



HILTON COLLEGE

A letter from
the Head

NUMBER 4 • 17 MAY 2017

Dear Parents,

When we think back to our days at school, uppermost in our memories are the characters whom we shared classes with or those characters who taught us. Boys' boarding schools are often rich in this experience as the teachers get to see boys in the classroom, on the stage, on the fields and in living spaces. Likewise peers live with each other and learn much about and from each other, through constant interaction in the daily art of living.

Intriguingly, I happened to be in the same Form 5 class as Elon Musk - I have our class photo to prove this. I'm sure many of you can name one or two luminaries whom you may have shared classroom or dorm space with during your time at school too. My regret, therefore, is that sadly I did not make any special effort to get to know Elon; he had his friends and I had mine.

Regrets aside, I mention Elon Musk given his significant capacity to disrupt industry and to challenge the status quo in his area of influence. I'm sure there has been a measure of success based on good fortune in his endeavours and equally, that he has had to pick himself up from defeat a number of times, but one's overriding sense of the man is that he is successful and remains a serial challenger of the impossible.

With a parent body as experienced and diverse as ours is, with captains of industry and leaders in all walks of life, I do not need to convince you of the need to be one step ahead as often as possible as you lead your organisations towards excellence and success. Aiming to be the TESLA of your industry seems to be the desired position to occupy.

Sadly, the education profession often lags behind the curve; indeed, we transport precious cargo and the stakes are higher than in any other profession. A school's challenge is, however, to create DISRUPTORS for our new world.

Our knowing that the world is fast changing and our global problems ever growing, necessitates that in educating your boys we equip them for the challenges that lie ahead such that they are the instigators and creators of solutions as active citizens of our brave new world. The inevitable advance of Artificial Intelligence is a fascinating development and one that promises to change much in our understanding of the way we may live in the future.

With this in mind, the academic staff are engaged in rigorous debate about our current academic offering for our Grade 8s and 9s in particular. Our discussions are aimed at challenging our current construct which can be 'silo-esque' in construct, while our world is far more integrated and fluid.

Hilton needs to lead the way in our academic offering and in our academic results. We need to produce young men who are engaged in learning and who have a hunger to participate in solving matters that will affect all of us profoundly into our futures.

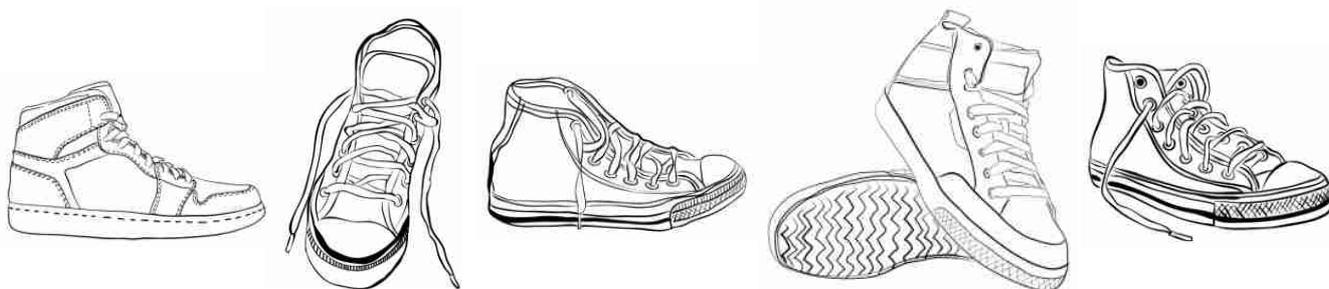
I will be sharing more about how we will be addressing 21st century skills in the coming months, save to say that the professional conversations around learning are significantly positive, robust, and aimed to ensure a consistent offering of an education fit for purpose for our brave new world.

Deeply Traditional. Refreshingly Contemporary

Our sporting results to date have been superb and I would like to congratulate all boys and coaches in achieving a high standard on and off the pitch. It is a pleasure to be a part of an institution that does all of sport well.

On the stage, boys have been busy too with stellar performances by Motheo Taukobong, James Booth, Thato Mothobi and Dylan Davies in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Ant Lovell at The Wykeham Collegiate, as well as the Grade 11 Dramatic Arts class of 2017 in this year's production of *FUNK* at the Hexagon Theatre, which ends this evening.

Sincerely,
George



TEKKIE TAX CAMPAIGN

Dear Parents,

As part of the outreach and charitable work which is being done by the boys at Hilton College, we aim to once again take part in the 'Tekkie Tax Campaign' on Friday, 26 May 2017. Boys will be allowed to wear their 'Tekkies' to school on that day and will have a sticker from the organisation which is arranging the event. The cost of taking part is R20.00 per boy. Stickers will only be handed out to those who have paid, and those who have not paid will then obviously wear their normal shoes on that day.

The Bursar is happy for this amount to be charged to pupil accounts but in order for this to happen, we have to have parent authority. We would like to do this by exception: in other words we will charge your son's account with R20.00 **unless we hear from you to the contrary**. If you are unhappy with this, please can you send me an email by **Tuesday 23 May** and I will ensure that this does not happen.

The beneficiary of the funds raised by Hilton College will be the Pietermaritzburg Children's Home. We have supported this organisation for a number of years now on 'Tekkie Tax Day' and they are always very grateful for the funds which we raise for them.

If you have any queries in this regard, please feel free to email me.

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