Congratulations to Dylan Richardson (Grade 10) who attended the SA Rugby Union U16 High Performance Training Camp in Paarl during the October holidays. Dylan, who captained Kearsney’s U16A team and played for the KZN U16 Grant Khomo team, joined fifty-eight rugby stars from around the country at this prestigious camp. Dylan has a promising rugby future ahead of him and we look forward to many more great achievements in the future.

Seven Kearsney boys selected for KZN Cricket Teams

Congratulations to our talented cricketers who have been selected for provincial teams:

**U19A**: Keean Rencken and James Tedder
**U17A**: Matthew Lees, James Stamatis, Luke de Vlieg and Brad Porteous
**U15A**: Robert Koenig

Six Kearsney Boys selected for KZN Water Polo teams

The following boys are to be congratulated on their selection to KZN Water polo teams:

**U14**: Josh Muller; Oliver Kenny (non-traveling reserve)
**U19A**: Ryan Jackson
**U19B**: Luke Croshaw; Jared Meyer and David Weaver (non-traveling reserve)

Dux of School for 2015 is Deputy Headboy, Jabulani Nyathi who, at our Speech Day, was awarded Academic Honours Cum Laude (over 86% aggregate), as well as subject prizes for eight subjects.

Runner-up to Dux is James Hansen, who also received Academic Honours Cum Laude and subject prizes for Engineering Graphics and Design as well as Life Orientation (shared).

The trophy for best all-rounder in the 6th Form was shared by Matthew Butler and James Tedder. Matthew achieved Academic Honours Cum Laude, won subject prizes for Biology and Mathematics (shared), is Head of Haley House and plays KZN hockey. James Tedder achieved Academic Colours, plays provincial rugby and 1st team 7s and is 1st XI cricket captain and KZN U19 cricketer. He is also a Finningley prefect.

Eight boys were awarded Academic Honours Cum Laude (over 86%).

Academic Honours (80-85%) were awarded to Head Prefect Robbie Polkinghorne, Siya Kheswa, Nicholas Hoare, Jordan Ross-Elliot, Josh van Vuuren, James Hulett, Lyle Hewitson, Simon Nortje, Matthew Carlson, Garrett Stevens, Geoffrey Sibbald and Tyrone Beunk Burgess.

Twenty-one Grade 12 boys were awarded Academic Colours (75-79%).

Well done to the entire Class of 2015. We look forward to some fantastic matric results and wish you well for your bright futures.
Farewell Friends

We are sad to be saying farewell to the incredibly talented Krügers, as they leave us to take up wonderful opportunities at the Drakensberg Boys’ Choir School. Heather Pearse, Communications Manager, reports.

The Krüger family spent the last seven years at Kearsney College and have made a significant contribution to Kearsney and the Music Department.

Bernard Krüger is a gifted musician, composer and arranger of music. He has been an inspirational role-model to all the boys who have been in the choir during his time at the College. He has the knack of making music of all styles and genres accessible to a wide audience and he included the boys in discussions about repertoire, uniforms, routines and all the details that go with putting on a world-class performance.

Bernard is known to be a good husband and father and has had to become skilled at juggling his professional and family life. Two of the Krüger’s three sons were born during the family’s time at Kearsney. The boys were filled with laughter and curious stories. I don’t believe hymn practices could ever be the same again, as Mr Krüger could sing louder than 600 boys!”

Kearsney is richer for having had the Krüger family with us. They will be missed and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Kearsney Choir and Orchestra thank the staff

Whilst audiences around the world have seen the Kearsney choir perform on some of the world’s most famous stages, many of our very own staff members have not enjoyed the opportunity. On 09 October our World Champion Choir, accompanied by our orchestra, performed for the entire Kearsney staff in a special final show of the year. The spectacular full-length show entertained almost two hundred staff members from the grounds, maintenance, laundry, kitchen, cleaning, administration and academic departments. The Chairman of the Student Council, Auden Niksen and Head of Choir, Siya Kheswa, introduced the show by acknowledging the staff, in English and isiZulu, for the valuable work they do for the College and the boys. A DVD of this fantastic performance will be available at the Kit & Clothing.

