



uCONNECT

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2019



A VIEW FROM THE TOP

As we find ourselves approaching the close of 2019, I would like to take this opportunity to thank every employee for their hard work and commitment during this very trying year.

In 2019, MPCC experienced some remarkable triumphs, along with some enormous challenges. It is due to the perseverance and enthusiasm of our teams across South Africa that we continue to provide the highest level of service and can continue exploring new opportunities in the education space, thereby growing our business. Thank you for your commitment and willingness to go the extra mile when called on to do so; I appreciate every one of you.

To our remarkable team of non-graduate Tutors that we are losing at the end of 2019, due to the changes in legislation in China, thank you for your continued commitment during this very trying time. We, as an organization are still hopeful that in the near future we may be able to call upon you once again to join the MPCC family on future projects that do not necessarily require university-level qualifications.

May you all have a wonderful Festive Season with friends and family, celebrate New Year's Eve responsibly and prepare yourselves for an amazing 2020!

FRANS REUVERS

Managing Director



SEPTEMBER WINNERS

TOP CENTRE

MPC 3

TOP 10 TL'S

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1. Melanie Appollis | MPC 2 |
| 2. Lizelle Domingo | MPC 2 |
| 3. Thobile Kopandru | MPC 4 |
| 4. Palesa Moyo | MPC 5 |
| 5. Thariq Taladia | MPC 2 |
| 6. Kimberly-Lyn Postma | MPC 5 |
| 7. Amanda Mxoli | MPC 2 |
| 8. Kehly Windvogel | MPC 3 |
| 9. Nkosithi Mtebele | MPC 1 |
| 10. Moletje Mamoepa | MPC 5 |



#1 Melanie Appollis

TOP 10 LC'S

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 1. Scott Southgate | MPC 2 |
| 2. Ashlynn Ball | MPC 4 |
| 3. Ruan Nel | MPC 3 |
| 4. David Nhlapo | MPC 1 |
| 5. Mohau Amos Ngoepe | MPC 5 |
| 6. Rushveer Singh | MPC 4 |
| 6. Edwin Roos | MPC 3 |
| 8. Velile Phakathi | MPC 4 |
| 9. Andrea Muller | MPC 3 |
| 10. Tshidi Phalatse | MPC 1 |



#1 Scott Southgate

GETTING TO KNOW OUR TOP CM AND TL



GETTING TO KNOW OUR TOP CENTRE MANAGER: COLIN BENADIE FROM MPC 3

1. How would you describe yourself in 3 words?

Dedicated, Reliable & Stubborn.

2. If you won the lottery and decided to give up being Centre Manager, what would you do instead?

I would buy more bicycles and spend as much time as possible riding them. If I find some time in between then I would travel the world.

3. What is the funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

I grew a moustache for Movember and after 3 weeks of abuse I eventually shaved it off.

4. What animal would be the most terrifying if it could speak?

Most probably dogs, because they are everywhere.

5. What's something we would never guess about you?

I am a qualified Fitter & Turner.



GETTING TO KNOW OUR TOP TEAM LEADER: MELANIE APPOLLIS FROM MPC 2

1. How would you describe yourself in 3 words?

Optimistic, vibrant and fashionable.

2. If you ran away and joined the circus, what would your performance be?

I'd be a ringmaster as this would be the closest to being an MC.

3. If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be?

I'm sure others would assume I'd say Beyoncé but I'd like to trade places with Oprah Winfrey and definitely shower everyone with free gifts.

4. What's the most ridiculous fact you know?

Chewing gum can't be digested.

5. What was the last thing you googled?

The last thing I googled was searching for 24-hour fast-food restaurants nearby.



STAY HEALTHY THIS FESTIVE SEASON

Merisha Nayager

Senior Recruitment Specialist

The festive season is finally here, and we are ready to submerge ourselves in the summer heat, enjoy the salty air, and have loads of cocktails. We have waited 11 months for the silly season to arrive, so why shouldn't we get into the festive spirit? Now, I hate to be the Grinch this holiday, but these next few weeks can easily throw our year-long (sometimes painful) diet straight out the window. Haven't we worked hard all year on ourselves so we can maintain looking fabulous darling? So, here I am, ready to give you some fantastic tips on how to survive the 2019 Festive Season.

Say No To The Muffin Top

Now, we all know how difficult it is to get rid of the awful muffin top. Play it safe at the buffet table this year and select two things you love; this can be 100% carbs if that's your weakness. The rest of the food needs to be low-to-zero carbs. There are some delicious high-protein finger snacks that you can opt for.

Hydrate

Water! This is your MVP people! Jazz it up with lemon, cucumber or fruit. Keeping a bottle of water with you daily assists in preventing holiday overeating or even overindulging in alcohol or fizzy drinks; both of which are loaded with calories and sugar.

