



2 December 2016

Dear Parents

As is always the case, we end the year with a number of wonderful celebrations. And so it is that our Grade R boys are preparing for the journey to 'Big School', our Grade 3's have their ties in hand and are moving into the Senior Prep, our Grade 7's are readying themselves for College life and our Matrics have already left us and are now members of COBWEB, our Old Boys Association. We have held a number of functions where the successes of our boys have been highlighted but it is important to underline that it is in the effort of every Clifton gent that the triumphs of 2016 have been achieved and I am grateful to all for the commitment, energy, vibrancy and wit that has so characterized this year. So, too, I thank the teachers who have inspired and encouraged, those who have worked in the background to keep our administration and the upkeep of our school so healthy, those who have served on committees and given so selflessly to Clifton, as well as all parents and friends who have been so evident in their support of the boys throughout the years: I am deeply grateful to all. There can be no doubt that we all deserve a good and restful holiday!

Mr White and Mr Goedeke have said our farewells to the members of staff who are leaving us this year and I join in thanking them and wishing them everything of the best. One man deserves a special mention, as he leaves Clifton after 42 years of extraordinary service to our Family. Sakhile Mbata has tended the Clifton pitch with a fierce tenacity and deep knowledge and he shall be sorely missed as he moves into retirement. Any number of Clifton boys have his expertise to thank for the wickets, centuries and victories that have been achieved on the Kevin Whitehead Oval. The pitch belongs to Mr Mbata – there is no doubt about that – and we wish him years of happiness and well-deserved rest.

I wish those families who have come to the end of their stay at Clifton success and joy in the years that lie ahead. Please stay in touch! May our Jewish families enjoy the Chanukah celebrations, may our Christian families have a blessed and merry Christmas, and may all welcome a peaceful and prosperous New Year. May your holidays be blessed, safe and especially enjoyable.

Here's to 2017!

BRIAN MITCHELL
EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER

Executive Headmaster: Brian Mitchell BA (Hons), BEd (UCT), MBA (Leicester)

College Principal: Hubert Goedeke BA (Hons), HDE (UKZN, Pietermaritzburg)

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