Gillingham House gets a facelift

We are very excited about the significant structural upgrades which we are undertaking next year to improve Gillingham House for the benefit of the boys and the College. Heather Pearse, Communications Manager, reports on the progress.

Work will begin in January 2016 on the modernisation of the Gillingham boarding house, which will result in more spacious and flexible accommodation. There will be more ready access to the public areas of the House for all boys. Each Grade will have their own ablutions with shower cubicles, and all boys will have their own desk space, allowing prep to be done in their dorms. The dorm rooms will be progressively more private as boys move through the grades, with Grade 12 boys having their own rooms. There will also be flexible dormitories, where beds can be allocated to dayboys who wish to stay over on occasion.

Finchingley is scheduled to be upgraded in 2017, ensuring that Kearsney continues to provide world-class facilities.
MANDARIN CHINESE PROFICIENCY TEST

As leaders in this subject amongst English-medium schools, Kearsney College was chosen as an examination centre for the Level 1 (HSK1) Mandarin Chinese Proficiency test in October 2015. Ms Jing Wang, HOD: Mandarin Chinese, reports.

This is the first time ever that the Proficiency test has taken place at middle school level in KwaZulu Natal.

HSK is an international standardised Mandarin Chinese language test to measure the ability of non-native Chinese speakers to communicate in Mandarin Chinese in daily lives, academic and working settings. The test result can be used to apply for the Confucius Institute Scholarships or Chinese universities and colleges.

Nineteen students sat for the exam, which was invigilated by two Mandarin Chinese invigilators from the Confucius Institute at the Durban University of Technology. There are currently forty-two Grade 8 and 9 pupils at Kearsney who are taking Mandarin as a subject.

Kearsney’s Dramatic Arts department offers its pupils numerous platforms to showcase their talents. Report by Mrs Ulaetha Singh, HOD: Dramatic Arts.

The Dramatic Arts showcases afford pupils opportunities to share the performance work done over the year with their families, friends, peers and teachers.

In Term 1 the Grade 10 class presented a range of items from their Greek Drama module. During Term 3 the Grade 9 pupils entertained with their own choice pieces, which included monologues, scenes, slam poetry, musical theatre and dance. The talented Grade 12 class of 2015 shared their Practical examination items with a supportive and appreciative audience.

This term the Grade 11s engaged the audience with excerpts from their South African Theatre module, performing scenes from the play ‘The Island’ and ‘Green and Black Mamba’. This was followed by the Grade 8 pupils, who presented three exciting and much-loved Roald Dahl plays, ‘The Twits’, ‘The Witches’ and ‘BFG’. It is very pleasing to note that the pupils look forward to this event and experience the sense of exhilaration, euphoria and accomplishment that comes with stage performance.

The ISIZULU OLYMPIAD RESULTS

Report by Mr Bongi Ndaba, HOD: isiZulu

Congratulations to Humphra Mngomezulu (Grade 9), who achieved 82% and Travus Louw (Grade 11) achieved 83% in the isiZulu Olympiad, thereby advancing to the third and final round of the Olympiad.

We are extremely proud of their achievements which will boost their confidence and abilities in this language.

Save the date

Art Exhibition 03 to 14 March
One-Act Plays 18 to 21 July
Dance@Kearsney 01 to 04 August
Words@Kearsney 23 to 24 August
Photo Exhibition 19 to 26 Sept
Choir Festival 20 and 21 Sept
Art Exhibitions

The Grade 12 Art Exhibition opened on the evening of the Leavers’ dinner and was open to the public for the rest of that week. The Grade 11 exhibition was on the night of their drama showcase.

In this occasion some of the boys work was on display in the Arts Block for family, friends and teachers to view.

