NORTHFIELDS
Virtus et Honor

NORTHFIELDS NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

We have finally entered the holiday season, and all of us are very happy to enjoy some well-deserved time off after such an eventful and rewarding term! With the feedback received on their term reports, our students can reflect on what they have learned and how they can continue to grow and improve over the remainder of the academic year.

Together as a school, we can also reflect on the outstanding achievements in sport, culture and service that we have seen from so many members of the Northfields community throughout the term. This newsletter is long, but a just a small testament to how active and engaged our students and staff have been!

In addition to the many extracurricular activities and trips detailed here, our final weeks of term for our senior students have included the important challenge of sitting formal, end of term examinations. We have been pleased to see that our Year 10 and 12 students have prepared well and learned from this experience.

Now it is time for us all to support our Year 11 and 13 students as they prepare for their upcoming mock examinations shortly after our return in Term 2. This is a significant step that all of our students take as part of their final examination preparations for IGCSE, A Level or IB. We wish them all the best as they continue practising and revising over these holidays.

I must say that it has been a real pleasure leading the school this term together with Miss Ingamells and Mrs Rungasamy. We are all proud of our students and our school, and we truly value your support as parents. We wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a happy and fulfilling new year ahead.

Mrs Phyllis Philogène
Head of School

EMPLOYEES ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW STAFF

We are pleased to welcome our newest employee who joined us recently:

Sadvi Auchoybur
Database Administrator

Sadvi is a Law graduate from the University of Mauritius and is currently studying her Diploma in IT. As a Database Administrator, Sadvi will be our Isams technical support as well as providing basic desktop support.

NEW HEADS OF FACULTY

We are very pleased to announce that Mrs Davina Uppiah-Leahy will be taking on the role of Head of the English Faculty and that Mr Murray Botha will be taking on the role of Head of the PE Faculty as of January. Both of these teachers have proven to be outstanding professionals within their Faculties and we are confident that they will lead with great success moving forward.

Davina Uppiah-Leahy

Murray Botha

THANK YOU

All of our students and staff sincerely appreciate Mrs Mandy Monien's dedicated service over the past few weeks as our temporary nurse while Mrs Kishnasamy has been away. Mrs Monien has been a great asset to us during her time here, ensuring that we are all very well taken care of whenever the need has arisen. We all thank her for stepping readily to help us and wish her well in the future.

INTERHOUSE NETBALL

This year saw a massive improvement in the level of netball played throughout the year groups and a lot of this is down to the excellent sessions put on after school by Mrs. Visser. The girls who attend these sessions stood out amongst the rest, as they showed great movement around the court and their understanding of the link-up between Centre, Goal attack and Wing attack was amazing to watch. All year groups played well, however, it was the Year 9&10's who truly stood out with some first-rate performances.

Year group	Games/scores	Winners
5&6	Eagles V Phoenix 2-1 Eagles V Dolphins 3-1 Dolphins V Phoenix 5-4	Eagles Phoenix came second on goal difference Dolphins
7	Eagles V Phoenix 3-1 Eagles V Dolphins 3-5 Phoenix V Dolphins 1-5	Dolphins Eagles Phoenix
8	Eagles V Dolphins 3-3 Phoenix V Dolphins 4-1 Eagles V Phoenix 2-3	Phoenix Eagles come second on goal difference Dolphins
9	Eagles V Dolphins 10-2 Phoenix V Dolphins 7-7 Eagles V Phoenix 11-3	Eagles Joint second Phoenix/Dolphins
10	Eagles V Phoenix 8-1 Dolphins V Phoenix 6-7 Dolphins V Eagles 1-7	Eagles Phoenix Dolphins
11/12 &13	Eagles V Phoenix 11-10 Eagles V Dolphins 6-5 Dolphins V Phoenix 4-4	Eagles Joint second Phoenix and Dolphins

Top scorer of the tournament goes to Victoria Fraiss from Year 9, who scored an amazing 15 goals over her two games, and overall player of the tournament goes to Clémence Piat. The agility and speed at which Clémence moves around the court, coupled with her ability to read the game, enable her to pre-empt passes and turn defensive play into attack at the turn of a hat.