A Drink To Get The Party Started!

We all know that alcohol flows freely during the Festive Season, so I suggest that you opt for a somewhat healthier alcoholic beverage. A good Gin and Tonic is excellent in bringing out those summer vibes. You can add some berries in your drink (Yay for Keto!) or add some mint and lemon to make your drink look just as fun as those sugar-infused cocktails!

Mind & Body Wellness

We can all agree that 2019 has been a stressful year. It is important to restore one's mental wellness and balance, so the best way to do this is to stay away from your in-laws (just kidding!) Okay, jokes aside, I recommend some food for the soul; walks on the beach, morning yoga while you greet our beautiful South African sun and allow the heat to radiate a gorgeous glow on your skin! Balance is essential. Whatever you eat, you need to burn, and whatever stress you face, you need to release.

So, here you have it, my holy grail to surviving the 2019 Festive Season. Happy Holidays everyone!

THE GENERAL ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY!



Sending all our positive and healing thoughts to you. We wish you a speedy recovery, Trevor!



MONEY SAVING TIPS THIS DECEMBER

Shreya Singh
Financial Accounts Officer

'Tis the Season to start trimming - your budget, that is, and not just your tree. Consumers are now wary of putting too much of the holiday season on credit which means more restricted budgets. By saving and spending wisely, your holiday season doesn't have to be a total budget-buster. Here are several ways to keep your spending under control this December so you can ring in the new year with a celebration rather than panic.

Make a Budget

You might want to establish a general spending cap or try allocating a specific amount to each person on your gift list. Be aware, though, that while making a holiday budget is excellent, it can go sour in one of two ways:

- Setting a budget that is too tight
- Forgetting the little things

Make sure to revisit your budget often and spend within your means.

Cut Back on Expenses

We're all guilty of indulging a little more than we should, simply because it's the holiday season. However, you can't get stuck in a trap where constant spending on little "extras" eats into your budget.

Use the "Secret Santa" Method

The Secret Santa method helps relieve some of the stress and financial burden of exchanging gifts with every member of your family; it also gives us a chance to talk about the importance of service and giving during the holidays.

Choose Cheaper Traditions

While traditions are remarkable and admirable, they don't have to be expensive to be memorable. You might find that your kids prefer the cheap toys to the grander gestures. So many activities and traditions are inexpensive or even free. By hosting more affordable events and observing less expensive traditions as part of your celebration, you can save money without skimping on the festivities and memories.

Know When To Stop

When your list is complete, and you've checked it twice, it's time to stop shopping. Avoid stopping by the mall "just to see what they have" - this can lead to making poorly-planned purchases and blowing your budget.

It's all too easy to get caught up in the spending cycle during the holidays. Marketing campaigns are very crafty in making you open your wallet in the spirit of Christmas, so it's hard not to fall prey. However, if you have a plan in place and know how to stretch each holiday Rand, you don't have to have to fear breaking your bank. Cheaper entertainment, a focus on family, and a sensible spending plan puts you firmly in the driver's seat of your sleigh.



iSMART AWARDS 2019

This month, our contact centre team was very excited to welcome representatives from our client, iSmart to recognize exceptional performers over the course of 2019.

A huge congratulations to the following sales agents:

TOP 3 AGENTS FOR THE YEAR 2019



1. Clarissa Rangasamy



2. Sandile Sizwe Stephan Mayendisisa



3. Selina Naicker

MOST SALES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2019



1. Thabiso Silinda



2. Bonani Maxam

We are very fortunate to be working so closely with iSmart and have seen our team develop and grow this year. Well done team! We appreciate you and look forward to moving into 2020 on the same upward trajectory!

Best wishes,
iSmart Management Team



ASK SAM

This is an opportunity for you to have your voice anonymously heard and have those pressing questions answered by our wise Sam.

If you would like to submit any questions for the Ask Sam Column please email submit@mpc.co.za

Dear Sam,

I love working for a great company like MPCC and I love what I do even more. I always go the extra mile and try to be a team player. However, I have noticed some of my colleagues are happy to be sliding by doing the bare minimum and often speak ill and gossip about me because I'm enthusiastic about my work. This can be very demotivating. Help what should I do?

Girl ...Taylor Swift says it best. "Players gonna play and haters are gonna hate. You just gotta shake it off. Shake it off." You're going to have to learn to pay them, naysayers, no mind. Remember, hard work, positivity and a good attitude will take you far. Keep your hustle on and do your best.

Hope this helps,
Sam

Disclaimer: MPC does not hold itself responsible for the actions or results of the views or opinions expressed in this column. Should you require professional advice please consult a qualified professional. We look forward to hearing from you!