Mr Jason Rottcher, MiC Market Wizards Club reports.
A total of 2,660 teams from around the country entered the JSE National Investment Challenge, in which teams of four are allocated R1-million in imaginary cash to invest over a six month period. Prizes are awarded monthly to the most profitable teams. Kearsney entered eleven teams and our best performing team was CM Traders, which won two out of the six monthly competitions and ended the competition in 14th place overall.

Congratulations on great speculating boys!

Mr Adam Rogers, MiC: Public Speaking
Effective communication is key to success

The final Speakers’ Circle Dinner of the year was held in the Greyhound Pavilion on Friday 23 October with club members, their parents, the headmaster and staff in attendance. Kyle Koenig, recently returned from his term on international exchange to Australia, chaired the evening in the absence of Wandile Linda, who himself was on international exchange in England. At the end of a most memorable evening the following best speaking roles were announced:

Best Object Speech: Robbie Polkinghorne
Best Evaluation: Cameron Craze
Best Ice Breaker: Siya Kheswa
Best Impromptu Speech: Matthew Bentley
Best Prepared Speech: Ross Cairns
Excellence in Public Speaking Award: Luke Couzens

We took the opportunity to wish our Grade 12 members all the best for their futures. We know that their public speaking experiences in the Speakers’ and Inner Circles will stand them in good stead and set them apart.

The speakers who were judged to be the best in their respective categories were:

Above L-R: Bradley D’Erama, Nkosinathi Mazwai, Sam Hudson, Nhloso Zulu, Ben Proctor, David Scott, Calym Lishman, Michael Lee and Cuan Loader.

Businessman of the Year Dinner

All Grade 9s explored their entrepreneurial skills in the Businessman of the Year competition which started in the first term. Mr Mike Albers, HOD: Accounting, reports.

The pupils were divided into “companies”, each being tasked with producing a unique product of their choice, together with a business plan. The annual dinner which took place on Tuesday 27 October was the culmination of the process and the four finalists could present their business ideas to the audience and adjudicators, Mr Andrew Kenny, Director of Mr Price Group and Mr Mike Sander, Managing Director of Kaytech.

The winning group was a company trading as Fire Guard, with members Dylan Hanson, David Hodgson, David McCleave, Jared Rochat and Edward Yeo. The coveted Businessman of the Year award was presented to David McCleave. Well done to all the boys for their efforts.
WRAP-UP of 2015 Cricket Season
What a busy and productive season this has been for Kearsney cricketers! The boys have excelled across the age groups. Mr Neil Peacock, MGC Cricket, has the report.

During the Michaelmas holidays the 1st XI U15A and U14A sides participated in various festivals around the country and gave good accounts of themselves against some formidable opposition. The 1st XI took part in the annual Cricket Festival held in Pietermaritzburg, while the U15A side travelled to Port Elizabeth to take part in the Grey High School Cricket Festival. The U14A side took part in the Charl van Rooyen Cricket Festival, hosted this year by Jeppe Boys as part of their 125th celebrations.

On the local front the College had a rewarding season with the boys often participating in various festivals around the country and gave good accounts of themselves against some formidable opposition. The 1st XI took part in the annual Cricket Festival held in Pietermaritzburg, while the U15A side travelled to Port Elizabeth to take part in the Grey High School Cricket Festival. The U14A side took part in the Charl van Rooyen Cricket Festival, hosted this year by Jeppe Boys as part of their 125th celebrations.

The College hosted the third edition of the highly competitive Independent Schools’ Stayers’ Festival, in which sixteen schools compete. The Kearsney team, made up mostly of Grade 10 and 9 pupils, finished fourth and showed great promise for next year, with only three of the players not being eligible to play in 2016.

Three of our ballhawks have achieved higher honours this year and we are very proud of their achievements: Kuhle Bophela and Thomas Westermeyer represented the SA U16 team, and Mvelo Buthelezi (Gr 11) captained the KZN U18 team at the IPT.

