HEADMASTER

GENERAL NEWS & INFORMATION



Staff News

We welcome our new College teachers:

Mrs Kirstie Turk joins us from St Henry's Marist College where she was Head of Geography and Grade Head. She will be teaching Geography alongside Mr James Taylor as well as English.

Mr Ivan Prinsloo also joins us in the English department. He was Head of the English department at Curro Thatchfield in Johannesburg and prior to that, was Head of English at Pecanwood College.

Mrs Kathleen Schroeder joins us as Head of the English department. She was previously Head of English at Hilton College – a position that she held since 2003.

Mr Jaime Harris is joining us as teacher of History. He was Head of the High School at Our Lady of Fatima School where he taught History since 2013.

Mr Chris Kanku joins us as a part-time teacher of Conversational French. He is in the employ of the Dante Alighieri School of Language in Durban North and has extensive experience teaching French to students and adults.

Grade 8 Orientation Week

There was great excitement as our 82 new Grade 8 students embarked upon their College journey and joined our Reddam House Umhlanga family. To allow them the opportunity to settle into the College, the Grade 8's spent their first week of school involved in a fun and informative Orientation Week.

They began their Orientation week by being inducted into the College at a Tie Ceremony. Throughout the rest of the week, they got to experience and navigate their way through the College corridors and outside facilities. They dove right into fun opportunities to connect with each other. These were led by our Grade 12 Student Support Council. They then participated in workshops with our senior College staff in charge of sport, academics and student affairs. The House Captains got them 'fired up' in various Art, Drama and Music workshops.

On Monday, they began the new week as fully-fledged College students, equipped with the know-how and confidence to take on the timetable. We trust they are on their way to feeling settled and at home.



Left to Right: Carrie-Ann Govender (Grade 12) and Jamaica Lamb (Grade 8)

Channels of Communication

Thank you to all parents who attended the all-important New Parents' and Grade 9 to 12 Parent Information Evenings that were held on Tuesday 15 January and Tuesday 22 January respectively. As discussed, all parents are reminded of the correct channels of communication in the College at Reddam House Umhlanga. Should your son/daughter experience an issue of an academic or pastoral nature, then your first port of call is his/her registration teacher. The registration teachers, together with their email addresses, are listed below, for your

convenience. Requests for absence from school must be directed to your child's Grade Head or Head of Boarding in the case of boarders:

Grade 8 and 9 Head: Mr Phil Edmonds phil.edmonds@reddam.house
Grade 10 and 11 Head: Mr James Taylor james.taylor@reddam.house
Grade 12 Head (Acting) Mr Adam Rogers adam.rogers@reddam.house
Head: Boarding Mr Hadyn Skinner hadyn.skinner@reddam.house

If you do not receive the assistance that you require from the register teachers or Grade Heads then you may contact one of the following members of management:

Deputy Head: Academics Mrs Chantal Lourens <u>chantal.lourens@reddam.house</u>
Deputy Head: Student Affairs Mrs Debbie Boosey <u>debbie.boosey@reddam.house</u>
Deputy Head: Operations Mr Gavin Belman <u>gavin.belman@reddam.house</u>

