

# “Reach for the Stars”

## The St. Matthew’s Newsletter

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Issue: 2

Date: April 1, 2009

Welcome back for the second edition of the St. Matthew’s Newsletter. As you can see, we have a new name and an improved format. There is more school news and games at the end of the Newsletter. Special thanks go out to all those students who submitted entries for this edition as well as those who helped to put the Newsletter together.

The lead article for this edition was submitted by Colani Zenande and deals with an important question for us all.

### ***What is Humanity?***

Colani Zenande Grade 11<sup>B</sup>

Humanity is to be human, to be human is to be kind-hearted and a helping hand and foundation for someone else. Being yourself and knowing what you want defines the type of future you are building. A building can never stand on its own; it needs pillars to make it strong. Your pillars are you peers, the people around you. This means you have to respect others so that they can help you build your future. Humanity is all about knowing other people’s interests so that you may be part of what keeps them going. As a human, you should be that person that makes someone else wake up in the morning and look forward to their day.

This does not mean that you should live in other people’s shadows. Living in the shadow means that the only reason you are who you are is because you are living someone else’s life and not by your own will. For example, “me”, I sometimes do things just to impress my friends and peers but believe you me, that is not humanity, that is stupidity. As was stated, humanity is about helping one another and being a helping hand and a block to build yourself and others on. It is humanity that opens our hearts and minds to others. It makes you wonder where you are going and about what you are doing for someone else. Let us not use humanity for our own interests but for those of others.

Let us ask ourselves, “What difference have I made to someone else’s life?” Let us unite and be fathers and mothers of the nation not just physically, but spiritually and emotionally. Have Humanity. Have Ubuntu. As South Africans say: umntu ngumntu ngabantu which means “a person is a person with the help of others and one hand washes another.”

### ***Mother***

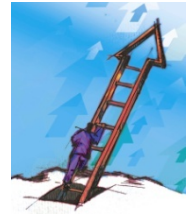
Makeleni Dumokazi Grade 12<sup>A</sup>

My mother’s love is something  
Which I cannot explain, it is  
Made of deep devotions and  
Sacrifices and pains, her tender-  
Love and care gives me strength  
And encouragement to succeed  
Mother!

Throughout the ups and downs  
She goes through just to get  
Me what I want, I feel every

Pain she experiences on the journey  
She goes, Every tear shed thinking of  
My education and how successful  
She wants me to be,  
Mother!

Although she sometimes shouts  
At me when I’m doing wrong  
I will always say she is the  
Apple of my eye and she  
Was always there when I needed  
A shoulder to cry on,  
I will always say she is my priority,  
My Mother.



### ***There's no Rest for Success***

N.B. Galela

Success is a journey not a destination  
A year from now you may wish you had started today  
Every beginner is a winner, success is not escaping  
Problems but facing them creatively  
There is no Success without sacrifice.

Great Success always calls for great Sacrifice  
Even failure can become an important ingredient to Success  
Failure just means that you have not yet Succeeded

I'd rather change my mind and Succeed  
Than have my own way and fail

Success is not what you have  
Not what you do  
It is who you are and what you want to become.



### ***Our Future Depends on Our Hands***

S. Zondeka

Some might think it's impossible and a waste of time to think about the future. What is true is that now is only the beginning of the journey. It might be a very stressing issue to think about, but it is absolutely vital. What matters the most is that your future should be your first priority. Future can be simply defined as the time that is still to come, or a prospect of success and can be referred to as a long-term goal. This starts with integrity. To know where you came from and where you are looking to go in order to become a better person in life.

Patience, belief in yourself, goals, bravery, passion, honesty, responsibility, strength. These are the things needed to face each challenge and to be able to discover your weaknesses and overcome them. These are needed for our future but another necessary thing is faith in yourself and your God. Depending on other people for your future won't make you stand up and be proud of yourself. Some people have a positive impact on other people's lives in a way that gives you courage to face the future ahead of you. Knowing what your life is going to be like in the future is impossible but if you can stand up for yourself and take one step at a time, then you know you are headed the right way. So my beautiful people, why wait???

