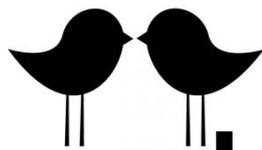


# #urbantweet



Edition 4 – July 2018

News for the Students, by the Students.

*WE'RE HALFWAY THERE!*



BY URBAN  
FOR URBAN

## **We're Halfway There!**

- Ms Wolmarans

I would like to bid you all a warm welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of #urbantweet, as well as congratulate everyone – learners, parents and teachers alike – for surviving this far! We're already halfway through the year as we stand at the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> term with expectations growing ever higher.

The second term was packed with activities, even though most of those activities included studying! Urban Academy completed its first full examination series for 2018 and we trust that it went well and that all the hard work put in by the learners and teachers paid off. The grade 12 learners already received their reports at the end of the exam session in order to apply to university – the next step in a bright future that surely lies ahead of our grade 12 students.

As far as grade 12 results are concerned, we would like to announce that after some of our 2017 matrics completed upgrades and supplementary examinations during the first term of this year, Urban Academy's matric pass rate for 2017 increased from 87% to a wondrous 91%! We are exceptionally proud of these learners and hope that they serve as an example to all others that it is never too late to deliver and achieve your very best.

Speaking of achieving top academic results, we would like to remind the Urban learners that the 3<sup>rd</sup> term results that they will be working for will be the final results that will be included and taken into consideration for our annual prize giving day that will take place early in the 4<sup>th</sup> term. The criteria for the various prize giving awards can be found in our Academics section of this issue of the newspaper so that learners may take note of what results are necessary in order to grab hold of your claim to academic fame for 2018.

Another important event on the horizon is the prefect nominations for 2019. Even though the official and final group of prefects will only be announced at the prize giving, our grade 10 and 11 learners need to take note now that this term will be their time to shine, should they wish to be considered for one of these prestigious positions. The nomination and application process, now under the close guidance and scrutiny of

Ms Wolmarans, will kick off within the week starting 22 July.

While on the topic of leadership, mention must be made of increased disciplinary protocols that will be implemented from the 3<sup>rd</sup> term onwards. A revamp of these procedures are busy taking place behind the scenes, starting with the appointment of new disciplinary heads in both primary and high school. The primary school discipline will be led by Mr Assam and Mrs van Huyssteen, while the high school discipline will rest squarely on the shoulders of Mr Demaine and Ms Wolmarans. Improved discipline can only add to the quality of the academic atmosphere that has been the aim of Urban Academy since its inception.

Along with the tightening of the disciplinary reins, learners need to take note of the fact that good discipline starts with the pride that one can take in one's identification as a learner of Urban Academy, and this identification starts with diligently adhering to the school rules regarding uniform. Though we have been let down by our initial suppliers for our uniform, we have come up with and implemented a solution to this problem. From now on the items of the uniform that are specifically branded as Urban Academy items (such as the jersey, the tie, the blazer, etc.) can be ordered directly from school by paying a visit to Mrs Buzani in the finance office on the ground floor. There are few things that shine as bright as a smartly dressed Urban learner!

Another little fact that goes hand in hand with Urban pride is the matter of UMALUSI. In the previous issue we reported on UMALUSI completing their accreditation site visit in February of this year, though we were still awaiting the results. Well, they are finally in, and as we knew we could Urban Academy has received its first official UMALUSI accreditation status! We are beaming with pride and would like to thank all of our learners, our parents, and every single staff member for making this possible. Urban Academy is officially EMIS certified, exam centre registered, and UMALUSI accredited, and has absolutely no reason to stand back within the primary or high school arena within Port Elizabeth.

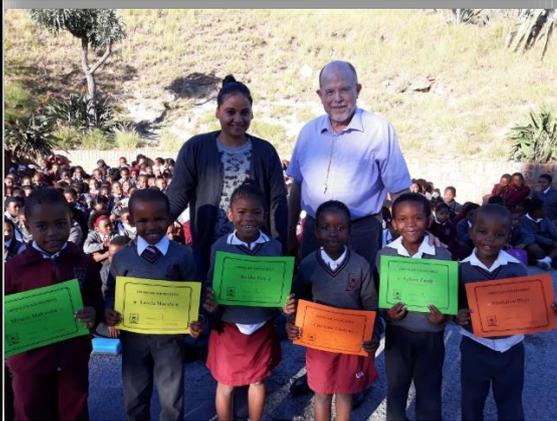
With all that said, let's move on to our official content for this issue of #urbantweet. We have lots to report on, and even more fun to be had! So put on your Urban reading caps and let's go!



Foundation Phase Shenanigans

# Working Hard on

# Academics!



# And Having Fun!



# Performances

## In the classroom



## On the field



# ACADEMICS

## TOP ACHIEVERS TERM 2

- Dineo Tokota



A very well done to Urban's academic rockstars. Urban feels very proud of these amazing academic performers and would like to say a hearty congratulations to all of last term's top 5 achievers!

