



Half Year News Letter



IMPORTANT DATES

- **02 APRIL – VILLA PARTY**

RC Father first year and Vice-Prime -Mashudu Sadiki

“Villa is more than just a residence, it is a brotherhood. We look out for each other.”

Being Vice Prime and father first years is probably the most emotionally challenging pursuits I have ever faced.

I could tell you that from the beginning you are really taken by the gush of excitement because of all your expectations- that you'll be facing the prospect of really influencing another's life yet teaching him about values and discipline that he will undoubtedly take with him for the rest of his life.

You quickly work towards it. You begin planning until finally January came and they are all finally here.

I must say, It is one thing to see the first year list and know how diverse they are, it is something totally different to see meet them and shake their hand and hear them call you “Daddy Mash”. I was never ready for it- I still get chills really.

My one and only mission was for the first years to feel at home. I want them to feel the very same way they feel when they are home. I want them to feel as free to speak whatever they want, whenever they want. I want them to feel safe, like someone you can trust lives with you. I wanted them to grow as individuals while understanding that they are ultimately young man and that means they have to carry with them certain responsibilities.

My biggest challenge was trying to give everyone the same first year experience and chance at growth regardless of disabilities. We have a brother who is blind, and believe me when I say I was astounded to see the how the first years treat him like a brother. With help from CUADS, they take turns helping him get around campus or take him to town. It is truly a great act of humanity and compassion these brothers of mine have in them.

It seems that most of my first years have settled in and have grown so much since meeting and sharing some experiences. From here, my primary aim is to ensure that their academics is of an excellent standard.



Inters were a great way for the Boys to meet people and socialise



No better way to bond than in the pool.



The gentlemen looking good in their uniform.

RC Secretary Media and Marketing

-Remoratile Mogodi



“Some memories people and things you experience here will last you ten lifetimes

It has truly been an honour for me to be a part of one of the most dynamic portfolios on the RC. It is one which was paved by great minds and when I came, my aim was to take it to the next level.

I wanted to go one simple thing: to find as many effective ways to spread information. I want people to know about things which were happening in Villa while at the same time I wanted all Villa guys to be able to know about what was happening within the house, when and what was happening on campus. This was not easy as not everyone uses the same social media platforms. I also want to make the image of Villa a positive and professional one.

To achieve this, we made great strides in making application forms available to the students. We timeously told everyone about opportunities like the Gateway and the executive committee for the SRC. We also brought them to the guys.

There are currently 3 pages on Facebook: House Villa Bravado for announcements and memos, Weekly Bravado for the public image and the first year group where we share pictures and videos of our Cubs' first year experience. WeeklyInsta Will be coming soon in April and we very much look forward to it.

We are increasing the number of ways information is being spread in and around the house. We try to maximise the use of the notice boards. When there is a House Meeting you'll find new posters we have developed.

We also placed names of each of the first years and the RCs outside their doors. Everyone basically knows where everything is.

I thank my Subcom for the hard work they have put in advertising of large events like the parties. I look forward to greater things including the introduction of a large chalk Board with all the events.



Weekly Bravado: Lady at the pan.



First year group among many interactive social media platforms.



South College won the Body painting competition.

RC Prime - Ntebogang Kashobane



Welcome to Villa Bravado, The home of the brave!

When I first became Prime my main focus was simple - the unity of the house. Villa was in a state where we were not share a common vision of what being a "Villaman" meant and this was a concern to me.

I sought to do this with the help of my brilliant team by reviewing and redefining the cultures and traditions of the house. We sought not to abolish things like the initiation of the first years, but do them in such a way that would instil the values of the house within them.

I was also faced with larger issues because the house was in a terrible state indeed. Geysers were not working, doors were broken and it felt like attempts to fix these only resulted in a detriment to the house because it was our huiskas which boar the costs of fixing these. I have since compiled a report along with Thuli of these breakages. It was since sent to HRA who have brought people to verify the reports. We hope that they will come back with a remedy soon.

Fulfilling my duties has been something I have come to become better at over the course of my term. In the beginning I struggled with co-ordination of my RCs. But I must say it has become easier and now I can safely say that I do it with relative ease.

Having said all of that. There is still much which needs to be done. I hope to leave my term with the renovations close to happening. I also would like to see a more unified house because that is where the true experience of what it means to be a Villaman begins.

RC Sport, Health and Wellness -Mbali Tshabalala



We Don't lose. We are the house with the Winning Instinct!

I am amped up for my term as the new incoming RC for this position. I promise to lead with great integrity and effectiveness.

I am still adjusting to my new position, but I thank my successor Mr Ewald van Zyl for the work he has done for this portfolio. I can tell you guys, Villa is roaring this year.

We have established a number of options including [-], I can gladly say that it is the most number of teams ever at Villa. The Cricket team has already made it through to the semi-finals so we are looking forward to great things from this talented squad.

The other teams are also performing pretty well, however the season is still beginning so lets see where we end up.

I have been doing my best since even before I was officially appointed to ensure that there are enough equipment at each practice. It still however remains a challenge.



Many first year activities.

I also hope to redefine some of the current concepts and tradition including our year group Soccer, Cricket, Rugby and Table tennis tournament as well as largely anticipated corridor tournament. So just you wait and see what's coming guys.

I look forward to working with these incredible group of gentlemen. I know we are going to do well.



Great sports coming through this year.



Also social sports for the rest of the house. Lets not forget corridor and the year group tournament.

RC Social and Diversity

-Armand Ridgard



Living at Villa is one of those things about life you'll be able to look back at and say "Life was Epic!"

What's up guys!

So being RC Social and Diversity is not special. What is special is what you actually do with it. Without that, its ultimately only a position.

I have enjoyed my term thus far. The aim has not only been about making money but we more importantly look at the purpose of the events. To bring people together from different backgrounds.

