Dear WHPS Family

As we break for the August holiday, I wish to congratulate the boys of WHPS for their exceptional contribution to an exciting and enjoyable winter term. I am always impressed by the manner in which our boys approach everything within our school, and their extra ordinary efforts to embrace their opportunities.

We have enjoyed many successes this term, with the exciting balance that WHPS offers. The term had the distinct flavour of ‘Work Hard Play Straight’ with academic progress being the most important aspect. The reports, which are written about each boy, take extensive work and preparation from the teachers. These official records have been carefully scripted to ensure that the reports are meaningful, honest and a true record of the boys’ academic achievements, work ethic, social interaction and extra mural involvement. It is vital that these reports are given the respect that they deserve. The report provides a foundation upon which teachers, parents and boys can start productive conversations, within an open and honest atmosphere, in order to address topics which are pertinent to each child. I have, however, been extremely disappointed by the lack of understanding of the importance exhibited by a small portion of the parent body who did not come to collect their son’s report. One would expect all parents to be excited, and to want to know how their child is progressing in all areas of the school. Please view this feedback process as important as it is vital that we are partners in the education of your child.

I have appreciated the support that we have received from the parent body in several initiatives, especially the Readathon. Your support has been exceptional as we raised in excess of R137 000 for our Library and Bathokwa Primary School. We will be donating a portion of the money raised to Bathokwa Primary School to enable their staff to buy books for their library. However, the most important aspect of the Readathon is to highlight the love and enjoyment of reading and, in this, I believe we were successful.

The PA Family Fun Day, on 8 July, was another well attended event, bringing a feeling of camaraderie amongst the parent body and their children.

Parents who attended the Poetry Festivals, grade plays and sporting events will testify that the enthusiasm and energy from our boys is truly contagious. The excitement during rugby and soccer matches has been a highlight of the term. I believe that the Grade Sevens’ trip to the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown was, as always, a unique growing experience for the boys and they came back visibly changed as young adults.

We end the term with the sense that it has been most worthwhile. None of it would be possible without the exceptional members of staff who invest themselves fully in the education of every child in the school. The vocational dedication of our staff deserves my thanks and I praise them for the work that they do.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school. I wish you all a happy August vacation and trust that you will enjoy a chance to reconnect and recharge with your families.

Mark Whitelaw / Headmaster
Grade 5 Outing to Sammy Marks Museum

The Grade 5 boys spent an enjoyable morning at Sammy Marks Museum. The 48 graciously rooms are filled with all the trappings of refined Victorian living exquisite furniture, porcelain, paintings, silver making it a home truly worthy of Sammy Marks's status as one of the leading industrialists of his day.

The museum is unique in that it's the only Victorian mansion in the country whose interior is preserved intact and wholly authentic. This is thanks largely to the foresight of Sammy Marks, who declared in his will that the house, with its contents, are to be preserved for four generations after the day he dies.

The boys also thoroughly enjoyed playing croquet as well as going on a treasure hunt in the beautiful grounds surrounding the house. The teachers were lucky enough to relax for a while over tea and scones, while the boys ate their picnic lunches under the huge trees.

Whippets: FANSA Puppet Show
We would like to remind our current parents that if you have not yet submitted your applications for Grade 000 and 00 in 2018 as well as for 2019 to please do so as soon as possible.

1. Application Form — collect from reception or download from the website (click here).
2. Complete and submit to Carole Strydom at reception.
3. If there is a vacancy in the grade applied for you will be invited for an interview and play date (Grade 000 and 00) or an interview and assessment test (Grade 0—7).
4. Based on the outcome of the interview and assessment test/playdate a place at WHPS may be offered.

If you have any friends or relatives that you know are interested in WHPS please kindly advise them to make contact with Sam Viney as soon as possible in order to book a tour of the school and/or go through the application process.

samanthav@whps.co.za | 012 460 5221 | 082 413 6167 | www.whpsschool.com
Habit of Mind: #14 Find Humour

We are always on the lookout for ways fun ways to engage and inspire our boys. On the other hand, we also know that teachers are not selected or trained to be comedians or entertainers. However, we know that a positive climate for learning, and enjoyment, is correlated with retention of information and putting knowledge to work in everyday situations (including tests).

This gorgeous photo showing the boys Finding Humour was captured while the boys were visiting Bathokwa Primary School recently.

"Humour builds a learning relationship through the joyful confluence of head and heart."

Brigitte Theunissen / Deputy Head Academics

Sport: Mini Soccer — Dads/Mums vs Lads

The boys and their Dads/Mums were blessed with a beautiful morning for their Mini Sport Soccer Dad/Mums vs Lads on Saturday, 29 July 2017. The enthusiasm and sheer enjoyment experienced by the boys as they took on their parents with gusto and high energy is well worth the early start to the day. Thank you to all of our parents who joined in on the fun.