

**GRADE 9 TREK – IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF LOUIS TRICHARDT**

The expedition started in Sekororo on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February with the hiking section. Day 1 was mostly uphill and was a long hard, wet day. We made camp at Christmas Plateau where Louis Trichardt spent Christmas in 1838! Day 2 started with one of the best sunrises we've seen at this camp and in beautiful weather, we trekked up the very steep ascent up to Makgogolo.



After a reasonably easy day of hiking we arrived at camp 2 – Louis Fontein. Day 3 was mostly downhill but the conditions were very humid! At lunch time the rain caught up with us again and it was very wet through the gorge section!! Camp 3 was on the beach next to the Olifants River and the kids had some fun in the water!



Day 4 we completed the river crossing day and then hiked to Penge ..... nicknamed 'beautiful Penge' because the group had the opportunity to shop and bought ice cold cool drinks and things like bread.... – anything other than camp food!!! After the shop was cleaned out the group got their river bags and met the river crew for the next infamous river section!! We were joined by Andre from Wilderness Ventures and the river staff. We packed our dry bags and the rafts and off we went – 26 rafts and 10 kayakers!! We reached our first campsite in good time and fresh water was in abundance at this campsite! Some of the ladies enjoyed a mud bath or two at the health spa!

We had wonderful weather on the river and the first days were fairly relaxed paddling. Things changed a bit when we reached the confluence with the Steelpoort River where there was a lot more water coming in and the reaction time had to speed up a bit. It took the group a while to adjust to this, but we safely reached Baobab beach, the site of our last river camp. Here we did safety drills in the rapids at camp to prepare for the final day's assault of the gorge.

On the last morning, after looking at the sand model which explained the gorge rapids and which lines to take, some shaky rafters and kayakers took to the water! The rapids that lay ahead for the day were : 'Play time', 'Monster munch', 'Rent-o-kill', 'Double trouble', 'Corner post', 'Longdrop', 'No name rapid', 'Simple Simon' and 'Rollercoaster', just to name a few! After a few anxious moments from some of the rafters (and kayakers!) we made it to the take out point – all still in one piece!

A big thank you to all the staff, guides and instructors for their hard work during this expedition and a great 'well done' to all the students for the Tenacity that they showed during yet another very successful Stanford expedition!



Mr N Haarhoff

**EQUESTRIAN TENTPEGGING ASSOCIATION**

Herman Fourie (Grade 8) qualified for his Federation colours at the 50<sup>th</sup> South African Junior National Equestrian Tentpegging Championships held in Newcastle, KwaZulu-Natal from 10 to 13 December 2016. Five boys qualified (Herman was the only qualifier from Limpopo) and this team, of which Herman is the Vice Captain, will now participate at the SAETA Youth Festival on 8 April 2017 in Newcastle, in order for their colours to be awarded.

Equestrian Tentpegging (formerly known as Gymkhana) involves swords and lances, with which the rider has to strike an object at a full gallop.



Herman on Major

Once a rider commences an event, the emphasis is on the object and not on the horse. Tentpegging calls for a well-schooled horse that will respond to commands instantaneously and have no fear of noise or sudden movements. The riders are awarded points for being at a good speed over a marked distance and having to peg with a lance/sword within a set time. In addition, maintaining posture and style along with accuracy are part of the judging process.

Stanford wishes Herman the best of luck!

Website: [satentpegging.wixsite.com](http://satentpegging.wixsite.com)



Herman (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and his team

**WOOLIES MY SCHOOL CARDS**

A reminder to all parents who do any shopping at Woolworths, to please upgrade their information to make Stanford Lake College the beneficiary. There is no extra charge to the shopper – a percentage of your total purchase amount each time you shop accrues to Stanford Lake College and is used for a number of school needs and fundraising.

If anyone would like the application form, please send a request to [rs@slc.co.za](mailto:rs@slc.co.za) and we will gladly send it to you.

**It's Money for Jam!!**

Last year we raised about R18 000 through the My School Card at Woolies!

**GRADE 11 CAREERS DAY**

On Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the Grade 11s went on a career day trip to PHS. The group of students was inspired and received insight on what life after school is like and the options out there available for them. With even more options to choose from, and even more understanding, the Grade 11s enjoyed having the opportunities to seek information and ask questions on tertiary education. Thank you to everyone who made this trip possible.

Kiara Davidson & Nikita Espach (Grade 11)