



# THE VERITAS

• COMPASSION • INTEGRITY • RESPECT • SERVICE • RESPONSIBILITY •



## Inside this newsletter:

Friday  
27 May 2022

- [Preschool](#)
- [Junior School](#)
- [Senior School](#)
- [Music School](#)
- [TheShop@Springfield](#)
- [2022 Term dates](#)
- [2023 Term Dates](#)

click links



A reminder to please download the new **Springfield Convent School App**.  
[Click here](#) for the links to the instructions for the download process.  
From Term 2 Edana is no longer utilised.



## Message from the Head of School

Penny Mullan

Dear Parents and Guardians

Towards the end of last week, Mr Paulse, Mrs Jansen and I attended the South African Girls' Schools Association (SAGSA) annual conference. This was a very rewarding two-and-a-half-day experience networking with colleagues from girls' schools around the country. Time was given to sharing best practise and we heard from experts about issues that are common in our sector.

During the conference we were alerted to SAGSA's upgraded website. The website contains a section that talks to the uniqueness of girls' schools and opens saying "Girls' schools know that students who are given access to best resources and who are led to understand that serious schooling is theirs for the taking, are students who do not turn their back on life./...

This is exactly the culture of a girls' school and time spent within one is an investment for life." This anecdotal evidence is backed by research that reaches across all aspects of society across the globe.

At Springfield, our education of girls is supported by a history of 151 years and a Dominican tradition that spans more than 800 years, all the while remaining cognisant of the necessity to be relevant as we prepare students for the future. The children of today are growing up in a very different world from the generations that have preceded them. They will also live, work and lead families and industries that will be unlike anything that exists now. They are being described as "the new adolescents". They act, think, and learn in new ways. They are seeking meaningful ways to connect with peers and adults, they have a strong sense of fairness and justice, and they are less accepting of the *status quo*. Curricula are being adapted to meet the needs of our new adolescents and further in this newsletter you will read of some of this work that is happening across our campus.

25 May is recognised as Africa Day and on Wednesday the Senior School students marked and celebrated the day in a vibrant assembly where we enjoyed music and poetry that spoke to the strengths and unifying attributes of the nations of our continent. A highlight of this assembly were the young people from *Africa Unite* who expressed themselves, passionately, through their poetry.

On 7 May, the Springfield Board hosted a strategic planning discussion with parents, guardians, and past pupils. Some parents who wished to be a part of this process, were not able to attend on that date. To hear from more people, the Board has extended an invitation to an additional session that is scheduled for the evening of Thursday 2 June. Please join us if you can. (The invitation is reproduced in this newsletter).

Our school was closed yesterday to pay reverence to the Ascension of Jesus to Heaven. The day reminds us that while Jesus might not be physically among us, He remains within each of us. I hope that you were able to mark the day meaningfully.

**PENNY MULLAN**

Head of School



# Message from the Junior School Principal

Brandon Paulse

**No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite."**

*Nelson Mandela - Long Walk to Freedom*

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Springfield Convent

I am sure that by now you have had a chance to read the letter from Sister Kathy Gaylor, our SFC Board Chairperson. In the letter Sister Kathy addresses the work that the Transformation and Diversity Committee is currently doing and where we are headed.

As part of the Junior School's transformation process of becoming inclusive and a school of belonging, we have partnered with Lindo Mandela and the Mandela Legacy Foundation. The Foundation spent Tuesday the 10th of May with the Staff of Springfield to workshop the book, **Grandad Mandela** as a racial literacy intervention for our pupils from Preschool to Grade 7.

The book Grandad Mandela, will be used as a teaching tool and a vehicle to educate our pupils about transformation, diversity and inclusion. Topics that will be covered during these teachings include, "I am special", "diversity is my superpower", "are we all the same?", "what is fair?", "forgiveness and justice".

We were fortunate to launch the book to our students on Africa Day. The lesson, "I am Special," was incorporated into the classroom teachings on Africa Day. This lesson included what makes us different and what makes us similar. It also challenges our pupils to think about how we should treat people who are different from us. Grandad Mandela allows us the opportunity to live and act on our school values of Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Compassion and Service on a daily basis.