Well done girls!

The final results were as follows:

1. Eagles 16 points
2. Phoenix 12 points
3. Dolphins 10 points

Mrs Cate Beechouk

INTERHOUSE FOOTBALL

Inter-house football matches took place during the week 13 – 17 November at the Northfields Sports Club. In line with trying to increase participation in inter-house events, we opened up the competition to each year group where possible. As predicted, the football competition proved to be both exciting and highly competitive with many of the matches only being decided by one goal. On occasion we had to take goal difference into account in order to determine the overall year group winner. Congratulations to the players for generally playing the matches in an outstanding spirit. The year group results are as follows:

Year 5/6: 1) Dolphins 2) Phoenix 3) Eagles
Year 7: 1) Dolphins 2) Eagles 3) Phoenix
Year 8: 1) Dolphins and Phoenix tied 3) Eagles
Year 9: 1) Eagles 2) Phoenix 3) Dolphins
Year 10: 1) Dolphins 2) Phoenix 3) Eagles
Year 11 - no results
Year 12/13: 1) Dolphins 2) Phoenix 3) Eagles

Overall scores:

Dolphins - 15
Phoenix - 10
Eagles – 11

Congratulations to Dolphins on winning the boys section of Inter-house Football!!

Mr Murray Botha

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NORTHFIELDS VS IPS GIRLS FOOTBALL

On Friday 10th November we had the pleasure of welcoming IPS Year 5 and 6 girls at Northfields for a Football match and at the same time our boys went over to IPS to compete against them in basketball. The girls football got off to a good start with great team spirit on and off the pitch.

Our Year 5s showed a lot of enthusiasm and won their match 2 nil, with both goals scored by Ashley who demonstrated good dribbling and shooting skills. Our Year 6s showed a lot of determination but IPS had a slight upper hand and turned the equalizing score of 1-1, to a 2-1 win.

Overall the girls had a lot of fun and the noise of both schools chanting to support their team definitely added to the great sporting atmosphere.

Ms Lauren Ramasawmy

NORTHFIELDS VS IPS BOYS BASKETBALL

Our Year 5 Basketball team were first in action against the Year 5 IPS team. The Northfields team gelled immediately and eventually winning 26 – 0. The boys played at a frantic pace throughout and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

It was then the turn of the Year 6 team. This match was a lot tighter and at half time it was still anybody's match. However, the Northfields started playing more as a team in the second half and soon pulled away, ultimately winning a very physical match 16-6. Congratulations to both teams!

Mr Murray Botha

INTERSCHOOL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

On Thursday 9th November, Northfields hosted our 2nd annual Interschool public speaking competition. Our school was represented by Flavia L. (Year 5), Vettri K. (Year 5), Malachy L. (Year 5), Anandita N. (Year 5), Celine B. (Year 6), Rehaan A. (Year 6), Esme M. (Year 7) and Angeline D. (Year 7). The adjudicator was Mr Russell Briggs from the British Council based in the North.

Northfields competed against Ecole du Nord and Martin E'cole. Northfields was the overall winner of the competition with Flavia being awarded BEST INDIVIDUAL SPEAKER for Year 5 and Angeline being awarded BEST INDIVIDUAL SPEAKER for Year 7.

The students upheld the ethos of the school and presented worldly, informative and inspirational speeches. The values of honour and excellence were reflected throughout the event. We were very happy that the competition was so well-supported by parents from all the schools.

Mrs Tebogo Maneli

MR AND MISS NORTHFIELDS AT SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

On Thursday, 7th November, three of our four Mr and Miss Northfields winners - Rikard Horvei, Leah Cridlan, and Louis Mendel Roe – visited SOS Children's Village in Bambous to deliver gifts and monetary donations raised through our Mr and Miss Northfields evening. They were warmly welcomed by the faculty there who explained the aims of the organisation and how children of all ages are supported through their programme. They were then introduced to several children who invited them for a short visit in their home, and it was a pleasure seeing them have time to get to know each other, even for just a short while. Thanks to the generosity of the Northfields community, we were able to donate Rs 73 000 on this occasion, which was highly appreciated by the staff there. We thank Miss Webster for organising the Mr and Miss Northfields event this year and our trip to SOS Children's Village on Thusday. We also thank Mrs Malcomess, Mrs Philogene, and Ms Anna Aparicio, Rikard's mother who is also a highly engaged member of our Parents Committee, for accompanying the students along with Miss Webster to present these donations. Finally we thank Mr Govinden for designing and painting the symbolic check for our students to present on their visit.

