

ST MATTHEWS HIGH SCHOOL

June 2018



Message from the Principal

This has been a very short term, yet full of activities and disturbances as well.

SERVICE DELIVERY PROTESTS

We were very unfortunate that after our Easter holidays, upon reopening, school had to be shut down for two weeks, as the community was up in arms protesting for the lack of housing and poor road conditions around the whole of Keiskammahoek. This affected tuition, both educators and learners alike were worried about when this would be resolved but when classes resumed, extra classes were organised by our team of dedicated teachers, to try and cover up the syllabus. As we speak, the Mid-year exams are progressing smoothly, and are nearing the end. Schools are closing on the 22nd June, except the Grade 12 class which will be busy with the Winter school, which the Department of education has organised, and which we are proud to be hosting.

Many sporting activities took place this Term. Our school staff took it upon themselves to showcase their Netball playing abilities. Teachers played netball against the Hostel staff and no-one was spared, even the male educators took part in the games. It was so exciting watching them in action. It also served as a form of entertainment, with the learners watching and cheering for their teacher. Fortunately, not a single one of them was injured and at the end of the day good clean fun was had by all.

We are proud to say that some of our Rugby players from the students side, also took part in the Provincial Trials in Umtata and they did very well. A few of our netball players were also selected to represent the Provincial netball team and that is not all our very own colleague Miss Damoyi was elected to coach the Provincial netball team. The school choir also made us proud when they won first place in the District choir competition and went to Umtata to represent not just St Matthews High school but also Keiskammahoek, they did very well and placed 4th.

On a sad note, some of our long serving educators have left the school. Such educators include Mr Tony Ukekwe, a former HOD for Science, who was fortunate to be appointed as a Principal of Tembalesizwe High School in King Williams town. Mrs Moronia Kakono, our Science teacher, also left our school and is now an educator at Dimalisile High School in King Williams Town. However, after much hunting we were blessed to find young and dedicated teachers who have joined us recently.

As stated above, with exams in progress we wish all our students the best with the exams and may they stay safe and warm for the June Holidays.



Principal Mr Mgqoba

Special points of interest:

- > New Faculty
- > Farewell our mentor
- > Choir
- > Grd 12 Farewell
- > Sport
- > Motivational day
- > Exam tips

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Presented by:

Ziyanda Thompson

Saint Matthews

Newspaper club

Edited by: Jolande Swartz



Welcome Mr Kalipa

A new face to the St Matthews High school Faculty is Mr M. Kalipa the new Life Science and Geography teacher, who attended the University of Fort Hare doing his Bachelor of Education. He started at our school in May, right after the strike that disrupted us for a good 3 weeks. He was appointed to the by the Department of Education, Buffalo City District. When asked if knew the school prior to being sent here, he tells me that he did in fact know of this school for some time, due to its academic excellence that makes our school well recognised in the Province of Eastern Cape and the country at large. He also compliments the school as a proper functioning school together with its science department.

Though teaching was his second option he loves being part of development, and he also believes that as a teacher “you are the agent of transformation.” As a young teacher and with this being his first teaching post Mr Kalipa looks forward to building his career and in the process help St Matthews reach greater heights. So far though says that he is enjoying working at St Matthews, the staff and the learners are treating him well.



Welcome Mr Manyana

Mr T. Manyanya, affectionately called “TT” by his colleagues, is from Port Shepstone in a small town of Qamalabhe, in KwaZulu Natal. He grew up in a happy family, his mother a Zulu woman and his father a Xhosa man, so now he can easily switch between the two languages and he says that it is easy since IsiZulu and IsiXhosa are similar languages. Growing up he always wanted to be an Engineer because he was good on Mathematics and also the enjoyed working with machines, and he noticed that could help people. He

studied at the University of Technology where he studied maths and science. But as time when by he felt a pull toward teaching because people needed knowledge and he started enjoying teaching on the practical field in 2007 until now.

