



## Headmaster's Newsletter September 2016

*Dear Lebone Parents and Friends,*

The unbridled joy and enthusiasm of our Foundation Phase children, the sudden maturation and intellectual growth that we see in our Intermediate Phase students, the complex, yet rewarding, Middle School years and the pressurised and fulfilling period of the FET Phase – schooling has the most wonderful blend of experiences, the most intricate balance of needs, and the most delicate need for understanding how these phases and stages piece together. Lebone II College enjoys these experiences daily. We have a superb staff who pour every ounce of effort into every day to make great schooling available. We have parents who support, contribute, comment and believe – thank you. Thank you to all who dance this delicate dance with me.

South Africa is witnessing the most challenging of times in schools and tertiary institutions at the moment. The demand for student voice, the immediacy of social media and the desire for transformation in all facets of society, all driven by the younger sectors of our communities, has surprised many. Change, the demand for change, seems inevitable and is happening at breakneck speed. For us as parents, leaders, mentors, critics and as adults who wish for the best possible world for our children, this is a particularly unsettling time. For our youth who also wish for the best possible world for themselves this is a time of potential, and an equally unsettling time.

Yet in this time, we need to be able to collaborate to identify what it is that will hold our community together, and indeed to allow us to shift with the times yet maintain a culture in which we believe. As a school we believe that this is possible. Challenging, but exciting if we get it right.

What we require is strong and agile leadership, a shared vision of what we want rather than what we do not want, the patience to listen, the great satisfaction of having a positive influence, hope that stems from our shared desire to live in a world that is good, and love. This cannot sound unachievable! We simply have to build a community that looks forward to waking up every morning, energized, positive, confident in one another.

So Lebone will base its future on a solid set of principles. The same ones that have proven to be the bedrock of our school community that is currently thriving and seeing young people going on to being impactful adults:

- Our 9 school values remain at our core. Please continue to collaborate with the school on this by asking your child what these values are, by discussing each one at home, by pointing out when we see them in action, and by collectively modelling them
- High expectations – of the school, of one another, of the power of collaborating as parent, child and staff. I have used the phrase; ‘the standard you walk past is the standard you accept’ recently to remind our school that it is not up to the Headmaster and the staff to uphold this school and nation that we love, it is every person’s responsibility.
- We continue to believe in dialogue, in listening first before judging, that every person belongs and that their voice counts. And here I have also reminded the school that ‘No is an answer’! It seems that we do not accept no anymore. We need to learn to do so.
- Democracy comes with responsibility. If we are to be a space in which we welcome input and embrace the right to expression, then we need to learn to do so in a responsible, dignified manner that seeks to respect relationship, tradition, openness, other people’s opinions and feelings. We are not always getting this right at the moment. The world culture around us unfortunately gives us many examples of how not to do this.
- Finally, the belief in what we are striving to achieve. I believe that if we have clear purpose, we will move towards it. Our purpose remains to inspire, to educate, to flourish and to be a community that finds joy in what we do.



This school has faced challenges in recent weeks. What has remained firm is what we believe in. We have not accepted what is wrong. We have stood firm. Many lessons will have been learned. How we learn from them, how we seek not to repeat the same behaviours and how we continue to see the good in one another, will define this school as unique, modern, inclusive.

Lebone continues to be a place of opportunity. I invite all members of this school body to look forward towards what we wish to see, what we aspire towards, and to be a part of the collaborative design process. If you choose to be here, then be a part for the right reasons and seek joy in what we are creating.

Right now the good people in the world, the leaders, the parents, the role models need to stand firm.

This school does not bow to popular culture – let us hold onto that! In fact let us design the culture we wish to see.

I remain humbled by the opportunity I have to be leading this unique and impactful school.

*Ke a leboga,*

*Yours sincerely  
David du Toit*



### IMPORTANT HEADLINES FROM THE HEADMASTER

- Our school has been through our ISASA Independent Quality Assurance Assessment (IQAA) in the last 3 months. This has been a productive process which invited us to take a reflective look at our practices. I am pleased to announce that the assessment went very well, and that we have received full accreditation (***for your enjoyment I have attached the Report from the Director of IQAA***). I would like to acknowledge **Mrs. Di Roberts** and her **Quality Assurance Team** who have worked tirelessly and incredibly professionally to ensure that we were prepared for the assessment.

