



August 2021

SNIPPETS

PRETORIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

FACELIFT FOR THE ANNE VAN ZYL ART CENTRE

By Teagan Hawkes

After more than six months of renovations, the Anne van Zyl Art Centre has reopened, to the great excitement of art students and teachers alike. Mrs Greenberg gave Snippets reporter, Teagan Hawkes, a guided tour of the new facilities...

One enters the Art Centre through a new archway, which will soon be adorned with a sign proclaiming its name: The Anne van Zyl Art Centre. To the left is a 'green wall' – trees have been planted inside a wire cage. As they grow, they will be pruned to take the shape of the metal structure. Straight ahead is a fountain flowing into a rectangular reflection pond, which looks beautiful at night.

The classroom ceilings have been lifted, and high windows installed to let in more southern light. The rickety old wooden doors have been replaced with sliding glass doors. The desks and chairs have been sanded down and some new desks were bought. The floor in Mrs de Villiers' classroom has been fixed

and she now has a big storeroom and an office. Some new furniture has been bought and will soon be installed.

An entire sculpture studio has been built onto the existing buildings. A beautiful woodwork bench has been installed, and the studio has been designed so that the floor can be washed with ease – a tap on the wall can be switched on and waste on the floor can be swept into drains that are built into the floor. A giant-sized basin has been installed for soaking sculpture moulds. Girls will have the opportunity to learn to weld and braze.

A new library has been added, which is filled with beautiful art books. The audio-visual room has been upgraded with several computer stations where girls can research. The dark room is currently being set up and the photographers will soon be able to develop their own film and print their own black and white photographs.

Continued on page 2



Park Street, Arcadia Tel: 012 430 7341 www.phsg.org.za Email: info@phsg.org.za

SUBJECT CHOICE

By Leah Malan

Tension and excitement fills the air as the Grade 9 students prepare to make their subject choice for Grade 10.

The school has published the subject choice form online which can be accessed through D6.

The online form provides learners with an informative summary of each subject and possible career paths

associated with the respective subject. The form also provides insights into mark requirements for university entrance requirements.

Providing learners with this online platform and information will aid them in making well-informed decisions for their future success.

ENGLISH OLYMPIAD RESULTS

By Tazkia Mahomed Ismail

The month of March was crunch time for students from PHSG who signed up to participate in the prestigious De Beers English Olympiad. In preparation, a series of workshops were held at school and hosted by the English Department on several Saturdays before the examination. Amidst idea-bouncing, persona-writing and theory-sharing, diverse literary works were analysed. The staff member involved (Mrs Cÿrus, Ms Jelley, Mrs Oertel and Ms

Dugmore) all had great fun "playing" with the texts with the girls.

The Olympiad consisted of 3 sections, all based on the literature pieces studied, including a discursive essay, a transactional response and a creative response. The responses required unconventional perspectives and thinking.

The outstanding results achieved put PHSG on the map.

Tazkia Mahomed Ismail placed 35th nationally. Paige Beetge placed 50th and Emily Hawkes took the 81st position (this is Emily's second consecutive year in the Top 100!)

Note from the Editor - The school is extremely proud of all the students who participated and the results they achieved.



Tazkia Mahomed Ismail



Paige Beetge



Emily Hawkes

FACELIFT FOR THE ANNE VAN ZYL ART CENTRE

Continued from page 1

The lockers that used to stand in the classrooms have all been moved into a new locker room. The printing studio has been enlarged and it is now much bigger and more accessible with loads of cupboard space.

The ceiling of the pottery studio has been fixed and the walls were raised to provide better sound proofing (making pots is a very noisy process!). In the kiln room, (which is out of bounds to students) there are ovens for firing the pottery and there's now even a glass kiln, so students can do glass work.

A gas line has been laid down in the jewellery studio, so it is no longer necessary to use gas bottles. Unfortunately, there's a bit of a problem getting oxygen at the moment, with all the oxygen being kept for COVID patients. The benches have been raised so everyone can sit up straight as they work. An extra mill was bought, as well as extra drills, so girls won't have to wait in long queues to use the equipment.

At the West end of the Art Centre, next to Mrs van Niekerk's classroom, there is a newly planted garden where girls will be able to paint and where open-air art exhibitions will be held.

Although there is still quite a lot of unpacking to do, all the staff and art students are already loving the fancy new Bauhaus-style facilities and are feeling very lucky to have it all. Everyone is very excited and happy to be back in the Art Centre and they are hoping to produce many good works!



FRENCH COMPETITION WINNERS

By Courtney Gauld

The results of the French competitions, held in Term 2, are out! There was a dictation competition for Grades 10 and 11 and a poetry competition.