The workshop also covered trigger words, developing a contextual understanding of South Africa and the staff had to reflect on their own identity to build a storybook of their own identity. At a later stage the Mandela Legacy Foundation will create opportunities for parent engagements. Please look out for future communication in this regard.

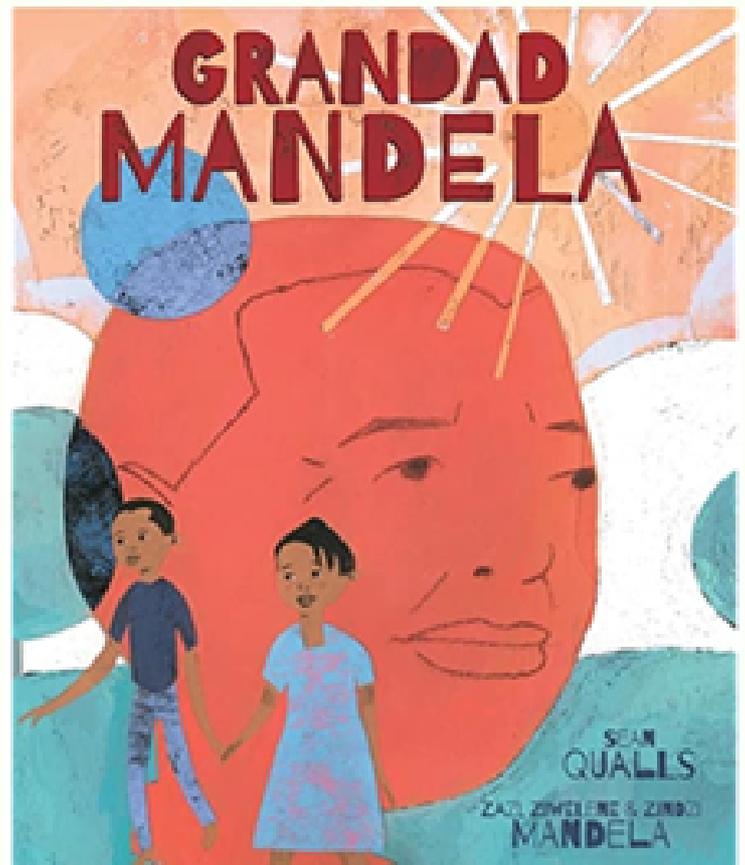
What challenged me on a deeper personal level, was when Lindo and her co-facilitator Mpho, used the Catholic and faith-based identity of our Springfield Community as an example of inclusivity and belonging. She reminded us that God is a God of love, mercy and a forgiving God. God created mankind in his own image and therefore we are created in love. If we say we love God, then we must love our neighbour too.

As we journey through this incredibly significant time as a Springfield Family, may we always demonstrate God's love for our neighbour and mankind; and be known as a community that is welcoming of all.

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

**BRANDON PAULSE**

Junior School Principal



# School News

## SPRINGFIELD CONVENT SCHOOL



Dear Parents , Guardians and Past Pupils

The Springfield Board welcomes your contribution to our strategic review process.

Please join us on Thursday 2 June 2022 in the Music Annexe from 18h00 to 20h30. Refreshments will be served.

[RSVP](#)



Springfield Junior School  
+27 21 797 9637  
[jnrpost@springfieldconvent.co.za](mailto:jnrpost@springfieldconvent.co.za)

Springfield Senior School  
+27 21 797 6169  
[snrpost@springfieldconvent.co.za](mailto:snrpost@springfieldconvent.co.za)

Admissions  
+27 21 797 6169 ext 248  
[admissions@springfieldconvent.co.za](mailto:admissions@springfieldconvent.co.za)  
St Johns Road, Wynberg, Cape Town, 7800  
[www.springfieldconvent.co.za](http://www.springfieldconvent.co.za)