



PENZANCE
PRIMARY
SCHOOL

06 December 2016

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: 2016

1. Enrolment

School opened on 13 January 2016 with a roll of 848 learners who quickly settled in to their new classes and the academic programme. A number of learners have left us during the year, some of whom are emigrating whilst a few have relocated to other provinces.

2. Staffing

I pay tribute to all the staff of Penzance Primary for the way they go about the business of educating the children. The educators at Penzance teach with compassion as well as wisdom. We truly are a "family" at Penzance.

Early in November, the stork delivered a beautiful baby to Mrs Funnell and her husband. We wish Mum, Dad and Baby Funnell all the very best and know that their precious baby girl will bring them great joy.

Whilst some staff members chose to leave Penzance during the course of this year for various reasons, it is always at year end that we find ourselves having to say good bye to more of our staff members and colleagues. Leaving us at the end of this term are: Mr Luke Turner who has accepted a teaching post at Clifton Preparatory School in Nottingham Road.

Miss Sarah Jenkins has resigned to take up a post at Franschoek in the Western Cape. Mrs Lindsey Speirs has accepted a post at Umhlanga College where she will teach a Grade 3 class. We wish them every success with their new appointments.

Congratulations to Mrs Sarai Donkin who has been promoted to the post of Head of Department; however, this means that she now leaves us to take up this promotion post in the Remedial Unit at Kloof Primary School. Sarai, thank you for your loyal service to Penzance. We wish you everything of the best and success in your new position.

Leaving us too at the end of this term are Mrs Bridget Finn who will proceed on a well-deserved retirement, Mr Mike Orchard (Locum Tenens for Mrs Pyoos), Mrs Magdalena Smith (Locum Tenens for Miss Basson), Mrs Julia Belfort, Miss Kate Handley and Miss Phindi Nkosi. We wish you well for the future.

A warm welcome is extended to the following new staff members who take up their roles in January 2017.

- Mr Roland Norris from Westville Boys' High School appointed as an Afrikaans Specialist;



- Miss Monique Roberson, appointed as the Junior Primary Afrikaans Specialist as well as being an experienced Netball player, umpire, coach and selector;
- Mr Grant McGregor-Langley who will replace Mr Turner in the Grade 7 classroom. Mr McGregor-Langley has a lot of experience and I believe he will add value to Penzance;
- Miss Rebecca Joseph joins us as a class teacher in the Intermediate Phase;
- Mrs Joanna Johnson will take over from Mrs Finn as the Remedial Specialist;
- Miss Jocelyn Dixon replaces Miss Jenkins in the Grade 2 classroom;
- Miss Amy Dickson has been appointed as a Grade 1 educator.

3. Student teachers

Penzance Primary continues to enjoy the benefits of our Teacher-in-Training programme. We are indeed fortunate to be in this position where students who are currently studying towards a Degree in Education are employed both in the Junior Primary and Intermediate Phase where they gain valuable hands-on experience whilst completing their studies. We have a total of 11 Teachers-in-Training appointed for 2017. We welcome the following new recruits to this programme; Miss Langley, Miss Gangel, Miss Winson, Miss Denton, Miss Joubert and Mrs Heatley. We wish them well for the important role that they will play at Penzance Primary.

Mr Mahachi will join Miss Carter and Mr Padayachee in the Intermediate Phase.

4. Support staff

A second Grounds Staff Manager has been appointed to assist Mr Calitz. We welcome Mr Peet Vermeulen who will be starting in January 2017. We thank Mr Calitz for his momentous work that he has done at the school this year and must admit that Penzance is in top condition.

Mr Smiso Khuzwayo has been appointed as a General Assistant and will add value to the existing support staff team. We also thank our grounds staff (the General Assistants) for all their hard work in keeping the school grounds and buildings in a good, clean state. Here I must also mention Mrs Ellen Khanyile (fondly known as Gogo) who carefully goes about her daily duties and keeps us all in check. Thank you, Ellen for all that you do for your Penzance Family.

Mr Temba Khuzwayo, our Induna of many years is away on Incapacity Leave and is currently in hospital under the watchful eye of the doctors. We wish him a speedy recovery.

5. Administration staff

Penzance is blessed to have such quality and committed Administration staff.

Mrs Mansour, for all your help with the Budget and Financials, I thank you.

Miss Cheryl Fouche, for your hard work in a most difficult position of collecting fees that are in arrears.

Mrs Debbie Krause for your hard work and always assisting parents with a smile.

Marketing and Fundraising: Mrs Visick who implemented our new website and the on-line admissions; as well as her many new ideas, thank you for your hard work. Miss Samantha Nelson was placed in the deep end when Mr Pillay resigned and moved to Glenwood High School. She has come out on top and has done a wonderful job. I cannot say thank you enough for your hard work in helping me with the Sport and Cultural Awards evening, the Grade 7 Farewell and the Academic Prize-giving.

Admissions: Mrs Kriel, our Admissions Secretary has done a sterling job. This is a time consuming, challenging task that Mrs Kriel has carried out in a meticulous manner. Thank you, Sharon for a job well done.

Front Office Reception: Sincere thanks to Mrs Wendy Chislett who stepped in at short notice to assist in Mrs Downham's absence following surgery. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

To Mrs Chesterton, thank you for your unfailing support during my first year as Principal of Penzance Primary. It is greatly appreciated.

6. Aftercare and Homework Club

We have over 400 pupils who make use of this facility. Mrs Lagesse has implemented some new ideas and under the guidance of Mrs Gill, the Aftercare and Homework Club continues to grow.

7. Parents

I would like to thank all those parents who under the leadership of Mrs Riana Botha, Chairperson of the School Governing Body together with the Governing Body members have continued to support our school in so many ways. A special thanks must go to Mr Keith Castle for the good, sound state of our school's finances. Mr Castle is also Chairman of our Penzance Trust where his expertise is invaluable.

8. Extra-murals

Our school has continued to offer Extra-mural coaching in 14 different sporting codes. Mr Kovin Moodley has a lot of new ideas for next year. We are very excited about his new plans – watch this space!

Miss Petro Nortje has turned our Swimming around. We look forward to the 2017 swimming season.

We thank all our Sport Coaches for their hard work.

9. Grounds & Buildings

Thank you to the Penzance Trust and to Mr Calitz for the upkeep of the school. We cannot wait for the construction of the new Music Department in the Nkulisa Centre to be finished. Sincere thanks also to Mr Henk Bezuidenhout and Mr Craig Lambert for joining us on our Grounds & Buildings "walkabout meetings" and for getting things done. Your time and efforts are truly appreciated.

10. Finances

The financial resources of our school are very sound and for this I thank most of the parents for their commitment to paying their school fee contribution and for their generous support of our fundraising drives. May I take this opportunity to remind parents that Penzance Primary School is a fee-paying school and prompt payment of fees by all parents enables the school to continue offering a high standard of education.

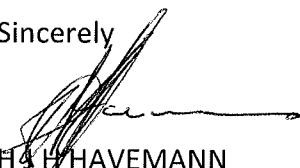
11. A Final Word

It is not possible to mention all those who have played a role in the life of Penzance Primary School this year. However, it is with sincere gratitude I thank you ALL for your support and wish you well over the Festive Season. To those who celebrate Christmas, may this be time for joyous celebration and some quality time spent with family and friends. To our Penzance families who may be travelling on the roads over this busy season, take care and travel safely.

With warm wishes for a bright and prosperous New Year.

School will re-open for the learners on Wednesday, 11 January 2017 at the start of the new Academic Year.

Sincerely



H & H HAVEMANN
PRINCIPAL