

UNION SCHOOLS

2023





UNION SCHOOLS

Our Vision

“We are committed to creating a happy and safe environment where all students are afforded every opportunity for growth, and are encouraged to achieve their full potential in academic, cultural, sporting and spiritual activities under the guidance of professional educators, thereby enabling them to become fulfilled, self-reliant and responsible citizens.”

The Mission of the Union Schools is:

To provide a high standard of all-round education to every student, thus making a significant contribution to nation building through the development of the human resources of our country;

To be accessible to students from the wider South African community, while maintaining English as the medium of instruction;

To inculcate the values of Truth, Loyalty and Justice as enshrined in our motto;

To use the opportunities provided by communal school and boarding life to develop in our students attitudes of tolerance towards others, and respect for their person and property;

To utilise fully the resources offered by the local community and opportunities presented by the school's unique situation to develop the interests and abilities of the students as widely as possible;

To foster an environment which will encourage students' spiritual development based upon Biblical Christianity, without prejudice to students from other religious backgrounds; and

To offer boys and girls the opportunity to develop together in a stable home-like environment.

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MAGAZINE TEAM

We are pleased to present to you the culmination of a year's worth of memories, achievements and friendships in the form of the Union Schools' 2023 magazine.

The pages of this book hold more than just photographs. They serve as a time capsule, freezing beautiful moments that defined the past year at the School. From the triumphs of our sports teams to the captivating performances on stage, the diversity of our learners' pursuits serve as a testament to the vibrancy of our community.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the unwavering dedication of our teachers, staff and administrators who have guided our learners throughout the course of this year, shaping their academic growth and nurturing their personal development. We would also like to express our gratitude to the families and businesses who have advertised in this year's

edition – we owe our success and the memories we now hold dear to this support.

To our learners, as you flip through these pages, remember that your story is not confined to these moments captured in ink and paper. This magazine symbolises the foundation upon which you will build your futures. The connections you formed here will serve as the stepping stones for the paths you choose to walk.

We hope that as you peruse the pages of this year's magazine, you are overwhelmed with nostalgia, gratitude and pride. May it serve as a reminder of the incredible individuals you are and the way you have influenced one another's lives during your time at this remarkable institution.

Editorial: Cathy Pringle, Bronwen Langmead & Mariëtte Burger

Photography: Mariëtte Burger



STAFF

We are fortunate at the School to have a group of educators who are all passionately dedicated to their calling. Whether faced with expanding young minds, providing extra curricular activities or counseling those in need of pastoral care – it is evident that our school is indeed a family orientated, child-centred haven for many.

The staffroom is a happy place. While we know how to complain about the lack of teaspoons or the fact that we can't all fit into the galley kitchen at once, or that we really deserve cake EVERY Friday - Union's staff cares. Cups of coffee are made for the other, a bunch of flowers appears on the table, the 'youthfully challenged' corner often explodes in laughter, the details of the weekend games are deeply analysed, we lose things, we snap, but most of all – we laugh a lot. Mr Pringle has

been known to enter the morning meeting to the 'Star Wars' soundtrack (strangely enough, this track also emanates from Mrs Pringle's classroom periodically), clothes are traded, frustrations are vented, breaks are willed longer and we chortle at Mrs Grewar's dry wit.

This year we welcomed Mrs Nida Gradwell and Mrs Anëlle Ekkert to the staff. Both brought a quiet, dignified professionalism to the team and we are grateful for their presence. Mr Stegmann van Zyl returned to the School, now as a member of staff and offers much in terms of sporting acumen and pastoral care. We also welcomed Mr Mpilo Njoloza who heads up junior sport – it has been said that some would, 'Go to War' with him!

We sadly said goodbye to Mr Maarten Kruger who was well-loved by





STAFF

BACK: Mrs H. Clegg, Mrs M. Burger, Mr H. Sparrius, Mr B. Mbanga, Mr S. Koeberg, Mr R. Hulleman, Mr J.P. Kruger, Mr E. Jantjies, Mr M. Njoloza, Mrs S. Marais, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Mr S. Van Zyl, Mr A. Gradwell, Mrs H. Keyser
MIDDLE: Ms TL Abels, Mrs C. Nell, Mrs N. Gradwell, Mrs J. Liebenberg, Mr C. Beck, Mrs A. Ekkerd, Mrs M. Burger, Mrs J. Streef, Mrs C. Pringle, Mrs L. Crankshaw, Ms J. Nel, Mrs S. Brink, Mrs J. Heunis-Jones, Ms E. Moos
FRONT: Mr D. Kingwill, Mrs L. Vorster, Mrs E.L. Gerber, Mrs Y. Cloete, Mrs A. Gedult (Deputy Principal), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mrs N. Read, Mrs B. Langmead, MrsB. Grewar, Mrs H. Rose-Innes

our learners and who provided a dynamic energy to our staff. Mr Colin Chiyindiko also left the School in Term 3. Towards the end of the year we welcomed Mrs Galloway back to the fold – she claims for the very last time! Ms Tracy-Lee Abels joined us as an educator assistant and we were thrilled to hear of her engagement to Mr Chulumanco Chutu – we wish both old Unionites much joy. The School will certainly not be the same next year as we bid a very fond farewell to Mrs Belinda Grewar after 28 years of incredible service, humour, expertise and willingness to mark any number of senior English papers for others when the going gets tough.

Our staff is indeed family oriented. We 'high-five' little Bodhi Gradwell each morning as he joins the staff-meeting in his Superman Cape before pre-school - often accompanied by Peter Parker – the Gradwells' ginger cat. Xenna, our canine mascot, is also our sports teams' biggest fan. We are very excited to welcome not one, but TWO baby Gradwells in the new year. We were delighted when Mrs Lou-Anne Gerber was announced Head of Sport on the SMT. We are proud of Mr Beck who was announced as the Eastern Province U16B hockey coach.

We had two matriculants of staff members in 2023, and will miss having Anna Pringle and Jude Langmead at school – their parents' tuckshop bills will now surely be easier on the pocket. Anna joins the gappies at Salisbury Cathedral School next year while Jude will be at chef school in Stellenbosch. Mrs Lou-Anne Gerber's daughter, Amy started her Union journey in Grade 1, as did Mr Hanno Sparrius' daughter, Mienke at Volkskool. The fact that there are Liebenberg, Gedult, Clegg, Hulleman, Ferreira, Nel, Pringle, Langmead, Burger, Gradwell, Gerber, Beck, Shell, Marais and Hunter offspring at the Union Schools proves just what a special family we are.

Mr JP Kruger married his beautiful wife, Nerike in January and we

wish them a lifetime of happiness. Mrs Kiki Nel's son, Phillip wed, while their other son Michael and his wife Cecilia were blessed with a baby girl. Mrs Hanli Rose-Innes also joined the 'Granny Brigade' and we witnessed tiny booties and the like being crocheted for her daughter, Danelle's baby. Danelle also achieved her Masters in Nursing Education this year, following in her sister, Monja's footsteps, who achieved the same qualification in Economics last year. Mrs Rose-Innes son, James, became engaged in November. Mrs Belinda Grewar welcomed another grandson – she will be working on her crocheting skills on her retirement! We are not short of grandbabies as Mrs Yvette Cloete's daughter, Nicole had a baby girl. Mrs Louise Vorster is extremely proud of her daughter, Riette who has been promoted to HOD at Michaelhouse. We celebrated with Mrs Helane Keyser when her son, Xander was announced Headboy of Volkskool for 2024. Mrs Sharon Krige's daughter, Courtney came 3rd in the province in her Accounting Board exam for Law (out of an astonishing 800 candidates). Mrs Sanette Brink's daughter, Amanda graduated as an Occupational therapist and Mrs Bronwen Langmead's son, Bowen completed his BSc in molecular biology. Mrs Moos' son, Trevor also obtained a degree in Sports' Management.

Our staff is also super-smart. Mr Gradwell received his Master's degree in education, Mr Mbanga completed his Doctorate and was recognized as one of South Africa's top "Bright Minds" in a national competition. Ms Street obtained a certificate in editing and proofreading

Union has the unusual privilege of being a family school where generations attend, govern and work here. Our School is more than a workplace – its family ethos and contribution to the well-being of the entire community, make it a very special institution that we are grateful to be a part of.

FAREWELL TO MRS GREWAR

It gives us great pleasure to write this farewell message to Mrs Belinda Grewar who has been our colleague and friend for over twenty-five years.

Prior to her joining the School's staff in 1995, she was appointed at Knysna High School after graduating from Stellenbosch and UCT, taught at Capricorn High, Pinedene Primary and Vaal High School in Gauteng. At Jansenville High school where she was head of the Languages department, she established a resources centre for schools in that area. This was a time of great personal growth for Belinda, through most difficult circumstances.

She joined the School's Primary Department and taught English for thirteen years under the leadership of HOD, Mr Bruce Maree during the Outcomes Based Education phase. This was a time of great freedom in teaching for educators which afforded Belinda the opportunity to show her amazing creative talents. The learners were the fortunate recipients of her innovative lessons and many past pupils have recalled learning how to think critically and write creatively under Belinda's tutelage; lessons which have stood them in great stead in their current careers.

The latter, and greater part of her teaching career has been spent in the high school where, as subject head of English, Belinda has had a big



impact. Not only the learners, but many new staff members have been fortunate to receive her mentorship and guidance at the start of their teaching careers. As a National Senior Certificate examination marker of eleven years standing, and Deputy Chief marker of English over the last three years, her immense knowledge, experience and expertise have been invaluable to learners and staff alike at the School.

Her contributions to the School over the last, almost thirty years have not been limited to the classroom alone. Belinda has been a most proficient tennis coach of Junior boys, ran the Senior Debating Society and together with her husband Steve, impacted many learners' lives positively while running the SCA for many years.

While her many tangible contributions will be sorely missed, her delightful, dry sense of humour and sense of fun will

leave a large void in our school community. We will remember Belinda for her cheerful personality, but it is her deep Christian faith, which has inspired and comforted so many over the years which will leave the greatest void.

We wish both Belinda and Steve much joy, peace and rest in the next phase of their lives in Wilderness. May God bless you abundantly.



SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAM

BACK: Mrs E.L. Gerber (Head of Sport), Mrs B. Langmead (Head of Culture), Mrs N. Read (Head of Department)
FRONT: Mrs Y. Cloete (Head of Department), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mrs A. Gedult (Deputy Principal)



GROUND STAFF

BACK: Mr Leon Witbooi, Mr Bjorn Koopman, Mr Jack Bezuidenhout
FRONT: Mr Joseph Oormeyer, Mr Neil Meyer, Mrs Lillian Williams, Ms Delicia Solomons, Mr Gavin Malouw, Mr Trevor Zali
ABSENT: Mr Arnold du Plessis, Mr Rayno Loxton

SCHOOL DRIVERS

On behalf of the entire community, we would like to express our deepest gratitude for the exceptional efforts and unwavering commitment of our incredible drivers, Mr. Trevor Zali, Mr. Melvin Kitchu, and Mr. Arnold du Plessis. Throughout this past year, they have gone above and beyond their call of duty, ensuring the safe transportation of our learners to various sport fixtures, tours and events. These dedicated individuals are the true pillars of our school, as they tirelessly navigate the roads, ensuring that our learners arrive at their destinations on time and in high spirits. Rain or shine, they are always there with a warm smile and a friendly greeting, ready to embark on yet another journey with our precious cargo.

We know that being a driver is no easy task, but their dedication and commitment shine through in everything they do. We are truly fortunate to have such passionate individuals as part of our Union Schools' family, as their contribution goes far beyond the road; it is an investment in the growth, development, and happiness of our learners.

They are the unsung heroes who ensure that our learners can chase their dreams, both on and off the field...



SCHOOL DRIVERS

Mr Trevor Zali, Mr Arnold du Plessis, Mr Melvin Kitchu



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HEADMASTER'S REPORT

2023 has been a year of getting back to business and reviving many events that had fallen by the wayside after the COVID-19 pandemic.

STAFF

Each school year brings with it a change in staff and this year has been no exception. Change is good and new people bring fresh ideas and renewed energy. The following members of staff joined the school at the beginning of the year: Mr Elrich Jantjies, teaching Mathematics; Mrs Anélle Ekkerd, teaching Accounting; Mr Stegmann van Zyl, teaching Afrikaans FAL Grades 8-9, and Mrs Nida Gradwell, teaching Grade 8 and 9 English.

Mr Stephen Bezuidenhout is still on indefinite sick leave. However, we hope to be able to welcome him back next year, even if it is in a reduced capacity.

Mr Maarten Kruger resigned at the end of Term 3; and we also said farewell to Mr Collenn Chiyindiko.

Mrs Grewar will conclude her teaching career at the end of this year. She has been a stalwart of the school, serving for many years, and her presence will be sorely missed.

PREFECTS

I should like to extend the thanks of the entire school to Andree Victor and Caitrin Spence and the prefect body of 2023 for their efforts this year. The job of the prefects is not always an easy one and their efforts are often overlooked. We do appreciate the job that the school and hostel prefects perform in helping with the smooth running of the school and of the hostels. Strong learner leadership is critical in the running of a school.

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF LEARNERS

Our RCL has functioned effectively this year, under the guidance of Mrs Gedult. This year, the RCL was led by Kaitlin Kenmuir and Ndalo Qwalela, and the body played an important role with regards to maintaining a tranquil environment for effective education to take place at the School. Important class matters are dealt with and communication between learners and educators is facilitated and maintained. The body is growing in strength and young leaders are developing into strong, principled members, coming to a full understanding of their very important role in representing their peers in the management sphere.

ACADEMIC MATTERS

The academic pursuits of our learners remain the core of our business and receives the vast majority of our time and planning. The academic performance of our children must be viewed as a team effort between the learner, educators and parents if the child is to be successful and we are constantly putting structures in place to strengthen this relationship. Parent evenings play an important role in this and were well-attended this year. We continue to provide our educators with the very best teaching aids and trust that this will be of advantage to the learners.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Our cultural programme remains a busy one with many of our scholars participating actively. While we thank all our teachers who involve themselves so willingly in cultural activities, a special word of thanks must go to Mrs Bronwen Langmead for her initiative and leadership in this department.



Our Music Department continues to offer Piano Adventures and Rock School, additions to our existing Royal Schools of Music syllabus. We are grateful to our music educators, Mrs Brink and Ms Oosthuizen for their wonderful efforts in helping our young musicians achieve their goals.

Our choirs and marimba bands have provided so much enjoyment this year and have added so much to the many special events that we have held this year.

The inaugural Camdeboo Eisteddfod came alive with talent and creativity in speech, drama, singing, instrumental music and various other art forms, when it recently graced the stage at our School in August. The event was not only a platform for learners to exhibit their talents, but also an opportunity to foster a supportive environment where learners could be recognised

and celebrated for their performance abilities. The performances were evaluated by esteemed adjudicators who ensured that excellence was celebrated and rewarded. The diverse showcase of talents helped demonstrate the depth of artistic abilities in the community, leaving the audiences in awe of the remarkable performances.

Chess remains popular and provides an opportunity for our learners to sharpen their strategic planning skills. We are grateful to Mrs Rose-Innes for her commitment to chess.

SCOUTS

Scouting remains an activity of value and, under the guidance of Mr Johan Vorster, our boys have taken the opportunity to become involved in this valuable pursuit.

GRADE 10 ODYSSEY

The Grade 10 Odyssey, which took place towards the end of Term 3, is a journey of self-discovery for these learners who are afforded the privilege of walking through some of the most pristine wilderness that the Karoo has to offer. The Odyssey has gained momentum since its inception.

The grade emerges out of Odyssey bonded in a way that is noticeable, with camaraderie, encouragement and admiration of one another being key factors that become evident. They also learn that no matter how difficult and painful things can be sometimes, giving up is not an option, and each participant is extremely proud to complete the 5-day challenge. Odyssey could not happen without the love and generosity of so many who give so much to make it a success and we are very grateful to all of our parents who make this a reality each year.

Each year, more and more outdoor activity and excursions are added to our calendar and we are grateful to our staff who buy into this ethos and provide such meaningful opportunities for educational growth on these excursions.

BOARDING HOUSES

Our boarding houses and our boarders are central in our school and this area of the school receives continuous attention and we will keep working on improving our facilities. I feel confident that our hostels maintain a very high standard. Mr and Mrs Sullivan, Mr and Mrs Kingwill, and Mrs Sparks, and their teams have made it their mission to ensure that our hostels function effectively and efficiently and they deserve our grateful thanks. A very special word of thanks is extended to our duty staff for their services.

I would also like to thank all the members of the hostel committee

for what they have done for the hostels this year, and in particular Mrs Jennifer Hope for her leadership.

Four state-funded positions for hostel staff were recently advertised by the D.O. E. and interviews have been conducted. This will assist greatly in alleviating the financial burden on parents.

GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS

Mr Donald Kingwill and our maintenance staff work extremely hard in order to maintain the very high standards of our campus to which we have become accustomed. We are proud of what we have and we are grateful to those who have made it possible for us to continue to look upon our facilities with pride. There can be few, if any, campuses which boast the setting, facilities and beauty of ours.

Our campus has been improved this year with the renovation of two classrooms in the primary department, the completion of the three new classrooms, the re-surfacing of the Astro Turf and the purchase of a new 23-seater Volkswagen bus.

I should also like to extend my thanks to members of our ground staff who drive school buses for us with such care and trustworthiness. Mr Melvin Kitchu, Mr Trevor Zale and Mr Arnold du Plessis are invaluable members of our team and I am deeply grateful to them for taking such care of our precious children.

SPORTING MATTERS

Sport remains a valuable aspect of the all-round education provided by our school. Mr Calvin Beck has managed our sport efficiently, especially in light of the fact that so much had to be resurrected after two years of very little activity. The Department continues to evolve and to maximise the talent of our learners. Our sportsmen and women continue to challenge for provincial teams, and even representation at national level.

Cricket remains very popular, and our teams have achieved much success this year. The 1st XI participated in the Cape Schools' Cricket Week hosted by Paul Roos Gymnasium. Athletics and Swimming continue to attract interest and Tennis has achieved satisfactory results this year. The depth of tennis talent which we have at the School is most encouraging. Our culminating annual fixture, the Marco Wassermann tournament in Middelburg was once again both most successful and enjoyable. Thank you to all of our tennis coaches for their commitment to this wonderful sport.

We have appointed a Professional Cricket Coach for the 2024 season, and look forward to reaping the rewards of this initiative.

The winter season was one in which we travelled extensively. Nonetheless, our rugby and hockey players gave of their best. The hockey girls grew in stature throughout the season.

Our hard-working First-Aiders truly deserve our thanks for their efforts. Sincere thanks also to all our local Doctors for their willingness to help whenever called upon to do so.

Interschools was a great occasion, and many past pupils attended and supported the weekend's activities. The competition was fierce and matches were won and lost. We were all very proud of our learners, those who represented the School and those who supported from the sideline.

This year's Cricket and Rugby and Hockey Festivals were a great success as they are every year. All who participated thoroughly enjoyed the festivals, and we must thank Mr Shaun Botha of Caltex and Botha's Garage, in particular, as well as other sponsors who support our school so generously.

TRI THE KAROO

The inaugural Tri The Karoo triathlon, was an incredible event, and we look forward to it becoming a regular event and gaining in momentum and support.



SALISBURY CATHEDRAL SCHOOL CONNECTION

We congratulate Grade 6 learners, Aidan Ferreira and Chanté Bezuidenhout, who have been selected as our Salisbury Exchange learners for 2024. The 2024 GAP students are Anna Pringle, Gemma Naudé and Brent Hesselink.

OLD UNIONITE ASSOCIATION

The members of the Old Unionite Association and the Union Sports Club have worked very hard behind the scenes this year and their passion and love for our school and the children is a wonderful example to all. The year has been characterised by tremendous growth and innovation and far better and more meaningful communication with our past pupils.

The wonderful ladies who slaved away at catering and in other similar roles have been worth their weight in gold. Their smiles and friendliness have been the welcome mats of the Union and we truly regard these ladies as major assets, and we receive so many compliments from visitors who enjoy our wonderful hospitality.

We are grateful to Mr Rhett Newton who has taken on the responsibility of chairman, and who has brought much energy and drive to the committee. I thank the Committee for their tremendous support of the school over the past year.

DEVELOPMENT TRUST

The UHS Development Trust is a body which administers funds which over the past 50 or so years have been set aside and invested to ensure the long-term financial stability of the school. These funds are used primarily for infrastructural developments at the school, such things as the Astro Turf resurfacing, the purchase of a school bus and the renovation of classrooms. We are indebted to the Trustees who give so willingly of their time and expertise in the service of our school and community, and extend our thanks, in particular, to the Chairman, Mr Derek Light, for the tremendous role that he has played in the life of our schools during the year.

2024

And so our school is looking forward to 2024 with hope in our hearts and with a love for the children in our care. While a new year always brings about an opportunity for a fresh start in those areas where this is necessary, it also brings with it opportunities for reflection and reminders of the greatness of this school and the richness of its history.

Some changes are due to take place within our staffing situation and we are grateful that we have been able to fill our vacancies with

people who will contribute positively to our school. One or two internal staff moves also have the potential to lead to fresh enthusiasm and to improved teaching and administration. Sporting matters and general learner participation are also very much a part of our plans for 2024. In addition, our Governing Body is making a point of exercising positive leadership towards ensuring that 2024 is an even better year than 2023 and that we will move further ahead. We are looking to 2024 to being a year of excellence in all spheres.

THANK YOU TO TEACHING STAFF

As I approach the end of this report, I would like to thank our teaching staff once again, for their dedication, for their unselfish efforts on behalf of our learners. It is they who have made all that has taken place during this year possible. I am equally grateful to our secretaries and finance departments, and our maintenance staff who are absolutely indispensable to us. Thanks, in particular to Mrs Abigail Gedult, who always provides me with wonderful support and to Mrs Nelia Read, Mrs Lou-Ann Gerber, Mrs Yvette Cloete and Mrs Bronwen Langmead, for their guidance and support.

Thank you too to the office-based staff Mrs Mariette Burger, Mrs Hestie Clegg, Mrs Maritza Burger, Mrs Joline Liebenberg, Administrative Secretary, Mrs Sharon Krige, Receptionist Mrs Elsebe Moos and Headmaster's Secretary Mrs Suzanne Marais for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

PARENTS

This is a fitting occasion for me to thank a wonderful parent body for your support during this year. Many of you have travelled all over the Eastern Cape supporting your children and the school; many have assisted us in various obvious and not so obvious ways. We really do value you. Thank you to those of you who have made the effort to show your appreciation to staff who have spent many hours teaching, coaching or driving your children around.

As a school we remain committed to serving our community and we regard our partnership with you, as parents, as a priority. At a time like this, when educational matters in South Africa are becoming increasingly challenging, we need our parents even more. We are fortunate to have a parent body such as you. We look forward to your support and assistance

PUBLIC RELATIONS

I often wonder whether our parents realise the indispensable role they play in shaping our school's reputation and fostering a supportive and positive school environment.

As the PR and Marketing Officer, I invite all parents to recognize and embrace their position as the school's best – and certainly most influential – means of PR, as we all strive to promote the values and achievements of the Union Schools within our personal networks and the wider community.

Parents are significant contributors to our school's reputation, both within and outside our community. By actively engaging in school events, being advocates for the school and sharing positive experiences, parents showcase their unwavering support, which plays a pivotal role in enhancing our school's public image. Your words carry weight in conversations, social gatherings and online platforms, greatly influencing the perceptions of prospective parents, learners and the community.

Parents have the unique opportunity to amplify our school's



achievements and milestones within their personal networks and the wider community. By sharing stories, showcasing learner accomplishments and highlighting their positive experiences at the School, parents effectively contribute to the promotion of our school's values and achievements. This collective effort extends our reach, attracts potential supporters and inspires other parents to consider the Union Schools as the ideal educational institution for their children.

We firmly believe that parent involvement is essential for the continued success of the School. We therefore invite all parents to actively engage, demonstrate their support and share positive experiences on social media platforms using #ProudlyUnion. Let us seize every opportunity to

celebrate our achievements and promote the values that make the Union Schools an exceptional educational institution.

Thank you for your continued support, commitment and dedication to our School.

~ Mariette Burger, PR & Marketing.

again next year.

I would like to express my very sincere thanks to the church leaders in Graaff-Reinet. Our school appreciates the guidance and the help that they have offered our learners this year. We thank them for their prayers and for the many other practical ways in which they have contributed to the School this past year.

Sincere thanks also to Mrs Chanzelle Heunis-Jones for her support and that of the Union Preparatory School. We continue to work towards bringing our schools closer together, to have complimentary structures and to plan for the future of our family of schools.

I extend my gratitude to those parents who serve on our School Governing Body for the tremendous work, the personal, family and financial sacrifices that they are prepared to make. It has been incredibly rewarding working with this body this year; I extend my thanks to all our governors.

I am grateful, in particular, to Mr Kelvin Kayster for his willingness to chair this body and for his leadership, support and commitment.

LEARNERS

I extend my personal thanks to the learners of our school, not only those in leadership positions, but all of you, no matter how big or small your role in this school. I should like you always to know and remember that you are valued here and that every one of you matters very much to me and to this school.

CONCLUSION

Our school offers our youngsters many, many opportunities in a variety of fields. I would like to thank the learners who have made the most of the opportunities offered. We value what they have done and are very proud of them. Their contributions have ensured that the name of our school remains respected throughout South Africa.

For the few who do not use the chances that they get to grow and to develop, may I challenge them to do all that they can when they start afresh in 2024.

It is clear from my report that Union High School continues to build positively upon the foundations of the past, and that, with the continued support of our community, our parents and our learners, our school will deal with the challenges of 2024 with confidence.



THE MATRIC CLASS 2023

BACK: Safin MacPherson, Jordan Wilmot, David Venter, Yayama Dali, Joshua Horne, Karl Venter, Jude Langmead, Ray Germishuizen, Jared Meyer, David Kinghorn

5TH ROW: Arno Nell, Simoné Prinsloo, Unam Bless, Jovandré Samson, Anna Pringle, Hlakanipha Skepe, Keanu Nel, Tayla Kingwill, Ryan Jenneke, Lana Bouwer, Kamvaletu Bottoman, Xhamla Magubeni

4TH ROW: Gemma Naudé, Cassidy Goliad, Emihle Bless, Wade Edwards, Ndalo Qwalela, Lonwabo Hanabe, Kwande Mhlabeni, Siphosihle Thibane, Mbonge Jacobs, Megan Adams, Kayla Cane

3RD ROW: Lwanda Nhlonti, Megan Nel, Jenna-Lee Jansen, Qhamisa James, Liitha Buhali, Trinity West, Ellihle Robile, Laythan Carelse, Sinazo Soyana, Ngomusa Zweni, Leah Marais, Kaitlin Kenmuir

2ND ROW: Dennysha Fortuin, Siphosethu Malotana, Keisha Mentoar, Shazia Ahmed, Kungawo Stuurman, Amkelwe Ngqazo, Philasande Tsutsu, Cadee Arends, Siyamthanda Desha, Sesethu Katishini

FRONT: Brent Hesselink, Brigetté Oelofsen (Deputy Headgirl), Andrué Victor (Headboy), Caitrin Spence (Headgirl), Chuma Sobantu (Deputy Headboy), Shona Zana

GRADE 12 RESULTS 2022

Congratulations to the Class of 2022, who achieved a 96.6% pass rate, with 57 of 59 learners passing the NSC examination. While disappointed that we did not achieve a 100% pass rate, we were delighted in the overall excellent performance of our learners. A special word of congratulations to our top candidate, Matthew Basson on achieving seven subject distinctions and an average of 85,43%. Matthew was also awarded the Rupert Achievement Award for being the Top Matric in Graaff-Reinet for 2022. Congratulations must also go to the remaining top-ten achievers: Grace Merifield (five distinctions and an average of 83,14%); Kendall Krige (five distinctions and an average of 82,57%); Marli Brummer (4 distinctions and an average of 80,14%); Amber Binney (4 distinctions and an average of 79,25%); Tamsin James (4 distinctions and an average of 78,29%); Matthew McNaughton (1 distinction and an average of 73,71%); Kathryn Odendaal (2 distinctions and an average of

73,14%); Michelle Doyle (2 distinctions and an average of 72,82%) and Chloe Shires (1 distinction and an average of 71,86%). Thirty-nine (66%) of the learners qualified for Bachelor Studies, while eighteen (31%) qualified for Diploma studies. A total of 56 subject distinctions were obtained.



VALEDICTORY SERVICE

On the morning of October 18th, the School's Grade 12s gathered for their highly anticipated valedictory ceremony, marking the end of their school journey. The event was a nostalgic and emotional farewell, filled with heartfelt moments that will be cherished by the Class of 2023 for years to come.

The valedictory ceremony commenced with a devotion led by Deputy Headprefects, Chuma Sobantu and Brigetté Oelofsen. Their words of wisdom and reflection set the tone for the heartfelt farewell that was to follow. As a symbol of unity and shared experiences, the

class delivered an emotional rendition of the song 'Flashlight' to all those gathered, which was then followed by the presentation of a touching slideshow showcasing the memorable moments and achievements experienced by the Class of 2023 throughout their time at the School.

The Headmaster's address acknowledged the remarkable achievements of the outgoing learners and praised their commitment, resilience and dedication to academic excellence. The Headmaster's words served as a reminder to the Grade 12s that they were well-prepared for the challenges that lie ahead in their future endeavours.

Headprefects, Caitrin Spence and Andrué Victor addressed the gathering on behalf of their class. Their speeches were filled with gratitude, memories and the profound bond that had been forged during their time at the School. They expressed their deepest appreciation for their teachers, parents and friends who had supported them throughout their educational journey.

As the ceremony drew to a close, the Grade 12 learners left the hall and, with pride and a touch of sadness, rang the Centenary Bell, a poignant symbol of the end of their time at the School.



MATRIC FAREWELL

The 2023 Matric Farewell Dance was a spectacular evening held at the prestigious Drostdy Hotel. The Grade 11 class did an excellent job in raising funds in order to host the perfect evening.

The excitement of the matric learners was overwhelming, which made the moment of walking down the red carpet even more monumental. The guests of honour made their arrival in an array of cars, with the girls dressed in silk organza, satin, embossed silk, sequined mesh and guipure lace in a parade of beautiful designs with smartly dressed young men at their sides.

After the glamorous entrance ceremony and the formalities, the matrics enjoyed a delicious supper before dancing the night away, making this truly a night to remember.



MATRIC FAREWELL COMMITTEE

BACK: Lelomsa Ngceba, Camran Swartz, Joshua Basson, Na'eem Mohamed, Zeraida Deyzel

FRONT: Joy Merifield, Sadé May, Mrs N. Read, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Ann-Noleen Koeberg

PREFECTS

2023 has been a successful year for the prefect body under the guidance of Headprefects, Andrue Victor and Caitrin Spence and their deputies, Chuma Sobantu and Brigetté Oelofsen.

The prefect body started their journey with a prefect camp at Leaders for Life at the end of 2022 which prepared them well for the challenges that lay ahead. This year has been rewarding for the prefects and they have enjoyed many activities such as the Interhouse athletics and gala and Interschools. It was difficult to get the general discipline back in line, after being more lenient after the COVID-19 pandemic, but the prefect body assisted well with the challenge.

When one is placed in a leadership position, personal development is

certain. The lessons learned and experience gained will most certainly benefit these learners as they step into the big wide world. It has been challenging to fit the many prefect responsibilities into an already hectic matric schedule, but it has taught the prefects time management, communication and team work.

"Leadership is knowing when to step up and speak out and when to step back and listen."



PREFECTS

BACK: Brent Hesselink, David Venter, Jude Langmead, Karl Venter, Joshua Horne, Hlakanipha Skepe, Anna Pringle

MIDDLE: Siyamthanda Desha, Shona Zana, Lana Bouwer, Ngomusa Zweni, Siphosethu Malotana, Cadee Arends

FRONT: Brigetté Oelofsen (Deputy Headgirl), Mrs N. Read, Caitrin Spence (Headgirl), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Andrue Victor (Headboy), Chuma Sobantu (Deputy Headboy)





Prizegiving



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT PRIZEGIVING

ACADEMIC PRIZES

GRADE 5

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT		
Diligence	Caren Bantom Matthew Christoffels Caron Goliath Monalisa Jika Jika Hayley Krige	Emily Raath Cuen Roman Nicola Scriven Kwande Sobantu Owam Yaya
Overall Progress	Abdullah Qaisar Matteo Arnolds Realeboga Basiele Isiphile Galela	Bubukho Jack Lechem Lamont Abigail Loots
Chookie Geard Prize for Work Presentation	Caron Goliath	
Bilingualism	Ryan Collett	
General Knowledge	Adam Clark	
Tables Champion	Hermon Wolde	
The Prize for Mathematics	Noël Shikane	
Merit Certificate for Excellence in Languages	Amelia King Mason Knoesen Angelique Kayanda-Kaboza Gia Scheepers	Noël Shakane Kari Stern Nieke van Jaarsveld Hermon Wolde
Certificates of Merit for learners who achieved an average of 80% or more for the year	Zainab Akram Adam Clark Ryan Collett Lwandle Dali Lilly Hunter Amelia King Joshua Kingwill Mason Knoesen Kendell Kruger Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza	Danté Mills Ryonn Naudé Gia Scheepers Noël Shakane Kari Stern Chivargo Christoffels Luchae Thompson Nieke van Jaarsveld Hermon Wolde
3rd	Kari Stern	
2nd	Nieke van Jaarsveld	
1st	Noël Shikane	

Certificates of Merit for learners who achieved an average of 80% or more for the year	Maribel April Miley Burger Chanté Bezuidenhout Clea Clark Kate Charles Duvallene Fass Aidan Ferreira Samantha Gifllan Kira Hector Alison Jacobs	Logan Marais Jordan Maritz Micha Murray Anabelle Nel Isabelle Tadesse Connor Te Water Naudé Adriaan van Jaarsveld Rachel Wenham
3rd	Adriaan van Jaarsveld	
2nd	Chanté Bezuidenhout	
1st	Clea Clark	

GRADE 7

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT		
Diligence	Mieke-Leigh Blom Mia Botha Kay-Leigh Hartney	Botlhale Mashiane Ethan Raath
Overall Progress	Tristan Hudson Aidan Jaftha	Entle Mdlulwa Sintle Mdlulwa
General Knowledge Prize	Isabella Hulleman	
Chookie Geard Prize for Work Presentation	Zoë Mills	
Certificates of Merit for learners who achieved an average of 80% or more for the year	Antonia Adams Gerda Clarke Cate Cochran Zunaida Deysel Isabella Hulleman John-Henry King Philip Kayster Zoë Mills	Quinn Naudé Cayla Newton Kwakhanya Ntlonti Carlen Prinsloo Owen Paxton Tom Taylor Alyssa Trollip
SUBJECT PRIZES		
Afrikaans, Life Orientation	Antonia Adams	
Natural Sciences	Quinn Naudé	
Economic Management Sciences, English	Isabella Hulleman	
Mathematics	Kwakhanya Ntlonti	
Social Sciences	Gerda Clarke	
Creative Arts, Technology	John- Henry King	
3rd	John-Henry King	
2nd	Antonia Adams	
1st - Old Unionite Shield for the Dux Student	Isabella Hulleman	

CULTURAL AWARDS

ART	
Gordonville Art Prize	Mark Lemke
CHESS	
Merit Certificate for the most improved Chess Player	Kwakhanya Ntlonti
Harwood Dixon Trophy for the Chess Champion	Clea Clark
MUSIC	
Merit Certificate for Progress in Music	Gerda Clarke
Merit Certificate for Excellence in Music	Curen Willemse
The Leon Fouche/Joan Kramer Cup for the pupil who gained the highest mark in the external piano exam	Kira Hector
The Leon Fouche cup for the most outstanding Music Pupil	Antonia Adams

ACTING	
Best Supporting Actress	Chloe-Anne Fourie
Best Supporting Actor	Aidan Ferreira
The Bernadette Palmer Cup for the Best Actress	Rachel Wenham
The Alistair Kingwill Cup for the Best Actor	Connor Te Water Naudé
The Ron Dugmore Cup for the Best Speaker	Clea Clark
The Brink Family trophy for the learner who contributed the most to all Cultural activities of the School	Gerda Clarke
The Penny Family Shield for the Salisbury Exchange Girls	Zoë Mills
Salisbury Exchange Certificates of Merit Boys	Brett Kenmuir

SPORT AWARDS

ATHLETICS	
U11 Victor Ludorum	Ryonn Naudé
U11 Victrix Ludorum	Hermon Wolde
U12 Victor Ludorum	Jordan Maritz
U12 Victrix Ludorum	Samantha Gilfillan
U13 Victor Ludorum	Owen Paxton
U13 Victrix Ludorum	Mia Botha
CROSS-COUNTRY	
The Hofmeyer/Mclaren Cup for U11 Boys' Champion	Joshua Kingwill
UHS Trophy for U11 Girls' Champion	Herman Wolde
UHS Trophy for U13 Boys' Champion	Owen Paxton
UHS Trophy for U13 Girls' Champion	Mia Botha
CRICKET	
UHS Trophy for Best U11 Fielder	Nathaneal Phillips
UHS Trophy for the U11 Batsman who scored the most runs	Joshua Kingwill
UHS Trophy for the U11 Bowler who took the most wickets	Ryonn Naudé
UHS Shield for the Best U13 Fielder	John-Henry King
UHS Trophy for the Most Promising Cricketer	John-Henry King & Joubert Vorster
UHS Shield for the U13 Batsman who scored the most runs	Owen Paxton
UHS Shield for the U13 Bowler who took the most wickets	Murray Hope
Justin Kingwill Trophy for the Best All-Round Cricketer	Owen Paxton
HOCKEY	
Certificate of Merit for the most promising U11 Hockey Player	Hermon Wolde

