



# Constantiaberg Pre-Primary NEWSLETTER #7

## A note from the Principal's desk...

Dear moms and dads,

With the third term well under way and Spring almost upon us, I think it is time for a little catchup with you all, to let you know what has been happening and what is going to be happening in the next few weeks at Constantiaberg Pre-Primary.

Our Mandela Day collection for SAFRIPOL is still happening and the boxes are filling up. Thank you so much. We are hoping to collect over 300 toys i.e., 67 or more from each class. The competition ends at the end of August. Which class is going to be the winner?

Let's also continue to make our children aware of the environment and how we need to take care of it by recycling and not wasting water. Remember the three R's --- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle..

At Constantiaberg Pre-Primary we believe that play is a key part of childhood. School schedules, fewer safe places to play, media use and screen time are among the reasons for the decline in the amount of time children get to play. We try wherever possible to add in extra fun for the children and parents eg. outings, market days, dressup days and concerts to mention a few.

Many of you parents were treated to a ride on a fire engine when you took your children on an outing to the fire station. Well done for reorganising your day and allowing yourselves to have some fun with your child.

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"The world is full of kind people.  
If you can't find one, be one."

**- Nishan Panwar**



By all accounts the outings were great fun. It is a huge responsibility on the teacher to take the class on these outings and you as parents play an important role in not only lifting them safely to the outing but also helping to keep the children in check and preventing anyone from getting hurt or misbehaving. Thank you for taking the children to the outing.

**“Playing with both parents and peers is key to building thriving brains, bodies and social bonds - all important in today’s world”.** - The Power of Play: A Pediatric Role in Enhancing Development in Young Children.

**“Supporting children to play requires us to remember what life is all about. It’s not about getting from A-Z, but rather dreaming beyond both.”** - Vince Gowmon

During the holidays, our karate coaches, Sensei Terrence and Brandon, were part of the KSI Karate South team that won the world championship. Brandon won gold for Kata and Terence won silver for Kata and Gold for Kumite. We are very blessed to have such great sportsmen teaching our young children at our school. Karate teaches self-defence, discipline, control, listening skills and good attitude, be a buddy not a bully, respect yourself and respect others. Something to think about when you are looking for a sport or after school activity for your son or daughter.

As a sporting country and with our Rugby Boys going to play in the World Cup in France next month, we would like to show our support by dressing up and doing Bok Friday every Friday, even for the warmup games. On the 1st September, the week before the opening match, we will have a Bok dress-up day and we are selling doughnuts to test our Karri App as well. The cost of the doughnut is R10 (more than one can be ordered). If you have not already done so, please download the Karri App and make payment on the App. We would like to do all further payments e.g., for dinner dance etc, on the Karri App in future and this is our trial run. I am sure it will make your lives so much easier and for those of you going to Sweet Valley and Kirstenhof Primary School - they too use the app and so you will be prepared and know how to use it if your child goes there.

Thank you to those of you who take the guinea pig home. Skitty has become much calmer and I am sure it is because she is staying for longer periods of time at each house. I am so grateful that she has not had to spend freezing cold winter nights in the cold office. If you would like to take Skitty home, please put your name down on the list. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to show your children how to look after animals and love them and they don't have to do it forever. It is short term and therefore not a bind.

Last week we celebrated Women's Day and Flo's birthday. I hope you all enjoyed the lovely warm day. Perhaps a taste of what is to come! Spring is certainly on its way with its fickle weather - chilly in the morning but warming up beautifully in the afternoon. It is getting lighter in the mornings which is a bonus when welcoming the children into school in the mornings.

Anne-Margaret is back from her holiday in Latvia, where she visited her daughter. The children were delighted to see her back at school. Thank you Candy for stepping in to help with teaching in the classroom. I really enjoyed my time with the Turtles learning about dinosaurs and fossils.

Tuesday was such a fun day. Market Day run by the Penguins, Starfish, Whales and their parents. I know it can be a tense time standing behind the table with your child trying to sell your goodies, wondering if the children are going to like what you made, but the children have such fun walking around choosing something to eat and a craft to make or play with, and there are so many children, that almost everything gets sold. I think sometimes children forget to give their



ticket in and then they end up with an extra something. But there is always enough for everyone. This year I was amazed by the creativity in the goodies brought to sell. Things to take home to make as an activity, a sensory game where the children had to feel in the jelly to find something, an experiment, jewelery, headbands, spinning discs to name a few, and loads of delicious treats to eat. (For next market day let's remember cupcakes and treats only need to be the size of the palm of your child's hand or the sugar overload is too great). Thank you for setting up and packing away the tables, chairs, bunting and balloons, it looked so festive. The music added to the carnival feel as well (thanks Tash), such a fun morning.

