



KEARSNEY COLLEGE

News & Views

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KEARSNEY COLLEGE
1921 to 2021



TERM 1 | MARCH 2021

Kearsney's year of Distinction

The release of the 2020 IEB results gave reason to celebrate, with confirmation that the average mark in five subjects, including Mathematics, was a distinction (80 percent and over).

Kearsney's academic excellence was endorsed by the news that over a quarter of the Class of 2020 achieved five or more distinctions and 100% achieved a university exemption pass (Batchelor Degree).

In both Mathematics and Physical Sciences over half of the boys achieved distinctions. It is the tenth consecutive year that Kearsney's Mathematics and Science distinction rates have been at least approximately double those of the IEB.

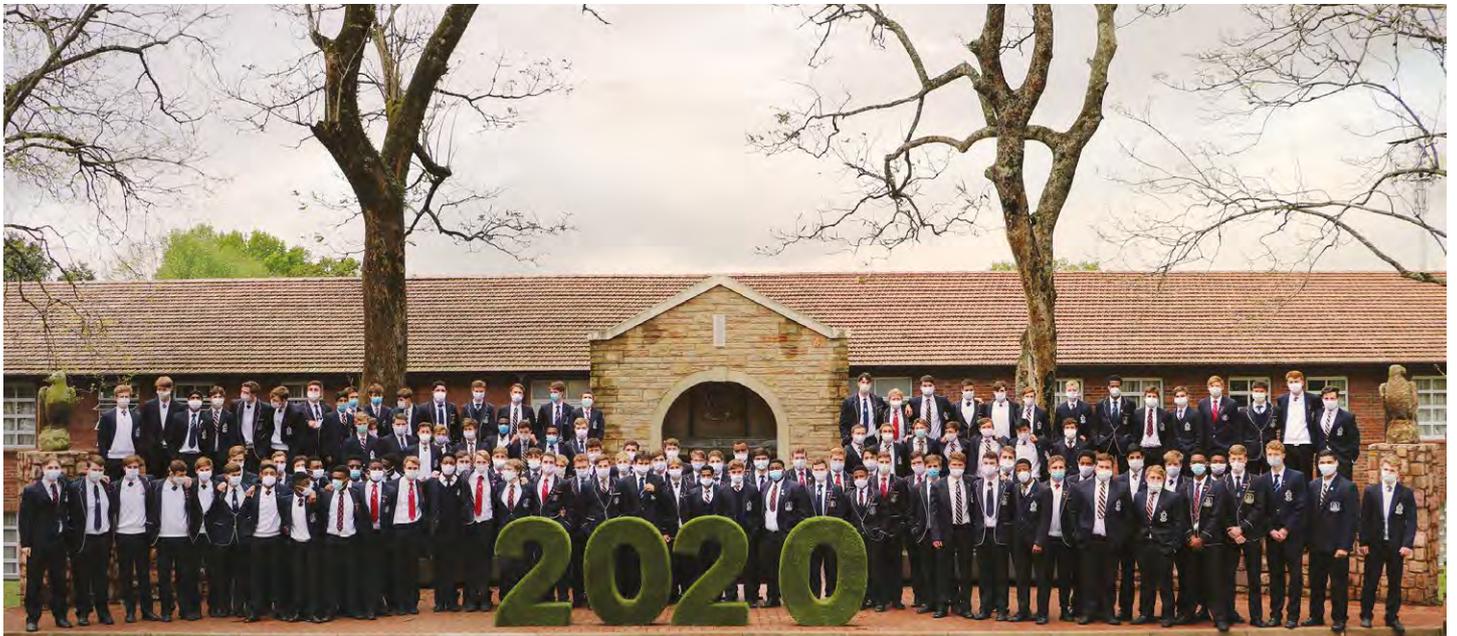
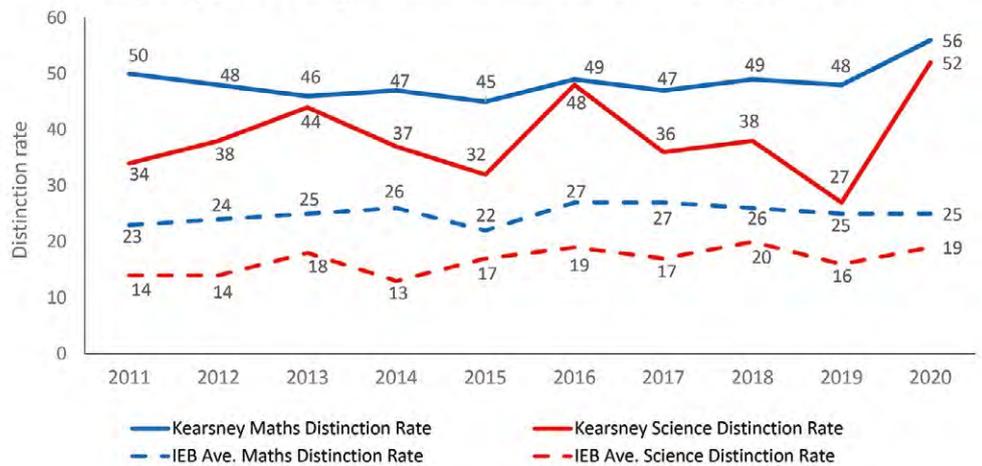
The Class' average mark for Mathematics was 80% and 77.5% for Science. Average subject marks of over 80% were also achieved for Engineering Graphics and Design, Music, Drama and Mathematical Literacy.