### ***I Am***

Nobathembu Matya

Let me rise  
So I can face the world  
My obstacle, my challenge  
Who are you to stand and tell me  
Who I am, who I am, who I am  
I was born to be who I am  
LET ME RISE  
Let me feel the breeze  
Let me feel the pain within my soul  
So I can let go  
Let me feel the pain on my shoulder  
So I can let go  
Feel the warmth through my voice  
Let go so I can rise  
To be who I am  
Yes!! LET ME RISE

### ***Life Messes With Us All!***

Dumokazi Makeleni

In life there are ups and downs  
We experience different situations  
Which sometimes make us feel  
Like crying or just throwing yourself  
Somewhere just to get rid of the  
Pain inside you

I have not yet discovered how  
To stand on my own and be  
Proud of the life that I'm living  
But deep down I know the  
Principles to follow and the path  
To take when I'm confused

I may not do everything  
In a right way but because  
I don't want to be messed with  
I will try my best in everything

I do.

### ***Respond to the Bell***

Nonelela Ntanjana  
I thought I would be a  
Breadwinner in life  
But life ended like  
A candle in the  
Middle of the night  
I thought I was  
Making this better  
But I did the worst thing  
I promise not to  
Leave the ones that I love  
But I heard voices saying  
Your time is up  
I responded and that  
Was the end of life.

### ***Answers***

Z.W. Madasi

Why do I have to live like this? What have I done to deserve this kind of life? Why do I have to be the one who gets tortured while I haven't done anything wrong? I get disturbed every time I don't know what's happening in me. There is this feeling I have inside, and when I want to cry the pain is holding me back. My tears are filled with sorrow.

I can see my tears are on the palm of my hand. I am holding them back, I am afraid that they will touch the ground. I can see they are falling, rolling down endlessly on my cheeks for all my life. I pour the feeling that I have inside but I see no difference. People may say there is a long life ahead, but no! I can't see that. All I want to know is when I can stop feeling this way. I can feel the wind is blowing because I feel all alone. There is no one next to me. I don't know what to do. All I want to know is when I can stop feeling this way. I need Answers

## School Activities and News

### Badminton

This is a very interesting game that has not yet been played here at school, but a few learners know how to play. It is played with small racquets and an object known as a “birdie” that is hit back and forth.

#### Game Rules

1. Two players per team
2. The first team to reach 11 points wins
3. Must win by two points
4. Whichever team won the previous point serves
5. Must serve from behind the back boundary line

Badminton is a fun game that is being played on the volleyball court behind the computer lab. If you are interested, please come and join us.

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### New Computer Lab

A computer lab is a room full of computers whereby student are allowed to learn, do their homework and work on projects with the supervision of a lab monitor. The computer program has been introduced to us by Ben who is from Calabar Foundation in the United States. I believe that this computer lab will change many students’ lives. Students will learn computer skills as well as what is happening in the rest of the world. The most exciting part is that we are being taught very well and you do not have to pay a cent to become part of the class.

We used to think that having a computer is just a waste of money and it not useful. Now that we are informed about the importance of them, we find them useful. The computer lab is a very interesting, enjoyable and cool place to be. It gives us an opportunity to explore technology and it makes learning fun.

By: Ntanjana Nonelela and Nkoloti Nasiphi

### S.C.O. Competition

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, an S.C.O. music competition was held in Taberer Hall on the campus of St. Matthew’s. There were 6 competing schools and all activities went well. The High school division winners were 1<sup>st</sup> position: Richard Vara HS and 2<sup>nd</sup> position St. Matthew’s HS. Thank you to all of those that attended the function.