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NORTHFIELDS VS IPS BOYS FOOTBALL

On Friday 24th the NIS Year 5 and 6 boys were involved in football matches against IPS at Northfields Sports Club. The Year 5's were in action first and the match proved to be an exciting contest with play sweeping from one end of the field to the other. Northfields scored first but this goal was cancelled out when IPS equalised just after half time.

Northfields scored just before the end to win an exciting match 2-1. The Year 6 game was also a tight affair but IPS had too much fire power up front and scored 2 excellent goals to win the match 2-0. Well done to both teams on an enjoyable afternoon of football.

NORTHFIELDS VS IPS GIRLS NETBALL

Once again the Year 5&6 IPS girls came over to visit Northfields, this time for Netball. First up the Year 5's played a tight game with IPS just pinching the win with a goal scored in the first half. The second game between the Year 6's was a much more one sided affair with Northfields girls winning 9 goals to 0. However, the score line wasn't the main thing on their minds, it was more the yummy oranges and biscuits laid on by the Parents' Committee, which they devoured at half time. Regardless of the score line, they all enjoyed the competition and appeared happy to get out of the classroom on a hot sunny Friday afternoon. Thank you to the parents' commitee and the teachers for all their support.

NORTHFIELDS VS LIGHTHOUSE CRICKET

On Wednesday 8th November the Northfields Junior Cricket team played their first ever match against the Lighthouse team. The Northfields team bowled first and did an outstanding job, limiting Lighthouse to just 22 runs.

We then batted and after completing our overs, had scored 82 runs, thus winning by 60 runs. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and the boys can't wait for the next match to take place.

DANCESPORT

On Friday the 17th of November, Craig Bullock who is the CEO of the Street Dance Association South Africa, an internationally recognized Street Dance judge and award-winning choreographer, spent the day at Northfields International School. He travelled from South Africa where he owns two dance studios called DanceWeb to implement DanceSport in Mauritius. He taught some Street Dance/ Hip-hop moves to the Year 5. 6, 7, 8 and 10. It was a fun-filled day with learners getting out of their comfort zones and learning cool dance moves.

On the 18th of November, Craig was joined by Nicola Wiggitt who is the COO of the Street Dance Association South Africa. She has experience in the education sector and has worked hand in hand to create the DanceSport School League. They trained staff from Northfields International School who will become the first group of DSSL coaches and adjudicators in Mauritius. Dancers from different parts of Mauritius were also part of the training. The DanceSport National Body consists of the following staff members: Tebogo Maneli (Chairperson and Head of Coaches), Dawn le Roux (Secretary), Ashley Gooljar (Head of Adjudicators), Stephanie Lo-Hun (Co-Head of Development) and Thierry Amery (Co-Head of Development).

On the 19th of November, DanceSport Mauritius was launched at Northfields International School. Boys and girls of different ages from different schools in the North joined to participate in a competition. The children learnt 10 street dance moves and had to work to choreograph a 45-second routine. It was great to watch how much they learnt in a short space of time.

The DanceSport School League will begin in Term 2, and there will be more dance workshops to come in 2018.

Mrs Tebogo Maneli

TEACHERS VS STUDENTS

On Wednesday 06th December the Northfields teachers took on the Year 13 students in games of Netball and Football. The whole school came out to watch and cheer the students on hoping they would get one over on the teachers.

The Netball game ended in a 3-3 draw. Mrs Ramyead and Mr. Leoville scored for the teachers and Josh Gibson put his height to great use scoring all three goals for the students.

