



St Barnabas

School of Specialisation

Rocket Science is a blast

Being a part of the group who had the privilege to attend the course on how to build rockets and gain knowledge about the science behind rockets and how they work, has been one of the most thrilling experiences.

Throughout the course we learnt the necessary skills and endless rules of physics which aid in propelling a rocket into the sky and ensuring a safe trip around the solar system.

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to the school and Sci-Bono for granting us this once in a lifetime opportunity. Thank you for exposing us to the many possibilities of aerodynamics.

- Thato Gugulethu Mawela
(Gr 11)



Sci Bono: Rocketry

Four grade 11 Physical Sciences learners took part in the rocketry course which was held at Sci-Bono from 4 - 8 October 2021. The purpose of the course was to equip learners with knowledge and skills related to rockets and encourage them to consider careers in rocketry. The first two days dealt with the history of rockets, rocket theories, terms and concepts. After all the gruelling theory work, the third and fourth days were dedicated to the learners making their own rocketry. The last day was the most exciting as the learners had the opportunity to launch their rockets. The lessons learnt at this course were invaluable.

- L Rambau





IT

The Gauteng City Region Academy is launching a campaign to demystify the 4th industrial revolution. As part of the programme, our learners were asked to unpack the 4IR in terms of its trends, implications, and career choices. Tinotenda Ndarimani and Boineelo Molusi in Grade 11 were able to design an application that would aid women who are facing gender-based violence. The application mimicked an online shopping store to protect the safety of the victim. This directly links to the needs of society, and addressing these needs by riding the wave of the 4th Industrial Revolution. Caleb Bessit in Grade 12 (who won gold in the first round of the Programming Olympiad), also designed an application using concepts aligned with Artificial Intelligence. Caleb designed a programme for a book store. This program is able to recommend books to users based on their likes and dislikes in terms of genres and/or price. These learners will present these applications to the MEC, Panyaza Lesufi, at the launch.

- R Daniels



Sora

Researchers agree that increasing a student's exposure to words is critical to developing vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, writing, and higher-order thinking skills.

Kids enjoy digital reading, and they read when they are engaged with the material. Digital reading is more interactive, and an app's diverse titles, achievement badges, and avatars make digital reading fun and inviting.

What is Sora?

Sora is a new user-friendly app that is accessible through a laptop, phone or tablet. The Sora app was designed around the modern student reading experience. It empowers students to discover and enjoy eBooks and audiobooks from their school, for both leisure and class-assigned reading.

We at St Barnabas were very privileged to be part of the GDE program for this reading app. It was implemented two years ago but there was some hiccups. During the year we allocated the numbers to the students and explained to them how it works. They were very excited and started right away. It was so good to see the excitement of our students to explore and discover the lost world of reading.

There is a large variety of books to choose from and even little brothers and sisters can also use it. It works like a library, allowing each user to take out three books on your number. With Sora, you can get free ebooks and audiobooks from your school. Digital books are automatically returned on their due dates, so you never need to worry about late fees

It is age appropriate and will not allow students to take out books that are not appropriate. We are so excited to work with it more next year where we will have a STOP and READ lesson weekly. Students then can use their devices or phones to read on that. This app is purely for fun.

This library caters for a few South African languages, like isiZulu, isiSotho and even Afrikaans.

- B Louw



A note from the Maths Department

2021 has been a challenging year but our Mathematics department has initiated strategic intervention programmes that have aided and improved our learners' skills. A variety of programmes such as Olico, Siyavula (online platform), Sci-bono sessions and matrices camps were implemented.

Olico is a programme that is both online and onsite; additionally, a group of WITS students have held sessions with learners with a focus on specific topics that were identified to be challenging such as fractions and exponents to name a few.

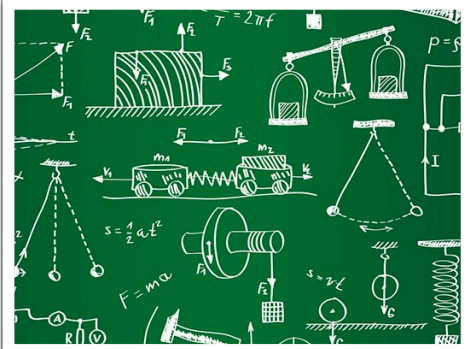
Siyavula, on the other hand, is an online platform that allows learners to practice on their own with the guidance of teachers and Siyavula coordinators. It is an easy-to-use Mathematics and Physical Sciences program that helps learners to practice and view answers to what they have been practising immediately.

Learner thoughts on Siyavula:

"Siyavula has been beneficial to me in so many ways. It has helped me to be ready for my exams with the exam prep. It has helped me stay top of my class by learning ahead. I am able to connect to Siyavula at any time and practice daily and that has helped me improve my maths skills. Siyavula has corrections that help you identify your mistakes and correct them in your next questions. This has been my first year using Siyavula and it has been very beneficial to me". - Awande Xaba (Gr 8)

"Siyavula has helped me a lot throughout the year. It has helped me gain knowledge and understand Maths better. Siyavula kept me busy by occupying my mind with Mathematics in my free time". - Taylon Mapping (Gr 8)

"Siyavula assignments such as the one the teachers have made for us have really helped when practicing before going to school as it helps me to remember most of the work easily. It is also beneficial during exams to practice the days before the exams. It has helped so much for even the smaller activities when I get them wrong, as it gives a clear explanation and correction. It has helped me very much this year". Fayyaaz Daniels (Gr 8)

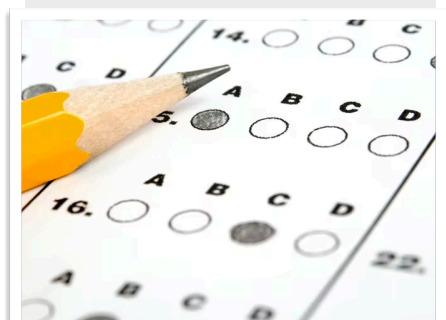


South African Physics Olympiad and Physical Sciences Olympiad

Two grade 12 physical Sciences learners (Tenique Kayter and Caleb Bessit) participated in the Physics Olympiad on the 16th of August. Caleb Bessit made us extremely proud when he received the bronze award and cash prize for obtaining the third position nationally, with score of 74%.