2020 College Staff Email List

College Reception	Mrs Michelle Fitzpatrick	michelle.fitzpatrick@reddam.house
School Counseller	Mrs Ros Lowry	ros.lowry@reddam.house
Nursing Sister	Sr Zukiswa Chonco	zukiswa.chonco@reddam.house
COLLEGE REGISTRATION TEACHERS		
Grade 8R	Mrs Jenna van Reenen	jenna.vanreenen@reddam.house
Grade 8M	Mrs Kristie Turk	kristie.turk@reddam.house
Grade 8H	Mrs Nicky Miller	nicky.miller@reddam.house
Grade 8S	Mr Callum Robertson	callum.robertson@reddam.house
Grade 9R	Mr Justin Lanz	justin.lanz@reddam.house
Grade 9M	Mr Ivan Prinsloo	ivan.prinsloo@reddam.house
Grade 9H	Mrs Claire Sayer	claire.sayer@reddam.house
Grade 9S	Mrs Gugulethu Hattingh	gugulethu.hattingh@reddam.house
Grade 10R	Mrs Karen Kriel	karen.kriel@reddam.house
Grade 10M	Mrs Louise Erwee	louise.erwee@reddam.house
Grade 10H	Mr Paul Edgar	paul.edgar@reddam.house
Grade 10S	Mr Roshan Ramsugit	roshan.ramsugit@reddam.house
Grade 11R	Mr Kyle Beach	kyle.beach@reddam.house
Grade 11M	Mrs Tammy Lailvaux	tammy.lailvaux@reddam.house
Grade 11H	Mr Shaun van Wyk	Shaun.vanwyk@reddam.house
Grade 12R	Mr Jaime Harris	jaime.harris@reddam.house
Grade 12M	Mrs Michelle Shepherdson	michelle.shepherdson@reddam.house
Grade 12H	Mrs Kathleen Schroeder	kathleen.schroeder@reddam.house
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES		
Director of College Culture	Mrs Farla Ribbonaar	farla.ribbonaar@reddam.house
Director of Music	Mr Russell Scott	russell.scott@reddam.house
Visual Art Teacher	Mrs Joan Martin	joan.martin@reddam.house
Dance Teacher	Mr Quinton Ribbonaar	quinton.ribbonaar@reddam.house
SPORT		
Director of College Sport	Mr Ross Veenstra	ross.veenstra@reddam.house
Director of Hockey	Mr Gowan Jones	gowan.jones@reddam.house
Director of Aquatics	Mr Hadyn Skinner	hadyn.skinner@reddam.house

WhatsApp Groups

Every year parents compile personal Whatsapp groups in order to get quick answers to questions that parents have but are not sure where to access the relevant information. Please note that Whatsapp groups will never be used by the College as the official means of communication and no parent will ever by tasked with being the spokesperson of the College.

We do not have 'Class Moms' in the College. Staff members who happen to be on these groups know that they may never comment for risk of such statements being misconstrued as official College statements. We request that parents not speak disparagingly about the College, the staff or push their own personal agenda on these Whatsapp groups as this can be incredibly undermining and divisive.

Compulsory Events this Term

In keeping with the wonderful start that we made in building up school spirit last year, we will be continuing with compulsory attendance at certain school events this term:

Tuesday 4 February at 18:00 (Senior Executive Induction Ceremony)

This is compulsory for all Grade 11 and 12 students. Grade 12 parents will be invited to attend the ceremony followed by a Cocktail Party in the College Functions Room. Students are to wear their "step out" uniforms.

Friday 14 February from 14:00 to 17:00 (First Boys' and Girls' Waterpolo Matches)

All Grade 8 to 12 students will be expected to attend the First Boys' Waterpolo match against DHS and the First Girls' Waterpolo match against Danville Park High School in the Reddam House Umhlanga pool. The matches should conclude by 17:00. As this is a Friday, students will be dressed in their "step out" uniform.

Thursday 27 February 12:30 to 15:00 (D & D Co-Ed A Schools' Gala)

Our Swimming Team will be competing in the D & D Co-Ed Schools' A League Gala that Reddam House Umhlanga will be hosting at Kings Park Swimming Pool. All Grade 8 to 12 students are expected to support. Transport will be provided for the entire school. The gala will conclude at approximately 15:00 and students will be transported back to school by approximately 15:45.

Please note that these are compulsory events on our school calendar. Roll call will be taken before and after the events. More details regarding these compulsory events will be communicated closer to the time.



 ${\it Grade~8s~of~2020}$

Gap Year Experience

We received exciting news from Heather Dixon (RHU Class of 2019) who is now a 'Gappie' at a private school called Port Regis, situated just outside Shaftsbury in Dorset. The school accepts pupils from the age of 2 years to 13 years, and has a list of famous people who have attended the school, including the Queen's grandchildren, Zara and Peter. During the day she has been assigned to the Design and Technology department because of her desire to study engineering. She also assists with all sports, including attending matches after school and on Saturdays. This amazing opportunity will hopefully teach her a lot about people, different cultures and the working world as part of life's lessons. We thoroughly recommend such opportunities to matriculating students wishing to experience a gap year. Please contact the Grade Head, Mr Adam Rogers, for more details.

ACADEMIC NEWS & INFORMATION

Letter from the IEB: Exceptional Performance

We received the following letter from the CEO of the IEB, Ms Anne Oberholzer, at the start of the year:

The IEB has observed that the Class of 2019 at your school achieved a 100% pass rate in the National Senior Certificate examination conducted by the IEB. However in addition, the 2019 NSC learners achieved a 100% pass rate with entry to degree study. This is an achievement of which your school community can be proud.