It was the last game for Mrs. Beechouk, as she bids farewell to the school after 13 years and 18 years on the island. She will be returning to the UK in the New Year and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Well done to all the staff and students who participated and made it an enjoyable end to her time at the school.

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PHYSICS/ CHEMISTRY TRIP

On the 5th of December, Year 11 students headed on a joint Physics/Chemistry trip as part of their Science curriculum. It was a great opportunity for students to see how paint is prepared at Mauvilac as well as experience the production of electricity at Champagne power station. Thank you to Mr Gopaul and Mrs Mega for organising this trip, a great initiative and valuable experience for our students.

Mrs Tammy Rungasamy

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The English department ran a Short Story Competition for the students from Year 7, 8 and 9 a few weeks back. Students were asked to submit a short story between 200-300 words in length, written in English.

We were looking for characters with layers of depth and an interesting plot. The writers with the most original piece from each year group were chosen as winners. The Year 7 winner was Danai M., the Year 8 winner was Tayyibah B. and the Year 9 winner was Ana M.

They received their prizes and certificates in assembly where Ana also did a fantastic job of reading her story to the school. Well done to everyone who took part and to the winners!

Mrs Davina Upplah-Leahy

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

SILVER AWARD- East Coast

On Friday the 24th of November 2017, Rohan, Yaadav, Jonathan, Sohail and myself, Shankaren, from Year 13, took part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award expedition beginning at Belle Mare and ending at Cap Malheureux.

Our trip was a total of 52km by foot, which seemed to be a never ending journey. The expedition was indeed one of my most memorable trips after the Bronze Award expedition back in 2015. It has allowed us as students to experience life outside the classroom and our comfort zones, becoming more independent and encouraging team building skills and practical skills such as "Cooking".

Prior to the trip, the five of us collaborated to share the total weight of our heavy bags full of food, clothing, water, tents, sleeping bags and cooking utensils. During the evenings when reaching the campsites, we helped each other out by setting the tents, lighting up the fire and sharing the food we bought in. We also were given the opportunity to meet and interact with students from other schools, who were also completing the Silver Award.

Despite having been exhausted throughout the 3 days and 2 nights, the Silver Award Expedition was indeed a very enriching experience for the 5 of us. We will never forget the fun, the continuous effort from all of us and the ongoing support by the award leaders throughout our journey.

We would like to thank Mr. Murray Botha, without whom this trip would not have been possible.

Shankaren Moothoocaroopen (Year 13)

BRONZE AWARD- Black River Gorges

So the hike begins, we're all walking, enjoying ourselves, having a laugh. But that only lasted for the first five minutes of the hike. Then our necks began to ache and our shoulders became irritated at the weight of our bags, and it started to get a lot more tiring after that. We walked for a solid three hours the first day.

The campsite was pretty big and spread out. We arrived there at 2 in the afternoon, pitched our tents and until it was time for us to cook our dinner all of us just lazed around, as we were extremely tired. I was mostly thirsty because I had finished my water so I filled my bottle up,later to find that it had been finished by Tein. My group made pasta and for the most part, it was all right. I was glad at the fact I wasn't going to starve to death. Then again we all lazed around talking to each other in order to pass time. The curfew for hitting the hay was extended a couple of times, but we were all in our tents by 10 PM.

Pretty much the whole campsite woke up when the sun did. All tired. As soon as I woke up I knew this was shaping up to be a rough day, and indeed it was. I could barely hold my bag. I was a real weight on my group the second day- I had managed to trip up my ankle and could barely walk properly. However I was full of energy during the descent until we hit the bottom, where I twisted my ankle again. We were all sweating a lot as the sun was really hot, but there was a silver lining at the end in the form of a river. Immediately I ran (hurting my ankle even more) and just jumped into the water. It was a great feeling, really refreshing. All in all, I really enjoyed the experience as it taught me the importance of teamwork, and that we should all be at the same level, and to persevere and hope there's water at the end.

