

# Union Preparatory School



27 MARCH

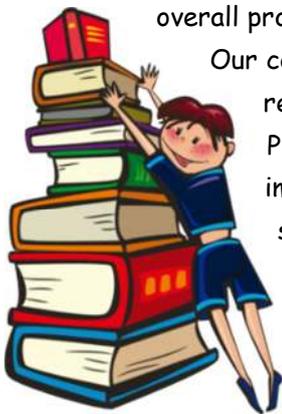


## Dear Parents

We have come to the end of a busy and productive first term. We had lots of fun with our athletics and inter-house gala - not to mention the tennis and cricket matches in which our pupils played so well. Moms and dads, we would like to thank you again for assisting at these events. We would not be able to manage without you. Thanks also to the teachers and coaches who braved the blazing sun while teaching our little ones the skills they need for these sports.

### ACADEMIC MATTERS

On the academic front our pupils have maintained a high level of performance and we are satisfied with their overall progress.



Our compliments to the teachers who, due to careful planning, managed to keep up with the requirements for the first term amid the interruptions to classroom time.

Please study your child's report and praise where praise is due and encourage where improvement is possible. If the teacher expressed concern, please make an appointment to see her. It is wise to intervene as early as possible.

I would like to caution parents that usually the first term marks are a little higher than the other terms. One can expect a mild drop for term 2. It is normal, do not be alarmed.

### CULTURAL

The loveliest melodies have been drifting out of the Music Room. Our musicians are busy preparing for The Music Hour and Grandparents' Tea later next term. We are also looking forward to the General Knowledge Quiz during June.

Our school library is a pleasure to behold. The children love visiting it and silent reading has a whole new glamour about it since they can read in Wonderland. Mrs Du Preez is busy sorting out books and establishing her system. We are very thankful to have her.



### SPORT

One of the rewards at Preparatory School level is, to my mind, seeing how children who started out 'unable' are presently 'enabled' to do things which are new to them, for instance to run straight inside their lanes and to flap their way across the width of the pool. These are great achievements for them.



Our cricketers and tennis players fared very well in their matches, often leaving the fields and courts victoriously. Congratulations to all the pupils who made Union proud and a sincere thank you to the coaches and Mr Steenkamp, our Sports co-ordinator.

At our Interhouse Gala Arnott won narrowly. The event proceeded smoothly and parents and children thoroughly enjoyed the morning. Three of our tennis players, Grace Kemp, Misha Newton and Peter-Daniel Clegg were selected for the EPCD team. Daniel Short showed a clean pair of heels to his competitors on the Athletics Track, which ensured that he participated in the Provincial Trials at Cradock. Well done! Union is proud of you!

## SGB

We wish to thank the members of our new governing body for the unselfish way in which they have made themselves available to devote many hours and much energy to the school. It is sincerely appreciated.

The new parent members are: Mr Mark Hudson, Mr Stephen Bezuidenhout, Pastor Dolan Cochrane, Mrs Jacqui Marais and Mrs Brenda Murray. Teacher members are Mrs Bronwynne Kingwill, Mr Marchant Van Rooyen and myself, and the non-teacher member is Mr Floris Steenkamp.

We are very grateful for all parents who made themselves eligible for election during the election month..



## TEACHERS, ADMIN STAFF, AFTERCARE, GROUND STAFF AND MATRONS

A special word of thanks to all members of staff for their dedication and commitment to the children in their care. The fruit of their labour can be detected in the performance and contentment of our pupils.



## NEW APPOINTMENTS

Miss Shellyn Butterworth joined us in January as Remedial teacher and Mr Marchant van Rooyen filled the vacancy in Grade 4. We are thrilled to have attracted two superb educators in these two. Likewise for Mrs Robyn Bellingan who is serving as Teacher's Aid in Grade 1. Mr Floris Steenkamp is our new sports co-ordinator. We are very happy to have them on our staff.

## AFTERCARE

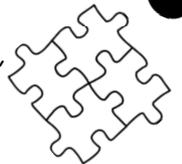


*We have space for two children in our Aftercare Service. If you need help with accommodation for your child in the afternoon, kindly contact the school.*

*We would like to bring to your attention that it is not possible for Mrs Price to give in-depth, one-on-one attention to all the children in the time available for homework. The ultimate duty rests with the parents to ensure that homework is done, checked and signed off. Also kindly help the children to pack for the next school day, checking that they have ALL their books and requirements. Our Aftercare centre needs toys and equipment to keep the children occupied and amused.*

*If you have any unused board games, puzzles, balls, bats, crayons, colouring-in books, arts and crafts equipment etc, please send it our way. We would also like a TV and DVD player for rainy days if possible.*

*Clean out the attic!*



## PARENT SUPPORT

Thank you dear parents, for the way you never fail to support your children and our school. We truly appreciate your enthusiastic involvement in the recent SGB elections.

With the Rugby and Hockey season in mind, just a friendly reminder that children are not allowed **upstairs** at The Union. All children who support teams must wear school uniform, whites or full track suit.

We trust that you and our pupils will enjoy the holidays.

Have a lovely holiday. God bless.

Kind regards

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