



# Woodlands International College

## Junior College Newsletter

### 20 September 2019

*Dear Woodlands Family,*

24 September – Shaka Day; Heritage Day; Braai Day... “A rose by any other name, would smell as sweet” ... No matter what you choose to call the National Holiday that the country will be celebrating on Tuesday, may it be an acknowledgement of your culture, and the realisation that our South African potjie, whilst being so diverse, is a uniquely flavourful one. Use this day to teach your children about their heritage; what the symbols of their culture stand for, and how they originated. Spend some time at a museum that is dedicated to displaying our country’s rich history. Listen to your own cultural music or introduce your children to some of the wonderful cultural folklore that relay the values that need to be passed down from one generation to the next. Have a meal at home with your family, enjoying traditional foods and beverages. Or, light a braai and enjoy some boerewors, bobotie, chakalaka and pap. As Jan Scannell states on his website, “braaing is our common heritage, and although the ingredients may differ, the one thing that never changes is that when we have something to celebrate we light fires and have great feasts.”

This being said, we would like to encourage all our students to dress up in their Cultural Clothing, for free ☺, on Wednesday 25 September.

I would like to share one of my favourite poems with you all, as a reminder of the beautiful country that we all share:

My country is for love  
so say its valleys  
where ancient rivers flow  
the full circle of life  
under the proud eye of birds  
adorning the sky.  
My country is for peace  
so says the veld  
where reptiles caress  
its surface  
with elegant motions  
glittering in their pride  
My country  
is for joy  
so talk the mountains  
with baboons  
hopping from boulder to boulder  
in the majestic delight  
of cliffs and peaks

My country  
is for health and wealth  
see the blue of the sea  
and beneath  
the jewels of fish  
deep under the bowels of soil  
hear  
the golden voice  
of a miner’s praise  
for my country  
My country  
is for unity  
feel the millions  
see their passion  
their hands are joined together  
there is hope in their eyes  
we shall celebrate  
by *Sandile Dikeni*

*Ms A Gray*