



**Newsletter no. 2**

**12 March 2010**

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Please make this newsletter available to all staff

### **Catholic Schools Sunday – 1 August 2010 (Johannesburg)**

Archbishop Buti Tlhagale has placed his support behind Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Johannesburg by declaring 1 August **Catholic Schools Sunday**. Schools are encouraged to contact their local parishes and request permission to address the parish community at all Masses over that weekend. Perhaps your school choir could sing at Mass and/or your learners could participate in the liturgy or put up an exhibition on notice boards around the church? Some schools may wish to work together as they may share the local parish! We will circulate further information, suggestions and ideas early next term.

Let's use this as an opportunity to raise the profile of Catholic schools to Catholics living in Gauteng!

### **Appeal for pencils**

The Three2Six School in Observatory is a project of Sacred Heart College to provide education to refugee children. The school is short of pencil crayons and have asked that we appeal to Catholic schools for 200 sets of Staedtler 12s. If your school is able to assist with this need, please contact Kelsay at the CSO.

### **What is the Church's stance on evolutionary theory?**

There is much confusion around the theory of evolution, particularly when it comes to teaching it in a Catholic school! The Jesuit Institute and the Origins Centre at Wits have joined forces to offer a workshop for learners on evolutionary theory from the Church's perspective. An information session for teachers will be held on 22 April at 14:30 at the Origin's Centre at Wits. Parents are also invited to attend this information session.

**In the interests of making this accessible to all learners, the cost has been reduced from R60 to R25 per child, including a visit to the museum.** Please use this extraordinary opportunity to visit the museum and teach children about evolution from a Catholic perspective.

More detailed information was distributed to schools earlier this month, but should you have further queries or would like to make bookings, please contact the Origins Centre:

Ms Theresa Morgan on 011 717 4708 or  
Ms Maggie Mc Gibbon on 011 717 4707 or  
Dr Merrill van der Walt on 011 717 4712

### **Maths benchmarking**

Thanks to all the schools who participated in this year's Maths benchmarking tests! Feedback sessions will take place as follows:

Pretoria: Wednesday 28 April at 14:15 at St Paulus Primary School  
Johannesburg: Thursday 29 April at 14:15 at Mayfair School

## CSB Update

At the Catholic Schools Board AGM in March a new board and executive committee was elected. The CSB has revised its constitution to allow for a smaller board with the aim of being more efficient.

CSB Executive Committee:

Chairperson: Ms Mary Jardim  
Vice-Chairperson: Mr Mike Greeff  
Treasurer: Br Michael de Klerk  
Director of the CSO: Mrs Rosa Calaça  
Archbishop's representative: Mrs Helene Addis  
Gauteng CaSPA representative: Sr Katy van Wyk  
Chairperson of the Ethos sub-committee: Br Joseph Walton  
Additional member: Sr Francis Sheehy

In addition, the following people were nominated/appointed to the full board:

Archbishop of Johannesburg's representative: Sr Lucia Allenstein  
Owners: Sr Janine Coleman (Assumption Sisters) and Sr Francis Sheehy (Mercy Sisters)  
Representative from Catholic schools that have Trusts: Mr Robin Lydall  
Chairperson of the Executive of the Catholic Schools' Councils of the CSO in Johannesburg and Pretoria: Mr Mike Greeff and Ms Penny Maree  
CSO Staff Representative: Mrs Renee d'Oliveira  
Representative of CIE: Mrs Anne Baker  
Chairperson of the Diocesan Schools Council: Mr Zacharia Mazibuko

## Building Sustainable Leadership Conference

The CIE is organising a conference for leaders and governors of Catholic schools in South Africa to be held at Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre, Johannesburg on 9-10 August 2010. Guest speakers include Prof Patrick Duignan, Prof Jonathan Jansen and Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein. Find further information attached.

## Bible study

The Catholic Bible Foundation of SA is offering a course called *Bread for Life* to be held over three Saturdays at Cathedral Place, Berea, Johannesburg. This year, the Bible study will be on the Gospel of Luke. The three Saturdays are 10 April, 10 July and 2 October. The cost is R100 per day. Contact details: Tel/Fax 011 435 7488, Cell 084 831 4534.

## Matric results

27 Catholic high schools wrote matric in Gauteng

11 schools wrote the GDE Matric Exams

16 schools wrote the IEB Matric Exams

Candidates	BD pass	DNO	Distinctions	% Pass rate
1 694	1 298	20	1 752	97.24

## CSC AGM

The 2010 Catholic Schools Council AGM was a huge success! 143 people attended. It is exciting to see the strength of support for Catholic schools in Johannesburg.

Mark Potterton presented a draft sexual education policy for Catholic schools and explained how schools can make use of *Fully Alive*, which is a tool for school evaluations.

Linda van Meygaarden from CIE presented a career guidance programme for primary and high schools which the CIE has endorsed. The CIE is available to train schools on the programme and assist with implementation. Contact Linda on 011 433 1888.

The feedback from the breakaway groups has been collated and will be discussed at the CSC Executive Committee meeting in March.

## **Catholic education theme for 2010**

We constantly strive for excellence in our Catholic schools, but during 2010 we want to ensure that each child is receiving the best possible education that Catholic schools can provide.