- On **Monday 10 October**, we will hold a **Parent Meeting** in the school hall. In this meeting we will discuss details regarding the 2017 school fees and will answer questions relating to the fees and the 2017 budget. This meeting will begin at 17h30.

The Lebone II College Board of Governors, on 1 September 2016, approved the 2017 budget for Lebone. Inflation and the current economic climate are key guides in the Board's deliberations along with the finances of the College. This budget includes an **8% increase in the school and boarding fee contributions** for 2017. Comparatively speaking our fee is very competitive with other schools that offer a similar standard of education, and the Board is determined to maintain this competitive advantage where possible.

Attached at the end of this newsletter is a fee contribution schedule for 2017. The full fee letter will be available on the school website and on D6.

- In March 2017, Lebone II will host the national Independent Schools Association of South Africa (ISASA) Early Childhood Development (ECD) conference in Phokeng. We are expecting over 400 ECD (Grade RRR to 3) teachers from independent schools around our country to descend on our school, on our community. We have an excellent program planned with many outstanding speakers.
- Please note that **Saturday 22 October is a School Day** for all Lebone students. This is our Mathaithai day – we wish to have all of our students present to be a part of this important community day in our school calendar. I ask for your support in this regard.
- All current Lebone families should have received their **re-registration forms** for 2017. These forms should already have been returned to the school. This is important and is expected so that we can finalise our school student numbers for 2017. I wish to remind all families that you are expected to give a term's notice should you be withdrawing your child from our school.



- As mentioned in our previous newsletter, **Ms. Kim Simons** will depart our school on 14 October. I wish to thank Kim for the outstanding work she has done as HOD of History, and as the Coordinator of our Middle School program over the last 6 years. We wish her well in her new leadership role in KZN.
- **Ms. Tebogo Maneli** has accepted a teaching post abroad. Tebogo is a talented young teacher, and her departure is a big loss for our school – she was an English teacher and a Boarding Assistant. **Rre Botshelo Motsisi** will join his fiancé, Ms. Maneli, abroad at the end of October. He has served the school as a sports coach and Boarding Assistant for the past 10 months.
- We are delighted to have **Ms. Bex Marriott** back at Lebone II. Ms. Marriott has been in England awaiting the finalization of her work permit.
- We wish to announce that **Mme Virginia Tshoma** has been appointed as the new House Director of Legae le Basetsana. Mme Tshoma will take over from Mrs. Lieze Prins who has served as the Director for the past 4 years. **Mrs. Adine Antonio** will serve as Mme Tshoma's Deputy from 2017.
- **Mrs. Martinette Ronquest, Mrs. Ronelle Lochner** and **Mme Bongwiwe Mokgethwa** have been appointed as new Boarding Assistants. We thank these ladies for their commitment to developing young ladies in our boarding establishment.
- **Mrs. Paula Smith** has been appointed on a part time basis to establish our Alumni organization.
- **Ms. Mathapelo Mafora** has joined us as an intern in the Sciences department. Mathapelo matriculated in Luka, completed her BSc at Wits (sponsored by RBI) and has now decided that she would like to teach.

### General News

I have selected a few items to share here.