On September 15th we will be visiting the old age homes, Anchusa and Bergridge Park, and performing a concert for them. We will be singing our Spring songs for them. We will be walking there and will need a couple of parents to walk with us. So if you are free and would like to do this please let your teacher know.

The week of the 18th September to the 22nd September we will be holding our grandparents concerts. We are looking forward to all the grannies, nannas, grandpas, pops etc joining us. Please let them know so they can organise to come. Monday 18 is for Whales, Tuesday 19 is for Dolphins, Wednesday 20 is for Turtles, Thursday 21 is for Starfish, Friday 22 is for Penguins. All the children will be participating in the concert but the songs won't always be the same everyday as the focus of the concert will be on the classes whose day it is and the other classes will just add in a few of their songs. Children may go home after the concert with their grandparents. Tea and coffee and eats will be served. Some grandparents love to plant in the garden and we would love some plants to add colour to our garden. If your parents enjoy gardening, please let them know that we would love it if they planted something in our garden with their grandchild.

On September 27 we will hold our Bike Day and will be needing dads to please help. Please diarise this day. It won't be all day. Probably for one hour only as the children get exhausted quickly. More info will follow at a later stage.

That's it for now  
Josette







## Playful Penguins

A fantastic few weeks have been had in our Penguin class. We recently visited the fire station and, let me tell you, this visit was counted down in sleeps! The children learnt some new important fire facts like how to hold the massive water hose and they got to zoom in a fire truck, sirens and all! It was a special time for them and the fire fighters were very grateful for the treats the parents kindly donated.

Great fun has been had learning about Farming these past two weeks. Making butter and 'milking' a cow is super fun. I truly can't believe how fast this term is going and I look forward to the next few fun-filled weeks. Thank you once again to our parents who graciously help and donate their time and resources to making our school function even smoother.

## Sociable Starfish

The outing to the Lakeside Fire Station took place on Monday, 8 August. The fire fighters put in a tremendous amount of effort to make our experience so memorable and exciting. When we arrived, we sat down and the interactive, concrete experience began. We got to see the fire gear, what the different items of clothing were used for and learnt that they have a motion sensor alarm on their clothes. The children and parents were enthralled. Everyone learnt the emergency services number, what to do in case of a fire and how to duck, tuck and roll. We even got to see how the jaws of life open and close.

The highlights of the outing were being able to hold the fire hose and ride on the fire engine. A wonderful morning was had by all.





# Dynamic Dolphins & Terrific Turtles

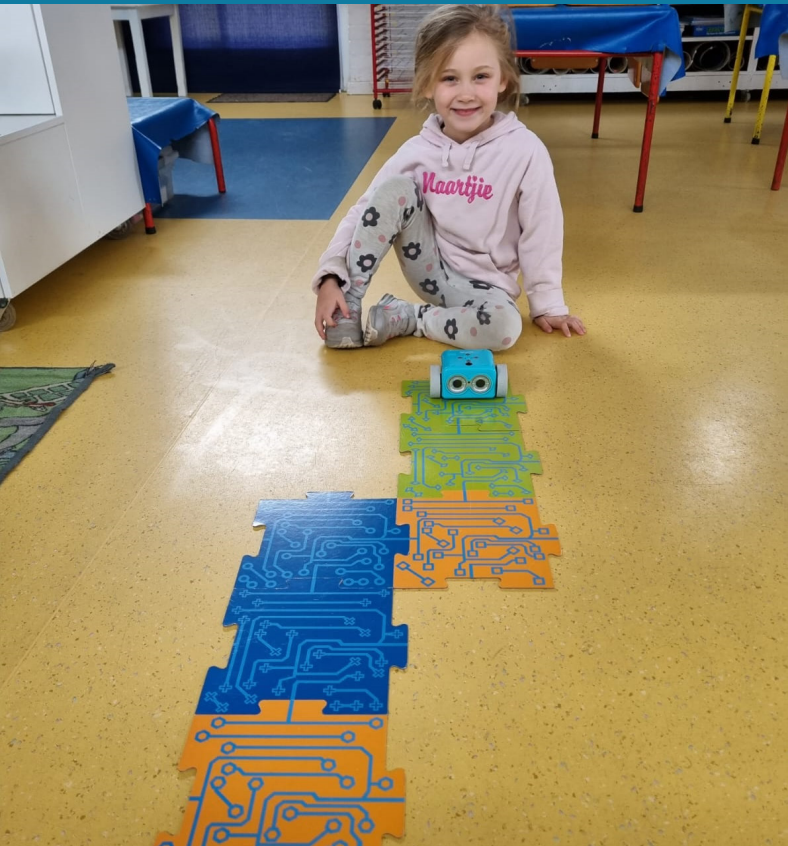
Third Term for the Turtles and Dolphins has been jam-packed with discovery, exploration and many fun activities. We have learnt about the cold, rainy season, birds, fire and dinosaurs. A highlight was visiting the Lakeside Fire Station, spraying the hose, having a ride on a new fire engine and learning how all the tools are used in an emergency. Alex Christie brought his hen, Genata, to school for the morning and we learnt about taking care of chickens. Market Day was a huge success and we enjoyed our shopping experience. We have spent much time this term building puzzles and playing numeracy games in class. We are looking forward to our morning with our grandparents.





