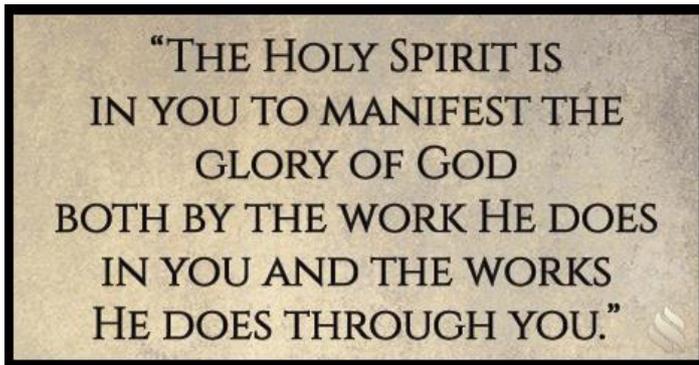


## Welcome to Term Four

As we approach the bend for the final stretch of the year, we do so in hope of what God will do in us and through us as a school. We are so grateful for God's continued grace upon PEPPS and my prayer remains that PEPPS be a place where God's glory be made manifest in and through every pupil and staff member. Let us finish this year strong in a unified hope.



Term Three ended with shared cupcakes and civvies to celebrate both our **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** and **Heritage Day** respectively. Both our origin, journey and ongoing success as a school and the cultural diversity that exists among us, were commemorated and cherished. **Happy Birthday, PEPPS!**



We also ended on a **Genius Hour** high with the presentations of the pupils' self-directed projects. It was thrilling to witness the power of choice and the tenacity that gets exhibited when children want to achieve their own goals. Our Genius Hour week had some children creating their own digital animations, videos and games while others produced their own music compilations. Some learnt how to use different art mediums and practised new methods while others choreographed their own dance after learning new moves. Some built cars, robots or Lego or Minecraft mansions. Some sewed new garments while others researched topics like criminology. One pupil wants to create his own media network one day and did a survey comparing current satellite and live streaming options. Young scientists hypothesised, tested and drew conclusions. It was **EXHILARATING!**



Our young budding geniuses strengthened their executive function skills as they set goals, planned, tried, failed, corrected and retried. They demonstrated GRIT as they resolved to try again. They gained confidence as they experienced success.

Genius Hour need not be limited to one week a year at school. Children are curious by nature and as parents and teachers we are to encourage them according to their interests and talents.

They may not be naturally keen on mathematics or sciences but we must allow them opportunity to hone their own interests and thereby sharpen the edges of their unique puzzle piece shape. Each child has something unique to contribute.



With Covid, an ever-present reminder of our vulnerability, I ask that each family remain vigilant when gathering socially and make it a priority to get your family vaccinated as quickly as possible. Our safety protocols at school remain in place and will be practised during the school day and at the extra-curricular activities. We cannot afford to lose face-to-face teaching time and we all need to work together to ensure that we have an uninterrupted on-campus final term.

We are in for an eventful fourth term. Our extra-curricular programme commences on Monday 11 October with Culture on Monday and Wednesday and Sport on Tuesday and Thursday. Our Grade 3 and Grade 6 pupils will write International Benchmark Tests – Reasoning Skills (28/10) and Mathematics (3/11). We will have a Foundation Phase Fun Sports Day (29/10) and a Tabloid Sports Athletics Day for Grade 3-6 (4/11). We have 6 weeks to wrap up our academic programme before embarking on final exams. We look forward to our Welcome to Grade 1 and Farewell to Grade 7 Bell Ringing Ceremonies and, to top off the year, we will celebrate with our top achievers at the Annual Gala Prize-giving events.

As pupils enjoy the last few days of their school holidays, I want to remind you of the extra credit activities that are on myHomework. These are due to the respective teachers by Friday (15/10).

Yours in pursuit of excellent education



*Amanda Korff*

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