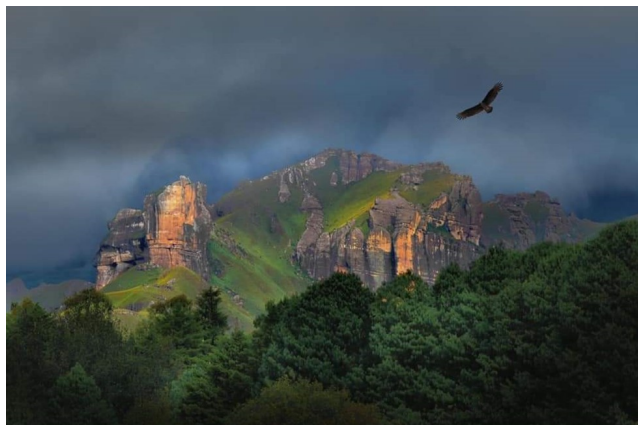


NEWS IN BRIEF

JEPPE HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

TERM 2 JULY 2, 2021 EDITION

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMISTRESS



We eagerly began the term with many learners attending sport and cultural activities while adhering to the Covid protocols. Midway through May, just when we thought the virus was beaten, a new variant began to storm back. We saw how things began to change significantly when a handful of our learners began testing positive for COVID-19. This marked the beginning of the 3rd COVID-19 wave. We have seen during the rest of the term just how devastating this 3rd wave has been (possibly perpetuated by the 60% more transmissible Delta variant), particularly in Gauteng, with overwhelmed health services.

During this wave, almost all of our learners and teachers have been affected by COVID-19: either contracting the disease and having to isolate or then having to quarantine due to primary contact or then just knowing someone who has been directly affected by COVID-19.

Our communication team, Mrs McBride and Mrs Goldin managed the communication between families and the school and everyone stepped up to support each other during the mid year assessment cycle. Despite the challenges of this crisis, we end the term on lockdown level 4 in the hope that the wave will subside by the time we return to school for the 3rd term. The staff will be feeling relieved after receiving their extra layer of protection on the 29th of June through the DBE's vaccine programme.

I am most grateful to every family, staff member and learner who has juggled the demands of the Covid crisis, its pain and challenges, the housework, the caring of the children and the elderly and the job responsibilities. It has not been easy, but the Jeppe spirit has demonstrated just how to show up in times like these and have made every effort to rise above the crisis. As you continue your journey during the pandemic, I am hoping that you will renew your strength in your God and soar above the Covid-mountain like an eagle. (Photo credit: George Veltchev at the Drakensberg)

As we embark on a lockdown holiday, I wish you all much strength and good health in the weeks ahead. God Bless.

Miss Gonçalves

STRONGER TOGETHER

Jeppe were proud to be a part of making the largest springbok blanket in the world in honour of the Springboks who brought home the coveted World Cup Trophy in 2019.

The big reveal of the blanket took place at Steyn City School on Wednesday 9 June. The programme was viewed online by knit wits across the country, but a small Jeppe contingent which included Miss Gonçalves, Tshaamano Mabuba, Snamile Mthembu, Ayabukwa Magocoba and Buhlebenkosi Mungwe who were guest speakers at the event did Jeppe proud with their eloquence and passion.

"When South Africa claimed the exceptional victory over England in the 2019 Rugby World Cup final - there was palpable pride in our Mzansi atmosphere.

"We love you, South Africa, and we can achieve anything if we work together as one." - These were Captain Siya Kolisi's words after the remarkable game.

We can achieve anything if we work together. Today's 67 Blanket's masterpiece is the epitome of what it means when we say we can achieve anything if we work together.

One may be confused at how a sport like rugby can in any way be merged with the act of knitting or crocheting - well there are actually many similarities



ties they both require practise in order to master them, they both require tools and skill, however something vital that they both cannot produce quality results without is passion. The same passion that resulted in the 67 blankets breaking world records, is the same passion that fuelled our Springboks to win the World Cup - and it's the same Passion that Jeppe girls have towards sport and crocheting.

COVID-19 took our fast paced, tedious and repetitive lives and slowed them down. Although Schools were closed for several months last year, we still continued our exercise and crocheting from our homes with our families - Ms Gonçalves would send us daily encouragement messages and at the end of them she would

remind us that we are stronger together.