GRADE R				GRADE 6			
TSURO	Anashe	88,00	1	VANJANA	Nikho	85,17	1
GQOTOLO	Alwaba	88,00	1	MZOZOYANA	Alupheli	83,00	2
MADоба	Iminathi	83,33	2	JANTJIES	Khazimla	82,50	3
BVUNZAWABAYA	Chipo	81,33	3	OLIPHANT	Liyema	80,83	4
MBALI	Sentle	81,33	3	NYIKADZAWANDA	Wendy	80,50	5
STUURMAN	Iyasiva	81,33	3	GRADE 7			
RWEXWANA	Usithandile	80,00	4	SITUNDA	Singa	92,89	1
AMANKWAA	Joseph	78,33	5	MDLUDLU	Sinelitha	85,00	2
GRADE 1				SIHLALI	Zoliswa	82,89	3
MAVUMA	Oliliwa	97,25	1	KONDOWE	Mapule	82,89	3
STOKWE	Zintle	92,00	2	PETER	Asisipho	82,00	4
MFETI	Imnikiwe	90,75	3	NYAKATYA	Luniko	80,78	5
TEBIKEW	Elroe	90,75	3	GRADE 8			
MAFANYA	Matshezi	89,75	4	MANINJWA	Yakha	80,44	1
KWETANA	Zingce	88,25	5	MPONGWANA	Khazimla	74,44	2
GRADE 2				NDZULULEKA	Olwam	72,44	3
MATYALENI	Siyakha	93,75	1	SANDI	Thimna	72,00	4
BADI	Olulutho	90,25	2	NYAKA	Zizipho	71,00	5
CHIROMBE	Selina	89,75	3	GRADE 9			
JACOBS	Shanique	89,50	4	KLAAS	Sihle	80,11	1
MYEKI	Thimna	88,00	5	MASWANA	Lithemba	77,44	2
GRADE 3				MAGABA	Buchule	76,78	3
NJEZULA	Mihlali	96,50	1	BANDA	Ryan	73,89	4
MAJIDA	Laina	95,50	2	NDLONDLO	Azola	71,89	5
MAHE	Acwengile	91,75	3	GRADE 10			
MINI	Ibanathi	91,50	4	MANI	Inga	67,43	1
GOGELA	Siwenza	91,25	5	AWUKU-BOATENG	Roselyn	62,57	2
GRADE 4				NONDALA	Likhona	61,57	3
NDUNGANE	Othandwayo	92,17	1	BENJAMIN	Ashleigh	61,14	4
MASEKO	Siyolise	90,50	2	GROENMEYER	Phoebe	61,00	5
KURIRA	Tanyaradzwa	90,00	3	GRADE 11			
SITOKOZA	Liyema	87,83	4	TOKOTA	Dineo	85,71	1
MATYUMZA	Uliqhayiya	87,67	5	DINGISWAYO	Snethemba	74,86	2
GRADE 5				MUSSEBO	Hermela	73,57	3
MDOLOMBA	Ayola	85,50	1	GAIKA	Siviwetina	70,71	4
GAWU	Oyisa	85,00	2	DONDOLA	Mihlali	66,57	5
GROOTBOOM	Luniko	84,33	3	GRADE 12			
MURIMA	Calvin	75,50	4	BUSAKWE	Luzuko	76,71	1
MNGWEVU	Khanya	75,50	4	MSINDWANA	Zizipho	70,14	2
TENGANI	Niyole	75,33	5	JEMSANA	Cwayita	68,86	3
				MJIWU	Bulelwa	68,43	4
				NQUMA	Zukhanye	67,29	5

## AWARDS CRITERIA FOR PRIZE GIVING

Academic Award	Criteria	Token		
<b>Best Progress Award</b>	Learner that showed the most improvement per subject. Minimum of a 15% improvement across the 3 terms.	Certificate		
<b>Subject Award</b>	Learners that achieve a specified minimum average per subject.	Certificate & Maroon Badge		
	Grade 8 - 9		English	75%
			Afrikaans	
			Xhosa	
			Maths	
			NS	
			SS	
			Tech	
			CA	
	Grade 10 - 12		LO	80%
			Maths	60%
	Physics			
	Grade 10 - 12		Accounting	65%
			Maths Lit	
Geography				
Life Science				
Grade 10 - 12	English	75%		
	Afrikaans			
	Xhosa			
	History			
	Business			
	Tourism			
Grade 10 - 12	LO	80%		
<b>Best in Subject</b>	Learner with the highest percentage per subject	Certificate & Silver Badge		
<b>Top Performer</b>	Learner that achieves the highest average percentage per grade	Certificate & Gold Badge		
<b>Academic Award</b>	Learners that achieve a minimum of 65% average in the grade	Certificate & Maroon Scroll		
<b>Academic Half Colours</b>	Learners that achieve a minimum of 75% average in the grade	Certificate & White Scroll		
<b>Academic Full Colours</b>	Learners (grade 10 - 12) that achieve a minimum of 80% average in the grade	Certificate, White Scroll & Honours (Grev) Blazer		
<b>NOTE: Maroon and Silver badges are only applicable for 1 year and have to be returned by the following prize giving. Learners are responsible for attaching their scrolls to their blazers.</b>				
In the case of Full Colours, the school will provide the learner with the grey honours blazer.				