The poetry competition winners are: Jenna Pastor, in first place, Ona Khutoane in second, and Jemimah Haung in third place.

The Grade 10 dictation competition winners are: Ona Khutoane, in first place, Erica Ramano, in second place, and Hamira Maukoueke-Mandossi in third place.

The Grade 11 dictation competition winners are:



Jenna Pastor



Onalenna Khutoane



Lorato Daly

Lorato Daly, in first place, Amber Kahumuza, in second place, and Malaika Miteo in third place.

Congratulations to the girls who won and a special thanks to all the girls for participating.

TIME FOR DELF

By Neha Singh

Mrs Bakam, Head of the French Department and part of Alliance Française, has started training the senior French learners for their various Delf Examinations in October. This is the first time that the fifteen- hour training is happening at PHSG.

The Delf Examination has four levels: A1, A2, B1 and B2. On completion of any one of the four levels, students will receive an internationally-recognised diploma that will enhance students' curricula vitae and benefit them in their chosen professional careers.

Students preparing for the A1 exam need to be able to understand and use simple everyday expressions. They need to be able to deliver a fluent introduction and should have the ability to interpret and interact in easy conversation, provided that the other person speaks slow and clearly. The A2 students should be comfortable understanding everyday expressions related to information about their family, employment and the surrounding areas. They need to be able to provide simple descriptions of the above topics.

The B1 diploma tests participants' abilities include comprehending matters relating to leisure, school and work. Students need to be able to describe their experiences, such as dreams and ambitions. The B2, the highest level of the Delf, expects learners to have the ability to understand the main points of a complex text. They should be fluent and confident in starting a conversation with native speakers. And, lastly, they need to be able to explain their points of view regarding a particular topic.

This educational opportunity will help to increase the

chances of employment for those who have participated. The skills they master will benefit them in the classroom and in the near future.

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Celebrating Woman's Month



CHANGING A CULTURE FROM THE INSIDE OUT

By Davida Mukadi

Rape Culture is a culture in which sexual violence is normalized in a society and victims are blamed for the actions of the perpetrator. South Africa has the highest number of rape cases in the world. The question is, how can we end this culture?

"If you want to change the culture, first change the art". These wise words by Alicia Carrol suggest that culture is multi-dimensional which means many elements need to be considered to bring about any significant change. Rape culture is subtle and it takes place in many forms, such as victim blaming, language that trivialises rape, jokes about rape, sexual objectification in advertisements, images that praise sexual violence and song lyrics that promote sexual violence without consent.

The most common element is victim blaming. The social narratives surrounding rape causes victim blaming, deflecting accountability away from the perpetrator. Survivors go through mental, emotional, and physiological trauma and victim blaming only makes things worse.

Boys can also be victims of rape and sexual assault. For a male victim, the social paradigm surrounding rape brings more challenges because males are expected to conform to hyper masculine traits. Gender roles often dissuade males from reporting sexual assault.

We all have a role in ending rape culture.

We can start by teaching people what consent is. No means NO! We can have open discussions with people about rape culture, believe survivors and, most importantly, hold perpetrators accountable for their actions. We can all make a difference if we work together.

FEMMENGINEERING

By Emily Hawkes and Kaashifa Saloojee

Over the July holidays, a PHSG team participated in the semi-finals of the Modiragatsi Innovation Competition hosted by the Engineering Faculty of North-West University. The team consisted of Dimpho Sefora (12 Duncan), Kaashifa Saloojee, (12 Van Zyl) and their mentor, Mr Ronald Prigge (Head of Sciences).

The Modiragatsi Innovation Competition is aimed at promoting women within STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and encouraging girls to pursue careers within these fields, which are generally male-dominated. The competition required the team to create and develop a solution to a problem within the community based on five categories: food, energy and water, gender-based violence prevention, healthcare and mental health, nature conservation and tourism, and township economy.

The PHSG team chose to focus on mental health. The idea was to create an app to assist people living with mental health issues and to provide them with real-time help. "This is a topic that we care strongly about," says Kaashifa Saloojee, "and in today's society, we feel it is incredibly important to help and support people, living with mental health issues, to be able to live their lives as comfortably as possible, without judgement or stigmatisation."

In the initial round of the competition, the team had to submit a presentation of their idea to be reviewed by the judges. From there they advanced to the semi-finals, which took place from 12 to 23 July. During this time, the team participated in various courses to give them the skills they needed to explore their idea fully, such as design thinking, computational thinking, UX design and mobile app development, as well as understanding the complexities of intellectual property.



