

Editor's Note: Vuyokazi Jamieson has been awarded a Humphrey H. Hubert Fulbright Scholarship in the USA for the academic year 2021 – 2022. It is well deserved.

Vuyokazi Jamieson: Librarian at St Andrew's College

“OverDrive is often my solution because of the quick turnaround service.”



“Running a hybrid library with OverDrive as a digital platform and content curator is the best thing. It makes you feel like you are this *“cool librarian of the future”* when you can provide an instant reading service to your learners to meet their demands” Vuyokazi Jamieson.

“The Eastern Cape I Want”

Vuyokazi Jamieson brightens up when she utters the above words. She envisions that one day there will be functional school libraries in all schools in the Eastern Cape. Vuyokazi works hard to ensure the boys at St Andrew's College read for pleasure to start with, knowing that reading for learning should follow.

Reading Promotion Initiatives

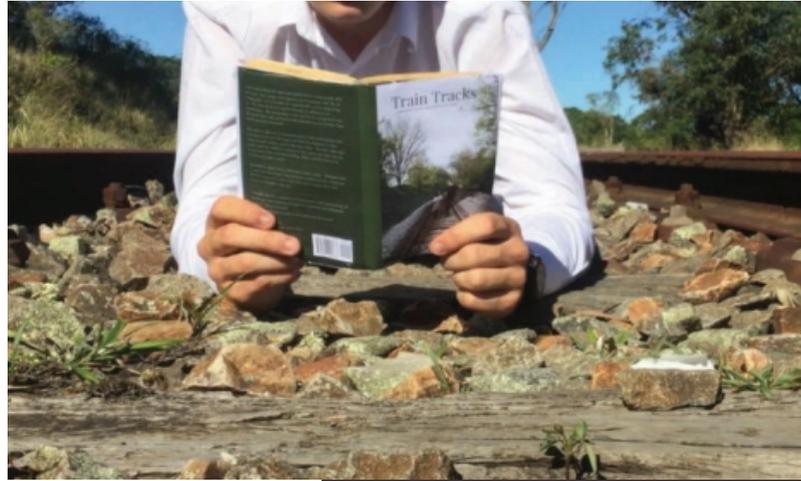
Extreme Reading Competiton

Nothing excites Vuyokazi more than getting the St Andrew's College boys talking about books and reading. The headmaster encourages the whole school to participate in the many initiatives provided by The Cawse Library such as the Extreme Reading Competition which is greeted with great excitement by the boys.

The boys are encouraged to choose an extreme but safe location to read a book and take a photograph of themselves. The lucky winners are awarded with exciting and worthwhile prizes sometimes sponsored by the MaNel Trust. Much fun is had in choosing a unique location and experience related to the chosen title and content that they are reading.

This competition is greeted with great hype and everybody talks about this competition on the various St Andrew's College's social media platforms. Ideas are shared and further information gained with visits to the library in preparation of the secret choices.

Many parents get involved in the reading fun and this school-wide adventure! Pictures roll in as the reading frenzy abounds.



AW puts his life on the line whilst attempting to read "Train tracks" by Peter Alderman



"Perfect save" as AC reads Schmeichel's Autobiography

Book Reviews for House Points!

St Andrew's College library encourages the boys to read books and then write book reviews about them. A transparent point allocation system exists and the boarding house with the most points win a trophy. The cherry on the top is to publish the names of the boys who have contributed the most points towards the Inter-house competition. No one wants to let their house down!

"A Blind Date with a Book" is another one of Vuyokazi's initiatives to encourage reading in the month of love. The enthusiastic team of The Cawse Library monitors ran with this project and adapted it to celebrate Black History Month as well.

Twenty-nine titles were selected and covered in brown paper so maintaining the theme of having a blind date with a book! These secret reads lasted less than a week on the display. The positive vibes in the library atmosphere was evident with the arrival of the display and everyone was excitedly talking about the display.

Intuitively, the OverDrive digital library has such collections already curated for the learners' indulgence. "Awesome OverDrive service!"

“It’s exciting to work in a boys’ boarding school” Vuyokazi says. “You simply throw ideas onto the table and the enthusiastic library monitors run with them”.

Innovation in Reading

OverDrive and the Sora Reading App help Vuyokazi to enhance the hybrid library service. The physical and digital components of the library collections complement each other extremely well. For starters, St Andrew’s College Library is able to fulfil the urgent requests for books from its community through the OverDrive service.

The St Andrew’s College community together with its outreach projects with the Nombulelo High School learners benefit from the Overdrive services.

The St Andrew’s College Interact Club enjoys a partnership with Nombulelo High School learners and has helped them to stock and improve the facilities in the school library. Sadly, many schools in the Eastern Cape use the library facilities on their campuses for other purposes other than the library.

This resuscitation helped to get the Nombulelo High School students reading and the LiT book club has emerged in partnership with the St Andrew’s College. The boys also collaborate with their Reading & Watching club and share reading experiences with their peers at Nombulelo.

The Cawse library also has a partnership with Oatlands Preparatory School and they are busy fundraising to build bookshelves in order to establish classroom corner libraries in the school.

The Reading & Watching club facilitated an inter-schools literary quiz between Grade 8 & 9 pupils from Nombulelo High School and St Andrew’s College. Friends were made and much fun was had and the winners were treated to a delicious meal.



Why we do what we do!

The words of Ray Bradbury, “There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them” is a driving force behind what we stand for with our reading initiatives. We aim to nurture and facilitate a culture of reading throughout the school which is wholeheartedly supported by our Headmaster and the staff.

Anywhere, Anytime library service!

The presence of the OverDrive Media Station is a welcome enhancement and has helped increase the readership and checkouts in The Cawse Library. Through OverDrive the boys have 24/7 access through SORA to any reading materials they require, and we know it works!

Vuyokazi Jamieson is a passionate and proud librarian who will stop at nothing to promote reading.



** In recognition for this she was awarded the Eastern Cape Librarian of the Year in 2019 and the 2nd runner-up award in the National competition.*

With tools to make every student’s reading more pleasurable and a support team excited to help you!

Getting started with Sora is easy.

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