The Springboks reminded us in 2019 that when a group of people come together we can achieve anything. In 2020 we united as South Africans against our invisible enemy COVID-19 and helped each other through what was a very difficult year and now in 2021 although we are still facing the war against COVID-19 it always makes me feel less afraid and less alone when I am reminded that we are doing this as a school, as a community and most importantly as a country.

And remember that the best thing that unifies a group of people is passion, roaring, unquenchable passion."

Tshaamano Mabuba

67 BLANKETS STRONGER TOGETHER (CONT)

TERM 2 JULY 2, 2021



The record-breaking blanket was made up of 2 754 individual blankets (each measuring 1.6mx1.6m) and covered an area of 7 050 square meters. It could only be seen in its entirety from the air.

Jeppe Girls initially pledged 64 emerald green blankets, which was enough to make the letters '2021' on the blanket, but we agreed to make a lot more with wool donated by Capitec Bank and Auto and General and contributed 181 blankets in all. Thank you to the Jeppe girls, staff, grannies, mums and aunts who contributed to the drive.

Snamile Mthembu spoke at the event on how crocheting has impacted her life. She is a proud participant of the 67 minutes Nelson Mandela Blanket Drive initiative and inspired her classmates to make many bokke blankets last year. She loves the fact that Jeppe uses competition between the classes to encourage girls to make blankets for the blanket drive. Snamile crochets whenever she has a moment, even on the side of the field while supporting her cricket teammates! "The more blankets I complete gives me joy in knowing that I have helped a family stay warm during our harsh winter seasons. Knowing that everyone is working together towards a common goal proves that we can make good changes in our communities when we stand united." -Snamile Mthembu.

JEPPE LAUNCHES A RADIO STATION



Jeppe Girls made history this term by launching their first ever radio station. The station runs for 10 minutes during Registration from Monday to Thursday and is hosted by two Councillors with larger than life personalities – Ayabukwa Magocoba (left) and Buhlebenkosi Mungwe (right). Both hosts are passionate public speakers.



Why a radio station and why now? These questions were posed to Tshaamano Mabuba, Head Girl. She said that during the epidemic, without being able to communicate to the school via Assemblies, the Councillors felt that something was necessary to rejuvenate the Jeppe spirit and energy at the school. The team brainstormed various ideas with Miss Gonçalves and came up with the idea of a radio show. Jeppe Radio broadcasts over the school intercom system which reaches every classroom.

Each day has a theme – Mindfulness Monday, Take Charge Tuesday, Woza Wednesday and Takalani Thursday. The show includes interviewing guests who speak on topics of interest – Miss Gonçalves spoke on 'Taking charge of Covid' and the school wellness team spoke on coping with anxiety and feeding your soul. There have been competitions and the ever popular Jeppe Quiz where 10 questions need to be answered in 90 seconds and staff take on girls and different grades take on one another. Miss King spoke on 'being mindful' and gave the girls some meditation tips and there have been musical items from Hlabelela and music students.

Our presenters got to do their first 'outside broadcast' at the 67blankets Stronger Together event at Steyn City.

Well done to the radio team for making a difference and lifting the Jeppe spirit.



Jeppe arriving at Steyn City School



Miss Gonçalves and the Jeppe girls with Mrs Steyn and our former President Thabo Mbeki

BLANKET DISTRIBUTION

This is the second year in a row that we have been unable to take girls with us when distributing blankets to those in need.

We had a number of blankets that came in after last year's distribution, and were able to give 60 blankets to Ethembeni Children's Home, 28 blankets to Avalon Home for the Physically Disabled and 26 blankets for the 10 women and 16 children currently living at Bienvenu shelter.

Miss Pat Ringer (former Deputy Headmistress) donates many beautiful blankets to us each year. She is seen below with the 32 blankets she brought in this year. Miss Ringer you are a star!!!



We received 200 springbok blankets from Steyn City, and Piet, Saulo and Mrs Heming drove round Bertrams with Rene Du Plooy of We Care distributing them. 34 blankets went to Park Cottages, 74 went to the Gerald Fitzpatrick Home for the Aged, 77 went to Max Goodman and 20 went to Umlazi Mental Home.

OPENING OF THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

On 30th November 2018, at the final assembly of the year, Mrs Carolyn Steyn surprised the school with a birthday gift of R1,7 million. This gift was transformed into a Performing Arts Centre to honour her love of theatre, music and the stage, the very place she found her talent at our school back in 1977. On 15th October 2020 she donated a further R250 000 towards the sprung floor. The building of the centre was completed during the Covid -19 Pandemic, an eternal reminder to all who use this facility that “Nothing is too difficult for the brave.”

