

Glen Austin High School

Newsletter: February 2018



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From the Vice Principal's Desk

February Summary

The school had a very successful month in terms of the academic, school and parent programmes. The school has demonstrated its commitment to excellence and would like to continue to actualize this concept in all its facets.



Mr B. Moyo

Academic Matters

The month of February saw the Glen Austin High School revert back to the afternoon programmes for all grades and with a special focus on the learners at risk. To underline this point, the RISC (Results Intervention and Support Committee) has met twice this month to map, analyse and create a support framework for all the learners. Weekend classes also started on the 24th February.

Parent Matters

The school met a full attendance of parents on Saturday 10 February in what can be described as an engaging meeting. Results, concerns, questions and suggestions were raised during this interface. The parents summarized their expectations which the School committed to attend to and report back at the following April meeting.

School Functions

The Grade 8 Rookie Concert, which is an annual showcase for Grade 8 induction, was successfully hosted on the 8th of February. This was a follow-up to a weekend Orientation with Mr Botsanzira, Mrs Katsande and Mrs van Heerden. These two activities will thus culminate in a leadership training camp to be held from the 23-25 March 2018. The School is very pleased to now officially introduce the Grade 8 class as the 'GAHS Crop of Learners for 2018'.

What to Expect

The month of March is Cycle Test month. The school would like to encourage learners to continue to concentrate on their studies and to focus strongly on the areas that they need more assistance on. I will conclude by saying, especially to the Grade 12 class, "I am not telling you it is going to be easy, I am telling you it will be worth it."

Mr Moyo

Vice Principal: Glen Austin High School



EDUCATION UP-DATE



Learner Conduct Column: Mr Satuku

Tips for Achieving and Maintaining Discipline

Discipline is not about getting kids to do what you want them to do. That's what dictators do, and you're not a dictator—you're an educator. Discipline is providing an environment in which positive teaching and positive learning can occur simultaneously. Discipline is not control from the outside; it's order from within.

In conversations with teachers, I've discovered some practical and universal ideas that will help you achieve discipline in your classroom. Tap into the experience of these pros, and turn your classroom into a place where students learn and enjoy the process.

- **Get students focused before you begin any lesson.** Be sure you have their attention before you begin. Don't try to talk over students; you'll be initiating a competition to see who can speak louder and also let them know it's okay to talk while you are talking.
- **Use positive presence.** Don't park yourself in the front of the classroom. Move around the room continuously, and get in and around your students. Make frequent eye contact, and smile with students. Monitor students with your physical presence.
- **Model the behavior you want students to produce.** If you **exhibit respectfulness**, trust, enthusiasm, interest and courtesy in your everyday dealings with students, they will return the favour in kind. Remember the saying, 'Values are caught, not taught.'
- **Use low-profile intervention.** When you see a student who is misbehaving, be sure your intervention is quiet, calm, and inconspicuous.
- **Verbal reprimands should be private, brief, and as immediate as possible.** The more private a reprimand, the less likely you will be challenged. The more immediate the reprimand, the less likely the student will feel you condone her or his behaviour. And keep reprimands brief. The more you talk, the more you distract from the lesson and the more you 'reward' a student for inappropriate behavior.
- **Provide lots of positive feedback.** Many veteran teachers will tell you, '10 percent of the students will give you 90 percent of your headaches!' But what about the 90 percent of those other students in your classroom? Don't forget them; recognize their contributions and behaviour:
 - Acknowledge positive student behaviour when it is not expected.
 - Acknowledge compliance with requests.
 - Acknowledge hard work, kindness, and dependability.
 - If you have a **rule**, enforce that rule: don't hand out lots of warnings without following through on consequences. Lots of warnings tell students that you won't enforce a rule.

LANGUAGES



English: Ms R GILL (HOD Languages)

HELLO FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

You may have remembered that last month, the Grade 12s watched 'Try Something New for 30 Days' by Matt Cutts, and were then asked to 'give it a go!'. It was an optional challenge, but some learners rose to the challenge (Siyabonga started running every afternoon), and all were tasked to write formal letters of appreciation to Mr Cutts, as a transactional piece in their fortnightly programme.

The letters were thoughtful, and well written, but what really caught my attention in the learners' content, was their self-realisation that they had the power to start something new ... and stick with it – endurance and tenacity.

Presented, are some of learners' letters of appreciation, that you may enjoy reading.

Click the icon below to read the letter.



