



Wynberg Boys' Annual History Quiz

There was nothing but excitement and determination in the minds of the five students selected to represent Westerford at this prestigious event. We walked into Wynberg Boys' High's school hall feeling ready for action. Looking around at the seventeen other teams present, we knew we would have to fight to achieve what we had the previous year: victory.

Wynberg Boys High School hosts its impressive History Quiz annually, and invites leading schools in the area to take part.

This year, due to an administrative error, Westerford only received knowledge of the event and our invitation to attend it,

the day before it was to take place. Knowing that for the defending champions not to return would be a tragedy, we squared our shoulders and got ready to face the challenge.

Westerford's team comprised of Abdud-Dayyaan Badroodien (12), Grace Brain (12), Andrew van Wijk (12), Praveer Shyam (12) and Alex Pottinger (11). The teacher-in-charge was Mr Hutton-Squire.

After ten difficult rounds of ten questions each, during which we were tested on our knowledge of everything from Zapiro's cartoons to Nobel Prize Laureates to American war heroes, we again emerged victorious, snagging the number one spot and each winning a R500 gift voucher to Exclusive Books.

Alex Pottinger



Interact Bread Buddy making event

In the light of Mandela Day which took place on 18 July, Interact held a mass Bread Buddy-making event on Tuesday 28 July was Interact's way of giving back to the community and the underprivileged.

Interact supplied the bread and the spreads for making the sandwiches, while some pupils brought their own supplies. Many eager pupils gathered outside the hall on Tuesday morning at 07h30, ready to make delicious sandwiches for the children of Ummangaliso Primary School in Kayelitsha. After all the sandwiches were made the pupils helped clean up before heading to class.

The event was a response to Mandela Day. However, Westerfordians should not be limited to giving back to the community only once a year: Westerford pupils are encouraged to bring a sandwich to school every Tuesday. The sandwiches collected are then donated to various underprivileged schools. Together, we can make every Tuesday a 'Bread Buddy making' Day!

Aminah Emeran

ARA and Debating Society's Rhino Debate

On Thursday 30 July, Westerford continued its efforts to broaden the pupils' awareness of rhino poaching by holding a very fascinating meeting of young debaters interested in this topic. ARA and the Debating Society worked together to hold a debate to support and oppose the legalisation of rhino horn trade and rhino farming (i.e. holding rhinos in farms to be able to cut off their horns to be sold).

Many interesting and well-researched points and counter-points were made by the attendees in order to think of a solution to the rhino poaching problem; but after an hour of weighty discussion, points and counter-points, it was decided that it would not help to legalise rhino horn trade and rhino farming, as it would effectively lead to no rhinos being able to live in the wild and an increase in rhino killings. The best solution proposed was for all of us – children and adults – to continue to raise awareness of this issue; and continually to push politicians to pass more laws for rhino protection and the education of as many people as possible about this injustice against these remarkable animals.

Cara Noble



Westerford High School

- Ammaarah Larney, Gr 11, was selected to represent WP U/19 Softball at a tournament in Maheking in October.
- Christine Abrahamse and Emma Joubert, both Grade 11, have been selected for the Junior SA water polo team to participate in the EU 8 Nations Cup in Prague from 2 to 8 September. They will be competing against Ireland, Wales, Czech Republic and Switzerland before they reach the knock-out games.

Born in the RSA

On Thursday 6 August, the Grade 11 and 12 History pupils went to see Barney Simon's *Born in the RSA* at the Baxter Theatre to enrich their understanding of Apartheid History during the 1980s.

Born in the RSA is set during the state of emergency in the mid-1980s, and follows the story of seven South Africans whose lives become intertwined during this period of crisis. The play was originally conceived as a "living newspaper" by the original director, Barney Simon, and plays out through a series of interconnecting monologues and stories.

The play powerfully illustrates the harsh realities endured by many South Africans during this period of time, and proved to be of great benefit to the pupils whose knowledge of apartheid South Africa during the 1980s was greatly enriched by the live performance.



Praveer Shyam

Cultural Day 5 August

The excitement in the air was palpable and not just because the day meant no school uniform. Almost 1000 eager people were crammed into the Noel Taylor Hall, waiting with bated breath to see what the day had in store. They were not to be disappointed.

The Opening Act! First off was the extraordinary Strength Act Adiago with Claire Schrikker and her partner. It was breathtaking but also mildly terrifying, combining balance, trust and flexibility. This then progressed to the anecdotes and humour of OW Nik Rabinowitz. Much to the joy of the students he made some jokes at the expense of some of Westerford's longer serving staff members... and some of his school descriptions may have passed the line of politically correct several kilometres back.

