



# THE RIDGE SCHOOL



## From the Headmaster's Desk

June 2018 #8

### Dear Parents

Mums and dads will be aware that we introduced a Right Stuff Award earlier in the year that is handed out at assemblies towards the end of each month. Recipients of the award are chosen from each of the Grades 4 – 7 classes only as the JP lads have their own Tuesday morning system that highlights and rewards similar appropriate qualities and virtues. These are simple but meaningful ways of endorsing the effort that so many boys are putting into demonstrating some of what they believe Right Stuff needs to look like. As teachers and educators, we continue to work hard each day to share the many values associated with good manners and decorum, common decency, compassion, kindness and forgiveness, and all that is still so profoundly right in endeavouring to live out the virtues that define honesty and integrity.

My focus, in this context, shifts to us and our roles as parents, and the significant part that we must play as 'right stuff' exemplars for our boys to imitate and follow.

The annual rugby season always offers an interesting glimpse into the way that we as adults often choose to conduct ourselves when the emotions of the moment are running high. All too often the advent of rugby in a school can lead to a complete metamorphosis as, overnight, a place of relative calm and order gives way to a completely foreign spirit as an all-pervading sub-culture of testosterone, gum guards and misdirected hype invades.

This certainly is the case in so many senior boys schools and, from what I have seen on occasions, even at some boys' primary schools. At this point it is important to say that our most recent Ridge rugby season has, thus far, passed without incident. For that I am most grateful and must thank our 'rugby' mums and dads who have provided loads of very enthusiastic support and spirited, yet self-controlled, encouragement from the touchline each Saturday morning.

There are two rugby fixtures left this season; this coming Saturday morning against our closest, traditional rivals, Pridwin and on Wednesday against St Stithians. All the games will be played at the Pridwin grounds. I am asking, please, that the expected state of calm, balanced perspective, good-neighbourliness and respect for the referees and their decisions remains the order of the day as we enjoy watching our boys engaging in some good-natured 'rough and tumble'.

### Grade 7 Achievements

#### *College Acceptances*

After months of preparation, application, interviews and an agonising waiting period, the senior schools have put the finishing touches to their 2019 admissions enrolment. As has become the norm, the country's boys colleges have again been inundated with Grade 8 applicants for next year and in most cases, these schools are in the healthy position of being able to be very selective as they cream off the pick of the very large bunch, in each case.

We are delighted to share the news that once again our Grade 7 boys have achieved impressive recognition during this process and that all our senior boys have gained entry to their schools of first or second choice. Given the number of children applying from a large range of primary schools, this is no mean feat and is

clearly a feather in the cap of our 2018 boys, their dedicated teachers and their proud mums and dads.

## ***Senior School Scholarship Offers 2018***

### **Hilton College**

- ◆ Oliver Joyner - Merit Award
- ◆ Benjamin Kok - Merit Award
- ◆ Matthew Peters - Merit Award
- ◆ Oliver Walters - Merit Scholarship

### **King Edward VII**

- ◆ Matthew Martin - All-Rounder Scholarship
- ◆ Jayden Pakkiri - Strenue Scholarship

### **Kingswood**

- ◆ Angus Johns - Sports Scholarship

### **Michaelhouse**

- ◆ Marc du Plessis - Ridge Closed Scholarship
- ◆ David du Toit - Minor Open Scholarship
- ◆ Oliver Healy - Major Open Scholarship
- ◆ Oliver Joyner - Rector's Exhibition Scholarship
- ◆ Matthew Peters - Rector's Exhibition Scholarship
- ◆ Oliver Walters - James Cameron Todd Scholarship

### **St Alban's College**

- ◆ Daniel Bloom - Ridge Minor Open Scholarship
- ◆ Ross Hansen - Ridge Closed Scholarship
- ◆ Julian Kuni - Ridge Minor Open Scholarship

### **St Andrew's College**

- ◆ David Ball - Music Scholarship
- ◆ Matthew MacKenzie - the Blackburn Ridge

### **St David's College**

- ◆ Julian Kuni - Champagnat Open Scholarship
- ◆ Matthew MacKenzie - Marcellin Scholarship
- ◆ Liam Murning - Marcellin Exhibition Scholarship
- ◆ Sam Wearne - Sports Scholarship

### **St John's College**

- ◆ David Ball - Music Exhibition
- ◆ Oliver Healy - Exhibition Scholarship for Academics
- ◆ Benjamin Kok - Foundation Scholarship for Academics
- ◆ Julian Kuni - Major Music Scholarship
- ◆ William Mills - Ridge Closed
- ◆ Oliver Walters - Ridge Closed

