



Danville DIGEST

05 May 2015

From the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents,

In times of crisis, the Danville family has a way of rallying and showing true mettle. The National Girls' Sports and Culture Festival in Bloemfontein was an event to be remembered – not only for the camaraderie, celebration and enjoyment of the rich and varied co-curricular programmes that the top girls' schools offer – but also for supporting each other when things went awry.

Our teachers are to be commended for acting quickly and with care when some of our girls began to fall ill. The girls are also to be commended for keeping each other's spirits up and for continuing with their activities where they could. We are grateful to the parents who accompanied us to Bloemfontein or who joined us later and assisted where they could. We are also grateful to the parents who were unable to be in Bloemfontein and expressed faith in us. It was difficult being far away from your ill daughters.

We were not the only school affected and what is special about this festival came to the fore as teachers and principals from all the schools worked together. This festival, which began in 2000, has always had a wonderful spirit and although there is an element of competition there has always been, above all, camaraderie. This was highlighted when three younger sisters donned the first team kits of girls who were ill and played a friendly hockey match against Paarl Girls' High.

Yes, the 'bug' hit us, but it did not get us down. This was team-building of a different kind!

Kind regards,

Cally Maddams

DATES TO DIARISE

5 May	Gr 8 Parents' Evening
6 May	Gr 11 Geography Exam - Mapwork Gr 12 Art Drawing Exam
7 May	Gr 10 Excursion (Babanango)
9 May	Mothers and Daughters Day
12 May	Gr 9 Parents' Evening
13 May	Gr 12 Geography Exam - Mapwork



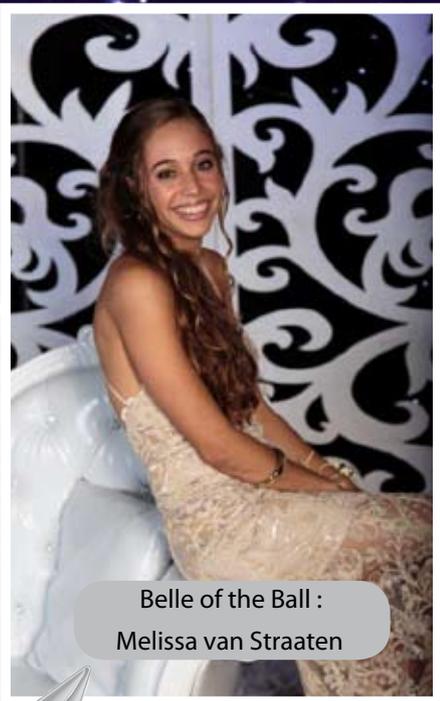


Highlights



The 2015 Matric Dance

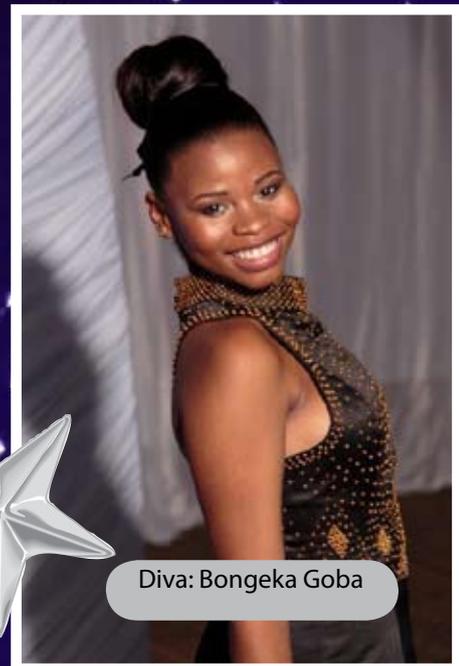
It is Written in the Stars was the magical theme for the 2015 Matric Dance. The venue at Sibaya was turned into a place of magic and glamour by the MDC. The class of 2015 arrived and looked stunning and oh so grown up out of their buttercup yellow dresses. The long awaited event was well worth the anticipation and the matrics truly experienced a night to remember.



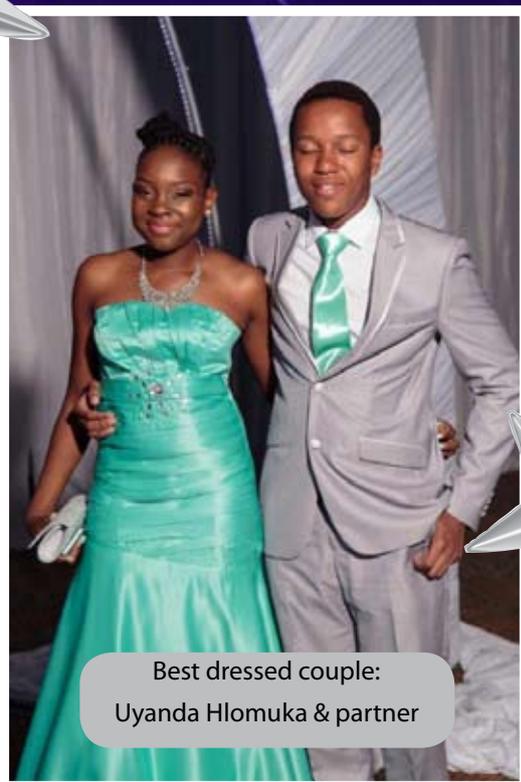
Belle of the Ball :
Melissa van Straaten