Kaashifa Saloojee



Dimpho Sefora
Mental Health.

At the end of the programme, the teams submitted their final presentations and reports of their ideas. From these submissions, five finalists were chosen from each category, and the overall winner was announced on 9 August at NWU's "Femmengineering" event. The PHSG team made it to the top 5 of their category, Healthcare and

The PHSG girls have shown that women are just as capable in the areas of creativity, innovation and problem-solving as men. This is an important message, especially during Women's Month, and shows that women should not be restricted or restrict themselves to stereotypical roles - each woman should be allowed to follow her passion.

DRAMA STUDENTS VISIT BROOKLYN PRIMARY

PHSG Grade 10 Drama students treated the Grade 2s at Brooklyn Primary to a show about friendship.



As part of their Greek Theatre course, the Grade 10 Drama 8th subject learners' task was to create a myth to teach a young audience a valuable lesson. The girls decided to teach about friendship, and the result was a fun comedy involving 6 little dwarfs and a pot gold at the end of a rainbow.

The Grade 2s were an awesome audience. They were very responsive and got involved in the singing and dancing too. It was great to visit Brooklyn Primary. We can't wait to perform for the little ones again.

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IN THE JOY OF OTHERS LIES OUR OWN

Over the past 4 years Prital Joshi and her sister have been running a winter hamper drive to help the homeless people in Sunnyside.

On 19 June, Prital and her sister distributed 120 hampers to the homeless in Sunnyside at the Red Cross Society. They did so with the help of generous friends and family and were able to raise R65 000 in total.

"This year our winter has been extremely cold, and many people have lost jobs and are struggling due to the Covid-19 pandemic," said Joshi.

The hampers are valued at about R550 each and contained blankets, gloves, socks, scarves, beanies, face cloths, soap,

toothbrush, toothpaste, masks, sanitiser, tins of baked beans, mixed veggies, tomato and onion mix, peas, sweetcorn, rice, jam, peanut butter, millie meal, biscuits, tea, sugar, packet soups, bread, chocolate, crisps, fruit and a flask. The sisters also served hot potato and bean curry to those in need.

"I would like to inspire and challenge the other girls at PHSG to also help and support our community. I'd like to take this opportunity to share a beautiful quote, by Joseph B. Wirthlin, with you – 'Kindness is a passport that opens doors and fashions friends. It softens hearts and molds relationships that can last lifetimes.'"



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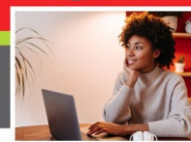
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IRIS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following learners on achieving the academic top ten in each grade.

Grade 12



Robyn
Anderson



Aynaz
Dehghan
Dehnavi



Thandeka
Dlamini



Thandiswa
Dlamini



Cayla
Lally



Megan
Logan



Valentina
Lohrentz



Kayla
Maree



Dimpho
Sefora



Zoe
Sithole

Grade 11



Ashley
Alimohammadi



Lorato
Daly



Chanté
Fourie



Emily
Hawkes



Tazkia
Mahomed
Ismail



Kareena
Jivan



Tumelo
Mampane



Kirsten
Moorhouse



Nashe
Nyamkure

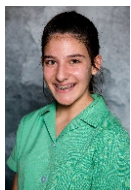


Teagan
Smit

Grade 10



Jessica
De Wit



Raquel
Guimaraes



Anesu
Katsiga



Megan
Pabst



Kganya
Ramara



Christien
Steenekamp



Cecilia
Steyn



Arin
Sithole



Eleni
Tzouganatos



Amé Janse
van Rensburg

Grade 9



Aliya
Cassim



Livvy Dillon



Hannah
Lamberton



Daniella
Lushamba



Jenny
MacDonald



Faye Maree



Kendra
Maree



Kimaya
Naidoo



Anastasia
Niescior



Dunamis
Tanko

Grade 8



Sandra
Alutenkeu



Charice
Barnes



Tyler Brooks



Hannah
Burrow



Gayatri
Gupta



Isabelle
Kasonga



Sze Wei Lee



Harushni
Naicker



Wamashudu
Tshililo



Jade van
Huyssteen

VIETNAMESE EMBASSY DONATES MASKS

Ambassador Ong Hoang Van Loi and other officials from the Vietnamese Embassy, including Nga Ha and Ba Hoang Thani Phuong, visited PHSG on 6 August. The Embassy blessed the school with several boxes of face masks. The Ambassador did a formal hand-over of the masks to our Principal, Mrs Erasmus, and our Head Girl, Thandiswa Dlamini, as a symbol of unity in the fight against Covid-19.