Certificate of Merit for the most improved U11 Hockey Player	Luchaé Thomas
Certificate of Merit for the most improved Hockey Player	Carlen Prinsloo
Certificate of Merit for outstanding Hockey Performance	Mia Botha & Onika Jantjies
UHS Trophy for the most promising Hockey Player	Abonani Matushe
UHS Hockey Trophy for the Best All-Round Team Player	Nadine Murray
RUGBY	
Certificate of Merit for the best forward player	Benneth Fikeni
Certificate of Merit for the best all-round player	Jordan Maritz
Certificate of Merit for the best back line player	Owen Paxton
UHS Trophy for the Most Promising Player	Ethan Raath
Mickleburgh Cup for the Most Improved U13 player	Asakhula Nkomo
SWIMMING	
Certificate of Merit for the most improved swimmer	Zoë Mills
Certificate of Merit for the most promising swimmer	Lilly Hunter
Victor Ludorum	Owen Paxton
Victrix Ludorum	Alyssa Trollip
TENNIS	
Certificate of Merit for progress in Tennis	Tristan Hudson, Jordan Maritz & Alyssa Trollip
Certificate of Merit for Boys' Doubles Champions	Owen Paxton & John-Henry King
Certificate of Merit for Girls' Doubles Champions	Mia Botha & Amelia King
Gilbert Biggs Trophy for the Junior Boys' Champion	Owen Paxton
UHS Trophy for the Girls' Champion	Mia Botha
Gerber/Van Zyl special award for helpfulness in sport	Clark Labuschagne
ALL ROUND ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORT	
Oxenham Cup for the Most Promising All-Round Junior Sportsman	Owen Paxton
Oxenham Cup for the Most Promising All-Round Junior Sportswoman -	Mia Botha
SPECIAL AWARDS	
Hazel van Niekerk Award for All-Round Achievement in Academic, Sport and Culture to a Grade 7 (boy or girl or both) who will continue their education at Union High School	Antonia Adams Gerda Clarke





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SENIOR PRIZEGIVING

ACADEMIC PRIZES

GRADE 8

6th	Zach Verwey
5th	Jade Slater
4th UHS Prize for Mathematics	Liso Sobantu
3rd	Richard Murray
2nd St. James' School prize for English	Kirsten Collett
1st UHS Prize Vrede Award for Bilingualism	Amber Slater

GRADE 9

6th	Misha Newton
5th Vrede Award for Bilingualism	Ciara Kivedo
4th	Anébel Norval
3rd St. James' School Prize for English	Amber Bezuidenhout
2nd	Katelyn Trollip
1st GSC Rubidge Memorial Prize UHS Prize for Mathematics	Samantha Charles

GRADE 10

6th	Tara Ferreira
5th	Trystan Hulleman
4th	Sarah Jacobs
3rd	Kenza Neill
2nd	Milani Pongoma
1st Luckhoff Memorial Prize Sue Wynford Trofee vir die beste leerder in Afrikaans Vrede Award for Bilingualism St. James' School prize for English Joan Thornton / Bobs Bremner Memorial Prize for the student obtaining the highest marks in Mathematics, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences	Erin Gedult

GRADE 11

UHS Prize for Business Studies	Camran Swartz
UHS Prize for Computer Applications Technology	Joshua Basson
UHS Prize for History	Sobuhle Nyambali
UHS Prize for Mathematical Literacy	Dumisa Mala
UHS Prize for Tourism	Lelomsa Ngceba
6th	Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
5th	Charlize Vorster
4th	Sarah Willmot
3rd Fergusson Family Prize for the Best Geography pupil	Joshua Neill
2nd UHS Prize for Life Orientation UHS Prize for Accounting ACVV Prize for Afrikaans 1st Additional Language	Na'eem Mahomed
1st Luckhoff Memorial Prize Lauren Weyer Prize for Mathematics Kroon Family Prize for Physical Sciences UHS Prize for Music Vrede Award for Bilingualism UHS Prize for English W.A.A. Shield for the most promising Life Sciences pupil	Joy Merifield

GRADE 12

FNB Cup for Computers Applications Technology	David Kinghorn
UHS Prize for History	Siyamthanda Desha
UHS Prize for Business Studies	Leah Marais
6th	Tayla Kingwill

5th UHS Prize for Mathematical Literacy	Jenna-Lee Jansen
4th	Brigetté Oelofsen
3rd Zoetvlei Prize for Geography	Cadee Arends
2nd Old Unionite Prize for Physical Sciences Bloemhof Prize for Life Sciences	Siphosethu Malotana
1st Luckhoff Memorial Prize McGaffin Prize for Afrikaans First Additional Language UHS Prize for English Vrede Award for Bilingualism Max Kroon Prize for Mathematics Old Unionite Prize for Physical Sciences GB&G R.C. Prinsloo Prize for Accounting UHS Prize for Tourism UHS Prize for Life Orientation UHS Prize for Advanced Maths	Caitrin Spence
James Look Cup – Academic Interhouse: to be collected by House Captains	Arnott House: Jovandré Samson & Lilitha Buhali

CULTURAL AWARDS

BEST SPEAKERS	
Monks Cup for Grade 8 and 9	Benjamin Lemke
NCW Cup for Grade 10-12	Brigetté Oelofsen
CHESS	
Geoffrey Kingwill Trophy for Chess Champion	Neelon Fourie
MUSIC	
Merit Certificate for Progress in Music	Liso Sobantu
Merit Certificate for Excellence in Music	Samantha Charles & Taegen Hamid
Leon Fouche Floating Trophy for progress in Music	Erin Gedult
Pierre van der Merwe Floating Trophy for the most outstanding Music pupil	Joy Merifield
UHS Marimba Prize awarded to a Grade 12 pupil who has been a punctual, reliable and committed member of the marimba group for 4 years and who shows the utmost precision, attention to detail, heart in their performance and works well in a team environment	Qhamisa James
UHS Choir Prize awarded to a Grade 12 pupil who has been a punctual, reliable and committed member of the choir for 5 years and who shows excellent interpersonal skills, attentiveness, listening skills and consideration for others in a choir environment	Arno Nell
ART	
Langmead Family Art Prize awarded to a Grade 11 or 12 pupil who has been a committed member of the Art Club and who shows great artistic aptitude, creativity and talent in the visual arts	Joy Merifield
QUIZ	
UHS Prize for General Knowledge – Junior	Athayanda Mahlati
UHS Prize for General Knowledge – Senior	Siphosethu Malotana
ALL-ROUND ACHIEVEMENTS IN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES	
Marlene Rubidge Cultural Award for the Grade 11 who contributed most to the Cultural Activities of the School	Joy Merifield
All-Round Excellence in Culture (Grade 12 Learner)	Arno Nell & Caitrin Spence

SPORTS AWARDS

ATHLETICS	
Senior Victrix Ludorum: UHS Trophy	Trinity West
Senior Victor Ludorum: The Radium Cleaners Trophy	Jude Langmead
Most Creditable performance on Sportsday: E. Brodie Trophy	Joshua Swartland
BIATHLON	
Best Girl	Misha Newton
Best Boy	Benjamin Lemke

CROSS-COUNTRY	
UHS Trophy U15 Girls	Misha Newton
Temlett Hockley Trophy U15 Boys	Benjamin Lemke
Herby Arnott Trophy Open Girls	Brigetté Oelofsen
UHS Trophy Open Boys	Ethan Linch
SWIMMING	
The Maryanne Pringle Trophy for the Victrix Ludorum	Misha Newton
The Allistair Wallis Trophy for the Victor Ludorum	Benjamin Lemke
CRICKET	
Brian Bands Sports Prize for the MOST PROMISING U15 CRICKETER	Yonela Wana
CC Prinsloo Floating Trophy for the BEST FIELDER in the 1st TEAM Alan McCabe Memorial Trophy for the BEST ALL ROUNDER Robert Leak Shield for the BOWLER who took the most wickets during the season	Shaakir Kazi
Wally Kingwill Trophy for the BEST BATSMAN	Joshua Horne
HOCKEY	
Tallies Agencies Sulette Damons Prize for the MOST OUTSTANDING HOCKEY PLAYER	Brigetté Oelofsen
Wagner / Wright Cup for the MOST PROMISING HOCKEY PLAYER	Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
Gail McArthur Trophy for the player showing the BEST SPORTSMANSHIP	Ngomusa Zweni
RUGBY	
Donald Kingwill Trophy for MOST PROMISING U16 RUGBY PLAYER	Shaakir Kazi
Andre du Plessis Floating Trophy for the MOST DEDICATED 2ND XV player	Ethan Linch
Chumani Booï Trophy for the MOST VALUABLE BACK	Jude Langmead
Sullivan / Light Trophy for the most DEDICATED 1st XV PLAYER	Ryan Jenneke
Cecil Murray Trophy for the MOST OUTSTANDING RUGBY PLAYER of the season	Camran Swartz
Gordon Gilfillan Trophy for the MOST VALUABLE FORWARD	Chuma Sobantu
Meyburgh Floating Trophy for the MAN OF THE MATCH AT INTERSCHOOLS	Lonwabo Hanabe
FIRST-AID	
Fanie Bezuidenhout Memorial Trophy for the Best First-Aider	Trinity West
TENNIS	
Herby Arnott Cup for the most promising U15A Girl	Tara Ferreira
Nora van Niekerk Trophy for the 1st Team Girl who has shown the Most Sportsmanship during the year	Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
Louise Vorster Trophy for Tenacity and Commitment to Tennis	Ndalo Qwalela
Melody Charles Memorial Trophy for the U15 Girls' Singles Champion	Tara Ferreira
Garry Sullivan Memorial Trophy for the U15 Boys' Singles Champion	Peter-Daniel Clegg
Pienaar Trophy for Open Girls' Doubles Champions	Tara Ferreira & Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
Fergusson Family Trophy for Open Mixed Doubles Champions	Tara Ferreira & Brent Hesselink
Ludwig van Copenhagen Trophy for the Open Boys' Doubles Champions	Brent Hesselink & Jude Langmead
A Levy and Dulcie Bekker-Smith Memorial Trophy and Prize for the Girls' Singles Champion	Tara Ferreira
George Wiehahn Cup for the Boys' Singles Champion	Brent Hesselink
ALL ROUND ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORT	
Edie Brodie Trophy - Junior Girl	Misha Newton
Norman Dodd Trophy - Junior Boy	Xavier Barlow
Mortimer Floating Trophy - Senior Girl	Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
Smith-Mack Trophy - Senior Boy	Jude Langmead

Clive van Niekerk Memorial Trophy for True Sportsmanship	Ngomusa Zweni
Lex Bremner Trophy for Sporting Endeavour	Joshua Basson

SERVICE PRIZES

FPJ van Rensburg School Service Prize	Sarah Wilmot
Elizabeth Knott-Craig Service Prize	Trystan Hulleman
Karoo Development Foundation Prize For Unselfish Service	Johannes du Plessis

SPECIAL AWARDS

Dickie van Rensburg Shield for overall Interhouse points to be collected by House Captains	Arnott House: Jovandré Samson & Lilitha Buhali
The Principal's Medal awarded to a learner of one year's standing (not in Gr.8) who has made the most significant contribution to the life of the school.	Janathen van der Berg
The Serman Family Prize for Matrics, excluding prefects, who through example, made a particularly valuable contribution to the school by maintaining the qualities of truth, loyalty and justice as enshrined in the school motto.	Ryan Jenneke
Warmenhoven – Goodwill Shield awarded to a Grade 11 or 12 pupil living out his/her Christian faith and by showing goodwill and tolerance to all.	Cadee Arends
The Melda and Gordon Wright Award is awarded to the pupil whose personal development and attitude has developed most positively.	Arno Nell
The Denise Pierce Bursary for the pupil in Grade 11 who through a cheerful, positive personality and participation in many aspects of school life has contributed most greatly to the life and spirit of the school.	Joy Merifield
The PG Badenhorst Memorial Shield for Helpfulness in Sport.	Anna Pringle
Gieter Muller Trophy presented to the pupil who best exemplifies moral courage, consideration for and helpfulness to others.	Jovandré Samson
The Puttick Prize awarded to the Prefect(s) (not heads or deputies) who through force of character and devotion to duty has contributed most to the smooth running of the school.	Ngomusa Zweni
The Tony Burrell Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement	Caitrin Spence
FA Kingwill Cup for All-Round Achievement.	Brigetté Oelofsen
Edwin & Susan Bosch Prize for Leadership in the RCL	Kaitlin Kenmuir

BURSARIES

Old Unionite Bursary for further study	Leah Marais
Old Unionite Bursary for further study	Trinity West
Old Unionite Bursary for further study	Caitrin Spence
Rayfield Bursary for further study	Siphosethu Malotana
Laing Bursary for further study	Cadee Arends
William Lawrie Bursary	Chuma Sobantu
Fred Rubidge Memorial Scholarship – AKH Headgirl	Shona Zana
John Brodie Prize for the runners-up in the Helen Watermeyer/Joy Arnott and Way Memorial Bursaries – AKH Headboy	Brent Hesselink
Joy Arnott / Helen Watermeyer Trust Bursary to the Headgirl of the school, as a present pure and simple, for her to do with as she liked as a memory of Helen Watermeyer, from whose little school in 1896, this big school had grown.	Caitrin Spence
Way Memorial Bursary to the boy in Matric, who, by his character, conduct, spiritedness and qualities of leadership, has contributed most to the life of the school – Headboy	Andrue Victor



SGB

BACK: Mrs H. Keyser (Educator Representative), Mrs B. Ferreira (Parent Representative), Mr D. Cochrane (Secretary), Mr G. Lemke (Grounds & Maintenance Portfolio), Mrs M. Burger (Non-Educator Representative), Mrs Y. Cloete (Educator Representative), Kaitlin Kenmuir (Learner Representative)
FRONT: Mrs T. Neill (PR, Marketing & Fundraising Portfolio), Mr D. Langmead (Deputy Chairman), Mr K. Kayster (Chairman), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mrs J. Hope (Hostels Portfolio)
ABSENT: Mrs C. Waddelow (Treasurer), Ndalo Qwalela (Learner Representative)

OUDELAND GAME

**FOR ALL YOUR GAME
REQUIREMENTS**



Wayne Murray

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FOUNDERS' WEEKEND

The School's 2023 Founders' Weekend celebrations, marking 104 years, were filled with great enthusiasm and spirit.

The event began with the Founders' Day assembly which brought learners, staff, parents and alumni together to celebrate and honour the school's legacy. The assembly commenced with a warm welcome from the school's Headmaster, Mr William Pringle, who also delivered a short devotion. The learners then sang the School song after which Headboy, Andrué Victor led the school prayer, followed by Mr Pringle sharing insights into the school's rich history, reflecting on its tradition and strength. Further adding to the significance of the occasion, Headgirl, Caitrin Spence, Grade 7 learner, Antonia Adams and Grade 4 learner, Emma van den Heever delivered special messages paying tribute to the School's founders. Once the cake was presented and candles lit, the learners excitedly dispersed from the hall to partake in the festive activities planned for the weekend.

Union Preparatory School's little hockey girls had the delightful opportunity to play a match against their moms, accompanied by aunts, cousins, dads and family friends who joined in on the fun. Despite their small stature, the young players showed exceptional skills and determination, winning each game and proving that dynamite truly comes in small packages.

The Schools' Old Boys, parents and friends gathered at the Puttick Field to participate in a T20 cricket match. With lively banter and a festive atmosphere, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day, showcasing their cricketing talents. The excitement continued with an intense hockey match between the School's 1st team and the Old Girls. The 1st team

gave an excellent performance, fighting until the last whistle, ultimately securing a 4-3 victory.

Another highlight of Founders' Weekend was the Dads vs Lads cricket matches, which took place on Saturday morning. With great weather and high spirits, fathers competed against their sons in a fun-filled morning of cricket. The matches were played in a fantastic spirit, highlighting the true essence of the gentleman's game.

The sporting events culminated with the Founders' Weekend cricket match on Saturday where the School's Old Boys cricket team, led by William Copeman, emerged victorious against the school's 1st cricket team in a thrilling contest.

Alongside the sporting activities, the School also hosted the Gisela Kingwill Mother & Daughter Morning. Organised by the Matric Farewell committee, this event celebrated women and the unique bond between mothers and daughters. Guests enjoyed the company, delicious food and uplifting speeches from three exceptional local ladies. Edwardine Abader gave all a glimpse into the neurological processes that can shape how we see the world and how we are able to thrive despite our circumstances, Trudi Bezuidenhout shared a heart-wrenching story about how cancer has impacted their lives, and Claudie Troskie discussed her career change from physiotherapy to nursery ownership. The Grade 11 students pampered the little girls with a special pamper station, creating a delightful experience for all attendees.

The School's 2023 Founders' Weekend celebrations proved to be a memorable and joyous occasion, uniting the school community in honouring the past, celebrating the present, and looking forward to a bright future.



REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF LEARNERS

The RCL, comprising elected class representatives, navigated a year of transformation, experimenting with new structures to find the optimal fit for our school. Amidst challenges, Kaitlin Kenmuir (Chairperson) and Ndalo Qwalela exhibited exceptional leadership.

A pivotal moment was our training session with Mr Pierre De Villiers from FEDSAS, a highly engaging experience. In August, we united with RCL members from Asherville Secondary School and Nqweba Secondary School for our annual Leadership Workshop. This workshop, expertly facilitated by Mr

Jantjies, centered on harnessing the potential of the RCL.

A cancer awareness drive was held in October with sales of cupcakes for cancer. We had the wonderful opportunity of hosting Dr van Genson as guest speaker at assembly and she addressed learners on the effects of smoking on the body and how it increased the risk of cancer development. Mrs van Aswegen, of the Graaff-Reinet Cancer Association, was also in attendance and the invaluable contributions of the association, a beacon of support in our community, was honoured by means of a small financial donation.



REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF LEARNERS

BACK: Asemahle Sakati (Gr 11), Endinako Jadezweni (Gr 9), Xarah Hoffman (Gr 9), Ryan Jenneke (Gr 12), Lisakhanya Zonke (Gr 11), Megan Adams (Gr 12), Athayanda Mahlati (Gr 9)

MIDDLE: Amber Bezuidenhout (Gr 9), Lolitha Sakati (Gr 11), Vuyisa Karel (Gr 9), Richard Murray (Gr 8), Khayila Grootboom (Gr 8), Emihle Mateza (Gr 8) Liso Sobantu (Gr 8)

FRONT: Joshua Basson (Secretary), Ndalo Qwalela (Vice-chairperson), Mrs A. Gedult (Teacher-liaison Officer), Kaitlin Kenmuir (Chairperson), Josh Arends (Treasurer)

GOVERNING BODY CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The end of an academic year always brings mixed feelings; partly because we must bid farewell to another group of our excellent protégés, but also because we are excited about their futures and the value they will undoubtedly add to society.

Reflecting on the 2023 academic year, we are pleased to celebrate the important role our schools play in transforming the thinking of our learners to become community leaders. The School is committed to the vital role it plays in the academic and mental wellbeing of our learners.

The unwavering commitment of our teaching staff to our learners' education and growth has been truly commendable. Through innovative approaches, adaptability, and tireless efforts, they delivered quality education, whether in-person or through our innovative technology. Our non-teaching staff's invaluable contributions behind the scenes have not gone unnoticed. Their hard work, professionalism, and attention to detail have truly made a difference in the lives of our learners and the overall operation of our institution. I would like to express my deepest appreciation to our Headmaster, Mr Pringle and the management team. Under his able leadership, the



School continues to go from strength to strength under trying economic and socio-economic circumstances. Thank you to the entire staff for your collaboration, teamwork, and willingness to go above and beyond. Their ability to work together to navigate challenges and find creative solutions has been instrumental in maintaining the high standards and the strong sense of community that exists within our institution. Our parent body is an integral part of our school community, and their active participation in your child's education is essential for their success. Research consistently shows that children whose parents are involved in their education tend to have higher academic achievements, improved behaviour, and more positive attitudes towards school. Your involvement sends a powerful message to your child, showing them that their education is a priority, and it instils in them the value of lifelong learning. There are numerous ways in which parents can actively contribute to improving school operations. One of the most impactful ways is by strengthening the parent-teacher relationship, and to join associations or the governing body. These platforms provide you with the opportunity to be directly involved in decision-making processes and contribute your ideas,

expertise, and insights to shape the direction of the school. By actively participating in these forums, you can work collaboratively with teachers, administrators, and fellow parents to ensure that the school is meeting the needs of all students. Additionally, volunteering your time and skills can greatly benefit the school community. Whether it is assisting in the classroom, organizing extracurricular activities, or contributing to fundraising initiatives, your involvement helps create a nurturing environment that supports our students' holistic development. By engaging in these activities, you not only foster a sense of community but also strengthen the bond between school and home, ensuring that the lines of communication remain open. Furthermore, parents play a critical role in supporting their children's academic and mental wellbeing. Your involvement in your child's academics goes beyond just attending parent-teacher meetings. It involves actively engaging with their schoolwork, monitoring their progress, and providing the necessary support and guidance they need. Regular communication with teachers to understand your child's strengths, weaknesses, and areas of improvement will enable you to provide additional resources or seek intervention if required. Equally important is paying attention to your child's mental wellbeing. In today's fast-paced world, the pressures faced by learners are immense, and it is vital that parents provide a supportive and nurturing environment. Be attuned to signs of stress or emotional

challenges and encourage open and honest communication. By actively engaging with your child's emotional needs, you can play a significant role in promoting positive mental health and wellbeing. Parents, we recognize that your involvement may sometimes be challenging due to work commitments or other responsibilities. However, even small acts of involvement can make a significant impact on your child's educational journey. A simple conversation at the dinner table about their school day, reading together, or actively listening to their concerns can create a strong foundation for their success. Your involvement in our school is crucial for the improvement of school operations and the academic and mental wellbeing of our students. By actively engaging with your child's education, you send a powerful message about the value of learning and help shape their future success. We appreciate and cherish your commitment, and we encourage you to continue being an integral part of our school community. Thank you all for your unwavering support, and together, let us create an environment where every child thrives academically and emotionally.

As many of us prepare to take some time off during the festive season, let us remember that some people out there are less fortunate. Let us lend a hand to those in need, and let us spread love and joy to all.

Be safe and be kind.

~ *Kelvin Kayster*

ARTHUR KINGWILL HOUSE

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr D.G. Kingwill

HEAD MATRON: Mrs M. Sparks

MATRONS: Mrs M. du Preez (Kitchen); Mrs C. Swartz (Admin/Kitchen); Mrs F. Buffels (Laundry)

DUTY TEACHERS: Mr A. Gradwell; Mr B. Mbanga; Mrs N. Gradwell; Ms N. de Beer; Mr M. Njoloza; Ms T. Abels; Ms R. Sparks
Portion of the year: Mr M. Kruger; Mrs B. Kruger; Mr S. Koeberg

PREFECT BODY: Brent Hesselink (Headboy); Shona Zana (Headgirl); Ndalo Qwalela (Deputy Headboy); Ngomusa Zweni (Deputy Headgirl); Kaitlin Kenmuir; Gemma Naudé; Siphosihle Thibane; Jude Langmead; Joshua Horne

This year saw Arthur Kingwill House settling into a co-educational boarding establishment. We started off the year with a worthwhile prefect camp at Murrayfield House in Nieu-Bethesda. The prefects got to know one another and worked on strategies that they would adopt for making Arthur Kingwill House a happy home in 2023.

We hosted the Senior Rugby and Hockey Festival, the Senior Cricket Festival as well as a very big Junior Rugby and Hockey festival. The catering and hospitality staff were placed under immense pressure catering for hundreds of hungry sportspeople and passed the load shedding challenge with flying colours. Arthur Kingwill House also hosts the Marking Centre in December which always provides many unknowns and challenges. We are extremely grateful to those who work tirelessly through these busy times.

Our boarders enjoyed the ever-popular touch rugby, soccer, and basketball sessions while access to our beautiful tennis courts allowed for after-hour challenges. The staff also enjoyed the late summer evenings on the tennis courts. We hosted a rugby fundraising dance for the 1st XV and the dining room was spruced-up for the evening. During the year the boarders hiked Mountain Drive, a few intrepid campers spent a night in the mountains, boarders were treated with trips for ice-creams, participated in the Park Run, visited the Camdeboo National Park, had a soccer tournament during the long weekends, enjoyed a braai each term,

had movie evenings and also held a fashion show. Mrs Diane Bertram gave an informative talk on how teens can deal with depression and mood changes. We were honoured to have Afrika Mhlope visit Arthur Kingwill House in September where he shared his powerful truths on divination and African spirituality. He impressed on the boarders that there is no "doing" that defines your "being". A quality time of interaction with Mr Mhlope continued after his talk.

In Term 4 we implemented a change in structure where termly Grade 8 - 12 boarders are now housed at Arthur Kingwill House and weekly boarders moved to Herby Arnott House. The new year will see the Grade 5 - 7 termly boarders joining Arthur Kingwill House.

The annual AK House steak evening at the end of the year was a glamorous affair where the Tony Burrell Union was transformed into a finely decorated venue for the evening. Grateful thanks are extended to Mrs Copeman and her team of moms who made this special evening possible.

The steak evening was a different occasion this year as the prefects were not announced due to the structural changes in the boarding houses. The following awards were made:

Junior Quiz Champion: Luca Kinghorn

Senior Quiz Champion: Yayama Dali

Top Academic Achievers (Grade 8 & 9): Richard Murray & Samantha Charles

Top Academic Achievers (Grade 10): Milani Pongoma & Matthew Oosthuizen

Top Academic Achievers (Grade 11 & 12): Joy Merifield & Brent Hesselink

Junior Sportswoman of the year: Misha Newton

Junior Sportsman of the year: Richard Murray

Senior Sportswoman of the year: Ngomusa Zweni

Senior Sportsman of the year: Jude Langmead

Service Prize: 2023 Prefects

The Bridget Stander Memorial Bursary: Sarah Wilmot & Sobuhle Nyambali

The Bridget Stander Memorial Trophy: Shona Zana & Ngomusa Zweni

The Arthur Kingwill House Fidelitas Award: Brent Hesselink & Ndalo Qwalela

The prefect body for 2024 was announced in assembly in Term 4 and consists of Joy Merifield and Sobuhle Nyambali (Headprefects), Sarah Wilmot and Uyanda Tele (Deputy Headprefects), Nangawethu Macanda,

Vivian McEwan, Onikwa Mlenzana, Bontle Mashiane, Joshua Swartland and Vuyo Njeje

In general, 2023 has been an extremely busy year with many changes being implemented. A big thank you to Mrs Mandy Sparks, Matron Mariaan, Matron Corrie and Matron Frances who form a formidable team in the running of Arthur Kingwill House. We are indebted to our kitchen and ground staff for their consistent hard work and cheerfulness. We are grateful for our Duty Teachers – their job is not always easy but their

availability and willingness in managing the learners is much appreciated.

Mrs Jennifer Hope, our SGB Representative, has been an amazing support. Her unwavering loyalty, advice and wisdom is much appreciated and we are most grateful to her for all that she has done for Arthur Kingwill House. We look forward to working with her in the coming years. Thanks must also go to Mr Pringle, Head of Hostels, and Mr Kelvin Kayster, SGB Chairman, for all their support, advice and encouragement displayed throughout the year.



ARTHUR KINGWILL HOUSE PREFECTS

BACK: Gemma Naudé, Siphosihle Thibane, Joshua Horne, Jude Langmead, Kaitlin Kenmuir
FRONT: Ndalo Qwalela (Deputy Headboy), Brent Hesselink (Headboy), Mr D. Kingwill (Superintendent), Shona Zana (Headgirl), Ngomusa Zweni (Deputy Headgirl)

HERBY ARNOTT HOUSE

SUPERINTENDENT: Mrs B.L. Ferreira

*C*hange is the one thing we can be sure of – Naomi Judd

2023 saw a number of changes for Herby Arnott House. Rory and Martie Sullivan retired as superintendents at the end of the second term after dedicating years of exceptional service to the institution. Jacques and Bronwyn Ferreira stepped in to become the hostel parents and they continue to endeavour to make it a home-away-from-home for all who enter. At the start of the fourth term, the hostel changed to a weekly-boarding facility, housing Grade 5 - 12 boys and girls. This year has shown us how remarkable our children are in adapting to change.

The inclusion of the senior children brought the opportunity to

lead and nurture our younger boarders. On the reverse, it has also given our seniors a reason to remember their fun-loving inner child, as they are often seen getting involved in a game of pool, building puzzles, swimming or shooting hoops with our younger boarders.

Matrons Noëline Lanser and Sonia Mitchell take care of the boarders needs with loving hearts, for which we are most grateful. We would also like to thank Mrs Jennifer Hope, the Governing Body representative for our boarding houses. We value her hands-on approach in facilitating the changes the learners have experienced and her guidance and support is much appreciated.

We thank our Heavenly Father for our beautiful home and the children He entrusted us with.



RENOVATIONS AND BUILDINGS

As has become the trend of late, the Union Schools campus has undergone significant improvements this year, demonstrating the school's commitment to enhancing the educational environment for its learners.

New Classrooms

A highlight of these endeavours was the addition of three new state-of-the-art classrooms, which were celebrated during a special ceremony in May. Currently being utilised by learners in the school's primary department, these classrooms are part of an ongoing project initiated in 2021 to upgrade all classrooms to a standardised level in terms of physical facilities and audio-visual/information technology.

While constructing the classrooms from scratch was a significant aspect of the project, the most exciting developments focused on improving the teaching and learning experience. In addition to fully interactive whiteboards, new data projectors, high-quality sound equipment and air conditioning units were installed. Teaching walls and learner desks were also redesigned to provide flexible teaching options, ensuring a dynamic educational atmosphere.

Classroom Renovations

During the latter part of the year, the School has also worked tirelessly to transform two primary department classrooms into cutting-edge learning environments. This classroom upgrade aligns with our commitment to providing the best possible educational experience, as we continually strive to remain at the forefront of innovation and creativity. We firmly believe that these renovated classrooms will foster creativity, motivation and academic excellence.



New Signage

New signage was unveiled earlier this year, proudly displaying the school name on the corner of Donkin and Caledon Street. This updated signage now serves as a prominent symbol of the school's identity and welcoming all who pass by.

AstroTurf

Another significant accomplishment was the successful resurfacing of the AstroTurf. This project was vital for maintaining the high standards of competitive hockey, as it provides players with the necessary artificial surface for training and advancing in the game. We are proud to announce that Union Preparatory School's new AstroTurf facility has also officially broken ground, with the project being well underway. Synsport, specialists in synthetic sport surfaces, are entrusted with bringing this vision to life. We eagerly anticipate the progress of this project.

In addition to these major undertakings, several smaller projects were also completed throughout the year to further improve the campus. As we look towards the future, we are excited about the promising developments that lie ahead for the School.



OLD UNIONITE ASSOCIATION

As another year draws to a close at the School, it is with pride and gratitude that I reflect on the unwavering support and commitment exhibited by the Old Unionite Association (OUA).

Despite facing significant challenges, the OUA has remained dedicated to the school, hosting various functions and raising funds to aid our beloved institution. These past couple of years have tested our resilience, as the OUA mourned the sudden loss of two of its chairmen. The impact of these losses was felt deeply throughout the organisation, but the spirit of the OUA prevailed. Through strength, determination and unity, we have rebounded from adversity, eager to build upon our past successes and foster growth within the association.

While the OUA endeavoured to provide ongoing support to the School, we also recognised the need for continuous improvement. With this in mind, one of our most important ongoing projects is updating our database and reconnecting with all Old Unionites. This venture promises exciting opportunities for renewed connections and collaborative ventures within our ever-expanding alumni network.

Throughout the year, the OUA has worked tirelessly to organise a series of functions aimed at raising funds in aid of the school. These events have not only been successful in generating financial support, but they have also fostered a sense of camaraderie and nostalgia among former learners and current parents.

In addition to fundraising efforts, the OUA has remained actively involved in the school community, attending various events, celebrations

and award ceremonies. We take immense pride in witnessing the incredible achievements and dedication displayed by current learners. Their accomplishments serve as a reminder of the exceptional education and character-building experiences that our association seeks to support and preserve.

Looking forward, the OUA is brimming with excitement at the prospect of a brighter future. We envision a strengthened bond between past and present learners, further enhancing the legacy of the Union Schools. By updating our database, we aim to facilitate meaningful interactions between Old Unionites, creating opportunities for mentorship, career guidance and lifelong connections.

As Chairman of the Old Unionite Association, I am inspired by the determination and resilience demonstrated by the OUA community. Together, we shall continue to forge ahead, ensuring that the School remains a beacon of excellence for generations to come. With an unwavering commitment to our school, an updated alumni network and a shared sense of purpose, we are poised to embark on new and exciting endeavours.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all Old Unionites, supporters, and the wider Union community for their unwavering dedication to our shared mission. The OUA remains steadfast in its commitment to our alma mater and eagerly anticipates the positive impact we can create together.

~ Rhett Newton, Chairman of the Old Unionite Association (OUA)



GRADE 5 EXCURSION

Early in the 3rd term, 66 Grade 5 learners boarded the school buses on a trip out of Graaff-Reinet, headed to the Sneeuberg and winding their way through the mountain passes to Nieu-Bethesda.... not far from Graaff-Reinet, but new to many of the young travellers.

The flat rocks of the wide river bed provided the ideal setting for a breakfast picnic after which the group began a guided walk, following the Gats River towards the spring that supplies the water that fills the furrows of Nieu-Bethesda. They then followed the water furrow back through a poplar forest to the Kitching Fossil Exploration Centre in the village. The Fossil Centre guide, Melanie, took the Grade 5s back in time to life in Nieu-Bethesda 255 million years ago, demonstrating how fossils

are unearthed from rock, and showing a real fossil in situ in the river bed.

A visit to the stalls of the local crafters fascinated and delighted the children. After a quick visit to the general dealer, and a packed lunch picnic, the buses were boarded again for the journey back to Graaff-Reinet. The destination was the Old Library Museum where Mrs Anziske Kayster shared her knowledge of the Khoekhoen (San) people, their beautiful rock art and the fossils of the region. Tired and well-travelled, the Grade 5s were delivered home safely late that afternoon.

Though not so far in miles, the Grade 5s travelled through eons of time, and through a multitude of cultures and experiences in just one day.



GRADE 7 MARKET DAY

The Grade 7 Market Day showcased our energetic and innovative young entrepreneurs. There were seventeen stalls, beautifully decorated and well-prepared to greet their customers. A variety of sweets, snacks and delicious food was on sale. There were games galore and Tristan's cage full of bunnies had kids lining up to pay to love them for 5 minutes. We were thrilled to have visitors from Union Pre-School and Union Preparatory arrive to support us. The wind suddenly proved an unwelcome guest and sent goods

flying off tables and our intrepid entrepreneurs into a frenzy of creative problem-solving, but they coped beautifully, taping down tombola gifts and building wind-breaks. After the massive support of the School's learners and our visitors, our entrepreneurs, with stock depleted, packed up their goods and tables and headed home to tally up their profits.

Hugely successful, our Grade 7s proved that they are very capable and creative team-workers and superb businessmen and women.



SALISBURY CATHEDRAL SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

The School has long enjoyed a wonderful learner exchange programme with the 900 year-old Salisbury Cathedral School in Wiltshire, United Kingdom, with its incomparable setting beneath the famous spire of Salisbury Cathedral. For 30 years the Salisbury learners have been coming to Graaff-Reinet as exchange students for a term, followed by the School's exchange students spending a term in the UK. A number of our learners then go on to do a Gap Year at Salisbury after completing their matric year. This year, Amber Binney and Daniel Nell, 2022 matriculants, have been our Gap Students, jetting off to the UK early in January. The School hosted Salisbury Cathedral learners, Fraser Davis and Robert Wallace during Term 1 and Grade 7 learners, Brett Kenmuir and Zoë Mills spent our second term in Salisbury. The School also had the distinct pleasure of welcoming Mr Clive Marriott, Headmaster of Salisbury Cathedral School to our campus in March of this year.

In honour of Mr Marriott's visit, a small function was hosted in the Tony Burrell Union to welcome him and to celebrate the special connection that exists between the two schools. The event was attended by some of the exchange students from 2013 to date, as well as their parents. The 2023 exchange learners were presented with their Exchange Student badges which they will wear for the duration of their years at the School.

We extend our congratulations to Chanté Bezuidenhout and Aidan Ferreira on being selected as the School's 2024 Salisbury Exchange students. This incredible opportunity will take Chanté and Aidan on an unforgettable journey to England, where they will immerse themselves in a new culture and educational experience. We would also like to congratulate Anna Pringle, Gemma Naudé and Brent Hesselink, our matric learners who will be embarking on a similar adventure as Gap Students next year.



GRADE 8 ORIENTATION HIKE

During their first week at the School, the new Grade 8 class spent a day exploring a part of the beautiful Camdeboo National Park which surrounds our campus. The School is committed to embracing its surrounding environment as an integral part of the education of its learners. After a safety talk by Mrs Langmead, everyone set off into the park, climbing high up to the neck that overlooks the back of the renowned Valley of Desolation. With the prefects there to encourage and guide them, the Grade 8 learners were inspired and determined to complete the 12 km hike, as the environmental ethos of the school was introduced to them.



It was encouraging to notice that many of the Grade 8s noticed litter along the way, which they took upon themselves to collect and remove from the park. On returning to school, the newly renovated pool welcomed them and the prefects then engaged their new charges with team building games and character building activities.

GRADE 8 BOOK CHALLENGE

Twice a year, the Grade 8s are challenged as to who can read the most books. This year Tara Piercey and Jannat Qaisser both won the coveted bucket of jelly beans, twice!

“GET REAL” WORKSHOP

At the end of the second term, the School's Grade 9s participated in the 'Get Real' workshop, hosted by the Assembly Church.

The aim of the workshop was for the learners to take what they have learned in Term 1 of Natural Sciences and expand on the curriculum in order to equip and empower them to make healthy choices for their minds, their bodies and their futures.

The School extends its grateful thanks to the Assembly Church team for presenting an excellent programme that has left many of our teenagers feeling more intentional about the good choices they want to make for their lives.



GRADE 12 CAREERS WEEK

As a part of vocational guidance, the Grade 12 class enjoyed a dedicated Careers Week during which they were inspired by and informed about potential career paths and opportunities.

Private institutions including Eduvos, CTU, Varsity College and Uxi Sport all gave informative talks on study options after matric. The Grade 12s were also inspired by a session on what it takes to be a pilot by Mr Grant Lemke and Mr John Taylor. An exciting competition was launched where two fortunate Grade 12 learners won a flight to Madiba Flight School.

A convivial evening was held where local business-people spoke from the heart about life and work after school has ended. Kallie Venter gifted the grade with a fascinating talk on 'Memory Peg'; Dawid and Karlien de Wet enlightened the group about the highs and lows of entrepreneurship; Gerrar Maya gave a frank and amusing talk on becoming a chartered accountant, and it was lovely to have Hannes Lombard back at the School as he informed the grade about his journey into the insurance world.

Everyone enjoyed a hearty meal afterwards and worked as a team, assisting Mrs Langmead with the meal which was graciously cooked by our boarding house. We are excited to see which careers our Grade 12s will embark upon!