### TOP OF THE CROP

- Ms Wolmarans

Ever wondered what it's like to be a top academic performer? Well, we've got the inside scoop on Dineo Tokota – the only learner currently enrolled at Urban Academy that has academic full colours!

XX



*You have been with us for a few years now and have always managed to come out on top in your grade. What is your secret?*

- I wouldn't really call it a secret. Like everyone else, I study. I found a way that allows my brain to absorb, store and recollect the necessary information.

*Someone who puts so much effort into their academics must have big dreams for the future. Can you share those dreams with us?*

- I'm glad you asked that. I have very big dreams, but I'm going to mention just one. I have a lot of interest in science generally and what it brings and the way it correlates with everything. And to explore that I will become an M.D. (medical doctor) and this is the one thing that I'm passionate about.

*We all know that all work and no play makes for a dull day. What do you like to do in your free time for relaxation and enjoyment?*

- That would depend on what you consider "free time", but I'm guessing you mean outside of school. I recently started reading, so I do that. And go on YouTube a lot. And I do a lot of DIY projects on random things, but that's about it.

*Tell us, as a top academic performer, do you believe that good academic performance relies more on natural ability, or more on hard work?*

• That's an open ended question and both sides have great arguments. However, I think natural ability comes first and then, accompanied by hard work, makes for great performance.

*We'd like to get to know you a little better, so please share with us:*

*Your favourite colour?*

• I don't have a favourite colour anymore. That is because I found out that my past favourite colour – white – isn't actually a colour!

*Your favourite animal?*

• The jaguar, because of its instincts and abilities, along with the way it upholds itself in the animal kingdom's hierarchy.

*Your favourite author and/or book?*

• My favourite book, although I haven't read it yet, is Lilly Singh's "How to be a BAWSE". It's a guide on not only surviving, but on conquering life.

*Your favourite movie?*

• "LUCY". I love the movie because it's the best sci-fi ever made to date!

*Your favourite singer?*

• Andy Grammer. His music is very diverse and full of meaning as he sings from experience

*Your favourite quote and by whom?*

• "You are not who you think you are. You are not who I think you are. But you are who you think, I think you are. So who are you?" - Dr Mikhail 'Mike' Varshavski.

*We need to know, is there a celebrity or a teacher or another person in your life that inspires you to achieve greatness?*

• I think it's well-known that I love and adore 3 people. They inspire me by just being. They are, in this particular order: Lilly Singh (Superwoman), Mikhail Varshavski (Dr Mike), Hannah Stocking.

*Any advice or words of wisdom for your fellow learners?*

• This question generally calls for cliché answers, so I'm going to give one as well. I want to say they must just get their priorities in straight and then work towards their main goal and dreams. ♥

## More minded Learning Styles AND Study Tips

BY UNCOVERING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING STYLE, YOU CAN MAXIMIZE HIS OR HER ABILITY TO LEARN AND EXCEL. TO HELP YOUR CHILD GET THE MOST OUT OF STUDY TIME, USE THE TIPS BELOW BASED ON HIS OR HER LEARNING STYLE.

### Tips for Auditory Learners

- Record classroom lectures.
- Review vocab words by reading their definitions aloud.
- Verbalize things you want to remember.
- Read aloud whenever possible.
- Study with a friend so you can discuss and hear the information.
- Use familiar songs to help you memorize details by substituting the original words.
- Ask your teacher to repeat something when you don't understand it.

### Tips for Visual Learners

- Use a highlighter for main ideas and important facts in your textbook or notes.
- Preview a chapter before reading it by looking at the titles, introduction, subtopics, key terms and conclusion/summary.
- Pay attention to graphs, pictures and charts.
- When listening to a lecture, always look at the speaker.
- Sit close to the front of the classroom with a clear view of the teacher and the board.
- Use graphic note-taking methods such as mapping, concept trees or time lines.
- Use flashcards to help you isolate and mentally "see" facts and their order.

### Tips for Tactile Learners

- Write vocabulary words on an index card and walk around while reciting them.
- Try to act out words or events with simple gestures that will aid your recall.
- Use a highlighter for main ideas in your textbook to allow your hand to keep moving.
- Try studying in different positions, and change positions frequently.
- Take frequent, short breaks and do something that involves light activity.
- Try writing key terms with your finger in the air, on a smooth surface or in the carpet.
- Whenever possible, "do" your assignments, experiments and projects in an active way.

**Sylvan**  
Learning™

# SPORT

## **URBAN SOCCER SCORES!**

- *Qhama Hlana*

Urban Academy's two soccer teams are repeatedly making us proud! Winning continually, our boys have strived to build an awesome reputation for themselves. The teams are confident that they will get through the challenges coming their way. In every match we learn new things, which is what makes us better. Mr Assam is a great inspiration and does his best to help the teams and give advice on how to handle various situations.