- On Saturday 22 October we will be running our **Pick n Pay Mathaithai Trail Run** ([mathaithai.co.za](http://mathaithai.co.za) or on our Lebone facebook page). This fundraising and community event has grown significantly since our first run 3 years ago. **Pick 'n Pay** is our title sponsor, with many other smaller sponsors on board as well. We are hoping for over 1500 runners this year. We have added the **Mathaithai Mountain Biking** component to the event – this will be ridden on the Sunday, 23 October, and is being organised by our local cycling club.
- I wish to congratulate the entire school on the recent production of **'SHAKA'** in our breathtaking amphitheatre. And I wish to thank the many parents who participated, supported, helped, bought tickets and enjoyed the show – this was truly a family affair! Under the guidance and vision of **Mr. Stephen Kotze**, our Director of Performing Arts, and with over 160 students involved and over 30 staff assisting, the school produced a memorable show. I wish to congratulate the entire team. This was a major success – performances were excellent, the set and costumes simply magnificent and good audiences. (photos can be seen on our facebook page)
- We recently enjoyed a beautiful Ballet show in our hall where our many dancers were able to showcase their talents. A further **Ballet showcase** event, featuring local Phokeng students, will be taking place at Lebone on Friday 23 September. I mention this as it



recognizes our school's role in the community. Through our ballet classes at school and with a partnership between Happy Feet Dance Studio and RBI, Lebone has initiated a ballet program in **Phokeng**, with over 100 local Phokeng children now learning to dance, and with local Phokeng dancers being trained as ballet teachers.

- Our annual **Leadership Festival** was once again a significant success. Under the leadership of **Rre Thebe Morake le Rre Kabu Mokgethwa**, the 120+ participants from a wide range of local and international schools were treated to an intense 5 days of dialogue and reflection, grappling with the theme: 'Deepening Democracy through Dialogue'. A large team of staff and alumni worked hard to ensure that this remains a flagship event on our calendar.
- Our **Lebone II Art Exhibition** was once again an opportunity for our students and staff to showcase their work, along with 8 local artists who also were given a platform to display their work. I thank parents and family members who came to view the art works. I also wish to thank **Ms. Thea Luus and her team of staff** who worked so hard to ensure the success of the event.
- We hosted our **Nashua 7-a-side soccer festival** in August. This partnership with Nashua remains strong after 8 years. 52 teams participated – from Johannesburg, Pretoria, Vryburg, Mafikeng, Brits, RBN schools and Rustenburg – in this very successful community day.
- Our **Marvelous Moms** primary school tea for moms and their children allowed us to continue working with our parents, focusing on parenting, parent relationship building and participation. There was a good turnout of enthusiastic moms and children who were treated to a lovely day in Phokeng.
- We have 20 students going on our **international exchange programs** to the USA, Spain and India in the coming few months. These students are in Grade 10, as per our school program which aims to create exposure and growth opportunity for students in this very important developmental year.
- I am able to reflect on the success of our **Lebone/Harvard project**. In 2016 we had 3 Harvard students spending 2 months at Lebone. This is run through the Centre for African Studies at Harvard. These students spend time serving our school, interacting with our students, doing some SAT preparation, assisting in the boarding houses as duty teachers, and deepening their understanding of our culture.
- Our **Grade 5** and **Grade 6** students have recently returned from their exciting trips to Mpumalanga and Sugar Bay. Thank you to the staff who travelled with our students and ensured a superb learning experience for our students. The children did us all proud.
- Our Grade 10 students also recently returned from their Grade 10 Camp. This camp seeks to challenge and stretch the students by exposing them to challenges they may never previously have faced. The idea is to encourage the Grade 10s to deepen their understanding of themselves, and of what they are capable of. **Rre Mpho Nkwana** runs this program – I wish to thank him for his superb program.
- I would also like to add my congratulations to the many students who performed so beautifully in our **Music Evening** on Tuesday 21 September. Those who attended were treated to lovely, talent-full performances.



There are so many other events that have happened, and that happen daily. Wonderful teaching and learning, innovative practice, enriching experiences – from Grade R to 12, daily. I thank the staff who make this possible every day, the parents who support these initiatives, and the students who grab the opportunities with enthusiasm.

### **Sports News**

**Chess** Our **u13 Chess team** was crowned **champions of the North West** in the provincial finals and will now represent the province at the national finals. Our u17 team achieved the silver medal in the same provincial finals. I would like to point out the excellent work being done by our chess coach, **Mr. Omogolo Nkwe**.

7 Lebone players have been selected to the North West provincial team to compete at National Schools Champs later this year.