Ojasvi Patel (Year 11)

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DAY TRIP TO THE SHELTER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The 4th of December 2017 -Year 11

At 10 O'clock, upon our arrival at the shelter of women and children in forest side, we were immediately impressed by the welcoming posters and beautiful Christmas decorations which were elegantly set up in the hall. We were then finely greeted by their friendly staff and the rows of enthusiastic children of different ages. Finally after the arrival of all our form, the president of the organization generously gave us a brief speech about the shelter and how it helps the children which they call "victims of society" to have another chance and a normal life.

What we found interesting is that the children learned how to cook and prepare full meal for a large family. However the most fun and entertaining part was when we got to spend time with the children and interact with them. We had small talks with them then later on we played in the playground and on the slides which was a fun experience for both us and them. Next, we went indoors to play a game of musical chairs which created a playful and fun atmosphere. Later on it was lunch time in which we had the traditional biryani and a drink. Finally it was time to give out our gifts to the children in pairs and we were very delighted upon seeing their happy smiles as they thanked us.

We ended the day by singing merry Christmas and they in turn charmingly sang other Christmas songs to us. This was a great initiative during this festive season. Thank you to Mrs Kallee for organising the event and the Form Tutors and teachers who accompanied the students, without forgetting the Year 11 students for their generous contributions.

YEAR 12 & 13 FRENCH TRIP

Settlement in Mauritius

Both the IB and Cambridge French syllabi indicate that students need to develop an appreciation of the cultures in which the target language is spoken. As such, we decided to give French students in Years 12 and 13 an opportunity to develop their understanding of settlement in Mauritius. We focused on the arrival of indentured labourers as from 1833. On Friday the 1st of December, students visited the Aapravasi Ghat at Port-Louis. They first went through the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre – where they looked for information to complete a summary of the plight of indentured labourers, followed by a visit of the World Heritage Site.

We then went to Moka to visit the MGI archives where more than 2000 registers are kept and are currently being digitally stored.

Mr Govinden gave a small talk on how labourers were recruited, their arrival and how the registers were compiled. Students were also shown the photo registers of the labourers and we learned how, according to the names and the dress, historians are able to locate labourers coming from the North or the South of India.

All in all, it was an enjoyable and instructive visit!

Miss Christine Sullivan

YEAR 8 TRIP TO SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

On the 23rd November, the First Language French students of Year 8 went to visit the SOS CHidlren's Village of Beau Bassin, accompanied by Mrs Manique and Mr Relet.

The day started with a visit of the houses and the village. The students then played games with the children there and shared cakes with them. Afterwards, they took souvenir pictures and worked on decorating frames.

Lots of love and friendship were shared between Northfields students and the children at the village.

"It was a unique, moving and rewarding experience." Krishi.

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INTERHOUSE SCIENCE QUIZ COMPETITION

This year the quiz competition was held on Wednesday 29th November during PreCas. Participants consisted of three teams (each team representing its house) and each team comprised of two students of Year 12 and two students of Year 13.

Multiple Choice Questions involving science general knowledge, questions on authors of famous inventions & discoveries and subject-based rapid fire questions (chemistry, biology and physics) were put forward to contestants.

The audience as well were playing an interactive part by answering questions that the teams could not. The winner was the Phoenix house with 190 points, followed by Eagle house with 180 points and Dolphin house with 140 points.

Mr Gopaul Mardemootoo

INTERHOUSE DEBATE

The last week of school saw the start of the English Department's annual Interhouse debates. The students had a couple of lessons as preparation time before the debating started. There have been some very interesting and animated discussions, with Years 8 and 9 starting the process! The debate titles were as follows:

Year 7

Should sports be compulsory in schools?
Should students wear school uniform?
Should schools have prefects?

Year 8

Homework is unnecessary.
The average school time is too long for an average student.
Technology should replace textbooks and copybooks in schools.

Year 9

Is creativity being stifled by labelling students with grades?
Is homework beneficial to your learning?
Do electronic devices dumb you down?

Year 10

Is there still room for feminism in our society?
Do schools stifle learning?
Studying literature promotes lifelong learning.