### **LEAGUE RESULTS – UNDER 19**

Played 8 and won all 8 games

Match vs Priory 3-1  
 Match vs Ethembeni 6-2  
 Match vs St. George's 11-1  
 Match vs Insight Learning Center 10-0  
 Match vs Khumbulani 3-0  
 Match vs Harvest 6-1  
 Match vs St Mark's 3-0  
 Match vs Happy Homes 8-1

### **LEAGUE RESULTS – UNDER 15**

Played 8 and won all 8 games

Match vs Priory 4-1  
 Match vs Ethembeni 5-0  
 Match vs St George's 8-0  
 Match vs Insight Learning Center 6-0

Match vs Khumbulani 2-0  
 Match vs Harvest 4-0  
 Match vs St Mark's 2-0  
 Match vs Happy Homes 3-1



During the tournament that our boys participated in, the under 19s played 4 games, 2 of which they won. The tournament was very strong and competitive and the boys did very well to capture 2 victories against well established and recognized football schools!

The under 15 boys played in an age group higher than what they should have (under 16), but surprised us all by doing very well. They played 6 games, won 3, drew 1 and lost 2. They just missed out on making the semi-finals by a goal difference. The vast majority of the team consists of grade 8 players, so this was a huge achievement for them. With these young superstars we can already see that the future of Urban soccer is set to be extremely successful!



# CULTURE

## **CHESS: CHECKMATE!**

- Jephias Mudombi

The game of geniuses was once called "mental torture" by the chess prodigy Garry Kasparov. Some people are fascinated by the seemingly endless possibilities of the game while others find the same intimidating.

The history of chess goes back almost 1500 years. The precursors of chess originated in northern India during the Gupta empire, where its early form in the 6th century was known as "Chaturanga". This translates as 'the four divisions', meaning infantry, cavalry, elephantry, and chariotry, represented by the pieces that would evolve into the modern pawn, knight, bishop, and rook, respectively.

At Urban Academy, chess has grown so much since it started in the first term. The club meets weekly at 14:05 till 15:00 on Mondays. However, students rarely want to go home at that time because they're enjoying themselves so much!

Chess successfully challenges our students by giving them a fun way to broaden their views and brush up on their knowledge. With the help of Mr Potgieter, the learners have been improving tremendously.

Once a game played only by kings and other nobles, chess has become the definitive leisure activity for those considered to be "brainiacs". If you think you've got what it takes, or even if you'd just like to see what it's all about, be sure to join the club as it is open to everyone!



## **LIGHTS, CAMERA, MUSICAL!**

- Mr Potgieter

Urban is excited to present our 2018 musical: *Sweet Dreams or a Beautiful Nightmare*.

Theatre is all about escaping the real world and becoming lost inside a story world. And what better way to tell a story than a good, old-fashioned fairy tale? This year's production focuses on the story of Snow White - but this is nothing like the Disney movie...

Snow White is your average, modern-day girl. She loves her friends and her cell phone. She also happens to be a princess.

And Prince Charming - the player - takes full advantage of this.

Of course, things don't always go according to plan. Snow White's evil step mother takes over the country, with the help of her dancing Magic Mirror. Together they set out to hunt down Snow White, setting our story into play.

Featuring songs from Beyoncé, Drake, Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga, Fergie - to mention just a few - this year's show is going to be 'LIT'!

The cast will feature students from many different grades, including our primary school. Special mention must be made of the enthusiastic and talented grade 9 learners which make up the main cast.

Our major players are Liyema Ndiza as Snow White, Simnikiwe Songwevu as the Evil Queen, and Ayabonga Mabengeza as Prince Charming. Sihle Klaas is our amazing narrator who takes us on this journey.

The show will take place in mid-October and will feature amazing sound and lighting. Tickets will go on sale at the end of term 3.

Don't miss out on this chance to see your friends on a professional stage!

**URBAN ACADEMY  
PRESENTS**

*Sweet Dreams*  
*or a*  
*Beautiful Nightmare*

*music from*

*Beyoncé Drake Fergie  
Lady Gaga One Direction  
Katy Perry Taylor Swift  
Celine Dion  
Freshly Ground  
Calum Scott & Leona Lewis*

**THE LITTLE THEATRE**

Dates to be  
announced



# SOCIAL

## A LETTER FROM THE JUNIOR

### EDITOR

Dear Reader

This issue contains discussions of abuse. As a caring society, the school of Urban Academy has decided to address this matter. If you or anyone you know is getting abused, sexually or otherwise, you need to realise that help is within your reach

You can go to your register teacher to obtain a helping hand, or confide in an adult you can trust. It can be difficult to do this but taking this step can bring about enormous change. South Africa has many helplines that you can contact in such cases.

These are the toll-free helplines you can contact at any time:

Stop Gender Abuse:  
0800-150-150

Childline South Africa:  
0800-055-555

Please help us bring an end to abuse!  
Remember – nobody asks for it.

Sincerely



Hermela Massebo  
Junior Editor



## SHORT STORY: JUST SAY NO!

- Solethu Mgqamgqo

Nonela lived happily with her grandmother in the village of Kwaxalai. She loved the priceless moments when she would chase after the cattle and play with the chickens. Her Makhulu always said to her, "Nonela child, soon you must stop playing and learn how to do the chores of a grown woman." Nonela was only 12 years old then.

