

# College Chatter

Issue  
#36



## From the Helm

As a country we celebrate Women's Month in August. We reflect on the roles that women play in our homes, at our schools and in society as a whole. We note the struggles and sacrifices as well as the successes, both personally and as collectives which have been achieved and we, sadly, remain aware of the injustices and inequality which still exists.

As a school we celebrated women in two meaningful ways. Firstly we announced our leaders for 2019. Young women who have felt convicted to apply for positions of service, who were voted for by their peers, interviewed and who have duly been appointed. They have spoken with conviction of their desire to lead and they are committed to the outcome they have set themselves.

Secondly we hosted our second girltalk@dgc summit. I must admit to being emotionally choked up as I entered the Lecture Theatre to open the Summit on Women's Day. The auditorium was buzzing with excitement and anticipation. Young women from both local and international schools sat together eagerly. The collective potential overwhelmed me! The theme of the summit "Success Demands Purpose" was challenging for both speakers and attendees. The meaning of true success, the challenge of the choices we make and the goal we strive to achieve were unpacked by speakers ranging from advocates to rap artists, rape survivors to those who had been

convicted of crime, medical practitioners to school counsellors and others. The recurrent theme, including that of being authentic, was that we are challenged to be accountable for our decisions, but that we need to look beyond ourselves to society and the difference we can make to the lives of others. That as women, this is often more challenging than for men. That we need to stand strong, and voice our anger, but that it should always be constructive.

In order to demonstrate that we do indeed value women and look beyond ourselves a portion of each delegate's summit fees was donated to three charities: Project Dignity, Thusong Youth Centre in Alexandra Township and The Jes Foord Foundation.

The girltalk@dgc initiative sets our school apart and we can be proud of what has been achieved in two years and look forward to what is still to come. I end with words from Ms. Andrea Gabriel, a Senior Advocate: "Those students asked such incisive questions during and after the talk. I am truly inspired by the work that the school is doing and by the students themselves. I cannot get over how mature and wise all these young ladies are."

*Marianne Bailey*  
Executive Head



*We are delighted to announce our new Matric Leaders for 2019 from right to left: Emma Sharratt (Head Girl), Ara Naidoo (Deputy Head: Administration), Andrea Reddy (Deputy Head of SRC), Mbali Jula (Head of SRC), and Georgina Saulez (Deputy Head: Conduct). Congratulations girls, we are confident that you can fill the very 'big shoes' which will be left by our Matric leadership of 2018*

# Junior Primary



The Grade 2s had a wonderful outing to the Botanic Gardens where they learnt about indigenous plants and the use of our senses in exploring nature. They visited the butterfly enclosure, beautiful orchid house and enjoyed a long walk around the gardens. Their picnic under the majestic trees was very special.



The Grade 3s enjoyed the isiZulu festival hosted by Clifton. A fun interactive morning was had by all.



# High School



HS Grade 11 History Evening

Our History Department hosted a fun Grade 11 Gatsby themed social and quiz evening on 2 August attended by our Grade 11 girls as well as History students from Clifton and Our Lady of Fatima.



# Senior Primary

Grade 4 girls enjoying their excursion to Dlinza Forest and Shakaland: 15 – 17 August



Grade 5 girls enjoying their excursion to Baynesfield.



Grade 6 girls enjoying their excursion to Wagondrift - 14 – 16 August



# girltalk@dgc2018

Embarking on the second girls-only summit this year has proven to be more special than I could have imagined.

The birth of the girl.talk concept in the latter part of 2016 came as a result of four of our Grade 11 girls attending a youth leadership summit just outside Washington DC. Upon their return, it was recognised that there were pressing social issues that were being spoken about at these conferences and ultimately being addressed on a global scale, but nothing meaningful was available here in South Africa. There was a demand for a platform with a local focus which gave girls the opportunity to explore female-focused issues.

