



BELLAVISTA

NEWSLETTER

A SAFE HARBOUR SCHOOL

5 of 2023

Connection and Community



Penned and shared by Grade Sevens, this letter made all the difference in the last few weeks, where there have been hard things and happy moments through our days.

Dear Anele and the Club

I know this is last minute and that you have already chosen the 5 schools for the 947 School Invasion, but I think you should come to Bellavista School in Birdhaven. Bellavista School is not just a regular school, it's a remedial school that helps children that have struggles in learning and helps them overcome it and learn better. If you come to my school it will give you and the Anele and the Club team a great opportunity to talk to children who face difficulties everyday, like with me, I am one of those children who are dyslexic. I went from not knowing how to read or write properly to better handwriting and now I can read a lot more. I still don't like reading books but I can at least read now.

When I was at my old school every single day of my life was a struggle, even on my birthday I would feel like I didn't fit in because I didn't know how to speak or read properly. It was

hard, especially when you were trying to say something and it came out all wrong. They would just send you straight to the teacher and you would get in trouble even though that's not what you meant. I would struggle and the teachers didn't have the time because there were so many in a class. If I didn't understand something, there was no time to explain it to me again. Bellavista has helped me more than anything in this entire world. The teachers are really comforting. I remember a year ago my aunt passed away and my teachers were so comforting and I feel I can count on my teachers for anything.

You can learn a lot at Bellavista. I've improved so much. It's kinda shocking that I went from having 50% to 60% to 70% and now I'm actually getting 80%, sometimes even 90%. Another reason why you should visit Bellavista is that we have one of the best principals, Mrs Alison Scott. She does not tolerate bullying and will sort out in the appropriate manner finding out both sides to the story. Everything she does is for the best for all the children at Bellavista.

I heard on the radio that you have a son and if he had a problem with reading like I do I am sure you wouldn't want him to get bullied or left behind. Bellavista is a place where you won't get bullied if you have a learning difficulty because the people surrounding you might even have that same difficulty that you do. Seeing others with the same issues helps me feel that I'm not alone and that there are people in this with me.

I know that you might have already selected your schools but I really think you and the rest of the team would love to come and see Bellavista because Bellavista isn't just a school it's a second home to me and to everyone else. My best friend is like my sister. She's always there for me and even though my sister is in the same school as me, sometimes she likes her own space so if I ever need anyone I always go to my best friend and she will always be there for me. My best friend is one of my lifelines. My other one was my aunt but at Bellavista I have learnt that having courage and facing fears is what BellaVista is all about.

I really think if you guys would take into consideration to come to our school you will not regret. I'm going to share something with you that I don't tell most people Bellavista is my safe place I used to get bullied but that's because I started out with this weird urge to always be perfect but now I realise that being perfect is not a part of who I am it's not a part of anyone should be the only thing you should be is good enough for yourself. It doesn't matter if your parents disagree, your grandparents disagree, all that matters is what you care about.

It would be a huge honour if you can come to Bellavista to talk to a few children like my friend Faye, Oliver and me. We have a boy named Liam and he is very impressive. He is doing Grade 11 maths and getting first, second or third place when he enters competitions and he's only in grade 6! Every morning I listen to you and I enjoy your show. My mom, my sister and I have such a good time listening to Anele and the Club! I know Bellavista and all the children and staff will amaze you and the Club. If you do decide to come to Bellavista please email me back to tell me and what day will be.

Thank you

Love Tamira, Faye and Oliver

UV Dash

Our heartfelt appreciation is extended to the Parents Association sub committee who put together our inaugural UV Dash. Stopping to play, make memories and connect with each other as a school community was sweet and good and a tremendous amount of fun.



From the Chairlady of the Parents Association : Mrs Kerry Harrison

Dear Bellavista School Parents

We wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your amazing support in making our recent UV Family Dash a huge success.

Our goal for this event was to build community, and to create an opportunity for staff, students and families to connect and have a fun-filled evening together. And, thanks to your participation, we achieved this goal and more! It was wonderful to see so many families come together to enjoy good food, great company and plenty of UV

bubble-foam-paint fun. We hope that this was just the beginning of many more opportunities for us to connect and grow as a community.

Thank you to Mrs Scott and all the staff who supported us wholeheartedly as we embarked on this (ad)venture. The PA Dash team also deserves special mention for their tireless work and dedication in bringing this event together in such a short time. Their creativity, ability to laugh at themselves and each other, and hard work were amazing, and made all the difference in creating a truly memorable event.

We also want to recognise the sponsors who made the UV Family Dash possible through their generous contributions. We couldn't have done this without their support, and are so grateful for their partnership in helping us achieve our goals.

But most importantly, we want to thank you, our parents, for being there with us every step of the way. Your participation, feedback, volunteering, enthusiasm and energy made the event a wonderful success, and we are so grateful for your ongoing support of our school and community.

Sincerely,

Kerry Harrison Bellavista PA Chairlady

The Bellavista PA Dash Team: Richard Seegers (Lead), Leanne Gordon (Finance), Adrian Broom (Ops), Lana Sack (Vendors), Glen Waisbrod (Ops) and Marco Riccardi (Ops)

Sport News

Congratulations to the Ter Horst boys on their win against Japari in the last week. The game was a fabulous end to the season. We have moved over to the winter sports season now, with some great interschool meets ahead.

Early close reminder

There are two dates to note for early closure:

- 30 March - JP Morgan Challenge; 11h45 for Grade R, 3 and 5 and 12h00 for Grade 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7.
- 6 April - Close of Term One at 10h00

Uniforms

A reminder that we change to the winter school uniform on our return in May. Soccer and netball have their own dress code. Please contact Romy at the Uniform Shop on 0824654461 or Julie-Ann at the Seconds Shop on 0837776677 to get organised ahead of time.

KweZwe raffle



Please support the KweZwe raffle running until the last week of term. An exciting mix of toys, poppits, stationery, arts and crafts and an awesome R500 Spur voucher! Tickets R10. Good luck!

Co-Curricular

The last day for extra murals is Tuesday 28th March, hence pick up time next week Tuesday, 4th April at 2pm.

Best wishes

Ramadan Maburak, Blessed Pesach and Happy Easter to all our families. May the season bring peace, family connection and kindness to the fore. To those who fast and honour lent, may you have a good fast. For those who pray, reflect and consider our human condition, may you be strengthened and encouraged.

In sadness

Our deep condolences are extended to Elizabeth, Michael (Gr1J) and Samuel Dickinson on the sudden passing of Allan, loving husband and devoted father to his boys. With no sight of such a tragedy, Allan enabled our UV Dash with a kind donation of a generator for the evening. His last gift to us was **joy**. Thank you to the families in Grade One and Two, the staff, the members of the PA and Elizabeth's friends at the support group for their love, provision and kindness at this time.

My heartfelt thanks is extended to those in Grade One and Two who joined us on Friday afternoon as we marked the memory of dear Benjamin Hofmeyr, Grade One, 2022. Some who came knew Ben, others just knew that those of us who did would draw strength from their attendance. We planted a beautiful oak tree and all who attend here will for many many years pause in its shade, draw breath in its coolness and listen peacefully as the leaves rustle in the wind.

As autumn draws near and the summer sun lessens, I am grateful for seasons and rituals in our lives. They give us rhythm, they keep us connected.

Enjoy the week.

Alison Scott