This exceptionally good performance is indicative of motivated learners and a committed teaching cohort. Not only do they set high expectations for learners, but also encourage and support them to achieve these standards. It is also indicative of outstanding leadership from you and your management team who lead and support the staff and guide your learners. This dedication to excellence in education from all who work and learn in your institution is laudable.

I take this opportunity to congratulate you on an exceptional set of results in 2019 and wish you all the very best for a successful 2020.

Academic Information

As discussed at the Grade 8 to 12 Parent Information Evenings, all the important academic information can be found on the Reddam House Umhlanga APP under the tab ACADEMIC: COLLEGE. Important and useful tools for parents include:

Cycle Test Schedule

Cycle tests are written on a Tuesday and Thursday morning at 08:30am. As this is a formal assessment, a doctor's certificate is required should a student miss a cycle test day. The cycle test schedule is useful for parents to assist their children in being adequately prepared for the assessment. It is loaded termly.

Assessment Planner

Teachers will fill in every assessment that a student can expect each term. This includes all informal assessments as well. This is a useful tool for helping to plan a student's week and ensuring they stay on top of all academic expectations. Although we will stick to this planner as much as is possible, there will be instances where an assessment may be changed. Teachers will communicate directly with the students, should this be the case.

Academic Support Lessons

Academic Support lessons are available every afternoon from 14:30 to 15:15 before the extramural programme commences. In subjects with greater demand such as English, Afrikaans and Mathematics, smaller, focused classes have been organised to better structure the support programmes. Further to these classes, teachers in these departments are also available after 15:15 on specific days. The full support schedule is also available to parents on the app and outlines support class times as well as focused group days and times.

MiEbooks APP

Another useful tool for parents to review student progress is through the ITSI, MiEbooks APP on your child's iPad. By scrolling down the menu button, you will see 'Analytics'. Once pressed you can review exactly how much time your child is spending on the tasks and work set by the teacher. It also gives a comparison to the grade averages. Should you need further information as to how this works, you can meet with a representative of ITSI at the College reception or alternatively contact your child's Grade Head.

Visual Art Excursion

The Grade 10, 11 and 12 Visual Arts students visited three art galleries in Durban on 21 January. The first visit was to the Durban Art Gallery in the center of Durban. This gallery is presently hosting an exhibition which focuses on South African artists who are featured in the Grade 12 syllabus. All students were required to identify particular artworks and write up visual analyses on their own of artworks that they liked.

The second stop was at the KZNSA Gallery in Glenwood where there is an exhibition hosting the work of young South African artists based around the theme: 'An Unfurling'. Finally the group ended up at a new gallery called Tamasa in Morningside which has a collection of contemporary South African art on show.



Top left to right: Tayla Rhodes, Paige Slater, Tyra Fenger, Alysa Dunford, Kirsten McDonald, Daniel Peters, Thoraya Bonnin, Rachel Emond, Kelly van der Vyver, Nico Willemse, Jamie Sindt, Yusuf Ally, Duranne Eaton, Grace Doxey, Caden McEwan, Alexander Lacher. Bottom Row: Ruby Karon, Matthew Poliah, Liam Cooney, Jordon Joubert, Kristen Lea, Layla-Ann Sachse

BOARDING NEWS & INFORMATION

Reddam House Umhlanga Residents 2020



Mr Kyle Beach, Ntokoza Vilikazi, Bandile Zulu, Avile Qangule, Khanyisani Khanyile, Melba Mavimbe, Luke Gardiner, Freddie Mavimbe, Nico Willemse, Senamile Khanyile, Hannah Ferreira, Joelle Thomson, Chae Bowsett, Kiara Singh, Noluthando Skosana, Kristen Lea, Letihogonolo Seoposengwe, Minyang Li, Avela Thomas, Fundiswa Maphanga, Okuhle Mfeka, Noah Schwartzman, Mbali Kweyama, Lantz Brown, Ntando Mbele, Mr Hadyn Skinner

Ten new boarders were welcomed into the Reddam Residence at the start of the year.

The first weekend was a closed weekend where all Reddam Res students stayed in for team building and fellowship. On the Friday night they attended Youth at Northplace Church. On Saturday they ran the Park Run on the Umhlanga promenade and spent an afternoon at the pool followed by an evening braai. Many of the boarders were involved in the Choir Camp, with some boys at cricket trials and the girls playing indoor hockey matches. Sunday saw our students go to Umdloti beach for a swim and coffee at Foam Cafe/Tasco Pizza.