The opening of the centre was a joyous celebration of music and dance. Hlabelela welcomed Mrs Steyn and her guests with beautiful a capella song and dance. Mrs Steyn then cut the ribbon to declare the centre officially open and unveiled the plaque commemorating the occasion. Timothy Moloi gave a very moving performance of “The Prayer” by C Bayer-Sager and D Foster before the guests moved inside.

Miss Gonçalves thanked Mrs Steyn for “giving our learners, present and future, the space to learn, explore and create.” She also thanked the architect, Mr Marc Aitken for the role he played, Ian Clasen of Quoin Construction who headed up the building of the beautiful centre and Mr Jarvis from the Governing Body who assisted as project manager.

Mrs Steyn gave a very personal speech of why she chose to come to Jeppe Girls and her experience at the school. She was painfully shy at school but was sent for elocution lessons by her mother so that she could learn how to speak well. She did well in Speech and Drama Eistedfodds and decided to audition for the lead role of Joan of Arc in her matric year. To her surprise she was chosen for the role and awarded the “Best Actress” prize that year. She then completed an Honours degree in Speech and Drama at Wits University and went on to pursue her dreams. “Drama completely changed my life.” Said Mrs Steyn. “I firmly believe that expressing ourselves through music, through dance and through drama is essential - to everyone. Acting, and speech and drama, gave me the confidence that I so badly needed. And that confidence is needed in life in general.”

Mrs Steyn’s mother was a wonderful opera singer who could not realise her dreams because of circumstance. She said her mother would have been proud to see the addition of the performing arts centre at the school. She encouraged the girls not to let anyone belittle their dreams and to use their love of the creative arts to realise their strengths.

Mrs Steyn invited 10 of her friends who were in her year at Jeppe Girls to share the opening of the centre with her, as well as her sisters Colleen Teklenburg (also a Jeppe Old Girl) and Sharon Barkhuizen who attended Queens High.

Dr Kruger, Head of Music at the school thanked Mrs Steyn for the huge difference that the centre will make to the lives of the girls and the staff. She also presented Mrs Steyn with a beautiful music cake. The Performing Arts Centre will be used for drama, dance, orchestra, choir practises and performances and music exams. It will also be used for the Philip Moore Music Competition which opens on 31 July this year.

The guests enjoyed a musical performance by the Uhlume and Izim-pande choirs as well as a medley by the Jeppe Marimba band and a performance by the Jeppe Dance Squad. The Head Girl and Deputy Head Girls presented Mrs Steyn with a booklet of thanks made up by



NETBALL

The girls who were selected for Gauteng squad participation are:
U14 Alexandra Okoye
U16 Nissi Mukuna
U17 Abigail Dalrymple
U18 Oratile Mashiane

Their last round for being placed in teams has been postponed until contact sport may resume.

HOCKEY

The girls representing the D9 public schools hockey team at inter-district trials are:

U14:
Sinqobile Mbatha and Amy Matthews
U16:
Tatum Murphy, Victoria Baigent and Oratile Madonsela
U18 Trials:
Jade Murray, Unathi Dishu, Snamile Mthembu and Thembi Matsinhe

These have also been postponed until contact sport may resume.

TENNIS

Term 1 is usually a Tennis league term but unfortunately there was no league this year.

However, our tennis girls joined in to compete against each other for the Jeppe Tennis Championship. Group matches were played resulting in 4 group winners who then played semi-finals.

Well done to Birklynn Skipp, Taylea Gray, Jesse Platt and Andrea van der Bank for placing 1st in their groups. The semi-final matches left Jesse and Taylea to play in the final match.

Congratulations to Taylea Gray for winning the Jeppe Tennis Championship.

DANCE

Jouhara Arache (8t) has been awarded Central Gauteng colours for Acrobatic Dance Sport. She is representing Central Gauteng at an Inter-provincial competition in Centurion from 21 to 24 June.

EQUESTRIAN

The Equestrian team have competed in 3 Qualifiers this year.

Qualifier 1 (27 March 2021)

Anastasia Judge and her horse Lorelock Augustinus competed in Dressage and were placed 9th and 11th, and in Jumping where they were placed 18th.