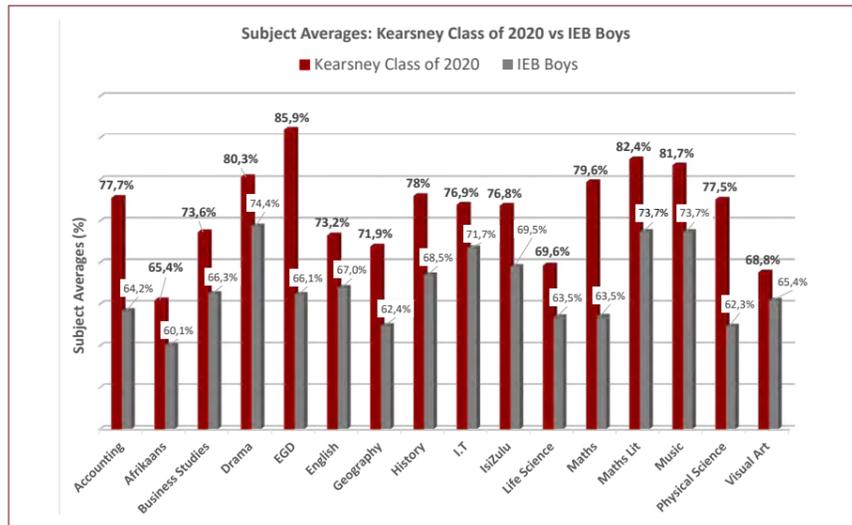
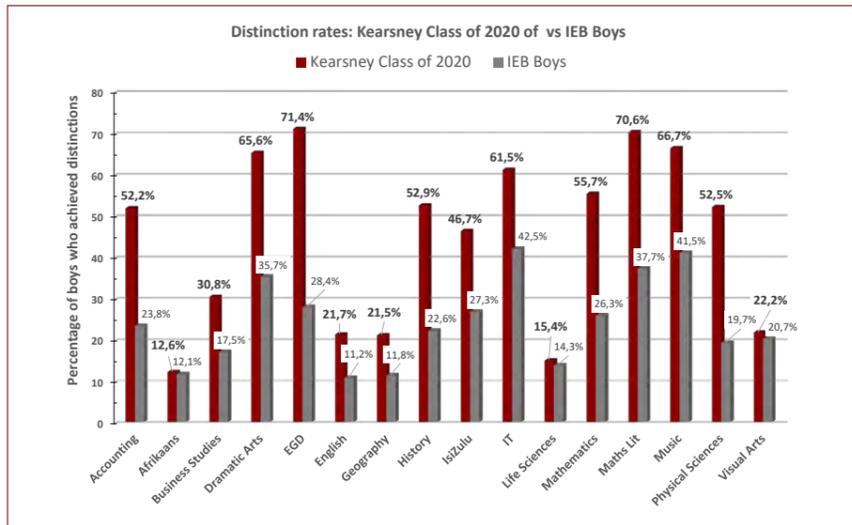
Headmaster, Mr Elwyn van den Aardweg, said "I'm indeed proud of the boys, staff and parents who showed the grit, hard work and tenacity to channel their passion to succeed during a very difficult year." Dux of School for 2020, Matthew Strauss, placed on the IEB's Outstanding List for being in the top 5% in 6 or more

subjects. He achieved 7 As, finishing in the top 1% in English, History and LO. His other distinctions were for Afrikaans, Mathematics, Music and Physical Science.

Matthew Bolton and Luke Shiller made the IEB's Commendable List of top achievers in the country.

