

# Oakhill Old Oaks

January 2013 – Birthday Edition

## Birthday Edition

### From the desk of Barbie Leibbrandt

OAKHILL  
SCHOOL  
invites you to  
celebrate  
twenty  
one years  
of  
THE JOY OF  
LEARNING



*Surrounded by special people*

what better way to celebrate it, than with you, our Oaks of old. I was thrilled with the response to our communication mailed in mid-December and it appears that a number of you will be travelling fair distances to be here. What a wonderful tribute to Oakhill. Elna and I had the pleasure of chatting to some of you last week and by all accounts we're to expect a wonderful turnout. The more, the merrier, so please continue to encourage your classmates to make the journey.

The Birthday Committee are in the final phase of pulling it all together, ensuring that for all who attend, it will be a weekend of wonderful, organised celebration. We're counting down, with joy and excitement, willing the next 5 weeks to fly for the first of many memorable events.

On Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, you're invited to join us as the various phases of the School celebrate at combined Birthday Assemblies, the first commencing at 08h00. There'll be time to catch up with teachers, reminisce and chat amongst yourselves and enjoy time to stroll slowly around our beautiful, transformed campus.

On Saturday morning, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, commencing at 09h00, there will be sport events on the Astro and in the pool, and for those who wish to soak up some cultural entertainment, there will be all sorts happening in the school hall. There are still seats available for the Gala Dinner on Saturday evening at Thesen Harbour, but bookings are peaking, so to avoid disappointment, may I suggest that you contact Catherine Brodie timeously. I suggest at the latest by the 16<sup>th</sup> February as the Birthday invitation indicates. Many have asked about the dinner – a

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#### The 21st Birthday Weekend - 2013

<b>Thursday 28 February</b>	Oakhill School turns 21
<b>Friday 1 March</b>	Students and Teachers Birthday Celebrations and Assemblies at Oakhill
<b>Saturday 2 March</b>	Oakhill's 21st Birthday Bash
09:00	Old Oaks and current Students Experience Day
18:00	Gala Dinner at Thesen Harbour Cost of ticket: R250 pp RSVP to Catherine before 16 February 2013 at 044 382 6506 or c.brodie@oakhillschool.co.za

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*The more you praise and  
celebrate your life, the more  
there is in life to celebrate.*

*- Oprah Winfrey*

Dear Old Boys and Old Girls of Oakhill,

To you all, here's to a hearty and happy new year. For Oakhill, it is indeed a special year, for turning 21 is a significant milestone and



*Celebrating every day*

wonderful buffet, hot and cold, delicious sweets, a memorable walk through 21 years at Oakhill, mostly lively chatter, interspersed with speeches and live entertainment. I can assure you, I would definitely not be missing this experience. Remember, as we were then, just a phone call away to answer any questions.



*First day back at school and a visit to The Headmaster*



**Old Oakhillians’  
Sports Day:  
Saturday 2 March  
08h30 - 13h00**

<b>Hockey</b> on Oakhill astro 5 matches	<b>08h40 – 10h20</b> 20 minutes per match	5-a-side with no goalies Boys and Girls teams
<b>Soccer</b> on Oakhill astro 4 matches	<b>10h40 – 11h40</b> 15 minutes per match	5-a-side Boys and Girls teams
<b>Water Polo</b> in Oakhill pool 3 matches	<b>12h00 – 13h00</b> 20 minutes per match	7-a-side Boys and Girls teams

One Oakhill school side (Girls and Boys) will be entered for each sporting discipline so **Old Oakhillian teams** needed are:

- Hockey** : 8 teams
- Soccer** : 6 teams
- Water Polo** : 4 teams

All the rules will be on the Intranet and all teams are to meet 10 minutes before the commencement of that particular sporting discipline.

To enter a side please contact Dave Pryke on [d.pryke@oakhillschool.co.za](mailto:d.pryke@oakhillschool.co.za) or call on 083 400 3208.



Just had a thought, if you’re unable to attend the celebrations, but would like to mail, tweet, Facebook a Happy Birthday Oakhill message, please do so for the joy of being an Oak of Old! We would love to include these in the AV presentation.

2012 ended on a high note as we received the news on the 29<sup>th</sup> December of another set of amazing Matric results. For 19 years Oakhill has repeatedly and successfully maintained a 100% pass rate, but more importantly for me is the fact that whenever I have communicated with an Old Oak, be it telephonically, face to face, via mail, be it an Oak of 1994 stock, 2000 stock, whatever stock, the pleasure of sharing has been real, meaningful, happy and sincere.

We leapt into action on the 16<sup>th</sup> January as term 1 2013 got underway, welcoming back existing families and also welcoming for the first time 60 new pupils and their parents to the Oakhill campus. Remember the days, when you arrived on the circle, Dad and Mom would park where they wished and then stroll you up to that classroom to meet your new teacher. Times have changed, dear Oaks of old. Now it’s about extreme organisation, traffic direction, staggered starting times for Little Oaks and Prep and College, “welcome tables” laden with “welcome packs” lining the east walkway, staff and students waiting to welcome new families, refreshments being served simultaneously, but be assured, for all this, some things do not change – that happy, relaxed, friendly atmosphere that prevailed then, still exists today – it always will. The joys of Oakhill will live forever, and I have no doubt, that as many of you return to celebrate Oakhill’s 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, this will be something that you will take away and remember with fondness for years to come.



*College Staff Room*



**Matric Art – creativity is everywhere**



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As term 1 ticks along busily and Birthday fever is in the air, there is also much excitement surrounding the new land, in fact, I was informed that a portion was sprayed last week in readiness to preparing the first of the fields which should be ready for use in July. Imagine a trip down Welbedacht Road during the Birthday weekend, champagne in hand, to toast a toast to a dream come true.



**Our new land just waiting for our sportsmen and sportswomen**

We have set a target to have the 2012 Yearbook published and ready for distribution in time for Oakhill's Birthday – something else to add to that tick box list. What a pleasure it has been proofreading it this past weekend. I continue to marvel at our input and output, staff and students alike. Oakhill truly sparkles with amazing genius and tenacity, never a day goes by without a proud moment, a joyful experience, a unique achievement, something that triggers a smile and touches the heart. As I mentioned in my Yearbook report and it's worth mentioning again: "Oakhill is truly a shining light in delighting those who have the time to stay awhile and engage with those who care. Finally

*"Never doubt the power of a small group of committed people to change the world for, indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

**– Margaret Meade**

Oakhill has space to manoeuvre. Oakhill's dreams are unfolding. The Oak is secure, our branches are spreading and the kernels are of the finest quality."



**Special Oakhill traditions :  
 Handing over "The Brick"**

Roll on the Birthday Weekend when we can engage and delight one another, sharing stories of old and ponder and dream on the joys that will unfold in the next 21 years.



Yours in the spirit of the Joy of Learning,

**Barbie**

*Please forward your news, snippets and images to  
 b.leibbrandt@oakhillschool.co.za*