Madison Heystek and her horse LCEC's Dakota Skyes competed in Equitation and were placed 3rd, Prix Caprilli and were placed 8th and Jumping where they placed 7th and 17th.

Jada de Kocks on her horse Adam Magicat competed in Jumping and placed 3rd and 20th.

Eryn Preston on her horse Ashgar Night Sky competed in Jumping and placed 1st.

Qualifier 2 (8 May 2021).

Anastasia Judge placed 1st and 2nd in two Prix Caprilli events and 6th in two Dressage events. Madison Heystek placed 4th in Jumping, 6th in Equitation and 6th in Prix Caprilli. Jada De Kocks placed 3rd in jumping and Eryn Preston placed 5th in Jumping.

Qualifier 3 (5 -6 June 2021) .

Eryn Preston received a 4th and a 2nd place in their class of Show jumping.

Khwezi Magagula entered a vaulting selection show on Saturday and received a 1st place in her class.

Jada de Kocks received a 5th in show jumping.

Madison Rae Heystek received a 4th for Equitation and placed 11th and 14th for Show jumping

Anastasia Judge received a 2nd and 3rd for Prix Capillary and two 5th places in Dressage.

INDOOR CRICKET

Kaylee van Rooyen (10u) has been selected for the Gauteng North Junior Ladies Indoor Cricket team and will play in the Inter-provincial tournament from 17 to 20 July.

TEAM CAPTAINS

Dance Squad

Captain: Nicole Teixeira

Vice Captain: Jade Murray

Library Monitors

Jade Murray, Kwanele Nkosi, Masabata Mpou, Danielle Muthala, Jacinta Gray, Leah Moodley, Sihle Zenzile, Anastasia Judge, Lesego Mashapa and Maroushka Maghoma

OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS

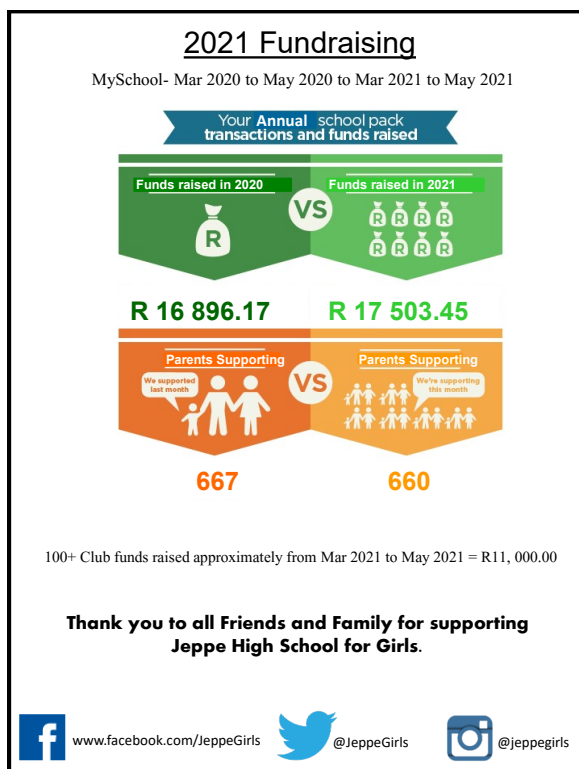
We celebrated International Outdoor Classroom Day on 20 May with the official opening of our EcoSchools Outdoor Classrooms. A small inaugural tea was held in the Matric Garden Outdoor Classroom which was attended by those Contributors who were able to join in the festivities.

We have 4 outdoor classrooms built to date, the fourth being named Ingadi Yolwazi (Garden of Knowledge).

Thanks to our generous Jeppe Contributors, the walkway and platform paving is now complete for the third and fourth classrooms. Extensive terracing was required to make use of the area below the pool /behind the Tuck Shop for the third and fourth Outdoor Classrooms, but it is NOT fully sponsored yet and the Outdoor Classroom Fund is still R15 000 short.

Should you wish to have a "Plaque in the Paving" for your generous contribution towards our EcoSchool "Teaching in a Pandemic" educational initiative, please contact Monique Bosch (mbosch@jeppegirls.co.za) for more information.

Mrs Heming—Editor



IN MEMORIAM

We would like to remember all those associated with the Jeppe family who have lost loved ones at this time. Our heartfelt condolences to you and your families and friends. We mention some of them by name here.

Ms Jane Bernard a beloved former Deputy Principal passed away suddenly on 18 May 2021. We will sorely miss her as she visited us frequently and send our most heartfelt condolences to Frieda, Jessica and the family.



