

Dear Lebone II parents, learners, teachers and friends,

“Tell me and I will forget, show me, and I may remember, involve me, and I will understand” (Confucius, 450 BC) To me these words define education. As we work together as a team in consistent and dedicated pursuit of our high ideals, it is incumbent on us as a college to always seek to ensure that our students are fully engaged participants in their own learning. As we reflect on some of the great work done by students and staff in this first term we do notice just how much opportunity exists for Lebone children to be involved in multiple learning moments.

This has been a very busy term. I wish to thank the Lebone staff for their dedicated commitment to the education and care of young people and their willingness to serve. Equally I wish to acknowledge Lebone students who embrace challenge, who remain inquisitive, who find enjoyment in their daily interactions at school, and who are supportive and involved in school activities. Lastly, thank you to our parent body for continuing to support this school in all that we do.

Two weeks ago we hosted a **national ISASA ECD Conference** (there is a brief report on this in the newsletter) here at Lebone. I wish to extend a very warm and generous THANK YOU to all of the Lebone staff, parents and children (over 200 Lebone people in total) who were involved in the planning and execution of this enormous success for our school. In particular Mrs Di Roberts (Chairperson of the planning committee) and Ms Hamilton (responsible for our list of world class speakers) laid the foundation for this conference which has been hailed by participants as a world class event. The rest of the committee who worked tirelessly were: Mme Mokgethwa, Mr Smal, Mme Phalatse, Mrs du Toit, Mme Morake, Mr Slater, Mr Lindsay, Mrs Goosen, Mme Kgwefane, Mrs Edmunds and Mr Diedericks. Thank you to you all.

Allow me to briefly reflect on 3 important events:

- Our school Aquatic Centre is coming along very well. The expected date of completion is the end of May.
- **LIRA** – this world class South African star is performing in our amphitheatre on **Saturday 27 May**. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the amphitheatre is full for the event. I ask that every family is involved in promoting the event and selling tickets. This is an opportunity for Lebone to shine brightly. **We all are responsible!** Also, the PSO will be seeking Lebone parents who wish to help with the event – please respond when these requests are sent out. **WE CAN DO THIS!**
- We have ended the term with a **Service Day**. I believe that service is a vital component to our holistic education. Serving teaches appreciation and gratitude. It deepens our understanding of situations other than that which we are comfortable with. If we are developing future leaders it is vital to be able to serve, to have empathy, to walk the talk, to be humble and roll up our sleeves and do it ourselves – leaders do not wait for others to do it for us.

Throughout this term I have focused on the importance of relationship. I get a sense that in the business of our lives, and in a society where our leaders emphasise difference, we do not pay enough attention to truly knowing one another. To truly seeing one another – I love the isi-Zulu greeting: Sawubona – I see you as a human being, I acknowledge you as a person. For me relationship is about seeing value in other people, it is about respect for one another, it is about accepting that we are all different and have different perspectives, and is about seeing how we can be good together. It is about not competing, it is about forgiveness, requires listening and good communication. Relationships are not easy. They require hard work and thought. I invite us all to continue to work on our ability to build relationship. It is ultimately what pulls society together.

I wish you a wonderful holiday. This Easter time is a time of deep reflection for our Christian families.

Use the time together wisely. Grow relationships.

Warm regards,
David



Upcoming Events

Kindly note the below important dates for the second term:

- 18 April: Staff return for second term
14h00 - Boarding Parent's meeting
- 19 April: Students return for first day of term
17h00 - Upper School Parents Report Distribution
- 26 April: Admissions close for 2018
- 27 April: Public Holiday - Freedom Day
- 28 April: School Holiday
- 1 May: Public Holiday - Worker's Day
- 27 May: **LIRA concert**
- 16 June: Public Holiday - Youth Day
- 23 June: School closes

Important Announcement LIRA Unplugged

On 27 May Lebone II will host an exciting evening with award-winning songstress LIRA in our open-air Amphitheatre. LIRA's beautiful voice and feel-good, smooth style appeals to all music lovers; don't miss the chance to be part of this special evening. This event is one of our primary fundraising drives for 2017 and the proceeds of which will go to the Lebone fund to provide full and partial scholarships to talented children from our community.

Please see D6, the Lebone II website or Lebone II Facebook page for ticket sales details.