Reddam House Umhlanga Resident Staff Contact Details

Head of Boys' Res Mr Hadyn Skinner hadyn.skinner@reddam.house Mr Kyle Beach Deputy Head of Boys' Res kvle.beach@reddam.house Head of Girls' Res Miss Ann Couzens ann.couzens@reddam.house natalie.rodwell@reddam.house Deputy Head of Girls' Res Miss Natalie Rodwell

Reddam Res Contact Number: 083 608 8680

CULTURAL NEWS

Choir Camp 2020

The College's inaugural Choir Camp was held in the Creative and Performing Arts Centre on 18 and 19 January. Choir members participated in workshops led by Durban's best choir conductors, choreographers and vocalists in a fun-filled, energetic programme that focused on both South African and classical music. Well known Durban theatre personality, Daisy Spencer, put them to work in a staging and choral choreography workshop. The choir also enjoyed team building activities which were coordinated by Choir Captain Sarah Donkin and Vice-Captain Lerato Mudau. We look forward to seeing the choir putting to work what they have learnt during the course of the year.



Members of the College Choir

Visual Art Competition Winner

Thoraya Bonnin (Grade 12) was placed first in a national student competition run by the South African Artist Magazine last year. Her work is published in issue 49 of the magazine and she will receive a hamper of DALA art products worth over R2 000 as her prize.

COMMUNITY SERVICE INFORMATION

Compulsory Community Service Initiative

Community service is integral to a holistic education as it encourages students to develop an understanding of civic responsibility and the role they can play in supporting and strengthening their communities. Community involvement also increases student awareness of community needs and how they can make a positive difference. Helping others enhances the self-image of students and fosters a greater sense of belonging to the greater whole.

This year sees all College students being expected to complete a **minimum of 15 hours of community service** during the school year. These hours will be reported on in the second and fourth terms on each student's report. Eligible activities are activities that are performed for non-profit organisations. There are many opportunities for our students to complete these hours through school based initiatives, but they are also encouraged to organize their own community service projects.

All students are required to keep accurate records of the hours they have accumulated. This can be done using the Service Record Sheet that was handed out to all students earlier in the week. Alternatively, a link will be accessible through the Outreach tab on the Reddam House app where students can log their hours. It is advised that students keep hardcopies of their service hours as this is important for their Life Orientation portfolios. Please note that a maximum of 8 hours can be claimed on any one day.

SPORTS NEWS & INFORMATION

Pre-season Cricket

20 cricketers took up the opportunity to be involved in a pre-season cricket clinic on Saturday 11 January. The boys had a really good session and were able to get back into the "swing of things" and got a head start on preparations for the season ahead.

Pre-season Hockey Clinic

The 2020 hockey season at Reddam House Umhlanga started off early in January, with most of our indoor hockey girls (under 14 through to Open) being involved in a pre-season camp held over four days. The value that we gained from this four day camp was visible at the respective indoor hockey festivals that were held on Saturday 18 January with all the Reddam House Umhlanga teams putting on some very convincing performances against some quality opposition. Please see results below.

Pre-season Waterpolo Clinic

Our girls' and boys' waterpolo players took full advantage of the annual pre-season camp that was held from Monday 6 through to Friday 10 January. The waterpolo camp was open to all Reddam House Umhlanga students from Grades 7 to 12. The camp focused on preparing our athletes for the season ahead and going through basics for students who were new to the game of waterpolo.

Meet the Sports Coaches 2020

Waterpolo

Reddam House Umhlanga waterpolo has 4 professional coaches on deck, all having played and coached provincially as well as being past and current S.A national players.

David Mc Donald has recently got back from Kuwait where he represented South Africa in the FINA World Junior Men's Waterpolo Championships. He played provincial waterpolo throughout his high school career which culminated in being selected for the SA u19A side. He was selected to play in the KZN Men's team at the start of his Matric year. **Tyler Vaughan** has played and coached at KZN level for many years.



David MacDonald, Alex Van Rooyen, Tyler Vaughan, Kerin Vaughan

Joining him is **Alex van Rooyen** who recently played in the SA u20 World Waterpolo Championships. He too is a member of the KZN Men's team and was a member of the SA Schools' team. **Kerin Vaughan** has represented KZN at the Currie Cup since 2016 and has played for the Varsity College ladies side at USSA in 2019.