GRADE 10 ODYSSEY

This year's annual Grade 10 Odyssey was impacted by weather warnings from the outset and the event was brought forward by a day due to impending inclement weather. The Grade 10s took this in their strides, having one less day to get organized and arrived at the buses filled with anticipation on the Thursday, driving to Nieu-Bethesda to begin their time in the wilderness.

The first day's 20km hike was challenging. The Gats River was flowing well and many suffered with blisters due to walking in wet shoes after crossing the river. This year's Grade 10s were phenomenal. They worked together as a team from the get-go and encouraged one another when the going got tough. It was heartening to see stronger hikers assisting their friends with packs when their feet were literally covered in painful blisters. That evening they set up camp at Riverdene farm on a beautiful beach and as they sang and ate around the fire, life was good!

The hike to Schoonberg pools the next day was much shorter, which gave ample time to set up camp and enjoy the pristine pools. The route was changed slightly this year, so the group stayed at the pools for two nights, which gave everyone more time to get to know one another. Messages came in from the outside world that the weather was closing in, so the organizers quickly put contingency plans into place. The following day began with an exercise in Solitude where everyone was woken before dawn and placed in isolation in the landscape. Here they read special letters and wrote to their future selves. That evening everyone was taught to cook a chicken on the open fire and to bake a loaf of camp bread by Mr and Mrs Langmead. A few drops of rain warned of what was to come, and everyone was given a safety talk regarding what to do if the river came down.

At midnight, the rain began. For those who have not been in the canyon, it is difficult to comprehend what an impact the weather can make and the dangers that it brings. One support vehicle was packed up at 2am to ensure that it got across the river with the possibility of flooding. The decision was made to evacuate early the following morning.

And then the fun began. This day required much grit, determination and endurance from the Grade 10s and support team. Wet tents were packed up and the journey back to Riverdene under inclement conditions began. Everyone was drenched. The tracks took on the consistency of peanut butter which stuck to the bottom of boots and rendered the roads a slippery mess. The backup vehicles used winches to get across

the rivers which were now soaking sand and mud, another vehicle slid off the road and nearly rolled into the river. While some adults stayed to attempt to get the vehicle unstuck, others had to continue with the learners as we feared the rivers coming down and being stuck on the wrong side. There is no reception in the canyon, so as we arrived at the farmhouse, messages were dispatched for rescue. Taking shelter in a garage, the freezing, wet group cheerfully got their stoves going and began to eat 2 minute noodles to keep warm from the inside. Spirits were never dampened.

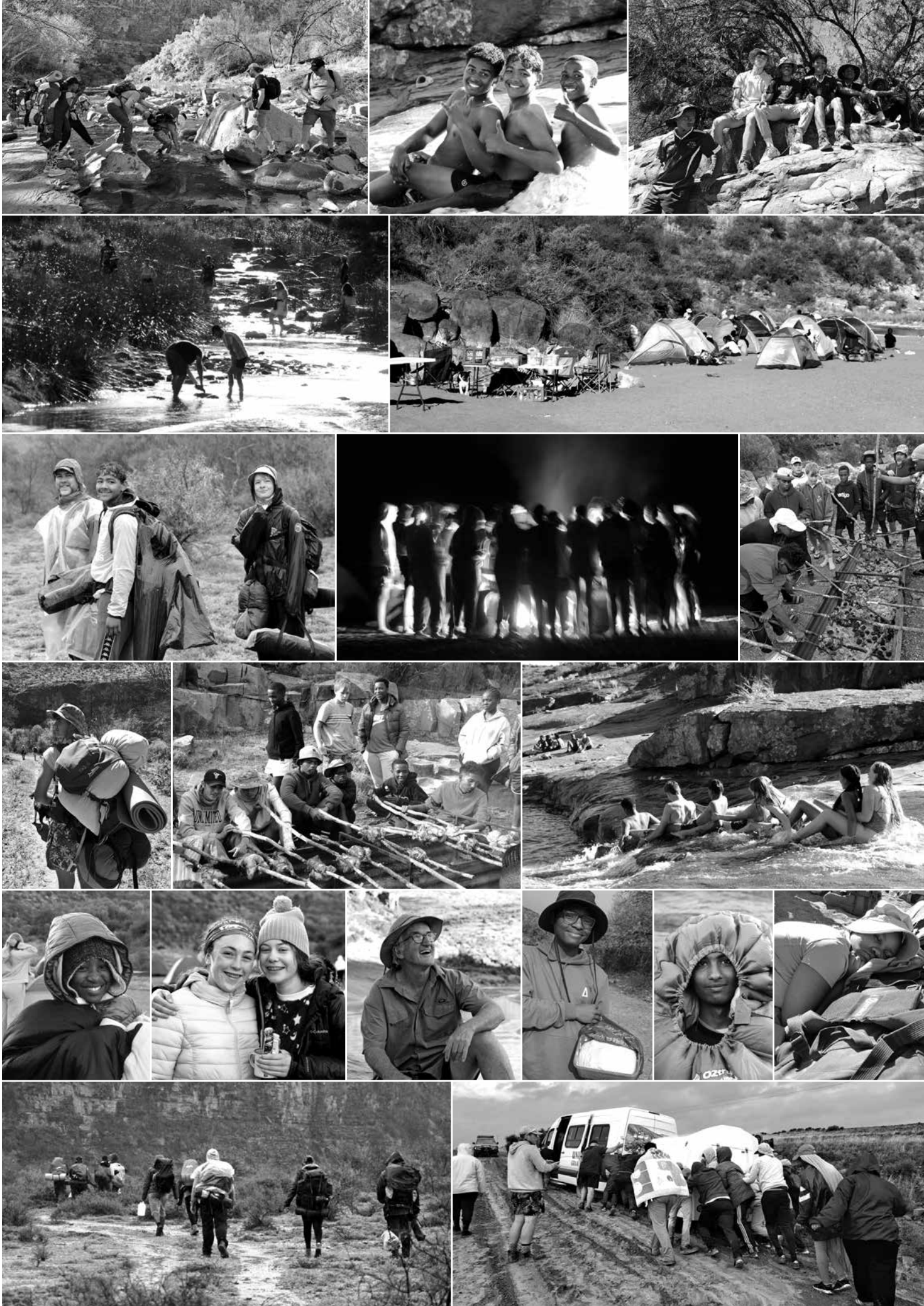
In the meanwhile, unbeknown to the group, the buses had had an epic time trying to get to them. The district roads had also become treacherous. Eventually, as they spotted them driving down the mountain, they also saw the backup vehicles arriving from the canyon, which 4 adults had miraculously managed to retrieve by practically digging a new road!

The sense of relief was, however, short lived. Everyone piled into the buses and off they drove, only to be rendered helpless as they slid off the clay road 8 km from the tar. It was at this point that everyone had to really dig deep. The buses were literally saved by man- and woman-power as tired, dirty and cold Grade 10s pushed them and the trailers out of the quagmire to eventually free them. This was truly an Odyssey to be remembered.

While the Grade 10s expressed extreme disappointment at not being able to complete the last day of Odyssey at the waterfall, they can take with them the fact that this was the most challenging Odyssey to date and that their perseverance, determination and grit, got them out the other side stronger and more united than ever.

Odyssey would not happen without the generosity of so many. Grateful thanks go to landowners Dale and Kelly Jackson, Peter Plumstead and Julian Murray. This year's support team was incredible through trying conditions and the School is grateful to Sean Jacobs, Jason Marais, Dolan Cochrane, Ross Hulleman, Jacques Ferreira, Jennifer Rubidge, Zakiyyah Mahomed, Tess Neill and Dave Neill. Thank you to the bus drivers and secretaries who do so much to keep Odyssey going. We are grateful to Kevin and Lisa Watermeyer for their trailer and assistance. And lastly, eternal gratitude goes to Mr David Langmead for his indomitable hard-work, vision and love for the School, that makes this incredible journey what it is.





MUSIC

Junior Music

The past year has been an exciting journey for the primary Music Department at the School, filled with musical triumphs and outstanding performances. From the choir to the marimba band, vocal and piano students, our learners have proven their dedication, talent, and commitment to music education.

Five of our exceptional students took the challenge of the RSL graded exams and emerged victorious, earning themselves either Merit or Distinction. This accomplishment is a testament to their hard work and determination.

Our school's annual Music Evening was a showcase of our students' musical prowess. The Primary School Choir, marimba band, vocalists and piano students took the stage, leaving the audience in awe of their talent and courage. It was a night filled with melodies and harmonies that touched the hearts of everyone in attendance.

Our students showed their dedication to musical excellence by participating in the inaugural Camdeboo Eisteddfod. The choir, marimba band, vocal and piano

students came together to represent our school, demonstrating their remarkable skills and musicality on a larger stage. This event provided a platform for our students to compete, showcase their talents, and interact with other young musicians, further enriching their musical experiences. We are immensely proud of all our students for their outstanding contributions to this event.

We look forward to another year filled with musical endeavours and accomplishments, as we continue to nurture the musical talents of our students and inspire them to reach even greater heights in the world of music. We eagerly anticipate more melodious moments from our learners in the coming year.



Senior Music

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything" – Plato.

At the School, our senior Music Department forms an important part of our learner's education and this year 16 of our learners, from Grade 8 – 12, benefitted from individual piano, vocal and group theory lessons.



JUNIOR MUSIC PUPILS

BACK: Curen Willemsse, Kari Stern, Micha Murray, Mellissa Marais, Lethabo Ledwaba, Nieke van Jaarsveld, Hayley Krige, Adam Clark, Abigail Loots
FRONT: Aaliyah Jaftha, Kira Hector, Chloe-Anne Fourie, Mrs S. Brink, Emily Raath, Gerda Clarke, Antonia Adams, Alison Jacobs

This year the senior musicians accomplished the following:

Music as science. The sheet music is a graph that contains volume changes, melody and harmony, all the while keeping a constant pace.

Music as maths. Music is based on the rhythmic subdivisions of time, done in a split second.

Music as history. The music the students hear and play is an indication of the time and environment in which it was created.

Music as physical education. It requires an immense amount of coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks and facial muscles. Furthermore, control of the diaphragm, back, stomach and chest muscles is necessary to make sure that every note comes out clearly and in pitch.

Music as a foreign language. Music terms are usually in Italian and the music itself is not in any language known to man. It is its own

language and uses symbols to represent ideas.

The senior musicians took on all the opportunities they had and completed ABRSM and Rockschooll Classical/Contemporary Practical and Theoretical examinations. They performed at assemblies on Fridays, Founder's Day and Interschools. They also gave performances at the Interschool's Cultural Evening, the Camdeboo Eisteddfod, the annual Music Evening and the Senior Prizegiving.

Four students (Liso Sobantu, Taegen Hamid, Erin Gedult and Joy Merifield) participated in the SASMT (South African Music Society of Music Teachers) Classical Music Competition held in Gqeberha in August.

Congratulations to every student that took the notes on the relevant pages and turned it into emotions and feelings that cannot be measured.



SENIOR MUSIC STUDENTS

BACK: Arno Nell, Katelyn Trollip, Vivian McEwan, Samantha Charles, Sasha Cochrane.

MIDDLE: Brigetté Oelofsen, Taegen Hamid, Liso Sobantu, Joy Merifield.

FRONT: Erin Gedult, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Kirsten Collett.

LIBRARY AND MEDIA CENTRE

All learners from Grade 5 to 12 are encouraged to make use of the library and media centre. Reading fiction heightens the ability to understand the feelings and beliefs of others. Studies have shown that people who read print books score higher on comprehension tests and remember more of what they read than people who read the same material in a digital form. The School's learners have access to a treasure trove of books in our library.

Computers have become an integral part of modern society, and as a result, computer literacy has gained significant importance. Our media centre is a valuable asset for our learners – it enhances their academic performance, helps them to develop critical skills and supports their educational journey by offering an environment conducive to focused learning and research.

LIBRARY MONITORS & ASSISTANTS

BACK: Ogiyonke Sizila, Endinako Jadezweni, Liyabona Nkomo

FRONT: Ambesiwe Tokwe, Achuma Mangoliso, Mrs L. Crankshaw, Chuma Mangoliso, Sonell Mdudumani

ABSENT: Bukhobenkosi Nomatye



TOP LEVEL CLUB

An invitation is extended annually to the top 6 learners from Grade 9 through to Grade 12, based on their end of year results, to become members of the School's Top Level Club.

The aim of the club is to connect top academic performers from the respective grades, as well as enabling these learners to forge connections with newly qualified Old Unionites. During Term 1, Zita Jacobs, Old Unionite (2018), visited the Top Level Club and shared her experiences and journey through the School to that of a qualified Occupational Therapist from the University of Stellenbosch. Her presentation was most engaging with



the learners hanging onto her every word, resulting in a very lively question and answer session at the end.

During Term 2, a number of our Grade 12 learners attended the open day at Stellenbosch University and found it a worthwhile experience.

A few learners entered different Olympiads this year, which created an added opportunity for them to push themselves out of their comfort zone. Three of our top levelers also offer Admath, which is of benefit to those who aim to study towards degrees in Actuarial Sciences, Engineering and other degrees in Mathematics.



TOP LEVEL CLUB

BACK: Joshua Basson (Gr 11), Tayla Kingwill (Gr 12), Trystan Hulleman (Gr 10), Sarah Wilmot (Gr 11), Charlize Vorster (Gr 11), Na'eem Mahomed (Gr 11)
3RD ROW: Sasha Cochrane (Gr 10), Gemma Naudé (Gr 12), Tara Ferreira (Gr 10), Katelyn Trollip (Gr 9), Samantha Charles (Gr 9), Sarah Jacobs (Gr 10), Siphosethu Malotana (Gr 12)
2ND ROW: Caytah-Leigh Koeberg (Gr 11), Ciara Kivedo (Gr 9), Kenza Neill (Gr 10), Caitrin Spence (Gr 12), Brigetté Oelofsen (Gr 12), Jenna-Lee Jansen (Gr 12)
FRONT: Jade Palmer (Gr 9), Cadee Arends (Gr 12), Amber Bezuidenhout (Gr 9), Mrs A. Gedult, Anébel Norval (Gr 9), Erin Gedult (Gr 10) Joy Merifield (Gr 11)

MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

Fifty learners took part in the South African Mathematics Olympiad. The following learners were invited to participate in the Second Round and received certificates for their participation: Katelyn Trollip, Misha Newton, Tara Ferreira, Joshua Neill, Sarah Wilmot, Brigetté Oelofsen and Caitrin Spence.



JUNIOR AND SENIOR CHESS



The Graaff-Reinet chess playing schools were incorporated into the Sarah Baartman District this year and competed in a local league.

There were 4 schools in the High School league and 6 schools in the Primary School league. They played each school in their league twice. The High School Chess Team won their league narrowly with Asherville and Spandau close behind. Mention must be made of Josh Arends and Neelon Fourie who both won 5 of their 6 matches. The Primary School Chess Team was placed fourth in their league.

We hosted an individual junior rapid tournament vs Laer Volksskool in the first term with Sinalo Blaaw placing second. Interschools matches were played in earnest against Volksskool during the Interschools week with the School winning the chess section comfortably. The results were as follows:

	Union Schools	Volksskool
Preparatory School	5	2
Primary School 1st Team	1	6
Primary School 2nd Team	5	2
High School 1st Team	4	3
High School 2nd Team	6	1
Matric Team (Friendly)	9.5	0.5

The second annual Soup and Chess Evening was held in the Tony Burrell Union and all chess players invited a parent or guardian to come and play a game of chess against them. Everyone was then treated to some delicious soups and homemade bread. It was a lovely evening enjoyed by all.

The fiercely competitive chess championships ended off the chess calendar with Neelon Fourie winning the cup in the High



JUNIOR CHESS

BACK: Connor Te Water Naudé, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Cedine Retief, Lethabo Ledwabo, Elandri Retief, Chloe Davids, Cate Cochrane

MIDDLE: Asakhula Nkomo, Clea Clark, Sinalo Blaaw, Brett Kenmuir, Kwakhanya Ntlonti, Isabelle Tadesse, Maribel April, Aidan Ferreira, Jae Fillis

FRONT: Abigail Loots, Caron Goliath, Adam Clark, Mrs H. Rose-Innes, Entle Mdlulwa, Mason Knoesen, Noël Shakane.



SENIOR CHESS

BACK: Chuma Sobantu, Benjamin Lemke, Sobuhle Njambali, Karl Venter, Sarah Wilmot, Stephan Vorster, Na'eem Mahomed, Samuel Taylor
MIDDLE: Josh Arends, Wade Edwards, Endinako Jabezweni, Nina Japhta, Athayanda Mahlati, Masixole Bhayi, Muhammad Ahmed, Nombulelo Ncombo, Neelon Fourie
FRONT: Lina Tadesse, Jasmine Abercrombie, Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Mrs H. Rose-Innes, Cassidy Goliad (Captain), Lisa Vutula, Tara Piercey

School Championship while Clea Clark was the winner in the Primary School Championship.

The School had six chess players representing Sarah Baartman at the Eastern Cape Provincial Tournament in October in Jeffreys Bay. The results of the Team Section were as follows:

U16 Boys	Neelon Fourie	Silver
U16 Girls	Jasmine Abercrombie (captain) Nina Japhta	Silver Silver
U18 Girls	Sarah Wilmot (captain)	Gold
U20 Boys	Cassidy Goliad Chuma Sobantu	

The following learners did very well in the individual section and have been selected for the Eastern Cape Chess team:

U16 Girls Jasmine Abercrombie, Nina Japhta (reserve)

U20 Boys Cassidy Goliad

A testimony from Cassidy Goliad, captain of the Chess Team.

"The first time I played chess was at my old primary school. I left the school at the end of Grade 4 and started schooling here at Union High

School in Grade 5. I was interested in chess, but I never really played for the school and it was at the end of year chess tournament where Mrs Rose-Innes recognised my talent. From Grade 6 I always managed to play the top three boards.

Chess was a hobby that I used as an escape as it relaxed me, especially during struggles. Grade 8 was a good year for my chess career as I was the 2nd strongest player in the school and I represented Chris Hani Chess Union at the South African Junior Chess Championship. It was in this year that I realised that playing chess allowed me to make important connections and I met my Chess and Mathematics tutor through it.

My final year of playing chess was probably my best year yet, because I made more important connections and I realised how important Mrs Rose-Innes actually was. She wasn't really a chess coach, but because of her passion for chess and teaching she tried her very best to increase our chess knowledge. It is because of Mrs Rose-Innes that I am the chess player that I am today.

I would like to encourage anyone who can play chess to actually play because it teaches how to win graciously and not to give up when encountering defeat. Chess encourages and rewards hard work."

JUNIOR SPEECH

The annual Primary Department Speech Competition took place in August this year with an all-time-high record of participants – 32 learners from Grades 5, 6 and 7. In order to enter the competition, learners had to have achieved exceptionally well during their class orals and be willing to take part in the competition. Congratulations go to all participants who entertained the audience with well-researched, interesting speeches. Lilly Hunter, Emily Raath and Adam Clark came first, second and third respectively amongst the Grade 5 participants. In Grade 6, Clea Clark took first place, Rachel Wenham second place and Chanté

Bezuidenhout followed with a very close third place. Grade 7 winners, from first to third were: Cate Cochrane, Sinalo Blaaw and Kay-Leigh Hartney. Well done to all of these learners. Thanks go to our adjudicators, Mrs Vorster, Mr Hulleman and Mrs Nell who performed their duties with professionalism. Special congratulations go to the overall winner, Clea Clark, who kept the audience riveted with the topic, "Animals have feelings too". It was lovely to see so many family members of participants attend the function in aid of supporting the learners. Thank you for taking the time to show your care.

SENIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DEBATING



The society enjoyed a busy year. Apart from fun, informal speech evenings, which were well attended, we competed against Gill College on two occasions with our speakers coming out tops both times in the Prepared and Impromptu speech categories.

We are very proud of Caitrin Spence who participated in the semi-finals of the South African Literary Association's Public Speaking competition. Her exceptional performance earned her an outstanding rating of A++ for her captivating speech entitled *"Time Flies"*. As part of the top six learners in the Eastern Cape province, Caitrin was invited to the national final round which took place in October in Mpumalanga where she received first place and the School applauds her on this outstanding achievement.

Those who participated in the annual Speech Competition delivered excellent speeches. The results were as follows:

Winner: Brigetté Oelofsen

Runner up: Caitrin Spence

The Junior Speech competition (Grade 8 and 9) results were as follows:

Winner: Erin Gedult

Runner up: Benjamin Lemke

Our speakers who participated at the annual Interschools competition excelled. The results are as follows:

Juniors: Second Place Erin Gedult

Seniors: Second Place Caitrin Spence

First Place Brigetté Oelofsen

"The best speeches come from the heart and reflect your passion. Speak as if your life depended on it." Rave Robinson.

TIME FLIES

CAITRIN SPENCE – FIRST PLACE IN NATIONAL FINAL OF SALA PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION GRADE 12 DIVISION

In a world with over 8 billion people, I can only imagine how difficult it would be to find a fact or statement that is universally accepted especially considering all customs, cultures, religions and traditions. Finding a common ground seems unlikely. We cannot even agree on the basics. Most of the world has decided to use the mathematical system based on a meter to measure things yet Haiti and America still prefer to use body parts or to be more precious the length of King Henry the 1st's foot. We, and most Grade 1s, can all agree $1 + 1 = 2$ but at some workshop in the world of synergy they'll try and convince you that if you add it just right, $1+1$ will equal 3. Time however is absolute. 60 minutes make an hour, 60 seconds make a minute and the duration of a second is consistent across all borders. So time is absolute; or at least it was until Einstein came along.

Now his version of an apple falling on his head was imagining a window cleaner falling from the top story of a building to his death. It is slightly more gruesome but just as effective. And it was this image that inspired his very complicated theory of relativity. But simply he states that time is relative to your frame of reference. So, if you are traveling at the speed of light; time stands still. This does not exactly counter argue my previous statement. No one on earth is traveling at the speed of light

and in our lifetime, unless some optimistic billionaires attempt it, no one probably will. So, time is absolute.

Well, no. Let us go back to that image however gory it may be, if we picture a man falling off a building, it would be quick, instant but from his perspective the world would slow down. That's just how our brain analyzes life threatening events. A brain scan of a patient who unexpectedly passed away was studied by a team of 13 neuroscientists lead by Professor Raul Vicente of University of Tartu, here they discovered that the brain seemed to replay memories in the 30 seconds before and after the heart stopped beating. So essentially, life does indeed flash before your eyes when you die. Now of course if he was holding the stopwatch it wouldn't start ticking slower but he would definitely perceive time differently. Einstein explains this very well, he says put your hand on the stove top for a minute and it will feel like an hour, court a pretty girl for an hour and it will feel like a minute. That is relativity.

So the English idiom: time flies is not only kept around because it rolls off the tongue and it sounds pretty but because we can roughly base it on a scientific theory and I must say we are all victims of the principle of time and its relativity.

When you sit in an hour and a half math lesson, it feels like the definition of eternity and yet the math paper two, of three hours, feels like 5 minutes and as all math students like myself will know, you need an eternity for some of those Euclidean questions and as a matriculant I feel especially victimized. My junior school journey seemed to travel at snail's pace and yet I had my Valedictory on Wednesday but somehow it still feels like Term 1.

I always find it funny how we associate the phrase having fun with time flies, you know time flies when you're having fun, but I don't know if I always agree with that. You, in the back of your mind, know that finals are starting in two weeks' time and you know you must start preparing, its matric after all. Then all of a sudden it's the weekend before finals and you've done practically nothing. It wasn't because you're being lazy or unproductive it's because you had extra math classes and accounting and physics and Prizegiving and Valedictory. Time definitely flew by but were you always having fun?

The idiom time flies when having fun, has been taken out of context to some degree. Time flies is just meant to highlight how time is forever passing and how continuous it is. It demonstrates how our perception of time can change depending on our circumstances or our stage of life but I cannot entirely discredit the statement, time flies when you're having fun, because guess who said it? Einstein. And if I discredit him, I'll have to discredit my entire speech and a lot of other scientific concepts. The man seemed to have come up with nearly every ideology of modern time and its perception.

In conclusion I do truly love time because of how amazingly mindboggling it is. It somehow manages to be absolute while abstract. It is objective while simultaneously being subjective and I believe we as a global community have chosen to agree on time because it is just too complicated to disagree upon.

SENIOR SPEECH COMPETITION

A PIECE OF CAKE

BRIGETTÉ OELOFSEN – BEST SENIOR SPEAKER 2023

Today, I want to talk to you about an idiom that's so sweet, you could almost taste it. If your stomach growled at the thought know you are not alone and you are indeed on the right track. Because yes, I am talking about "a piece of cake". Now this phrase has 2 purposes: one to make you just a little hungry but more importantly it supposedly refers to something that was easy or simple to accomplish.

Many tasks in our daily lives tend to be described with this delectable dessert but I beg to differ for reason. I mean have you tried assembling furniture at home? It's like solving a Rubik's cube blindfolded! Exactly! It's impossible. And that's a task that's supposed to be as simple as possible. You still eventually end up with something that kind of resembles a table, probably wobbles a slight bit and isn't exactly structurally sound. Not to mention the odd screws and bolts still left over which at this point you've convinced yourself weren't meant to fit anyways.

Or how about trying to parallel park in a tight spot? That's definitely not a piece of cake. As a learner driver there is nothing more nerve wracking than this. It's more like a game of Tetris, where you have to fit your car into the smallest possible space without playing bumper cars with the neighbouring cars or the curb.

Now, I don't know about you, but I've never had a piece of cake that was easy to make. Maybe I'm just a terrible baker which I'll admit, I am, but every time I've tried to make a cake, it's been a disaster. So, the fact that we use the phrase "a piece of cake" to describe something that's easy is almost hilarious to me.

Because here's the problem right, as a member of the baking community, though we've acknowledged not a very esteemed one, I think I speak on behalf of all bakers when I say that I feel utterly insulted by this phrase. Whoever thought this out clearly only used ready to bake packets or else they would've have known just how much effort goes into

a baking an entire cake. Let me tell you. Not only do you almost break the bank just buying ingredients but it's a science which requires a little patience, some skill and a whole lot of luck, plus a few tears in my case. And for future reference don't even think about doubling up that recipe. I can guarantee it's going to fail. Catastrophically. Point is there's absolutely nothing straightforward about a piece of cake or the process in getting one. And you know what, now that I'm standing here thinking about it. What were they even doing with that piece of cake? Were they just looking at it? Because I think we all agree when I say that the only thing easy about a piece of cake is eating it. Perhaps a little too easy sometimes.

Okay okay, let's not get sidetracked. The real reason for my rant is that this idiom is undermining not only bakers but people in general and the tasks they tackle. Instead of acknowledging all the real work and devotion that may have gone into a task it makes it sound effortless. I mean come on!

And you know what the cherry on top of this repulsive cake is? They don't even mention the satisfaction that comes with completing the task. What about my reward? My pat on the back? If I spent hours labouring in a kitchen baking a cake you can bet your bottom dollar that I'm going to want my piece of cake and eat it too. It's only fair.

Personally I think this idiom is a bit of a flop. The best course of action is to shut the oven door on this disgraceful misconception and just start afresh. Perhaps, instead of it referring to an easy or simple task, it could insinuate that although tasks may not be easy or require a couple hundred attempts they will grant you with rewards that are worth all the effort. Because who doesn't love a big Ole piece of cake?

So, the next time someone tells you that something is a piece of cake just smile and nod, because they clearly have no idea what they're talking about. And if they ask you to bake a cake, politely decline and direct them to the nearest bakery. Trust me, it's for the best. Now if you'll excuse me, I have the most unexplained craving for some cake.



SPEECH WINNERS

BACK: Clea Clark, Erin Gedult, Benjamin Lemke, Cate Cochrane, Lilly Hunter

FRONT: Brigetté Oelofsen, Mrs B. Grewar, Mr A. Gradwell, Caitrin Spence

INTERSCHOOLS CULTURAL EVENING

The Interschools Cultural Evening, hosted by the School during Interschools week, ignited friendly competition between our quiz and speech teams and their equally talented counterparts from Volkskool.

Our senior quiz team emerged victorious in the general knowledge quiz, amassing 12 points against Volkskool's score of 10. In the junior speech competition, Erin Gedult was placed second while Brigetté Oelofsen claimed first place in the senior speech competition with her outstanding oratory skills, followed by Caitrin Spence in second place.

The evening overflowed with laughter, enjoyment and countless memorable moments, including delightful piano performances as well as a guitar solo, leaving everyone with a deeper appreciation for the diverse tapestry of culture that binds us all together.



ECO-SCHOOLS

The Mentoring program began as an Eco-Schools Emotional Well-being project in response to the fear and uncertainty created in children during the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns.

The mentors are chosen from Grade 11 and 12, providing each class in the school, from Grade 5 to 10, with two mentors. Working with the theme of 'Courtesy and Consideration', the mentors provide a helping hand, encouragement and a 'big brotherly (or sisterly)' connection to the younger learners. As role models, they embody the attributes of courtesy and consideration and promote an attitude of good manners

and consideration for others in our learners. The mentors become leaders by example and learn valuable leadership skills.

The eco-representatives, concerned about littering and especially the disposal of plastic, have begun a project to upgrade the rubbish bins at the School. This involves identifying spaces where more may be needed, and investigating the type of bins available. The funds from a civvies day have provided the means and we look forward to purchasing the necessary bins.

2024 promises to get off to a flying start!



MENTORS

BACK: Sarah Wilmot, Karl Venter, Andrue Victor, Nangawethu Macanda, Joshua Horne, Jordan Wilmot.

3RD ROW: Lana Bouwer, Ryan Jenneke, Hlakanipha Skepe, Vivian McEwan, Brent Hesselink, Anna Pringle, Jude Langmead, David Venter, Tayla Kingwill, Charlize Vorster, Joshua Basson, Precious Nobula, Simone Prinsloo.

2ND ROW: Gemma Naudé, Jenna-Lee Jansen, Brigetté Oelofsen, Caitrin Spence, Ndalo Qwalela, Chuma Sobantu, Sinazo Soyana, Trinity West, Ngomusa Zweni, Lutho Msutwana, Na'eem Mahomed

FRONT: Siyamthanda Desha, Cadee Arends, Shona Zana, Siphosethu Malotana, Mrs J. Nel, Bontle Mashiane, Lolitha Saki, Kaitlin Kenmuir, Joy Merifield

ECO CLUB

The Eco Club has taken advantage of the seasons this year. We started the year by learning about spiders, particularly those ones found in our area. We moved on to explore ocean litter and oceans, the essential role oceans play on our planet and how to keep them pollution-free. With all the plastic waste that is found in the ocean, we naturally progressed to learn about recycling plastic and enjoyed exploring our creative and artistic talents.

We kicked off Term 2 by exploring autumn on our beautiful campus. We discovered our resident birds, the swallows and weavers, then continued to learn about them: their physical features, habitats, food and nest-making. After observing the weavers at work, we tried our hand at weaving and soon gained respect for these small creatures that use their beaks with such incredible skill. We moved on to learn about South Africa's twenty National Parks. This entailed map work and interesting facts about the different parks. Exploring this information, we then began to learn about biomes and the different biomes of our national parks. Learners chose their favourite biome and had fun producing a poster project about it.

The winter term began with snow in our area, and so appropriately, we learnt about how snow is formed. We proceeded to study snowflakes and once again, got creative making paper snowflakes - even 3D ones! From snow we proceeded to learn about water and its sources. We discussed a few practical

and easy ways of cleaning water for consumption. We learnt about the human body and how much of it consists of water. That made us acutely aware of how important it is to drink plenty of water. During September, we focussed on trees, especially the indigenous trees we have on campus. We prepared an assembly for Arbor Day and helped plant a Camdeboo Stinkwood tree on the pavement in Caledon Street, in front of our school.

During the fourth term, we potted some cuttings of Spekboom for our new school garden. With that done, a couple of eager learners prepared and presented lessons on the following; dung beetles, bee-eaters, hummingbirds, sunbirds and ladybugs. This concluded our year of fun explorations and interesting discussions as we broadened our knowledge about our environment.



ECO-CLUB

BACK: Lihlombe Dali, Oamogetswe Maroga, Iqra Fraz, Connor Te Water Naudé, Duvallene Fass, Jae Fillis, Kira Hector, Liso Mamase, Sumaya Akther, Zainab Akram.
FRONT: Clea Clark, Micha Murray, Ms J. Street, Mrs J. Nell, Isabelle Tadesse, Abdullah Qaiser



ECO-REPRESENTATIVES

BACK: Precious Nobula, Benjamin Lemke, Nangawethu Macanda, Sarah Wilmot, Anna Bouwer, Josh Arends
3RD ROW: Kate Charles, Asandivuyisile Jonas, Maribel April, Emile Mlatsha, Olwethu Madikane, Nina Japhta, Cedine Retief, Duvallene Fass, Zanique Souter, Jourdan-Bethany Koeberg, Rachel Wenham, Zunaida Deysel
2ND ROW: Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Carmen Prinsloo, Ambesiwe Tokwe, Nicola Scriven, Jenna-Lee Jansen, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Sinbad Christoffels, Okuhle Mahuza, Kaitlin Kenmuir, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Lisa Vutula, Amyoli Sizila, Kari Stern, Zelreoch Frazenburg
FRONT: Lechem Lamont, Kaydriano Russian, Ryan Collett, Micha Murray, Mrs J. Nel, Clark Labuschagne, Clea Clark, Noël Shakane, Sinalo Blaaw

MEDIA TEAM

After a successful first year in 2022, the Media Team has become a popular group amongst the learners. During a very demanding year, they were able to grow the School's YouTube channel to over 800 subscribers and prospects for 2024 are bright. With the growth shown by the team, its capabilities have been upgraded and this has resulted in an increase in the quality of the services provided. During the Junior Festival and Interschools week the team had the wonderful opportunity to work with SuperSport Schools, learning from professionals in the field.

The winter season would not be as successful without the selfless help from Muhammad Ahmed, Josh Arends, Taegen Hamid and Trystan Hulleman, all

of whom took the opportunity to lead in their respective areas of either hockey or rugby.

The team not only provided live streaming for the rugby and hockey games, but also assisted with productions and special assemblies. Special thanks must go to Johannes du Plessis who, for the second year running, has proven to be a most invaluable member of the team. Arranging for the installation of a new sound desk specifically designed for productions is just one of the drives he has led on his own.

We are excited to see what 2024 has in store for the Media Team, certain that it will be more demanding and more challenging than anything encountered thus far.



MEDIA TEAM

BACK: Alexander Neill, Daniel Marais, Trystan Hulleman, Johannes du Plessis, Sobuhle Nyambali, Benjamin Lemke
MIDDLE: Endinako Jadezweni, Amy Waddelow, Athayanda Mahlali, Samantha Charles, Josh Arends, Tara Ferreira, Muhammad Ahmed, Sarah Jacobs, Taegen Hamid
FRONT: Leshay Fourie, Amber Bezuidenhout, Keisha Mentoor, Mr J.P. Kruger, Lena Tadesse, Jasmine Abercrombie, Erin Gedult

ART CLUB



Art Club continues to be a haven of quiet creativity and contemplation as members gather for an hour or two a week to dabble in the disciplines of drawing, painting and printmaking. This year we have created mandalas using ink and bleach, painted formalized landscapes, looked at positive and negative shape in foliage and learned about tone through studying lollipops and their packaging. The juniors have learned about relief sculpture and mastered the art of careful observation.

We are extremely proud of Lena Tadesse, Isabella Tadesse, Sasha

Cochrane and Joy Merifield whose work was selected to be a part of the OVK 'Wool in Art' competition. All four of the artworks were auctioned and raised funds for drought relief, while Joy's pastel work – 'Self-portrait with Lamb' – went on to win the entire competition and received the prestigious award of 'Best on Show'. Joy won R10 000 for herself, as well as R10 000 for the school which went to uplifting cultural activities.

Many of our art club members entered artwork into the Camdeboo Eistedfod – with Joy Merifield and Sasha Cochrane being awarded 'Double Gold' for their entries.



ART CLUB

BACK: Iviwe Gcinisa, Okuhle Mahuza, Lena Tadesse, Nombulelo Nqcombo, Anna Bouwer, Sarah Wilmot, Vivian McEwan, Lana Bouwer, Sasha Cochrane, Sbusisiwe Gcinisa, Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Amber Bezuidenhout

MIDDLE: Mpho-Sutle Booyen, Max Price, Viwe Nqkekisa, Ogiyonke Sizila, Emihle Wolfkop, Sinazo Soyana, Jennavieve Woods, Akhona Nqkekisa, Trinity West, Lwandle Qomfu, Sinead Chistoffels, Mark Lemke

FRONT: Clea Clark, Kate Charles, Nikita Mtshakazana, Lwanda Ntlonti, Mr A. Gradwell, Mrs B. Langmead, Liyema Sodluka, Jannat Qaisar, Anébel Norval, Joy Merifield

PHILOSOPHY CLUB

The Philosophy Club, led by 2022-2023 President, Sobuhle Nyambali, is an ever-growing community of free-thinking students, with a leadership framework that tends to take a laissez-faire approach to engaging in thought-provoking discussions about various topics within philosophical parameters. The club has served as a community that members call home and its approach to assertively and clearly expressing one's opinions, whilst being respectful and understanding of others, has shaped many of its members and their interaction with others.

The Philosophy Club is one of the most innovative communities in the history of the School. It welcomes all people who are willing to chip in their two cents on the subject being discussed. The privilege of being able to speak one's mind freely with the intention of providing value to a discussion is a valuable skill learned during meetings.

A sincere and heartfelt message of gratitude must be relayed to James

Rose-Innes and Max Wright for initiating the idea of a Philosophy Club's inclusion into the schools vastly diverse cultural programme. A big thank you must also go to Mrs Hanli Rose-Innes for her efforts in upholding the structures and initial purposes of the club from its inception.

The Philosophy Club's inaugural award went to Sobuhle Nyambali who became the very first recipient of a Team Award.

The topics discussed this year were:

Cynicism – presented by Sobuhle Nyambali

Stoicism – presented by Mrs Rose-Innes

Narcissim – presented by Sobuhle Nyambali

Artificial Intelligence – presented by Chanté Bezuidenhout

Machiavelli – presented by Athi Mahlati

How to Save yourself from Yourself – presented by Clea Clark and Chanté Bezuidenhout



PHILOSOPHY CLUB

BACK: Jae Fillis, Riley Knoesen, Duvallene Fass, Sobuhle Nyambali (President), Athayanda Mahlati, Nombulelo Ncombo, Lina Tadesse, Isabelle Tadesse

FRONT: Kira Hector, Thomas Taylor, Adam Clark, Mrs H. Rose-Innes, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Clea Clark, Connor Te Water Naudé.