### **St Stithians College**

- ◆ James Barret - Academic Scholarship
- ◆ Sam Wearne - Champagnat Scholarship

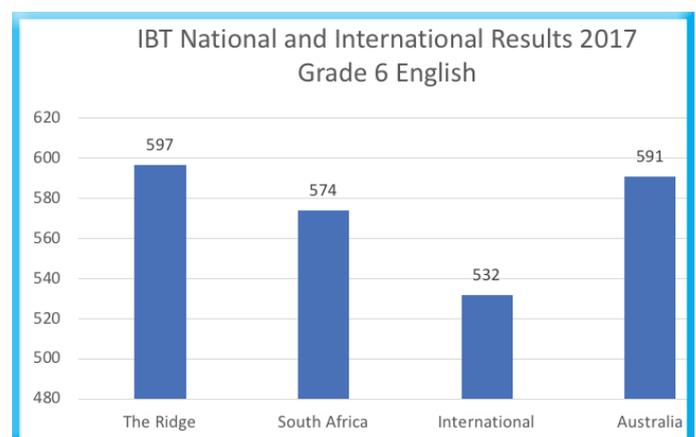
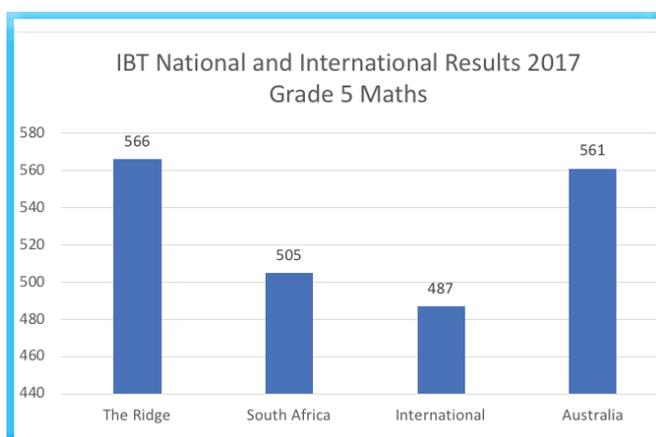
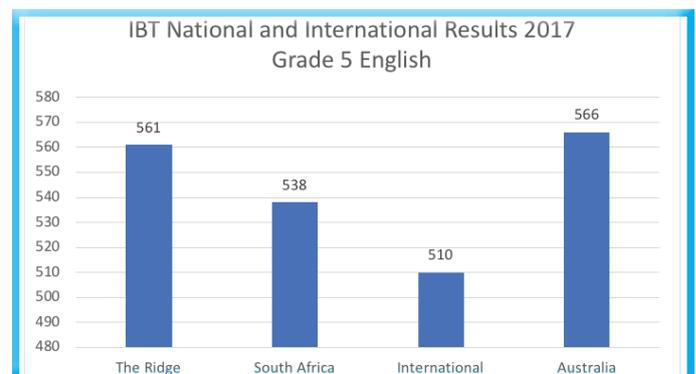
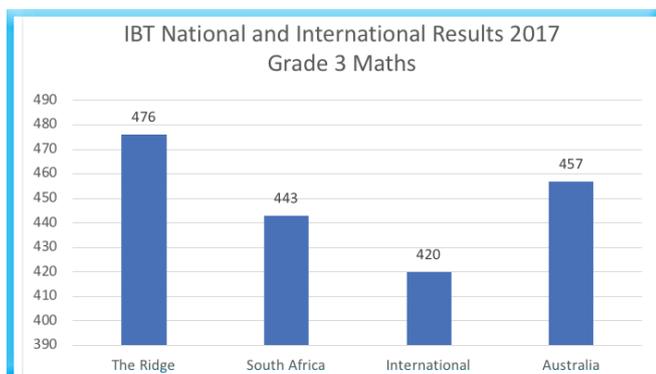
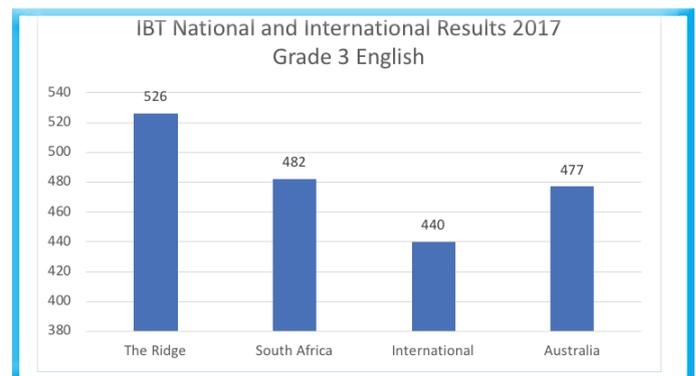
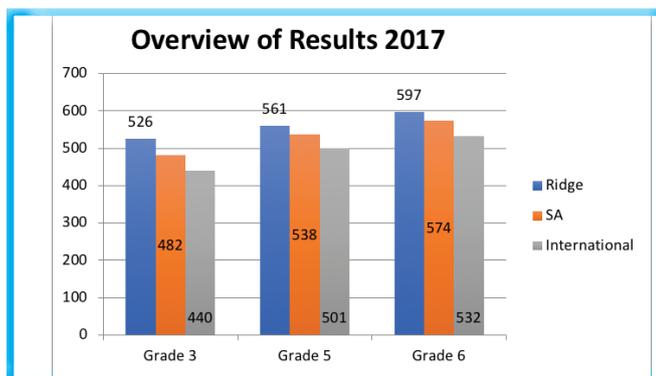
## The International Benchmark Tests