A big thank you to the dedicated and enthusiastic coaching staff who have helped to manage and grow basketball at Kearsney.

Basketball
Basketball continues to be a popular sport at Kearsney. Mr Myles Delport, MGC Basketball, reports on another successful season.

The sport at Kearsney has not only grown in numbers, but the teams have also become more competitive. The U14A and U15A teams have enjoyed unbeaten seasons, indicating a healthy depth in the sport.

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Wynberg Stayers’ Squash Festival
The Kearsney 1st Squash team travelled to Wynberg for the Stayers’ Festival from 23 to 25 October. Mr Andrew Morgan, MGC Squash, reports.

The festival attracts some of the top boys’ schools from around the country and gives them the opportunity to select their teams for the 2016 season.

Kearsney had a tough start losing 6-0 to a very strong team from Grey High School in Port Elizabeth. The boys recovered well and scored impressive victories in their next four matches:
- vs St Stithians 5-1
- vs St Johns 6-0
- vs WP Invitational Team 4-2
- vs SAC 6-0

We are looking forward to another thrilling Festival in 2016, with some of the country’s top rugby-playing schools again in attendance to entertain the crowds.

FIXTURES
Day 1 Thursday 24 March
09h30 KZN U13 Provincial Development vs Umhlali Preparatory School
10h45 Kearsney College vs Hoërskool Noord-Kaap
12h00 HTS Middelburg vs Selebola College
13h15 Glenwood High School vs Dr E G Jansen
14h30 Maritzburg College vs Dale College
15h45 SACS vs Hoërskool Framesby

Day 2 Saturday 26 March
08h30 KZN U13 Provincial Development vs Pelham
09h30 Hoërskool Framesby vs Dale College
10h45 Glenwood Boys High School vs HTS Middelburg
12h00 Kearsney College vs SACS
13h15 Maritzburg College vs Selebola College
14h30 Dr E G Jansen vs Hoërskool Noord-Kaap
17h05 Sharks vs Crusaders at Growthpoint Kings Park

Day 3 Monday 28 March
09h30 KZN U13 Provincial Development vs Highbury
10h45 SACS vs Selebola College
12h00 Hoërskool Framesby vs Hoërskool Noord-Kaap
13h15 Maritzburg College vs Dr E G Jansen
14h30 Glenwood Boys High School vs Dale College
15h45 Kearsney College vs HTS Middelburg
17h00 Awarding of Sharks Academy Bursaries
WATER POLO

Our water polo season started off with much enthusiasm and dedication, with pre-season fitness and night league on Tuesday evenings during the third term. Mr Stephen Main, MiC Water Polo, reports.

The Kearsney pool has just been refurbished and polo colours added, giving us the option of playing two short courses or one long course. With the good pre-season preparation and the sparkling pool, the boys were excited for the season ahead.

During the busy Michaels holiday our 1st team participated in the Clifton Tournament against top water polo schools from around South Africa. They faced tough opposition and finished in a disappointing 13th place. Our U15s travelled to East London to participate in the steroidberg tournament where they finished 5th overall. The U14s took part in the Hilton Festival where they came up against some of the best teams in the country in their age group. All of our teams played with true sportsmanship and represented the College well in and out of the pool.

We had a very busy start to the fourth term, with both weekday and weekend fixtures. The first fixture of the season saw us victorious across the age groups against Hilton - one of our traditional rivals. The KZN Top 10 Tournaments for our 1st, U14 and U15 teams saw our boys stepping up and doing the College proud. The 1st team came in 6th, with the U15A and U14A sides both finishing in 5th place.

We have enjoyed the season and are proud of our boys who were selected as KZN representatives:

U14A: Josh Muller, with Oliver Kenny chosen as a non-traveling reserve.

U19: Ryan Jackson was selected for the KZN U19A side and Luke Croshaw and Jared Meyer for the U19B side, with David Weaver selected as a non-traveling reserve.