Students were then herded out and into their first workshop! There were 49 in total, located in various classrooms around the school which were run almost exclusively by outsiders (although some teachers did brave it!). Walking around the school you passed the hip-hop beats coming from 'Uptown Funk' in the Noel Taylor hall, the slaps and kicks of self-defence and the whirring blenders creating detox juices.

After half an hour break students went onto their next workshop and after that was the hour long break. Everything was happening on Founders Field – there were stalls selling all manner of delicacies, a cushion-covered Matric zone, a huge games area (with giant Twister, Swingball and Limbo) and a stage where the school's Rock Band and a student-run band called 'Stripped' performed.

Finally it was the Grand Finale with a hypnotist called Allan Marriot. I doubt that even half a dozen people were sitting with non-sceptical expressions as the show was announced. The first 15 minutes were innocent enough, and hypnosis remained a bit of 'mumbo jumbo', but then... all of a sudden things changed. People on stage were collapsing into states of 'sleep' and after a few commands they were bouncing around doing the most bizarre things – playing the piano with their favourite body part, surfing on chairs, having sword fights and then sobbing at the news of Elvis's death (they heard only about 40 years late apparently). Probably most people reading this have the same expression of scepticism that students had at the beginning of the show, but I warn you, this was real! Film Crew even caught it on tape!

Thanks to the hard work of EXCO, the teachers, Sound Team, Lighting, Media Film Crew and Click Club, it was an absolutely phenomenal day and definitely one of the best Cultural Days for a long time to come!

Gabrielle Mühlberg



Westerford High School

18 AUGUST 2015

TERM 3

Caxton Books change of contact details

Our shop, offices and warehouse moved to 406 Imam Haron Road (previously Lansdowne Road), Lansdowne during the school holidays. We have a new telephone and fax number while our email addresses have all stayed the same.



New Address: 406 Imam Haron Road Lansdowne (opposite Islamia College)
New Telephone: 0861 229 229
New Fax: 021 697 0958
Email: info@caxtons.co.za

Equal Education tutoring programme

Equal Education has recently started volunteering, along with other members of the public, at Tenterden Place of Safety in Wynberg. Tenterden is a place where children from the ages of 9-13 stay temporarily when their home situation is too dangerous. As the children come from underprivileged backgrounds, they often struggle with the basic skills needed for school. The tutoring programme, held on Saturday mornings, aims to equip the children with these skills, such as reading, writing and IT. It is a great way to give back to your community and everyone is welcome.

Alex Newlands

English Society's Soccer Tournament

The English Society held another one of their very successful soccer tournaments in the Southern Centre during long break on Tuesday, 4 August. Spectators came in their dozens to watch the juniors and seniors battle it out on the court.

The first match was a tough five-a-side header between the Grade 10s and 9s. After a quick-paced game, the score ended 2-0 to the seniors after two spectacular goals from Keenan and Wesley. The second match of the tournament was another intense game as the Grade 9s took on a mixed team of Grade 10s and 11s. Once again, the seniors proved victorious, thanks to goals from both JP and Emil. The third and final game was between the two winning teams: seniors vs seniors. The Grade 10 team walked off winners after a goal from Jack in the last few minutes. It was an exciting event that got pupils out of their seats and cheering madly for their peers. The English Society is currently planning a Girls' Soccer Tournament which they hope will be just as successful.

Kirthi Chetty

Hindu Students' Association

On Thursday 30 July, the Hindu Students' Association hosted Nikheel Sumaro, a member of the Vedanta Institute of South Africa, to provide Westerford pupils with an introduction to Vedic philosophy. Sumaro is a student of the Vedanta Academy, a non-profit organisation founded by Swami Parthasarathy in 1988 which today has branches in several countries including: the US, Canada, UK, Malaysia and South Africa.



“Vedanta” is derived from the Sanskrit terms *veda*, meaning knowledge and *anta*, meaning end. Vedanta is the most prominent of the six orthodox schools of Hindu philosophy, and the term is often used to refer to Ancient Indian philosophy in general.

Sumaro discussed a variety of topics such as: distinguishing the mind and the intellect from each other, and the relationship between the physical body and the *Ātman* or “inner-self”. The talk was well received by the pupils and provided a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental concepts of Vedic philosophy.