Netball

Sphie Radebe has represented KZN in Netball, Action Netball and Basketball. She was captain of the KZN Action Netball Team in 2008. She has been coaching netball at Reddam House Umhlanga since 2017. **Cara Rencken** has been coaching netball for 19 years, ranging from Junior Prep to the College 1st Team. She has coached and

played provincially, is a qualified indoor and outdoor umpire, and has been involved in outdoor netball selections for many years. Liziwe Mohuli has been playing netball for 35 years and has represented both KZN and SA in netball and action netball. Noluthando Nalo is a KZN netball official and has been coaching at Reddam House Umhlanga since 2017. Sandile Mzimela has been playing netball for KZN since 2013 and has coached the KZN Schools' u18 Team and the Pumas Aqua outdoor team since 2016.



Lizzie Mohuli, Sandile Mzimela, Noluthando Nalo, Cara Rencken, Sphie Radebe

New Sports Calendar on the Reddam House Umhlanga APP

We have attempted to make finding relevant sports information on the Reddam House Umhlanga app more user friendly and comprehensive. Please refer to the College Sports tab for access to the new sports year calendar where sports festivals, tours and fixtures can be seen at a glance. This calendar in turn can be synced to your own personal electronic calendars for ease of access.

Extramural Expectations 2020

Extramural involvement is an important component of a holistic Reddam House education in order to develop confidence as well as social and physical wellbeing. Our policy requires that our students must add value to the school either on the sports field or in qualifying cultural activities per term. If, for some reason, a student cannot attend a sports practice, the student must hand a letter excusing him/herself to the manager/ teacher in charge of that sport or cultural activity. Strict registers will be kept of students' attendance.

Sports Results

Girls' Indoor Hockey

U14A

Vs Kloof High School A won 3-0

Vs Kingsway High School A won 4-0

Vs Ashton College A won 2-1

Vs Crawford College North Coast A won 3-0

Vs Ashton College A won 3-0

U16A

Vs Northlands Girls' High A won 6-0

Vs St Henry's Marist College A won 1-0

Vs Kloof High School A won 5-0

Vs Kingsway High School A won 4-0

2nd Team

Vs Kloof High School A drew 1-1

Vs Kingsway High School A won 3-0

Vs Pinetown Girls' High School A lost 0-1

Vs St Henry's Marist College A lost 0-6

1st Team

Vs Northlands Girls' High A won 2-0

Vs Durban North College A won 1-0

Vs Crawford College North Coast A drew 1-1

Vs Ashton College A drew 0-0

Vs Curro Hillcrest A drew 0-0

PARENTS' AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

The first meeting of the Reddam House Umhlanga Parents' & Friends' Association is on Tuesday 28 January in the ELS Piazza at 7:15am. If anyone would like to join the committee, please join us at the meeting.

SPONSORSHIP NEWS & INFORMATION



Astroturf Advertising Boards

An exemplary advertising board has already been erected on the fence around the Astroturf. Please contact Ian Gardiner for further information on sponsorship.umhlanga@reddam.house or 0824466228 should you wish to advertise your business.

My School Card

We encourage parents to please remember to swipe their My School card when shopping at any of the affiliated stores. These stores include Woolworths, Walton's, Engen, Flight Centre and Loot. The full list of affiliated partners can be found on the My School website. A portion of your spend is given back to the school and these funds will be utilised towards the beautification of our school grounds as well as the purchase of books for the library.

Thank You

We are extremely grateful to the following 2019 Matric students' families for generously sponsoring the new honours boards that will soon be erected in the College building:

Cliff Family McIlroy Family

van den Berg Family as well as two anonymous donors.

DATES TO DIARISE

29 January

17h00 High Schools' Marketing Expo (Chelsea Prep)

31 - 2 February

u13 & u14 Waterpolo Tour to the RH Helderfontein Festival (Helderfontein)

4 February

18:00 Matric Induction Ceremony (Mini Theatre) Compulsory attendance for Gr 11 & 12 students ('step outs')

7 February

09h00 Interhouse Swimming Gala (Swimming Pool)

8 February

08h30 Green Portfolio Beach Clean-Up



Please click on this button to see our Reddam House Umhlanga Advertisements