

Matric Results 2011

Comment from the Headmaster

"Afternoon Sir. I must have had very good teachers because I can't believe my results. Thank you for the best five years of my life. The College is really something special and my career at St Alban's will never be forgotten. I am following my dreams and will keep you updated." DR, Matric 2011

The matriculation results achieved by the Class of 2011 in the IEB National Senior Certificate examinations were good and very much in line with results in previous years. The majority of our Matrics achieved their best-ever results and surpassed all expectations in several instances.

Our top achievers, Adriaan Booysen and Francois Strydom, were amongst the very best in the national IEB standings with nine distinctions each. Kian Barrett, Reghardt Pretorius and Matthew Botha were superb in achieving near full-house distinctions. There were several other strong results at the top end, too, which are tabulated below. A total of 108 subject distinctions were recorded by the 98 members of this class and 29 candidates achieved subject marks of 78/79%, which is excruciatingly close to distinction standard.

As usual, some of the major successes lay away from the distinction band. One of our strengths is our diversity – be that background or talent. There were many members of this class who surpassed the expectations they would have had on entering the College. The pass rate, and university entrance pass rate, were the highest that this class has ever achieved. In fact, there were some members of the group who achieved a university pass for the very first time in their final examinations. We are proud indeed of what has been achieved.

There are certainly boys who will be a little disappointed that they didn't achieve their ultimate goals in terms of distinctions or Honours, but the results achieved stand scrutiny with anything achieved in the past decade. There are a handful of members of this group who will feel particularly disappointed: two missed Bachelor Degree Passes by the narrowest of margins and two other strong academics dropped off significantly from their Form 4 performances. They may feel let them down and some will be required to redirect their plans for the year ahead.

Each year group in a school has its own strengths and special qualities. Unlike their immediate predecessors, our Class of 2011 was not overly endowed with superior scholars: there were 17 Scholarship Honours recipients in our Class of 2010 while there are just five such Honours awards in our Class of 2011. Yet, more than any other I have ever encountered, they closed out their school careers with steadiness and purpose. Their improvement from Prelims through to finals was way beyond what we anticipated and caught us by surprise in many instances. But it was more than that: their general behaviour was exemplary in their Matric Year and we were blessed with their leadership at individual and collective levels.

Six Year Comparison of overall results

The results in the table below gives a summarized comparison on the broad result parameters over the past six years. Excluding our Class of 2010, which was an exceptional group, the results achieved by our Class of 2011 compare favourably with previous years. Clearly, we would have preferred to have had a 100% pass rate, but the group as a whole largely achieved its goals for the year. With a little more polish (and perhaps more optimization of internal assessment), we might have seen an additional 15 or 20 distinctions, but the same would be largely true of previous years.

	New Curriculum								Old Curriculum			
	2011		2010		2009		2008		2007		2006	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Candidates	98		113		102		116		105		105	
Passes	97	0,0	113	100	102	100	116	100	103	98,2	104	99,0
University Pass (BD)	86	87,8	100	88,6	78	76,5	103	88,8	93	88,6	101	96,2
Diploma Pass (D)	10	10,2	11	9,7	20	19,6	11	9,5				
Pass (HC)	1	1,0	2	1,8	4	3,9	3	2,6	10	9,5	3	2,8
Fail	1	1,0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1,9	1	1,0
Distinctions	108		178		118		102		106		121	
Distinctions per Candidate	1,1		1,57		1,16		0,88		1,01		1,15	

Top Achievers in 2011

Adriaan Booyesen and Francois Strydom achieved a magnificent nine distinctions each. They were both placed among the top 120 candidates in the IEB nationwide. Both of them contributed hugely to the life of our school in their senior years and they have excellent attitudes to both work and life which will surely see them going on to futures of success and significance.

Six distinctions has always been the mark of a top-class scholar and what makes the list of six Albanians who reached that milestone is that they were prominent contributors in other areas of school life too: there are provincial and national sportsmen, national debaters and actors in that list. The same can be said of the other Albanians listed below.

Nine Distinctions (2 candidates)

Adriaan Booyesen*: (Accounting, Afrikaans, English, French, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Maths Paper 3, Physical Science, Advanced Prog Maths)

Francois Strydom*: (Accounting, Afrikaans, English, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Maths Paper 3, Physical Science, Advanced Prog Maths)

Seven Distinctions (1 candidate)

Kian Barrett*: (English, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Maths Paper 3, Physical Science)

Six Distinctions (2 candidates)

Matthew Botha+: (Accounting, Business Studies, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Maths Paper 3, Physical Science)

Reghardt Pretorius*: (Afrikaans, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Science)

Five Distinctions (1 candidate)

Jacques Basson+: (Afrikaans, English, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

Four Distinctions (2 candidates)

Li Fu Wu: (Accounting, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Maths Paper 3)

Nicholas Viljoen: (English, History, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

Three Distinctions (3 candidates)

Krugel Oberholzer: (Accounting, Afrikaans, Life Orientation)

Kyle Vollmer: (English, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Tudor Wolff: (Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Science)

Two Distinctions (11 candidates)

Francois Bosch: (Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Danie Conradie: (Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Fred Hoogenboezem: (Mathematics, Maths Paper 3)

Luke Kim: (Life Orientation, Mathematics)

James Madden: (Business Studies, Mathematics)

Richard Melvin: (Business Studies, Life Orientation)

Sibusiso Molimi: (Business Studies, Life Orientation)

Heinrich Mollentze: (Afrikaans, Life Orientation)

Mathew Prinsloo: (Business Studies, Life Orientation)

Matthew Swart: (Geography, Life Orientation)

Alessandro Valente: (Accounting, Mathematics)

Key:

* denotes Scholarship Honours awarded in 2011;

+ denotes that individual has achieved the required standard in the IEB NSC Examinations to be awarded Scholarship Honours and will be nominated for such award at the first meeting of the 2012 Academic Year.

I extend my sincere congratulations and appreciation to the young men in the Class of 2011 and to their parents and families who supported them so superbly during their time here.

Every blessing for the future!

Yours sincerely,

Tom Hamilton
HEADMASTER