

YELLOWWOODS

NEWS



Dear Yellowwoods Community

The school year is something of the past. There is an air of expectancy as everyone, from the learners to the bus drivers, are looking forward to a well-deserved break. All our learners would have scattered in many directions by the time that you read this newsletter. It is my sincere prayer and heart's desire that God will protect each and every one of the Yellowwoods family during this holiday season and that we will all return refreshed and energised for 2017.

Approximately 2700 years ago, a nation was in a deep predicament due to both internal strife and an external threat. A prophet by the name of Isaiah brought a message of comfort to this nation. He promised that a child would come and that He would bring peace into the hearts of men. He would be called Immanuel; God with us. He was to facilitate the restoration of the relationship between God and man. This child was Jesus Christ who was born 700 years after that prophesy was made. In 2016, more than 2000 years after the birth of this child, we are about to celebrate with gratitude the fact that God is always faithful to His promises; even if it takes longer than expected.

One question remains; "Where is this peace that was promised?" Every and any news website, channel or programme tells us of global turmoil, unrest and chaos. It all seems a far cry from the angelic proclamation at the birth of Christ of "Peace on earth and goodwill to all men." Where is the peace, and for that matter, in the words of The Black Eyed Peas, "Where is the love?" One of the stanzas in this song asks,

*"Whatever happened to the values of humanity
Whatever happened to the fairness and equality
Instead of spreading love
We spreading animosity
Lack of understanding
Leading us away from unity
That's the reason why sometimes I'm feelin'
under
That's the reason why sometimes I'm feelin'
down*



Yellowwoods ended the year with a beautiful and inspiring Carols by candle light Service last night. As we looked back on this busy year it was a lovely feeling to hear all our Parents, Children and Staff's voices raised in unison as we celebrated the birth of Jesus. We wish all our families a Blessed Christmas and safe travels.

*It's no wonder why sometimes I'm feelin' under
Got to keep my faith alive 'til love is found"*

We have to guard against allowing the many negative things of this world to overwhelm our thoughts and attitude. Negativity can spiral out of control very easily and, before you know it, you find yourself in a pit of despair where there seems to be no hope. Christmas time is an opportunity to break that negative cycle and to focus on something or Someone, much bigger than any of us. It is a time for forgiveness and goodwill that only works when we are prepared to give it even though we do not receive it in return. The real magic of Christmas is hidden in the realisation that we are the bearers of peace and goodwill towards all men. The world does not lack these because God failed, but rather because we lose focus of our real purpose in life.

I sincerely pray that we will all make the effort to take the initiative and make a positive contribution to someone's life in this time. *Within us we have to power, to seize the hour, and change the world.*

Merry Christmas

Ignus Potgieter

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Tuesday 6th December - Final Assembly at 10h30. School closes at 12h30.**
- **Wednesday 18th January 2017 - School opens at 7h40.**