BASKETBALL

Congratulations to Amu Dlamini on her selection to the SA National Junior Basketball Team Training Squad.



NETBALL

Congratulations to Ntando Mini on her selection to the Gauteng Schools Netball U16 Team for the All Ages Tournament in October.



AURIET

PHSG is proud of Old Girls and sisters Samantha and Jessica Ferreira, who matriculated in 2009 and 2012 respectively. The sisters are proud to share their music project, Auriet, with PHSG and the Old Girls Community.

They had this to say, "We both took Music as a subject in school and were trained by the very capable music department of PHSG. We received individual instrument lessons from Valerie Hohls (Violin), Marco Fourie (Voice) and Tronel Hellberg (Guitar) while attending PHSG. Since leaving school we have embarked on a musical journey and kept our music dreams alive. We have just released our debut EP worldwide. We were privileged to work with four principal musicians from the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra on this EP.

We could not have achieved this without the solid music foundation we received from Girls' High."

Visit their official Website (<https://auriet.com/>) - here you will find links to their music and more information about their music project.



DANCE YOUR STYLE



Xena Meyers (Grade 11) was selected to try out for the Redbull Dance Your Style Competition. Of the thousands of dancers in the country, she made the Top 25 (only 2 dancers were selected from Gauteng).

Cast your vote for Xena on the Redbull Dance Your Style Competition site and help her get through to the National Finals (top 16). From there should she make it (with all your votes) to the World Finals.

<https://www.redbull.com/za-en/event-series/dance-your-style/vote-now>

EQUESTRIAN

Congratulations to Hanna Breebaart and Jordi Venter.

Hanna was selected to Tshwane North Equestrian A team for equitation and B team for showjumping.

Jordi was selected to Tshwane North Equestrian A team for dressage level 2 and level 3.



**Support
our School**

STAFF NEWS

September Birthdays

2	Mr D Mokhine	(Hostel Staff)
5	Mrs A Mjadu	(Academic Staff)
5	Mr R Masia	(Support Staff)
6	Mrs H Wright	(Academic Staff)
8	Mrs S Ntuli	(Academic Staff)
9	Mrs A Mare	(Academic Staff)
9	Mrs C Shelley	(Academic Staff)
15	Mr J Molefe	(Support Staff)
19	Ms S Saunders	(Academic Staff)
21	Mrs D Schoombie	(Academic Staff)
23	Mr M Moloro	(Support Staff)
25	Mr N Mahlangu	(Office Staff)
27	Mrs K Brimecombe	(Academic Staff)
28	Mrs M Oertel	(Academic Staff)
29	Mrs J Kutu	(Support Staff)



Basson Dehandré

Welcome and Farewell

A special welcome to Mr Nhlapo who is joining us temporarily while Mrs Lamb is away. We also welcome Mrs Coetzer and Mr Denehere. Mrs Coetzer will be teaching Mathematics in Mrs Basson's post while she is on maternity leave and Mr Denehere will be teaching Mathematics while Mrs Jackson is on Maternity leave. We trust that your stay with us will be happy and successful.

We bid a sad farewell to two long-

time staff members. Mrs van Niekerk will be retiring after teaching at PHSG for 22 years and Mr Shilenge is retiring after 14 years of service as part of our support staff team.

Congratulations

We have celebrated a few additions to the PHSG family. Congratulations to Mrs Jackson on the birth of her son, Luke, Ms Kutu on the birth of her son, Jude, and Mrs Basson on the birth of her son, Dehandré.



Jude Risima Kutu



Luke Jackson

Industrial & Organizational Psychologist



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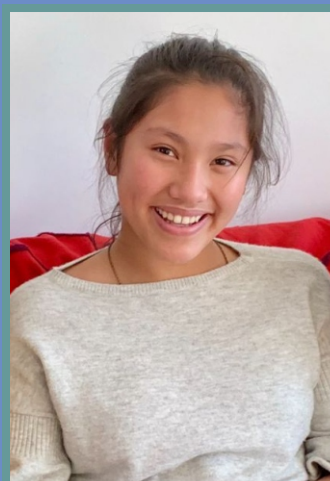
- Subject choices (Grade 9 / 15 years of age)
- Study / career choices (Grade 11 / 12)
- Offerings for learners, teachers, staff, parents / business owners

info@lightability.co.za



In Loving Memory Of

Emerson Villanueva



To Emerson

A life that ended too soon, yet contributed so much to humankind. You will live in our hearts forever: Gentle soul, creative artist and caring and loving being.

