

# HOLY FAMILY COLLEGE



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## DIARY

### 18-20 January

Grade 8 camp

### 23 January

Extra-murals begin

### 6 February

Grade 8 Welcome Evening

### 8 February

Matric Information Evening

### 14 February

Ash Wednesday

### 23-26 February

Mid-term break

“Take it upon yourself, where you live, to make people around you joyful and full of hope.”

*Nelson Rolihlahla  
Mandela*

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

### Welcome

We welcome all parents/guardians and pupils, old and new, to the beginning of the school year 2018. We hope that this will be a year of progress and achievement for everyone.

We also welcome the following new members of staff:

Ms Pam Backwell      Business Studies

Ms Rachel Makatile      Drama (part-time)

### Message from our new Principal

As you know, a school is a wonderful institution, a place where you can grow, socialise, meet new people and make different friendships, and learn. At HFC we go a step further: we nurture you to grow spiritually through our Christian ethos in order to allow you to grow and become a moral and valuable citizen in this country and the world, and to equip you with skills to make a difference.

When I applied at this school, after being at Dominican Convent for 17 years, I took the challenge because I'm a passionate educator. I love children, love teaching, love a school. I wake up every day with a spring in my step looking forward to coming to school. This is my life. I want to serve people who will serve humanity!

In my short time here, I have noticed that Holy Family is



a special place. Its learners are respectful, friendly and well presented. I thank you for the warm welcome you have given me.

What am I all about? I believe in the right to education, I believe that every learner can achieve. I believe that education is the most important tool to affect change. Nothing matters more than a good education. It opens doors and allows you to improve your life and those around you. Nothing matters more than your best!

At HFC we aim to produce leaders: people who will go into the world and be change makers. That starts with everyone now. Each of our pupils needs to be the “best” that he/she can be.

It begins with us all today. In the way we present ourselves, greet people, respect educators, the service workers, admin staff. We show respect to our elders.

It begins with following the Code of Conduct, such as dressing correctly for school, so that we all work, learn and play in a harmonious environment,

It begins with being prepared for each class, by being on time and with all books, and stationery, and work done.

It begins with excelling in sports and culture.

It begins with setting goals and challenges and having something to aspire to.

It begins with “DOING YOUR BEST”!

Parents, we thank you for your support. Together we can help your child to achieve!

*Mr Franc Sobreira*

### **Matric results**

Our 46 Matric pupils achieved a 96% pass rate, with a 50% Bachelor Degree pass. Congratulations to our top achievers Dorcas Malemo and Sadie Mngoma, who both achieved B aggregates. Dorcas obtained 96% in French and 80% in Life Sciences.

Congratulations to all our Matrics on their achievements. We know that there is room for improvement in our performance, and we are confident that under Mr Sobreira’s leadership our results will continue to improve.

We wish the Matric Class of 2017 every success in the next stage of their life journey.

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### **Three2Six Project update**

The Three2Six programme returns this year with 100 children from Grades R to 3. In 2017 Three2Six not only gave our College the opportunity to experience diversity, provide service and live out our Family calling, but they also contributed to the College facilities through renovations of our Rose Cottage playground and Primary School bathrooms.

Three2Six is fully funded by donations from Ireland and Germany, and is a programme that has found a warm home here at Holy Family College. We look forward to continuing to learn from each other in 2018 and hope that we might be able to offer these marginalised and vulnerable children more than just an education, but a place where they truly feel that they belong. In 2018 we would like to invite HFC parents who can contribute to Three2Six to email us at [office.hfc@three2six.co.za](mailto:office.hfc@three2six.co.za). In particular we are looking for some parents to help with weekly reading, and for parents who might assist us with food parcels for our most needy children and families.

### **Transport needed**

Are there any parents with their own transport living in the Woodmead, Lyndhurst, Bramley or Alexandra areas who could offer transport to others? If you are able to help, please contact Aunty Mary on 011 486 1104.

### **A message from Pope Francis**

Peace to all people and to all nations on earth! Peace, which the angels proclaimed to the shepherds on Christmas night, is a profound aspiration for everyone, for each individual and all peoples, and especially for those who most keenly suffer its absence. Among these whom I constantly keep in my thoughts and prayers, I would once again mention the over 250 million migrants worldwide, of whom 22.5 million are refugees. Pope Benedict XVI, my beloved predecessor, spoke of them as “men and women, children, young and elderly people, who are searching for somewhere to live in peace. In order to find that peace, they are willing to risk their lives on a journey that is often long and perilous, to endure hardships and suffering, and to encounter fences and walls built to keep them far from their goal.

In a spirit of compassion, let us embrace all those fleeing from war and hunger, or forced by discrimination, persecution, poverty and environmental degradation to leave their homelands.

We know that it is not enough to open our hearts to the suffering of others. Much more remains to be done before our brothers and sisters can once again live peacefully in a safe home. Welcoming others requires concrete commitment, a network of assistance and goodwill, vigilant and sympathetic attention, the responsible management of new and complex situations that at times compound numerous existing problems, to say nothing of resources, which are always limited. By practising the virtue of prudence, government leaders should take practical measures to welcome, promote, protect, integrate and,

“within the limits allowed by a correct understanding of the common good, to permit [them] to become part of a new society.”

The wisdom of faith fosters a contemplative gaze that recognizes that all of us “belong to one family, migrants and the local populations that welcome them, and all have the same right to enjoy the goods of the earth, whose destination is universal, as the social doctrine of the Church teaches. It is here that solidarity and sharing are founded.”

When we turn that gaze to migrants and refugees, we discover that they do not arrive empty-handed. They bring their courage, skills, energy and aspirations, as well as the treasures of their own cultures; and in this way, they enrich the lives of the nations that receive them. We also come to see the creativity, tenacity and spirit of sacrifice of the countless individuals, families and communities around the world who open their doors and hearts to migrants and refugees, even where resources are scarce.

Those who see things in this way will be able to recognize the seeds of peace that are already sprouting and nurture their growth. Our cities, often divided and polarized by conflicts regarding the presence of migrants and refugees, will thus turn into workshops of peace.

*Taken from Pope Francis’ message for the celebration of the 51st World Day of Peace 2018.*