ABSENT: Bukhobenkosi Nomatye



ROBOTICS

With the advancement of AI worldwide, learners are trained to understand the basics of coding and programming in robotics. This year, learners have learned how to assemble a specific robot and to create programs to enable the robots to move.

ROBOTICS

BACK: Kay-Leigh Hartney, Duvallene Fass, Chloe Davids, Chloe-Ann Fourie

FRONT: Cedine Retief, Mr B. Mbanga, Elandri Retief

DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club, initiated by Mr Gradwell, is relatively new to the School and provides an opportunity to develop dramatic skills in our learners.

The club has produced two successful plays this year. The first play,

“Dream Day”, was written by Na’eem Mahomed and directed by Mr Gradwell and the cast and crew worked together like a well-oiled machine. It received a Gold at the Karoo Eisteddfod. The second play, “The White Wedding”, written by Zeraida Deyssel and directed by Mr Gradwell, was

the main event at the School’s Cultural Evening. The play told the story of a cross-cultural marriage and received a standing ovation. Both productions had the audience at the edge of their seats in suspense, with excellent comical timing.

The Drama Club adds a new dimension to the cultural education of the School and is certain to grow from strength to strength.

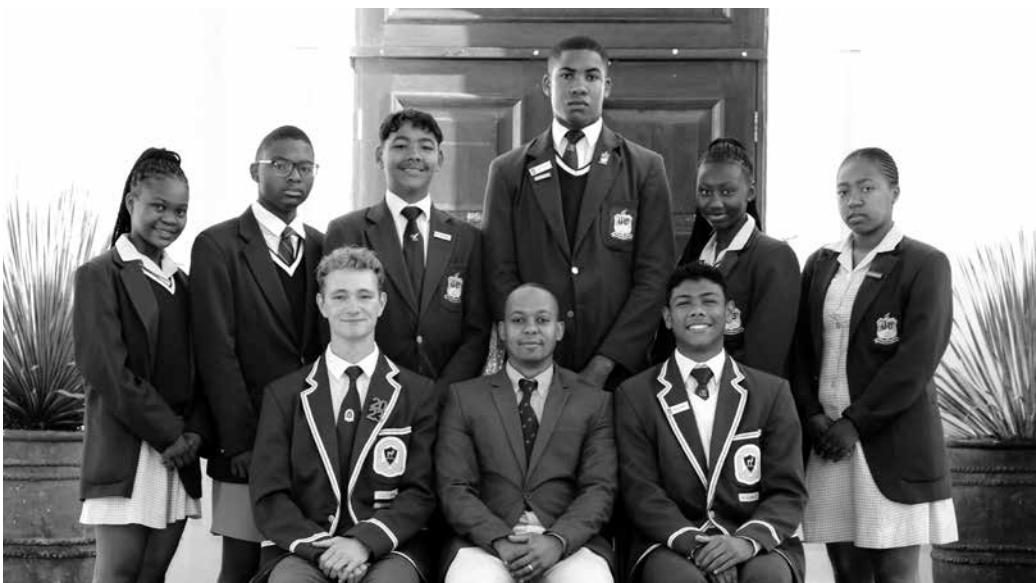


DRAMA

BACK: Asemahle Sakati, Finn Cilliers, Charlize Vorster, Nangawethu Macanda, Vuyo Njeje, Joshua Swartland, Peter Michaels, Lisakhanya Zonke

MIDDLE: Caelyn Japhta, Bontle Mashiane, Lolitha Saki, Sadè May, Na’eem Mahomed, Kyra McCabe, Zeraida Deyssel, Ann-Noleen Koeberg, Joy Merrifield

FRONT: Camran Swartz, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Sarah Wilmot, Mr A. Gradwell, Uyanda Tele, Lelomso Ngceba, Dumisa Mala



EISTEDDFOD DRAMA GROUP

BACK: Sovuyiswa Sefa, Asive Dwane, Muhamed Ahmed, Nangawethu Macanda, Mpho-Entle Booyesen, Olwethu Madikane

FRONT: Arno Nell, Mr A. Gradwell, Na’eem Mahomed

TANGLED

The School's 2023 primary department production saw the 2010 box office hit, "Tangled", translated to the stage for the purposes of delighting local theatre lovers, with the narrative being, for the most part, identical.

The play managed to perform a whistle stop tour of the film's most loved musical numbers, while also including numerous other hit songs such as Imagine Dragons' 'On Top of the World', Whitney Houston's 'When You Believe' and Coldplay's 'Sky Full of Stars' which were performed with such unmistakable Disney flair by the school's junior learners that they felt instantly at home amidst fan-favourites such as 'I've Got a Dream' and 'I See the Light.' The catchy numbers, combined with stunning costumes and beautiful backdrops created an atmosphere that managed to fully immerse the audience in the story.

While Rachel Wenham and Connor Te Water Naudé each gave spellbinding performances as Rapunzel and Rider, oozing with energy and pizzazz, the comedic talents of Aidan Ferreira, who portrayed the detective Maximus, and the vocal talents of Chloe-Ann Fourie as Mother Gothel, made it impossible not to smile at the learners' keen sense of

belonging to the magical world so well-depicted on stage.

With a cast consisting of almost 180 Grade 5 to 7 learners, 'Tangled' was a stunningly beautiful production - high-jinx, humorous, entertaining, and full of fun and the feel-good factor. Praise must go to the show's creators, Mrs Avril Putter and Mrs Sanette Brink, backdrop artists Mrs Janet Kingwill and Ms Lauren Stanley, the technical crew and the members of the cast who made it possible for us to "see the light" with a production that lived up to the near-impossible standards of the phrase Disney magic.



CAMDEBOO EISTEDDFOD

The School was very proud to launch and host the inaugural Camdeboo Eisteddfod which took place in the third term this year.

After months of preparation, where an entire handbook was written by Ms Zelda Oosthuizen, and the committee, consisting of Mrs Brink, Mrs Rose-Innes, Ms Oosthuizen, Mr Gradwell and Mrs Langmead, worked tirelessly at the administrative aspects of the event, the Camdeboo Eisteddfod was ready to begin. For three full days, the School played host to performers of all ages who showcased their remarkable abilities in speech, drama, singing, instrumental music, choral music, dance and art.

The event was not only a platform for learners to exhibit their talents, but also an opportunity to foster a supportive environment where learners could be recognised and celebrated for their performance abilities. The performances were evaluated by esteemed adjudicators who ensured that excellence was celebrated and rewarded. The



diverse showcase of talents helped demonstrate the depth of artistic abilities in the community, leaving the audiences in awe of the remarkable performances.

The School is honoured to have been entertained by such talented young people. Their passion and dedication have left an indelible mark in our hearts. The School is grateful to Tyremart, Paul, Liezl and Joy Merified and Johan Minnaar for their contributions to the event. We eagerly look forward to next year's eisteddfod which promises to be even bigger and better!

MUSIC EVENING

The School's annual Music Evening once again delivered an exceptional display of talent. From our pianists showcasing their skills on the baby grand piano, to the enchanting performances of the junior and senior choirs, marimba bands and emotive solos by vocalists, the evening was a feast for the senses.

Under the expert guidance of MCs, Zoë Mills and Arno Nell, the evening unfolded with grace and elegance. Their seamless transitions



and engaging commentary heightened the enjoyment of the event, connecting the diverse performances with a quirky musical thread.

Perhaps the highlight of the evening was the remarkable display of talent by our pianists. The Grade 5 to 12 learners each demonstrated their unique style and skill, impressing the audience with their mastery of the piano. The junior and senior choirs added harmony to the evening, their voices blending in perfect unison to create beautiful melodies that resonated through the school hall. The marimba bands provided a vibrant and infectious rhythm to the event – their energetic pieces showcased the rich cultural diversity of the School, infusing the evening with a spirited celebration of music and unity. The vocalists left the audience spellbound whether they sung haunting melodies or uplifting compositions that touched the hearts of all present.

Overall, this year's Music Evening was a resounding success, continuing a tradition of elegance and remarkable talent. The dedication and hard work of the learners and their instructors - Ms Zelda Oosthuizen and Mrs Sanette Brink - were evident throughout the evening, resulting in a truly memorable event that showcased the school's commitment to fostering a love for music and nurturing the artistic abilities of its learners.

JUNIOR CHOIR

With their sweet voices and hearts full of enthusiasm, our Primary School Choir have brought pride to our school community. They gave spirited performances of "Joshua Fought the Battle" at the Interschools assembly and the annual Music Evening. The choir also took part in the Camdeboo Eisteddfod where they performed "Believer" with unparalleled enthusiasm and energy. Their heartfelt rendition earned them a Gold Award, demonstrating their talent. A final feather in their cap was the honour of performing at the School's Primary Department Prizegiving ceremony. Their performance left a lasting impression on all who were present, and it was a fitting conclusion to a year filled with musical enjoyment.



JUNIOR CHOIR
BACK: Amelia King, Kira Hector, Kay-Leigh Hartney, Cedine Retief, Lethabo Ledwaba, Elandri Retief, Chloe Davids, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Duvallene Fass
3RD ROW: Chloe-Anne Fourie, Annabel Nel, Maribel April, Mellissa Marais, Jae Fillis, Emihle Vuthuza, Gerda Clarke, Isabelle Tadesse, Lynique Grimsell, Lihlombe Dali, Richere Cudjoe
2ND ROW: Luthando Tapi, Halyn Wessels, Clea Clark, Micha Murray, Sinalo Blaauw, Kari Stern, Nieke van Jaarsveld, Rachel Wenham, Kate Charles, Alison Jacobs, Cu-shan Hoffman, Asanele Mayekiso, Hayley Krige
FRONT: Lechem Lamont, Angeliko Yaya, Sven Norman, Kwakhanya Ntlonti, Mrs S. Brink, Abigail Loots, Adam Clark, Emily Raath, Benjamin Munzvenga

SENIOR CHOIR

This year was a very successful one for the High School choir. It started off with auditions for new members in the early weeks of January as our main focus was to attract as many new students as possible. Sixty-one students all singing in harmony (SATB) proved to be a difficult, but rewarding task!

During the year the choir had the privilege of performing at various occasions. A version of the South African Traditional song, "Shosholoza", arranged by Ms Oosthuizen and accompanied by two marimba players, was performed at the Interscholls assembly, the Interscholls Cultural Evening and the Camdeboo Eisteddfod. The choir walked away with a Gold Award at this year's Eisteddfod. The final performance was at the annual Music Evening where the choir performed "Amavolovo", a traditional Zulu song, accompanied by two marimba players. Thereafter goodbyes were said to the Grade 12 students as their choir journey came to an end. This was a very special group of students as they were the first that had been part of the choir for five years and many fond memories were made during this time.

In September it was a magical moment when sixteen boys arrived for auditions and we welcomed our new 2023-2024 choir consisting of 73



students, 21 of which are boys! The choir ended the year on a high note by performing "Climb Higher" by Pink Zebra at the Senior Prizegiving,

A huge thank you must go to the choir members for all their time and dedication which made this year such a success.



SENIOR CHOIR

BACK: Sarah Wilmot, Nangawethu Macanda

5TH ROW: Christopher Nqumashe, Liso Booï, Luca Kinghorn, Lana Bouwer, Abongile Johnson, Na'eem Mahomed, Sarah Jacobs, Athayanda Mahlati, Lisakhanya Zonke, Samantha Charles, Anna Bouwer, Jovandré Samson, Yonela Wana, Vuyo Njeje

4TH ROW: Jenelle Theron, Brigetté Oelofsen, Qhamisa James, Elcardiyano Afrika, Similo Mvandaba, Taegen Hamid, Arno Nell, Jemae-Mari Davids, Caitrin Spence, Precious Nobula, Masixole Bhayi, Tafadzwa Munzvanga, Yaseen Kazi, Ababalwe Matutu

3RD ROW: Muhammed Ahmed, Asive Dwane, Chuma Mangaliso, Maqhawe Norman, Zakithi Sishi, , Leander Kraai, Imivuyo Nomvete, Ambesiwe Tokwe, Khayila Grootboom, Lebogang Booysen, Sbusiswe Gcinisa, Ciara Kivedo, Achuma Mangaliso, Neelon Fourie

2ND ROW: Akhona Ngxekisa, Lelomso Ngebe, Shona Zana, Sakeenah Hajie, Unam Vumazonke, Amkelwe Ngqazo, Sovuyiswa Sefa, Lolitha Saki, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Bontle Mashiane, Joy Merifield, Kuhle Ngumashe, Olwethu Koeberg, Erin Gedult

FRONT: Siphosethu Malotana, Amber Bezuidenhout, Rebecca Copeman, Anébel Norval, Cadee Arends, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Dennisha Fortuin, Shanica Abrahams, Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Megan Miller, Kwakhanya Buyiselo

JUNIOR MARIMBA BAND

The Primary School Marimba Band entertained audiences at various events this year, including Interschools and the annual Music Evening. Their African Medleys transported the audiences to the heart of Africa. They continued to impress when they took the stage at the Camdeboo Eisteddfod, where their teamwork and delightful harmonies earned them a Gold Award.



JUNIOR MARIMBA BAND

BACK: Micha Murray, Kwakhanya Ntlonti, Alison Jacobs, Asanele Mayekiso
FRONT: Asakhula Nkomo, Benneth Fikenj, Mrs S. Brink, Philip Kayster, Noël Shakane

SENIOR MARIMBA BANDS

Marimba playing is strongly based on learning patterns and sequences. Regardless of the learners' musical level, they can play elementary patterns that can be added together to make an appreciable musical sound.

This year has been a challenging and exciting one for the three Senior Marimba bands, each group consisting of 8 learners. These three groups (8 Musketeers, Marimba Souls & Ocean's 8) worked diligently during rehearsals, taking challenges in their stride.

Their first performance was at the Interschools assembly, where they provided background music outside the hall as parents and learners entered. At the newly established Camdeboo Eisteddfod the 8 Musketeers group performed "Happier" by Steve Mac, Dan Smith & Marshmello for which they received a Silver Award. The Marimba Souls group performed "A Million Dreams", from 'The Greatest Showman' by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul and received a Gold Award. The third group, Ocean's 8 were awarded with Double Gold for their performance of "Dance Monkey" by Tones & I. The year concluded with performances at the annual Music Evening held in the School's hall. Thereafter we had to say goodbye to Grade 12 students as their four-year marimba journey came to an end.

Much time and dedication has been put into the Marimba bands and grateful thanks go to all the members. We look forward to many exciting ventures in the new year as the bands grows from strength to strength.





SENIOR MARIMBA BAND – 8 MUSKETEERS

BACK: Sovuyiswa Sefa, Lisa Vutula, Okuhle Mahuza, Kuhle Ngumashe, Ambesiwe Tokwe.

FRONT: Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Kwakhanya Buyiselo.



SENIOR MARIMBA BAND – MARIMBA SOULS

BACK: Lisakhanya Zonke, Sarah Wilmot, Precious Nobula, Lelomso Ngceba.

FRONT: Chuma Mangaliso, Erin Gedult, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Achuma Mangaliso, Akhona Ngxekisa.



SENIOR MARIMBA BAND – OCEANS 8

BACK: Sbusisiwe Gcinisa, Dumisa Mala, Qhamisa James, Lolitha Saki.

FRONT: Siphosethu Malotana, Shona Zana, Ms Z. Oosthuizen, Olwethu Koeberg, Siyamthanda Desha.

JUNIOR SCA

On Thursday evenings a small assembly of Bible believers obeys the first commandment, and put Father God first to spend precious time in prayer and in His Word. This year we have covered topics such as Salvation, The Ten Commandments, Thanksgiving, Choices, Faith, and Forgiveness. We learned what Jesus said about worrying and how we should take a lesson from the ants and work hard. We have studied some miracles and parables, amongst others, The Ten Virgins. We learned about Pentecost and the Holy Spirit and discussed all nine fruits of the Spirit. We also discussed spiritual warfare, and how to handle various difficult situations and temptations by following Jesus's examples. Whilst reading

texts, we explored the symbolism of trees and mountains in the Word. We looked at the prophets, the lesser and greater prophets, and took a closer look at John as a prophet and one of Jesus's inner-circle disciples. We talked about how Jesus taught his disciples to pray using the format of the Lord's Prayer and researched other scriptures on prayer.

Be encouraged by Romans 12:2 – "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is." (Life Application Study Bible)

SENIOR SCA

Our primary focus this year has been to strengthen our faith in Jesus and His Word. Our vision for this group is to witness our fellow students wholeheartedly loving and unapologetically following Jesus, through acts of genuine Christ-like love for their peers.

We gathered once a week on Monday evenings, engaging in discussions that revolved around various topics. Our sessions were predominantly discussion-based, allowing us to explore questions openly, using Scripture as our guide, while maintaining an atmosphere free of judgment but open to correction.

In the first term, we tackled some of the most challenging questions Christians often face. With the guidance of Scripture, we addressed questions such as "Who made God," "Why do bad things happen to good people," and "How long does God take to answer prayers?". God's presence was evident as we found answers primarily in His Word.

During the second term, we delved into the question of whether we can trust the Bible and why. The answer was a resounding "Yes!" We examined how the Bible came into existence and explored its continued

relevance in our lives today. Moving on to the third and fourth terms, we embarked on character studies, drawing lessons from various Bible figures, learning from both their victories and their mistakes.

While most weeks were dedicated to study, we also injected moments of fun into our gatherings with trivia nights and occasional pizza orders. Throughout the year, we witnessed students opening up and being vulnerable, allowing the works of Jesus to shine through and strengthen the bonds within the group.

As we look ahead, we are excited to see what God has in store for us. Our faith has been bolstered, our fellowship enriched, and our commitment to living out the teachings of Jesus has deepened. We anticipate further growth and transformation as we continue this journey of faith together.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." - Proverbs 3:5-6



SENIOR SCA

BACK: Shiraz Pedersen, Peter-Daniel Clegg, Sarah Wilmot, Jenelle Theron,

MIDDLE: Richard Murray, Jade Slater, Athayanda Mahlati, Lina Tadesse, Luca Kinghorn, Amber Slater

FRONT: Bukhobenkosi Nomatye, Katelyn Trollip, Mr E. Jantjies, Samantha Charles, Anébel Norval

PRAYER GROUP

A dedicated group of about 16 learners meets twice a week for the sole purpose of praying for the learners and staff of the School. Those who attend are encouraged to share a Scripture or a short devotional as led by the Lord. We understand the value of prayer and acknowledge the power of prayer and continue to trust God for His hand

of protection and guidance.

Jesus said: *"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you."* Mark 11:24-25



PRAYER GROUP

BACK: Ashleigh Shell, Qhamisa James, Arno Nell, Sarah Wilmot, Joshua Basson, Anna Bouwer, Amber Bezuidenhout

FRONT: Siyamthanda Desha, Dennisha Fortuin, Siphosethu Malotana, Mrs B. Grewar, Jovandr  Samson, Cadee Arends, Ngomusa Zweni

FIRST AID

We congratulate our First Aiders on their fine achievements and unselfish dedication to the sportsmen and women of the School, under the leadership of Mrs Moos.

The First Aid emergency room was manned on a roster basis for all

home games and the girls often sacrificed their weekends and part of their holidays to attend to their duties. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of them. Our mission remains to deliver emergency medical care to all our sports teams, striving towards excellent and efficient service.



FIRST AID

BACK: Leshay Fourie, Trinity West, Tayla Kingwill, Gemma Naud , Zelreech Frazenburg

FRONT: Siphosethu Malotana, Kaitlin Kenmuir, Megan Adams, Ms E. Moos, Qhamisa James, Dennisha Fortuin, Erin Gedult

Nommerpas



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BLOOD DONATION

SANBS is constantly facing severe blood stock shortages and our learners eagerly donate an average of 40 pints of blood every term. There is no end to the benefits of donating blood for those who need it, but donating blood does not just benefit the recipients – as a donor it benefits your own emotional and physical health. Thank you to our donors - giving doesn't get much better than this.



PEER PROMOTERS

BACK: Na'eem Mahomed, Sarah Wilmot, Nangawethu Macanda, Joshua Basson
FRONT: Lelomso Ngceba, Mrs L. Crankshaw, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg

TWINS



TWINS

BACK: Cedine and Elandri Retief, David and Karl Venter, Jade and Amber Slater
FRONT: Entle and Sintle Mdlulwa, Alexander and Kenza Neill, Achuma and Chuma Mangaliso, Ndodana and Ntombazana Speelman

INTERACT

"The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others"

2023 was a year of taking care of our very own and this embraced focusing on the emotional and social well-being of our learners at the School.

In Term 1, Interact hosted a very successful Colour Run. This fun run successfully created an emotional catharsis for our learners at the end of a tough and very busy term. The proceeds of the event were used to support the girls from Spandau Hostel to make their lives a little more comfortable.

At the end of Term 3, the learners hosted a most special heritage celebration with song, dance and a beautiful display of cultural attire. A showstopping

narration, in the form of a short play, of a cross-cultural marriage, written by Zeraida Deysel and directed by Mr Gradwell, was definitely the highlight of the evening. This event was indeed an opportunity to expand the palate for a special cultural exploration and experience.

The last week of October burst with activity, when Interact had a board of honour for all people affected by cancer. Ribbons for cancer in different colours told the tale of how cancer has affected too many of our learners and staff members. Awareness was raised on some risk factors enhancing the chances of getting various types of cancer.



INTERACT

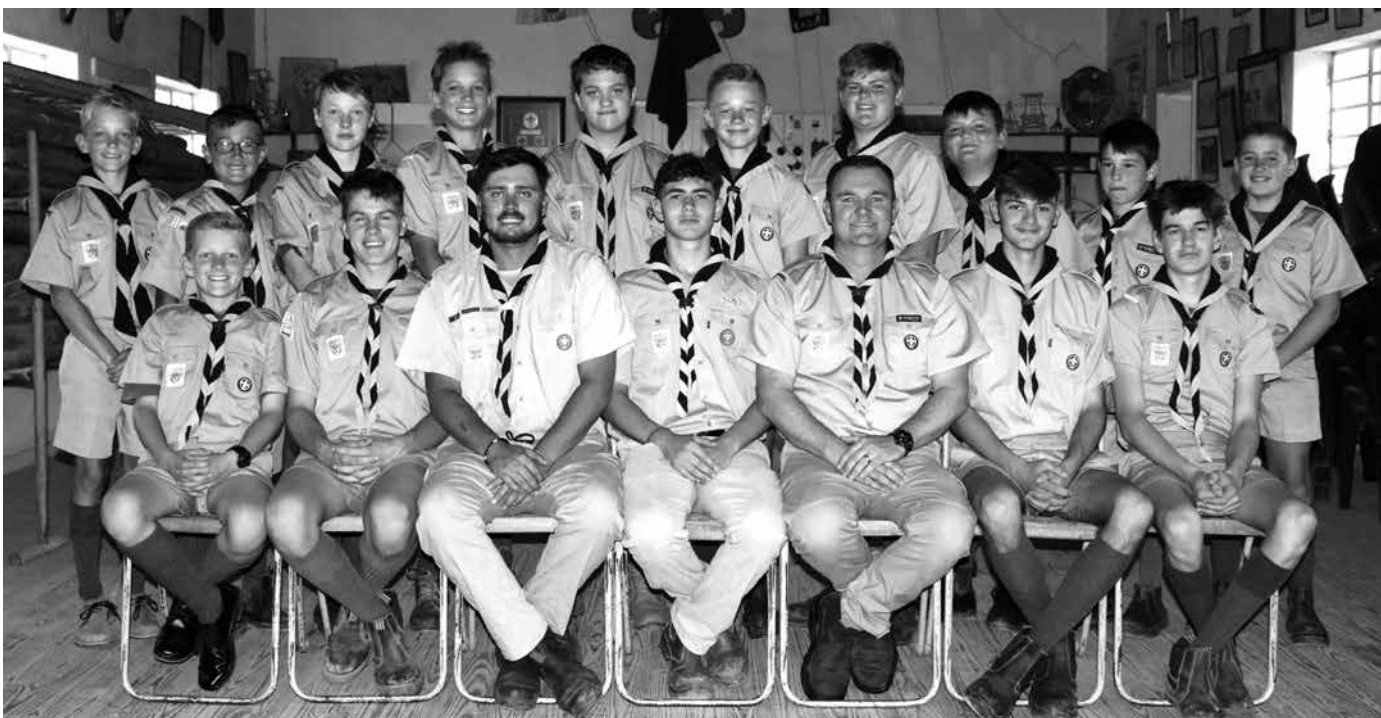
BACK: Erin Gedult; Henk Homveld, Lisakhanya Zonke, Vuyo Njeje, Sarah Wilmot, Sobuhle Nyambali, Tara Ferreira, Lelomso Ngceba, Othimna Njamela
MIDDLE: Milani Pongoma, Joy Merifield, Emihle Mlatsha, Lwanda Ntlonti, Lolitha Saki, Bontle Mashiane, Zelreec Frazenburg, Someleze Ntshuca, Sinazo Soyana
FRONT: Shona Zana, Kungawo Stuurman, Entle Thibane (Vice-treasurer), Caitrin Spence (Treasurer), Mrs A. Gedult (Teacher-in-charge), Musa Zweni (Chairperson), Arno Nell, Lilitha Buhali (Vice-secretary), Amkelwe Ngqazo.

SCOUTS

One of the Scout Laws is to smile and whistle under all difficulties and after the sudden passing of Mr Bruce Maree, the Scouts set out to do just that. Mr Maree had a huge impact on so many Scouts' lives. He pushed them to do their best and encouraged them to gain confidence and develop the desire to make their world a better place. He was an honourable man and his mentorship has been sorely missed.

Under the guidance of Troop Scouter, Johan Vorster, and Assistant Troop Scouter, Jacques Ferreira, and so many other parent volunteers, the Graaff-Reinet Scout group has risen to the challenge to continue the legacy Mr Bruce Maree left behind.

"Farewell fellow scouter, we will surely miss you now." – Suzanne A. Lentchner



SCOUTS

BACK: Ryonn Naudé, Aidan Ferreira, Eric Wallace, Quinn Naudé, Alec van Tonder, Jordan Maritz, Tristan Hudson, Keith Hudson, Joshua Kingwill, Adriaan van Jaarsveld
FRONT: Brett Kenmuir, Joshua Neill, Mr J. Vorster, Kyle Liebenberg, Mr J. Ferreira, Daniel Marais, Alexander Neill.
ABSENT: Ethan Raath, Mark Lemke



Accountants | Auditors | Consultants

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JUNIOR ATHLETICS

During our Interhouse athletics meeting at the start of the year 10 records were broken by learners from Grade 5 through to Grade 7. The following learners were awarded athletics trophies:

U11 Victrix Ludorum – Hermon Wolde
 U11 Victor Ludorum – Ryonn Naudé
 U12 Victrix Ludorum – Samantha Gilfillan
 U12 Victor Ludorum – Jordan Martiz
 U13 Victrix Ludorum – Mia Botha
 U13 Victor Ludorum – Owen Paxton

Based on results from this meeting, 16 of our athletes were selected to represent the School at the Zonal athletics meeting. Owen Paxton and Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza qualified for the Eastern Province team but were unfortunately unable to represent the side due to other commitments.



JUNIOR ATHLETICS

BACK: Joshua Kingwill, Mbuso Tini, Onika Jantjies, Samantha Gilfillan, Miley Burger, Jordan Maritz, Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza, Ryonn Naudé
FRONT: Amelia King, Owen Paxton, Mrs E.L. Gerber, Alyssa Trollip, Mia Botha

SENIOR ATHLETICS

Team spirit, grit and kindness were the order of the day during the Senior Interhouse Athletics Meeting which took place towards the beginning of Term 1. Athletes from Arnott and Daly participated enthusiastically in all events, displaying a highly competitive spirit and making for a memorable day. The winning house was Arnott House with 600 points to Daly's 501. Although Arnott claimed victory with sheer mass participation, Daly showed that they had the upper hand when it came to spirit and cheering.

- The most credible performances on the day, were those of:
- Joshua Swartland Open Boys' 100m (11,00 s)
 - Yonela Wana U15 Boys' 100m (12,00 s)
 - Misha Newton U15 Girls' 3000m (13:33,00)

The following trophies were awarded:

U15 Victrix Ludorum	Misha Newton
U15 Victor Ludorum	Josh Arends
U17 Victrix Ludorum	Charlize Vorster
U17 Victor Ludorum	Xavier Barlow
Senior Victrix Ludorum	Trinity West
Senior Victor Ludorum	Jude Langmead
Open Girls' Jumping Events	Lana Bouwer
Open Boys' Jumping Events	Jude Langmead
Open Girls' Throwing Events	Ngomusa Zweni
Open Boys' Throwing Events	Jude Langmead
Open Girls' Field Events	Ngumusa Zweni
Open Boys' Field Events	Jude Langmead
Open Girls' Long Distances	Brigetté Oelofsen
Open Boys' Long Distances	Ethan Linch
Open Girls' Sprints	Trinity West
Open Boys' Sprints	Jude Langmead
Most Creditable Performance of the Day	Joshua Swartland
Interhouse Relays	Arnott
Interhouse Shield Competition Winner	Arnott

Thirty athletes participated in the Camdeboo Zonal Athletics Meeting held at Hoër Volkskool, claiming 13 Gold, 8 Silver and 13 Bronze Medals between them. Special mention must be made of the following athletes

- on their outstanding performances:
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Joshua Swartland | Men U19 100m (11,63 s) |
| Nangawethu Macanda | Boys U17 Shot put (10,97 m) |
| Peter-Daniel Clegg | Boys U15 Shot put (11,45 m) |
| Ngomusa Zweni | Women U19 Shot put (7,59 m) |

The following athletes were selected to represent the Graaff-Reinet High Schools' CMC Athletics Team at the Sarah Baartman Athletics Meeting held at the Oval in Gqeberha:

Anna Bouwer (Girls U15 Shotput); Ngomusa Zweni (Girls U19 Shotput, Discus, Javelin); Qhama Solomon (Boys U14 High jump, Long jump); Luvela Makaula (Boys U14 400m); Liso Booie (Boys U15 400m); Peter-Daniel Clegg (Boys U15 Shot put); Nangawethu Macanda (Boys U17 Shot put); Kyle Liebenberg (Boys U17 Shot put); Xavier Barlow (Boys U17 Long jump); Jayden Odendaal (Boys U17 Shot put); Joshua Swartland (Boys U19 100m).

Based on his performance at the Sarah Baartman meeting, Xavier Barlow was selected to represent the Sarah Baartman Team at the Eastern Cape Athletics Championships in Gqeberha where he participated in the Boys' U17 Long jump, jumping a distance of 5,85 m and placing 6th.

In Term 4, our athletes participated in the annual Senior Interschool's Athletics Meeting, hosted by Volkskool. School spirit was on full display with high levels of participation and enthusiasm. It was a tightly contested competition and the final scores saw the School accumulate 742 points to Volkskool's 731 points. Camran Swartz was our Athlete of the Day, securing first places in the 100m, 200m and 400m races. He also claimed third place in the Long jump event. The performances of Qhama Solomon, Luvelo Makaula and Xavier Barlow should also be acknowledged as they achieved numerous podium positions and contributed significantly to the School's success. For the girls, Charlize Vorster deserves special recognition for her outstanding contribution of points, which played a crucial role in victory. Tara Ferreira, Joy Merifield and Ambesiwe Tokwe are also applauded for making their mark and showcasing their talent.

ATHLETICS AWARDS 2023

- Team Award: Ngomusa Zweni, Nangawethu Macanda, Kyle Liebenberg, Jayden Odendaal, Joshua Swartland
- Half Colours: Xavier Barlow





SENIOR ATHLETICS

BACK: Dylan Kivedo, Jude Langmead, Nangawethu Macanda, Peter-Daniel Clegg, Jayden Odendaal, Finn Cilliers

MIDDLE: Onikwa Mlenzana, Anna Bouwer, Na'eem Mahomed, Joshua Basson, Joshua Swartland, Liso Booï, Kyle Liebenberg, Benjamin Lemke, Caleb Jansen

FRONT: Sadé May, Sarah Jacobs, Ngomusa Zweni, Mrs H. Keyser (Coach), Mr H. Sparrius (Coach), Xavier Barlow, Josh Arends, Ethan Linch

BIATHLON

This year's biathlon season started in the fourth quarter of 2022 where some of our athletes were invited to compete in the 25th Eastern Province Interprovincial Biathlon held in Gqeberha in October. The competition was tough but our learners did extremely well with a number of podium finishes.

The fourth League Biathlon was the final competition before the Christmas break, and the School was proud to take a total of nineteen athletes to compete, including many new development athletes. These learners were literally 'thrown in the deep-end' as many of them could not swim competently at the start of the season. Their improvement was marked and they put up a brilliant effort.



The biathlon team also enjoyed an outing to Gill in Somerset East where they made new friends and represented the School with great enthusiasm. The final date in the biathlon calendar was in April of this year with the South African Championships held in Stellenbosch. The final results resulted in seven of our learners being ranked in the top 100 of the SA Rankings:

25th Benjamin Lemke; 44th Samantha Gilfillan; 59th Misha Newton; 65th Rebecca Copeman; 68th Mecoli Vorster; 72nd Miley Burger; 99th Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza

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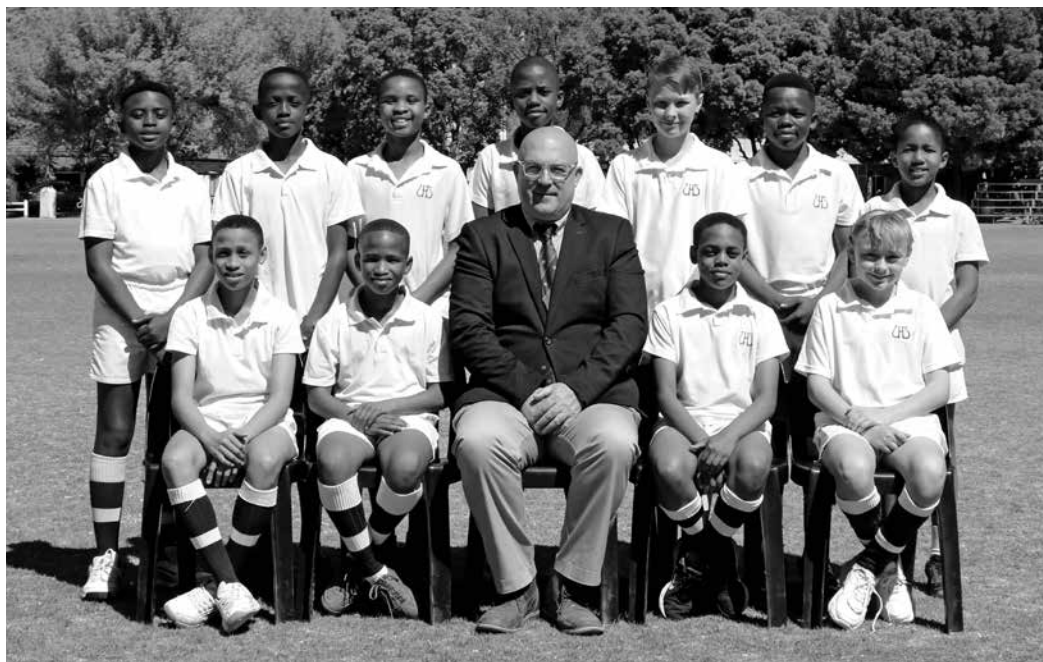
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U13B CRICKET

While the U13B team did not play any games this season, their journey has been about building strong foundations, facing pressure, and fostering camaraderie. They have learned discipline, dedication, and valuable life lessons under the guidance of

their coaches and mentors.

The true value of this season lay not in winning or losing but in the growth, maturity, and development of these remarkable young cricketers.



U13B CRICKET

BACK: Khazimla Jantjies, Mbuso Tini, Midange Nazo, Qhama Jacobs, Eric Wallis, Asakhula Nkomo, Carlin Pieterse

FRONT: Caleb Reid, Khwezi Molonga, Mr R. Hulleman, Curen Willemse, Charlie Mather-Pike

U13A CRICKET

The U13A team enjoyed a very successful season this year against some tough opposition. The team were humble in victory and gracious in defeat and this was the mantra for the whole season. They produced some inspired cricket and had to fight hard for victory in most of their games. Having to deal with a loss is part and parcel of sport and the boys are commended on their never say die attitude. It has been an honour coaching such a great bunch of enthusiastic cricketers.

There were standout performances from all the players which led to our successful season. Mention must be made of Owen Paxton who was the leading run scorer this year. He was ably assisted by John-Henry King who produced a number of match winning knocks. Ethan Raath and Brett Kenmuir formed a solid opening pair and always got the team off to a good start.

On the bowling front, Murray Hope was the leading wicket taker whilst Aiden Ferreira produced a brilliant spell against Queens Junior taking 6 wickets. Joubert Vorster bowled very well this year and was backed exceptionally well by Keanan Jafta, Tristan Hudson, Quinn Naudé and Salmaan Steele.

The team achieved some outstanding results and managed to beat some big schools this year which will put them in good stead for the future. The season has prepared the boys for senior cricket and we look forward to seeing them grow and develop in the near future.

Thank you to Isabella Hulleman who was the team's scorer and who ensured that all scores and statistics were meticulously captured.

Results:

vs Frans Conradie: rained out; vs Hartenbos: won by 33 runs; vs Herbert Hurd: lost by 6 wickets; vs Cradock Primary: won by 8 wickets; vs Gill: won by 8 wickets; vs Summerwood: lost by 3 wickets; vs Volkskool: won by 80 runs; vs Sonop (T20): won by 61 runs; vs Sonop (50 overs): won

by 5 wickets; vs Queens Junior (T20): lost by 36 runs; vs Queens Junior (50 overs): lost by 75 runs; vs Graeme (T20): lost by 50 runs; vs Graeme (T20): won by 7 wickets; vs Kingswood (T20): lost by 2 runs; vs Kingswood (30 overs): won by 3 wickets





U13A CRICKET

BACK: *Thimna Qomfu, Salmaan Steele, Jordan Maritz, Tristan Hudson, Joubert Vorster, Murray Hope, Aidan Ferreira*

FRONT: *Keenan Jafta, Brett Kenmuir, Owen Paxton (Captain), Mr M. Njoloza (Coach), John-Henry King (Vice-Captain), Quinn Naudé, Ethan Raath*

U15A CRICKET

The U15A cricket team displayed remarkable potential and skill in the games in which they competed. Several young players stood out with their exceptional skills, catching the attention of selectors. This recognition has led to the elevation of some of these budding talents to the 1st XI squad, reflecting their potential and the faith in their abilities. As these players continue to grow and develop, the future of the team looks promising, reflecting a blend of experience and youthful vigour that could potentially lead to greater successes in the season ahead.

