

Dear DSP School Community,

At the start of 2018 we were proud of **68 distinctions** by our **class of 2017** as well as the dream score of 1.0 by Jessica Wolf in her Abitur, which together serve as inspiration to all our new and existing learners for their school journey.

In January we not only welcomed **58** excited **Grade 1** learners, but also our new principal, Ms Beate Kiehn!



She originates from Saarland and learnt tolerance and respect towards other cultures as a learner of another German school abroad, Alexander von Humboldt in Lima/Peru. After her studies she taught English and Spanish where she realised how important it is that each child is seen as an independent individual, that needs to be nurtured and developed in the context of his/her abilities. "When small children grow up to be

wonderful, independent, social people, who fend for themselves and others, it is a huge success," Ms Kiehn confirms. Because she loves singing and is fascinated by all new IT developments the DSP with its music-, science- and technology profile and Ms. Kiehn are certainly a good fit.



If you have not had the opportunity to meet Ms Kiehn in person during the course of the term click here to learn more about her. <http://bit.ly/2u54DRO>

This year also rang in a new era in the administrative wing under the helm of **Ms Birgit Graham-Dunn**. She is an alumni of the school and we are fortunate that she found her way back to the DSP after a career in IT, with a focus on People Optimisation.



During February there were more than a few heart palpitations at the DSP. Our hearts did not merely race because of Valentine's Day or the SRC V-bash but more so because of the delegation of **Bund-Länder-inspectors** from Germany, who put the school under the microscope between 12 and 16 February.

During the feedback session the entire school community could listen with a happy heart that the tireless efforts of the past two year by the Pedagogical Quality Management team, the teachers, the administration as well as the maintenance team paid off in order for us to fulfil all the requirements to once again receive the seal of approval as an "Excellent German School Abroad."



Our hearts swelled as the inspectors paid our learners a great compliment on living the vision and mission of the school especially in terms of integration, their exceptional engagement in class and above all their high standard.

The success of the school's **musical profile** was further underlined by the inclusion of three learners (Janina Hettasch, Maike Kabutz and Melanie Nowack) in the Simfonia Juventi Youth Orchestra. Our star cellist, Melanie Nowack, has also become a member of the Orchestra of the University of Pretoria.

Another highlight of the term was the performance of our senior **swimming team** who swam their way to **overall victory** of the D league during the recent Inter-High. Our Primary School took the 5th position in their league and vowed to also take the laurel "when they are big". We hold thumbs for our enthusiastic young swim talent.

The praiseworthy language competencies of our DAF learners were acknowledged during the awarding of the **DSD I** and **DSD II** language diplomas by the German Embassy and our heads from the German as Foreign Language Department.



Our French language skills received a boost during the **scholar-exchange** where 24 learners from La Réunion visited our school. A word of thanks to all the host families who opened up their homes for these learners.

We also congratulate Ofentse Netshivangane and Erwin Güther for receiving the **Hans-Neitz bursary** for their exceptional academic achievements and commitment to the school.

Towards the end of the term at the annual general meeting our new **governing body** was elected.

We wish Wolfgang Selzer, Nelly Zekale, Tina von la Chevallerie, Henriette Vienings, Jürgen Rust, Tebogo Molotsane, Anne Waldek-Thill, Andreas Wagner, Bernd Feucht, Dieter Kohlmeyer, Reinhard Kuhles und Mary Katerere a successful term as they support the school management in ensuring the sustainability of our school.

The terms of office ended for Dolly du Plessis, Heike Ostermann and Susan Smith. Our sincere appreciation goes to these three dedicated ladies, who participated in various committees over many years and gave so much of themselves and their time to the school.

A farewell is seldom easy but sometimes one has to say „Good Bye“ to achieve different life goals.

We thus bid farewell to:



Angelika Schindel, who has been at the DSP since 2000 and has lead the Primary School with true dedication.



Ruthild Lange, who has played a pivotal role in the success of the Tuckshop over the past 12 years.



Dr Christian Nottmeier, who has forged good relationships between the Johanneskirche and the school in his role as minister and teacher of religion.

We say good bye to another jam-packed term with numerous meet-and-greet functions, class camps, our Open Day and the Swim Fest, the traditional "Osterkaffee" at the German Old Age Home right up until the Grandparents Day on the last day of the term.

May you experience a relaxing holiday and the joy of Easter before we hit the books again!

Important dates in the second Term

11 May	Bunter Abend (Primary School Concert)
25 May	Winter Concert
26 May	Ballsport Day
29 May - 2 June	Science Week

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