Three years had passed since then and Nonela was now a teenager. She was acknowledged as the prettiest girl in the village. She had long, beautiful black hair and her eyes were big and round. One day Nonela was walking from school and going home with her friends when she saw an ambulance in front of her house and a crowd of people surrounding her home. She ran with only one thing on her mind: 'Makhulu'. She saw her grandmother getting loaded into the ambulance. She screamed for her. Her Makhulu opened her eyes and spoke softly to her. "Nonela child," she said, "don't be shocked. I want you to take my phone from inside my handbag and call your aunt Nokuthula. Tell her that I am not well and that I ask her to take care of you while I am gone." Nonela did as her grandmother asked.

Her aunt Nokuthula took her to her house in the city. Her aunt was married and had two children who were boys. Nonela admired her aunt's house because it was big and beautiful. Her aunt worked as a nurse and she would often go to other cities to help out at different clinics, so Nonela would often be left with her aunt's husband, Xolile, and her two young cousins.

One afternoon Nonela came home from school and, as usual, did her chores. She had noticed that her uncle's car was parked in the garage, meaning that he did not go to work. While Nonela was busy washing the

dishes, her uncle came into the kitchen. He stood by the doorway with his arms crossed over his chest. He looked at Nonela in a way that frightened her, and said, " You know Nonela, you are so beautiful my child." Nonela felt very uncomfortable as her uncle moved closer towards her. She looked down and said, "Thank you Malume." Her Uncle came so close she could feel his breath on her forehead. He started touching her on her waist and his hand travelled unbidden. Nonela pushed him off and ran to her room. She closed the door and couldn't believe what had just happened.

That day her aunt wouldn't be coming home, so Nonela had to cook dinner. As she was cooking she could feel her uncle's eyes staring at her. Her heart began to beat fast and she noticed that her hands were shaking. Her uncle moved closer to her again. She pretended not to see him, but he again touched her around the waist and rubbed her arm in an inappropriate manner. He whispered to her, "Oh Nonela, your beauty drives me crazy." He started kissing her in her neck. Nonela was trembling with fear. She struggled to speak. She wanted to scream and run away. But all she said was "Please... please Malume." Her uncle whispered, "Shhhh... don't cry Nonela. I won't hurt you." He laughed and walked away.

Nonela was frozen for some time. She could feel the tears racing down her cheeks. She suddenly had no energy and balance. She fell to the ground slowly, wrapped her arms around her knees and cried. She closed her eyes so hard as if though she never wanted to open them again. She thought about her Makhulu, she thought about the village, the cattle she loved so much and her friends whom she missed very dearly.

At school the next day, Nonela was not herself. Her English teacher noticed, so she asked Nonela to stay behind as the other children went out for break. "What is wrong, Nonela? You don't look well today." Nonela told her teacher everything.

That was the beginning of a new life for Nonela. A life where she didn't have to be frightened of getting abused.



## POEM: A HEINOUS EXPERIENCE

- Siviwe Gaika

Day in day out it happens,  
Come night come day it still continues.  
Why is it that we have to suffer?  
Like slaves suffer on a daily basis.  
He knew what he was doing.  
He's no fool,  
But was he aware of the consequences?

I cried as loud as I could  
But they weren't listening.  
Instead, they listened  
to the whistles of the trees.  
It looked like my silence was deafening.  
Pain, pain and more pain  
Was all I felt. Till my body was numb.  
That was a heinous experience.

Coming out of that dark hole  
I felt hopeless and useless.  
He invaded what I treasured the most.  
Seeing people outside  
Made me think.  
That they have interesting points of view.  
A random guy asked me what was wrong.  
I said, "It's no 'big deal'.  
I was abused."



## #HOG – STANDING STRONG

- Siviwe Gaika

The #HOG girls ("Help Our Generation") participated in another successful march that addressed some of the issues the youth of today are faced with, such as racism in schools and gender inequality.



By standing for what they believe in, our girls are proudly trying to make a difference and create a better future for all. "People often think, but there's just me, or me and my friend. What can we do? How is it possible to make a change if there's only us?" Well, if everyone thought that way, nothing would ever be achieved. But if everyone who felt this way would just band together, there is nothing that would be able to hold us all back!

Mtha Penya \* Sanelisiwe Davids \* Mhlali Dondolo \* Siviwe Gaika \* Sneathemba Dingiswayo \* Cwayita Jemsana



Zenande April \* Lethu Njemla \* Lukhanyiso Daniels \* Libhongo Bloko \* Cumisa Jack

At the march, Cwayita Jemsana was appointed as the Debate Queen, while Sneathemba Dingiswayo won the spelling bee. Siviwe Gaika spoke a few strong but wide words regarding gender inequality.

If you want to make a difference; if you want to be involved in creating a future that we can all live in with peace, harmony and success, then be sure to join the #HOG ranks!