RESULTS:

Year 8

1. Eagles (263 points) Best speakers: Matthew Phillips & Julia Glover
2. Dolphins (252.5 points) Best speakers: Jenna Rousset & Sarah Burton
3. Phoenix (243 points) Best speakers: Tayyibah Budullah & Finn Mckeown

Year 9

1. Eagles and Dolphins (296.5 points)
Best speakers Eagles: Amber Farmer & Victoria Fraiss
Best speakers Dolphins Robyn Anderson, Gavin Hatalosky & Gage Hatalosky
3. Phoenix (245 points)
Best speakers: Maria Fox & Uliana Diak

Year 10

1. Dolphins (256 points)
Best speakers: Tom Burton & Hassan Duffaydar
2. Eagles (247.5 points) Best speakers: Nikolay Leshchenko & Vidya Hurdowar
3. Phoenix (220.5 points)
Best speakers: Saphia Peten & Aliyah Derman

We would like to make a special award of the best rebuttal of the year and award it to: Arushi Khare

OVERALL RESULTS:

Students took part in lively debates and the scores between the first two teams were tight! We had some outstanding speakers from all Houses.

1. Eagles 807 points
2. Dolphins 805 points
3. Phoenix 468 points

Mrs Sheena Ramyead

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WALT DISNEY BIRTHDAY

On the 5th December, we celebrated Walt Disney's birthday. He was born in 1901 in Chicago, Illinois. Many people have a fond memory of their favourite Disney movie or character. The students at Northfields dressed up as their favourite characters like Minnie and Mickey Mouse. It was fun event and the students really looked great!

Mrs Tebogo Maneli

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

On the 7th of December, Northfields held its annual Christmas Carols evening in a hall beautifully decorated by a few of our Prep school mothers.

This year the event was organised by Mrs d'Unienville and Ms Ladouce who both did an amazing job. The performances of our Year 5 and 6, as well as the High School Choir were outstanding. The students sang some lovely Christmas songs and brought the magical Christmas spirit to the school.

CAMPS

YEAR 8

Needless to say, this has been a long and – although rewarding – demanding term. Fortunately, the Year 8's had the annual camp to Domaine De LaGrave to look forward to! It lay just beyond the horizon, tantalizingly close, for the entire term…until – finally – the day had arrived. The excitement of the students was physically palpable!

A quick unpack, change and then we were already busy with our first activity – being sorted into our groups, and coming up with a war cry. Needless to say, in my pure and unbiased opinion, the Red team definitely made a lasting impression! Following our exuberance with the war cries, it was on to the second adventure – a nature treasure hunt.

Upon return to the main area, we had some free time followed by lunch, and it was on to our third activity of the day – a version of "Catch the flag" in the sugar cane fields. What started off slow soon developed into a high-speed game of chase – everywhere you looked there were little people bobbing up and down and in between the sugar cane.

Afterwards there was a snack – more food! At least no one can say that we go hungry while on camp. It was then time for what all of the kids have been waiting for all day – MUD FIGHT! All I can say about that is: 1) I have never seen such a bunch of dirty and happy children, and 2) When there is a mud-fight, always remain out of range, because anyone can be a target. That is all I have to say about that.

As the mud fight wound down, the sun was setting, and it was time to get ready for dinner. Showers were, of course, compulsory (think of the dirty feet!). Following dinner, we had some night-time activities: we played "Knights, horses and cavaliers", followed by entertaining and humourous sketches from each group. The next morning, we woke up bright and early and went on an exhilarating – albeit rather challenging – hike to the top of the "hill". I have to say that during this time the learners' motivation and ability to continue, regardless of how tired they were and how their legs were shaking, were very impressive. It was, in all honestly, an exhausting climb – but the views and rewards made it worth it.

Upon our arrival back down, the learners were packed up in record time – after which we had our lunch, ice cream and prize giving. Huge congratulations go to the Yellow team for coming in first place followed by the Blue team in second, and – alas – the Red team in third. Well done to all of the learners for their spirit and sportsmanship!!

The camp was a resounding success, and the perfect end to the term. I wish the year 8's a fantastic holiday.