**Ntuma Moagi**, Grade 5, recently represented the country in the World Youth Champs and will now be going to Georgia, USA, to play in an international tournament.

**Hockey** Towards the end of Term 2 the provincial league culminated in play offs to determine provincial champions. Our first team boys, our u16 boys and girls, our u14 girls and our u13B girls all progressed through to the final 8, with both boys' teams progressing to the semi-finals in their respective age groups.

**Soccer** Our teams competed in the Selly Park league. Our Girls had a great season and managed to beat Zinniaville in the Final at the Selly Park Festival.

Our boys' first team travelled to East London to participate in a large national schools soccer festival in July. This is the first time that one of our soccer teams has traveled to play in a tournament of this nature. The team fared reasonably well, but it was the exposure that was more important for us on this occasion.

Two of our Grade 11 students, **Ramono Pilane, Mpho Montsho and Letlotlo Morule** are qualified Level 3 referees who officiated in Varsity Cup matches which have been televised recently.

I also wish to congratulate **Mr. Chris Harrison** on his recent achievements as a Soccer Referee. He has recently refereed PSL matches in SA and was appointed to referee in the COSAFA u17 tournament in Mauritius, in which he refereed one of the semi-finals. We are very proud of Mr. Harrison and also thank him for the referee program he runs at Lebone which is seeing many of our students becoming qualified officials.

**Cricket** We have entered a team into a local cricket league for the first time. This follows much interest shown by students and a teacher to develop the sport at our school.

**Basketball** We have 3 teams in our local RBN Basketball league. 2 of our basketball players: **Mpho Rangwaga and Mpho Morare** have been selected for the RBN All Stars team that will participate in a national tournament in Johannesburg and Mafikeng.



- Cross Country Lebone students have done well in the Bojanala cross country league. 3 student athletes were selected into our provincial cross country teams to participate in the SA Champs in September in George. **Ms. Visser** was also selected to represent the NW team.
- Karate **Mohammed and Zara Amanjee** were at the SA nationals on the 3rd September and both obtained gold. They will now be representing Lebone at the SA schools competition on the 8th of October.

**Important dates for Term 4**

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|---------------|--|
| 10 October    | Staff and Boarders return for Term 4                             |
| 10 October    | Parent Meeting for all grades focused on school fees and budgets |
| 11 October    | Term 4 begins for all students                                   |
| 13 October    | Grade 12 Dinner  |
| 14 October    | Grade 12 Valediction ceremony                                    |
| 14 October    | Grade 4 students and staff leave for their camp                  |
| 14 October    | Grade 5 and 6 parents braai                                      |
| 19 October    | Matric Finals begin  |
| 21 October    | Daring Dads camp out   |
| 22 October    | Mathaithai trail run fund-raiser                                 |
| 22 October    | EPL lecture to be hosted at Lebone                               |
| 23 October    | Mathaithai mountain biking race                                  |
| 26-28 October | School to write International Benchmarking Tests                 |
| 27 October    | Music Gala evening   |
| 2 November    | Grade R Dinaledi Tsa Rona  |
| 3 November    | Upper School examinations begin                                  |
| 9 November    | Grade 1 and 2 Dinaledi Tsa Rona                                  |
| 10 November   | Grade 3 to 6 Dinaledi Tsa Rona                                   |
| 29 November   | Grade 6 Breakfast  |
| 6 December    | Upper School Dinaledi Tsa Rona                                   |
| 6 December    | Keteko ya Lebone   |
| 7 December    | School closes  |



**LEBONE II**  
College of the Royal Bafokeng

## FEE SCHEDULE 2017

### TUITION FEES

GRADES	Annual with 7% Rebate payable before 31 Dec 2016	Annual with 4% Rebate payable before 31 Jan 2017	MONTHLY (11 months)	Without Rebate
Grade R-6	R 47 774	R 49 315	R 4 670	R 51 370
Grade 7-9	R 57 288	R 59 136	R 5 600	R 61 600
Grade 10-11	R 64 449	R 66 528	R 6 300	R 69 300
Grade 12	R 67 109	R 69 274	R 6 560	R 72 160

