



Danville DIGEST

14 September 2015

From the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents,

We have celebrated two exceptional events in the past week.

The official opening of the Victor Daitz Collaborative Learning Centre on Thursday 3 September 2015 was an affirmation of the synergy that is in evidence at Danville: teachers with vision, parents with practical expertise and very generous financial support from the Victor Daitz Foundation. Each element combined to make the dream of a state of the art, inspirational working space a reality for our pupils at Danville. From the Idea Wall and ottoman styled furniture that enables brainstorming to the 33 state-of-the art iMacs generously funded by the Victor Daitz Foundation, the Victor Daitz Collaborative Learning Centre is a space that has both girls and teachers equally excited and inspired.

The second celebration was our successful annual Fun Day. As the name indicates the primary aim is to enable Danville families to take some time out from their busy lives to relax and enjoy the activities and delicious eats. As important is the educational value of the day: that of classes working in teams headed by their teachers to devise a "business", plan its implementation, delegate areas of responsibility and then experience satisfaction as "their" business ran successfully on the day.

Thank you to all parents, staff and pupils who contributed to the success of both these ventures.

Kind regards,

Cally Maddams



The Victor Daitz Collaborative Learning Centre

Learners working in the relaxed area at the back of the room on the Idea Wall.

Highlights

The Victor Daitz Collaborative Learning



Mrs C. Maddams, Mr Brian Moshal (Victor Daitz Foundation) & Mr Martin Elsner officially opening the Centre.



The trendy environment with iMac computers inspires creativity!



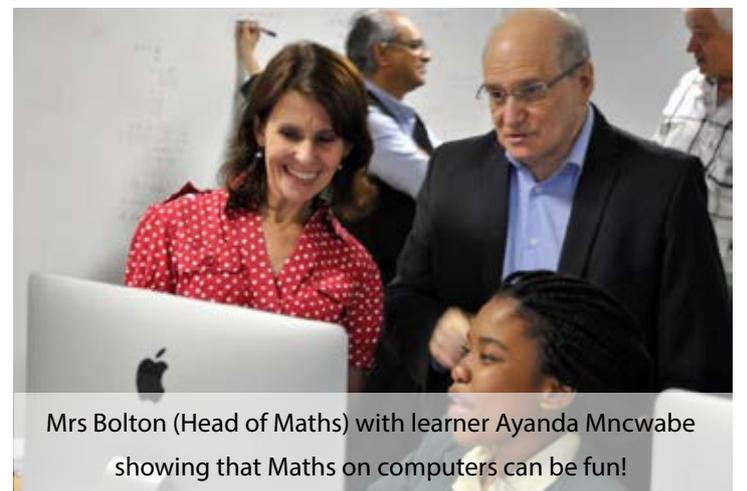
The colourful ottomans at the back of the room can be rearranged for collaborative work!



Guests were impressed by our well-mannered Danville girls who were fantastic ambassadors!



Mr Moshal, Mrs C. Andrew (IT teacher) with learners Aaliyah & Courtney who demonstrated their Drama iMovies.



Mrs Bolton (Head of Maths) with learner Ayanda Mncwabe showing that Maths on computers can be fun!

Amagugu – Durban High School Zulu Evening

On the 14th of August the Amagugu Heritage girls attended the Durban High School Zulu Evening that was hosted to honour and uplift our Zulu heritage. The night was well organized with the girls being well prepared and performing to the best of their ability, while also looking beautiful in their traditional wear. Their performance was excellent leaving the crowd highly energized and also impressing teachers from many other well-known schools. Well done to the girls on their performance and impeccable behaviour. You were true Danville Diamonds!

Mrs T. Zikhali



Sporting Highlights

Karate



Congratulations to Kevasha Mahabeer who has been selected to represent South Africa at the Commonwealth Karate Championships in India in September. Well done, Kevasha! We wish you all the best for the championships.