## MANDILAKHE KONZA – ARTIST EXTRAORDINAIRE

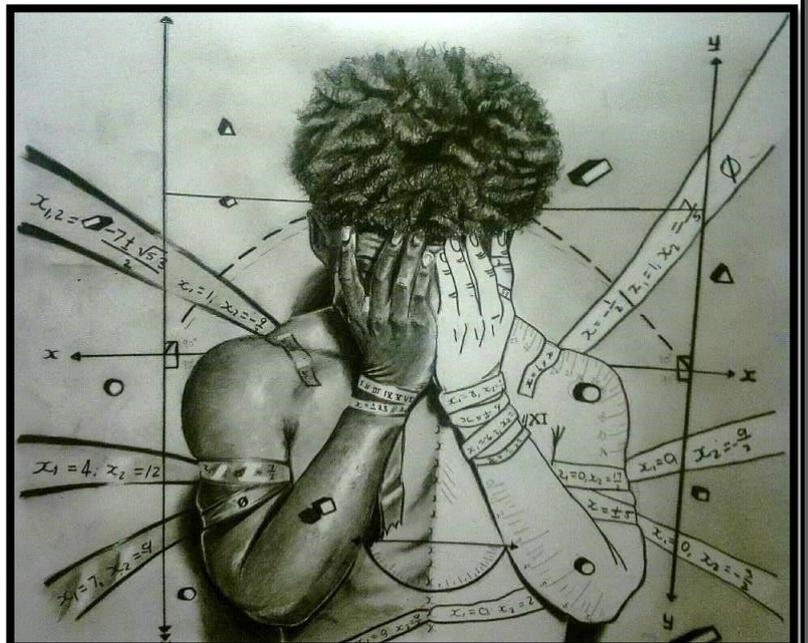
- Hermela Massebo

Mandilakhe Konza, our school's most prized artist, was selected as a finalist for the Math and Art competition held by the NMU Faculty of Maths and Science. The competition checked your ability to blend the complexities of mathematics with the intricacies of art.

Mandilakhe drew a portrait of himself looking conflicted. The drawing shows how maths can affect teenagers, by using different shades to show positive and negative effects. Overall it inspires people to look at how mathematics impacts people every day, being found in the simplest of things, be it in the measurements of our clothes or dealing with money.

Mandilakhe was one of the top five students in this competition due to his brilliant ability to combine the two themes in a solid manner. He received valuable art supplies as prize, and his art work will be exhibited in Stockholm, Sweden.

Congratulations Mandi! You are carrying the Urban name on high and we are exceptionally proud of you!



## **THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA – URBAN ACADEMY SCHOOL SONG**

- *Benevolence Mazhinji*

All the creative thinkers out there can spread their wings as they have been given a chance to shine.

A competition will be held in term 3 for a new official school anthem. Participants will be required to compose an official song for our school. The participants with the most exciting and melodious entries will be allowed the opportunity to perform for the whole school and have their song become the official school anthem.

Everyone is encouraged to take part in this competition as it will surely be amazing fun – not to mention bragging rights and the opportunity to go down in Urban history!

For more information on entering this competition, be sure to catch me, Benevolence (grade 11), as your go-to person!



## **TEKKIE TAX – PUTTING OUR BEST FEET FORWARD**

- *Hermela Massebo*

Our school held a delightful fundraiser day on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. The kids in the intermediate and foundation phases were allowed to wear

their best decorated tekkies for the day. Everyone who wore tekkies had to bring R10 to buy a sticker, which the school would later donate towards learners with disabilities. 160 stickers were sold overall, raising at least R1600 for charity.



In foundation phase Shanique Jacobs (gr 2) won for most noticeable tekkies, while Shaun Tavgwisa (gr 3) won for most decorated tekkies. In the intermediate phase, Zoliswa Sihlali (gr 7) won for most colourful tekkies, Tsheda Magaba (gr 4) won for most noticeable tekkies and Joy Peter (gr 5) won for most decorated tekkies.

Well done and thank you to all the participants, especially for doing your part for those that are less fortunate.

## **A NEW URBAN ANGEL**

Congratulations and blessings to Mrs Fourie with the birth of her and her husband's little girl, Karla. May she bring you an abundance of joy and laughter! And though we will miss Mrs Fourie during the 3<sup>rd</sup> term, she will be back in the 4<sup>th</sup> term and ready for action just in time for final exams!



## CATWALK KING AND QUEENS OF URBAN

- *Hermela Massebo & Ms Wolmarans*

Two of our intermediate phase learners, Joy Leander (gr 6) and Joy Peter (gr 5) took part in the Junior Miss PE Pageant and made it through to the final round.

These lovely ladies came in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively. Joy Leander also received a medal for raising the most money in the pageant.

Congratulations girls! It's great to see such young students taking part in making the Urban Family proud.



On the male side of things, our deputy head boy, Joy Nyakabawu, did exceptionally well during his campaign as a finalist for the Mr PE UberMANN Junior competition. Joy had to partake in rigorous tests of the physical, mental and emotional before he made it through to the final prestigious gala event that was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June at the Boardwalk International Convention Centre.



Jesica Slabbert, writing on behalf of rNews, had the following to say regarding the competition: "The aim of the title is to embrace responsibility and encourage a positive impact through community activities; it is not a modelling competition. The chosen contestants start a six week journey of self-discovery, self-development, skills development, physical training and many more activities to boost their self- confidence. The contestants are groomed in decorum, public speaking, how to handle group pressure, leadership abilities, impeccable manners and dress sense. The responsibilities for the Junior winner will be to connect with primary and high schools in the area, as well as be a voice and provide support for local charities."