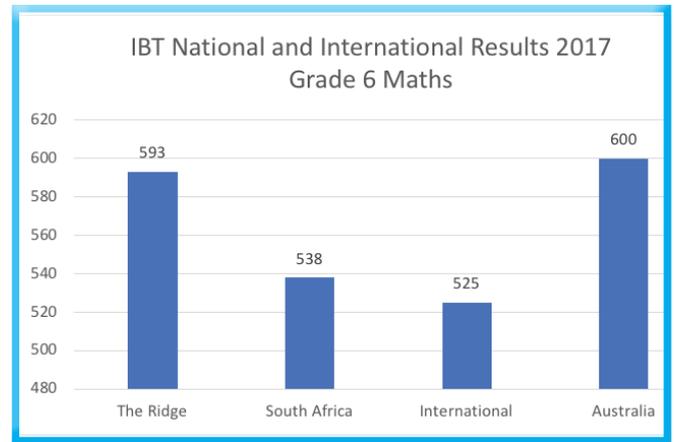
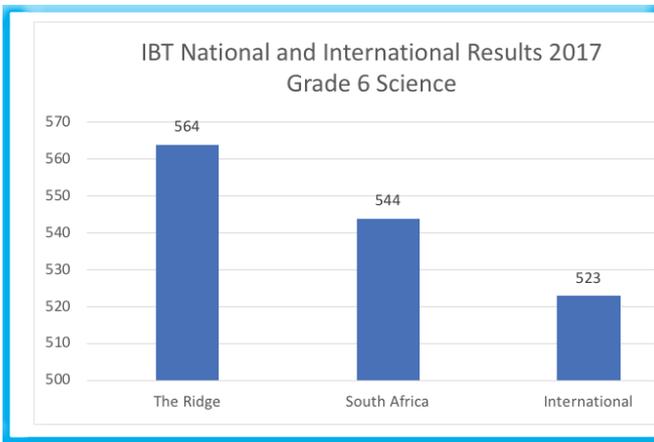
The IBT is an internationally administered program of assessments in English, Mathematics and Science which benchmarks student performance against a broad, international cohort of students as well as the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), in which more than 50 countries participate.

Our Ridge Grade 3, 5 and 6 lads write these in October each year. The Grade 3 and 5 boys write the English and Maths Papers while the Grade 6 boys write English, Maths and Science papers.

Results and accompanying reports are sent through to the participating schools the following year. The information is used by the school to target problem areas in teaching and learning in general and in the case of individual boys.

We thought that it might be interesting for parents to see just how well our Ridge lads have been doing when measured against a national and international benchmark.





## A Final Word

On Wednesday 13 July The Ridge School Board will be providing feedback to parents regarding the School finances. The meeting will take place in the Auditorium at 7:30.

We were delighted to host the Kearsney College Choir here at The Ridge this Friday morning. The College has for many years flown the South African flag with real distinction on an international stage that has seen them judged as being amongst the top boys' choirs on the world stage. What a treat for our boys to listen to and see in action these fine young Kearsney College men. To watch them in action please click on the link <https://youtu.be/U7fB67ef0VY>. Enjoy.

With winter now definitely making its presence felt I wish you all a sincerely warm regards and best wishes as we continue through the chilly month of June.

Richard Stanley  
Headmaster