



# The Leopard's Letter

In this issue, we talk about:

- A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD
- SOME WELCOMES AND FAREWELLS
- GREETINGS FROM THE LAIR
- GRADE 1 SCIENCE
- HOOKED ON BOOKS
- AMERICAN AWARDS BALLET
- GRADE RR "PEOPLE WHO HELP US"
- JP MOVIE NIGHT
- HERITAGE DAY



Dear Parents,

I recently had the privilege of attending a workshop by well-known educational psychologist Naomi Holdt, who emphasized the importance of self-care for adults in order to effectively meet the needs of our children. She reminded us that we need to model a balanced life for our children, who are like sponges, constantly absorbing and reflecting what they see.

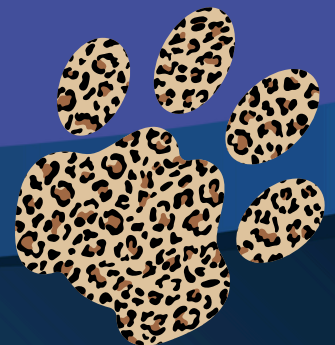
In our busy and fast-paced lives, we often forget to take a moment to recharge. It's essential to dedicate time to replenish your energy: consider journaling, practicing gratitude, enjoying nature, having coffee with a friend, singing and dancing with your children, or playing with your dog. By taking care of ourselves, we become more equipped to foster the meaningful connections that are so important for the children in our care.

Early this term, we look forward to our Open/Transfer Day on Friday, 11th October. The children will have the opportunity to spend a few hours in the Grade above to experience what lies ahead for them next year. We also welcome prospective new scholars to join us at Wembley. If you know anyone interested in enrolling their children at Wembley, please encourage them to reach out to admissions at [jamie@wembleycollege.co.za](mailto:jamie@wembleycollege.co.za) or to visit or call the school office at 033 4132677.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Wishing you all a blessed final term of 2024.

Warm Regards

Sally van Zuydam, Head of Junior School ([jp@wembleycollege.co.za](mailto:jp@wembleycollege.co.za))



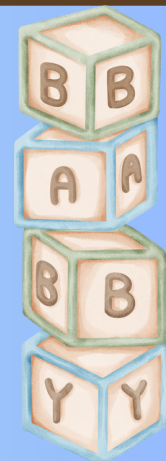
**JUNIOR SCHOOL**

#DevelopingPassionForLearning

# Some welcomes and some farewells



Mighty Max astonished us all by arriving ahead of schedule, even before the start of the 3rd Term! Just look at how much he has grown. Congratulations to the Gevers family, and welcome to Baby Max!



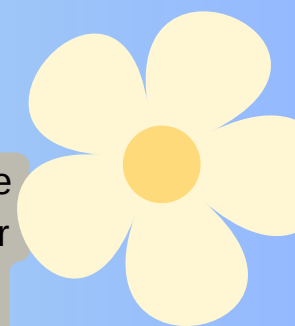
At the conclusion of the term, we bid a heartfelt goodbye to Mrs Sonette Wolmarans and her family. We are immensely grateful for nearly a decade of devoted service and the love you extended to every child in your care, as well as to each of your colleagues. Sonette, you will be deeply missed!



We have been privileged to have Miss Julia Lind working in the Preschool and coaching sports at Wembley for the last six months during Mrs Gayle Meyer's maternity leave. Miss Lind's infectious laughter and cheerful smile will certainly be missed.



We are pleased to introduce Mrs Nicolle Borain as our new Grade 1 teacher. Her teaching journey has centered around cultivating a supportive and organized classroom environment that encourages the growth and development of young students. We are delighted to have you join our team, Nicolle!



# GREETINGS FROM THE LAIR

BY MRS LISEL SILK

Over the past few months, I have been studying to become a NILD therapist. This course has addressed many interesting topics that I am already using whilst I see children for Academic Support as well as for group reading and maths.