Though Joy found the title just outside of his grasp, he was awarded gold medals for Mr Physique and Last Man Standing (which apparently included taking everyone else out in the paintball arena!).

Well done Joy! You have carried the Urban name to new hights and we are extremely proud of you!



## **TEACHER PROFILE:**

### **MR JO POTGIETER**

- Ms Wolmarans

1. *What inspired you to become a teacher?*

This is quite a complicated question! Originally I did not want to be a teacher. I couldn't make up my mind if I wanted to be a movie star, psychologist or theatre technician! Even after I had completed my matric I was still undecided. Of course, I was a bit worried about this... Luckily, I come from a family of teachers – my mother teaches grade 1 in Durban, and my grandfather used to teach high school maths. So instead of growing up and leaving school behind me, I chose to grow up and stay in school!

2. *You teach English, Creative Arts and History. Do you prefer any one subject over the others?*

No. They are all awful! Just kidding... Honestly, I love all of my subjects. They all have their own challenges and rewards. At the end of the day, knowledge is the goal!

3. *In your opinion, what makes a teacher great?*

Great students – it's as simple as that. I could spend my whole life preparing an amazing lesson, but if there are no students in the classroom then what was the point?

4. *You clearly have a passion for the performing arts – where did this love originate?*

I have been acting since I started grade 1. This made my choice for high school very easy. I spent 5 years at Durban High School in KZN. The school was fortunate to have a donation to build a theatre, and it was Seabrooke's Theatre which allowed me to work professionally with some of the best artists in Durban.

5. *For what reason do you believe it is necessary for learners to explore their creative sides?*

Imagine a world with no books, music, movies, T.V. shows, art... Does that sound fun? Culture is one of the best signs of civilisation. Without creativity, human beings are simply machines that try to survive. I believe our job in life is to do more than just survive – we should create!

6. *We'd like to get to know you a little better, so please share with us:*

a) *Your favourite colour?*

Green – because green symbolises new life and new beginnings.

b) *Your favourite animal?*

My cat, Benji. Who doesn't love cats?

c) *Your favourite author and/or book?*

The Passage trilogy – by Justin Cronin. A very long, very complicated story about the end of the world. And vampires! Vampires are cool.

d) *Your favourite movie?*

Cloud Atlas – by the Wachowskis and Tom Tykwer. Another very complicated story about what it means to be human. I love films that leave you confused and thinking afterward.

e) *Your favourite singer?*

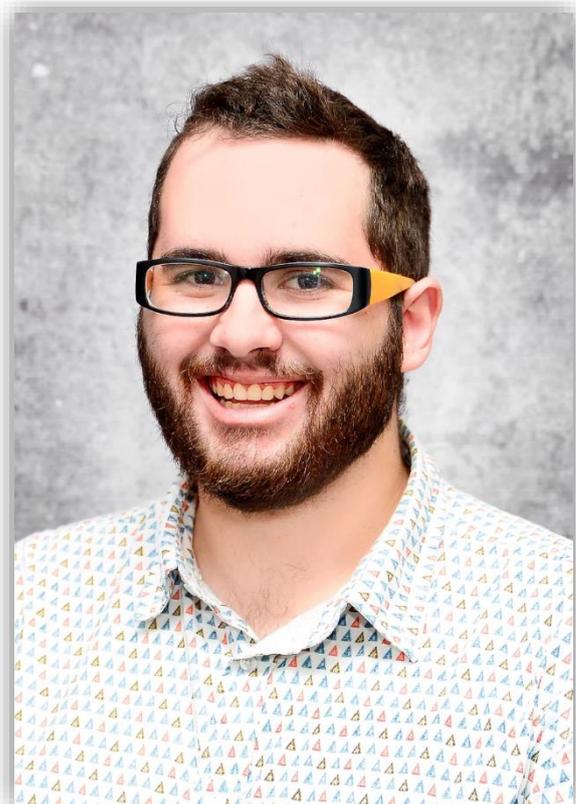
Florence and the Machine. I dare you to listen to her voice and not be amazed.

f) *Your favourite quote and by whom?*

It's not a quote – it's a poem. Ozymandias by Percy Bysshe Shelley. It reminds me not to get too full of myself because I will not be here forever.

7. *If there is one thing you would like the students of Urban Academy to know, what would it be?*

I AM 107 YEARS OLD! STOP ASKING!



## MEDIA: BEHIND THE MAGIC

- Ms Wolmarans

It's not easy putting this much fun together every term, but it is definitely a great pleasure to do so! Working with young, talented minds and creating something worth the time of our readers is quite an honour.

I would like to thank the Media Team die-hards that have stuck with this tremendous task for making it all possible. As we well know – no man is an island, and my duty as Senior Editor would not be possible without you guys!



These are the faces of the people who made contributions to this edition of the newspaper. How would you like to have your picture among them? There are big plans in

the works for the Urban Media Team, and with the grade 11s soon moving into their matric year, we definitely need some young blood in the mix! So this is a call to anyone and everyone who wishes to be part of the team and have their names and faces featured among those who will one day become legends!

And it's not only the #urbantweet newspaper that the team works on! In case you haven't noticed, we have opened up a new Instagram page that is growing steadily in both uploads and popularity.