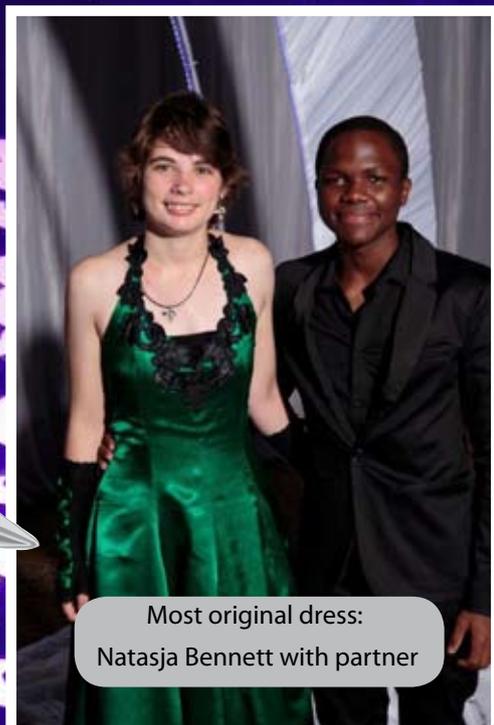
Most suited to the theme:
Sarisha Govender



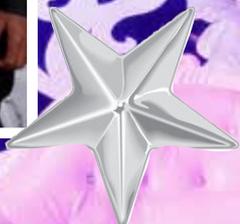
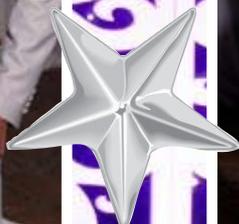
Diva: Bongeka Goba



Best dressed couple:
Uyanda Hlomuka & partner



Most original dress:
Natasja Bennett with partner



Fashion Show

The school was able to get a glimpse of the Matrics' dream night at their Matric Dance, when the class of 2015 modelled their dresses at a fashion show. The dresses were out of this world and the evening was a great success. Well done to the matric dance committee.



From the Counsellor's Desk

Teaching our children about consequences

It is an unfortunate truth that human beings learn quicker from painful experiences than from pleasant ones. As Mark Twain once said, 'A cat that has sat on a hot stove will never sit on a hot stove again.' Parents want to protect their children from pain and suffering, but we may not always be able to solve every problem our children have. Nor should we, especially when it comes to those problems they have created for themselves. If we do, our children will never learn that all of their actions have consequences, and they are the ones who will have to live with them.

The human brain is only fully developed at the age of twenty five, and the part that deals with common sense, logic, weighing up pros and cons, and delaying gratification is the last part of the brain to develop, so thinking about consequences is not natural for adolescents. Unfortunately, we live in a world where even one foolish, impulsive action by our children can result in lifelong consequences for them and for others. It is therefore vitally important that we teach our children to think about consequences. And, instead of always rushing in to fix their problems, we, as parents, need to be prepared to sometimes step aside and allow them to feel the pain of their unwise decision-making.

Kind regards, Lynda Pretorius

Danville hosts Maths Challenge representatives

Our Maths Department hosted Ms Hobe and Ms Lebakeng, representatives of the Epoch and the Optima Trusts (funded by Anglo American) this past week. We have been privileged to have been part of the Trusts' nationwide "Maths Challenge" initiative for the last 8 years. They initially selected Danville to receive sponsorship based on our consistently good Maths results and were very pleased to report that we have emerged a top school in their programme, improving results further year on year.

SPAR star for April..



Running is her passion

Gabriëlla Pekelharing dreams of participating in the Olympics one day and with her achievements in Athletics, she is on the road to realising that dream. This accomplished athlete has recently won Gold in Heptathlon at the KwaZulu-Natal Senior Athletics Championships. This competition consists of seven events namely three track events (200m, 800m and 100m hurdles) and four field events (shot put, javelin, high jump and long jump). In the KZN Junior Athletics Championships she was placed 3rd in both the 400m and 800m for Girls U19. Gabriëlla says she loves running as it makes her 'feel free'. She plans to specialise in middle distances when she commences with tertiary education next year.

Danville reigning Action Netball Champs



Action Netball Stars: Front: Monique Nolte, Princess Dlodla, Rochelle van As
Back: Corize Olivier, Reyanka Kisten, Janice Ford, Merilee Temlett, Jordan van der Merwe, Snayo Ndaba

Danville Park Girls' High once again proved their mettle as a top Netball school by winning the Senior Schools' Action Netball (Open1A) League. They played in the final against Ashton International College and won the match with a convincing lead of 27 – 9. Many of the girls had injuries, but still showed strength of character by getting stuck in from the start and leading within the first few minutes of the game, eventually coming out on top, and winning the league after a very competitive season. Danville's Corize Olivier was chosen player of the match.

Danville's First Netball team also had a great start to the season by winning a First Team Tournament held at Kingsway High School at the beginning of the second term. In the

'round robin games' they beat Amanzimtoti High, Port Natal and Maris Stella. They then had a play-off against a strong Kuswag team, beating them 11-6. The final was decided between Durban Girls' College and Danville. Danville came out victorious, beating their opponents 11 – 3. Again, Corize Olivier was selected as the best player of the match and was selected, together with Danville's Snayo Ndaba, for the All Stars team representing the top ten players of the tournament.