Kearsney vs IEB Average Distinctions in Mathematics and Physical Sciences





The College was pleased to welcome three new staff members in 2021. The new staff all come with excellent credentials and experience and we look forward to their contributions to the College.

Head of Geography: Mr Matthew Savage joins Kearsney from Clifton College, where he was Grade Head and 1st Cricket XI coach.

Head of Accounting: Mrs Charmaine Vermeulen was the Deputy Principal (High School) at St Henry's Marist College.

Director of Music: Mr Bernard Krüger, who previously served as Music Director at Kearsney from 2009 to the end of 2015, has been appointed as Director of Music Performance. In the interum Mr Krüger was the Artistic Director at the Drakensberg Boys Choir School.

isiZulu Teacher: Mr Senzo Mtshali has been appointed a teacher after a successful internship at the College.

The following interns have joined our internship programme at the College this year:

- Mr Yanga Sotshangane isiZulu, Business Studies
- Ms Dinewo Fihlela isiZulu, Life Sciences
- Mr Lee-Roy Storm EGD, Accounting
- Mr Jordan du Preez History, Life Orientation
- Mr Nkululeko Hlongwane Mathematics

(Continued from page 1).

Matthew Bolton achieved 8 As and placed in the Top 1% in Mathematics and Physical Science in SA. Luke Shiller was also in the country's top 1% in Mathematics and Physical Science; and achieved 6 distinctions.

Ross Savage also achieved 8 As and finished in the Top 1% in SA in Mathematics, EGD and Physical Science.

Wilco Roets achieved 7 As and placed in the top 1% in Physical Science and LO.

Five boys (Matthew Strauss, Wilco Roets, Christopher Duncan, Matthew D'Eramo and Tim van Tonder) achieved 7 As; with 9 boys (Luke Shiller, Samkelo Jiyane, Shem Adjes, Blake Stuart, Joshua Stocks, James Lamprecht, Matthew Hind, Noah Laurénz and William Young) each bagging 6 As.

Congratulations to the boys and staff for a tremendous set of results.

Welcome to our new academic staff members



Mr Matthew Savage
Head of Geography



Mrs Charmaine Vermeulen
Head of Accounting



Mr Bernard Krüger
Director of Music



Mr Senzo Mtshali
isiZulu Teacher



Induction of 2021 Student leadership

At a special assembly the leaders for 2021 were inducted. This included the prefects, KCC and Imbizo.



Headboy, Rahul Paul, addresses the boys and staff of the College.

Kearsney College Council

At the induction of the KCC, the newly appointed Chairman, Ntsika Gwebu, addressed the school: "It is my privilege to address you as the Chairman of the Kearsney College Council of 2021. This is a significant milestone in my Kearsney career; and I am thankful that I have been given the position to help guarantee that all Kearsney students can have as great a time at Kearsney, as I have".

He went on to explain that the KCC's responsibilities include ensuring that any major concerns of boys at the College are heard and fostering a good relationship between the boys and staff. Their mission is to do what is beneficial for the boys and school as a whole and that they fulfil this important function.

The Council guarantees that "...no matter who you are, or which grade you are in, you have a voice that will be heard by the council".

"As we continuously change and adapt the council into a truly effective instrument, I ask for your continuous

support of both myself and the representatives of the KCC to ensure that 2021 can be a new leaf in many ways for Kearsney College".

"A hundred years of Kearsney tradition, brotherhood, and camaraderie will be the building blocks of the new year".

Kearsney Imbizo

The Chairman of the Imbizo, Nhlango Zulu, addressed the boys of the College:

"Being a Kearsney boy comes with many academic, ethical and, most importantly, social responsibilities. There has never been a more urgent and critical time than now for us to SEE each other; EMBRACE each other; EMBRACE our different cultures, religions, emotions and historical backgrounds and to grow together from each other's experiences. As we come back to our beautiful home on the hill,



Chairman, Ntsika Gwebu



Chairman, Nhlango Zulu

we return with not only the scars and pain that the pandemic has engraved on to us, but also with feelings of loss, in our families and our communities. This contributes to the state of mind of all boys.

As much as our parents are adults and are here to navigate us through the walk of life... inevitably, only WE can hold ourselves accountable – accountable for our THOUGHTS and ACTIONS. We are the ones who need to condemn socially irresponsible behaviours. This means that

we always remain true and authentic enough to stand up for what is fair; just and right.

Always focus on controlling the controllable. Make decisions that are fair, just and right. Authentic decisions and actions are ones that ease our conscience and build relationships.