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General News

OUR COMMUNITY – In his State of the Royal Bafokeng Nation (RBN) address Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi celebrated Lebone II and our achievements – there is a pride about this school which is growing all the time. He reminded us to continue to improve, to remain relevant, to focus on our IMPACT, and to cascade our excellence into other schools; in the RBN, nationwide and further afield. Over the past term we have endeavored to live up to that commitment at all times and have, amongst others, hosted 120 maths educators from the Department of Education to participate in our classes and we continue to host 100 student-teachers from the Akanyang Centre for Teaching in our Foundation Phase classes every week. As the highest secure point in our community we have recently erected an IT tower for the RBN to have wifi internet links to the community.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE - Over the long weekend in March, Lebone II College hosted the national ISASA Early Childhood Development Conference. We had 35 well-known speakers, from South Africa as well as America, and over 260 delegates from Southern Africa. As our Lebone mandate to add value to our community, we also simultaneously hosted a second conference which was attended by our 110 Akanyang students and 37 ECD teachers from the community. Our own Lebone teachers gained a vast amount of knowledge, from brain development, to reading, to occupational therapy issues to the importance of play. The event was also an opportunity to highlight performances by our own students in the music departments and delegates were entertained by our Marimba band, our Foundation Phase choir and by individual piano, violin and clarinet performances at the dinners. It was an honour to be able to host such an inspirational event.

ECO-SCHOOLS AWARDS - Lebone II College attended the Eco-Schools Awards, a programme facilitated by WESSA, (The Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa) aimed at creating awareness and action around environmental sustainability. The Eco-Schools Programme is active in 51 countries around the world and there are over 1,200 registered schools with the programme in South Africa. During the prize-giving ceremony, Lebone II accepted a Green Flag, which is a gold equivalent as Lebone has successfully been a part of the Eco-schools programme for 3 years. Much work has been done over the past three years to achieve this prestigious acknowledgement and we would like to congratulate our Environmental team, under the guidance of Mathapelo Matjila, for their superb achievement which will inspire learners to continue with the excellent environmental work that happens each day at Lebone.

HEADMASTER'S SERVICE DAY - On Friday, 31 March, Lebone II learners and staff participated in the Headmaster's Service Day; an initiative by the Lebone II Interact Club. Learners signed up for a number of service acts, which included, amongst others, the sanding of school desks, reading to Foundation Phase students, car washing and collecting litter. Learners paid R5 each to wear their jeans and school t-shirts to school that day. All proceeds from the day will go to Dignity Dreams, a charitable programme which will distribute sanitary pads to young girls in our local schools.

NIKKI BUSH PRESENTATIONS - Lebone II hosted sought-after speaker, author and child development specialist, Nikki Bush, over 2 days for a number of informative and interactive workshops for learners, teachers and parents. The Lower School teachers spent an afternoon with Nikki, in her BRAND TEACHER workshop, whilst the Lebone parents were greatly entertained and challenged in a PARENTING ON THE RUN session in the evening. Two workshops were held for Upper School learners – the Grade 6 to 9 students enjoyed the informative social media session called THE ONE THING YOU NEED TO REMEMBER, and the Grade 10 to 12 students benefited from an exploration into determining work and life success called THE X-FACTOR IS YOU.

News from the Lower School

GRADES R - 3 ACADEMICS - The Lower School had a fun-filled academic term! Students in Grades R – 3 spent much time learning more about themselves and their place in the world. As part of this learning the Grade 1 children spent a happy morning in their classes accompanied by their grandparents, whilst the Grade R children welcomed their Moms and Dads on respective days. The children loved the opportunity to show off their learning, activities and art works to their families.

GRADES 4 – 6 ACADEMICS - Grades 4 – 6 covered Personal and Social Well-being, as well as Natural Science units. Students once again demonstrated how the 'Habits of Mind' supported their social and academic learning. The term culminated in a wonderful Student-Led Conference where students shared their learning with their parents.

VUKA FARM SCHOOL - On Valentine's Day, the Lower School children shared the love! As one of our community projects for this year, they collected and delivered non-perishable food to the

Staff News

This term we were pleased to welcome a number of new staff members to our team, and we hope that they will be very happy here as part of the Lebone II family.

