



No 5
9 March 2017

Dear Parent/Guardians

The last few weeks have seen the entire school being very busy with school work and, weather permitting, with extramurals. We are so grateful for the much-needed rain, however, the havoc this creates, when it rains all day and the children are kept indoors for the school day, is rather stressful. I would like to thank the staff and the children for working through this in the calmest way possible. A little respite is giving the kids a chance to play their long-awaited cricket match.

On 16 and 17 February, the Craighall Park Scout Group addressed the assemblies in commemoration of their founder Baden Powell's birthday. Baden Powell penned a profound farewell message to the Scouts that was meant to be shared after his death. He died at the age of 83 in 1941. The message reads as follows: "But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in the feeling that, at any rate, you have not wasted your time but have done your best."

The first Craighall Park Scouts Group caters for Cubs aged 7 – 11 and Scouts aged 11-18. They have invited your children to join them for FUN adventures, learning life skills and lots more. Scouting is open to both girls and boys. They also have a group called 'Meerkats' for children aged 5 and 6. For more information, contact Craig Rens on sgl@1stcraighall.co.za

On 1 March we held our Open Day. This is a day whereby we extend an invitation to prospective parents who are investigating whether to enrol their child/children at our school. This was a very successful day with over 150 pairs of feet walking through our school, admiring the energy, educational facilities and overall dedication on display. The success of the day was due to our staff and pupils working hard and the amazing generosity of some of our parents for supplying the eats and for offering their friendly faces and time in guiding our visiting parents on 'tours' around the school. Visitors commented on how nice it was to have involved parents who were so open, honest and helpful. Thank you to everyone for making this a special day which will add great value for years to come.

Book lovers celebrated their favourite stories once again as World Book Day returned on 2 March and marked its 20th anniversary. We use the date designated by UNESCO. Some countries celebrate it on 23 April – William Shakespeare's birthday. According to organisers from UNESCO, they change the date annually to take into consideration the various holidays. The annual celebration of authors, illustrators and reading is marked in more than 100 countries around the world. The event sees children all over the world dress up as their favourite characters to celebrate the wonder of reading. All staff members are encouraged to don fancy dress costumes and join in the celebration of World Book Day. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day, not only perform better in reading than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increase their general knowledge and foster a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, the evidence also suggests that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school regardless of social and/or economic background.

This year we were fortunate enough to have the author of 'How Polly became a Pirate', Jann Waratunga, who came to our school and read out parts of her book to our children. She explained what it entails to be an author and, using interactive methods, involved the children in understanding various messages regarding respect, no bullying, and other values that require constant reiteration. An autographed copy of her book can be purchased for R120. This entails

putting the money in an envelope, enclosing your child's name and the message which he/she would like Jann to write in his/her personal copy.

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Anthony (Grade 2) who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. This week, we welcome back Mrs Syed (Grade 3) from her accouchement leave.
Happy upcoming birthday to Mrs Bosch (Grade 1) – 18 March.

Long Weekend

Please note that Monday 20 March is a school holiday preceding Tuesday 21 March which is Human Rights Day.

Auto Pedigree

Please remember, if you are in the market for a quality, used car, to pop into Auto Pedigree in Jan Smuts Avenue. Mention the school when browsing for or buying a car from them and they will contribute R5000 to our sponsored car thus enabling us to own the car at the end of the year. We only have this year left to reach the target so your support will be appreciated and will benefit your children.

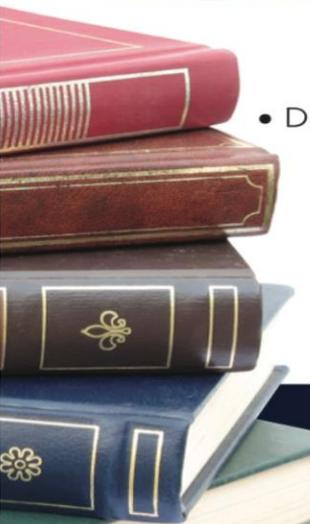
Kind regards

Prout-Jones (Mrs)
Principal

Classifieds

While the school accepts outside adverts, we are unable to take responsibility for the nature and quality of the services offered)

Tutors @ Your Service

- 
- Are you battling in any school subject?
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We meet on Sundays, 09:30am at
Craighall Primary School.
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03 TO 14 APRIL 2017
STEM FUN EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Fill the Easter holidays with educational FUN and EXCITEMENT!

Encourage eager young minds to investigate, explore and invent.

"Thank you for setting up such an exciting educational program! Carter had an absolute blast and we are still talking about it today." – Happy Parent

Supporting and guiding kids innate and natural desire to explore ideas and phenomena, this STEM program is sure to leave a lasting impression. Let your child spend the morning doing **FUN** experiments, hands-on **ACTIVITIES** and learn about **INTERESTING** facts!!

Suitable for ages 4-10

Prices per Child:

Daily Rate: R200 per day

Any 3 Days: R180 per day

5 or more Days: R150 per day

Times:

8:30 - 12:30

Venue:

Blairgowrie Recreation Centre



STEM Science, Technology,
Engineering, Mathematics

Week 1

Day 1: Chemistry of Chocolate

Day 2: Dinosaur Drama

Day 3: Outer Space Adventure + Rocket Launch

Day 4: Principles of Programming

Day 5: Fun with Physics!

Week 2

Day 6: Engineering and Structures

Day 7: Chemistry is Cool!

Day 8: Funny Photons

Day 9: Easter Science + Egg Hunt!

Day 10: Math Playground

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