### Scifest Africa 2009

March 27, 2009

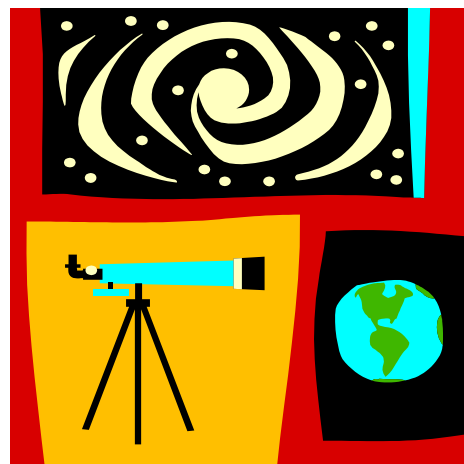
The Scifest is an annual activity held in Grahamstown. This year was the first that St. Matthew’s attended the event. It was held at the beautiful Settler’s Monument on the top of the hill.

At the Scifest, students were shown different careers and subjects to take for each career. They had a lecture on the Antarctic program which was about the impact of global warming. Five St. Matthew’s learners got prizes for asking and answering questions and the lecturer was impressed with the school.

The group attended many demonstrations and lectures. They went to lecture on Robots that keep people company, world of polymers, the universe, climate change, green transport technologies, and a learner competition for innovators and inventors.

One of the highlights of the event was getting to meet the Premier of Science and Technology, Mr. Mangena. They all enjoyed being at the festival and will spread the word at school that “science can be fun”.

Report by Sibusiso Nobatyi.



# Fun Stuff

Look for these words across, backwards, diagonally, and on a straight line: CHICKEN; ROAD; STUDY; HAPPINESS; JOY; BUBBLE GUM; FUN; JOKES; AMERICA; RULES; GAMES; NEWS; ART; THANKS

Write down all the remaining letters and make a sentence. This sentence is dedicated to Ben.

W	A	B	E	T	T	H	A	N	K	S	H
H	M	A	U	N	R	U	L	E	S	K	A
Y	E	O	U	B	F	O	D	R	I	M	P
P	R	R	O	N	B	V	I	A	N	G	P
O	I	U	U	R	J	L	N	N	O	S	I
C	C	F	H	O	O	O	E	L	A	R	N
G	A	M	E	S	Y	K	W	G	N	D	E
S	E	K	O	J	C	W	S	E	U	A	S
P	P	T	R	I	I	C	I	A	T	M	S
E	R	Y	H	O	Y	D	U	T	S	U	B
A	E	C	I	N	G	W	I	T	H	U	S

Teacher: Why did the chicken cross the road?

Learner: Because it wanted to go to the other side.

Teacher: Why did the bubble gum cross the road?

Learner: I don't know

Teacher: Because it was stuck under the chicken's foot.

Sudoku #001 Nonelela Ntanjana

	8		3		7	4		5
	2	5	9		4	7	1	
7	3			5				8
2		7	8		3	5	4	
		1	4				8	
8	4			7	5		3	9
	7			9	2	3		1
5		2	7		8	6		4
	6	3		4			7	

A Sudoku puzzle is a fun game that requires some thinking and Maths skills. The box above is broken

into 9 boxes and each box has 9 squares in it. The goal is to get the numbers 1-9 in each box, in each row and in each column. There cannot be two of any number in the same row or column or box. Some are filled in as a start for you.

Joke by Bavuyise Zele Grade 9<sup>A</sup>

A snake goes to see his doctor. "Doc, I need something for my eyes. I can't see well these days" he says. The doctor gives him a pair of glasses and tells him to come back in two weeks. When the snake returns, the first thing he tells the doctor is that he is very depressed. "What's the problem, didn't the glasses help you?" asks the doctor. "The glasses are fine doc, but I discovered I have been living with a garden hose for the past two years!"

Jumble

Unscramble the following letters to reveal words.

They can be either Xhosa or English words.

SOKINE

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MPTRCUOE

\_\_\_\_\_

GURYB

\_\_\_\_\_

EBTLNLA

\_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgements:

This newsletter was published by the St. Matthew's Newsletter club with the help of Mr. Adabla and Ben. All articles were written by St. Matthew's students. We hope you enjoyed the reading and keep an eye out for next month's edition. Have a wonderful break.