Rre David Misihairabwi – Physical and Natural Sciences (US)
Mrs Danielle Swart – Grade 2 Teacher (LS)
Mme Onica Ramatjela – Intermediate Assistant and Music Teacher (LS)
Ms Rabia Rizvi – English Teacher (US)
Mme Tlamelo Tshele – Global Studies Educator (US)
Mme Lerato Petlele – Setswana Intern (US)
Rre Walter Mutsvene – Accounting and Mathematics Educator (US)
Mrs Irma Nel – Natural Sciences Educator (US)
Rre Lesego Kgabileng – Sports Coach
Mme Bai Ditsele – Sports Coach
Rre Thabiso Kgobe – Sports Coach
Ms Hannah Ryan - Grade 3 Intern (LS)
Mrs Caron Edmunds – Marketing and Communications Manager
Mme Dineo Tau – Geography Intern(US)

Wedding bells rang for **Mme Thembeni Phoseka**, our Grade 3 Teacher in the Lower School, and she is now Mrs Hlalele. We wish her all the best for a happy future with her new husband.

This term we celebrated with **Mrs Rachelle Elmes**, Head of Music Lessons and Theory, as she welcomed a new baby boy named Wilco. Mother and baby are both doing well.

In February we bid farewell to **Rre Joe Cossa**, who was a Life Orientation teacher in the Upper School and an integral part of training our Marimba bands. **Mrs Irma Nel**, Natural Sciences Educator in the Upper School, will also be leaving at the end of the term, and we say goodbye and thank-you to **Mrs Yvette Sharp** who has been standing in for Mme Mathapelo Matjila in the Grade 6 class. We wish them all the best as they take their leave and remind them that they are always part of our Lebone II family.

We believe in **BELONGING**.
At Lebone II everybody belongs;
parents, teachers, students,
community and friends
beyond borders
#livingourvalues



children and families from Vuka Farm School. We are passionate at Lebone about encouraging our children to assist and support others less fortunate than ourselves. We collected nearly 400 cans of food and will implement another drive later in the year.

BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY - Our butterfly enclosure has opened in the Lower School gardens, the result of a collaboration between one of our Lebone parents and a Grade 1 teacher. Lebone is privileged to be located in a wonderful natural environment against Tshufi hill, and the butterfly enclosure is a space where we will be able to enjoy the wonder of nature as butterflies hatch and develop right before our children's eyes. I would like to thank Mrs Carin Moffat and Mrs Carol Giovannoni for their vision, and Mr Sean Lindsay and his Facilities and Maintenance teams who erected the enclosure.

SETSWANA HOMEWORK - The Lower School Setswana department realised that the parents of non-Setswana students struggled to support their children with Setswana reading homework. As innovative educators they have implemented a programme of WhatsApp recordings, where reading homework for Grades 1, 2 and 3 non-Setswana speakers is recorded, and students and parents listen to the correct pronunciation and intonation when reading. This programme has seen an improvement and love of Setswana in these students since it started. At the same time the parents of these learners have voiced their appreciation for this helpful and inventive initiative and are taking the opportunity to learn Setswana along with their children.

WORLD BOOK DAY – On Friday, 31 March, our Lower School celebrated World Book Day, with each learner having the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character. The National Children's theatre came to Lebone II to perform a theatre production based on the book 'Freckle Face Strawberry' for our Grade R – 4 learners, whilst the Grades 5 and 6 learners participated in service activities as part of the Headmaster's service day. Bargain books hosted a stall where parents and learners were able to buy reasonably-priced books for their own homes.

News from the Upper School

GEAR - In the Lebone II GEAR programme students have the choice to attend any 2 of 30 different GEAR activities for a specific term. These activities take place each afternoon and aim is to provide students with the opportunity to attain skills and knowledge of a topic they are interested in. Topics range from Aquaponics, Robotics, Art Movies and Baking to Ohms Alley Science, Digital Design, African Politics and Marimbas. Learners are enjoying the diversity this adds to the school day.

WITS UNIVERSITY LECTURE - Forty Lebone II Upper School learners attended a lecture at Wits University; titled "Secure the Base and Decolonise the Mind" by prominent Kenyan author and academic Professor Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o. The Great Hall at Wits was filled to capacity and our Lebone II students enjoyed the exposure to the public dialogue in this intellectual space.