I facilitated the creation of a summit, which became girl.talk@dgc2017, with the theme 'BE BRAVE, NOT PERFECT'. This inaugural girls-only event played host to meaningful contributions from 21 amazing speakers over three days. Girls explored issues surrounding education, health and the media and were able to engage with both the speakers and the 94 delegates from 16 schools.

This year's theme was 'SUCCESS DEMANDS PURPOSE'. Speakers were approached and agreed with massive enthusiasm to give of their time and expertise, and were hugely supportive of the initiative. The three days would focus on the theme and topics would be relatable. Girls would easily identify with the speakers stories and ultimately their message.

The speakers encouraged the delegates to interact and engage with them, in either one-on-one interviews or panel discussions, where more than one specialist in a field was present. There was a real connection between the audience and the presenters and the conversations were open, intelligent and free. The space where they shared words, thoughts and experiences was free from judgement and became a safe haven where there was great support for one another.

Through the journey to find real purpose, I suggested that as part of the registration fee, the girls should have the opportunity to give back to the community and to make a difference by attending the summit. The three chosen charities were Project Dignity, Thusong Youth Centre in Alexandra Township and The Jes Foord Foundation.

Each delegate donated washable and reusable pads and panties to a rural school girl so that she too could attend lessons all month. A donation to Thusong will enable young girls to have access to sanitary pads and other feminine products and the Jes Foord Foundation will hopefully be able to buy their much needed 4x4 vehicle to allow them to reach communities which are currently unreachable due to poor road conditions.

This year we welcomed 149 delegates from 34 schools including the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in Meyerton, St George's School for Girls in Scotland, Downe House School from the UK and a delegation of 10 from an American partner school in Virginia, Rock Ridge High School.

One can only begin to imagine how this has impacted on the lives of the girls who were selected to represent their schools at this event. Many came from less fortunate schools and environments and were given the opportunity to offer prospective and insights that would ordinarily not be shared with such a large, very diverse, all-girl group. My wish for all these girls is that they see that this kind of opportunity is rare, as is the interaction and connection that it offers, encourages and feeds.

I know now without doubt that these 149 girls were "born for a time such as this".

*Sue Meehan*  
*Exchange & Global Initiatives*



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# Results

## HIGH SCHOOL

### Soccer:

The 1st team girls played in an age group tournament at Kloof High School. They had a fun day of soccer and improved on their skills. DGC played well throughout the day but only managed to draw 1 game and lost 3. The scores do not reflect their great team spirit and the fantastic soccer that they played.

Congratulations to the following girls who have been selected for the Durban Central Football Teams. They will be up for selection into the KZN Touring Team. All the best for Sunday. We will be holding thumbs for you!

U19 - Nonkhosi Nkosi, Amba Brown and Sana Osman  
U15 - Julia Burnett, Saabira Amod and Izel Barnard  
U14 - Asanda Msomi, Sarah Andrews, Tanna de Freitas, Bianca Borrageiro and Rouxle Johnstone

DGC vs Toti  
U14 drew 0-0  
U16 drew 0-0  
1st lost 1-0

### Tennis:

DGC has had a fantastic start to the singles tennis league this term. DGC 1st team beat Curro - 3 matches to 0  
DGC 2nd team beat Hillcrest - 3 matches to 1  
DGC U16A beat St Mary's - 3 matches to 0  
DGC U16B unfortunately lost 3 matches to 0 against Crawford La Lucia

### Netball:

Well done to the DGC Action Netball team who played their first match against Kuswag and won 27-19. Keep up the great teamwork!

Another incredible achievement for all our outdoor netball teams is that DGC came 1st in the B league last term. Well done to all the netball players!

Good Luck to all the girls taking part in the Action Netball Trials on Sunday!

