

Daily Update, 18 July 2021, 9:30am



**ST CHARLES COLLEGE**  
S O U T H A F R I C A

Dear Parents

### **Cleaning up boosts morale in the city**

Yesterday hundreds of people of all backgrounds converged on the Camps Drift area in Pietermaritzburg where Asmall's, Makro and the China Mall suffered massive destruction earlier this week. We cleaned up the area in co-operation with the municipal workers who provided volunteers with refuse bags, and trash was continuously being removed by a stream of waste management trucks.

It was a small thing, but physically cleaning up the streets with other people who were just as anxious and afraid as us, helped somehow. Taking small actions which leave the world better than we found it, is recommended therapy that even the youngest family member can be part of.

In the face of so much shared anxiety and fear, we take hope in God's antidote to fear:

"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7

It seems that God's antidote to fear is not courage, but rather love, power and a sound mind.

- 1) We learn that love is an action – we are invited to do something small or big for someone else as an antidote to our own fear.
- 2) We are given His power and we are advised to use his strength rather than our own. God's power and wisdom is never depleted and will never run out.
- 3) It can be hard to think straight at times, but God promises to give us a mind that can deal with fear. We are invited to surrender our fears to Him and He promises us clarity and peace in return.

We know that there will be challenges ahead and many political battles still need to be played out, but we are grateful that *today* there is space to take some deep breaths before we begin to rebuild a better city and country that does not let people reach such levels of desperation that they can be exploited by those who seek power.

Yours faithfully

Allen van Blerk

Principal