*Catholic Education, Quality Education: Doing the best for each child*

## **2010 Soccer and human trafficking**

During occasions such as the 2010 World Cup, many people are hired to provide services in hospitality industry such as restaurants, hotels, bars, transportation of guests and goods. High expectations of employment opportunities are created. Unfortunately, attractive offers can sometimes prove false. Men, women and children can be deceived and exploited. Trafficking in persons is a human rights issue. Sisters from 19 different congregations representing 11 countries have joined forces to plan a counter trafficking campaign for the Soccer World Cup. Please assist by publicising the toll free helpline 0800 555 999.

## **Positions vacant**

Foundation Phase Head – McAuley House  
Contact 0117261310

RE Coordinator – St Theresa's Coronationville  
Fax or email CV to 011 673-1614 or st\_theresas@mweb.co.za

## **Vacancies required**

RE Coordinator  
Charles Alufandika  
072 698 2424

Graduate from a renowned Catholic institution, with two years doing adult education (community development), and three years of experience as an Educator: Head of Department (HOD/RE) and Life Orientation Teacher in an Independent Catholic School. I am passionate about education and the welfare/development of peoples

Relief position bursar  
Colleen Margaret Adams  
073 214 6287  
Colleen was the credit controller at McCarthy Nissan until she retired at 63.

## **CSO Events**

*(Find attached a comprehensive list of events for 2010)*

5-7 July – RE Short Course  
9-10 August – Building Sustainable Leadership Conference  
9 June-13 July – Schools Closed  
11 June-11 July – World Cup Soccer

## **Johannesburg**

19 March – Feast Day: Emaromeni Primary School  
19 March – Farewell lunch for Laraine Roberts  
24 March – Board members workshop (St Vincent's School)  
5 April – Feast day: St Vincents School for the Deaf  
20 April – Workshop for primary school RE Coordinators and all Grade 6 teachers (Marist Brothers Linmeyer)  
22 April – Information session for teachers and parents on the Evolution programme (Origins Centre at Wits)  
29 April – Feast day: St Catherine's Florida, St Catherine's Germiston  
29 April – Feedback on Maths benchmarking tests (Mayfair Convent)  
5 May – Feast day: CBC Boksburg  
11 May – Principal's meeting (Shanahan Park)  
13 May – RE Teachers retreat  
15 May – Feast day: De La Salle Holy Cross, La Salle  
18 and 19 May – Gr 11 Masses (Cathedral)  
22 May – Diocesan Schools Council Meeting  
27 May – RE Teachers Workshop (Marist Brothers Linmeyer)

5 June – Catholic Schools Board Special General Meeting (Brescia House)  
6 June – Feast day: Marist Brothers College Linmeyer, Sacred Heart College, St David's College  
11 July – Feast day: St Benedict's College  
27 July – RE Coordinators workshop (Dominican Convent)  
**1 August – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SUNDAY**

### **Pretoria**

19 March – Grade 11 Mass (St Anne's, Atteridgeville)  
11 April – Feast day: St Gemma's Primary  
16 April – Workshop for primary RE Coordinators and all Grade 6 RE Teachers (Loreto Convent)  
21 April – Principal's Forum (venue)  
28 April – Feedback on Maths benchmarking tests (St Paulus Primary)  
5 May – Feast day: CBC Pretoria  
11 May – Feast day: Pentecost Sunday – Boitshepo School  
12 May – RE Teachers workshop (Loreto Convent)  
21 May – Sports Festival  
30 May – Feast day: Trinity Sunday – Holy Trinity High  
9 June – Feast day: St Columba's

### **Contact information**

Email [info@csa.za.org](mailto:info@csa.za.org)

Johannesburg  
Tel 011 447 9219  
Fax 011 447 9129

Pretoria  
Tel 012 321 2094  
Fax 012 348 8280

**(See below: Information for RE Coordinators)**

## **Information for RE Coordinators**

### **RE Materials**

*The Christian Story* will be available from CIE (011 433 1888 or paulf@cie.org.za) from the end of March, at which point the lesson ideas for Grades 8-12 Theology will be sent to all schools. The full set of *Lifebound* will also be available soon.

### **Professional Society of Religious Educators**

Currently, Gauteng has the highest number of educators registered with the Society, but let's not stop! Encourage your RE teachers to register so as to professionalise the teaching of RE in South Africa. Lapel badges, membership cards and other goodies are being designed for members of the Society!

### **Music recording**

The CIE will be continuing their project to produce a set of CDs to accompany the book *Sing for Life*. Part of this project was undertaken at the choir festival last year. Please speak to your music departments and find out if they would be interested in continuing to participate in this project. This would mean that your school would learn more of the music in *Sing for Life* and would agree to have the songs recorded on a date yet to be set.

### **RE School based support**

The CSO has contracted the services of Ms Marlene Jardine to assist with school based RE support. We will be setting up appointments with certain schools, which will involve a meeting with the RE Coordinator and RE teachers to establish the needs of each school, what resources are required and to develop an action plan. We also hope to establish clusters of schools so that teachers can provide ongoing support and sharing of ideas.