Grade 10-12 top learners in Physical Sciences participated in the Physical Science Olympiad on the 30th of September. The paper consisted of Physical Sciences content from Grade 10-12 with the aim of encouraging learners to study Physics and raise awareness of physics.

L Rambau



Sci-bono teachers helped our learners prepare for examinations; sessions were interesting and fun.

This year has been tough for our matrics, but with programmes like the Mathematics camp and other intervention strategies, our grade 12 learners have been well aided to effectively prepare for the final exams. Below are pictures of the different programmes, specifically the matric camps.

- K Moashetsi



Matric Farewell 2021

The matric farewell for the class of 2021 was a success, regardless of the challenges presented prior to the event. The learners dressed smartly and showed up looking beautiful and excited. They were dropped off by happy and supportive parents who made the event memorable with fancy cars, scooters and other family members cheering them on.

Learners were greeted by Ms Mbatha and her photography skills as they opened the car doors.

After the red carpet, learners were ushered to the welcome area where they were served welcome drinks, socialised and admired each others outfits.

The night proceeded with Mr Smith as MC. Mr Molefe and Ms Kassen delivered beautiful speeches with touching, inspiring words that will remain with learners forever .

Throughout the evening, learners behaved maturely and responsibly. The buffet provided an opportunity for the learners to mingle and show off their outfits .

The night ended with a parade and every learner was well-dressed.

- H Mbatha





COP 26 Climate Change Conference

The COP-26 conference on climate change was held in Glasgow in November this year. To coincide with this event, our Grade 10 and 11 Geography learners were invited to present assemblies to raise awareness on climate change. The Wildhearts Global Youth Summit invited our school, among others, to participate. This provided learners with the opportunity to research the effects of global warming on a local scale and present findings to their peers. In their presentations, our climate change ambassadors shared why it is so important for everyone to take action today to save our environment.

- M Essop



School reopens

School re-opens on Wednesday, 12th January 2022 for Grade 8, Grade 10 and Grade 12. Grade 9 and Grade 11 will return on the 17th January 2022. Our school timetable will follow an alternate week model.

12 January 2022	Grade 8, Grade 10, Grade 12
17 January 2022	Grade 9, Grade 11, Grade 12

School Fees 2022

In the AGM that was held on Wednesday, 8 Dec 2021, the school fees for next year were decided on. It was agreed that the fees would increase by 6%.

School fees for 2022 will thus be R13069.80. The Boarding House fees will be R19366.20.

Acting Principal's Address

So often we let our environment, how we were raised and other people's expectations of us set limits for our lives. We must instead adapt to what's around us. If you take an oak tree seed and plant it in a pot, that oak tree will never become what it was created to be, not because there's something wrong with the seed, but because of the environment that it's in. It's so easy to just fit in and be like everyone else. You were not created to be average. You were created to stand out, to go beyond the norm, to leave your mark on the world. Class of 2021, you have seeds of greatness inside of you. You're supposed to go further than the people around you and set new standards. You may be in an environment where people have addictions, low self-esteem, depression and experience poverty. But here is the key: don't let that become your norm. If you accept that as who you are, it will keep you from your destiny.

Ntsako Baloyi was our guest speaker at the Honours ceremony a few weeks ago and what he said still echoes in my mind. "If I were a street sweeper, I would be the best street sweeper ever". Define yourself, in the space that you will find yourself in the future, as great... better yet as excellent.

Three things I want you to remember because life will humble you:

1. There is a thin line between confidence and arrogance, stay on the side of confidence.
2. Have a sense of occasion, do not laugh and dance at a funeral.
3. There is no residential area, job or profession that is beneath you. The world has a plan for all of us, let us be great at whatever life throws at us.

With that said, remember the oak tree... do not limit yourself to the environment you find yourself in. Grow, evolve and excel.

We are St Barnabians, that means we are honest life-long learners who strive for excellence with integrity and mutual respect.

- B Molefe



Afrikaans is plesierig!!!!

Daar word soms gevra: Hoekom doen ons nog Afrikaans?

Afrikaans is so deel van ons land en sy mense dat self die woord LEKKER orals gebruik word. Afrikaans het soveel woorde wat van ander tale afkom, soos abba, tjaila, hoesit dat dit 'n deel van ons almal is.

Ons hier by St Barnabas is bevoorreg om drie moedertaalsprekers te hê wat ons kinders die juweeltjies in Afrikaans help ontdek. Onder die leiding van Juffrou Jason wat baie kleurvol is, staan Juffrou Mendle en Mevrou Louw.

Jaar na jaar kry ons department uitstekende uitslae en die meeste onderskeidings.

Ons kan dit nie alleen doen nie. Die ouers en kinders se positiewe houding teenoor Afrikaans maak dit vir ons 'n plesier om die pad saam met julle te stap.

Dankie.

- Afrikaans Department