Canoeing

The large numbers of Kearsney canoeists have once again enjoyed success in a number of events. Mr Stephen Main, MiC Canoeing, reports.

The young team, including novices (Callam Davis, Warren Saxby and Ryan Finlay), along with two Old Boys, Brendan Cooper and Stuart Patterson, travelled to Cradock in the Eastern Cape to participate in the iconic annual Fish River Canoe Marathon. The race doubled up as the SA K2 Championships and is raced over a distance of 84 km. All of the boys finished well up in the field, with the combination of Rory McNeill and Timothy Marsh being the first Kearsney boat home. They finished in an impressive 90th place overall (10th U18) after shooting all the major rapids successfully.

Further results were as follows:

Robert McConnell and partner: 112th overall and 4th U16
Gavin Keeley and Stuart McClave: 164th overall and 12th U18
Matthew Pitcher and Stuart Patterson (Old Boy): 185th overall
Warren Saxby and Brendan Cooper (Old Boy): 237th overall
Ryan Finlay (U14) and partner: 277th overall
Callam Davis and partner: 336th overall

In the final interschools event of the 2015 season, the Enduro event held at Camps Drift, our team of Rory McNeill, Timothy Marsh, Evan Knight and Robert McConnell beat the Hilton team to claim the final spot on the podium. This is a fantastic achievement and all credit must go to a determined team!

The paddlers had great fun in the inter-house competition at Shongweni Dam. Finningley retained their title, followed by Gillingham, Pembroke and Sheffield.
FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Mr Matthew Saville, MiC International Exchange, reports.

Matthew Blair, Nicholas de Beer and Kyle Keenig, who returned from their foreign exchange experiences last term, are currently hosting three boys from Canberra Grammar - Hamish Gabbedy, Duncan Hood and Kai Miller. It has been a pleasure welcoming these young men to our country and school.

The following Kearsney boys are currently on foreign exchange: Catholic University School (Dublin): Christopher Thomson; Dylan Smith; Luca Ferri; Dominic Ferri and Nicholas Beningfield. Rossall School (England): Grant Sander; Brendan Albertse; Wondile Linda; Bradley Robertson and James Sutherland. Christchurch Grammar (Perth): James Young

This is a wonderful opportunity for these boys and we trust that they will return greatly enriched by the experience.

NEW OLD BOYS

The following Grade 12 boys were elected to represent the Class of 2015 as Old Boy Convenors, pictured L-R: Head of School Robbie Polkinghorne (overall convenor), James Tedder (Durban), Kyle Connolly (KCOB), Geoff Sibbald (W Cape) and Siya Kheswa (Johannesburg).

Caring for the community

Outreach work continued in full swing this term. Groups of boys visited eThembeni School for disabled children three times this term, working on their gardens and interacting with the children. Members of the Mariannhill community were very grateful to the boys who fixed blocked drainage pipes in their area. Donations of toys were delivered to a Creche in KwaNyuswa and a bakkie-load of clothes was donated to Mabedlana Community.

Kearsney College hosted four blood donation clinics this year. We are very fortunate to have had more than three hundred boys who have donated blood this year. This helps the ongoing drive to maintain essential blood stocks for medical emergencies.

Grade 9s who were completing their Pilgrim Award carried out a great variety of service projects over the last few months. We are very proud of the initiatives taken and valuable work done in the community.

We had a wonderful response to our annual appeal for donations for our chosen charity, the Ethelbert Child and Youth Care Centre. The generosity of Kearsney families is much appreciated by the Centre which does incredible work and receives only a minimal grant. The offerings which were taken at our annual Carol services were donated to the Centre.

MATRIC’S FINAL DAY

Report by Mr Gareth Moerdyk, Grade 12 Grade Head.