"SPEAK 2 A SCIENTIST" LECTURE - Grades 10 to 12 learners attended the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre's "Speak 2a Scientist" lecture, titled "Mars: How are we really going to get there?" Presenting the lecture was James (Jim) Adams, a retired National Aeronautical and Space agency (NASA) senior executive, who was in charge of landing the rover Curiosity on Mars almost five years ago. It was a fascinating discussion that highlighted the challenges of such an endeavour and the precise timing and coordination required for the 8 month journey and the dangerous landing in an inhospitable environment. Lebone II students were privileged to hear inputs from South African, Dr Adriana Marais, who is one of the Mars 100; selected from over 200 000 applicants to proceed to the next round of the Mars One Astronaut Selection Process.

GEOGRAPHY MAPPING - For the past few weeks the Grade 12 Geography pupils have had the privilege of taking flights over Rustenburg and Phokeng as an exercise to sharpen their map work skills. This is an assignment that allows the learners to see map work from a different perspective, and has had a positive response from all the students involved. The learners had to complete five tasks from the air, which included the identification of both natural and manmade features. Photographs of these features were used as proof of correct identification. Lebone II would like to thank Mr. Anthony Jones; our pilot, who gave so freely of his time and expertise

GRADE 8 CAMP - The Grade 8s embarked on their annual Grade 8 Camp in February. Grade 8 is one of Lebone's biggest intake years and so the camp aims to integrate new students with existing Lebone II students. The camp was held at Kloofwaters Outdoor Centre, in Magaliesberg. The kids did fun activities which pushed them to the edge of their comfort zones. This year, the focus was on respect, honesty, humility and belonging and the activities were designed to emphasise each value.



Performing Arts and Music

SA FILM AND TELEVISION AWARDS - One of our high school choirs, the Lebone II Glee Club, was chosen to perform at the South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs) which took place on 18 March at Sun City and was shown live on television. The choir sang on stage with South African artist Amanda Black, in a specially arranged version of her hit song *Amazulu*, which was performed as part of the "In Memoriam" section of the show. We would like to congratulate the choir master, Bragi Þór Valsson, and the Glee Club on their amazing success – you can watch the performance of this exciting club on the Lebone II Choirs YouTube channel.

SPIRIT AT SPORTS DAY – It was with great joy and anticipation that our school took to the athletics track and spectator stands at the annual Inter-high athletics on 23 March 2017 at Fields College. The spirit competition was indeed hotly contested and it was pleasing to see how all the schools raised the bar. After a long day of singing and cheering for our sensational athletes, there was very little to choose between the schools. At the end of the day we, unfortunately, did not walk away with the coveted Spirit Trophy. Notwithstanding our second place to Selly Park, we all felt extremely proud of the incredible spirit, fortitude and discipline our students displayed throughout the day. Thank you to every single student and staff member who walked this exciting journey with us. We are determined to keep our spirits high and keep on improving each year.

LIVE JAZZ OUTING - In March we took some of our music students to The Orbit in Braamfontein to watch some live jazz. The group playing was the *New Skool Sextet*, a group of young South African musicians who are making a name for themselves. Their style is jazzy but easy to listen to and the students who went really had a great time.



MATHS OLYMPIAD – The first Round of the Mathematics Olympiad took place at Lebone II on the 16th March 2017. The SA Math Olympiad is the largest Olympiad in the country and consists of a number of questions which test problem-solving skills. It is very important that we continue to emphasise that Mathematics is about thinking and the discovery, and validation, and of problem-solving methods. There are 12 students in Grades 10 and 11 and 29 students in Grades 8 and 9 who attained 50% and higher, and qualified for participation in the second round on 10th May.

EXCHANGES - The Exchange Programme team were very excited to send our first group of three Grade 10 students to the Ghana International School in Accra, Ghana this month. The group were accompanied by Mr Mpho Nkwana. Also in March our school hosted a group of eleven 16- and 17 year old boys and girls from Bilbao in the north of Spain. They spent a number of days participating in the Lebone school experience where they attended classes and some of the GEAR and Sport sessions. They also had an exciting itinerary which included visits to Johannesburg, Maropeng, Phokeng and Pilanesberg. Our annual visit to a small town, Loches, in France will be taking place from 31 March till 10 April. Mrs Adel Hartley and Mr Mojuta Mothlamme will be accompanying ten of our grade 10 students as they participate in the 10th International Festival of Arts and Sciences, hosted by the Saint Denis International School.

