

★ Reach for the Stars ★

The St. Matthew's Newsletter

Issue: 3

Date: August 6, 2009

It is time again to "Reach for the Stars!" Welcome back for the third edition of the St. Matthew's Newsletter as we bring more news and fun information. This edition is different from the previous ones because we got help from Ali (Ben's sister) as she brings more creativity. Get ready to get your eyes glued to this issue. Thanks to all those who submitted their work.

Lead Article

The lead article was submitted by Mkhokheli Bandla and Athi Nyangwa who are in grades 12 A and 12 B respectively.

"How Much Effort Was Put Out by our Matrics?"

Is the question being asked in light of recent examination results.

"We are definitely sure that we as 2009 grade 12s we are going to make our school proud even though we did not do well on our mid-year exams" said our deputy president Mr. M Bandla after they received their mid-year results.

Every teacher at school is asking "How much effort was put by our dear grade 12's?" Someone may ask what prompted this question. It is quite obvious that our seniors did not do well on their exams. Nobody is blaming any teacher because the teachers tried their very best to deliver good and high quality education to students. Let us maybe say it is students who underestimated the difficulty of grade 12 examinations. The Principal of the school Mr. M Gquma, was pleased with the results because he was quite confident that this year's grade 12's will bring back the dignity of the school after last year's "SHOCKING RESULTS" when he told us how he feels about the results in an interview.

"The June performance by the grade 12's was fairly good but improvement is needed especially in mathematics and physical sciences because their pass rate is below 60% whilst they are excelling in learning areas like isiXhosa, English and mathematical literacy. There are also those that need to improve qualities such as agricultural sciences and economics. Generally the performance is giving us hope, provided there is commitment from the learners. I think I should congratulate the learners and the teachers for committing themselves to their work. Myself, as an individual, I am happy with the results because they are giving hope,"
Said Principal Gquma with confidence.

Everybody knows St. Matthew's (the SAINTS) can perform miracles, so let's hope this year is a 100% pass rate because they can do it!!!

By: Athi Nyangwa and Mkhokeli Bandla

Poetry and Creative Submissions

Guest Writer Spotlight

Our guest writer this week is Noxolo Twala.
Noxolo is in Grade 11 at Healdtown High School.

The Streets of Soweto

By: Noxolo Twala

The streets were full of blood
Dead people lying down on the streets of
Soweto
Oh! What a shame!
What a bad thing.

They did nothing wrong.
They were just fighting for freedom.
They did not want to be taught in Afrikaans.
To them, that was punishment.

Freedom! Freedom! The learners wanted
freedom.
At the end they did get it.

The youth today are faced with challenges
They do nothing; they just sit around
thinking of drugs, alcohol and all the bad
stuff.

Come on young fellows,
Let us not be like this.
Let us stand up for our country

Because we are the future of tomorrow.

My fellow peers, let us not forget where we
came from. Let us not forget our roots.



My Imaginary Person

By: Mngaza Bisiswe

When I first saw you
I saw a saint
But you turned-out to be wicked

When I first thought of you
I thought of you as a friend
But you were my worst enemy

When I first knew you
I thought I knew an angel
But deep inside you
Therein lay a ghost

When I got to sleep
There whispered a sweet voice
I thought it was yours

But when we spoke you uttered
Words with a deep cruel voice
Like a lion roaring

All my imagination & thoughts

Day of sadness

By N.O.Ntanjana

Tears of this world always fall like fountain water
Lives of this life always fade like a dried flower
Pains in our sores are roughly
Touched by our loved ones
Our hearts are broken into unfixed pieces of glass
Life seem so long in pain, tears and sadness
But I'll never fade in pain
Nor no tear can ever drop from my deep pain.



School Activities and News

Talent and Culture Day

Report by N:Ntanjana

On the 9th May, 2009 there was a talent and culture day which was organized by the Student Christian organization (SCO) of the region. The talent and cultural day was held for the 2nd time at St Matthew's because it is a well known school in this area of

Just turned out to be vain
I was imagining you to be
Someone who you are not

Class of 2009

Class of 2009

By: Taho Andiswa

Class of 2009 so bold and sweet
Listen to us we shall speak
Be so strong, be so tough
One thing we say just never give up
If we are faced with defeat
We just jump back on our feet
We go one day to the next
Not knowing what lies ahead to listening
To what someone had once said
So I say don't give up or bend your knees
Just shoot for your hopes and your dreams!