What he likes about working at St Matthews is that it is a Christian school and with him being a Christian himself so instantly felt connected to the school. He describes himself as a simple person who believes in the almighty God and loves to engage in conversation with people. Mr Manyanya tells me that so far he is enjoying being in Keiskammahoek, getting to know his surrounding and the many villages around Keiskam-



Getting to know the new Lab Facilitator at St Matthews, Ziyanda Thompson

I grew up in Mdantsane, but moved to Keiskammahoek with my family in 2016. I'm currently studying at the University of Fort Hare towards a Bachelor Arts Honours in History, I was a tutor there prior to getting this job and I think that is where my fondness for working with other learners originated, and also it is where I saw first-hand the struggle some students experienced with researching assignments and typing up their work because for some students University is where they first have the opportunity to work using a computer and it is a challenge. So when I heard St Matthews High school was looking for someone to assist its learners with computer classes I jumped at the chance because I knew the experience would also benefit me as much as it would the learners.

On the 4th May 2018, I received the call I had been hoping and praying for, I was selected as Facilitator for CAMI, so I must admit I had no real knowledge or experience with CAMI. What excited me was knowing I would be helping educate learners from my village not just with using a computer but also help improving their maths and English as well, thanks to the CAMI software. I'm finding CAMI quite fascinating and helpful and I look forward for it to be incorporated to all schools as it is not just makes things easier for the learners and for the teachers as well. With a system like it we won't just be able to pin point the problem areas in real time but it also offers assistance to the learner in the form of speed notes.

Written by Ziyanda Thompson



**Cami Education Software—
English Reader and Maths
are available in both Sifunda
Kunye Labs at St Matthews
High School**





The departure of one of our very own teacher, Mr. Antony Ukekwe

On Tuesday the 22 of May 2018, one of the school's staff members left the school. Mr T. Ukekwe was with the school for 22 years, a veteran by many standards. A special school assembly was held to make the announcement that our teacher was leaving and that today was his last day at the school. Many of us were shocked by the news and could hold back the tears speeches were given by his colleagues, students and the man of the moment himself, and in his own words he said "My future is where the sun sets" and to us it may feel like it's darkness but to him this is his sun rise, the beginning of his future.

He was just an Educator but he played a father figure role to the whole of St. Matthew's students. It's really sad to see one of greatest teachers of all time to leave the school. He is St. Matthew's and St. Matthew's is him. He was also part of the Columba family and there is nothing greater then releasing a leader who has values that he'll never forget and with the impact has in our lives it's only fair to let others share the intelligence and wisdom in that man of God. Mr Ukekwe always looked on the bright side of every situation and saw the good in each and every one of his students. I can proudly say he has a heart of Gold. His teachings will always remain in our hearts and his advices will forever be remembered. His last words to us were "Take every opportunity that comes your way because you never know how much time you have".

Written by: Mihlali Tiso





Choir Competition

District Choir Competition

On the 11th of May 2018, the St Matthews High School choir attended the 'Amathole' District school choir competition, the venue was at Ginsberg in King Williams Town. Everything happened as planned and the school choir was exposed to a lot of talent and competition, since our goal was not only to win but also to learn and be inspired. The competition was tough and we struggled a bit with nerves and some pupils' losing their voices we were able to pull through and we got third position on all our performances and we even managed to get first position on one performance. We now look forward to the next competition which will be on a higher level, as this time we will be competing in the Provincial Choir Competition which will be held in Umtata. We are working hard so that we are better than before. This year, like all years, has been a success for us and we thank God and our teachers for all their efforts.

Provincial Choir Competition

On the 25th of May 2018, the Quartet attended the Provincial competition in Umtata which was a big deal not just the school but for the Amathole District, it being the first time a school from Keiskammahoek to take part in such an event. As expected the teachers, students and community were excited for this opportunity as they felt in proved what they have long known the talent that these students have. The competition was very tough, the choir was nervous at the amount of pressure they faced as they didn't want to let down their school as well as the whole of Keiskammahoek. Our pupils performed their hearts out on that stage and they truly made us proud. Their hard work and sacrifice was rewarded with them placing fourth which is no small feat. The choir would like to thank Mr Skeyi and Miss Lingani for guiding them through this time, as well the rest of their teachers, fellow learners and community for their support, and they promise to go even further next time.



Grade 12 farewell 2018

Matric farewell

On the 28th of March 2018, we had our matric farewell at the Hemmingways Guesthouse in King William's Town. Everyone looked absolutely beautiful and very elegant. The venue also did not disappoint with the decorations being on point. But that was not all Miss Kobese also had a surprise in store for us, a former learner from St. Matthew's high School was our guest speaker Sambesiwe was our guest speaker she told us a lot about the possible challenges we would face after matriculating but she also told us not to ever give up. All in all, the matric farewell was amazing. It was a great experience being part of the matric farewell because a moment like that only comes once in your life.