One very interesting topic that I think we all can learn from is the **GROWTH vs FIXED MINDSET**. By changing our wording and the way we interact with our children, we can have a direct positive or negative affect on how they perceive themselves.

Whilst parenting can be really hard, having a growth mindset can help.



Research shows that parents can have a powerful impact on their children's mindsets. The language one uses and the actions one takes, show your children what you expect. Giving process praise, talking about the brain and how malleable it is, accepting mistakes as learning opportunities, and understanding the role of emotions in learning, are all practices we can begin today.

- The WORDS we use can have a direct impact on our children

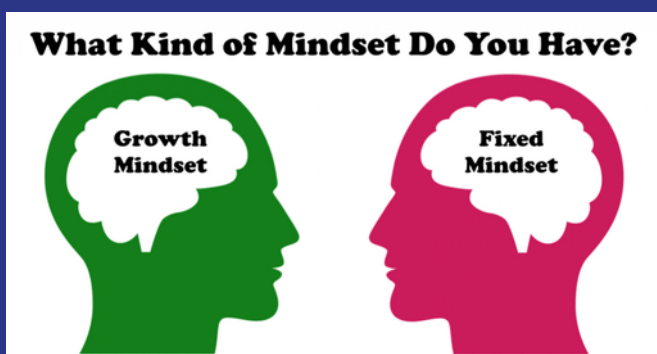
The way we praise our children can have a profound impact on their mindset. Research on praise and mindsets shows that when we praise children for being smart, it promotes a fixed mindset. It sends a message that their accomplishments are trait-based, and tied to something innate. In contrast, praising children for working hard promotes a growth mindset. It sends a message that the child's effort is what led them to success.

A few ideas of how we can change our children's mindsets are attached.

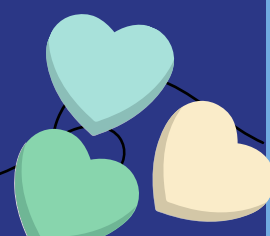
Accomplish BIG Things With a  
**GROWTH MINDSET!**  
Success Begins With Believing You Can



Instead of Thinking...	Think This...
I can't do it.	I'm still learning. I'll keep trying!
I'm not good at this.	What can I learn to get better at this?
It's good enough.	Is this the best I can do?
It's too hard.	With more practice it will get easier!
I'm afraid of making a mistake.	Mistakes are how I learn & get better!
They are better at it than I am.	What can I learn from them?
I don't know how.	I can learn how!
I can't make this any better.	I can always find ways to improve!
I don't like challenges.	Challenges make me better!
I give up.	I'll try a different way!



Learn \* Assist \* Ignite \* Restore



# Grade 1 Science



These Grade 1s showcased their own vehicles to illustrate the concepts of push and pull forces that they learned about in science class.



# Hooked on Books



Our Grade RR to 3 scholars were delighted by the enthusiasm and energy of the cast of Hooked on Books who came to visit us last term. This book-loving crew travels across South Africa, spreading the magic of reading. Their shows are a riot of laughter, music, and funky dance moves, with quirky characters, thrilling plots, and lots of fun. The interactive fun gets the children diving headfirst into the world of books, setting their imaginations on fire!



# American Awards Ballet



Thirteen of our Junior School girls took part in the American Performance Awards Ballet Exams in August. Congratulations to these talented dancers, and a heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Midge Joubert for her dedicated training. All the ballerinas received a silver award, with some achieving silver with distinction – we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments!



## People Who Help Us



Our Grade RRs recently explored the theme of "People Who Help Us" and transformed into doctors for the day. They created a hospital featuring dolls on IV drips, bandaged teddy bears, and plenty of plasters to tend to any "ouchies"!

#learningthroughplay



# JP Movie Night



There's nothing quite like showing up to school in pajamas, and our JP Movie Night was no different! Thank you to everyone who supported this fun evening; the funds raised will be used for academic support needs.



# SOUTH AFRICA



# MOVIE TIME



# Heritage Day



Celebrating the differences that make us a rainbow nation