The management and coaches remain optimistic about the team's prospects and are nurturing and guiding these young talents to reach their full potential. The transition of U15 players to the senior squad is a testament to the bright future that lies ahead for the team.

The next season for the U15A team is highly anticipated, with the potential for further growth, development, and success, as these talented youngsters continue to flourish and make their mark in the world of cricket.



Results:

vs Woodridge College - lost, vs Cradock - lost, vs Muir College - lost, vs Graeme College - lost, vs Victoria Park - cancelled, vs Brandwag - cancelled, vs Pearson - lost, vs Gill College - won, vs Cradock High School - lost



U15A CRICKET

BACK: *Leander Kraai, Neelon Fourie, Alexander Hunter, Dwayne Koeberg, Geoff Wilmot, Callum Jacobs, Vincent Clark, Similo Mvandaba*

FRONT: *Athayanda Mahlati, Maqhawe Norman, Richard Murray (Captain), Mr A. Gradwell, Masixole Bhayi, Josh Arends*

1ST XI CRICKET



1ST XI CRICKET

BACK: Joshua Basson, Brent Hesselink, Daniel Marais, Uyanda Tele, Jude Langmead, Yonela Wana, Joshua Neill
MIDDLE: Makukhanye de Beer, Xavier Barlow, Camran Swartz, Peter Michaels, Yaseen Kazi, Muhammed Ahmed
FRONT: Shaakir Kazi (Vice-Captain), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mr S. Koeberg (Coach), Joshua Horne (Captain)

With Term 1 of 2023 being the second half of the cricket season, the 1st XI was more competitive, winning against Lilyfontein during a very hot Cricket Festival, as well as against Cradock in a T20 at the end of the term. Outstanding individual performances were achieved by Shaakir Kazi – 6/48 vs Lilyfontein; Hlakanipha Skepe – 5/41 vs Old Boys and Joshua Horne – 39 runs vs Lilyfontein.

While fielding and bowling were our strong point, the batting lacked partnerships and batters who got to 20 or 30 runs were not able to convert, which decreased winning margins.

The team is grateful to Mr Gouws for his coaching of the team during Term 1. He took the team to new heights, especially with his expectations of the fielders. The School appreciates his enthusiasm and mentorship.

The Pearson Cricket Festival, always highly anticipated, marked the beginning of the 2023/2024 season. This festival, which takes place during Term 3, is traditionally seen as preparation for the new season and, as the Grade 12s are unavailable, new players are blooded.

As the season progressed, there were moments of brilliance from seasoned players, but it was clear that the performance was inconsistent. Many games were lost due to a lack of cohesion and coordination among the players, as well as tactical shortcomings. The Cape Schools' Cricket Festival, a prestigious event on the cricket calendar, was a particularly challenging period for the team. All matches were lost, reflecting the need for a more structured and long-term development program.

Despite the series of defeats, the emergence of young, promising



talent offers hope for the future of cricket at the School. These budding cricketers showcased their potential and played vital roles. The youngsters have displayed enthusiasm, adaptability, and a hunger for success. One of the standout performers was all-rounder, Shaakir Kazi whose exceptional performance with the ball made him the go-to person when needing wickets. His ability to remain calm under pressure and make crucial contributions to his team's success has made him a rising star to keep an eye on.

The synergy between the senior members and the youngsters will be crucial in shaping the future of cricket in the coming years.

Results:

- **Senior Cricket Festival:** vs Daniel Pienaar (T20): lost by 23 runs, vs Lilyfontein: won by 61 runs vs Framesby: lost by 5 wickets, vs Milnerton (T20): lost by 32 runs.
- **Fixtures:** vs Woodridge College (T20): lost by 6 wickets; vs Woodridge College: lost by 9 wickets; vs Old Boys: lost by 125 runs; vs Cradock High School (T20): won by 13 runs; vs Graeme College: lost by 206 runs; vs Victoria Park: rained out; vs Pearson: lost by 323 runs.
- **Pearson Cricket Festival:** vs Westering(T20): lost by 6 wickets, vs Muir College (T20): won by 56 runs, vs Stirling: lost by 5 wickets, vs DF



Malherbe: lost by 101 runs.

- **Fixtures:** vs Cradock High School: lost by 4 wickets, vs Brandwag: cancelled
- **Cape Schools' Cricket Festival:** vs Paarl Gimnasium: rained out, vs Paarl Boys High School: lost, vs Parel Vallei: lost by 5 wickets, vs Bishops: lost by 10 wickets.

UNION HIGH SCHOOL CRICKET FESTIVAL

This year's 16th cricket festival once again showcased some of the best school cricket talent that the province has to offer, as 12 teams battled it out on various cricket fields in Graaff-Reinet in the middle of a heatwave in early January.

The 4-day tournament, which the School proudly hosts each year, was a major success, with vast amounts of sunshine greeting players each day as they aimed to impress spectators. Schools in attendance included Daniël Pienaar, Framesby, Stirling, Edgemoor, Nico Malan, Grey High School, Cradock High School, Victoria Park, Lilyfontein, Milnerton High School and Westering.

T20s, declaration matches as well as 50-over encounters were played on the Murray and Puttick fields as well as at the Botanics Sports Grounds, Hoër Volkskool, Asante Sana Private Game Reserve and Wheatlands Farm,

with each venue's idyllic setting in the Gem of the Karoo providing the perfect backdrop for cricket at the height of summer.

Over the course of four days there were a number of high team scores, some big hitting from the batsmen, quite a few big wicket hauls from the spinners and plenty of smart cricket from the captains. The fantastic camaraderie among the participating schools added to the convivial atmosphere, and ensured that the festival produced good-quality cricket whilst being enjoyed by all concerned.

The School extends its grateful thanks to all participating schools as well as Hoër Volkskool, Wheatlands Farm, Asante Sana Game Reserve and the Botanics Sports Grounds for making their facilities available for many of the matches. These well-managed facilities provided outstanding cricket conditions and contributed to the success of the festival.





CAPE SCHOOLS' CRICKET TEAM

BACK: Joshua Basson, Brent Hesselink, Uyanda Tele, Jude Langmead, Yonela Wana
MIDDLE: Makukhanye de Beer, Xavier Barlow, Camran Swartz, Peter Michaels, Yaseen Kazi
FRONT: Shaakir Kazi (Vice-Captain), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mr S. Koeberg (Coach), Joshua Horne (Captain)

CROSS COUNTRY

The School endeavours to be successful in sport on both a local, provincial and national level.

It is events, however, like this year's Interhouse cross country, held in February, which epitomises the true ethos of sport at the School. Determination, dedication and a real sense of school spirit were on display with hundreds of learners competing for their house.

All the learners did exceptionally well and thoroughly enjoyed running their various distances (from 3km to 6km, depending on their age group) in beautiful surroundings. This year it was Arnott House who won the day, but every learner who took part should be recognised for their effort and willingness to push themselves and improve. They did themselves and their school proud. We are grateful to all the marshals and staff members who provided motivation and support on the course.

The top 3 in each respective age group were as follows:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Girls U11	Herman Wolde	Emily Raath	Kungawo Lisa
Boys U11	Joshua Kingwill	Robert Finlaison	Ryonn Naudé
Girls U13	Mia Botha	Nadine Murray	Onika Jantjies
Boys U13	Owen Paxton	Ethan Raath	Jordan Maritz
Girls U15	Misha Newton	Rebecca Copeman	Zakithi Sishi
Boys U15	Benjamin Lemke	Luvela Makaula	Sophephela Vimbi
Girls U17	Kenza Neill	Caytah-Leigh Koeberg	Aaminah Steele
Boys U17	Ahlangene Nonyongo	Joshua Basson	Uyinthando Ziswana
Girls U19	Briggetté Oelofsen	Cadee Arends	Kaitlin Kenmuir
Boys U19	Ethan Linch	Joshua Horne	Jordan Wilmot



U11A HOCKEY

Our U11A girls adapted to full field hockey extremely well this year and had an unbeaten season. Their efforts and commitment were most praiseworthy and they did the School proud.

Results:

vs Sunridge Primary 2-1

vs Lorraine 4-0

vs Herbert Hurd 4-0

vs Clarendon Park Primary 2-0

vs Balmoral 2-0



U11A HOCKEY

BACK: Monalisa Jika Jika, Olothando Desha, Kari Stern, Nieke van Jaarsveld, Amelia King, Mellissa Marais, Siyolise Mateza, Kungawo Lisa, Hayley Krige
FRONT: Luphiwo Maloyi, Luchaé Thomas, Mrs E.L Gerber (Coach), Sarah Hampton, Emily Raath
ABSENT: Hermon Wolde

U13C & U13D HOCKEY



U13C & U13D HOCKEY

BACK: Claire de Klerk, Alive Mayekiso, Duvallene Fass, Kyla Putter, Kay-Leigh Hartney, Liso Mamase, Reese Arries

MIDDLE: Micha Murray, Cu-Shan Hoffman, Zunaïda Deyssel, Isabelle Tadesse, Sithandile Mhlana, Oamogetswe Maroga

FRONT: Luthando Tapi, Jayline Swartz, Alison Jacobs, Ms T.L. Abels (Coach), Clea Clark, Gia Scheepers, Sesona Klaasen

U13B HOCKEY

Our U13B side had a good season under the guidance of Mr Lee Jaftha. We are grateful for his enthusiasm and assistance throughout this season, making hockey practices and the Junior Festival a memorable and enjoyable event for our young stars.

Results:

Anne Beagley Junior Festival:

vs Cambridge primary 0-1, vs Riebeeck College Primary 0-0, vs Highlanders 0-1, vs Clarendon 0-0, vs Gonubie Primary 0-1

Season's Fixtures:

vs Sunridge Primary 0-0, vs Lorraine 1-0, vs Herbert Hurd 0-0, vs Clarendon Park Primary 0-0 vs Hangklip 0-1, vs Balmoral 0-0, vs Volkskool (Interschools) 2-0



U13B HOCKEY

BACK: Halyn Wessels, Maribel-Martisha April, Skye de Agrella, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Zoë Mills, Lethabo Ledwaba, Kayla Norval, Gerda Clarke, Kwakhanya Ntloni, Asanele Mayekiso, Hlelo Skotshi

FRONT: Aaliyah Jaftha, Sinalo Blaaw, Mr L. Jaftha (Coach), Isabella Hulleman, Mieke-Leigh Blom

U13A HOCKEY

The U13A team enjoyed a very exciting hockey season. They remained committed to their game plan throughout, which proved to be incredibly successful. They faced tough opposition, enjoying notable wins against DSG (2-1), Oranje U12A (2-0), Oranje U13B (2-1), Clarendon Primary (3-0) and Herschel (1-0).

While the girls encountered some setbacks, such as losing their first league games on grass against Sunridge (2-3) and Hangklip (1-2), they learned valuable lessons from these experiences.

Participating in the highly anticipated U13 Hockey Festival, hosted by DSG, they finished first in their pool, defeating DSG 2-1 in a thrilling game. Advancing to the semi-finals, they continued their winning streak with a hard-fought 1-0 victory against Herschel. Although they narrowly missed out on the



title in the final against Hangklip, the girls showcased their determination and team spirit throughout the tournament. During the Anne Beagley Junior Rugby and Hockey Festival, they played five exceptional games, securing two wins and three draws. Their talent was also showcased at the Elsie Coetzer Hockey School coaching tournament in Bloemfontein, where the girls triumphed in four out of five games. In the annual Interschools encounter against Volkskool, the team dominated the game. They were, however, unable to convert their opportunities into goals, resulting in a 1-1 draw. Notwithstanding this outcome, our team showed remarkable resilience and sportsmanship.

We commend Mia Botha, our Vice-Captain and



top goal scorer of the year, for her outstanding performance. Captain, Nadine Murray provided excellent leadership, both on and off the field, assisting and scoring goals with great finesse and she led her team with pride and dignity. Moreover, we are immensely proud of our three Eastern Province representatives - Mia Botha and Onika Jantjies were selected for the EP U13A team and Antonia Adams for the EP U13B team.

It has been an incredible journey for the U13A team this season. We are immensely proud of each and every player for their hard work, passion and unwavering commitment. Well done on a fantastic season - we eagerly look forward to witnessing their continued growth and success in the future.



U13A HOCKEY

BACK: Abonani Matushe, Rachel Wenham, Samantha Gilfillan, Miley Burger, Logan Marais, Helen van den Heever, Kate Charles

FRONT: Onika Jantjies, Carlen Prinsloo, Cayla Newton, Nadine Murray (Captain), Mrs I. Botha (Coach), Mia Botha (Vice-Captain), Unabantu Maneli, Antonia Adams

U14A HOCKEY



U14A HOCKEY

BACK: Sinalo Khali, Kuhle Nqumashe, Zanique Soutter, Jade Slater, Brogan Koeberg, Liyabona Nkomo, Zakithi Sishi, Sovuyiswa Sefa, Kwakhanya Buyiselo
FRONT: Zoe Liesing, Kirsten Collett, Amber Slater (Captain), Mrs C. Pringle (Coach), Jourdon-Bethany Koeberg (Vice-Captain), Jasmine Abercrombie, Imivuyo Nondlazi

This year, in line with the vision for the future of hockey at the School, the decision was made to field an U14A team in order to expose more girls to a higher standard of hockey and thus, in the long term, to raise the standard of hockey at the School.

It was a very keen and enthusiastic group of girls who made up the team, half of whom had not had much exposure to matches in the primary school. They diligently attended practices and were proud members of this inaugural team as it was very meaningful to them to be a part of it.

The team enjoyed an overnight trip to Bloemfontein where a fixture was played against Jim Fouche, and also travelled with the 1st Team to Makhanda during the first weekend of Term 3 where they played Kingswood on the Friday night under lights and DSG on the Saturday morning.

Once a week, during practice time, the team did fitness alongside the 1st Team, led by Mr van Zyl, and at times were also able to practice hockey drills and play practice matches against them. This was great experience and exposure for the girls to practise at such a high tempo and to aspire to achieve the skill level, fitness and speed of the older first team girls.

Playing strong schools, such as Pearson, Stirling and DSG, their defensive play was tested to the limit and, while

the girls played valiantly, relentless pressure from the opposition resulted in goals against us. Against other schools we competed well but goal scoring opportunities were not utilised and the team struggled to put the ball in the back of the box. The season ended off with Interschools where the girls played structured team hockey, fought hard and came away with a 1-1 draw. Their emotional reaction after the game said it all – they had come such a long way and they looked back on an often difficult season. The growth shown by the girls and their ability to bounce back every single time was heart-warming.

The year playing at U14 level provided a good introduction to senior hockey and it was good for the girls to experience such a high level of the sport. The experience and exposure they gained will most certainly stand them in good stead for the future. Most of the girls showed good development and progress by the end of the season. We look forward to seeing these girls playing at U16 and first team level in the future.

Grateful thanks are extended to Mr Beck for his expertise and guidance throughout the season.

Results:

vs Pearson 0-8, vs Cradock 2-1, vs Jim Fouche 0-2, vs Stirling 0-6, vs Woodridge 0-4, vs St Michaels 0-3, vs Framesby 0-3, vs GHS 0-3, vs Kingswood 1-8, vs DSG 0-8, vs York 1-2, vs Volkskool (Interschools) 1-1



U16B HOCKEY

The season kicked off in Term 1 with the Despatch Festival where the girls learnt a great deal from each match and showed signs of becoming a solid team.

The team often faced opposition from senior grades during the season and used these opportunities to grow their hockey. The Jim Fouche fixture in Bloemfontein was a highlight, although the match was called off before the second half due to a massive lightning storm. The fixture against Framesby was one for the memory books as it showed the team's true grit and Framesby was held to a nerve-wracking 0-0 draw through the outstanding efforts of the whole team. The girls played their hearts out during the Interschools match and clinched victory with a short corner in the dying seconds of the game, once again showing their indomitable spirit and making their school proud. Mention must be made of Someleze Ntshuca, who, having donned a goalkeeping kit for the first time this year, worked tremendously hard to become a formidable goalkeeper.

Thank you to Mr Beck for his input throughout the season. The team's positive attitude and spirit made coaching a privilege.



U16B HOCKEY

BACK: Megan Putter, Nina Japhta (Captain), Jayden Eiman, Endinako Jadezweni, Silindokuhle Khali, Jamae-Mari Davids, Hlumelo Kwini
FRONT: Olwethu Madikane, Ashleigh Shell, Zelreesh Frazenburg, Mrs J. Heunis-Jones (Coach), Someleze Ntshuca, Anébel Norval, Amber Bezuidenhout

U16A HOCKEY



U16A HOCKEY

BACK: Ambesiwe Tokwe, Ntombazana Speelman, Megan Nortjé, Samantha Charles, Katelyn Trollip, Xarah Hoffman, Melissa Naudé, Jemma Grootboom, Alulutho Skade
FRONT: Megan Putter, Rebecca Copeman, Leshay Fourie (Vice-Captain), Mr C. Beck (Coach), Farronique Booysen (Captain), Lisa Vutula, Chavene Lamont



The girls in the U16A team exhibited good teamwork, cohesion and team spirit throughout the year. They enjoyed many competitive fixtures, experiencing tough games, close encounters and good wins. The team was well led by captain, Farronique Booysen who was

ably assisted by vice-captain, Leshay Fourie. During the season, the players made steady progress and showed improvement which in turn reflected in their results. They finished the season on a high with a 9-0 victory against Volkskool at Interschools.

2ND TEAM HOCKEY

"Courage, sacrifice, determination, commitment, toughness, heart, talent, guts. That's what little girls are made of".

Enthusiasm and spirit have been the driving force behind the 2nd Team this year and the girls' determination to do their best for their team and the School contributed to their excellent performance this season. The team took part in the Spar Challenge, held in Graaff-Reinet, the Union High School Rugby and Hockey Festival and the Despatch Superspar Sports Day. A further 10 matches were played during the season, with only three losses being recorded. The highlights were a draw against Stirling and a 6-0 win against Framesby. The final match of the season was played against Volkskool during Interschools where the girls displayed full commitment, the final result being an unfortunate 1-1 draw.



2ND HOCKEY

BACK: Dennisha Fortuin, Lolitha Saki, Jenna-Lee Jansen, Sarah Wilmot, Tyra Binney, Bontle Mashiane, Joy Merifield, Megan Nel
FRONT: Siyamthanda Desha, Shazia Ahmed, Megan Adams, Mrs H. Keyser (Coach), Shona Zana, Sesethu Kotishini, Cadee Arends
ABSENT: Zukhanye Vena

1ST TEAM HOCKEY

A Triumph of Grit, Strategy, and Unity

The School's 1st hockey team showcased an exceptional display of determination, skill and teamwork throughout the 2023 season.

With an unwavering spirit, they overcame challenges and fought hard in 36 intense matches. This report tells the story of their season, highlighting certain key elements that contributed to their success:

Team Strategy: The Pillars of Victory

The team's success hinged on a meticulously planned strategy that combined defensive resilience, attacking abilities and exceptional teamwork. The defensive line-up, featuring Ngomusa Zweni, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Anna Pringle, Sarah Jacobs, Tara Ferreira, Kenza Neill and Lana Bouwer, formed an impenetrable wall. Their unwavering defence provided a solid foundation for the team, allowing only 51 goals against them at an average of 1.4 goals per game. The attacking line-up featured players, Brigetté Oelofsen, Leigh-Ann Murray, Leah Marais, Sade May, Misha Newton, Mecoli Vorster, Aaminah Steele, Amy Waddelow and Charlize Vorster. They showcased exceptional skills and quick transitions, creating numerous scoring opportunities and capitalized on 63 goal scoring opportunities. However, the most crucial aspect was the cohesion within the team and the players displayed a remarkable understanding on and off the field, creating a culture of unity that powered their success.

Season Highlights: The Roller Coaster Ride

The season was filled with intense matches, each challenging the team in unique ways. The Voortrekker Festival in Bethlehem saw

both victories and defeats, setting the tone for the season. The team showcased their progress in the regional leg of the Spar Schoolgirls' Hockey Challenge, hosted by the School, displaying great teamwork in their victories against Cradock and Brandwag. The Greg Beling Festival in East London witnessed a mix of outcomes, highlighting the team's ability to learn, adapt and grow. The School's Senior Rugby and Hockey Festival was a triumph, with wins against Langenhoven Gimnasium, Nico-Malan, Victoria Girls and Jim Fouché Invitational, showcasing the team's determination to succeed as the host. The Fairmont Easter Hockey Tournament in Cape Town proved to be a tough challenge, but the team's resilience was evident in their draws and hard-fought victories against formidable opponents. The second and third term fixtures were a testament to the girls' tenacity, with crucial wins against Cradock, St Michaels School for Girls, Framesby, Woodridge College, Queenstown Girls High and, the sweetest victory of all, Volkskool at Interschools. Despite some losses, the team's spirit remained unbroken, exemplifying their character and determination.

Individual Brilliance

Within this challenging journey individual players, such as Brigetté Oelofsen, Leigh-Ann Murray, Ngomusa Zweni, Mecoli Vorster, Anna Pringle, Sade May and Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, shone brightly. Yet, it was the collective spirit that truly defined this team. Their ability to support each other on and off the field created an atmosphere of trust and understanding, forming the bedrock of their success.



1ST HOCKEY

BACK: Sarah Jacobs, Misha Newton, Lana Bouwer, Charlize Vorster, Tara Ferreira, Amy Waddelow, Mecoli Vorster

MIDDLE: Aaminah Steele, Sade May, Kenza Neill, Ngomusa Zweni (Vice-Captain), Leah Marais, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Leigh-Ann Murray

FRONT: Mrs C. Pringle (Manager), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Anna Pringle (Vice-Captain), Brigetté Oelofsen (Captain), Mr C. Beck (Coach), Mr S. Van Zyl (Conditioning Coach)

Looking Forward: The Legacy Continues

As the season concluded, the team bade farewell to seniors, Brigetté Oelofsen, Ngomusa Zweni, Leah Marais, Anna Pringle and Lana Bouwer. These girls leave behind a legacy of determination guts, and unity and we wish them well for their future endeavours.

The 2023 season was more than a series of matches - it was a saga of passion, persistence and teamwork. The victories and challenges experienced by the team serve as a beacon of inspiration, reminding everyone that success is not defined by wins, but by the pursuit of excellence and the belief in one another. ["www.everybattle.com"](http://www.everybattle.com)

Results:

Played: 36; Won: 19; Lost: 15
Goals for: 62; Goals against: 51

DATE	SCHOOL	RESULT
VOORTREKKER FESTIVAL		
24 – 26 February	Sasolburg High School	Lost 1-5
	St Anne's	Lost 0-1
	St Stithians Girls College	Lost 0-3
	Goudveld	Won 2-1
	Lady Fatima	Won 3-2
SPAR SCHOOLGIRLS' HOCKEY CHALLENGE		
5 March	Cradock High School	Won 2-0
	Brandwag	Won 4-0
	DSG	Lost 0-2
TERM 1 FIXTURES		
8 March	Pearson	Lost 1-4

GREG BELING FESTIVAL		
17 – 19 March	Eldoraigne	Lost 1-2
	Collegiate	Lost 1-6
	Merrifield	Won 2-1
	Sasolburg High School	Drew 1-1
SENIOR RUGBY AND HOCKEY FESTIVAL		
31 March – 3 April	Langenhoven Gimnasium	Won 3-1
	Victoria Girls	Won 2-0
	Nico Malan	Won 9-0
	Jim Fouche Invitation	Won 2-0
	Framesby	Lost 0-1
FAIRMONT EASTER HOCKEY TOURNAMENT		
5 – 8 April	Edgemead	Drew 0-0
	Durbanville Curro	Lost 2-3
	Somerset College	Lost 0-4
	Worcester Gymnasium	Won 3-0
	Stellenbosch High School	Won 2-0
	HTS Drostyd	Lost 1-3
	Settler's High School	Won 2-0
TERM 2 & 3 FIXTURES		
22 April	Cradock High School	Won 5-1
6 May	Jim Fouche	Won 1-0
13 May	Stirling	Lost 0-4
20 May	Woodridge College	Won 2-1
27 May	St Michaels School for Girls	Won 3-0
10 June	Framesby	Won 2-0
16 June	Queenstown Girls' High School	Won 2-0
21 July	Kingswood	Lost 1-2
22 July	DSG	Lost 0-1
28 July	York	Lost 1-2
5 August	Volkskool (Interschools)	Won 2-1



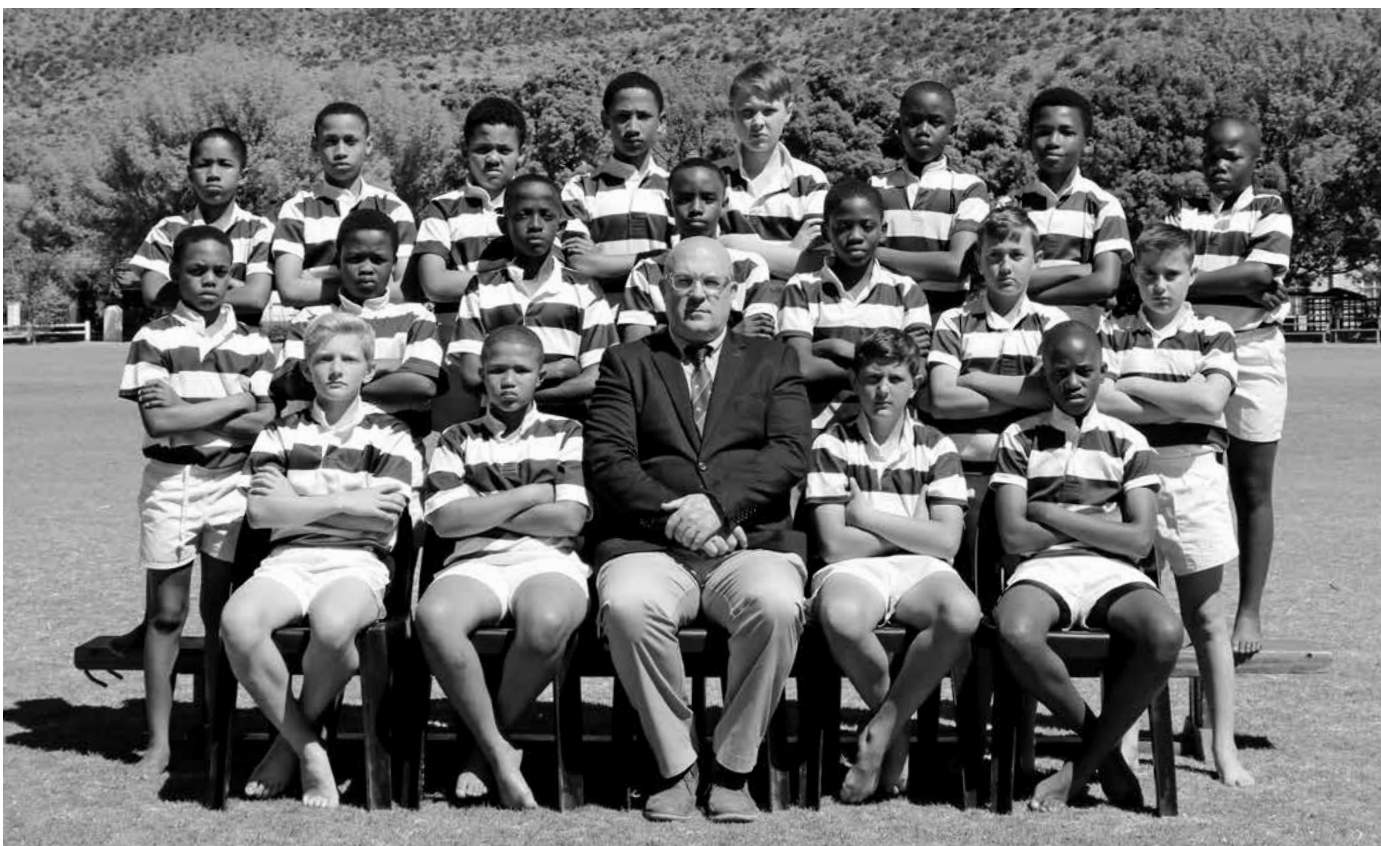
U13B RUGBY

Coaching the U13B team this year was a true privilege and being able to witness the growth and development of these young athletes has been a remarkable experience. Under the guidance of Mr Njoloza, the U13A coach, who places great value on hard work and enthusiasm, several of the players were rewarded with promotions to the U13A team.

Throughout the season, the team achieved significant milestones in terms of both individual growth and self-belief. One standout moment that will be etched in our memories was the victory against Hangklip Primary. This win was made even more extraordinary by the fact that the team had to face the challenge with just 13 players on the field and the victory highlighted a crucial life lesson: it is not the size, but the

size of one's heart that truly matters. We hope that the young players transitioning to Grade 8 will carry this spirit with them and continue to nurture their love for the game in high school.

As we look forward to the upcoming season, we anticipate more moments of growth, teamwork, and sportsmanship. This team remains dedicated to pushing their limits and striving for success both on and off the field. With each practice and match these young athletes continue to write their own stories of determination and achievement. We are excited about the journey ahead and the prospects for next year's season where the lessons learned in 2023 and the bonds forged will surely be carried through as we strive for even greater heights in rugby at the School.



U13B RUGBY

BACK: Carlin Pieterse, Caleb Reid, Salmaan Steele, Leagan Katze, Eric Wallis, Sonwabiso Kula, Timnah Qomfo, Avethandwa Jack
MIDDLE: Curen Willemse, Zimingophake Matiwane, Mbuso Tini, Tyler van Wyk, Amyoli Sizila, Aidan Ferreira, Adriaan van Jaarsveld
FRONT: Brett Kenmuir, Alchano Japhta, Mr R. Hulleman (Coach), Joubert Vorster, Qhama Jacobs



U13A RUGBY

The results obtained this season unfortunately do not reflect the tenacity and grit shown by the players. Our season kicked off with a fixture vs St Andrews School from Bloemfontein where the boys showed great heart in a defeat of 5-7. The following week the boys attended the annual Graeme College Rugby Day where they played two fixtures vs St. Mary's and Fort Beaufort Primary School.

Term 2 started off with matches against tough opposition and the boys must be commended for always holding their heads high no matter the result. Size was not in this year's team's favour and they came up against some big opposition. This did not prevent them from making big tackles and they played with their hearts on their sleeves.

Benneth Fikeni, Khazimla Jantjies and Tristan Hudson made up the front row and always managed to give us good go-forward ball. They were ably assisted by Aidan Jaftha and Midange Nazo in the tight five.

Our loose trio of Murray Hope, Asakhula Nkomo and Quinn Naudé played brilliantly and this led to many a turnover. John-Henry King formed a good partnership with his halfback partner, Owen Paxton who was absolutely brilliant.

Jordan Maritz and Luyolo Khali formed a deadly centre combination and always found gaps to feed Phillip Kayster and Ethan Raath. Ethan must be commended for putting in big tackles on players twice his size. Keanan Jaftha attacked the line brilliantly from fullback and had a mean sidestep when attacking.

The boys participated in the 22nd Anne Beagley Rugby and Hockey Festival and achieved mixed results, winning one game and losing two.

Congratulations to our captain, Owen Paxton who was selected for the Eastern Province U13A Craven Week team which played at Maritzburg College. Special mention must be made of Jordan Maritz who was selected for the EP U12 team which played in Riversdale.

During the season fixtures were played against St Andrews School (Bloemfontein); St. Mary's; Fort Beaufort Primary; Herbert Hurd; Muir College; Karel Theron; Narsingstraat; Hangklip; Kroonvale; Gill Primary; Queens Junior; Kingswood College; Parsons Hill; Westering; Graeme College; Clarendon Park; Volkskool (Interschools). Of these 17 games played, three were won and 14 lost.



U13A RUGBY

BACK: Alchano Japhta, Murray Hope, Qhama Jacobs, Aidan Jaftha, Tristan Hudson, Joubert Vorster, Jordan Maritz, Keanan Jaftha, Mbuso Tini

MIDDLE: Philip Kayster, Amyoli Sizila, Midange Nazo, Khazimla Jantjies, Sonwabiso Kula, Aidan Ferreira, Carlin Pieterse

FRONT: Ethan Raath, Quinn Naudé, Owen Paxton (Captain), Mr M. Njoloza (Coach), Benneth Fikeni, Asakhula Nkomo, John-Henry King

U14A RUGBY



The 2023 rugby season was a tough and demanding season for the U14A boys. It started well with a couple of wins in the warm-up games but this momentum was difficult to carry through as the team was lucky to beat St Andrews School (Bloemfontein) in their first game of the season.

Playing in the team proved meaningful for the boys and, due to the tough opposition they encountered, they were forced to develop their

skills as players and mature mentally.

Fixtures were played for the first time against schools such as Daniel Pienaar and Jim Fouche and showed the boys the type of rugby that is required to be successful. These matches, although ending in losses, caused the team to toughen up and mature, preparing them well for their high school rugby journey.



U14A RUGBY

BACK: Lulonke Vumazonke, Angus Kretzmann, Benjamin Loots, Luvela Makaula, Vincent Clarke, Hayden August, Jacquin Smith, Callum Jacobs, Liyabona Noveve, Khazimla Mbulawa, Toka Ledwaba, Richard Murray.

FRONT: Junior de Bruin, Warren Barlow, Zach Verwey, Kyle Finnis, Alexander Hunter (Vice-Captain), Mr J.P. Kruger (Coach), Dwayne Koeberg (Captain), Sean Musakasa, Declan Lewis, Leander Kraai, Qhama Solomon, Lumko Ngqameni



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U15A RUGBY



Support teaches our boys so many valuable life lessons, sportsmanship and respect, manners and loyalty, humility and work ethic, guts and determination. It builds resilience and it tests and grows your character and is a massive part of the educational process for boys at a school like ours. Developing skills, physical and mental conditioning and building a winning culture was the mission throughout the season and it was a privilege watching our boys competing against other schools on the rugby field most Saturday mornings.

The season began with a ten-minute-a-side tournament at Volkskool, where we beat Asherville and Spandau. Subsequently, we beat Asherville and Spandau again quite easily at home. We beat St Andrew's School from Bloemfontein by a large margin but then came short against Muir College, then won against a strong Woodridge outfit. We led against Burgersdorp 12-0 but ended in a draw. The Graeme College matchup started as a tight contest; however, it ended in a respectable loss. We then beat Gill College on their home ground in windy conditions.

The following boys from the team made the District Karoo team: Maghawe Norman, Yaseen Kazi, Lebogang Booysen, Athayanda Mahlati, Sibabalwe Mbutye, Liso Booï, Josh Arends and Yonela Wana. Unfortunately, Eastern Province Rugby did not select an U15 team this year.

The Interschools clash was what we all were anticipating and the boys were as ready as they could be. Volkskool drew first blood with an unconverted try. Volkskool scored again in the second half, stretching the score to 12-0. Our boys then dug deep to score twice, making the score 12-12. Ill-discipline at ruck time allowed Volkskool to convert two penalty kicks, bringing the score to 18-12 in Volkskool's favour with five minutes to spare. We decided to keep the ball in hand and run at them, breaking the line of defence. Our flyhalf and captain, Yonela Wana, stabbed a grubber through in the dying minutes of the game and our flying winger, Liso Booï, chased down the sideline, reaching for the ball with an outstretched arm. The opposing defence closed in, forced the ball out and the referee looked at his watch and blew the whistle. We lost the game but learned to keep the ball in hand, especially when behind on the scoreboard in the dying minutes.

The top try scorer, the outside centre and right-wing, for the year, was our pace man, Josh Arends, with thirteen tries. Yaseen Kazi, our block-busting hooker, gave his all and led from the front. Athayanda Mahlati, our openside flanker, stood out this season with his defensive and attacking efforts. Sibabalwe Mbutye, our utility back, was a beast with a ball in hand and made numerous try-saving tackles. Liso Booï, another pace man, consecutively cut through the line of defence.



U15A RUGBY

BACK: Neelon Fourie, Similo Mvandaba, Mbali Sauli, Geoff Wilmot, Liso Booï, Peter-Daniel Clegg (Vice-Captain), Shiraz Pedersen, Lwandile Memani, Josua Samson, Tafadswa Munzvenga, Zack Gradwell
FRONT: Sophphela Vimbi, Liam Hornabrook, Maghawe Norman, Josh Arends, Yonela Wana, Mr A. Gradwell (Coach), Lebogang Booysen, Sibabalwe Mbutye, Yaseen Kazi, Athayanda Mahlati, Luca Kinghorn



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U16A RUGBY



U16A RUGBY

BACK: Makukhanye De Beer, Christopher Nqumashe, Chanton Deyzel, Ndodana Speelman, Daniel Marais, Trystan Hulleman, Bulela Zonke, Emon Emu, Janathan van der Berg, Noah Edwards, Matthew Oosthuizen

FRONT: Iminathi Koneit, Athandwa Nkele, Zephaniah Kallies, Muhammed Ahmed, Kyle Liebenberg (Vice-Captain), Mr H. Sparrius (Coach), Shaakir Kazi (Captain), Uyintando Ziswana, Ronan Ewers, Xavier Barlow, Alexander Neill

In the world of sports, there are few tales more inspiring than those of an underdog rising to the occasion and achieving victory against all odds. The U16A rugby team scripted one such tale of resilience and tenacity in the 2023 season, proving that their unyielding spirit could conquer even the longest-standing drought.

The 2023 season was a remarkable journey for the team, characterized by unwavering determination and a relentless pursuit of excellence. Throughout the season, this group of young athletes exhibited a level of grit and sportsmanship rarely seen in high school sports. Their camaraderie and unwavering belief in their abilities made them a force to be reckoned with.

The climax of their extraordinary journey was the coveted Interschools rugby match against their arch-rivals, Volkskool. It had been nine long years since the School had tasted victory in this contest, and the anticipation for the game was electric. The rivalry between the two schools is legendary, and it was this match that held the power to change the course of history.

The atmosphere was electrifying as both teams took the field, knowing that the outcome would be etched in the annals of school rugby history. We started the match with confidence and scored the only try of the match, which unfortunately was not converted, and led by 5 points. The team knew that they had to dig deep and find their inner strength to keep this lead.

Captain, Shaakir Kazi emerged as the beacon of hope for his team. As a leader, he exemplified resilience, courage, and a never-give-up attitude. With just four minutes left on the clock, Volkskool was awarded a penalty try that brought the score to 7-5 in their favour. The odds were stacked against the team, but their determination remained unshaken.