The year 2015 was a great year in the history of the College and this can, to a large extent, be attributed to the leadership and contributions of the Class of 2015. On 16 October, after the traditional shirt-signing in the Resource Centre, the school bade farewell to the Class of 2015 with the Leavers’ Assembly in the Chapel. This assembly was also an opportunity for the College to say farewell to Mr and Mrs Kruger, our departing members of staff.

The 2016 prefects were announced and speeches were made by the outgoing Headboy Robert Polkinghorne and the incoming Headboy Luke Croshaw. As is tradition, the Grade 12s then left the Chapel, whilst the rest of the school sang ‘500 Faces’, and said their farewells to the staff of the College who were lining the pathway outside the Chapel. Following this emotional ritual, the Headboy and Deputy for 2015, Robert Polkinghorne and Jabulani Nyathi, officially handed over leadership of the pupil body to the new prefect group in the traditional flag-raising ceremony.

The evening saw the Grade 12 EGD and Visual Arts students showcasing their work at their respective exhibitions, which was followed by the Leavers’ Chapel Service, attended by the Grade 12s, their parents and staff. The final event for the day was the Leavers’ Dinner, the Class of 2015’s first official function as Old Boys of the College. Good food and some interesting, amusing and nostalgic presentations made for an enjoyable evening. Proceedings then closed with the Class of 2015 singing Shosholoza for the final time as a group in the gallery of the Henderson Hall.

We wish these young men all the best for their futures. They have led with maturity, compassion and wisdom and we trust that they will continue to make the College and their families proud.
Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day was commemorated on November 11 and tribute was paid to those who lost their lives fighting for their country in various conflicts. Following a Chapel service the ceremony moved to the Memorial Cricket Pavilion. After the wreath-laying ceremony, each boy of the College filed past the wreaths placed in front of the plaque in the pavilion, where the names of Kearsney Old Boys who have fallen in war are recorded.

Parents’ Society

Report by Mr Mark Conway, Chairman: Parents’ Society.

As the end of 2015 approaches, the Parents’ Society is already planning the functions for the first term of 2016. I am pleased to note that matters are very much in hand.

At the beginning of 2015 we set ourselves four main goals to achieve for the year: We achieved our first goal of increasing the 250 Club Bursary support from two supported bursaries to four. It has been very rewarding to follow the progress of the boys who have been supported through this programme and I am pleased to tell you that the current candidates are doing very well.

Secondly, we focused on increasing the profile of the Kearsney supporters’ gear at Kearsney home games. This has been a success and I must thank Gary Butler and his team for their sterling effort at the Kearsney kit gazebo.

Thirdly, we wanted to fulfil the society’s important role of social co-ordinator. We had two main events for the year to encourage parents to socialise and network and these were great fun. We will be changing the format of the second function in 2016 to add something fresh and exciting.

Lastly, we continued with our boarding house liaison focus and are busy with two projects at the moment: a communal braai area for the boys and the re-erection of the school bell when the new classroom block has been completed.

Regrettably I am stepping down as Chairman at the end of this year due to other commitments. Thank you for the opportunity. I have really enjoyed every minute of it and have been supported by a wonderful team. Next year the Parents’ Society will be in good hands and I encourage you to get involved and attend the AGM to be held on 02 February 2016.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT

Luke 1:26-38 tells the story of the announcement of the conception of Jesus Christ to Mary. The angel Gabriel appeared to her and told her that she will bear a son, “Jesus the Son of the Most High”. Mary’s response was: “Here I am! Let it be to me according to your word.” Mary immediately made herself available to be part of the salvation plan of God for the world.

How can we, like Mary, also make ourselves available to carry out God’s salvation plan for the world? Firstly, through believing in Jesus we ourselves can be saved. After all, this is why God sent His Son into the world. Secondly, by showing the world the love of Jesus in the ways that He demonstrated during His life on earth, like serving others, especially those whom you may consider lower than yourself in rank, class or ability, and making generous accommodation for time for prayer and communion with God.

Rev James Headbush
Chaplain