Ms Jane Bernard

Ms Bernard came to the school in January 2005 as Head of Department, a position she held until she was appointed as Deputy Head in 2007. She started her teaching career in 1972 at Capricorn High School in Polokwane armed with a teaching diploma from the Johannesburg College of Education. She then moved to Randfontein High School where she was Senior English teacher, to Edenvale High School and finally to Athlone Boys where she was Head of Official Languages and Acting Principal.

Besides her initial teaching diploma, Ms Bernard earned a Further Diploma in Education majoring in History and Biblical Studies. She was awarded her BA degree from Unisa in 1994. She also has a Diploma in Media. In her many years of teaching Ms Bernard has taught a variety of subjects including English, Afrikaans, History, Geography, Biblical Studies and Life Orientation.

Ms Bernard is an inveterate traveller who, with her partner and daughter, travelled to all seven continents. However, her first love is life in the South African bush to which she escapes at every opportunity. Her other outdoor interests are viewing wildlife, birding and discovering interesting South African towns. When not travelling, Ms Bernard spends time pottering in her garden which radiates peace and tranquillity. Ms Bernard is also a voracious reader devouring a variety of genres of books, including biographies and historical novels but for pure escapism she loves thrillers. Often, whilst waiting for her daughter in the afternoon, Ms Bernard will take out her kindle and disappear into the world of 'who dunnits' for a while.

Blessed with a sense of humour which can be quirky, subtle or simply wicked, Ms Bernard often finds something to laugh about in the most ordinary situations. In so doing she is able to relieve the tension in many a tricky situation. Ms Bernard is loved by the girls. They have learnt that she encourages them to constantly improve themselves but when they do not succeed she is there to comfort and console. She is a great listener and a trusted confidante who can be told the most intimate secrets which she will never divulge to anyone. She is also extremely generous and no one knows how many girls have been helped to obtain what they have needed but not able to afford. Her Assembly talks are always witty but thought provoking and have the girls earnestly discussing the topics at length.

Ms Bernard is respected by the staff as many have benefitted from her knowledge and wisdom in solving a classroom issue, handling a personal problem or sharing an amusing experience. Ms Bernard and her daughter Jessica both leave the school this year: Jessica to further her studies at university and Ms Bernard to explore and discover more of the treasures that South Africa has to offer or to spend time in her garden. We will miss Ms Bernard, her knowledge, her wisdom, her humour and her total involvement in the life of the school and wish her much happiness and joy in her retirement.

Miss D Gonçalves

Selven Naidoo, beloved stepdad to Megan Mottian, and father to former pupils Anushka and Gabrielle, passed away suddenly on 13 June 2021. Our condolences to Megan and Phaleisha her mum and family.

Loren Koutsevelis (class of 2006) passed away tragically on 8 June 2021. Rest in Peace Loren.

Angela Mugnaioni (nee Ducatelli) class of 77 who attended the school on 6 May as one of the guests of Carolyn Steyn for the opening of the Carolyn Steyn Performing Arts Centre. She is remembered as a warm, dynamic force of nature, a powerful and joyful being. She was also a close friend of Di Thompson (nee Rowan), who described her as a rock of love, compassion and kindness. Sincere condolences to Angela's family and friends who loved her so much. 26 June 2021.



Angela is seen here with her old classmates in the back row, to the right of Carolyn Steyn.

Katrine Lategan (class of 2005)



Katrine Lategan is seen in this photo assisting a Dan Pharasi school learner during a Maths Outreach program in 2004.

Gone too soon. An extraordinary and brave young woman whose words of gratitude for life will resonate for eternity: "We have been made to feel so much more grateful for the abilities we do have." - Katrine Lategan (2004) We send our deepest condolences to Katrine's family and friends.

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

Two Jeppe Old Girls, Yusrah Tayob (class of 2019) and Manal Shiabne (class of 2020) called for help in donating items to the victims of the Cabo Delgado in Mozambique and the victims of the Palestinian and Israeli conflict respectively.

Yusrah, whose brother works in the Mozambique Embassy asked for donations of non-perishables (flour, canned food); toiletries (sanitary pads); seeds for crops and old clothing.

Manal whose father has a contact in the Palestinian Embassy asked for donations of 5 litre bottles of water, soap, candles, blankets and Covid-19 PPE: masks and sanitizer.