<b>Annual Stationery Levy (All Students)</b>	R 900
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### BOARDING FEES

Upper School	ANNUAL	TERM
<b>Grade 7-12 ONLY</b>	R 66 400	R 16 600

### MUSIC FEES

INSTRUMENT	DEPOSIT REFUNDABLE	MONTHLY FEE
Clarinet, Guitar, Saxophone, Violin, Flute, Drums & Piano	R 750	R 275

ADDITIONAL SERVICES	MONTHLY FEE
Bus Fees	R 550



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Mr David du Toit  
Headmaster  
Lebone II, College of the Royal Bafokeng  
Farm Morgenzon 261  
JQ Phokeng 0335

8 September 2016

Dear Mr du Toit

**IQAA EVALUATION OF LEBONE II, COLLEGE  
OF THE ROYAL BAFOKENG 2016.**

**Lebone II is a school of excellence and a beacon of light, creating a bright future for those who are fortunate enough to be part of it!  
Henry Harman and Brian Williams, IQAA Mentors.**

I have read the relevant documents and reports pertaining to the evaluation of Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng. Collectively they portray a very vibrant and productive environment and it is indeed remarkable to consider the school has served its community so admirably in the relatively short period of just eighteen years; all who have invested in its development since 1998, and in particular the founder, should be immensely proud of all that the College represents today. The principles outlined in the school's Values, together with the messages from Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi and from yourself, really seem to permeate the lives of all who are involved in the community, and they are also evident in the tone and content of this Evaluation Report. The school's website is very appealing and informative; the colourful gallery of photographs, together with the print and media inserts, must certainly capture the interest of prospective applicants.

It is pleasing to note that on the whole you had positive feedback from the Opinion Surveys, even though the response from parents was below expectation. The evaluation team, most ably led by Mrs Di Roberts, has done well to effectively collate the salient points arising from the surveys, class visits and focus groups. Ms Sarah-

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**Independent Quality Assurance Agency**

**Directors:**

Samuel Isaacs (Chairman)

Ebrahim Ansur • John Falconer • Michael King • Stephen Lowry •

• Anne Oberholzer • Mark Potterton • Confidence Dikgole

Michael Hosty (Executive Director)

Lynne Rivett-Carnac (Mentor Representative)

Kim Boyd and Ms Juanet le Roux are also commended for the succinct compilation and editing of the Final Report. It is encouraging to glean that due attention has been given to the Recommendations from the Cycle 1 Report; this is a distinct indication of committed leadership, upheld by dedicated staff and a supportive community. Noteworthy headway has been made in several key areas and the challenges that still prevail will be addressed by the Quality Assurance Team.

You should feel heartened by the summary of the Key Strengths that are listed in the Report, in that it reflects the core purpose of any school – the provision of quality teaching and learning. Furthermore, this is encompassed in a close community in which the staff display a genuine care for the well-being of the boys and girls. Meaningful, holistic education should indeed comprise so much more than that which happens within a classroom and the academic curriculum. The list of other significant components of the Lebone II curriculum makes very inspiring reading indeed. There is, of course, scope for improvement in the functioning and management of any school. In studying the Areas of Concern, together with the exceptionally detailed School Improvement Plan, it is apparent that they do not present insurmountable obstacles to the management of the school; the accompanying time frames and delegation of responsibilities all appear realistic.

In conclusion I wish to congratulate Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng on a very positive evaluation. I trust that you are pleased with what has emerged from this Report, and that all are duly inspired as you reflect on past and present accomplishments, and future challenges. Thank you for the warm hospitality extended to our mentors, Henry Harman and Brian Williams, who have been very mindful of your support and professionalism. We most certainly appreciate the competent manner in which the evaluation team undertook this demanding process. Our Mentors commented that they have not been part of an evaluation that has been so well prepared and administered. You may proudly share the report, and my concluding comments, with your school community. A certificate confirming the completion of the evaluation, together with an IQAA logo for your website and correspondence, will be couriered to you in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Hosty



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Executive Director

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