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THE GRANDEST

Official Newsletter of the Bishop Grandin Boarding House



**THIS IS OUR
HOME**

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Easter Season

We are currently in the middle part of the Easter season. This is the second-longest liturgical season. Only ordinary time is longer. The Church celebrates the Easter season, also known as “Eastertide” for 50 days, culminating with the feast of Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles (Acts 2:1-31).

You won’t find Easter chocolates or decorations for sale at the supermarket much past Easter Sunday. While the secular world moves on from bunnies and chocolate, the Church continues to celebrate Easter long after Easter Sunday.

So why Easter eggs? In general, eggs are a traditional symbol of fertility and rebirth. In Christianity, Easter eggs symbolize the empty tomb of Jesus, from which Jesus was resurrected. In most eggs the centre is hollow or coloured yellow, to enhance the image of Jesus’ empty tomb. It is a comforting thought that the Easter eggs represent Jesus’ Resurrection.

“Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world.”

Pope Francis





Easter at Bishop Grandin House

The first family event of the year saw the different families hunt for different colour eggs. Initially, we were all a bit sceptical about the idea of hunting for Easter eggs. However, as time went on, we slowly but surely brought out our inner child and the competitive nature between the families set in. The fact that we were able to eat the Easter eggs after made it even more enjoyable.

The families went head to head in finding their respective Easter eggs. After our first event, our defending champions, Ibutho Army got off to a slow start with only 4 family members showing up for the hunt

Easter Egg Hunt Points:

IBUTHO ARMY	- 20
OHANA	- 30
GOLDEN WOLVES	- 50
ARK	- 40





With all the Easter celebrations going on around the world, the boys of Bishop Grandin decided to give something small back to the kitchen staff.

Our seniors hid Easter eggs all around the Boarding House for the kitchen staff. Initially, the kitchen staff did not know what to expect and proceeded to take their time in trying to find their eggs. However, once our chef, Simon found three eggs in the space of 30 seconds the staff scattered all around the Boarding House.

The smiles on all their faces shone through their masks as they had a small break from cooking and cleaning and had time to enjoy themselves. On behalf of all the boys and staff in the Boarding House, I would like to thank all the kitchen staff for their efforts in keeping us strong and healthy.





Headboy's Desk

Bishop Grandin House has been my home away from home for the past 4 years. Recalling back on my years at the college the memories I've made within the walls of Bishop Grandin are certainly amongst the most memorable. Ranging from Kamogelo Obos ordering 20 share boxes to some random address in Sandton to hearing Mr Chadwick discipline boys in the early hours of the morning following them slipping and sliding down the corridor.

The Boarding House has transformed from a place I didn't enjoy returning to in grade 8 to a place that I struggle to leave now in matric simply due to the camaraderie that exists amongst the Bishop Grandin boys. The new renovations have undoubtedly contributed to the creation of a more comfortable living environment that promotes familiarity.

Having academic staff members on-site almost 24 hours a day has been quite beneficial; I recall many extra lessons with Mr Roff assisting me in preparing for a literary essay, which frequently turned into a motivating speech. Needless to say, the Boarding House has played a significant role in my academic success, since I am able to maximize the time I would otherwise spend travelling to and from school by squeezing in the extra study.

I wish Bishop Grandin well in the near future and I'm grateful to it for the many memories I have made that I can eventually laugh about with the same brothers I've made during my time at the house around a fire in the bush someday.

-Thando Tshabalala (St Benedicts College Headboy 2022)

“In life I
don't lose,
I learn”

Thando Tshabalala





Boarding Sport

Ethan Romburgh was selected to race at the 2022 Memorial Paolo D'Aloja International Regatta, which took place in Piediluco Italy. Ethan qualified to race there when he and his pair partner Dilano Sa (the first pair from St Benedicts College) won the Junior Men's Pair event at the 2022 South Africa Schools Championship. This tour was filled with a lot of excitement, as it was Ethan's first time overseas as well as the boys first time racing internationally whilst representing their school, province as well as the greater South African rowing community. They were afforded the opportunity of racing excellent juniors from around the world and gaining huge international racing experience. They had the pleasure of learning from and being coached by the top coach Gianni Postiglione, who is the head of the World Rowing Development program and coach of Olympic Gold medalist Stefanos Ntouskos. After 4 days of training in the cold of Italy, the boys were finally allowed to test their ability with the first regatta of the Memorial Paolo D'Aloja International Regatta on the 8th of April 2022. This was the first gruelling race, the conditions and the pace of the race were nothing the boys were used to. The boys did a great job pushing through to make the A final, finishing 3rd in their heat. After their heat. Having struggled in their final the guys finished in 7th position, not really finding their groove and race rhythm. There was not a lot of turnaround time from the first regatta until the second regatta. Since racing the final of the first regatta, the boys had to prepare themselves for the heat of the second regatta on the same afternoon on the 9th of April. Having learnt a lot and realizing that the standard of racing is completely different, the guys had to dust themselves off, learn the lessons they gained and use them for the next regatta. What we thought was cold was only the beginning. The second regatta was delayed due to bad weather. Once it commenced the guys had clearly learnt a lot and used it to better themselves. They once again made A final coming in 4th in their heat. The next day Sunday the 10th of April, which was also the final day of the regatta proved how the boys had progressed, learnt and developed as the week went on. They had their best finish, finishing 4th in their final, which was a massive improvement from the start of the first regatta. We can see that the tour was well worth it as, the boys are excited to come back and share their knowledge with the other athletes and see if they can make the South African Junior National Team that will compete later in Varese, Italy.

- Mr Thato Mokoena (SA Rowing Coach)





Learn to Swim

The Bishop Grandin learn to swim program was started towards the end of 2021. The purpose of this is to ensure that all our boys in the Boarding House are adequately equipped to survive in the water and of course enjoy the benefits of knowing how to swim.

There are approximately 18 boys who have attended these lessons four times a week at the Junior Prep with our coach Keagan Pulford. The 18 boys are from grade 8 all the way to grade 12. The confidence of each of our boys has grown exponentially and a few of the boys have grown the courage to try and swim in the indoor swimming pool.

A special thank you to Mr Ambler for pushing this cause as well as Mr Naus for organising the finer details. To Mrs Mackinnon, thank you for allowing us to use the Junior Prep pool.

We hope to continue learning and growing in confidence in the pool.





Bishop Grandin Old Boys

These days, after leaving Bennies and moving to Durban, have been great and I am currently studying Digital Design at Vega School, Durban. I was elected Class Captain recently. It feels similar to being in the Boarding House, there's a sense of family like what you get in Boarding but it's also different in many ways.

I miss Bennies and the Boarding House, I miss the brothers who are still there. I cherish the memories created during Family week and talking with all of the teachers and praying in the Chapel.

I wish all the boys and teachers the best of luck and keep the brotherhood going.

Cheers mates.

- Keegan England (Class of 2021)



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