With the final whistle looming Shaakir stepped up to take a penalty kick that would decide the fate of the match. The pressure was immense, the stakes were high, but he remained focused. As he kicked the ball with all his might, it sailed gracefully through the uprights. The crowd erupted in cheers as we took the lead at 8-7.

The U16A rugby team had secured a historic victory against all odds, ending a nine-year drought of losing to their arch-rivals. It was a testament to the unwavering spirit of the team, the captain's leadership, and the collective determination to fight until the last second. The victory was celebrated not just by the players and their families but by the entire school community, as it marked a turning point in the school's rugby history.

The journey of the U16A rugby team in the 2023 season serves as a timeless reminder that with determination, tenacity, and unwavering belief, even the most formidable challenges can be overcome. These young men have made their mark in their school's history and will provide inspiration for generations to come. Their victory against Volkskool will forever be celebrated as a shining example of what can be achieved when you never give up, even in the face of adversity.

Captain: Shaakir Kazi #10

Vice-Captain: Kyle Liebenberg #8

Results:

vs Spandau 5-0, vs Asherville 0-0, vs Asherville 12-7, vs Kirkwood High School 5-14, vs Andrew Rabie 7-8, vs Spandau 31-7, vs St Andrews School (Bloemfontein) 0-15, vs Daniel Pienaar 10-26, vs Muir College 12-22, vs Cradock High School 11-12, vs Jim Fouche 3-38, vs Stirling 3-14, vs Woodridge College 40-12, vs Burgersdorp High School 46-7, vs Graeme College 8-15, vs Gill College 10-5, vs Volkskool (Interschools) 8-7



2ND XV RUGBY



The 2nd XV, captained by Laythan Carelse, had a disrupted year as they had few games where the team selection was constant. Most of the training took place in a squad format with the 1st XV allowing Mr Koeberg and Mr Vers to develop the senior players. This gave equal opportunity to all for selection into the 1st side as well as allowing players to slot into the same game plan as the 1st XV.

There were pleasing results against St Andrews School (Bloemfontein), Cradock and Burgersdorp with the cherry on top being an exciting victory, coming from behind at the final whistle, against Volkskool at Interschools.

Results:

vs Spandau 13-19, vs St Andrews School (Bloemfontein) 35-5, vs Muir College 7-33, vs Cradock High School 18-12, vs Jim Fouche (3rd XV) 3-17, vs Stirling 7-5, vs Woodridge College 15-10, vs Burgersdorp High School 13-15, vs Graeme College 7-52, vs Gill College 12-22,vs Volkskool (Interschools) 19-17.
Played 11; Won 5; Lost 6. Points for 150; Points against: 205



2ND XV RUGBY

BACK: Onikwa Mlenzana, Dumisa Mala, Ethan Linch, Chungwa Tshomela, Ahlangene Nonyongo, Nanga Macanda, Dylan Kivedo, Aluyolo Kula, Angus Mclaggan, Caleb Jansen, Curt-Lee Lephota
FRONT: Uyanda Tele, Joshua Swartland, Joshua Horne, Finn Cilliers, Mr D. Kingwill (Coach), Laythan Carelse, Jordan Wilmot, Safin McPherson, Ray Germishuizen, David Venter

1ST XV RUGBY



1ST XV RUGBY

BACK: Cassidy Goliad, Wade Edwards, Camran Swartz, Joshua Basson, David Venter, Jayden Odendaal, Peter Michaels, Finn Cilliers, Na'eem Mahomed, Ethan Linch
FRONT: Andrué Victor, Ryan Jenneke (Captain), Mr S. van Zyl (Conditioning Coach), Mr S. Koeberg (Head Coach), Mr J. Vers (Assistant Coach), Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Jude Langmead, Brent Hesselink

The 2023 season started off with great promise in November 2022 where a group of 30 plus players joined the pre-season training programme, excited about the possibilities that lay ahead. With two new coaches the upcoming season seemed like a monumental challenge - however, slowly but surely the coaches and players started to mesh and work cohesively towards a common goal. By the end of January this year, the squad was trimmed down to 30 players from which the 1st and 2nd XV would be selected. This marked a pivotal moment in the season as the focus could now be on forming a strong and competitive unit.

The first fixture of the season was played at the end of February at

the Volkskool Rugby Day. Different combinations were still being tried and tested and, with the unavailability of the cricket players adding to complexities, the result did not go our way. However, these initial challenges were crucial in shaping the 1st XV's journey. At the Gill Sports Day, the team played Kirkwood High School and, even though we did not secure a win, the determination and resilience displayed by the boys was commendable. It was exactly the spirit we had aimed to foster, setting the tone for the season ahead. The Despatch Sports Day followed, where we played the hosts in the final game of the day, finding ourselves in a competitive position. However, ill-discipline resulted in us being a man





short for most of the second half, ultimately leading to defeat. It was back to the drawing board and the boys were eager to learn from their mistakes and grow as a team.

The first full fixture was against St Andrews School, (Bloemfontein), where we emerged victorious, securing our first win of the year. This victory was a testament to the hard work and dedication put in by the team. The 1st XV also participated in the Graeme College Rugby Day where they played Mary Waters. In this match the plan that had so tirelessly been worked on finally fell into place. The team exhibited the characteristics of a group that had put in the effort required to secure a resounding victory. The season also included the annual Rugby and Hockey Festival, a showcase of the School's sporting talent and spirit. These events brought our school community together and demonstrated the importance of sportsmanship and teamwork.

As the 2023 rugby season progressed, there were a few challenging games and some where we should have been victorious but were unable to hang on until the final whistle. Games in which we had the upper hand were those against Cambridge, Burgersdorp, Stirling, Jim Fouché and Free State Development Rugby.

Results:

vs Asherville 5-10, vs Muir College 0-10, vs Middelburg High School 0-0, vs Asherville 5-13, vs Hoërskool Kirkwood 10-12, vs Despatch High School 3-15, vs Spandau 13-18, vs St Andrews School (Bloemfontein) 18-8, vs Mary Waters 26-7, vs Cambridge 12-5, vs Asherville 12-17, vs Muir College 7-38, vs Cradock High School 13-38, vs Jim Fouché 24-15, vs Stirling 18-10, vs Woodridge College 22-26, vs Burgersdorp High School 10-7, vs Graeme College 3-43, vs Clifton 8-31, vs St Charles 0-57, vs Free State Development 63-0, vs Gill College 5-34, vs Volkskool (Interschools) 3-39.

JUNIOR SWIMMING

The School encourages all to take part in swimming – a very necessary life-skill – and all levels of competency are catered for, from beginners to competitive gala swimmers. A number of our swimmers have benefitted from additional club training that is offered by Mr JP Seyffert and Mrs Natalie Davenport from Destiny swimming club.

The School's much-anticipated Interhouse Gala was held in perfect conditions. Competition between the two houses was keen throughout the evening, and the air was filled with excitement and spirit as the swimmers cheered for their respective houses and peers. There were

events for swimmers from U12 through to Open and it was wonderful to see so many swimmers participating. The Junior Victor Ludorum was won by Owen Paxton and the Junior Victrix Ludorum by Alyssa Trollip. At the end of the evening, Daly narrowly claimed the win.

A large number of our swimmers participated in the Interschools Gala against Volkskool, held at the School's swimming pool. The event saw our swimmers from Grade 1 through to Grade 12 give their utmost, filling the lanes with their green swimming caps. Our Grade 1 to 7 swimmers put forth a stellar effort to win their section with 561 points to Laer Volkskool's



402. Although our seniors had to admit defeat to their Hoër Volkskool counterparts, with 253 points to 345, the overall point totals saw the results tilt in the School's favour, with 814 points to Volkskool's 747.

The Karoo Interschools Gala was hosted by Hoër Volkskool with approximately 60 of our swimmers competing against Volkskool, Cradock, Gill, Marlow as well as a group of Home schoolers. Congratulations to our juniors, who claimed the win in the Primary Schools' section with 457 points, followed by Laer Volkskool in second place with 335 points.

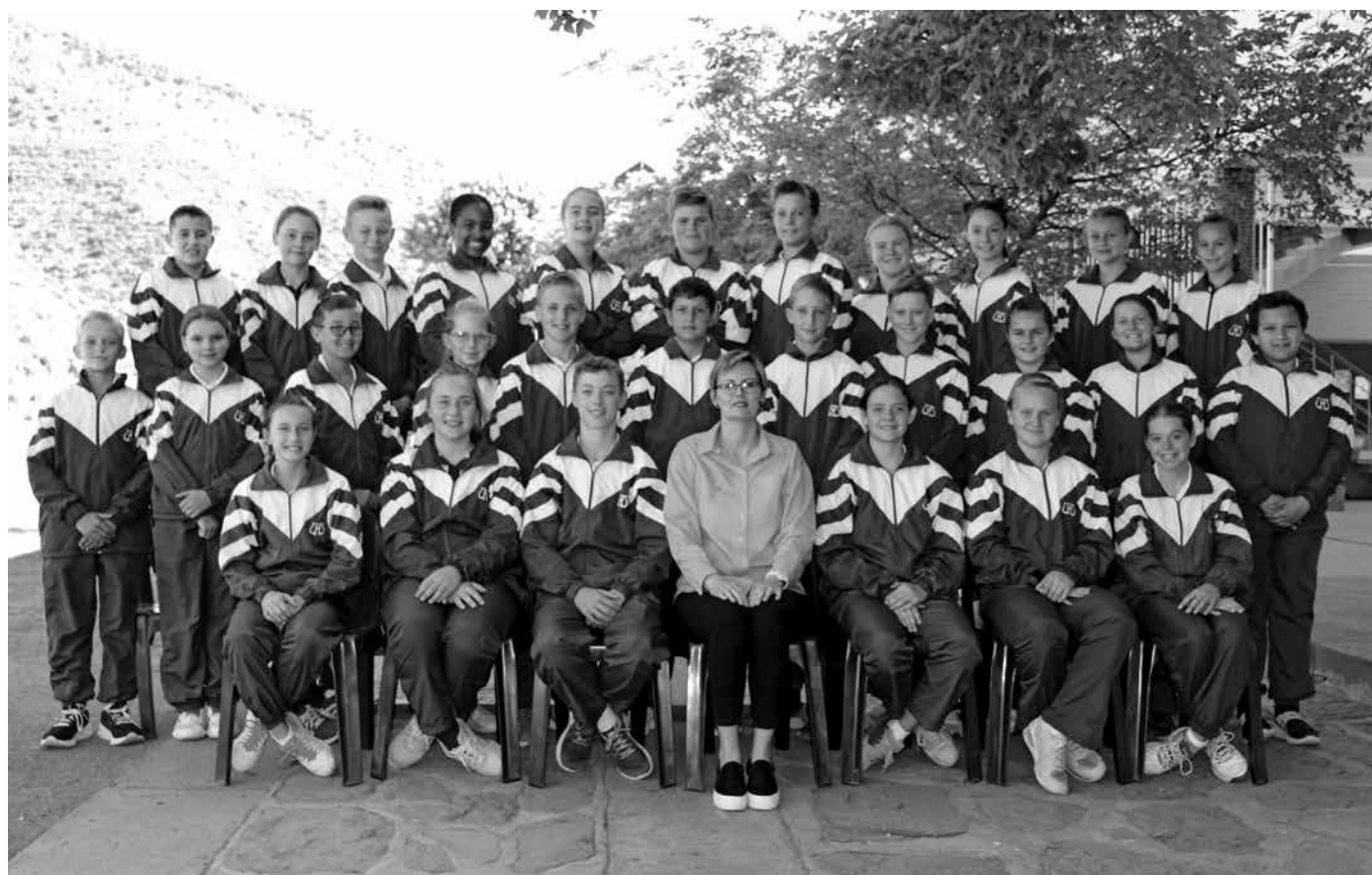
Special congratulations must go to Grade 7 learner, Zoë Mills on winning a silver medal at Swimming South Africa's Level 2 Regional Championships held in East London. In addition to recording new personal best times in all her races, Zoë claimed second place in the 200m Breaststroke in the Girls U12 category with a time of 3:38.33 (an 11.32s improvement on her previous personal best).

We are very proud of the swimmers selected to represent Karoo at the annual Inter District Gala held at Merrifield College in East London where they competed against schools from the Amatola and Albany districts. These swimmers were: Robert Finlaison, Tristan Hudson, Quinn Naudé, Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza, Samantha Gilfillan, Owen Paxton, Alyssa Trollip, Miley Burger, Mia Botha and Lilly Hunter. Mention must also be made of Amelia King, Zoë Mills and Kari Stern who were also selected for the Karoo team but unfortunately had to withdraw due to other sporting commitments. The Karoo team claimed second place among the competing districts with a total of 378 points to first placed Albany's 430 points.

The following results were achieved;

Owen Paxton:	3rd Boys U13 Breaststroke
Alyssa Trollip:	2nd Girls U13 Butterfly; 3rd Girls U13 Backstroke
Robert Finlaison:	2nd Boys U11 Backstroke; 2nd Boys U11 Butterfly
Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza:	1st Girls U11 Breaststroke; 3rd Girls U11 Backstroke
Lilly Hunter:	2nd Girls U11 Butterfly; 3rd Girls U11 Freestyle; 3rd Girls U11 Breaststroke

We are so very proud of all our swimmers who were committed throughout the swimming season and gave of their time to swim for their district and would like to thank them for their stellar efforts. We look forward to watching our young swimmers develop and improve next season.



JUNIOR SWIMMING:

BACK: Adriaan van Jaarsveld, Amelia King, Jordan Maritz, Angelique Kyanda-Kaboza, Miley Burger, Tristan Hudson, Quinn Naudé, Gerda Clarke, Samantha Gilfillan, Kayla Norval, Hayley Krige.
MIDDLE: Ryonn Naudé, Lilly Hunter, Aidan Ferreira, Micha Murray, Danté Mills, Joubert Vorster, Murray Hope, Mark Lemke, Nieke van Jaarsveld, Kari Stern, Cayden Thompson
FRONT: Nadine Murray, Zoë Mills, Owen Paxton, Mrs S. Marais (Coach), Alyssa Trollip, Mia Botha, Cayla Newton.

SENIOR SWIMMING

Our swimmers were eager to start their season, training in the newly renovated swimming pool. This made for easier training and meant that we were able to host the Interschools Gala at our school for the first time.

Our annual Interhouse Gala, held in February, was closely contested between Arnott and Daly, with Daly clinching the win. The Interschools Gala was held in our new swimming pool and swimmers from Grade 1 to Grade 12 competed to gain points for the School. This year, Volkskool won the senior section, while the School won the junior section.

The Karoo Interschools Gala, held at the Volkskool pool, made for an entertaining, competitive day with exciting races. Many races were closely contested especially the relays. The School claimed second place in the senior girls' section, with the boys coming in third in their section. These scores were achieved by ensuring as many participants were entered in

each race as possible.

The Nelson Mandela Bay aQuellé River Mile was a popular event, where thirteen of our swimmers took part in the 99th River Mile, all finishing in medal times. It was wonderful to see the School being so well represented at an event of this stature, and it was encouraging to note the eagerness with which all the first-timers competed.

Our swimmers continue to make their school proud with their achievements and dedication during an intense season.

The following swimmers received awards:

Team Award: Benjamin Lemke

UHS Trophy for 100m Freestyle: Boys – Daniel Marais

Saunders Cup for 100m Freestyle: Girls – Misha Newton

Deloryse van der Merwe Cup for most improved U16: Misha Newton



SENIOR SWIMMING:

BACK: Angus McLaggan, Callum Jacobs, Kyle Liebenberg, Daniel Marais, Jude Langmead (Captain), David Venter, Tristan Hope, Joshua Basson, Benjamin Lemke
MIDDLE: Brigetté Oelofsen (Captain), Misha Newton, Brogan Koeberg, Tara Ferreira, Anna Bouwer, Peter Michaels, Tyra Binney, Max Price
FRONT: Sarah Jacobs, Jourdan-Bethany Koeberg, Lisakhanya Zonke, Megan Putter, Mrs J. Heunis-Jones (Coach), Amy Waddelow, Mecoli Vorster, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Jade Slater
ABSENT: Rebecca Copeman

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JUNIOR BOYS' AND GIRLS' TENNIS

Tennis remains popular at the School and this year we witnessed a wonderful competitive spirit amongst the players, resulting in challenge matches being played almost weekly. We are indebted to our private coaches whose input yields obvious fruit and individual players have certainly exhibited improved performances.

Our girls and boys played Volkskool twice in the season, one of which was Interschools, winning on both occasions. The girls also had a convincing win against Gill. The Spar Cradock Primary Tennis Tournament was enjoyed by all and saw the girls place 4th and the boys 8th. Nadine Murray received the Sportswoman Award at this tournament

Our players were entered for the Rising Stars Tournament with the girls' team unfortunately having to withdraw while the boys completed their fixtures. One of the highlights of the year is the annual Jocelyn Marais

Tournament and our top 4 girls and boys were privileged to participate in this prestigious event. The girls' team competed against formidable opponents from Stellenbosch, Worcester and Cradock in the group stage, emerging victorious in all their encounters to finish at the top of their group. In the final, they faced a tough challenge against Collegiate and, despite their valiant efforts, they narrowly missed out on a win, finishing in a well-deserved second place in the tournament.

The junior boys' team faced opponents from Stirling, Stellenbosch C and Cradock in the group stages. They managed to secure a commendable second place in their group.

The Interschools clash was certainly an exciting encounter and our players made us proud, with the First Team Girls and Boys and the Second Team Girls recording a win.



1ST JUNIOR BOYS' TENNIS

BACK: Ethan Raath, Tristan Hudson, Jordan Maritz, Brett Kenmuir
FRONT: Owen Paxton, Mrs Y. Cloete, John-Henry King



1ST JUNIOR GIRLS' TENNIS

BACK: Amelia King, Miley Burger, Alyssa Trollip, Cayla Newton
FRONT: Mia Botha, Mrs Y. Cloete, Nadine Murray



2ND JUNIOR BOYS' TENNIS

BACK: Clark Labuschagne, Murray Hope, Riley Knoesen, Quinn Naudé, Bothale Mashiane, Danté Mills
FRONT: Ryan Collett, Joshua Kingwill, Mrs Y. Cloete, Rynn Naudé, Aidan Ferreira



2ND JUNIOR GIRLS' TENNIS

BACK: Logan Marais, Chanté Bezuidenhout, Kayla Norval, Rachel Wenham
FRONT: Samantha Gilfillan, Mrs Y. Cloete, Zoë Mills

Results of the Junior School Championships:

Girls' Singles Champion: Mia Botha
Boys' Singles Champion: Owen Paxton
Girls' Doubles Champions: Mia Botha and Amelia King
Boys' Doubles Champions: Owen Paxton and John-Henry King

We are extremely proud of Owen Paxton, Mia Botha and John-Henry King for their selection to represent Eastern Cape at the SA Interprovincial Tennis Tournament held in Bloemfontein. Amelia King and Cayla Newton were selected to represent Eastern Cape at the Synergy Cup.

"If you can react the same way to winning and losing, that's a big accomplishment. That quality is important because it stays with you the rest of your life, and there's going to be a life after tennis that's a lot longer than your tennis life." - Chris Evert

(Chris Evert became the first player to win 1 000 singles matches and compiled the second most career match wins – 1 309).



SENIOR BEGINNER TENNIS

At the start of the year, 53 enthusiastic tennis players arrived at beginner tennis, keen to learn more about the game. Many had not played before, so we started at the very beginning with elementary ball skills. As the year progressed, numbers became more manageable and skill increased. The group learned about scoring, baselines, green dot balls, tennis etiquette, drop shots and so much more. An appeal went out to acquire racquets for those who did not have, and we are very grateful for the generous response from the public. By the end of the year, a good number of the beginner group were playing a decent game of tennis, scoring accurately and always having a good time. We are grateful to Mrs Grewar and Ms Lindsay Taylor who shared their tennis knowledge from time to time and look forward to seeing some of the beginners making the higher teams in the future.



BEGINNER TENNIS

BACK: Zach Verwey, Nakedi Mrwebi, Okuhle Mahuza, Luthowethu Bottoman, Chulumanco Xhamela, Elizabeth van Rooyen
FRONT: Kiana Petersen, Zoë Liesing, Mr B. Langmead (Coach), Lina Tadesse

SENIOR BOYS' AND GIRLS' TENNIS

"You only live once, but you get to serve twice."

The tennis season commenced with the Sarah Baartman Zone 2 tennis trials followed by the Eastern Cape trials. Caytah-Leigh Koeberg, Tara Ferreira and Jourdon-Bethany Koeberg were selected to represent Eastern Cape in the SA Interprovincial Tournament held in Tshwane and Ndalo Qwalela, Joshua Neill, Sean Musakasa and Jourdon-Bethany Koeberg were included to play in the Synergy Cup held in Makhanda.

While we are always grateful for rain, this year's down pouring of blessings affected a few of our regular fixtures. We were unable to participate in the annual Quadrangular and Settlers Cup held in Makhanda due to inclement weather and our annual participation in the Fichardt Park Tournament in Bloemfontein turned into a team building excursion with not a single ball being played.

The Summer and Winter League in Graaff-Reinet measures our tennis skills against the clubs of Mountain, Wheatlands, Botanics and Nieu Bethesda. This is always an interesting contest as youth and power do not always trump experience and skill and these battles are often with parents and former coaches!

Matchpoint Tennis continues to coach our top 6 and we believe this played a role in enabling us to clinch the coveted Interschools this year.

We participated in the annual Marco Wassermann tennis tournament in Middelburg with very inexperienced players, since our Grade 12s were preparing for their preliminary examinations. This proved an opportunity to gain experience and build on our confidence for next season.

Term 3 is always marked by our internal Championships and the champions are as follows:

- U15 Girls' Singles: Tara Ferreira
- U15 Boys' Singles: Peter-Daniel Clegg
- Open Girls' Singles: Tara Ferreira
- Open Boys' Singles: Brent Hesselink
- Open Girls' Doubles: Caytah-Leigh Koeberg & Tara Ferreira
- Open Boys' Doubles: Brent Hesselink & Jude Langmead
- Open Mixed Doubles: Brent Hesselink & Tara Ferreira

A special mention must be made of our 2023 Grade 12 tennis players. Nine of the top 6 boys and girls were matrics. Brent Hesselink has played for the School's 1st team since his Grade 8 year and he, together with Gemma Naudé, captained the tennis team this year. We are surely going to miss them all and they have left big shoes to fill.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Pick 'n Pay Graaff-Reinet for their sponsorship of our 1st team tennis kit.



1ST SENIOR BOYS' TENNIS
BACK: Joshua Neill, Joshua Horne, Karl Venter, Ndalo Qwalela
FRONT: Jude Langmead, Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mrs B. Ferreira (Coach), Brent Hesselink



1ST SENIOR GIRLS' TENNIS
BACK: Leah Marais, Anna Pringle, Tara Ferreira, Caytah-Leigh Koeberg
FRONT: Gemma Naudé, Mr W.E. Pringle (Headmaster), Mrs B. Ferreira (Coach), Tayla Kingwill



2ND SENIOR BOYS' TENNIS
BACK: Richard Murray, Vincent Clarke, Peter-Daniel Clegg, Angus McLaggan
FRONT: David Venter, Mrs B. Ferreira (Coach), Jordan Wilmot



2ND SENIOR GIRLS' TENNIS
BACK: Misha Newton, Charlize Vorster, Melissa Naudé, Samantha Charles
FRONT: Sadé May, Mrs B. Ferreira (Coach), Ngomusa Zweni



3RD SENIOR BOYS' TENNIS

BACK: Callum Jacobs, Samuel Taylor
FRONT: Tristan Hope, Mrs B. Langmead, Stefan Vorster



3RD SENIOR GIRLS' TENNIS

BACK: Zakithi Sishi, Amber Slater, Jade Slater, Jourdan-Bethany Koeberg
FRONT: Sarah Wilmot, Mrs B. Langmead, Katelyn Trollip



4TH SENIOR GIRLS' TENNIS

LEFT TO RIGHT: Anèbel Norval, Khayila Grootboom, Oqiyonke Sizila, Mrs B. Langmead, Liyabona Nkomo







INTERSCHOOLS



INTERSCHOOLS

The highly anticipated Interschools' week, marking the annual clash between the School and arch rivals, Volkskool was fiercely contested. The two schools have been neighbours, friends and rivals for more than a 100 years and, irrespective of the outcome, this annual encounter always fosters an intense feeling of school pride while evoking much emotion and excitement. This year was no exception. We extend our congratulations to all those whose unwavering efforts over the first week in August secured the School the title of Interschools' victors 2023, tallying an impressive 52 points to Volkskool's 46.

The cultural richness emanating from the unity between our three Union Schools and the school's unwavering commitment to the spirit of diversity, inclusivity, participation and tradition resonated profoundly throughout the contest. We extend our grateful thanks to our exceptional senior role models who set a remarkable example for our entire community, exemplifying the values ingrained within our institution.

The Interschools' Week results are as follows:

Chess:

- Junior 1st team lost 1-6
- Junior 2nd team won 5-2
- Preparatory School won 5-2
- Senior 1st team won 4-3
- Senior 2nd team won 6-1

Quiz:

- Union won 12-10.

Speech:

- Seniors: Union High claimed first and second place
- Juniors: Volkskool won first place, Union won second place

U10 Tennis:

- Boys lost 0-9
- Girls won 7-2

Junior Tennis:

- 1st Girls Team won 7-2
- 2nd Girls Team won 8-1
- 1st Boys Team won 5-4

- 2nd Boys Team lost 4-5

Senior Tennis:

Girls

- 1st Team won 5-4
- 2nd Team won 8-1
- 3rd Team won 8-1

Boys

- 1st Team lost 0-9
- 2nd Team lost 0-9
- 3rd Team lost 1-8

Hockey:

- U7A lost 1-3
- U7B lost 0-2
- U7C lost 0-4
- U8B won 6-1
- U8A lost 0-11
- U9A drew 2-2
- U9B lost 0-4
- U10A won 5-0
- U13B won 2-0

- U13A drew 1-1
- U14A drew 1-1
- U16B won 1-0
- U16A won 9-0
- 2nd team drew 1-1
- 1st team won 2-1

Rugby:

- U7A won 50-5
- U9B lost 0-29
- U9A lost 5-43
- U11B lost 5-53
- U11A won 17-5
- U13B lost 5-35
- U13A lost 10-36
- U14A lost 5-21
- U15B won 22-10
- U15A lost 12-18
- U16A won 8-7
- 3rd XV lost 5-48
- 2nd XV won 19-17
- 1st XV lost 6-39

TRI THE KAROO

The inaugural Tri The Karoo triathlon - a new fundraiser hosted by the Union Schools on Saturday, 14 October - provided a great day out in the Karoo for all competitors and is poised to grow into a huge event. The aim of the Tri The Karoo is to not only enable access to these types of events to more people in the region, but also to provide something that has fallen off the calendar in the Karoo in recent years - a mass participation swim, bike, run (and walk) platform for athletes of all fitness and skill levels.

The Kids Distance event (comprising a 150m open water swim, a 4km cycle and 1km run) provided the ideal stepping stone for youngsters and those weekend warriors taking their first strokes (and strides in triathlon), while the Tri FUN Mania saw corporate teams and families spend some special time together being active in the outdoors. The Sprint Distance event (comprising a 750m open water swim, a 20km cycle and a 5km run) provided the perfect distance for participants to get a feel for the sport, and is also perfectly achievable for a complete beginner.

The main feature of the day (and the event which attracted the most entrants) however, was the Olympic Distance event. With the wet conditions, the 1500m open water swim, 40km tarmac-and-trail combination cycle and 10km run proved tough and technical, but the enthusiasm of the athletes, the level of racing and the praise for the

venue and course proved that there is a big need for multi-sport events such as this and that the Tri The Karoo will go from strength to strength in the future.

The following learners from the School received places:

Benjamin Lemke, a Grade 9 learner, came second in the men's Sprint Event. The boy's Kids event saw Mateo Schoeman, Mark Lemke and Daniel Davenport claiming podium places while Samantha Gilfillan won the girls' Kids event. The Kids' team event was won by Amelia King, Lilly Hunter and Kari Stern.



ANNE BEAGLEY JUNIOR RUGBY AND HOCKEY FESTIVAL

The School proudly hosted its annual Anne Beagley Junior Rugby and Hockey Festival in June, showcasing some of the best rugby and hockey schools in the province. The festival has been on the school's annual sporting calendar for 22 years, drawing hundreds of visitors to Graaff-Reinet each year. With a unique family-friendly atmosphere, the festival is regarded as an annual pilgrimage for many primary schools and friends of the Union Schools. Rugby and hockey teams from as far as Makhanda, Komani, Gqeberha and even Namibia, compete in this keenly anticipated event.

The opening ceremony, with nearly 800 U13A rugby and hockey players waving their school colours, started the festival with flair. This was followed by a cocktail function in the Tony Burrell Union, welcoming visitors and paying homage to the title sponsors, Botha's Garage and Caltex Eastern Cape, as well as thanking coaches and staff, for their valued contribution to the festival.

While the Friday afternoon saw some hockey teams already taking to the field for a set of matches, the Saturday morning saw the festival starting in all earnest, with every inch of the School's sports fields occupied with teams from, among others, Grey Junior School, Kingswood College, Hangklip Primary, Pioniers Park Primary, Gonubie Primary, Stirling Primary, Muir College, Graeme College, Westering Primary, Erica Girls' School, Sunridge Primary, Charlo Primary, Selborne College, Laer Volkskool, Lilyfontein Primary, Lorraine Primary, Hudson Park Primary and Queen's College. Aside from thrilling sports broadcast via live stream courtesy of SuperSport Schools, Grade 10 learner, Trystan Hulleman, also provided excellent live commentary.

As is always the case, players and their supporters had a fantastic and thrilling weekend filled with brilliant hockey, rugby, camaraderie and a one-of-a-kind Karoo experience bestowed by the school.



SENIOR RUGBY AND HOCKEY FESTIVAL

The School's 34th annual Senior Rugby and Hockey Festival was a resounding success, drawing close to 600 learners and coaches from across the country to Graaff-Reinet. The festival, which took place over the first weekend of the April holidays, saw enthusiastic hockey and rugby players facing off in a competitive yet fun-filled environment.

The festival brought together talented athletes from various schools, providing them with a platform to showcase their abilities. The weekend was not only filled with competitive matches but also served as a means for building lasting friendships and creating memorable experiences. This event would not have been possible without the support of the sponsors and the dedicated efforts of all those involved. The School takes pride in hosting this festival and looks forward to future editions filled with even more excitement and sportsmanship.

In terms of hockey results, the 1st team embraced the saying, "Win or lose, make the other team remember they played you", showcasing

exceptional skills and determination throughout the competition. The Invitation hockey team also showcased their talent and commitment despite facing tough opponents while the 1st XV Rugby and Invitation XV enjoyed mixed success.

Results:

Rugby 1st XV: vs Cambridge High School 12-5, vs Asherville Secondary School 12-17

Rugby Invitation XV: vs Edgemead High School 14-20, vs Camps Bay High School 12-26

Hockey 1st Team: vs Nico Malan 9-0, vs Jim Fouché Invitation 2-0, vs Victoria Girls 2-0, vs Langenhoven Gimnasium 3-1, vs Hoërskool Framesby 0-1

Hockey Invitation Team: vs Riebeek College 0-1, vs Nico Malan 0-2, vs Jim Fouché Invitation II 0-1, vs Hoërskool Framesby 0-5, vs Jim Fouché Invitation 0-0





Union Preparatory School

2023

As we approach the end of another incredible school year, I am filled with a sense of pride and gratitude. 2023 has certainly been a challenging and busy year but our journey has been marked by determination, dedication, and enthusiasm from all involved.

Academic Matters

Our learners have shown unwavering commitment to their academic pursuits, and their hard work has not gone unnoticed. It is with immense pride that we acknowledge our learners' progress, and I must say, it's quite a sight to see them thrive with such enthusiasm. The Learner Support Centre, with its relentless efforts, has been a pillar of strength for our learners, providing the guidance and support needed to excel.

Sport

On the sports front, our learners have given it their all. Whether on the field, in the pool, tennis court or on the track, they showed true sportsmanship and determination. Notably, we expanded our school pool to the standard 25m pool, and the inaugural gala was a smashing success. This development promises more exciting galas in the future. We also hosted a well-organised u10 hockey festival and are in the process of building two mini-Astros for our mini-hockey stars. "Tri The Karoo" welcomed participants of all ages, and we commend all our learners who took part. The interschool competitions against Volkskool showcased the true spirit of sportsmanship and teamwork. To the parents and learners who cheered from the sidelines and supported our teams, your enthusiasm is deeply appreciated. A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Njoloza and our team of coaches who continue to make us proud.

Cultural Activities

The year began with the heartwarming Grandparents Tea. At our Interhouse general knowledge quiz, our learners' skills shone through, with Daly emerging as the victor. At the Camdeboo Eisteddfod, our learners brought honour to our school with their exceptional achievements. The Music Hour was indeed a highlight of the year, where our talented musicians left us in awe. We owe a special thank you to Mrs. A. Kingwill, Mrs. K. Kotzé, and Mrs. C. Potgieter for their unwavering commitment. The Grade 3 Market Day was a great success. The Grade 4s showcased their dancing skills at the special A-10 Dinner. We concluded the term with our traditional Carols by Candlelight, a wonderful way to wrap up the year.

Teaching Staff Matters

While we bid farewell to some educators this year, we look ahead to a future marked by continuity. Mrs Hobson and Mrs van Rooyen will be dearly missed. We are grateful for their valuable contributions and wish them the best in their future endeavours. We welcome Miss van der Merwe and Miss Nortje who will join the teaching staff from 2024. Mrs Kotzé will be taking over the Learner Support Centre. We wish her all the best and are thrilled with what the future holds. I extend my sincere appreciation to all our teachers for their relentless dedication to our learners' growth and development. To kick the last term off, the staff had a team-building session which was great fun and entertaining, especially



when the teachers you'd least expect, became quite competitive.

Building, Grounds, and Administration

Behind the scenes, there are dedicated individuals who work tirelessly to keep our school running smoothly. Mr. D. Kingwill's supervision ensures our buildings and grounds are well-maintained. Additionally, Mrs. L. Greyling has been an outstanding and supportive secretary, and we are thankful for her contributions.

Max Kroon House

Our matrons and hostel staff play a vital role in caring for our learners at Max Kroon House, and we are profoundly grateful for their dedication in providing a nurturing environment.

School Governing Body

I would like to express our appreciation to the School Governing Body for their unwavering support and dedication. The success of events like the Wild Karoo, Stoep Tasting and Tri The Karoo would not have been possible without their tireless efforts. We recently welcomed new members, Mr. L. Dibi in the finance portfolio and Mrs. K. de Wet, who will oversee the sports portfolio. Mrs. Katie Kotzé has also been elected to be on the SGB as a teacher representative while I am acting principal until the new appointment is made.

Parents

Our parents, you are the unsung heroes of our school community. Your unwavering support and understanding, your involvement in school events, and your dedication to your children's education are truly commendable. We extend our heartfelt thanks to those who are always willing to lend a hand and assist with functions.

Travelling Bookshop

The Travelling Bookshop was a highlight of last term, promoting the joy of reading among our learners. We are delighted that our learners enjoyed this initiative, and we hope it has sparked a lifelong love for books.

I would like to again extend my appreciation to our staff, learners and the community for a productive 2023 school year. Much has been achieved by many individuals and teams this year, and we will continue to find new ways to accomplish the mission and vision of the school as we look ahead to the new year. A great school requires many attributes, the core element of these coming from its learners, staff and community. I sincerely thank all those who supported Union Preparatory School for their endeavours and care for our community.

With that, I would like to wish learners, parents and school staff a safe, restful and rewarding holiday. Hopefully, we will all get the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends and come back to school with a sense of rejuvenation in the new year.

Respectfully and with gratitude,

~ Mrs C. Heunis-Jones
UPS Acting Principal

Message from the editor

Learn to Play, and Play to Learn

Dear Students, Parents, Teachers, and Friends of Union Preparatory School,

We find ourselves at the end of another academic year at Union Preparatory School, and it is with great pleasure that we present the latest edition of our school magazine. This publication not only showcases the diverse talents and accomplishments of our children, but also reflects the spirit of unity and excellence that defines our educational community.

In the wake of the recent pandemic, our students faced an unprecedented challenge – the need to relearn the art of socialising. The familiar patterns of interactions were disrupted, leaving a void in the social development of our children. However, our return to in-person learning has been a beacon of hope. Through the simple act of being together once more, our students are rediscovering the joy of camaraderie and the importance of face-to-face connections. Our school has been a place for them to **learn to play**, where friendships are formed, ideas are shared, and life lessons are woven into the tapestry of everyday experiences.

At Union Preparatory, we believe that children learn most effectively when they are engaged and passionate about what they do. We recognise that education is not confined to the four walls of a classroom, and **playing to learn** is at the heart of our approach. It's the collaborative projects that allow them to build problem-solving skills, the friendly sports matches that teach teamwork and perseverance, and the cultural opportunities that encourage creativity and self-expression.

Our magazine serves as a testament to the multifaceted talents and achievements of our students. It showcases not only their academic prowess but also their artistic endeavours, sportsmanship and community service. We aim to empower our students to be not only academically capable but also socially responsible citizens who know the value of **learning to play**, as well as **playing to learn**.

Our dedicated staff, alongside supportive parents, play a crucial role

in nurturing the potential of each student, helping them become well-rounded individuals who are prepared to make a positive impact on the world.

As we turn the pages of our school magazine, we encourage all of you to reflect on the journey we have embarked upon together. It is a journey of growth, discovery, and transformation. We realise that, **learn to play** and **play to learn**, is not just a catchphrase, but a way of life at Union Preparatory School. It's a reminder that the best education is one that nurtures both the mind and the spirit. It's an invitation to embrace each day with enthusiasm and the belief that every moment is a chance to learn, grow, and create memories.

Thank you to all the contributors, the editorial team, and the readers who have made this magazine possible.