MyWellness

Employee Wellness Program

MyWellness is a caring, confidential service that can help you and your immediate family deal with personal or work-related issues.



PSYCHOLOGICAL

Counselling services for emotional and trauma issues

Face to face consultations with a professional psychologist

6 Free sessions are available

Call 0800 555 002 to schedule a session



LEGAL

Ever needed legal advice but did not have access to the resources?

All legal services are provided telephonically completely free of charge to our employees



FINANCIAL

Financial advice and guidance



HEALTH

Concerned about your health? Or want to improve the way you eat or exercise? Contact a professional nutritionist or dietician to assist you



GOAL SETTING IN 2020

Waheeda Khan

MPCC Talent Team

The New Year comes with new challenges, and what better way to tackle these than setting GOALS! Goal setting not only allows you to take control of your life's direction; it also provides you with a benchmark for determining whether you are succeeding. It is a process that starts with careful consideration of what you want to achieve and ends with a lot of hard work to do it. In between, some very well-defined steps transcend the specifics of each goal. Knowing these steps will allow you to formulate goals that you can accomplish.

Below are five simple rules to help you set achievable and realistic goals for the new year:

1. Set Goals That Motivate You

Motivation is key to ensuring your goals are achieved. Goal achievement requires commitment, so to maximize the likelihood of success, you need to feel a sense of urgency and have an "I must do this" attitude (yes, you can!)

2. Set SMART Goals

The simple fact is that for goals to be compelling, they should be designed to be SMART for them to be achievable. There are many variations of what SMART stands for, but the essence is this - goals should be: specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound.

3. Set Goals in Writing

The physical act of writing down a goal makes it real and tangible. Remind yourself, "I WILL do it!" As opposed to, I would do it.

4. Make an Action Plan

Once you are aware of your goal and expected outcome, ensure that you have a solid action plan in place so that you can adequately plan and prepare yourself to ensure your goal becomes a reality.

5. Work the Plan

Having a plan in place makes you official. Working the plan makes you successful. Remember, things might go awry, but that's okay. Have you ever heard of the saying, "Rome wasn't built in a day"? Similarly, it takes time. Trust your plan, work the plan, and be flexible when handling variables, and you'll surely get there. Learn from your mistakes. If you fall, get back up! Trust your instincts.

Always remember, all you need is the plan and the courage to press on to your destination. Success is a journey, not a destination.



Nando's

OCTOBER COMPETITION WINNER!



Congratulations Azande Ngcobo from MPC 6! You are our lucky winner of the uCONNECT October competition. Get fired up at any Nandos for the value of R500-00!

October competition riddle:

Q: What can provide food before it is alive, while it is alive and after it's dead?

A: A chicken.

Winners are chosen randomly using:

<https://miniwebtool.com/random-name-picker/>



Inspired by you

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER COMPETITION

Ready to shop? Imagine the shopping spree you could go on if you win this amazing prize:

A R500 PICK N PAY SHOPPING VOUCHER!

All you have to do is guess the number of loose potatoes you see in this trolley?



Send your answer to submit@mpc.co.za

In your response kindly mention which centre you are from. (E.g. Lauren Redfern MPC1.)

*Winners are chosen randomly using:
<https://miniwebtool.com/random-name-picker/>*

T's & C's apply.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY VISHAAN SINGH!

Vishaan, thank you for all that you do for MPCC. To date, you have worked across three different centres where you have had a positive impact.

You are always willing to go the extra mile to assist where needed and we appreciate that about you. We wish you success, happiness and prosperity in all that you do.

With love,
MPC 6 Support Staff Team.



ENTERTAINMENT

DEAR SANTA

Dear Santa,

For this year I'm requesting a BIG bank account and a SMALL body.

P.S. Please don't mix them up like you did last year.

KNOCK KNOCK!

Who's there?

Norma Lee.

Norma Lee who?

Norma Lee I don't eat this much!

JOKE OF THE DAY

Q: Is Google male or female?

A: Female, because it doesn't let you finish a sentence before making a suggestion.

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

1. There are three houses. One is red, one is blue, and one is white. If the red house is to the left of the house in the middle, and the blue house is to the right to the house in the middle, where is the white house?

2. When you have me, you immediately feel like sharing me. But, if you do share me, you do not have me.

3. Without it, I am dead. If I am not, then then I am behind. What am I?

WTF FUN FACT!

Black Friday is the busiest day of the year for plumbers. As bizarre as this may sound, it was reported by CNN who explained that the plumbers are needed to clean up after guests "overwhelm the system".

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX ANSWERS

1. In Washington, D.C.!

2. A secret

3. A head

Merry Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

STAY CONNECTED



submit@mpc.co.za



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