Mrs Dawn Leroux

YEAR 5

Last week, the Year 5 went on their first ever camp. Everyone was very excited to board the bus on Monday and arrived at Domaine de Lagrave to some very rainy weather. We were stuck inside the whole of the first day but had lots of fun playing teambuilding games. The next day saw some sunny weather come our way and we were finally able to explore the mountain. We started with a 3 km walk and followed that with some outdoor games. Lots of fun was had by all.

Mrs Laura Nixon

YEAR 12

The Year 12 students spent a fantastic three days and two nights at the luxurious campsite of Otentic, where they participated in a huge range of team building activities from kayaking on the river towards a waterfall, to hiking a mountain and playing volleyball. They also visited Ile aux Cerfs where they explored the island and played a competitive game of football. When they were not competing for points for their teams, the students relaxed around the pool with board games, tasting the local cuisine provided by the crew at Otentic. It was an exciting, eye opening experience for the students and allowed the teachers to see a different side to the students with many ideas formed about our future prefects and leaders.

Mrs Davina Uppiah-Leahy

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MOVEMBER

Movember is an annual event involving the growing of moustaches during the month of November to raise awareness of men's health issues.

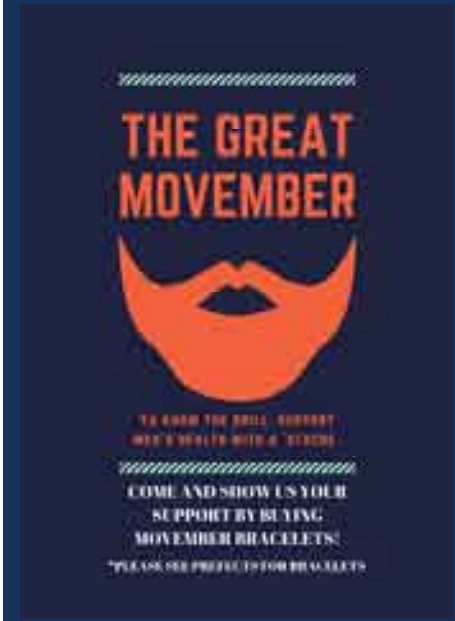
The Movember Foundation runs the Movember charity event and aims to change the face of men's health by encouraging men to get more involved, to increase early cancer detection, diagnosis and effective treatments, and ultimately reduce the number of preventable deaths.

As the November Foundation says: "Our fathers, partners, brothers and friends face a health crisis that isn't being talked about. Men are dying too young. We can't afford to stay silent."

That's why we're taking action. To show our support, over 100 Celtic bracelets were handmade by the prefect body and were sold to the students and teachers throughout the whole month of November. In total, we were able to collect Rs 8 760, which will be donated to Link to Life.

On behalf of the prefect body, we would like to thank everyone for making this fundraiser successful

Elise Sem Fa, Head Girl
(Year 13)



FAREWELLS

It's with a true sense of sadness that at the end of 2017 we bid farewell to one of our long standing members of staff, Mrs Cate Beechouk-Head of Physical Education.

Mrs Beechouk has been an outstanding member of the Northfields community for over 12 years. Starting as a part-time teacher of P.E, she combined her love of running with her dedication to coaching our students. However it wasn't long before she became a full-time teacher and eventually took over the management of the Physical Education department.

Mrs Beechouk has had the privilege of teaching every Northfields student who has ever been at the school (hence her difficulty with remembering names occasionally!), in her very unique style – it will come as no surprise that her previous career was as a policewoman in the United Kingdom. Most former students that you come across remember will remember Mrs Beechouk as she has had such a positive impact on them – whether they enjoyed sport or not. They all have appreciated her dedication, sense of humour and down to earth attitude. Passionate about everything from football, to running, to animal welfare, Mrs Beechouk's long list of achievements at Northfields goes beyond being just a teacher. She has spent much time boosting our participation in activities like the Deutsche Bank Cycle Race, MSSSA events and developing our own format of athletics and swimming championships. With her 'no nonsense' personality, Mrs Beechouk has instilled in our students a sense of self-discipline, but also passion and perseverance. There aren't many who don't know that Mrs Beechouk has a particular devotion to Eagles house, and whilst our P.E. teachers belong to the houses, Mrs Beechouk has left her stamp of determination on the students and teachers of Eagles. In the classroom, Mrs Beechouk has worked tirelessly with our IGCSE P.E students to develop their coursework and ensure that the pass rate in the subject remains high.