Warm regards,

~ Katie Kotzé



EDITORIAL TEAM

Miss Merisha van der Merwe, Mrs. Katie Kotzé, Mrs. Alet Kingwill



STAFF

BACK ROW: Elizma Michaels, Linda Greyling, Michaela Hobson, Bronwynne Kingwill, Etrechia King, Natasha Burger, Robyn Bellingan, Alet Kingwill, Moyra Marais
FRONT ROW: Marchant van Rooyen, Amanda van Rooyen, Gweny van Deventer, Merisha van der Merwe, Judy van Heerden, Katie Kotzé, Chanzelle Heunis-Jones, Corrie Potgieter, Mpilo Njoloza



SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mrs. Corrie Potgieter, Mr. Marchant van Rooyen, Mrs. Chanzelle Heunis-Jones, Mrs. Katie Kotzé, Mrs. Alet Kingwill



CLEANING CREW LADIES

Mrs. Celeste Makonie and Mrs. Sarah Willemse



GROUNDSMEN

Mr. Renaldo Mafeking and Mr. Melvin Kitchu



Aunty Linda Greyling
 You are so kind so helpful.
 You are friendly. You
 can't live without you.
 – Rosemary Brown

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Union Preparatory School welcomes New Principal

As of the 1st of December this year, Union Preparatory School welcomed Mr Ross Hulleman as its new principal.

Mr Hulleman is no stranger to the Union Schools' community, as he has been serving as an educator at the high school for the past couple of years. His commitment and dedication to the learners' education have already made a significant impact in our school community, and we are confident that his leadership as principal at the preparatory school will further enhance the academic excellence and character development that Union is known for.

In addition to his teaching experience, Mr Hulleman brings a deep understanding of our school's values and ethos, thanks to his two children, Isabella in Grade 7 and Trystan in Grade 10, who are also part of the Union family. This first-hand involvement in our school community ensures that Mr Hulleman has a unique perspective on the needs of our learners and their families.

Mr Hulleman obtained his qualification in Education from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (Cape Technicon). Throughout his career, he has been actively involved in the education sector, serving as an educator and Deputy Headmaster at Aurora Private School in



Johannesburg, as well as an educator and Intermediate Phase Head at Curro Krugersdorp, among other notable roles. His diverse experiences have equipped him with a wealth of knowledge and expertise, which he will undoubtedly utilise to benefit our learners and staff.

Relocating to Graaff-Reinet in 2021 with his two children, Mr Hulleman made a conscious decision during a challenging lockdown period in Johannesburg that a change of scenery was necessary. His commitment to seeking out new opportunities in a vibrant and supportive community like ours, reflects his passion for education and his desire to make a positive difference in the lives of young learners.

As we eagerly prepare for the upcoming academic year, we wholeheartedly welcome Mr Hulleman as the new principal of Union Preparatory School. His proven dedication,

experience and understanding of our school culture make him the ideal candidate to lead our institution into the future.

We extend our warmest congratulations to Mr Hulleman and look forward to witnessing the growth and success that lies ahead for Union Preparatory School under his leadership.

Hello and Good Bye

A farewell message to Aunty Marjorie

Legacy of Love and Learning

Aunty Marjorie has become a beloved presence at Union Preparatory over the past few years. Her unwavering dedication to hosting aftercare has enriched the afternoons of countless learners, offering stimulating homework sessions and engaging after-school activities. Even as she takes on new endeavors, we are fortunate that Aunty Marjorie continues to be a familiar face, visiting the Max Kroon hostel for homework sessions and administering concession assessments. Her enduring passion for children and education is unmistakable, and she will forever hold a special place in the hearts of our learners.

Have your bread... and eat it too!

At the end of term one, the UPS staff bid farewell to grade three teacher, Miss Amor Mey. The lovely Miss Mey left UPS to begin an exciting new chapter with her fiancé in Cradock, where she has taken up a post at Cradock Preparatory School. While the staff was sad to see her go, we were not about to miss the opportunity to celebrate her engagement and her time at UPS. In her honour, a great bake-up in the AK house kitchen was arranged, where the creative and talented Karen McEwan taught us all we *kneaded* to know about bread-making.

We knew we were in for a treat when we arrived to the enticing aroma of freshly baked bread emanating from the kitchen while we enjoyed some bubbly drinks on the veranda. With the fire lit inside the old oven, the atmosphere really started to heat up as we gathered at our benches armed with flour, salt and various other supplies, like masterchef contestants lined up for the mystery-box challenge! After demonstrating how to make the dough for a brown loaf, a country loaf and a focaccia,



Karen showed us how to generously furnish the focaccia with olive oil, tomatoes and fresh, fragrant herbs.

Our taste-buds, which had been tingling in anticipation and teased by the smell of the baking bread, were finally rewarded when Karen's worth-the-wait demo-loaves came out of the oven. While many of us need a bit more practice to reach Karen's standard, we all left feeling full and inspired to keep baking!

~ **Katie Kotzé**

Farewell Teachalakazi

Miss Nonkuthalo Nguza, our one and only IsiXhosa teacher, is now a teacher in Somerset East. Teachalakazi you are missed by all your students. Thank you for all you did at UPS we miss hearing the IsiXhosa sing-song echoing in the hallways. We wish her all the best with her future endeavours.

A farewell message to Mrs. Botha

This year we bid farewell to Mrs. Botha, who has retired after four years of service to Union Preparatory and a full career dedicated to the teaching profession. At UPS, she filled the role of both principal and History teacher, and intrigued the minds of many a student in her class.

As she embarks on her new chapter, which we know will be a successful one, we want to express our deepest gratitude for her unwavering dedication to education.

Farewell, and may your journey ahead be as enriching and fulfilling as the knowledge you've shared with us. You will be sincerely missed.

Mrs. Amanda van Rooyen

What she thought would be her retirement in Graaff-Reinet ended in her helping out as a learner support teacher. We welcomed Mrs. Amanda van Rooyen to our staff to assist with our learner support during Term 3 and Term 4. Mrs van Rooyen, you have truly helped many learners with many new ways to tackle problems they face. We thank you for all the knowledge you shared with all your learners. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

A farewell message to Mrs. Lewack

This year we bid farewell to Mrs. Lewack, who has retired after a few years of service to Union Preparatory and a full career dedicated to the teaching profession. At UPS, she filled the role of both class teacher and learning support teacher, and touched the lives of many youngsters.

As she embarks on her new chapter, we want to express our deepest gratitude for her unwavering dedication to education. Her passion and guidance have left an indelible mark on our school.

Farewell, and may your journey ahead be as enriching and fulfilling as the knowledge you've shared with us. You will be sincerely missed.

Mrs. Michaela Hobson

Mrs. Michaela Hobson has been a very quiet but powerful force at UPS. But sadly we have to bid her a sad but fond farewell. Mrs Hobson your kind and quiet demeanour has made such an impact on not only the students of UPS but also your colleagues. Thank you for all the love, joy, and Mathematics you have brought to our school. We wish you well in your future endeavours.

Miss. Jetaime Williams

In Term 2 we welcomed the bubbly Miss Jetaime Williams to our staff. Miss. Williams was well loved by all the learners in her class as well as the hockey girls she coached. Miss Williams thank you for what you did for UPS and we wish you well I your future endeavours.

Welcome to UPS Mrs. Trish King

This year we had the privilege of welcoming the all-round wonderful Mrs Trish King to our staff. Mrs. King has joined Mrs. Heunis-Jones and Mrs. Kotzé in the Grade 3 team and what a mean team they have been. Mrs King, we are excited to have you as part of the UPS family as a parent and a teacher. We look forward to learning a whole lot more from you and wish you a successful journey at UPS.



Mrs Marjorie du Preez (Aftercare)



Miss Amor Mey



Miss Nonkuthalo Nguza



Mrs Belinda Botha



Mrs Amanda van Rooyen



Ms Valerie Lewack



Mrs Michaela Hobson



Miss Jetaime Williams



Mrs. Trish King



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The SGB represents the voice of the parent body and is ultimately responsible for the Governance of the school through its mandate to dictate policy and oversee the multitude of facets making up the School in its entirety.

The 2023 school year has been a challenging one for the Union Preparatory School Governing Body in that a significant breakdown of trust occurred between the SGB and the Principal Mrs Botha.

The Principal is charged with the professional management of the school under the authority of the Head of Department of the Department of Education in the Eastern Cape. The Principal is required to strictly carry out their functions in accordance with Section 16A of the South African Schools act 84 of 1996. Failure to do so would amount to misconduct and in some instances serious misconduct as listed in *Section 17 and 18 of the Employment of Educators act 76 of 1998*.

The SGB was compelled to bring an Application in the High Court to address these issues and after extensive correspondence and engagement with the DOE, the matter was settled. The DOE resolved to second Mrs Botha to the District Office for the remainder of her term. The SGB perceived this to be the most workable solution at the time, as it would allow the School to continue in its discharge of its mandate, to provide quality teaching and learning in a safe and healthy environment, without distractions and further issues arising that may compromise this.

Mrs Heunis Jones, in her capacity as HOD, stepped up and took the reins as acting Principal. We are extremely grateful for her commitment and dedication in fulfilling this role on a temporary basis!

Despite the unfortunate occurrences that transpired the Governing

body continued to carry out its functions, particularly with the fundraising committee, headed by Diane Murray, doing fantastic work throughout the year. The fundraising committee targeted three major events namely, Wild Karroo, Stoep tasting and the inaugural Tri the Karroo triathlon event. A total of R347 473 was raised by the fundraising team which has allowed the SGB to commence with the following projects:

- The purchasing of a generator to mitigate load shedding and allow teaching and learning to continue as normal specifically through the darker winter months.
- The three grade 1 classrooms were equipped with brand new air conditioners. This was done towards the end of the winter months. I am led to believe that they are already making a notable difference for our little ones as the season heats up in the last term.
- The construction of the new mini AstroTurf on the front field at UPS as well as a multicourt on the old "playscape", located on the north western side of the campus. These exciting projects are funded by the UHS Development Trust of which we are extremely grateful! This however is ultimately made possible due to the continued fundraising efforts, held over the past few years (including this year) whereby a positive balance has accrued in the UPS ledger of The UHS Development Trust. This accrued amount has contributed to half of the cost of the project. The other half of the project cost will be advanced to the Governing body as a loan and paid back through fundraising efforts over the next few years.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Diane Murray and her portfolio heads of Karen Scott, Alet Finlaison and Lene van der Heever



SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

FRONT: Mrs. Edwardine Abader, Mr. Donovan Burger (Vice Chairman), Mr. Justin Kingwill (Chairman), Mrs. Chanzelle Heunis-Jones, Mr. Luzuko Dibi
BACK: Mrs. Corrie Potgieter, Mrs. Karlien de Wet, Mr. Mpilo Njoloza, Mrs. Katie Kotzé, Mrs. Diane Murray



along with all the ladies who assisted them in these fundraising initiatives! Your work is greatly appreciated and has already made a profound impact on our school through the projects we have been able to undertake.

The inaugural Tri the Karroo triathlon event kicked off on the 14th October and was a huge success. I am very excited about this event gaining substantial traction moving forward and am extremely optimistic of it turning into a massive fundraiser for the Union Schools in the years to come. I'd like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to Kat Ott for her dedication and sacrifice in putting this event together along with all those who assisted and supported her.

Other exciting projects which the Governing Body has embarked on is the open space development around the school. The ability to take on such projects is largely due to the financial generosity and support of our corporate sponsors Montego Pet Nutrition, whose interest in our school is greatly valued and appreciated. The first phase of this project entailed building a covered walkway, on the northern side of the tuckshop building, where the third grade 2 class is located. Three shaded structures are also due to be erected over the outdoor spaces on the western side of the grade 1 classes. These should be completed by the end of the year.

The next phase of this project will entail equipping these areas with infrastructure so as to create beautiful outdoor classrooms that can be utilized for a range of different purposes.

Going hand in hand with the open space development is to plant and establish grass in the open areas in front of the grade 4 classrooms, the open area on the northern side of the tuckshop building as well as re-establish any bare areas on the main rugby field.

The plan involved removing the grass from the front field, prior to the construction of the Mini Astro being carried out, and utilising it in the areas that needed grassing. The project turned into a big one, however, with the support of various parents along with the enthusiasm and fortitude of Mr Kingwill and his ground staff, it was achieved. I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Graham and Brenda Murray as well as Wayne and Diane Murray who assisted with providing labour. A massive thank you also needs to be extended to Campbell Scott from Tyremart who provided a TLB machine and operator for two days (at no charge to the school) to assist in completing this project.

All the development that has taken place at UPS over the past year requires someone to oversee and ensure projects are done correctly, as planned and within budget. Donovan Burger has overseen all of the above and I wish to extend my gratitude and thanks to him for the hard work, dedication and time he has given in ensuring all the projects taken on are managed accordingly.

Our post provisioning for 2023 consisted of 7 departmental posts. This included the Principal, HOD for foundation phase as well as 5 educator posts. Our SGB posts on the academic side included eleven

posts comprising of eight educators and three support educators. We employed three new educators throughout the year namely Ms Williams as the new Grade 2 educator, Mrs King as the new grade 3 educator as well as Mrs Van Rooyen who was appointed to manage the learner support centre for the remaining part of the year. Mrs Kotzé has been transferred to the Learner support centre as of the 2024 school year and we look forward to her taking this

department to new heights.

Ms Williams resigned at the end of the third term, however the Governing body has recently appointed Ms van der Merwe and Ms Nortje who will take up posts as the new foundation phase educators for 2024.

The SGB has also embarked on the process of fulfilling our vacant Principal post and hope to have a new Principal appointed and ready to start at the beginning of the school year in 2024.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all our educators and assistant educators for the hard work and dedication you have all put into our children throughout the year. You are all greatly valued and appreciated.

I'd also like to extend a huge thank you to our support staff who are all employed by the SGB. This includes our secretary Mrs Greyling and General workers Mr Kitchu, Mr Mafeking, Mrs Willemsem and Mrs Makonie. You all deliver such essential behind the scenes work and without you the school would be struggling to function.

To our Groundsman Mr Kingwill, we thank you for your hard work and dedication in maintaining our campus in its current state, particularly on the shoe string budget you receive. We appreciate all your hard work and enthusiasm.

To our jointly employed staff (with UHS) Mrs Liebenberg (the bursar), Mrs Burger (the debtors clerk) as well as Mrs Burger (PR and marketing) you all contribute enormously to the functioning of UPS. We thank you for all your efforts and endeavours in managing our finances and marketing our School in such a fantastic way.

To our hostel Staff, Mrs Ferraira, Mrs Rubidge and Ms van Reeder as well as all the hostel support staff, thank you all for the fantastic work you have done in looking after our hostel children. We appreciate you all very much. A big thank you should also go to Vanessa Copeman who took over the role of parent representative from Lene van der Heever on the Hostel committee. You have been a wonderful asset to the team.

On the sporting front we employed Mr Njoloza as the new Head of Junior Sport at the beginning of the year. Mr Njoloza found his feet quickly and has done a fantastic job in running our sports program throughout the year. Mr Njoloza was also elected as the non-teaching staff representative onto the Governing body.

It is imperative that our sports program remains professionally run and managed. I strongly believe that this promotes participation, a competitive spirit and a higher standard of sport offered at the School. In

my opinion sport is better enjoyed by all if events are properly organised and coordinated. Sport also plays such a fundamental role in marketing our school and promotes an active healthy lifestyle.

I would also like to thank all our coaches for the wonderful work they have done throughout the year, particularly those who did so on a voluntary basis and were dedicated to coaching a sports team for the season! These include Mrs Jannine van Jaarsveld (U10 Hockey), Mr Bennie Spielman (U9b Rugby) and Mr Mark Fletcher (U11b Rugby). You have all done a brilliant job!

I'd also like to express my gratitude and thanks to the number of parents that availed themselves at various times during the year to assist our coaches. We greatly appreciate your efforts.

I'd like to commend and thank Diane Murray who took over the role of hospitality on the sports subcommittee and those ladies that assisted her in coordinating and presenting fantastic spreads as well as portraying such a marketable image of our school at our home sporting fixtures. Your efforts are all greatly appreciated. I'd also like to thank all those parents who serve on the SGB Sports sub-committee. You provide an invaluable service in assisting with our sporting curriculum.

The Governing Body also welcomed Karlien De Wet amongst its ranks as a co-opted member. Karlien was cooped on to the Governing Body to take over the Sports portfolio from myself

The School finances remain a tightrope, however positive strides have been made in engaging parents and reducing our exemptions by small margins. Bad debt however remains a concern and a challenge to overcome. I would like to use this opportunity to implore all parents of the school to show your support by paying your school fees. School

fees are the lifeblood of the school and a quality education cannot be continued in the absence of such.

The SGB also welcomed Mr Luzuko Dibi onto the Governing body after he was formally elected at a by-election held in September. Luzuko has taken over the finance portfolio from Lene van der Heever.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to the SMT and parent members who make up the School Governing body. To Mrs Heunis Jones, Mrs Potgieter, Mrs Kotzé and Mr Njoloza, thank you for your dedication and commitment in carrying out your duties at UPS. We appreciate what you do and wish you all a well-deserved break.

To Edwardine, Donovan, Diane, Luzuko and Karlien, you have all exhibited undying passion, commitment and dedication in carrying out your duties. I salute each and every one of you for your selfless sacrifice, hard work and devotion you all offer up in serving the school. It is an honour and a privilege to work with such a great group of human beings. I can't thank you all enough for what you all provide to this wonderful little institution of ours.

To our greater parent body, without you and your children the school wouldn't exist. I wish to thank each and every one of you for your support throughout the year particularly those that offer up their time selflessly in the service to the school.

The Governing body wishes all the staff and learners well and congratulates you all on your achievements!

Thank you!

~ **Justin Kingwill**
(UPS SGB Chairperson)

Max Kroon House

Max Kroon House, Union Prep School's hostel, is a home-away-from-home for our littlest boarders at Union and it is run like a well-oiled machine.

This is with special thanks to our loving Matrons, Mrs Ros Rubidge, Mrs Didi Raath and Ms Demi van der Rheede. We of course cannot forget our "sissies", Lizzy, Nicolene & Vera.

In July we bid Matron Didi a sad farewell and welcomed Matron Demi, who had big shoes to fill and she is filling them with love and grace.

Our Max Kroonies always excel academically and this is largely because of our patient and kind homework Matrons, Aunty Eleanor and Aunty Marjorie. Thank you for your patience and kindness.

There is never a dull moment for our Max Kroonies. They are constantly busy with sport, academics, cultural activities and lots of fun in their beautiful play park. Our matrons always have fun plans up their sleeves for our Max Kroonies. To name just a few: the hike up mountain drive on a public holiday, surprise treat to Coldstream, coffee and rusks early in the morning, fun on the big field after supper, hot evening swimming fun and movie nights.

Special mention and thanks go to the van den Heever family, specifically Lené, who lovingly gave up so much of her time to Union and Max Kroon. Thank you for all you did and wishing you many happy years in the UK.







Grade 1 Creative Writing

MY NEWS

I diwo
I watched television. ~ **Naledi Mateza**

I wnt t the krgp pok and I sor I elfint.
~ **Mya Dos Santos**

I went on cabl crs. And I had Fun.
~ **Niah Van der Berg**

I swam in the pool.
Ben and Ben shot a faloder.
I did skin the faloder.
I swam in the pool.
Ben and I shot a faloder.
I did skin the faloder. ~ **Liam Wormald**

My frend and I plyd rugby.
My friend and I played rugby.
~ **Nickathan Oormeyer**

My and my cuzans pla with pazals. we
plad and my toys and we plad and the
pool bod. we plad and ar ayw bick.
~ **Tahum Buys**

I want to the bish. I eat a rad
strawberry. I want to my frends hause.
~ **Stacey Bangure**

I we to Dobid. I ate Ddnes. I pldfed
ni pok. ~ **Luminathi Camngca**

We wet to the bisk. We eet askreem. I
swim we eet kak. we pla with my fres.
~ **Oyame Konongo**

I drov my bike alot. I Helpt my dad a lot
at the fom. We went to the zoo. me and
my dad Helpt ol a rund the fom.
~ **Riko Steynberg**

It wus My MoM bthdiy. I it a sosh rol. I
Playb with Ajay. ~ **Mia le Roux**

Me and my mum with the man. we get ice
cream and we get Pizza car.
~ **Akhanani Maphanga**

CREATIVE WRITING

I sor a faws
I sor a teu
I sor a cad
I saw a flower
I saw a tree
I saw a car ~ **Anton Venter**

Lily is play
Lily likes to play with hur play
Lily is playing.
Lily likes to play with her.
~ **Ayavuya Blouw**

We had fun. We are tey king apple. We
are picking apples. ~ **Allen-Keziah**

I can see Lily. Lily is plyin
Lily likes to play with hur toys.
Lily is play with the green pinln.
I can see Lily. Lily is playing.
Lily likes to play with her toys.
Lily is playing with the green people.
~ **Taygan George**

Lily has los fo fres. Lily is 7 yis old Lily is
yapyi Shy is playing school.
Lily has lots of friends. Lily is 7 years
old. Lily is happy. She is playing school.
~ **Ntando Fikeni**

The booy is fish ing. the bog sees a cage
in the water. The girl lookt at the waerT
The boy is fishing. The boy sees a cage in
the water. The girl looked at the water.
~ **Roxanne Stevens**

She is putting her feed in the water. and
the boy is fishins for fish. and crabs. The
boy is fishing for crabs. There are three
clouds and the boy is grining.

She is putting her feet in the water.
And the boy is fishing for fish and crabs.
There are three clouds and the boy
is grinning. ~ **Gabriella Lekas**

You see a sea cage. The fish is swimming.
It is cuming to you. ~ **Qazo Booi**





Lily plad with the mud. The seegill is flying in the sky. ~ **Tyler Mongwe**

We ran a cross the high school. I was tiyd. ~ **Eden Hufkie**

I went to my kuzns hoem. I playd with my cuzins. ~ **Sayid Kuhlana**

I made pea soop with my mom. I went too mu oma. ~ **Amy Gerber**

I mad cookee with my mom. My mom mad popkoon. ~ **Avia Cona**

I sent a leter too my grani. I towld my Mothir my dog was good. ~ **Lukho Pehlo**

I went for i jog. I cookt with my mom. ~ **Ariya Adolph**

She is having a tea-party in a block of hay. She played with rats with a toch for light. ~ **Jesse Meyer**

The kids were raning Past the high school. I saw munkis and lots of bees. ~ **Aaliya Madaugee**

My frend and I wur playing on the playground. I was playing with my babi nefyo. ~ **Christian-Ross**

We wir runi in the sun. We rand with the greytoos. ~ **Liyanelisa Nonnies**

I am talking to the feri. She was sleeping with her friends. ~ **Marafia Kaitro**

I went to my cusins Ben and Riko. We went to the farm. ~ **Riane Victor**

She is Playin biy the tap. She wis playin a lon. ~ **Skylar Goliath**

it was a fun wicen. I had ciskcrim. it was yum. ~ **Paballo Mabapa**

I went to me kusin and I briy. I mat a tent a my kuzn. ~ **Liam Whyte**

I am with my lifl st. I am happy jut in the pool. ~ **Hlalumi Manyonta**

We Pas the HaySpool. It was veri hot. ~ **Endinako Skepe**

The chluyld was fishing. The girl was looking at The crab. ~ **Esethu Madotyeni**

MY PET ALIEN

My pet elien lix to play tag. And he lix to sleep on the pan. He lics to clom the trae. He lix to whip kads. He lix to drick coke. He is a purple elien. His name is bryin. He has nine eyes. He is a rooob alien. ~ **William Preston**

He is seventeen yis old. He liks to play with me. His name is Sam. He has 10 legs. His colour is blue. He has 11 iys. He sleeps on the chri. Me and Sam wnt to go fishng. He has a dog. He has 10 litil uys. He has 5 malfs. He eats butflis. ~ **Karli Minnie**

I fownd a alien we like to play opingats. He is orange and his nam is sporcls. He is small with big eyes. He stepss on the roof. He likes to eat a chop. ~ **Luca Schoeman**

His name is Ken. He is big. He has three eyes. He has two legs. His colour is grey and he eats green beans. He sleeps undir the bed. ~ **Kungawo Memeza**

my pet aliens name is mack. She is funey. I Love my alien wen my aliens is hapiy I Love it. my pet Loves me. She sleeps. She eat apll. ~ **Liyema Outshiki**

My pet alien's name is Llook. We like to play feck. And we go to space. And he is big and he likes to eat a blgru. And he is veri goo. He's eyes is blue. He's legs is ruf. He's blue. He sleeps on my bed. ~ **Cwenga Dibi**

WHAT IS LILY DOING?

Lily play we dos. Lily tishdos. Lily zi mam waz sed bcs play a lon. ~ **Lusikelelo Mdlalana**

Lily plad wut the mis and rats. Lily like to plad wut the bunee. Lily like to Pla dob fom. Lily like to Plad wut the alvs. ~ **Avery Malai**

Lily and the rats had tea. Lily loves to playad with the tedi. She dit sleep. the nax moning Lily Playad with the freri. ~ **Keishia Martins**

Lili like to haf fun with the ras. Lily like to payd with the bis. Lily like to haf fun with the ted. Sh like to play with the budth. ~ **Caidon Swartz**

Lily like to play with hir new frends. Lily play teacher teacher with hir new frends. Lily plays with the alvs and fowd treasure. ~ **Riley Johaar**

Lily playd with her frens. She plays tichar tichar with her frens and she dranck tea with the lifal rats. ~ **Lolwethu Jacobs**

Lily was lowny on the fom. Lily playd wath har dolls. Lily playd wath har woter. Lily family was sad Pickos Lily was dring tea. Lily was Playing wath awlvs. ~ **Zurnain Akram**





GRADE 1B

FRONT: Keishia Martins, Riley Johaar, Liyema Outshiki, Avery Malai, Lusikelelo Mdlalana, Oyame Konongo, Cwenga Dibi, Lolwethu Jacobs, Luminathi Camngca, Stacey Bangure.

BACK: Mrs R. Bellingan, Riko Steynberg, Karli Minnie, Mia le Roux, Caidon Swartz, William Preston, Tatum Buys, Luca Schoeman, Kungawo Memeza, Zurnain Akram.

INSERT: Akhanani Maphanga



GRADE 1E

FRONT: Ntandoyenkosi Fikeni, Sophia Ott, Mya Dos Santos, Nickathan Oormeyer, Taygan George, Neah Van der Berg, Roxanne Stevens, Naledi Mateza, Andre Putter

BACK: Liam Wormald, Jamon Pienaar, Sonwabiso Mhambi, Anton Venter, Gabriella Lekas, Ayavuya Blouw, Azalea Sauls, Allen-Keziah, Qazo Booi.

INSERT: Alexis Basson



GRADE 1K

FRONT: Marafia Kaitro, EsethuMadotyeni, Christian-Ross Maya, Paballo Mabapa, Amy Gerber, Sayid Kuhlana, Hlalumi Manyonta, Ariya Adolf, Riane Victor
BACK: Skylar Goliath, Liyanelisa Nonnies, Lukho Pehlo, Eden Hufkie, Tyler Mongwe, Liam Whyte, Andrew Finlaison, Avia Cona, Endinako Skepe
INSERT: Aaliya Madaugee, Jesse Meyer



GRADE 1 TEACHER TEAM

Ms Magda Michaels, Mrs Bronwynne Kingwill, Mrs Moyra Marais, Mrs Robyn Bellingan



Mrs Moyra Marais

I love you. I like you for hel ping.You are kind. You are the best. You make me smil. – Amy Gerber



Mrs Robyn Bellingan

Mrs Bellingan is the best teech. She is fun and she maces me smyl. I love her and she loves us. – Riley Johaar



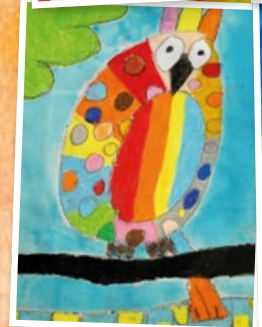
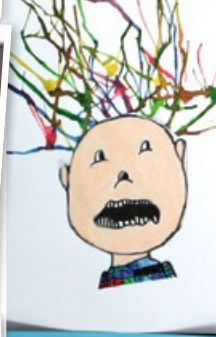
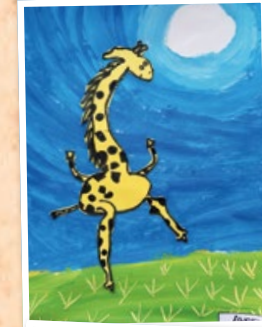
Mrs Bronwynne Kingwill:

Mrs kingwill is nise. I love mrs kingwill. Mrs kingwill is funny. She loves us very mush. – Avia Cona



Ms Magda Michaels

I love my tichor and she helps me when I am stuk. She is very cinde. I love her and she love me too. She is good. – Allen-Kezia Block





100 Days Wiser...

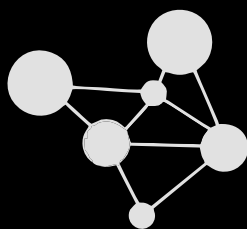
19 July 2023

Celebrating **100 DAYS** of love, wisdom and fun with our little scholars!

Our Grade ones transformed into adorable grandparents to mark this special milestone, teaching us that age is just a number when it comes to learning, having fun and making memories.



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GRADE 2B

FRONT: Ngcwele Nofemele, Katelynn Brunette, Jamie-Lee Minnies, Mihle Langa, Madison Klerk, Linique Booysen, Asiphile Ngudle, Jaqwan Ahmed, Luchumile Goliath, Liam Raath
BACK: Trenn Naudé, Nicole Vermeulen, Anthony Davids, Mercy Chawana, Elcke-Lynn Blom, Nixon Borlase, Lèmari Grobler, Zanké Bellingan, Nathan Kiggundu, Natanim Wolde, Milani Mayekiso, Mrs N Burger



GRADE 2L

FRONT: Connor Nel, Nola Msutwana, Hibbah Kazi, Jua van Jaarsveld, Isabelle Bester, Liam Pienaar, Lilly-Ann Brunette, Kiara Knoesen, Zanelle Botha, Owam Kotishini, Kemar Klasse, Tumelo Lukubeni, Miss J Williams
BACK: Liyasanelisa Kula, Israel Linch, Mia Lategan, Lithalande Zono, Callum Geel, Grace Kitching, Taylor Bosman, Cara Murray, Kamva Galada, Zahra Smith



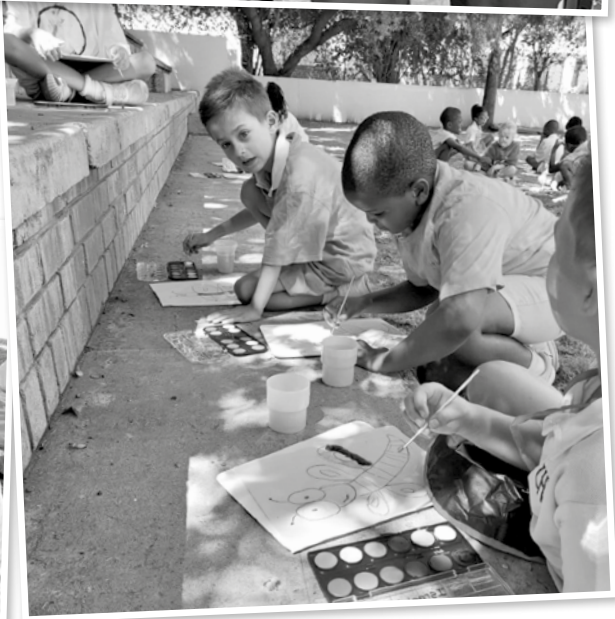
GRADE 2P

FRONT: Mark Copeman, Mandla Mahlaba, Arsema Okbagergish, Keira Kingwill, Andrew McEwan, Khazimla Fundi, Ghisela Lategan, Scarlett May, Lihan van Jaarsveld
BACK: Leah Scriven, Mia Herrington, Gia du Preez, Richter de Wet, Iminathi Sididi, Skye van Loggerenberg, Oyintando Desha, Courtney Diza, Martech Persensie, Alexis Dyasi, Mijke van Aswegen, Mrs C Potgieter
ABSENT: Quade Roman



GRADE 2 TEACHER TEAM

Mrs Valerie Lewack, Mrs Natasha Burger, Mrs Corrie Potgieter, Miss Jetaime Williams, Miss Merisha van der Merwe



Grade 2 Creative Writing

MEET MY PET DOG!

Today I'm gong to tell you abut my pet dog. Her name is Lucy. She is fluffy and short. She plays with her toys and also with my mom and dad shos. I gev her food and water. My dad and my mom also gev her food and water. She eats Montego food. She is very blak. We like to play ball.

~ **Jua van Jaarsveld**

My dogs are fluffy and soft. I geve theme a beeg plat of food. The boys name is Sholem and the ladys name is Lexy. There fafrit food is dog food. There are black. I love Sholem and Lexy. Lexy is 3 and Sholem is 11. There like to play. ~

Leah Scriven

My dog looks like pich and black. I like to take a wok with my dog. My dogs name is floppy. She likes to bred with grevi. We like to play out sud with my frinds Me and my dog on the weekend we like to go vizet my grany and my ompu. I love you ~

Mihle Langa

MY BEACH ADVENTURE

On Saturday my family and I went to the beach. My friend and I went to swim with dolphin's. Then we ate sandwiches, ice-cream and cooldrink. Afterwirds we made a sandcastle. We decorated the sandcastle with shells. Mum called us. It whus time to go. We had a luvly day at the beach. ~

Hibbah Kazi

It was a nice hot day. My famile and I went to the beach. I saw a whale jumping a rond in the waves. My mom got ice cream for us. My brother had a chocolate ice cream and I had a chocolate ice cream too! My mom and my dad went to swim in the sea. We went to the rockpool and I got a fish! ~ **Courtney Diza**

HELP! I'M THE SIZE OF AN ANT!

My dad is an inventor. One day I was looking around in his workshop. I accidentally bumped the table. The RAY-Gun fell off the table and fired a ray at me. I bumped my head as I fell onto the floor. When I woke up, I was the size of an ant!...

...When I was ant size I was scared Help! I explored for a littl bit but then my dad left I was alone. I fawnd the windo yes! It's a long jump weeeee! I went home good night!

Good morning I'm hungry chocolat out my mommy cupbord mmmmm yum yum! I jumpt onto my dad sholder. I shouted at dad he hard me! Yes yes yes yes yes finily. I'm bake to normal! Happy Day! ~ **Lémari Grobler**

...When I was the size of an ant, I saw an youmungest (humongous) act that was chasing me all arownd the house. I don't no what to do! Then my dad called the cat but he didn't no about the size of an ant. Then I tride to say thank you but my dad didn't hear me. I cept on walking for an adveshier. Then I heard a ttttttt just like a monky. There was a monky behind me. Hhhhhh! I screamed. Then the monky went away, so I went on for adveshier.

My dad came and he called me but he didn't see me. So he saw that I was gone.

Then my dad saw me! Then he grabed the size magene and he sized me back to narmal. You sceared me for a moment. Oh sorry. It's ok. Are you hungreay? YES DAD! What did you make? I made pasta. Yum yum yum yum yum! We can have some ice cream. Yum yum yum yum yum! ~

Mia Herrington

....I saw an ant scurkis. So I went to the ant scurkis. I had fun at the ant scurkis. And then I went home. When I went to the ant scurkis, I had a cupcake and losts of fun.

I drank a poshen. Wen I woke up I was a girl. I ran to mom and dad. Then mom was so happy. We went to the scurkis, we had lots of fun. ~ **Isabelle Bester**

...I scam help! help! help! but nobody hird me I was scraerd that I will be a ant forever! But being an ant was a little fun because I go to sneak in to my sisters room. And I go to eat my mothers vanala cake. I had the time of my life being an ant. I also most forgot I got to bite my sisters hair (hehe).

How I became a human againie. I bamted my head and fell a sleep. The next day I falled oky. And I woke up in the workshop. My family looked happy they said you are oky! they said. We had choclote cake and then we had an ant party

~ **Jammie- Lee Minnies**

NEWS SNIPPETS

On my birthday I playd cricket. The uther team won. The cack was very dlisish! The milktart was dlisish too! The water fit was very fun. Me and the kids playd soccer. My teem scord six gols. Then we playd rugby. My teem scord ten tride. Then we playd crickt and soccer igen. ~ **Mark Copeman**

On Friday I went to Somerset to go and visit my mom. We went to On Main for dinner and I ordered a pizza. The next morning I dyed my hair black and so I leaved my hair. It was 5 o'clock then I washed my hair so that it was clean and new. My sister help me to wash my hair.



Mrs Natasha Burger

We all love you Mrs Burger, you are the best teacher I ever met. You teach us amasing stuff and you care.
- Asiphile Ngudle



Mrs Corrie Potgieter

She is soo kind. She loves us a lot. She's a lovely teacher. I love her with my live. And if she was not here I would be sad
- Courtney Diza



Miss Merisha van der Merwe

Miss V has allways been very funny. Miss V has such a nice smile. Miss V has the biggest heart ever. - Jocelyn King

It was Monday and I went to do my hair at the salon. I finished my hair at last. I was so so tired. My aunty Emmy went to the shops to buy me some water and some Lays. I ate all of the Lays. I really enjoyed it. I got home and I slept. When I woke up, we went to Graaff reinet. ~ **Khazimla Fundi**

On Saturday I went to my grans. I had a sleepover with my cuzon and frends. We

had so much! We wached movies. The next morning we had brexfirst. We went on a trip to a restrant. It was fun.

I went hoers-riding. The hoers name was Star. It was so much fun. She got hungree. I allmost fell off but my dad catcht me! I went home. ~ **Zanelle Botha**

We went to Maritus and swam lots of times. We also swam in the sea. We also got to snorkel deep in the sea. One day we were on the boat. We staded on the boat for 7 and a half hours! I ate ice cream and pancakes. It was lots of fun.

We travelled a long way back to Graaff Reinet. We went on two flights. Then we drove 45 min to the bay. Then we drove 2 hours to home sweet home. ~ **Lihan van Jaarsveld**

This holiday Benjy cam. Josh and Benjy wir campin. They starer a fier. They ate chips and swets. In the morning, thay had hot choclet and then they cam back.

My brother Josh made a raft. Then we testid the raft. Me and Josh went on the raft first. The dady went on and then dady fell in and dady was wet! Then we went to toun. ~ **Keira Kingwill**

My Sister and my Mom and I went to the bus to fo to Joburg. The bus has the best sleeper. When we were at Joburg I went to my uncles house. Then I went to my uncles shop. Then I went to my uncles house to sleep. Then I went to PE. BUT I went by car. When I was in PE

I ate Mcdonalds. Then I went to bed. ~ **Natanim Wolde**

On Thersday I went strate home wen we got home I boled with my cricket bol. And then we eta super. On Friday morning woke up I kicked my rugby bol. And I went to the veluet we saw meerkats, waterbuk, kuoduo, bboons and crows.