Author, Brené Brown says: "Authenticity is a collection of choices that we have to make every day. It's about the choice to show up

and be real. The choice to be honest. The choice to let our true selves be seen... deeply seen."

Each of us is responsible for making the right choice, the respectful choice, the morally correct choice that enables each and every boy's acceptance in our school.

Masibambane sonke ukuze siphumelela: Lets embrace each other and we shall conquer."

Prefect Seminar

Report by Mr Anthony Willows, Deputy Headmaster.

The prefects covered a great deal over two days of their prefect seminar. On the first day the boys spent time with the Headmaster, Mr van den Aardweg, and Deputy, Mr Willows. Topics covered included the characteristics of being a good leader; the Kearsney Honour Code and some of the important values and standards of Kearsney boys.

The group was extremely fortunate to have Mr Mthoko Madondo as a facilitator for the second day of the seminar. He is a social entrepreneur who created Reach Sports Management, utilising his 18 years of experience in the sports industry. He represented the South African Men's basketball team in the African Championships, All Africa Games and Commonwealth Games.

Mthoko was appointed to the global charity Laureus Sport for Good Foundation, where he is now Africa Manager. Mthoko is an advocate of "You get out what you put in". He inspired the boys with some incredible stories about his youth and his work on the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation. He spoke about servant leadership, teamwork, and how the boys can make a difference. Mthoko also talked about developing confidence and overcoming fears.

The prefects spent time identifying their goals for the year in respect of their leadership roles at the College.



Tolle Lege: Centenary Bible Reading

Report by Rev Kym Bishop, Chaplain.

The first of our public Centenary events took place this term with our continuous reading of the New Testament. We began at 13h00 on Tuesday 09 March with a short opening service that included readers from Highbury and Epworth, and St Mary's online. Thereafter over 120 readers took turns reading for ten minutes at a time as we read from Matthew to Revelation. Some boys read with their tutors as a tutor group, others with friends, and even some as a class. Other readers and friends of the College joined the event online, reading from all over the world, across many different time zones. In

gratitude to God, and in celebration of the way God has been at work in the College over the past 100 years, we met God once more in the Scripture. The reading wrapped up at 07h30 on Wednesday morning, just in time for boys and staff to start another school day.

A very big thank you to all who participated – whether through reading, helping, or simply participating through being present and witnessing the event, this has been a very special celebration of God's goodness to the Kearsney Community.

'Tolle Lege' Take Up and Read



Centenary reading of the New Testament

09 and 10 March 2021



Head of Chapel Josh van der Merwe



Headmaster Mr Elwyn van den Aardweg



Chaplain Rev. Kym Bishop



Signing of the Centenary register. Headboy Rahul Paul with Deputy Mhleli Khuzwayo.

Centenary plans

Report by Ms Andrea Fripp, Director of Clubs and Cultural Activities and Centenary Manager.

Regrettably a number of planned Centenary events have had to be cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions. These decisions are not taken lightly. The year started with a poignant assembly after which the boys and staff all received the specially crafted Centenary Biscuit. We hope this token will evoke memories of this special year in years to come.

All boys also received a sponsored House T-shirt which have been proudly worn at the various inter-house matches and during free time in the afternoons.

All boys, employees, parents, guests and Old Boys will be invited over the course of the year to sign the Centenary register as a symbolic representation of being a part of the College in its 100th year. Various items of memorabilia are on sale in the Kit and Clothing and parents and Old Boys are encouraged to visit the shop or view the catalogue online on kearsney.com.

Please keep an eye on the Kearsney website for all dates and important information.

Welcome to the Class of 2025

Report by Mr Mouton Badenhorst, Haley Housemaster

With excitement we looked forward to welcoming the Grade 8 boys of 2021 and were disappointed that arrival at school had to be delayed by two weeks. Alternative arrangements were made for classes to be given online to all Kearsney boys, including the Grade 8s, and the academic year kicked off without a single boy on campus.

It felt as if we knew the Grade 8 boys already when they eventually arrived on Sunday 17 January. I congratulate the boys and thank their parents for their understanding and support with this unconventional start to a high school career.

The boys learnt quickly, and it was clear that they were ready for this new adventure in their young lives. During the first week they were introduced to the Haley duty staff, the prefects, the kitchen staff, the San sisters, the laundry staff, the sports department, and their subject teachers.

On Friday 22 January all Grade 8s took a readiness test and met the staff in the Counselling and Inclusion (COIN) Centre before they took part in a few fun activities. These activities allowed the boys to get to know each other better and to learn more about their new school.