Keiskammahoek. The function started at 12:00 am because of some delays. Everyone was welcomed at the function and

everyone had a wonderful time because of the activities. There were quiz questions, traditional dances, poems, games (broken telephone) and music.

Mthwaku, Lungeloletu, Mzotsha and Zwelamandlovu performed traditional dance. Vukiletshwe the high school performed two comedies. St Matthew's

students danced and sang and last but not least there was a poem from Lungeloletu. Even though the function was delayed, the committee of SCO did their best and exceeded everyone's expectations by bringing all the fun and cool activities to St. Matthews this year.

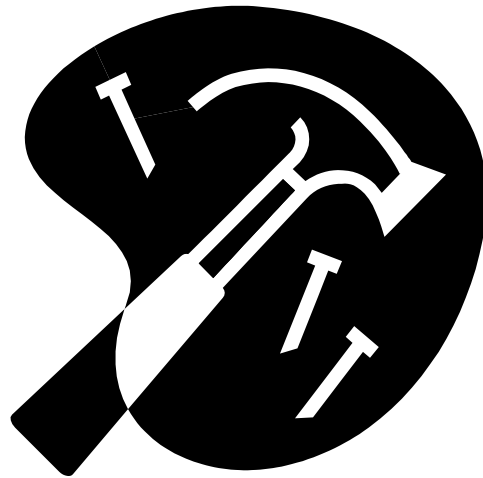
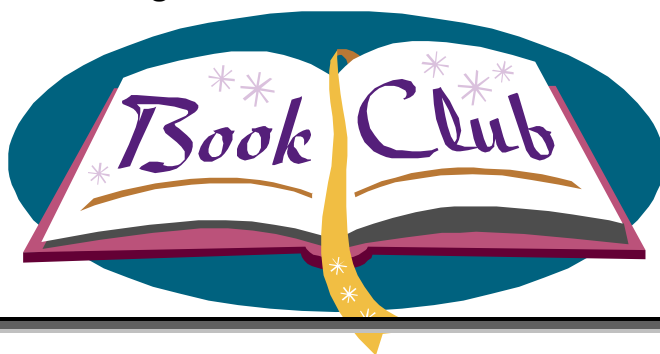
President's Award Book Club

Report by: Dumokazi Makeleni

On the 9th of May 2009, the President's Award members went to St. Matthew's primary in Mthwaku to start a book club. They invited the following primary schools: Nomzekelo, Ndlovini and St. Matthew's Primary. It was a good start and all the President's award members were there sharing the fun.

On the following week we invited more kids and schools like Douglas Rous came and again we had fun.

Our aim is for kids to learn to read and write. We are very glad that this club is going well. The goal is to make reading fun for the smaller children and not have them always in a school environment. This is an encouraging club because we do not only entertain children but we help their reading and writing skills.



Work Around Campus

On the 5th of June, 2009 Mr. Ben, his workers and Trey were working towards paving a walkway under the trees. They did a very commendable job which showed us that they really love our school. They want to make this school a different place of gathering information and education for any student starting from grade 8 to 12. They also renovated a chapel which was a church and they changed it to be a study room for anyone who wants a very quiet place to read and study.

Fun Stuff

Sudoku #003

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

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.

Jumble

Unscramble the following letters to reveal words. They are all English words.

EULB ENASJ

KICEHNC

YSIVREUNTI

NTRIWE

Acknowledgements:

This newsletter was published by the St. Matthew's Newsletter club with the help of Ben and Ali. All articles were written by St. Matthew's students or a guest writer from another high school. We hope you enjoyed the reading and keep an eye out for next month's edition. If you would like to submit articles, poems, or drawings to the newsletter, please contact someone in the club or Ben. Have a wonderful term!