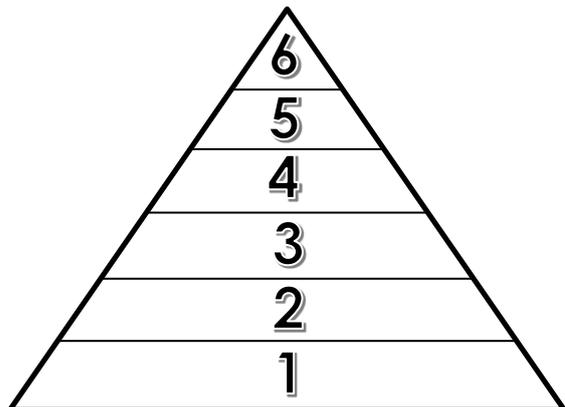
Urban learners must remember – it's all for you! Want to see something added into the newspaper? Want to see something specific uploaded onto Instagram? Then speak up!

But most importantly... **COME JOIN OUR TEAM!**

For more information, be sure to speak to any of the faces on the left, or come see myself, Ms Wolmarans, during break times.

### PUZZLE TIME

This guy below plays a vital role in *how we learn new things*. Submit a completed version to Ms Wolmarans before Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> July and stand a chance to **win win win!**



## URBAN SUPERSTARS!

- Ms Wolmarans

Two guys who are sure to make great renown for themselves in the future are our very own grade 8 Ayabulela Sinuka and Inathi Cewu.

After being scouted and recruited during their grade 7 year, these two boys were selected to participate in the 2018 Dana Cup Soccer Tournament taking place in Denmark from the 22<sup>nd</sup> till the 31<sup>st</sup> of July.

Along with their team from Pro Skills Soccer Academy, the guys form part of the first ever South African team to participate in this international contest that will be hosting over 30 teams from all over the world!

Just when you thought the Soccer World Cup was over, the excitement starts again! Congratulations boys – we are very proud of you and we know that you will uphold the Urban name!



Then we have the girl no one should dare mess with: Tina Mvenya in grade 12, who participated in the South African Judo Open Championships during the July holiday.

Not only did Tina manage to grab a position to participate at such a huge event, but she went on to win 2 gold medals and one bronze medal for her performance! This incredible feat also means that Tina will be taking part in the Junior African Championships taking place in Botswana from the 2<sup>nd</sup> till the 18<sup>th</sup> of December this year.

Tina must have delivered some earth-shattering moves, because she even secured an interview with SuperSport and appeared on television!

This is truly a magnificent show of skill and is an accomplishment fit for an Urban superstar indeed! We are extremely proud of you, Tina, and will continue to follow your advancement as you endure down this road. Who knows, one day perhaps even the Olympics will wink at you.



### A WORD FROM MRS YOLISA BUZANI: STUDENT ACCOUNTS OFFICE MANAGER

I was born in a small town called Cradock. Due to my parents' separation at the age of 3, we moved to Port Elizabeth with my mother. Therefore, I regard PE as my second home. I have an older brother, which makes me a last born. I was raised by a strong woman who sacrificed her life for us, making sure we went to school and achieved more than she did, as she could not further her studies. I grabbed the opportunity with both hands and decided to break the boundaries. As a result, I became the first ever child to graduate from my father's side of the family.

After matric I went to study at former Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) and qualified with a Diploma in Public Relations Management. I got an opportunity to work in the motor industry for 3 years. Thereafter, I heard a voice calling my name in the Education space. The voice was quite loud and I could not ignore, so I listened and decided to make a move. I do not regret the decision to this day. I figured it was more than just a decision, but rather a calling.

I started off at Urban as Debtors Clerk for a period of 4 years, and now I'm currently occupying Office Manager position in Student Accounts. I believe I got this far through hunger for success, hard work, dedication, sacrifice, and – of course – support from my mother.

I believe education is the key to opening doors. By making sure you have the right key, you are bound to go far in life. Reflecting on the current situation of our education system and comparing it to ours 14 years ago when I was still at school, it is evident that the system has its own challenges that the Department of Education is battling with. Having changed curriculums three times already since then, such changes have dropped the standard of education. Consequently, it has a negative impact on children, leading to situations where they are not challenged enough to work quite as hard and get distinctions. When they get to tertiary level, it gets difficult for them to cope with what is expected of them.



As much as the government injects billions of Rands into our education, I think we need to ask ourselves: is the current curriculum, or standard of education, effective for our children? If the answer is "no", then that means there are a lot of questions regarding the system that demand answers! Questions that we, as parents, need to ask!

I believe behind any successful child there is a devoted parent. A parent plays a vital role in a child's education, while they work closely with the teachers. I know there are challenges when it comes to this, such as some parents not being as informed or familiar with the curriculum and its content. But this should not stop you from playing your role. Go out there and actively seek assistance for our children. Paying school fees does not end your responsibility, but it only begins the journey. And it could indeed be a fruitful journey if parents can commit to comprehensive co-operation with the school.

To our Urbanites: may you spread your wings and fly. And remember – we are all born to succeed, but we are the ones who choose whether we do or don't.

With love

Yolisa