### Hockey:

Well done to all the U16A hockey girls who took part in the Top 10 SA Schools Hockey Tournament held in Cape Town over the long weekend. They had a wonderful weekend of superb hockey and accomplished an incredible result.  
Vs St Mary's Waverly lost 1-0  
Vs Oranje drew 0-0  
Vs Collegiate won 1-0  
Vs Garsfontein won 2-0  
Vs Paarl Vallei won 2-1

DGC ended up 1st in their pool and played against St Anne's in the semi-final, beating them 2-1. In the final DGC played against Menlo Park. The end score was 0-0 which meant that one-on-ones needed to be played to decide the winner. It was a very close contest but unfortunately DGC lost 4-2. This was a fantastic achievement as DGC was ranked 8th going into the tournament and walked away placing 2nd overall.

## SENIOR PRIMARY

### Bi-athlon:

Bailey Bartlett participated and completed the Mini Tin Man Bi-athlon on Sunday 12 August.

### Tennis:

Our tennis team played the second round of the singles league against Kuswag on Monday 6 August. They played extremely well and all the matches were tightly contested.  
Final result: DGC 2 - Kuswag 6

### Hockey:

On Tuesday 7 August DGC played against Glenwood Prep at DGC. Our girls played extremely well and are to be congratulated on very good results:  
U10A won 3 - 1  
U10B lost 0 - 4  
U11A won 2 - 1  
U11B drew 1 - 1  
U13A drew 1 - 1  
U13B drew 0 - 0

### Debating:

On Monday 6 August, our debaters took part in their first debate of the season, hosted by Glenwood Prep. The motion was "This House believes that homework is a waste of time". DGC sent two teams, one debating as the proposition against Eden, and the other debating as the opposition against Penzance.

The teams were as follows:

Proposition:  
Zara Jackson  
Jia Patel  
Kimiera Jeewan  
Reserve - Makayla Holmes

Opposition:  
Zoe Pearson  
Aaliya Motala  
Jordan Hancock  
Reserve - Zahraa Ahmed

Both teams did a superb job, especially considering that this was the first debate for most of them. Both teams lost their debates. Jordan Hancock was awarded Best Speaker.

# The Week Ahead

MONDAY 20 AUGUST - SUNDAY 26 AUGUST

Monday 20	<p><b>Day 6</b>          JP: Love Languages Book sent home for parents: Gr 1D          SP: 14h30: U10 &amp; U11 Hockey vs Umhlali: DGC          HS: 15h00: U16 A Tennis vs Crawford La Lucia: DGC          HS: 15h00: U16 B Tennis vs Fatima: Fatima</p>
Tuesday 21	<p><b>Day 7</b>          HS: 15h00: 1st Tennis Team vs St Mary's: Westridge          HS: 15h00: 2nd Tennis Team vs DGHS: DGHS          JP &amp; SP: 15h30: U9 &amp; U13 Hockey vs Umhlali: DGC          SP: 16h00-17h30: Choir Festival in the Hills Rehearsal: DPHS</p>
Wednesday 22	<p><b>Day 8</b>          HS: 17h30: Marketing Evening for Prospective Pupils: Simbithi Country Club          Muslim Eid-ul-Adha (Day of Sacrifice – Muslim learners will not attend school)</p>
Thursday 23	<p><b>Day 9</b>          SP: 13h45-14h45: Staff Workshop: Fiona Marshall: 8 foods for the Soul: SP Drama Room          SP: 14h30: Hockey vs Crawford La Lucia: Crawford La Lucia          HS: 15h00: Soccer vs Fatima: Crusaders</p>
Friday 24	<p><b>Day 10</b>          SP: 13h00-20h00: Choir Festival in the Hills Concert: Curro Hillcrest          SP: 14h30: Cross Country League: Atholton          SP: 16h00: U13 Hockey Festival: DGC          SP: u13 Swimming: "The Hill Cup": Lahee Park Pool</p>
Saturday 25	<p>SP: 08h00: U13 Hockey Festival: DGC</p>
Sunday 26	

“ It is vital that **every girl determines, as early as possible, who she is and what her contribution to humanity will be.**”

*Thuli Madonsela*