As a keen supporter of school events, Mrs Beechouk has also been our unofficial photographer, taking photos of almost every school related event since she started at the school. There is genuinely so much that we at Northfields are grateful to her for.

Over 12 years of service to the school which has almost always gone above and beyond her job description, Mrs Beechouk will be sorely missed by all staff and students.

On a personal note, Mrs Beechouk and I have worked together for over a decade, she has become not just a colleague but a friend who has inspired me to do things that I wouldn't have otherwise done. Her drive, determination, motivation, and endless bags of energy are an example for all of us.

As she leaves Mauritius to move back to the United Kingdom in order to be closer to her children (former students of Northfields – Liam and Millie), we wish her all the best of luck and hope that she will return to visit us sometime in the future.

Mrs Kirsty Daby

We are saddened to announce the departure of Mr. Nishal Jaddoo who joined Northfields in August 2014. He served in the Faculty of Humanities where he taught Commercial Studies, Business Studies and his main subject Economics. He was also active as the CAS coordinator and provided a lot of support to the IB students. Mr. Nishal Jaddoo became very popular amongst the student body and his recent involvement has been with the Model United Nations team in accompagnyin them to Rome. His departure has been driven due to personal reasons and I wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

Mr Asvin Bundhun

This term we sadly said goodbye to our 'mother' of the school, the school nurse Phillippa Desveaux. Mrs Desveaux had the unique position of being a part of almost everyone's lives at the school. Often teachers only know the students that they teach. But as the school nurse, Mrs Desveaux knew everyone, from the youngest Prep School student to the tallest senior. The older students remembered how she took care of them when they were overwhelmed, short and fairly cute Year 7's in their first few weeks at Northfields, and recognized that she was still doing that more recently even though now they were lanky, moody, and slightly less cute Year 13's. Mrs Desveaux was not just the school nurse though, she organized a great many other aspects of the school too: Health and Safety, Fire safety, First Aid training and risk assessment; though she still had the time to put a plaster on that cut when you needed it. Students would often visit her office just to say hello, even when not sick because she was so welcoming and a pleasure to be around. She will be sorely missed; we saw how much the students appreciate her by the warm sendoff she received in the last assembly and we wish her luck in all her plans for the future.

Mrs Ruth Burtenshaw

NORTHFIELDS
Virtus et Honor

STAFF ACHEIVEMENTS

THIERRY AMERY

For the third consecutive year, our Art teacher, Mr Thierry Amery, has participated in the PORLWI festival. This year's theme was Porlwi by Nature and 13 Visual Artists were ask to create for this Comptemporary Art Exhibition held at the Granary.

The Artwork proposed by Mr Amery is an Oil Painting on canvas, 2m x 1m50 titled 'Homme Nature': "Flowers are far too often associated with women. Fragile, sensual, fertile? Yet the connection between natural forms and Man are equally pure. The stereotypes say that flower crowns are for women-a popular fashion accessory through the ages that amplifies beauty and fertility... cliché!!! Now to question the relationship between male and flora... Is there anything more disturbing that seeing a Man with a flower crown?"

Meanwhile there is another Art Exhibition going on till the 14th of December at Plaza Rosehill from the National Art Gallery where Mr Amery is part of it with another oil painting titled "Initial self".

Northfields congratulates him on his talent, engagment and performance in both of these events.

GUILLAUME LEOVILLE

Our PE teacher, Mr Guillaume Leoville has been training for the 400m and 800m at the Manjhalkhan sports club in Curepipe for the past 12 months. He is hoping to qualify for the Mauritian Athletics Squad and take part in the Jeux Des Iles which will take place in 2019.

Recently he competed in the 600m at a regional competition in Reduit. There he beat the Mauritian record by 1.27 of a second, cutting it down from 1.20.32 to 1.19.05.
Congratulations on your national record Mr Leoville, and good luck with your training and future competitions!