# Wise Whales

The Whales have started off the 3rd term with a lot of excitement as we launched both our reading and coding programmes. The children have loved engaging with their new readers and have entered the world of literacy with much joy and enthusiasm. Our new mini robot, Botley, has also been a hit and we have been working hard on using our patterning, planning and logical skills to programme Botley. A definite highlight of the term was our outing to the Lakeside Fire Station where the incredible team taught us some important fire safety lessons before giving us a chance to ride in the fire truck and spray the fire hose. Preparations are well under way for our Grandparents' Day concert and we are looking forward to having our Grandparents visit in September.







## DATES TO DIARISE

- 1/9 Bok Friday Doughnut Day (pay via Karri)
- 15/9 Visit to Anchusa and Bergridge Park  
AND Spring Dress-up Day
- 18/9 Grandparents Day (Whales)
- 19/9 Grandparents Day (Dolphins)
- 20/9 Grandparents Day (Turtles)
- 21/9 Grandparents Day (Starfish)
- 22/9 Grandparents Day (Penguins)
- 25/9 Public Holiday
- 27/9 Bike Day



## Events for EVERYONE

Can you believe it's already Term 3 and we're heading towards the end of the year? Time truly flies when we're having! Firstly we would just like to thank you all for your unwavering support at the events - we couldn't be more grateful.

As we reflect on the incredible journey of this year, we're excited to remind you of the fantastic events lined up to make these last few months of the year truly unforgettable. From our Spring Walk to Anchusa (15th September), the heartwarming Grandparents Day (18th September-22nd September), our yearly Bike Day (27th September), which is a great opportunity for our dads to get involved and show their marshalling skill, to the bustling excitement of Market Day (17th October) where creativity shines, and let's not forget our much-loved Carnival (date to be confirmed) that promises fun, games, and laughter for all.

And that's not all! Get ready to mark your calendars for Friday the 13th October – our eagerly awaited Dinner Dance Fundraiser on a crisp October evening. This promises to be an evening filled with delicious food, lively music, and the chance to come together as a community once more. We can't wait to create magic together and raise funds for the future endeavors of our school!

Your presence will make a difference, and we're counting down the days to share these joyful celebrations with you all!

- Nicky Mackay





*Share a gift. Share a smile.*

Safripol are once again collecting pre-loved toys for underprivileged children as part of their campaign to encourage people to re-use, recycle, re-think and repurpose their plastic.

# 67 toys for Mandela Day

Constantiaberg Pre-Primary are pledging 67 pre-loved toys per class...that's over 300 toys towards this wonderful initiative.

The competition starts NOW, the day after Mandela Day, and each class has until the end of August - that's 6 to 7 weeks - to collect their 67. The winning class wins a tray of cupcakes from one of **The Great South African Bakeoff's** Top 200 contestants!

Colour-coded bins will be placed just inside the door of each classroom for collections and we'll remind you as we go along to get going on that Spring cleaning. Maybe spend 67 minutes this weekend and get your kids involved!