

The Roedeanian

Autumn 1999

As Roedean approaches the beginning of the twenty first century, and prepares to celebrate its hundredth birthday, it leaves a history of success in preparing generations of its girls for their many and varied roles in life - a success of which the School's Founders would have been proud. Importantly the School is also well positioned to tackle the numerous very different challenges that lie ahead.

A process of broad strategic review has begun, to ensure that we will wisely build on the solid foundations that have already been laid. Roedean has over the past few years produced superb academic results, under the guidance of top class and sensitive teachers. Roedean's principles of holistic education take place within an infrastructure comprising good

A Message from the Chairman

facilities, and beautiful gardens which, have an unforgettable impact on all the people who pass through the School. We accept the challenge of applying fresh and modern thinking to all aspects of our School's life while, importantly, retaining the very best of our traditions and values.

Roedean will be focusing clearly on the demands of today's (and tomorrow's) world in the development of her pupils. They will develop a love of learning and should leave Roedean morally autonomous, confident, and filled with drive, energy and poise. As has become evident over the past few years, the School will have to cater for the provision of ever more sophisticated technological skills, and a well defined technological mind set.

The course that has been embarked upon is clear and challenging. We will remain open to exploring new ideas and new teaching styles, but always building upon our existing solid base. Finally, we shall continue to broaden our role as a responsible member of our community, with not only an expanded Outreach Programme, but also through exploring other ways of contributing to the academic upliftment of the disadvantaged.

Roedean is clearly ready to meet the demands of the new millennium and is prepared to adapt to what will be good, wise and valuable for all its members.

Mr David Lawrence (Chairman)

Roedean Welcomes a New Junior School Headmistress and a New Senior Mistress

Mrs Jan Mallen has been at the helm of the Junior School since the beginning of the middle term.

Mrs Benedikte Nott started as the Senior Mistress at the beginning of 1999

A glimpse at a week in the life of Roedean.

Mrs Lorraine Livingstone (Junior School Headmistress) and Mr Frank Simmonds (ISC Secretary and Roedean Board Member) attended the ISC Preprimary Schools' Conference hosted and organised by Roedean for 175 delegates

Nicola Coundourakis (Grade 2) enjoyed the Dog Show arranged by the Ante Matrics as a Matric Dance fundraising effort. The Ante Matrics are indebted to the Junior School for their enthusiasm in so many of their projects

Mrs Nelson, Mrs Asselbergs and some boarders meet to discuss colour schemes and fabrics for the furnishings in the Boarding House which has been upgraded with the kind and valuable input of past parent,

Form 3 learn about the San people in a hands on style n ^raw^ey

Last year the Senior girls enjoyed a talk on birds of prey and here the Junior School listen enthralled as they learn about these majestic creatures

In amongst all these events, real and valuable lessons continue...

Mrs Ann Lorentz at the "South African Garden and Home" visit to Roedean School. All visitors were treated to lunch on Pleasaunce and to a delightful tour of Roedean's magnificent gardens in their summer splendour.

Roedean enjoys a long standing association with the Guide Dogs of South Africa Organisation. Often the dogs attend Roedean functions as part of their socialisation programme. Here the beautiful animals visited us during Animal Week.

Every Saturday Roedean shares computer facilities, classrooms and other resources with pupils and teachers involved in the Outreach Programme. The academic focus of the Programme is on English, Mathematics and General Science.

The children also participate in a variety of special interest groups such as Art, Drama, Modern Dance, Fabric Painting, Recorders and a range of Sports. Roedean girls are actively involved in these sessions and the children thoroughly enjoy this personal contact. All the children participate in computer literacy classes each week.

Roedean girls participate in the Grade 5 reading project at Selothe Thema in Soweto

Roedean: A Benchmark of Excellence

Roedean's 1998 Matriculation Examination results were a fine reward for a very special group of girls who served Roedean well in every facet of their school careers. Their dedication, and that of their teachers, was justly rewarded

when the girls distinguished themselves in the Independent Examination Board Matriculation Examinations. Besides achieving a 100% University pass rate, 4 of our 65 girls obtained 7 distinctions each. They were Natalie Buchanan, Christine Gibson, Kerry-Ann Louw and Deborah Pearce.

It is interesting to note that these

young women were actively involved throughout the year with a myriad of other tasks which indicated their loyalty and dedication to the School that nurtured and protected them.

Natalie has gone on to study Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand; Christine is studying Actuarial Science at The University of Cape Town and Kerry-Ann and Deborah are also at UCT in the Faculty of Medicine.

Vindana Chibabhai achieved 6 distinctions and was immediately accepted into Wits Medical

School. Louise Bennetts, Alexandra Schudel, Kirsten Whitworth and Kate Walters each obtained a phenomenal 5 distinctions while 4 distinctions each were obtained by Wei-Chieh Chiu, Caroline Davidge-Pitts, Shaeera Essop, Natalie Le Clezio and Carol Roos.

Roedean is not only proud of these highflyers but also of all the girls who put so much effort into their work and play to be remembered fondly as a special and dedicated group of girls. We look forward to following their progress as they make their mark on the world.

Information Technology Update

Mr Matlala is running the maintenance of the 120 computers on site and helping with the 28 laptops that the staff have purchased with the aid of the "School Laptop Program". In addition to this, Mr Matlala will be available to assist with staff training.

The Mathematics Department has purchased some wonderful, interactive software, "The .Geometer's Sketchpad". With the aid of Television sets in the classroom, they are going to incorporate computers into their lessons.

Obituary: Modiegi Ramogayane

Modiegi joined St Margaret's Block in Grade 0 in 1991 and she soon established herself as a leader in the group. Her sporting abilities were evident from an early age as were her talents in drama and singing. By her Upper IV year she had been elected as a Dignes, Scott House Captain and Scott Netball Captain. She also represented the School in the athletics and netball teams as well as in swimming and diving. Not only did she excel at all of these but she was always such an encouraging influence on her team mates that to be in the same side as Modiegi was to be on the winning side regardless of the outcome of the match. Modiegi's mischievous sense of humour, brilliant smile and willingness to help children and adults endeared her to all who met her. She enriched our community with her tremendous spirit and strong character and she will be remembered with deep affection as an inspiration and example to all of us.

Mr Matlala is proving to be a huge asset to the Roedean Information Technology Department

1999 has seen some interesting developments in Information Technology. We have completed the physical networking infrastructure of the school and are now ready to run various applications across the network. With the installation of the diginet line we are able to access the Internet in a number of locations, including libraries and classrooms. We look forward to integrating technology into our lessons.

Modiegi Ramogayane

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