We were blessed with beautiful weather when we tackled the traditional 14 km Haley hike on Saturday 23 January. Although it was clear that some boys had neglected their fitness over the holidays, we were impressed by the tenacity shown.

The Grade 8 boys can be proud of how they conducted themselves during the orientation period that concluded with their tie ceremony. (Pictured right).

The group has had an excellent first term. We look forward to following their achievements and contributions over the next few years.



Enrichment Courses 2021

Report by Mr Elwyn van den Aardweg, Headmaster.

In the absence of inter-school sport, management decided to provide our senior boys with an opportunity to be exposed to cutting-edge technologies in the current global world of work. The first five-module course covering drone technology, and its various applications, was designed with assistance from Kearsney Old Boys and others in the industry.

PACSys CEO, and KCOB, Mr Tim Wise (Class of 1995), presented a module, featuring SA's first licensed crop-spraying drone. He demonstrated its functionality on The Stott for the Grade 11 and 12 boys.

Tim believes the crop-spraying drones can improve sugar cane yields by being able to spray challenging terrain. This will be a massive boost to sugar farmers.

"Conservation: Is drone tech the silver bullet? Successes and Failures" was a module presented by KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife researcher, Dr Debbie Jewitt. Interspersed with extraordinary video material, the boys gained insights into the pros and cons of using drone technology for conservation.

Two modules were presented by Hensoldt, a Tshwane company of global repute in the manufacture of optronic sensors. Their first presentation concentrated on the various uses of cameras and optronics in drone technology. This was followed by a module on "The Internet of Things", which explored the interrelatedness of technologies, including drones.

Aerobotics, a start-up tech company from Cape Town with global reach, was represented by two KCOB, Stuart van der Veen (2004) and Josh Perry (2010).

The presentation included enlightening live sessions with their colleagues in Cape Town and Los Angeles.

Following the Drone Tech course the boys will be introduced to online share trading.

Tim Wise with drone demonstration on Stott



Maths Olympiad - Kearsney tops in KZN

Mr Marc Ancillotti, HOD Mathematics, pictured right, holds the award which Kearsney earned for being the top performing school in KZN in the SA Maths Olympiad. Kearsney was also in the top 10 schools in South Africa in the Olympiad.

Maths Focus Day

Report by Mr Marc Ancillotti, HOD Mathematics

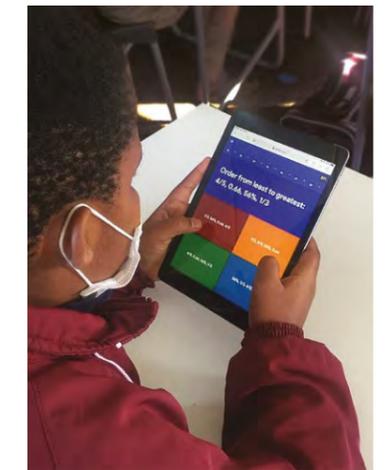
On Saturday 13 March the entire school was involved in a Maths Focus Day to celebrate International Maths Day, which is celebrated annually on 14 March. We aimed to engage the boys meaningfully in master lectures or fun activities, allowing the Maths staff to focus on specific 'problem areas' whilst preparing boys for the forthcoming Maths assessments.

All Grade 12s wrote a Maths Portfolio Assessment. The Grade 11s were involved in a virtual revision programme with video links and Maths Lit candidates had



group lectures. The programme for the Grade 10s was similar and in addition the Advanced Programme Classes were involved in an extension workshop.

The Grade 8s and 9s took part in fun activities on their devices using Gimkit (yes,



Maths can be fun!). Gimkit is a software programme which engages boys based on traditional competitive gaming simulation whilst solving Maths problems at their own pace. In both Grades each class formed a team to play against the other classes. Some of our game modes included Humans vs Zombies and the Floor is Lava.

Our staff created the Mathematics content for the games, based on topics to be tested in the forthcoming assessments.

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Carpe Diem



C@K programme for 2021 updates

Report by Ms Andrea Fripp, Director, Clubs and Cultural Activities.

The launch of Culture@Kearsney unfortunately had to be delayed owing to gazetted regulations which prohibit spectators at events and also do not allow pupils to travel to different schools. The launch and opening of the art exhibition are now scheduled to take place on 08 June along with the prize-giving for the photographic competition. Art@Kearsney is an important event in the Art calendar and allows for exciting exchanges of ideas and inspiration.