Sports News

DERBY DAY - On the weekend of 10 – 12 March 106 students and staff travelled to our annual Derby Day against Gaborone-based Maru-a-Pula (MaP) and the African Leadership Academy (ALA) from Johannesburg. This collaboration started 3 years ago with the inaugural event hosted by Lebone II College. This year's event took place at the MaP campus in Gaborone with the school hosting the best yet Derby Day, including battles for Chess and STEM presentations, as well as Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball and Netball battles. We didn't come home with the trophy, as that was ALA's honour for 2017, but came back with trophies filled to the rim of new friends, new perspectives and a much broader sense of the words "we are all proudly African". We are looking forward to hosting the 2018 Derby Day battle.

ATHLETICS - Temoso Mosikane in Grade 5 participated in the Provincial Athletics Championships in Potchefstroom. He did incredibly well, coming 3rd in the long jump and 5th in the high jump. Kamogelo Kaapu has been selected to the NW team going to Senior nationals. Emma Nel got a gold medal for her 1st place in the 800m and Caitlin Thompson got a silver medal for her 2nd place for the 1500m at the ANWN Provincial league.

HOCKEY – Joshua Fouche, Thato Motene, and Kutlwano Setlogetlo have been selected to the North West squads for their age groups. Baona Rampete and Oliver du Toit have been selected to the Bojanala team going to North West selections.

SWIMMING – Our teams have participated in a number of school and area galas this term and enjoyed much success at each. Many swimmers competed at the level 1 champs at Pecanwood, and Kirsten Rankin and Grace Stubbs will be taking part in the level 2 championships.

CYCLING - We congratulate Caitlin Thompson on her win in the 18km Kgaswane Mountain bike competition.

CHESS CLUB - The Lebone II Chess club participated in 6 tournaments this 1st term and saw very good results from many players. In April 2 players from Grade 6, Thatego Lefyedi and Ntuma Moagi, will compete at the Kopanong Conference centre in Johannesburg in the South African Junior Chess closed competition, where they will striving to achieve S.A colours for Chess.

HORSE-RIDING - We congratulate our horse-riding participants on their recent achievements in various events: Liam Naude achieved a 2nd and 3rd place Dressage level 1, Margot Naude came in 1st place in Dressage level 2 and Dressage level 1, and Shihao Lin achieved a 2nd place in Dressage and a 4th place in Working Riding.

LEBONE PARKRUN - Our Lebone II parkrun celebrated two years of Saturday morning 5km runs in March. The parkrun has been a wonderful success for our school and we congratulate the management team and marshalls who come to the school each Saturday to facilitate this event. We invite you to join in this wonderful family activity that takes you through our beautiful campus; kindly be reminded that the Lebone parkrun returns to its winter start time of 08h00 from this Saturday.

LEGAE BOARDING NEWS

In the first term the Boarding Management team laid the groundwork for a number of programmes that we will be facilitating for our Boarding learners this year. The purpose of these is to enrich our boarders' school and "home" lives with activities that are inspiring, informative and empowering. Amongst the activities in action are the ongoing golf and soccer participation and the new Netball League. In the April school holidays our boarding houses will host 30 students and their parents from two primary schools in Botswana, who will participate in a football and netball tournament with Lebone II.

A number of cultural activities have been added to our programme, where students are taken to art galleries and theatres. We have also introduced a number of life skills activities for boarders which encourage independence; these include financial literacy, cooking and vehicle mechanics with more to be added in the year. Community Service is on top of our agenda as well, as we have established a relationship with three local schools and next term the Legae students garden in these communities to promote a healthy environment and lifestyle.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

"The Lekgotla shook things up by hosting two social events- for seniors and juniors- where students enjoyed a night of dancing and experiencing different music genres, as a way to revive the connections and the relationships that were enthusiastically developed at the beginning of the year. The Lekgotla has adopted a "add a little hope" campaign in all their events and the students paid a R2 entry fee, which was donated to a community home in Phokeng. We will continue to rise to the challenges that we are faced with in humility and in truth, and continue to serve our school and our community because we're batho ka batho ba ba bangwe – Lekgotla. *Service is the game, Student Leaders Council is our name. Building relationships is the aim and fun is the reward.* We came together with great entertainment and food with a welcome braai and SLC day. We shared our leadership knowledge by hosting a fun-filled training session with primary school students, to lead their school and create a better future." – Mpho Montsho