Horseriding

Well done to Caitlin Bird and Nicola Chelius who have been selected to represent the KZN SANESA Horse Riding Schools Team to compete in the National Event to be held at Misty Meadows Equestrian Centre in the October school holidays.



Soccer



Congratulations to the following girls for making KZN Soccer squads for their age groups:

- U14 : Siphokazi Bophela
- U15 : Awande Mkwanzazi
Cailin Thorp – Goalkeeper
- U19 : Nobuhle Hlope
Fezeka Kunene u19 Non Travelling Reserve



DATES TO DIARISE

18 Sept Gr 12 Trial Exams end

24 Sept Public Holiday

25 Sept School Holiday

29 Sept House Plays

2 Oct School Closes @ 11am

From the Counsellor's Desk

LOW SELF-ESTEEM IN TEENS

It is estimated that up to one half of adolescents struggle with low self-esteem, and girls are more than twice as likely as boys to be afflicted. Some of the reasons for this phenomenon may be the normal difficulties adolescents face, for example dealing with the physical and emotional changes taking place and trying to figure out who they are and what they want from life. Peers also play a pivotal role in adolescent self-evaluation; the peer group is very important to teens and rejection by a peer can seriously impact on a teenager's already fragile self-esteem.

A far bigger contributor to low self-esteem among girls is modern society's preoccupation with physical appearance. Research shows that today, physical appearance is the biggest predictor of a teenager's self-esteem; physical appearance is the barometer of self-worth. Teenage girls are confronted on a daily basis by media images of models and celebrities that are unrealistic, unattainable, and often not even real, yet these are the standards they try to measure up to, and feel worthless and unattractive if they don't.

There are no easy fixes when it comes to building self-esteem. Self-esteem comes from the experience of success. Your daughter can be helped to feel better about herself if she experiences success in other domains that are important to her, for example academics or sport, and receives the recognition of those she respects. Alternatively, try to heighten her appreciation of those domains in which she is successful.

Kind regards, Lynda Pretorius

SURFING Champ!

Christy Gilmour from Danville Park Girls' High has been selected to represent the EtheKwini Surfriders Association at the Junior South African National Championship later this year. This spirited Grade 9 surfer not only competes against girls in her own age group, but she also took the first place in the U18 Girls group at the KZN Longboard Championships held in Durban recently and was runner-up in the Open Women's Division. At a previous National Competition she was placed 2nd in the U16 Division. Great things are expected from this talented young surfer!



Water Explorer

On 3 September, Danville competed against four other schools at the Durban Botanical Gardens for the title of South African Water Explorer School of the year. We had tough competition, with each competing school having a different strength. The judges were very impressed with the degree of integration of Water Explorer into the curriculum at Danville and the fact that so many different grades and learning areas were actively involved. We were kept in suspense for an hour whilst the judges deliberated over which school should be the winner and the final decision was.....Danville!! We won an amazing trophy and R15 000 to put towards environmental projects at Danville. So well done to the entire school as this was a team effort.



Visit to the Sustainable Living Expo

On Friday 14 August a group of Environmental Society members and Environmental Monitors attended the annual Sustainable Living Expo at the Durban Exhibition Centre. We arrived just in time to see some amazing fashion items that had been made from waste, being modelled by DUT fashion design students. Favourites were fashion items made out of plastic bread packets, toilet roll inners and a skirt made out of pleated newspaper. Each model was asked about what inspired them to create their particular outfit and what inspired them to do fashion design. An exhibit that caught our attention was a stall where furniture and a rhino were made out of waste. Other highlights were: a school that had designed a method to make oil from plastic and another stall that made jewellery and personalised names out of waste.



Pedal Cars



Zorballs



Gladiators



Rainbow in a box

Fun Day

The Danville Family had a very successful Fun Day on Saturday the 5th of September. Thank you to everyone who made it possible!



Foosball



Gladiatics



Dunk Tank



Donuts