We intend to host all the planned cultural events this year and sincerely hope that by June restrictions will have been lifted so that we can provide the much-needed cultural platform for KZN's pupils.

2022 TERM DATES

TERM	2022 TERM DATES	2022 HALF TERM DATES
1	Tuesday 18 January – Friday 25 March at 09h00	Thursday 17 February at 12 noon – Monday 21 February (incl)
2	Wednesday 20 April – Friday 24 June at 09h00	Thursday 19 May at 12 noon – Monday 23 May (incl)
3	Tuesday 19 July – Friday 30 September at 12h00	Friday 05 August at 12 noon – Tuesday 09 August (incl)
4	Tuesday 11 October – Friday 02 December	Thursday 27 October at 12 noon – Monday 31 October (incl)

International Exchange - German student experiences two terms

Report by Mrs Charlene Elliott, Teacher in Charge: International Exchange.

At present no Kearsney boys are going on international exchange due to unknowns regarding international travel and movement between countries because of the pandemic. We are, however, allowing boys to visit Kearsney on short-term exchanges. Tillmann Kurze, from Ludwiggymnasium (school) in Munich, Germany, is currently at Kearsney in Grade 11 for two terms. In the German school system, between two phases of high school, the pupils have an official "gap" period to use productively. Tillmann has used this opportunity for his exchange to South Africa to experience something completely different from his own culture.

Tillmann says he felt welcomed at the College and is enjoying learning about various cultures.

Outside of school, he has enjoyed the many possibilities his host family has offered him. He relishes going to the beach and the

outdoors. Germany is still under a much stricter lockdown, so he is enjoying the benefits of more freedom here than he would have at home.

Flag raising Tillmann Kurze ready to raise the German flag which will fly daily while he is at the College. He was welcomed by Deputy Headboy, Mhleli Khuzwayo and Deputy Headmaster, Mr Manzini Zungu



Inter-house Gala in a "dry" season

Report by Mr Marco Botha, MIC Swimming

This year's inter-house gala was like none before. Not only did COVID-19 disrupt the swimming season, it also forced changes to arrangements for training and the inter-house gala. The gala was held at night, and only the swimmers could attend.

One positive to come out of the restrictions was holding separate training sessions for seniors and juniors and not sharing with water polo sessions. The sessions were longer with smaller numbers, allowing us to focus more on stroke correction and to notice individual swimmers.

The pre-gala events were held before the gala, as is normal practice. Never in my years at Kearsney have the pre-gala events been dominated by one swimmer. The swimmer who won every single pre-gala event was a junior; Luca Sandri. This is quite extraordinary and proves that dedication and talent can give you the edge, no matter your age.

Sandri's results had helped Sheffield to a narrow 2-point lead over Gillingham after the pre-gala events. The lead did not last long as Gillingham's depth in the other age groups came to the fore and they won the LF Forsyth Rose Bowl for Inter-house Champions. The final standings were Gillingham 388, Sheffield 358, Finningley 311 and then Pembroke 238.

Luca Sandri won every trophy he competed for, including the sought-after Best Performance of the Day. This was for winning the 50m Freestyle Sprint Challenge - an event not won by a junior before. James Kewley was the next most successful swimmer and was awarded the trophy for the Best Performance of the Day - Runner-up; the cup for the best U17 swimmer; and the Senior Victor Ludorum trophy.

Sadly, we will remember this swimming season for having only one gala and for being the shortest swimming season in the history of Kearsney College.



Luca Sandri



James Kewley



Healthy competition for boys

In the absence of inter-school sport due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Kearsney boys have been involved in all 1st term sports codes internally on an inter-house basis. Certain of the sports were amended

and adapted to comply with Covid-19 regulations. Physical activity is integral to the boys' overall wellbeing and the inter-house sports also provided an opportunity for fun and competition.



Inter-house cricket



Inter-house water polo



Ryan Wimbush, inter-house basketball

Tyler Gray to compete in Provincial Champs



At a KZN Athletics League meeting at Kings Park on 13 March Tyler Gray ran the 400m in the U20 and senior/ masters age group. Tyler finished 1st in his heat and 1st in the U20 age group and came 3rd overall. At a similar meeting on 19 December 2020, Tyler finished 1st in the U18 300m event.

Tyler is due to compete in the KZN Provincial Championships where he hopes he can achieve a time which will allow him to get through to the SA Champs. Congratulation and all the best Tyler.

KZN Mini Tennis Championships

Kearsney had seven boys competing in the KZN Mini Tennis Championships held on 27 and 28 February and the boys performed exceptionally well.