By.Mateta Nomfundo



Sport time at St. Matthew's

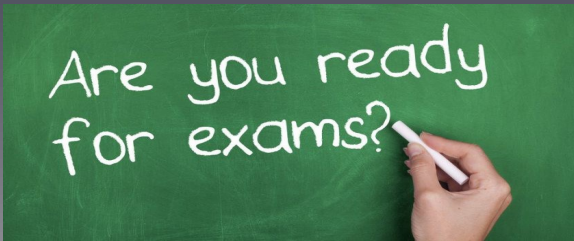
As usually on Wednesday we have our sport time from 12h00pm till 14h00pm at school, the reason why we have sport time is because all the sports codes within the school use that time to practise. But yesterday, 16th of May 2018, it was a different ball game. The teachers decided to challenge the school netball players to a friendly match. Though it was not a fair match it was fun to watch, not surprisingly but still sadly the teachers won. At the end of the day though, everyone enjoyed themselves and thanks to our teachers for surprising us with such a fun show.

By Mateta Nomfundo

MOTIVATIONAL DAY

On the 19th of May 2018 all the schools around Keiskammahoek were invited to attend a motivational programme hosted by the Isipho campaign from King William's Town. The programme was attended by 3 schools around Keiskammahoek, St. Matthew's High School was one of the 3 schools in attendance. The programme took only 3 hours due to late preparations and late coming of the hosts. We had different activities that took place, one activity was about your own goal what you want to achieve in life and what you want to be. There were 3 hosts in total, each telling us their life story, one story that stood out for me was one told by Aphiwe, I can't remember his surname, he told us about the effects of consuming alcohol. How just 1 glass, his first ever, led to him getting mixed up in a robbery and murder. He told us how he was pressured into drink by friends and then while drunk his friends decided to rob some people and ended up killing someone, because he was there he was also arrested, charged and later found guilty of a criminal act. He was sentenced to 20 years, his friends were sentenced to life, he served 11 years and was paroled. The motivational aspect of his story is that even though he is a parolee he is not letting that fact bring him down instead he is using it for the greater good, by showing the younger generation the possible consequence of alcohol. Altogether everything went well we had lots of fun and learnt a lot.

By Mateta Nomfundo



You totally don't want to think about it right now, but finals are just

around the corner. That means you can add studying for them to your already vast to-do list. Here are some helpful hints on how to prepare for your exams and get everything else done.



Tip 1: Start early

Preparation for exams should begin earlier than the day before the test. You can't cram an entire unit of information into an all-nighter. Get started at least a week before the exam.

Tip 2: Organize

Begin by making yourself a calendar outlining a daily schedule of topics for review. Cover a small amount of material for each class each day. Every time you complete a topic, give yourself a mini review.

Tip 3: Outline

Once you have decided what you need to study and how much time you need to spend studying, it is time to actually study. One of the best ways is to make succinct outlines. As you read over your textbook and class notes, write a brief summary for each topic. Highlight the areas in your outline that were most troublesome. When you have finished with all the material, you will have an outline you can review.

Tip 4: Make flashcards

Similar to outlining, making flashcards is a really helpful technique for studying. By writing down the information from your outline, you are already doing half the studying. Once the flashcards are complete, you will have a portable study packet to look over.

Tip 5: Get help

If you are having trouble memorizing something or a particular concept is just not sinking in, get help before it's too late. Ask your teacher to go over a glitch you might be having. Or if memorizing 200 vocabulary words seems like too much to do, recruit your family members to quiz you with index cards.

Tip 6: Sleep

You need at least seven hours of sleep a night to function. Tests are designed to make you think. If you are sleep-deprived, you won't be able to remember any of the information you worked so hard to cram into your brain.

Tip 7: Stay calm

Do not panic at the exam! Even if at first glance the test is overwhelming, remember to breathe. If a question seems too hard, answer all the questions you know, then return to the ones you left blank. Remind yourself that you are prepared.

Tip 8: Don't rush

You have spent at least two weeks studying, so what's another couple of minutes? Work through the exam slowly and read all the questions before answering them. If you are done before the time is up, look over your answers.