Praveer Shyam



Somerset College Derby

Saturday 1 August dawned a fresh and crisp morning - a chilly 5 degrees at six o'clock. However, there was no time to moan or fuss about it as the daunting Somerset College sides arrived in their bus loads. Imhoff Sports Ground was buzzing with pupils, teachers, friends and parents enjoying steaming cups of coffee as well as delicious goodies from the tuckshop. The Spirit Team was there too, along with the Westerford mascot, Vukani Bear, and it was wonderful being able to hear the lively Westerfordians cheer. Red and white paint was going around and there was a sea of maroon amongst the specks of blue, white and red of the opposition. As an incentive to encourage the support of Westerfordians, the grade with the most pupils attending the derby would be given a free civvies day. The pupils were up for the challenge!



Playing against Somerset College has always been tough and everyone expected strong competition. As per usual, the Westerfordians fought extremely hard, showing commitment, dedication and fighting spirit. Unfortunately, only a handful of Westerford teams managed to come out victorious.

Congratulations to those teams who did win and well done to everyone who came to support! It really does make a difference to the players when they see so many fellow Westerfordians there encouraging and cheering them on. The next derby is against Groote Schuur on 23 August. This will be the last home derby for the year so be there or be square!

Kirstin Bloomer

Xhosa Club: Sangoma talk

On Thursday 6 August at second break, the Xhosa club hosted a very interesting talk by Claire Shields. Claire Shields is the mother of Thomas Shields, a pupil in grade 10D, and is also one of the few Caucasian Sangomas in South Africa.

Mrs Shields talked about her journey on the road to becoming a Sangoma. She explained the dream-like communications that she had had of a man telling her to take up the calling and become a sangoma. She told the many pupils who attended about the tasks she had to perform in order to become a fully-fledged Sangoma. This included a brief background to the traditions practised in Xhosa culture, like the **consultation of the 'ancestors', and a crash course on the medicinal herbs used by her profession.**

In short, this talk by a brave and interesting person shed light upon a culture that a lot of the Westerford pupils did not know much about and made the pupils more rounded and knowledgeable. We hope to see more of these interesting talks held by the Xhosa Club in the future.

HCA Angola Talk:

On Thursday 30 July, HCA (History and Current Affairs society) hosted a highly interesting talk on the rough, and sometimes non-existent, relations between Angola and South Africa between the years of 1970 and 1980. This talk was presented by Professor Chris Saunders, a History professor at the University of Cape Town.

Prof. Chris Saunders intrigued the pupils by explaining the background to what led to be a 13-year occupation by the South African Defense Force of Angola. He explained how the hydro-electric scheme in Angola, invested in heavily by the South African government of the time, was under threat from the MPLA, the **Angolan ruling communist party.** This threat to South Africa's assets forced the government to deploy troops to the border area of Namibia and Angola, starting what would be a long, brutal conflict.

As well as talking about the legacies of the Angolan War, Prof. Chris Saunders also elaborated on the legacies left behind by the conflict. He shared some of his personal experiences about what he saw when traveling through Angola, and one of his most shocking observations was the loss of limbs to land mines. These land mines were planted by the South African army and, if still not found, could be armed today.

In short, this talk was intellectual and thought-provoking, as it made all of the pupils who attended it think about the long-lasting and damaging effects of warfare. This talk inspired the pupils of Westerford to consider the mistakes of the past so that they don't make them in the future.



Heaven's Nest staff and volunteers
 are doing a shadow shift
 at Ottery Spur(Hyper Ottery Centre) on
 Tuesday 18 August 2015.

Please come and dine
 between 5pm and 10pm -
 you will be helping us in our fundraising efforts

August 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
16	17 Classical Pops Rehearsal 18h00-20h30 NT Hall	18 Classical Pops Rehearsal 18h00-20h30 NT Hall	19 Classical Pops - Gr 8-10	20 Classical Pops - Gr 11-12	21	22 Groote Schuur Derby @GHS
23	24 Matric Music concert 19h00	25 All grades Art exhibition 19h00 Mock Matric Music Prac exam	26 Gr 9 Subject Choice mtg 19h30 Mock Matric Music Prac exam	27	28 Mock exams start	29 Fairmont Derby @Fairmont

September 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	31 August	1	2 Careers evening	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Mock Exams End Matric Dance	19
20	21	22 Hockey and Netball Braai	23	24 Heritage Day	25 School Holiday	26
27	28 One Act Plays Dress Rehearsal	29 One Act Plays	30	1 October ONG function	2 October School closes	



Westerford High School

18 AUGUST 2015

TERM 3

Classified

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(Mr Allan Adriaanse is the WHS Maintenance Manager)



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