- U16 A section: Caleb Fyvie lost in the finals;
- U16 B section; Keagan Gevers won this event;
- U14A section: Finn Cunningham won this event.

Congratulations to these boys and the other Kearsney boys who completed.



Class of 2020 Bursary recipients make the Foundation proud

The Foundation are particularly proud of our bursary recipients, who excelled in the IEB NSC examinations despite all the challenges in 2020. Samkelo Jiyane is one such pupil. He started at Kearsney in Grade 8 and was a Gillingham perfect. He achieved 6 distinctions. Samkelo was supported by Student Support Programme (SSP) and received a scholarship from SANRAL.

Samkelo writes "My time at Kearsney was conducive to learning far beyond the academic scope. I feel I left as a well-rounded young man ready to take on the challenges of the independent life."

Thank you to our donors for your support and making a difference in these boys' lives.



We thank our sponsors for supporting our Centenary House shirts and staff shirts

Tuesday 02 February marked a special day for the College - the first official day in the centenary year to have our boys back on campus.

The boys returned, smiling and excited and the campus was alive again. All Kearsney boys received their new Centenary House T-shirts. Thank you to our sponsors Standard Bank, Ballito Sports, Coopertires, ACA Auto, Audio Architex, Halfway, Favorite, Value Health Medical Centre and Afrigran for the boys' shirts and Coopertires, Marshall Security and Campuskey for the staff shirts.



Leave your mark at Kearsney in our Centenary Arch

As a part of our Centenary celebrations the Kearsney College Foundation have amplified their fundraising efforts in support of various projects that the school has embarked upon, the most significant of which is the development of the new Centenary Centre. The entrance to the Centenary Centre is through the magnificent Centenary Arch.



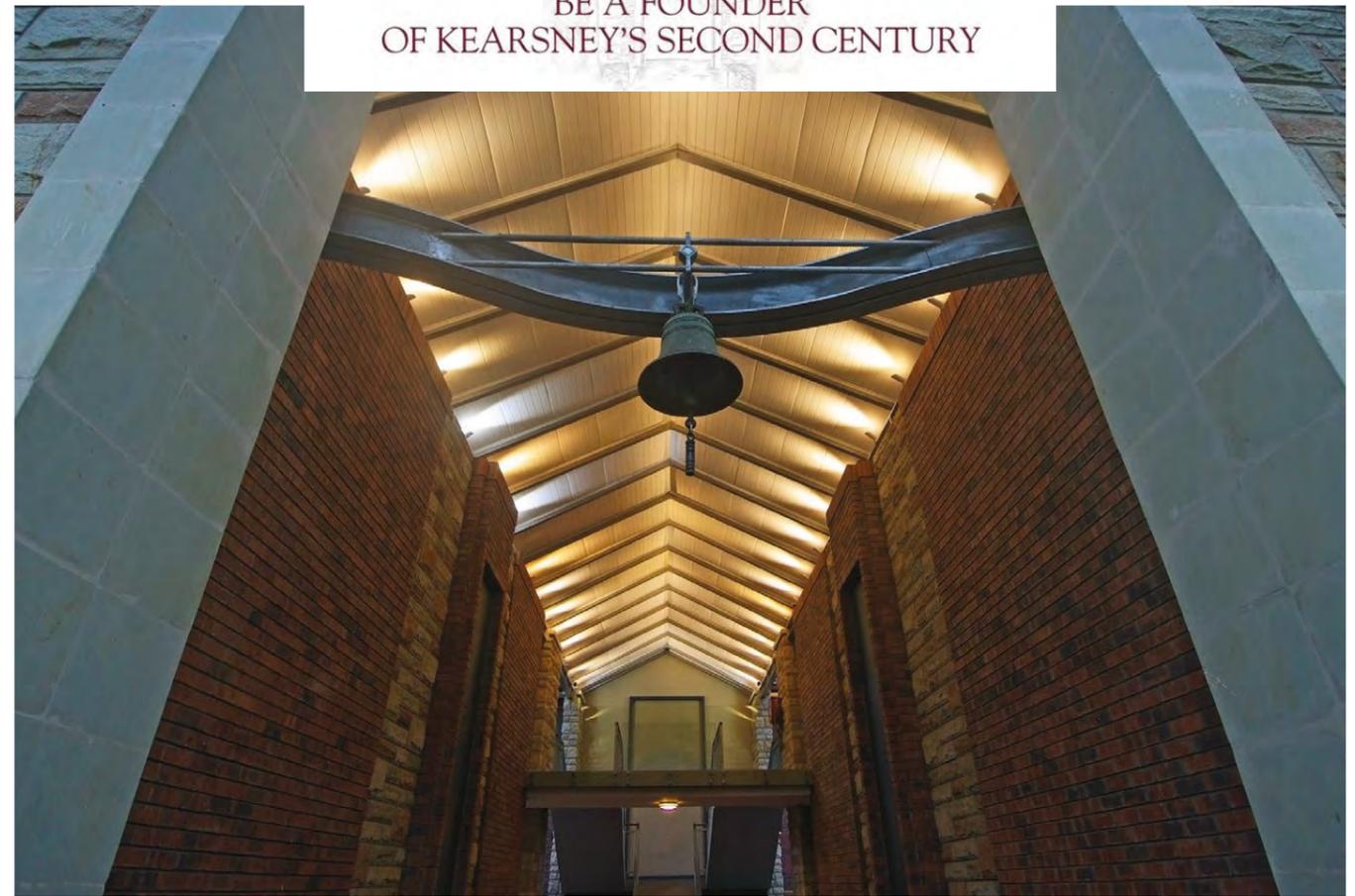
The Kearsney College Foundation is proud to launch our Centenary Arch Appeal. We invite Old Boys and current boys of the College to support this appeal through a donation in one of our specified categories. As a donor to the Centenary Arch Appeal your name will be added to the dedicated donor boards at the entrance to the Centenary Arch, proudly recording your commitment as a **Founder of Kearsney's Second Century**.