From your PHSG family



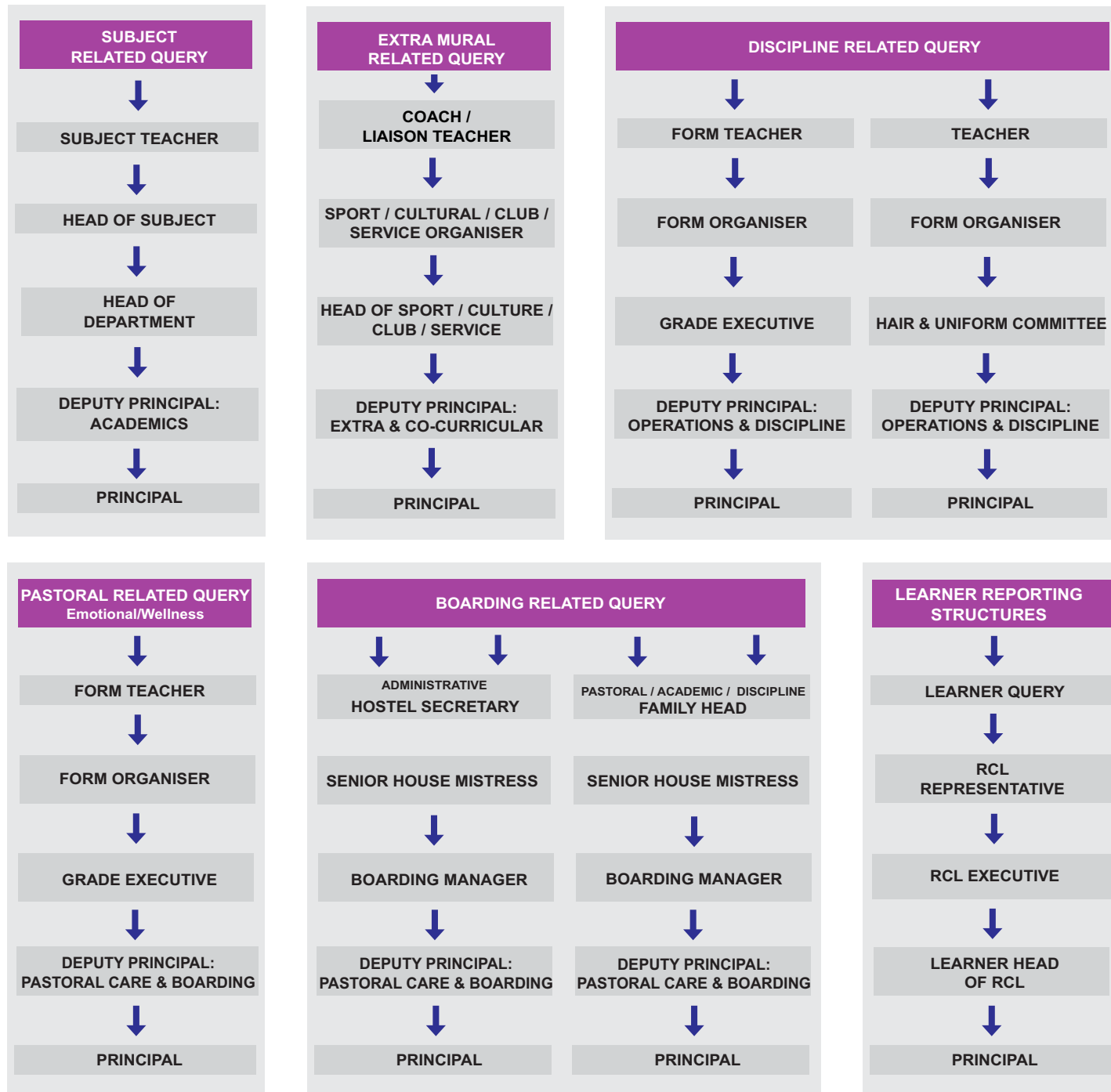
Our deepest condolences to Emerson's family and friends. No one could've wished for a more endearing daughter, granddaughter, sister, cousin, niece and friend.

May you find comfort in your fond and loving memories.

"A life well lived is the most exquisite work of art."

- Erwin McManus

REPORTING STRUCTURES FOR PARENTS AND LEARNERS



Note:

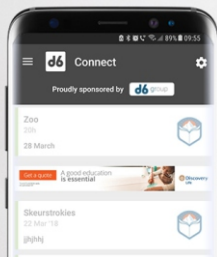
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Should all these avenues fail to address your concern, please contact the School Governing Body.

EVENTS

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Once you have installed the Application, you will need to enter your Name, Surname, ID Number, Country, Cell Phone Number, Password and Email Address.

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