Adobe Acrobat
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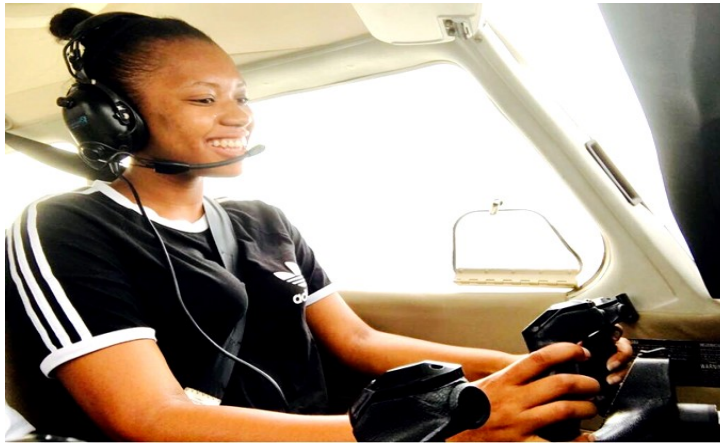
MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE



PHYSICAL SCIENCE: MR V.T. SIBANDA

DISCIPLINE, DILIGENCE & DEDICATION

This is true story of endurance which eventually lead to a milestone achievements by one of own, Lartola Thlaka. In the matric class of 2017, she obtained 5 Distinctions.



Lartola has begun studying towards becoming a pilot. She got A's in Mathematics and Physical Sciences. We want to encourage all our learners in the Mathematics and Science Department to work hard, attend all extra classes and never give up like Lartola.

Simple things like having a study timetable following it through works wonders. Matric is all about making sacrifices and spending more time on books in order to realise your dreams.



Do you have a dream? You can make it come true!!

GR. 8 ROOKIE CONCERT



The Rookie Concert took place on the 8th of February, a wonderful affair of inducting the Grade 8 learners into the GAHS organization. The learners presented a variety of programme items, comprising drama, song and dance. This event would not have been a success, if it were not for Mrs Mariane van Heerden (for directing) and Mrs Sieberhagen (for stage décor).



The Grade 8s also made their pledge to **GAHS**, and dedicated themselves to be part of the School's ethos of excellence.



EVENTS DEPARTMENT



Mr M.L. Mukhabele

I say it with the outmost confidence that the Rookie Concert was one phenomenal event. It gave us a great start to the new year; it was indeed "A Trip Down Memory Lane". I can't even begin to express how proud I am of all the Grade 8s for 'pulling' such a fantastic job. They are living proof that proper preparation prevents poor performance. They gave us a sterling performance by their fluent speech, their easy of movement and their beautiful singing. It actually gave me goose bumps!

Thank you to each and every educator who made all of this 'come together'. I would also like to acknowledge all the parents that came through to support and experience such an unforgettable event. We could tell by their beaming, adoring smiles that they were just as proud as us.



On behalf of the School, we would like to wish all Grade 8s a fantastic and fruitful 2018. We hope that they maintain their enthusiasm in all their future school endeavours.

PRINCIPAL-PARENTS MEETING

A principal-parents meeting, held on the 10th of February 2018, proved to be constructive and successful. We thank all the parents who availed themselves on this Saturday morning, and for voicing their opinions. Through such open discussions, we can only get better!

ATHLETICS

Mr Satuku

Head of Athletics



2018 started with a lot of activity on the sports field, with the Inter-house Athletics being held in the third week. The three houses, Elephants (who were the 2017 reigning champions), Eagles and Sharks (the newly-established third house) practised hard and competed admirably.

On 26 January, the day of the much anticipated sports event, it was the Eagles who triumphed as the 2018 champion, with Elephants coming in second and Sharks, third. Congratulations also go to Mr Botsanzira and Mrs Chipu for the well-deserved victory in the teachers' race.

Girl Athlete of the Year: Kaylee Van Der Bergh

Boy Athlete of the Year: Khutjo Teffo

Midrand Schools Competition

Based on the results of the inter-house competition, a team of thirty-four athletes represented Glen Austin High at the Midrand Schools Athletics Competition on the 16th of February. Well done to Lethabo Seotloe and Megan Lupahla for winning their events and doing us proud!

School Bus Information

The school buses leave the school at 4pm everyday. The D6 Communicator is used to keep in touch with parents and advise of any departure time changes. During exams, or if there are no afternoon activities, parents may be advised that the bus will leave earlier. Transport changes are communicated by means of the D6.

If there is an away sports game, parents are required to pick up their children from GAHS at the indicated time. This notification will be included with the required indemnity letters.

Sports cell phone number: 074 851 4655

Drivers' supervisor: Sam 062 961 0021



D6 Communicator

All-important information regarding the school, such as important dates and homework, will be uploaded onto the D6 Communicator.

Follow the link and keep in touch with us:

<http://www.school-communicator.com/download.php>. Ensure to set the application to allow notifications and alerts to pop up on your pc or mobile device.



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COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

