



ST CHARLES COLLEGE

S O U T H A F R I C A

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians

The mid-term break almost always signals change as we take a breath and change gears and this change is a significant one. You may be aware that we financially follow a discipline of earmarking a section of our annual income for capital expenditure. This has enabled parents to visibly see their fees at work and to allow the College to constantly improve our facilities. The Board have approved bringing some capital expenditure forward to ensure we have capacity to manage the exciting changes that lie ahead.

- **Science Laboratory**

Our curriculum and philosophy of following a practical approach to understanding Physics, Chemistry and Biology has placed tremendous strain on our systems and the new facility will provide space for teaching and for practicals to meet the needs of our growing Science Faculty. Biology will move into the current Chemistry laboratories and the two old Biology laboratories will be stripped and converted into four classrooms.

- **Grade 8 Boarding and Junior Boarding**

A new wing will be added to the current Senior Primary Boarding, and in December, the Senior Primary Boarding and Grade 8 Boarding will trade places. In the process, new offices for the Head of the Middle and Upper School and Director of Academics will be created out of the front rooms and foyer of the current Grade 8 Boarding Establishment. The Prep Boarding will move into Pennefather House which will be customized to create an extraordinary environment for our youngest boys.

- **Phase II of the new Aquatics Complex**

We have been working for some time on the planning of an aquatics complex which consists of several phases. The first phase included identifying a site for the new facilities. We established that the complex needs to be on our boundary and in preparation, we have already secured the use of adjacent land for parking and have fenced and cleared the space. The second phase which will commence shortly, is to build a water polo pool which can also serve as a pool for swimming events. The pool is to be constructed on Jolivet Field. Phase III is more challenging and certainly a space I look forward to discussing in future updates.

- **A Staff café on the Primary School side of the campus**

Our Preparatory school staff will soon be excited as we construct a new café space on the cricket net corner adjacent to Delalle Field.

Hospitality Review

We constantly review our systems and for the next while, we will be positively focused on hospitality, including our meals in the Boarding Establishment and the options we can offer to our Day Boy community. We are grateful to our parents who give us feedback and we are committed to driving value and the health, and happiness of our boys in this channel.

Sport Revision

The College has planned for some time to change the structure of sport to focus on wellness and Athlete management. In my communication on Thursday last week, I addressed a philosophical impasse and I ask that the change be respected exactly as described – nothing more and nothing less. Measures have been put in place to manage a positive conclusion of the winter sport programme, and we will soon be advertising for the restructured roles required to address the College's future needs in Sport.

Yours faithfully

Allen van Blerk
PRINCIPAL