

September 2019

ST MATTHEWS HIGH SCHOOL



Special points of interest:

- ⇒ Writing camp
- ⇒ Deputy principal
- ⇒ Teacher housing renovations

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Presented by:

Ziyanda Thompson

Saint Matthews

Newspaper club

Edited by: Jolande Swartz



Sifunda Kunye Writing Camp 2019

During the weekend of the 23-25 August 2019, learners from five of Sifunda Kunye schools attended the annual writing camp.

This year the theme/topic to write about was UBUNTU. Learners were preparing for this weekend before they arrived at the camp.

The weekend was a huge success! The learners all completed their writing with inspiration from their peers, facilitators and guest speakers.

We would like to thank all that made this weekend possible. We acknowledge our funder Mr Andrew Summers for making this weekend possible.



SIFUNDA
KUNYE
TOGETHER IN LEARNING

Sifunda Kunye Writing club

The news story below featured in our term 2 issue, during this term there was a formal awards ceremony at Sifunda Kunye literacy center. We applaud the learners on their achievements and the organizers of this event.



Sifunda kunye learners entered the writing competition with schools from King William's Town those schools were Hector Petersen, Eric Mntonga and sikhulule HS. This competition was hosted by Maki Foundation, some of our learners managed to win the competition, they were writing short stories, plays, song writing, poems, set of jokes and drawing. School with most entries submitted was ST Matthews High School. These learners were under the supervision of their Sifundakunye facilitator San-
ga
Mabulu.

Short stories : Khanyisa Suswana got 2nd place

Nthasha Mpondo got 3rd place

Xhosa poetry : Mbali Nikita 1st place

Drawing category : Noble Sibulele



The Presidents Awards



Amothle Water

Last year St Matthews high school faced quite a few problems/troubling reports one of which was the water crisis, which saw many of our students being hospitalised. The cause of the hospitalisation was suspected to be from drinking contaminated water.

Amathole Water then offered to assist the Amahlathi Municipality with handling the issue with our water, in the process Amathole Water decided to install a remote office on the school grounds as this would offer faster response when then having to call and wait for them to get to the school.

The office is equipt with a LAB so that they can test the water on site regularly, there is a Site Manager by the name Nomfundo Kekezwa available from 8:00am till 4:00pm. The school was able to offer her a room in one of the houses that our teachers reside in so that in a way she is closely available if needed.



Deputy principal

My name is Nolitha Mancoko, I am originally from Balasi Location near Bisho but I now reside in King Williams Town with my family. I am married with two sons, Intle who is 19 years old and is currently studying Law at the University of Fort Hare in East London. My Last born Kamva, whom is 15 years old doing grade 10 at Greame College in Grahamstown.

I studied my high school at Saint Matthew's High School and finished in 1985. I went on to study at Lennox Sebe College of Education for a Senior Teacher's Diploma majoring in Mathematics and Physical Sciences.

In 1989, I started teaching at Mpumzi Junior Secondary school in Middledrift, I decided to further my studies whilst working. I managed to obtain my Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Fort Hare, I majored in Economics, Business Economics and Industrial Psychology.

In 1990, I worked at Siyazama High school and in 1994 I became a senior teacher. In 2006 I obtained my Bachelor of Education Honours Degree from Rhodes University, majored in Management and Mathematics education.

In 2008, I was transferred to Hector Peterson High school, where I taught Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy. I was fortunate enough to be elected as part of Management, first as an Acting Head of Department then later I was offered the post. I also started doing my Masters Degree at the University of Fort Hare but unfortunately I could not finish because of health reasons.

In the month of May 2019, I became a Deputy Principal at Saint Matthews High school, I am so very happy that I have returned to my high school after so many years as student. I am a hardworking person hoping to put my school on the map of performing schools. I believe in quality results.



News during term 3

Heritage Expo

On the 6th of September here at St Matthews we held a special function about heritage since it is Heritage month. The theme was everything Heritage related. The event began on a serious note with a Prayer, followed by our talented choir. We even had fellow students on duty as ushers who attended to visitors from the many schools who were there that day.

We were then treated to a wonderful play by our very own Drama club directed by sisi Sanga, that play had a very good story behind it and what a beautiful experience it was. Then the students followed that up with SARAFINA and dancing. Healdtown also sang a couple of songs.

Then a young grade 9 learner from St John College by the name of Liyema Magaqa told us the story and heritage behind the eagle on their school badge. It was quite surprising to me that such a young learner could give a speech in front of so many people. But that was very good because she inspired many people.

Written by Natashe Mpondo

SAPS Awareness Campaign

On the 28th August the SAPS held an event at the Umthwaku community hall, they invited the community, and all the schools near the hall. All the grade 8 learners at St Matthews were invited to represent the school, were accompanied by 2 teachers Miss Thompson and Miss Mabulu. The event was to start at 9am and end at 1pm by that time we were going to be given food because the event was catered. That morning two police cars came to escort to the hall because it is a walking distance from our school.

We arrived at the hall, the programme director then addressed us and welcomed everybody. We were taught about the following topics: Gender Based Violence, Abuse, Crime, Domestic Violence and how to react when faced or we come across these. There was a speaker for each topic and they gave us solutions on handling these situations.

Renovations at teachers housing during term 3

During this term Sifunda Kunye did renovations at the teachers housing. We would like to thank Sifunda Kunye for renovating and for making the lives easier for our teachers staying on campus.



Rugby

When i first started playing rugby i didnt even know the rules of the game, there was no stopping for breaks when you got tired and no protective gear. The first time I stepped on a pitch was the game we played against my fellow school mates. Now it was a hard one because we werent playing against each other, we werent used to the people we were going to play aainst. We went to play at the University of Fort Hare as a team of 22 out of the 40 from our school. We won the match against the border team. That is when 18 of us got selected to go to a camp in preparation for a Provincial game.

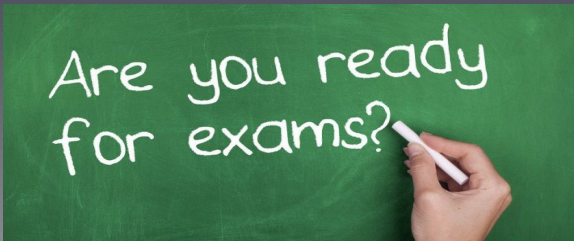
It was the toughest training we had every experienced because we were used to a few hours practice time at our school, but it was good, espacially getting to train with the other more experienced players. The camp was for a week during the Easter holidays, we got along well with the other players and shared our unique skills.

After the camp 7 of us from St Matthews High school were selected again to play in the Provincial game that was played in Port Elizabeth. In tha game, 5 of us were later selected to be in the Border team. So then again, we went on a camp in East London, ABSA stadium for 5 days. It was a very difficult training and 2 of our school mates couldnt keep up with the pace and had to be excluded from the camp.

After that camp the 3 of us, Uthimna Kanana, Lunje Mpange and myself, that remained now had an opportunity to play officially for the Border National team.

On the 15th of June we went to Johannesburg, staying in Jeppe Boys High School, along with other teams from across the world, eg Zimbabwe, Limpompo. We managed to play until the Semi-finals.





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.