

SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

ISSUE 22 of 2020 - 24 July



Matters of Principal

“What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism or in the holy name of liberty or democracy?”

— Mahatma Gandhi

When I was coaching the St Andrews College 1st Hockey Team, we went on tour to Johannesburg to participate in the St Stithians East Hockey Festival. On one of the rest days I decided to take the team to Liliesleaf Farm which is nestled in the leafy suburb of Rivonia; once the nerve centre of the liberation struggle, the site of the arrest of a number of the Rivonia trialists, and now an important heritage site where South Africa’s journey to democracy is celebrated. The young men who I took with me embarked on the outing with long teeth and a sense of “here we go again” on another boring visit to a museum. By the time we left the site two hours later they were energized and had a sense of awe for what had been achieved in our country since the 1960’s, the depth of the commitment to the liberation cause and the humility so many of the liberation heroes displayed. It is an educational outing that I would strongly recommend to South Africans of all ages.

This week our country lost the last surviving Rivonia trialist, Andrew Mokete Mlangeni. Following a police raid on Liliesleaf at Rivonia, almost all the uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) High Command were arrested on 11 July 1963. Although not in the High Command, Andrew Mlangeni would be charged alongside the others with sabotage and conspiracy, for which the maximum penalty was death by hanging. He was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island.

Before the court passed judgment on him, Mlangeni told the court that:

“Though leaders of many countries throughout the world have tried to persuade the Government to abandon its apartheid policy, and although resolutions have been passed in the United Nations against South Africa, this has met with no result. All that the Government has done is to reply to the people’s demands by putting their political leaders in gaol, and breaking up families.” (Adapted from South African History online)

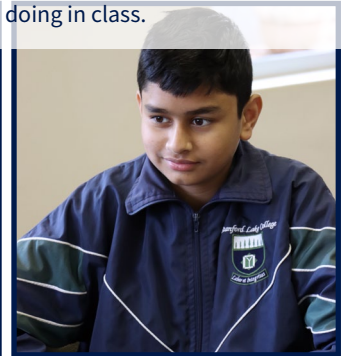
In line with the President’s request that Andrew Mlangeni be given a category one state funeral and his request that the National Flag be flown at half-mast, we will pay our respects by flying our flag at half-mast.

We must never underestimate the lesson that we can learn from history. The examples of the lives of men and women are there for all to see, their courage, fortitude, humility and integrity, their love for their country, all values that we as Stanfordsians aspire to live up to. Whilst everything in our country may not be perfect, we must continue to count our blessings.

Have an excellent weekend.



A number of junior pupils enjoyed a special tea with the Headmaster yesterday morning. Three new students were invited to join as a welcome to the school and the other pupils were nominated by their teachers for the fantastic work they are doing in class.



For the latest edition of Bridging The Gap, the Bridging Year pupils have put together a series of puns, a “play” on words, if you will. Mrs Schoeman creatively put all of their submissions together and it can be viewed under the following link:

[Bridging the Gap: A play on words](#)



“well done” Bridgies. You guys keep raising the stakes!

UNIFORM REMINDER

Formals to be worn on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

“dad” clothes to be worn on Tuesdays and Thursdays

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Stanfordians honour Madiba's legacy



DANICA ALTENROXEL HANDS OVER A PARCEL TO AN ELDERLY HAENERTSBURG RESIDENT.



MARTHINUS VENTER HANDED OVER A FOOD PARCEL TO SOMEONE IN NEED IN POLOKWANE.



NIRVANA BURBIDGE DID A CLEAN UP IN HER COMMUNITY AND EVEN REMOVED SOME ANIMAL SNARES FROM THE BUSH.

The Stanford Lake College community thought of a number of ways to pay homage to and honour the legacy of Nelson Mandela over the past week. Although Mandela Day was officially celebrated on Saturday, the Stanford pupils, parents and staff have been participating in a number of good deeds over the past week, each person offering 67 minutes of their time.

As a collective, the school has organised a winter blanket and clothing drive, where all donated items will be given to those less fortunate. In addition, in their tutor groups, pupils have thought of ways to give back to their communities. Two sisters from Zimbabwe offered their time to an elderly neighbour, assisting him with clearing and tidying his garage, whilst a pupil from Botswana and her mother started a project to help feed underprivileged people in their local area. They hope to make this a weekly project.

A number of pupils and their tutor, Miss Lucia Maake, have offered to assist people from rural areas with their online University applications. They managed to assist ten applicants over the weekend and aim to assist with one application per evening during their down time in the boarding houses.

The girls in Ken Shuter boarding house took on the challenge of organising 67 children's books to be donated in just 67 minutes. Over the weekend, the girls jumped on their phones, asking friends and family to keep old children's books aside. They hope to reach 67 books, which will then be donated to nursery and primary schools in the Haenertsburg area.

Some pupils offered their 67 minutes to deliver food parcels to those less fortunate, whilst one pupil spent the time teaching someone to ride a bike and another helped clean up the town where she lives, even removing snares from the bush. A small group of pupils organised food parcels for the elderly in Haenertsburg and two tutor groups came together to purchase baking ingredients and surprised the Stanford Lake College support staff with cakes on Monday morning.

In addition, a group of Grade 10 scholars joined Jacaranda FM and DJ Jazzy's goal to feed 67,000 people on Mandela Day. My phoning family and friends, they managed to contribute R3574 for this initiative and fed 53 families.

The ideas and plans are still flowing in and many more acts of kindness will no doubt take place over the weeks to come. The pupils of Stanford Lake College embraced Mandela Day's call to action and proved that small deeds can have huge impacts on the lives of others.

Two groups of pupils were identified for their efforts for Mandela Day and were rewarded with a special tea with the Headmaster today. Miss Maake's group were recognised for their extremely thoughtful deed of assisting prospective students with their online varsity application forms and Mrs van Staden's group were also selected for raising enormous funds alongside the Jacaranda project.