In this, our centenary year, we not only get the chance to reflect on 100 years of history and of educating boys but are also blessed with the exciting opportunity of envisioning the future of Kearsney College. The Centenary Arch Appeal is aimed at helping to secure this future. Funds raised through this initiative will strengthen Kearsney's endowment fund, thereby enabling us to confidently plan for strategic developments, capital projects, bursaries and scholarships.

Please take a moment to watch our **Centenary Arch Appeal Video** and visit our Centenary Arch Appeal webpage for more information by scanning the **QR code (right)**.



BE A FOUNDER OF KEARSNEY'S SECOND CENTURY





Ground-breaking work by Kearsney College Old Boy

University of Pretoria veterinary surgeons, Dr Adriaan Kitshoff and Dr Ross Elliott (Class of 1999), from the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort, used a ground-breaking approach to save the lives of two dogs during heart surgery.

Ross Elliott explains, "The surgery was a culmination of work that we have been doing with a paediatric cardiologist for the past ten years. We have performed seven balloon dilations in dogs with the assistance of the cardiologist.

This has truly been a team effort to try to offer our patients in South Africa the same level of care provided in large academic and referral Veterinary hospitals overseas."

These are the first two heart surgeries for dogs that have been done without the assistance of the cardiologist. The vets hope to expand and set up an interventional suite in the Veterinary faculty which will allow them to offer a multitude of other procedures currently only performed in humans.



Dr Ross Elliott (KCOB, 1999)

Making a mark in our century year

Kearsney Old Boys, ranging from the newest from the Class of 2020 to the Class of 1967 and the legendary "Doc Shuker" from the class of 1948, have returned to the hill to sign the Centenary register, marking their place in Kearsney's history.

The Centenary register allows anyone who has a part in our story - be it boys, staff, Old Boys, visitors or parents - to "leave their mark".

This small act contributes to a sense of belonging to this fine College. It is also a record of having contributed to the past 100 years and continuing into our second century.



Left - right:
 Dr Graeme Shuker (Finningley 1948)
 Mr Gavin Bester (Pembroke 1967)
 Ross Savage (Finningley 2020)
 Janko Roets (Pembroke 2020)



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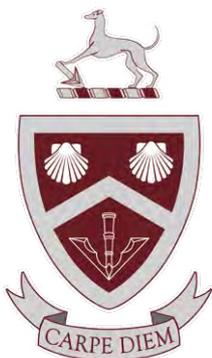
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KEARSNEY COLLEGE

Thought for the Moment

"And hope does not disappoint us, for God has poured His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" Romans 5:5

As we continue to navigate life in a pandemic, the message of Easter holds particular significance for all of us. In the death and resurrection of Jesus, we are reminded of the hope we have in Christ. On the cross, when things seemed to be at their darkest, God was at work in ways we could never have imagined, bringing life and hope in ways no one expected. And so, as we stand with Christ before the empty tomb, we too can share in the surprising hope of resurrection and all that it means for us.

May you and your loved ones experience of hope of Christ this Easter:

Rev. Kym Bishop
 Chaplain