We are still going to do the Villa parties we know and love- that goes without question. We are going to go for the next level type parties. We look it cater to a larger group of people and make it accessible to a wider scope of persons so that the experience is still Villa Bravado- specific, but a little bit different.

You can look forward to parties with a bit more of a purpose. We have teamed up with the FeesMustFall movement as a residence and we hope to contribute to limiting the deregistration of students. This is only naming one.

Still, we will not just be looking at parties only. We are planning a multicultural day in conjunction with RC Culture Nathan. It will be the first of it's kind in Villa and I promise you it is truly something to look forward to.

We ensured that our first years were flooded with interactions with other residences. This will not stop because we recognise the importance of working hard and playing hard. We will still have inters with other residences- not as many but we still will.



Come check out some of our EPIC Villa Parties.



We are notorious for our social events. The entire campus literally goes mad in anticipation.

RC Finance - Pfariso Mudau



It is no honour to merely take up space here, but to actively participate, actively engage and actively live.

Gentlemen...

It is always difficult for Villa to compete on a financial level with other residences because our huiskas is measured on the number of people staying in the residence. We do not have a large number of people in comparison with the other residences which is why we come up short financially.

Still, we remain optimistic. We have an excellent RC team who have a great vision for the future of the house, but finances are almost always a stumbling block.

Just to share a bit of my team, I always receive funny looks every time I announce my financial report.

We have however devised a means of trying to secure money for the house.

We look to the Huiskas which we will be receiving at the end of May.

We will also initiate fund raising initiatives to further alleviate financial stress on the house.

Our biggest move will be hopefully to establish the alumni by the end of the semester. I have spoken to a number of interested Villa men including the well-known pioneer of the house Mr Zane Kuberg. He has already expressed his interest and his endorsement for this initiative.

All will be well in due time.

RC Academics, Environmental affairs and Alumni *-Thuli Molebalwa*



It's easier to study here knowing that you are not going through the struggle alone. We support each other's academic projects.

The academics portfolio is very close to my heart. Knowing that I can help a fellow Villaman academically is what keeps me doing what I'm doing.

Academics are the main reason we are at Varsity. Creating a conducive environment within my residence is my number one priority, An environment where one does not see the need to be negative and rewarding and rewarding academic excellence is key.

Our state of the study logs have changed with enough tables and powerful quotes up on the walls. The noise monitors are very effective. There are awards introduced for corridor excellence academically.

This shift that we have seen will ensure academic excellence. I truly hope that all the Villamanne will find the changes aiding to the overall academic atmosphere.



**Registering the first years.
Ensuring all of them had
access to all the necessary
information during Rag.**



**Andricia Hinkermann
addressing and
inspiring the first
years.**



**Ouman George sharing
his personal
experiences with
balancing work and play.**

RC RAG -Thokozani Wali

We are all going to leave a legacy behind when we leave this world (Residence, City or Country or Planet Earth); but the question, what kind of legacy do you want to leave behind, is it a positive or negative legacy? Indecision is still a decision.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my words of gratitude to the House of Villa Bravado that gave me a chance to lead in the House, and not only that but also to represent it in this fun-filled yet world changing portfolio - RAG. It's been a great journey that has not only helped me grow as an individual but also helped to contribute in a making a positive impact in other people's lives.



Surprising and interesting enough, that annual Rag parade only represents a small portion or segment of the broad range of fundraising activities and efforts that the Kovsie Rag engages in throughout the year. Even when you go to the points system or criteria; you'd find that the Rag parade (Float Building) has the least points as compared to the other projects, yet it is the well-known, most challenging, and most fun part of Rag.

We have a lot of meaningful activities that one can engage in to change and shape this world.

From the beginning with projects like Tekkie Tax, Big Give, Casual Day, the Community service Projects like Buddy Project which aims to promote social responsibility amongst students and the broader community; emphasising the need for responsible driving and alcohol use; UBUNTU which is a community outreach project in which Kovsie RAG directly and practically plays a huge role in uplifting the less privileged communities; Evening Collections and Ritsim Magazine sales where the generosity of the community members plays a huge role in supporting the Rag Parade and RAG as a whole up until the end with the much anticipated, fun-filled Rag Parade simple known as float building or Rag Procession; it's been indeed a great journey I will forever embrace it.

purpose.

As my term is coming to an end, I would like say an advice to the next coming RC Rag. There is a lot of help available to you should be in need. The Rag Office is always there to assist you, the RC Team and the House at large. Also one of the most important things; make sure you know why you decided to be a RC and constantly remind why you do what you do; for the will come time where you will ask yourself - "Is this worth it?" (Leader of the House, Being part of Rag Leaders and etc.) . If you happen to lose that focus on the goal and vision; you will most likely be discouraged to even finish your term, as a result of a lack to stick to your vision. Lastly; have a lot of fun man, fun filled with

RC Culture - Nathan Carlo

Villa has a spirit unlike any other residence. There are some real fighters here, It is no wonder the Lion adorns our shirt.



Cultural life at Villa has taken a bit of a spin- and a positive one. I have had the task of keeping that original identity Villa Bravado we know and love while yet developing a mode that will still be relevant to changing circumstances. And man has it been a mission.

So far we have placed a solid second in our combined venture with Huis Sonnedou in the stagedoor, which is something to be really proud of. The first years really worked hard and made the residence proud in all honesty.



It's a "so far so good" story from my side.

We look forward to the another epic kleinser run this year. I've been telling people about how I've booked the tickets already so you can best believe that the bar will be raised.

I also want to integrate the element of Arts within my portfolio. We hope to have the paw repainted and initiate a hall of fame in Middlegang hopefully.



So we look forward to great things all in all. The Culture portfolio is one which I do not intend to let you down on.