And we wer in the crowl. And we wer catshing sheep. Mark came to our farm he was fun. And then we wer on our phons. ~ **Trenn Naudé**

When my mom and dad and I go to Jbay We Went to my granny Ria and John. I ate lots of cake and Mcdonls three time it was the first time Ria and John had mcdorls. Then I was playing with my ball. Then I kicked it ovor the gate it went in the bushes it was to deep to get it. But days waiter we went shoping I got a cool face ball.

My granny droped me of at my cousins. When I was at my anty house I went to my cousin Taylor room we stayed up to 10.0am. We pladed of games the games was Robox it was so fun playing. ~ **Nixon Borlase**

Me and my family pack out stuff. We went to camping and we saw lots of animals. We ment someone then I am getting a new freind. We got eighty-five points. It,s was a fun time!

Anty reament invited us to the wedy. It,s was so fancy. Ther was a cool swimming

pool. I got a new friend. Me and my dad dance with me then the man does not now how to dance! ~ **Zanké Bellingan**

MY HUIS

Ons huis het kumer in ons huis. Twwe slaapkamers met budkames, kombuis en ;n sitkamer met eekamer. Mye slaapkamer is mooi. Mammu maak lekker kos in die kombuis en eke et dit. Mamma en pappa slaapkamer is nie netjies. Ek kyk televisie en speel met my Speelgoed. Mamma en pappa badkamer het 'n stort. My budkamer het nie stort maar het 'n bad. ~ **Asiphile Ngudle**

THE ADVENTURE OF LULU THE LLAMA

Today is Vrydag and I am going home with Anthony for the weekend. His transport picked us up from school to his home. when we got there I met his mom and Liam they realy are a warm family. After a while his dad came to pic us up to go to the optonitris for Anthony's lenses. I also tried on some glasses. On ourway home we had ice cream. In the evening we had fish and chip and my favourite pink milkshake ~ **Anthony Davids**

Lulu and I went to a hockey match. We went to Wimpy for a milkshake. Lulu and I went to the fun far. ~ **Elcke Blom**

Nini and I when we went home we ate some chips after we played and I showed the lulu the llama to my friends they were very ikcted to play with lulu. ~ **Ngcwele Nofemele**







GRADE 3HJ

BACK: Miah de Bruin, Shiloh Plaatjies, Angelique Fortuin, Gemma Murray, Kelly van Rensburg, Thomas Krige, Imboyethu Nondlazi, Cathryn Davenport, Kwandokuhle Futshane

FRONT: Mrs Heunis-Jones, Willca Visagie, Calum Deyssel, El-Rico van der Merwe, Leah Abader, Frederick MMC, Othandwayo Dontsa, Chivandr  Stoffels, Lunathi Wellman, Humera Shoaib



GRADE 3K

BACK: Nicaylin Pieterse, Ben Steynberg, Ayat Qaiser, Ava Mafeking, Michael Maritz, Kirsten Trollip, Micela Stern, Liyada Bodlani

FRONT: Mrs. Kotz , Bohlale Ralepelle, Anthony Blom, Taymor Davids, Nareece Wessels, Uziah Willemse, Zachary Mostert, Hannah van der Walt, Alizwa Ngcangula, Antonique Adams, Diego Peterson

INSERT: Clashay Lamont



GRADE 3M

BACK: Faith-Lynne Plaatjies, Jianna Hardine, Thomas Short, Jocelyn King, Ben Wormald, Achuma Magwentshu, Cayley Brunette, Zack Arends, Leyanah Koeberg.
FRONT: Mrs. Trish King, Mia Serfontein, Othaliwe Daliwe, Elizabeth Fourie, Zoey Buys, Harlee Palmer, Amia Steenkamp, Rosemary Brown, Taylor Liesing, Imitha Memani, Leandro Norman.
INSERT: Matthew Bosch



GRADE 3 TEACHER TEAM

Miss Judy van Heerden, Mrs Chanzelle Heunis-Jones, Mrs Katie Kotzé, Mrs Trish King



THE MAGICAL ADVENTURE - THOMAS KRIGE

Ones a pon a time. I wace up and I saw a magical door in my room. I open the door and I see numbers and three vairy big black arms. I realised that I was inside a clock. The door was kloesd and it wase loced. There was animals to! I cant get out. How can I get out? I will aske for help but I cant speeck to animals. I tirmed into an animal. I was a bee. Now I can speeck to the uther bees! I spook to the bee and he said there is a hey hidden. I looked under the floure. I looked in the grass. I looked everywhere and I saw the key on the black arm. I got the key and went out. The door went away.

FRIENDLY LETTER FROM THE WOLF - SHILOH PLAATJIES

Dear grandmother
I am in jail. They pot me in without proof. The pig said you sould sit on a pin. I'm sorry gran I was not at your birthday. Mrs Pig made me so mad. Then I got arrested but I have a confession. I did eat the pigs but one was already dead. The second pigs house fele down. It was me that sneezed down the house. Gran please get me out of creepy jail.

With love Al

DIARY ENTRY AS THIRD LITTLE PIG - ANGELIQUE FORTUIN

Dear Diary
I was on my phone when I herd my brothers died. I was so heart brocken and I was mad to. I herd that wolf got arrested and I am happy for it. I didn't meant to say his granma can go sit on a pin, I love old grannis. I am still mad at that wolf. I hope he dies in jail. I really miss my brothers and hope they rest in peace.

DIE DIEF - MIAH DE BRUIN

Die vrou loop met haar handsak in die park. Sy sit op die bank iemand praat met haar op die foon. Die dief sien iets op die bank. Hy dink hy wil die handsak steel. Die vrou sê waar is my handsak? Die dief het dit gesteel. Sy bel die polisieman. Help! Die dief steel my handsak. Hulle vang die dief. Dankie sê die vrou.

DAGBOEK INSKRYWING - CATHRYN DAVENPORT

Liewe dagboek
Vandag het ek 'n nuwe maat gemaak. My nuwe maat is 'n leeu. Ek en my broers het aan-aan gespeel. Die jagters het hom gevang in 'n net. Ek het die net gebyt baie hard. Die net het gebryk en die leeu was vry. Ek en die leeu was beste maats.

Grade 3 Creative Writing

MY SPORT WEDSTRYD - OTHANDWAYO DONTSA

Dit was 'n baie lekker dag. Ons het baie vrou opgestaan. Ek en my maats het op die skool bus, my pizza geëet. Daan het ons hokkie gespeel. Ons het 'n doel geslaan. Een van my maats het geval by die wedstryd, maar die ander skool het gelag. Daar was 'n tweede wedstryd. By die tweed wedstryd het die ander skool 'n doel geslaan. Dan het ons hander geklap vir hulle. Wat dink jy het geber?

LETTER FROM MR. WOLF - LEYANAH KOEBERG

Dear Granny
Happy birthday! Wall - I'm I'm in jail. Before you get mat this is why I am in jail. I want to make you a cake for your birthday but I didn't have enough suger. I went to two little pig's I had a bad snees I blow both of the homes down. Granny will you please come and visit me.

Lots of love Al

THE MAGICAL ADVENTURE - AMIA STEENKAMP

I wake up in the morning. I got up from the bed. Wow!!! I saw a magical door. It was brown and had beautiful glowing sparkels. I have never seen such a thing. I opened it and landid in a magical word. There where giant flowers and blue purple ish trees. I looked at myself saw a beautiful glowing gown with a magic wand. Suddenly a fairy and miarmady walknd to the miarmady lost het the fary lost her wings. What happend to you gus. miloosha came and took my wing said the fairy she is the evil prince and that was our darkest day. I will help you I there magic back. All the fiarys and miarmadys were so happy made them sing. I went back home in my room. I enjioned my in adventure with the scert door.

ANNA AT THE SEA - JOCELYN KING

One day there was a girl called Anna she had long brown hair. She came to see the sea. When she got there she saw two crab's one was in the water and one was out the water. She saw a whole bunch of palm trees with coconut's on. She saw a brown seal that was very big. She had bonoculars around her neck. There was lots of seaguls at the beach. The she saw a shell and it was glowing. She picked it up and it turned her in to a pirate! She saw that she was on a big ship. She had a sword in her hand it was very sharp. There was all so two other men on the ship. She had a fight and won. The parrot was happy she won.

LETTER FROM MR. WOLF - ANTONIQUE ADAMS

Dear Granny
Such a terrible thing has happened. I am in jail! So let my explain I am goig to make you a birthday cake but I ran out of sugar. I went to my neighbour they're all pigs. The first little pig had made his house out of straw I asked for sugar the first and secend pig said no and died and I went to jail and I am very hungry.

Love from Al.

HOLIDAY NEWS - NICAYLIN PIETERSE

This holiday I went to P.E. First we packed our clothes and of we went. It was a long journey Then we arrved in P.E at two oclock. After that we had a draai and I roasted three marshmallows. Next I went to bed and watched a movie. finally we packed our bags and said good bye. Then we packed our bags for school.

DIARY ENTRY OF THE THIRD LITTLE PIG - ALIZWAS NCANGULA

Dear diary
Today a wolf came knocking at my door. I was at home busy makeing myself warm then I heard a knock it was the wolf. And he said Mr. pig Mr. pig let me in I did not answer. I phoned the police and the reporter. I heard my brothers got killed. And the wolf got arrested.

DIE PAP WIEL - NAREECE WESSELS

Daar was 'n takbok wat stout was. Sy naam was Danser. Een oggend almal help kersvader om die om die sak in die slee in pak. Hulle gaan weg. Daar was 'n pap wiel. Die takbokke sien die sak en eet die sjokolade. Hulle sit kersvader in die sneeu.

Die takbokke is moeg. En hulle slaap.

DIE PAP WIEL - BOHLALE RALEPELLE

Een dag daar was 'n takbak. Hy was baie pap en hy slaap. Kersvader sê: ons het 'n pap takbak. Die takbaks sê: ons willie wag nie ons moet gaan by die huise en gee vir die seun en meisies se geskenke.

KERSFEES STORIE - TAYMOR DAVIDS

Op oukersaand se die takbooke ek is te moeg ek mout slaap! Nea stan op ons mout gaan!

Dit is nog nag aal die kinderjies slaap nog kersvader en sei elfetjies verk. Maar die elfetjies val aan die slaap. Kersvader skree skrik wakker een elf skrik wakker maar. Die rert slaap en helle slaap en droom aan. Kersvader gee die laste gesknk vir 'n mesie.

Kersvader gan noorth pool en. die elfwitjies slaap leller in die laaie.



Mrs Chanzelle Heunis-Jones

Mrs H-J is funny and playful. She helps us with our work. She tel us funny stories. She liks animlas. – Gemma Murray



Mrs Katie Kotzé

Thank you for teaching me. I love your coloring and your blending. I now you don't like us playing in the bathroom. You are very pretty and lovely. – Hannah van der Walt



Mrs Trish King

She has the best learning way. She makes sure we have lots of fun. And wen Mrs King come she showed us mooves for the mind. I am so happy that I have a teacher like Mrs King. – Leyanah Koeberg



Miss Judy van Heerden

Aunty Judy loves sweets. Same times she shouts. She helps where she can. She tells us jokes. – Willca Visagie

DIE WILDTUIN - LEYANAH KOEBERG

Ek was verveeld toe dink ek ek kan na die wildtuin. Toe het ek in my kar geklim en begin ry. Toe ek daar kom toe kom daar skielik <n olifant. Die olifant het water op my kar gespat. Derek daar na toe kom daar <n leeu ek het ampers my broek nat gepee. Dit was al 5 hour ek wo nie in die dongker huis toe nie totsins diere!

DIE WILDTUIN - ZOEVY BUYS GR 3

Ons het da na toe gery. skrielik is daar <n koedoe voor ons kar. Ek het geskree, toe sê my beste maat Leyanah moenie bang is nie. Sê my mamma ag nee wat nou weer ons gaan nou kyk wat ons kan maak. Ons ry maar toe al aan en ek sê kom ons sit onder die boom maar toe ek weer sien kom daar <n skilpad. Ek was glad nie tevrede nie. Maar die bruin leeu het ons beskerm. Ek was so gelukkig dankie tog!!! You!!!



Grade 3 Market Day 2023

Early Monday morning, 16 October, saw Union Preparatory School host its annual Grade 3 Market Day.

The excitement was palpable as our little entrepreneurs set up their stalls and showcased their goods and services to the rest of the school.

From sweet treats and homemade crafts to fun games and activities, the market had something for everyone. The kids really went all out with their creativity and it was heartwarming to see them confidently interacting with customers and making sales.

Kudos to all the Grade 3s and their parents who helped make this event a huge success.

We're proud to announce that all our little entrepreneurs walked away with impressive profits.





GRADE 4 H

BACK: Mateo Schoeman, Klara van Jaarsveld, Kamohelo Mosotho, Sintayu Kaitro, Kate Scott, Tiyanah Abader, Lisa McEwan, Sibusiso Jantjies, Sibabalwe Silimeni, Limyoli Tsibane

FRONT: Mrs M. Hobson, Reece Gibbons, Elaih Morkel, Minentle Pink, Kim-Lynn Finnis, Edwin van Greunen, Ahnaf Uddin, Mackenzie Preston, Buhle Mamase, Raydon Hendricks, Zizo Nazo



GRADE 4 D

BACK: Ongako Solomon, Emihle Pietersen, Grant Murray, Michael Finlaison, Allison Gilfillan, Emma Burger, Isabel Hyldig, Matthew Jacobs, Bhothe Mussa

FRONT: Muhammed Steele, Emily Marais, Yolo Vutula, Bonolo Raula, Uzai Fillis, Lwandle Kubashe, Carlie George, Amisha Williams, Sisipho Matolengwe, Mrs G van Deventer

INSERT: Megan Meyer, Phawuluhle Teka



GRADE 4 V

BACK: Chumasande Tsewu, Mia Labuschagne, Elijah Scott, Jameson Houseman, Noah Greene, Taylor Jacobs, Aaron Dyter, Faith Hoffman, Eli Scott, Brynmore Lepotha, Mr. M van Rooyen
FRONT: Mphumzi Runeyi, Zona Nazo, Morgan Jacobs, Layla Ott, Uyathandwa Tsewu, Alexander Olivier, Daniël Davenport, Kiaan Beyers, Luvuyo Hlabisa, Ray-Lynne Visagie, Ziyamo Tsutsu, Preston Owusu

Creative Writing

GRADE 4 D

When I am older want to be a hairdresser, because I like doing hair and nails. When my friends come and visit I make their hair and nails look pretty.

~ **Emma Burger**

I want to be a pilot when I grow up because I want to help people get from one place to another. I would like to help families get home to their families that live far away.

~ **Isabel Hyldig**

I want to be a professional rugby player. My dream is to play for the Bokke

~ **Yolo Vutula**

I want to become a nail artist. I want to do people's nails and make money. I would like to start my own business.

~ **Carlie George**

I want to become a paleontologist so I can find out more about dinosaurs. I am also going to sell them for millions of Rand. Then I can buy a luxury house and car and eat lekker food.

~ **Matthew Jacobs.**

I want to become a doctor so that I can help the sick people. So that they can live with their families for a long time.

~ **Sisipho Matlongwe**



GRADE 4 TEACHER TEAM

Mr Marchant van Rooyen, Mrs Gweny van Deventer, Mrs Michaela Hobson, Mrs Belinda Botha

When I grow up I want to be just like my dad, a Game capture specialist. Because you earn lots of money from selling the animals.

~ **Grant Murray**

I want to become a few things when I grow up. I want to decide between a Policewomen, a lawyer and a teacher.

~ **Shionay van Heerden**

I want to become an engineer. I will be able to fix people's cars and so much more. I will also be a Youtuber on the side.

~ **Uzai Fillis**

I want to be a Youtuber. It will make me

rich and famous. Best of all I will have fun while doing it.

~ **Bonolo Raula**

I want to become a person that takes care of children. Because I always take good care f babies and small children.

~ **Emily Marais**

When I am older I want to be a doctor. I want to help people when they are sick and give them medicine that will make them better.

~ **Lwandle Kubashe**

I want to become a professional athlete, only because my mom said she believes in me.

~ **Uthmaan Steele**

I want to be an animal rescuer. Because I love animals and I will give them an amazing home to live in. ~ **Megan Meyer**

When I grow up I want to be an actuary. I enjoy Mathematics and I am good at it. ~ **Allison Gilfillan**

I want to be a professional soccer player. It is my favorite sport. ~ **Bthofe Mussa**

I want to be a doctor when I grow up because I want to help as many sick people as I can. ~ **Phawoluhle Teka**

When I grow up I want to be a doctor. Not just any doctor I want to be a Neurosurgeon a doctor that works with people's brains. ~ **Emihle Pietersen**

GRADE 4H

I want to be a South African Springbuck rugby player. I want to play number 9, and I want to be the captain. ~ **Sibabalwe Silimani**

I want to become a Fashion Designer, you have to be creative and be good at Mathematics. ~ **Zizo Nazo**

I want to be a teacher. I want to help children. I would like to be an art teacher. ~ **Tiyanah Abader**

One day I want to be an Olympic Swimmer. Swimming is my favorite sport. I've come this far, so I hope I will succeed. ~ **Mateo Schoeman**

I would like to be a farmer, because you take care of animals and you have big machines and tractors. I love being outside. ~ **Reece Gibbons**

I want to be a Springbuck rugby player. My jersey number must be number 8 and I want to be the captain. I will be honest and careful. ~ **Sibusiso Jantjies**

When I am older, I want to become an artist. I really enjoy doing art. It is my weapon. I think I am already an artist. I would like to be famous. My dream is to one day go and see the Mona Lisa painting. ~ **Lisa McEwan**

I want to be a vet. I am going to help animals, any animals. I will give them medicine. I want to help them because they are getting extinct. For example: People poach elephants and rhino's. I am excited for the future so I can be a vet. ~ **Mackenzie Preston**

I want to be a Youtuber. So I can play games, have a stream to get money for a house. I will also make plenty friends. ~ **Elaih Morkel**

I want to become a professional Hockey player. My dream is to play for the Proteas and represent our country. Hockey is one of my talents and I will love to play middle link. ~ **Klara van Jaarsveld**

I want to be a soccer player. ~ **Sintayu Kaitro**

I would like to be a teacher. I would like to be a teacher because I love children and helping them with work they don't understand. I will be kind to them every day but I will be strict when needed. ~ **Kate Scott**

I would like to be a Personal Hunter. I want to take people on hunts and hunt all over the world. One day I will also take my own children hunting. ~ **Edwin van Greunen**

I want to become a professional athlete. I would like to do sprinting events. I love sport it keeps me busy and healthy. ~ **Kim-Lynn Finnis**

I want to be a doctor so I can help people to feel better quicker. I like to help people even if they are not part of my family. ~ **Minentle Pink**

I want to become a Youtuber and a gamer. Because I want to just have fun while doing my job. ~ **Limyoli Tsbane**

One day I want to become a lawyer and take part in cases from the Justice Department. ~ **Kamohelo Mosotho**

My dream is to be a professional soccer player. I want to play striker in the team. ~ **Raydon Hendricks**

I want to be a policemen one day when grow up. The people will call me Mr Uddin. ~ **Ahnaf Uddin**

GRADE 4V

I want to be a Sportswomen when I grow up. I would like to travel overseas and take part in tournaments. My favourite sport is Tennis. My dream is to be a Grand Slam Champion at Wimbledon. My mom and dad did sport that is why I love doing sport. ~ **Taylor Jacons**

When I grow up I want to be a doctor. Because I want to help people, I always believed that helping people is a good choice. ~ **Chumasande Twesu**

I want to be a doctor because I want to help people feel better. I also want to save peoples lives from long term illnesses. ~ **Brynmore Lepotha**

I want to be a teacher. To educate young minds and to have fun in the classroom has always been my dream. I will be good at Keeping my class quiet. ~ **Mia Labuschagne**

I want to be a Marine Biologist. I want to be a Marine biologist because I am very passionate about animals and my favourite animals live in the ocean and in various bodies of water. I want to make a difference in this world for the better.



Mr Marchant van Rooyen

Mr van Rooyen is so kind and funny. He loves to play jokes and he cares about everyone. He is the best because he lets us play games in class, but he makes sure we are learning. ~ Taylor Jacobs



Mrs Gweny van Deventer

Mrs van Deventer is very funny and nice she is always helpful. She is the best teacher I have ever had. ~ Emma Burger



Mrs Michaela Hobson

You really are the best teacher ever. I really love you. I do not think I would be as good in Maths as I would without you. I will have a huge headstart to Gr.5. Thank you for all your help and care. ~ Mateo Schoeman

I love animals and all of the great features they have. ~ **Jameson Houseman**

I want to be a pilot and a farmer. I want to be a pilot because flying is fun. I also want to be a farmer because it runs in our family. My great grandfather was also a farmer and then my grandfather and now my dad. I want to carry on with the tradition. ~ **Daniel Davenport**

I want to be a doctor so I can save people's lives. Seeing people smile and wake up from a coma is a great feeling. I would like to find a cure for cancer and help people that get attacked by sharks. My brother also wants to be a doctor so we will be known as the Twin doctors.
~ **Elijah Scott**

I want to become a veterinarian because I love animals. ~ **Faith Hoffman**

I want to be a few things when I grow up; high jumper, doctor, a vet or even a rugby player. I am good at all of these things. I enjoy helping people and making people feel good about themselves. I love animals and I am a good athlete. ~ **Eli Scott**

One day I want to be a Fashion Designer and an artist. Because I don't want to buy clothes. I am going to make my mom a pretty dress. An artist takes many hours to draw a design. Believe in yourself. ~ **Zizo Nazo**

I want to be a rugby player for my country. I want to play in the World cup and win! I want to be famous I can't wait to have lots of fans. It is going to be an exciting journey. ~ **Noah Greene**

When I am older I want to be a doctor and a surgeon. I want to save lives!
~ **Aaron Dyter**

My beautiful dream is that I want to be a doctor when I grow up. Because I want to help people and I care a lot about humans. My grandfather and Auntie are both very good doctors and this has inspired me. ~ **Uyathandwa Tiyo**

I want to be a scientist, because when I was younger I was very interested in Science. My grandpa was in the war and he was a scientist. My grandpa taught me the periodic table which has made me extremely interested in Science.
~ **Alexander Olivier**

I want to be a Police Officer because I can help people with solving theft and

murder crimes as well as kidnappings.
~ **Morgan Jacobs**

I want to be a Mechanical Engineer, because I like to fix and build stuff. My brother he does the same but just on a laptop. ~ **Kiaan Beyers**

I want to be a vet because the animal population is dropping so I want to increase the population. ~ **Layla Ott**

I want to become an engineer because I love building and I love planning projects. It makes me think of all the wonderful things we can build to better our country. ~ **Ray-Lynne Visagie**

One day I want to become a veterinarian. I want to help people and their dogs. The relationship between a dog and its owner is beautiful.
~ **Mphumzi Runeyi**

I want to become a lawyer when I grow up. My dad is a lawyer and I want to be just like my dad. ~ **Luvuyo Hlabisa**

Museum day

This was one for the history books...

The Grade 4 learners took on an exciting history project. They were tasked with searching their homes and those of their relatives for items that outdate themselves. They had to research the items they had found, and the project culminated in a collaborative history day. They proceeded to display their precious items; creating a museum in the UPS dome, to which the grade one, two and three learners were invited.

As the children traveled back in time, the grade fours educated them on what each item was called and what it had been used for. There were a variety of antiques on display - and even some tasty treats to sample - but the younger children seemed most fascinated by the brick-like early cell phones and bulky cassette tapes!

~ **Katie Kotzé**



Interhouse quiz

On Friday morning, May 26, our Grade 4 general knowledge boffins represented their respective Houses in Union Preparatory School's annual Interhouse Quiz.

While DALY HOUSE was represented by Mateo Schoeman, Emma van den Heever, Mia Labuschagne and Morgan Jacobs; Taylor Jacobs, Kate Scott, Carlie George and Jameson Houseman took the stage for ARNOTT HOUSE.

Well done to our winning team, Daly, who came out victorious to retain the title, with 61 points to Arnett's 50.

CONGRATULATIONS to Emma van den Heever who was presented with the Horace Stanton Floating Trophy as Union Preparatory School's 2023 Grade 4 General Knowledge Champion following Friday's Interhouse Quiz.



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Athletics

On 26th of January the whole Junior Department (Gr1 – 7) came together partaking in our annual Interhouse athletics. We applaud all the learners for enduring the heat on the day and for participating in the events. Thank you to all the parents that came out to support the learners. Daly and Arnott competed well against each other but Daly proved to be too strong on the day, winning the Interhouse Athletics. We also congratulate all the learners that received podium positions.

“Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.” ~ John Wooden.



Cricket

U7 Cricket

For the first time in their lives, these boys were introduced to schoolboy cricket. Although they didn't play as many matches as their older peers, they still attended the practices. They attended the Gill College Mini-Cricket festival and thoroughly enjoyed it. There is much improvement in their bowling, batting and fielding skills. With so much potential in this year's grade one class, the future looks bright for Union cricket.

U9 cricket

Coaching U9 cricket has been an incredibly rewarding experience this year. Witnessing the growth of the youngsters, both as individual players and as a team, has filled me with great pride. The team quickly grasped the foundation cricket skills taught, and implemented these core skills confidently. The introduction of hardball cricket brought about much excitement, and so did the away fixtures, where trips on the school bus were filled with laughter and storytelling, all of which contributed to building camaraderie amongst the players. At fixtures, the team displayed effective collaboration and support both on and off the field. During matches, I observed



Mr Mpilo Njoloza
He is our best sports coache.
He interduce me to the best
criket coache. – Trenn Naudé

them demonstrating good sportsmanship, accepting both victories and defeats with grace. Thank you to all the parents for your support and for encouraging the little ones next to the field. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of their journey and look forward to many years of coaching and nurturing the talent of young players in the beautiful game of cricket. - Mr.Stuart Basson

U11A cricket

The season started off well for this team. They were very consistent, as proven by their results and the fact that they only lost one game in the first term. During the fourth term they played against much tougher opponents, losing to Graeme College. They took on Kingswood and were victorious in the pro 20 but unfortunately lost the 40-over fixture. Joshua Kingwill led the batting line up throughout the season, scoring his Maiden Half Century against Queens College, and was well supported by Nathaneal Phillips and Ryan Naudé. Fixtures played: Herbert Hurd, Cradock, Volkskool, Graeme College(pro20 and 40 over), Queens College(pro20 and 40 over) and Kingswood College(pro20 and 40 over) Wins-4 Losses-5

~ Mr Luther Rogers



U7 CRICKET

FRONT: Christian-Ross Maya, Qazo Booi, William Preston, Eden Hufkie, Cwenga Dibi, Luca Schoeman, Esethu Mdotyeni, Luminathi Camngca
BACK: Mr M. Njoloza, Andrew Finlaison, Tyler Mongwe, Andre Putter, Liam Wormald, Jamon Pienaar, Mr L. Rodgers



U8 CRICKET

FRONT: Taylor Bosman, Liam Pienaar, Connor Nel
BACK: Mandla Mahlaba, Leah Abader, Oyintando Desha, Gemma Murray, Keira Kingwill, Mr L. Rodgers





U9 CRICKET

FRONT: Richter de Wet, Mark Copeman, Lihan van Jaarsveld, Liam Raath, Trenn Naudé
BACK: Mr Basson, Leandro Norman, Ben Wormald, Matthew Bosch, Michael Maritz, Iminathi Sididi, Andrew McEwan



U11A CRICKET

FRONT: Joshua Kingwill, Morgan Jacobs, Nathanael Phillips, Edwin van Greunen, Ryonn Naudé
BACK: Kari Stern Cayden Thompson, Dante Mills, Robert Finlaison, Grant Murray, Mr L. Rodgers



U11B CRICKET

FRONT: Raydon Hendricks, Muhammed Steele, Adam Clark, Sintayu Kaitro, Sibusiso Jantjies, Bthote Mussa, Yolo Vutula
BACK: Likhazi Qomfo, Noel Shakane, Lwandle Dali, Clark Labuschagne, Jameson Houseman, Michael Finlaison, Mr JP. Kruger

Cross Country

Championing Resilience

On the 15th of September, our school hosted its annual cross country event, a day filled with determination, camaraderie, and a touch of adversity. This year, Mother Nature played a pivotal role, as competitors faced hot and windy conditions that added an extra layer of challenge to the race. But, despite the elements, it was a memorable day of athletic achievements.

The most significant change this year was the route extension through the Botany sports grounds. The added distance was a true test of endurance and commitment, pushing our runners to reach new limits in their abilities.

Leading up to the event, the participants displayed commendable dedication by participating in practice sessions twice a week. Their grit and tenacity during their training was inspiring, and it was no wonder they tackled the race day with similar determination.

The event was not only about the runners, though. Parents and supporters lined the sidelines, offering a wave of encouragement and applause. Their presence made the atmosphere even more electric, and their support was a testament to the strong sense of community within our school.

As the day unfolded, it became clear that every participant was a champion. We particularly congratulate Kiera Kingwill and Trenn Naudé,



Mercy Dzitiro and Connor Nel, and Zahra Smith and Liam Raath who placed first, second and third respectively in the junior girls' and boys' categories. Further congratulations go to Mackenzie Preston and Mateo Schoeman, Taylor Jacobs and Raydon Hendricks, and Uyathandwa Tiya and Preston Owusu who placed first, second and third respectively in the senior girls' and boys' categories.

~ Katie Kotzé



Junior boys winners

Junior girls winners

Senior boys winners

Senior girls winners

School Hockey Season Report

The past hockey season at Union Prep School has been nothing short of exceptional, marked by notable achievements and memorable moments on the field.

The u/9 and u/10 teams showcased their prowess with an unbeaten season. Their extraordinary dedication, teamwork, and relentless effort resulted in a series of impressive victories. These young athletes demonstrated their commitment to the sport and the school, making the entire Union Prep community proud.

The u/7 and u/8 teams also had an outstanding season, with just one loss at the end of the season. This remarkable performance showed the incredible progress and potential of our younger players. They have learned valuable lessons in teamwork, discipline, and determination, which will undoubtedly serve them well in their future endeavors on and off the field.

While our teams have excelled, it is equally important to acknowledge the values that have been instilled in our girls. The season has emphasized the significance of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and hard work. Our young hockey players have not only grown as athletes but as individuals who understand the value of discipline, teamwork, and perseverance.

u/10 hockey

The U/10 hockey season was a remarkable journey this year, marked by numerous away matches and unforgettable early morning bus trips. Throughout the season, the girls demonstrated significant improvement, showcasing their dedication and growth from the first game to the last. Beyond the scores, they embraced valuable lessons in sportsmanship, kindness, and the essence of teamwork. It was a season filled with growth, camaraderie, and beautiful memories.

ECES

This weekend of 14 to 16 July saw some of our u/10 hockey girls participating in the Elsie Coetzer Hockey School (ECHS) clinic in Bloemfontein.

This event was a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their skills, learn from talented players and grow as a team.

U/10A

Sunridge - 8-3 win
Herbert Hurd - 4-0 win
Hangklip - 9-5 win
Balmoral - 6-0 win
VP - 12-0 win
Collegiate - 8-0 win
Cradock - 10-1 win
Hangklip - 4-2 win
ECHS boys - 1-1 draw
ECHS girls - 7-1 win

GRT combo - 1-0 win
Grey boys - 2-0 win
GRT combo - 1-0 win
Claredon Park A - 6-2 win
Claredon Park B - 8-0 win
Volkskool - 5-0 win

UPS u/9A

Sunridge - 7-0 win
Herbert Hurd - 9-0 win
Hangklip - 9-0 win
Balmoral - 3-0 win
Claredon Park A - 10-0 win
Claredon Park B - 5-0 win
Gill - 5-1 win
Volkskool - 2-2 draw

UPS u/8A

Sunridge - 4-0 win
Herbert Hurd - 8-0 win
Hangklip - 7-4 win
Balmoral - 2-0 win
Gill - 2-1 win
Volkskool - 0-11 lost

UPS u/7A

Sunridge - 6-0 win
Herbert Hurd 3-1 win
Hangklip - 5-0 win
Balmoral - 4-0 win
Gill - 4-1 win
Cradock - 1-1 draw
Volkskool - 1-3 lost





U7 A HOCKEY

FRONT: Karli Minnie, Paballo Mabapa, Roxanne Stevens
BACK: Miss M. van der Merwe, Amy-Lee Gerber, Keishia Martins, Taygan George, Miss J. Williams



U7 B HOCKEY

FRONT: Sophia Ott, Mia le Roux, Aaliya Madaugee, Alexis Basson, Skylar Goliath, Gabriella Lekas, Riley Johaar
BACK: Miss M. van der Merwe, Miss J. Williams



U7 C HOCKEY

FRONT: Azalea Sauls, Ntandoyenkosi Fikeni, Neah van der Berg, Mya Dos Santos
BACK: Miss M. van der Merwe, Tahum Buys, Jesse Meyer, Avia Cona, Miss J. Williams
ABSENT: Liyasanelsa Nonnies



U8 A HOCKEY

FRONT: Mijke van Aswegen,
Courtney Diza, Mrs G. van Deventer,
Jua van Jaarsveld,
Miss J. van Heerden, Keira Kingwill,
Khazimla Fundi
BACK: Isabelle Bester, Mercy Dizitro



U8 B HOCKEY

FRONT: Gia du Preez, Hibbah Kazi
BACK: Mrs G. van Deventer,
Mia Herrington, Cara Murray,
Grace Kitching, Skye van Loggerenberg,
Miss J. van Heerden
INSERT: Endinako Skepe



U8 C HOCKEY

FRONT: Mihle Langa, Kiara Knoesen,
Lilly-Ann Brunette, Mia Lategan,
Lèmari Grobler, Jamie-Lee Minnies,
Scarlett May
BACK: Mrs G. van Deventer,
Miss J. van Heerden



U8 D HOCKEY

FRONT: Zanelle Botha, Ghisela Lategan, Katellynn Brunette, Zanke Bellingan,
BACK: Mrs G. van Deventer, Lithalande Zono, Elcke-Lynn Blom, Miss J. van Heerden



U9 A HOCKEY

FRONT: Gemma Murray, Jocelyn King, Cayley Brunette, Kirsten Trollip, Antonique Adams
BACK: Mrs M. Hobson, Hannah van der Walt, Mrs T. King



U9 D HOCKEY

FRONT: Willca Visagie, Liyand Bodlani, Ava Mafeking, Othandwayo Dontsa
BACK: Mrs M. Hobson, Clashay Lamont, Mrs T. King, Ayat Qaiser



U9 B HOCKEY

FRONT: Zoey Buys, Leah Abader, Nareece Wessels

BACK: Mrs M. Hobson, Micela Stern, Kelly van Rensburg, Leyanah Koeberg, Mrs T. King



U9 C HOCKEY

FRONT: Mrs M. Hobson, Cathryn Davenport, Angelique Fortuin,

Imboyethu Nondlazi, Mia Serfontein, Nicaylin Pieterse, Achuma Magwentshu, Mrs T. King



U10 B HOCKEY

FRONT: Carlie George, Reece Gibbons, Mackenzie Preston, Layla Ott

BACK: Miss J. Edwards, Tiyanah Abader, Uyatandwa Tiyo, Mrs J. van Jaarsveld





U10 A HOCKEY

FRONT: Emma Burger, Klara van Jaarsveld, Lisa McEwan, Taylor Jacobs, Allison Gilfillan
BACK: Miss J. Edwards, Emily Marais, Mrs J. van Jaarsveld



U10 D HOCKEY

FRONT: Mrs J. van Jaarsveld, Ray-Lynne Visagie, Zona Nazo, Miss J. Edwards
BACK: Megan Meyer, Buhle Mamase, Minentle Pink, Isabel Hyldig



U10 C HOCKEY

FRONT: Chumasande Tsewu
BACK: Faith Hoffman, Sisipho Matolengwe, Miss J. Edwards, Mia Labuschagne, Kate Scott, Mrs J. van Jaarsveld, Ongako Soloman, Emihle Peterson

UPS U/10 Hockey Festival

We are pleased to announce that our 2023 u/10 mini hockey festival was a great success!

The festival was held on Saturday, 17 June, at the Union High School AstroTurf.

Despite challenging windy conditions, it was heartening to see 130 young and aspiring hockey stars, who are still very much in their learner phase, putting in their best effort and striving for excellence in their performance.

The talent and potential on display was a testament that the future of hockey remains bright and promising in the Eastern Cape region.

We would like to extend our sincere congratulations to all the participants for their fantastic results and sportsmanship. Each participant deserves credit for putting up a commendable effort while showing determination, teamwork, and resilience on the field.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to all those who travelled from near and far to participate in the festival. Your support and participation were the main ingredients of this event.



GRAAFF-REINET FAMILY

**PROUD
SUPPORTER
OF
THE UNION
SCHOOLS**

Interschools 2023 hosted by Union!

Term 3 always brings great excitement and this year was no different! Interschools week brings much anticipation for the biggest sporting event of the year for our little Preppies! After many weeks of practice, these matches mean the most! Win or lose, these games are the reason for the hours of practice and our Preppies sure did not disappoint! With amazing war cries that sent chills down one's spine, to fantastic cheering sessions with the high school and some led by our own little leaders, these preppies have great spirit! Interschools week is truly a special event for any Unionite. Our boys and girls showed true sportsmanship both on and off the fields and courts and the hospitality team went above and beyond to make everyone feel welcome!

This is what some of our learners had to say:

The Chess interschools match was very exciting. It was nice to see that so many people love chess. I think that both sides played very well. The tension was very big. It wouldn't have mattered who won as long as we had fun – *Jameson Houseman*

It was a hot day and a very tough match. The A team had a draw of 2 all but I thought we lost 3 – 2. I am glad the A team has a winning streak. I got hit on the thumb when we played Volkskool. I can't wait to play interschools next year – *Jocelyn King*

On inter schools day I played rugby. We lost though. But I had lots of fun. After that I watched my brother. Then we went home – *Liam Raath*

We played a gents folschool. They won us. It was tuf. – *Keishia Martins*

We were playing a gents focskooool and it was attuf match. We won the match – *Luca Schoeman*

What I liked about interschools is that Volkskool made it harder for us to beat them so it was a struggle for us to beat them – *Grant Murray*

Interschools tennis was a blast. All our friends were there to cheer us on. There were so many delicious snacks and we had a mascot called Pom Pom, she was there too. The competition was tough, but everyone had fun. The vibe was awesome and everyone was so

kind. It was a nice day for everyone, some of us lost, but it does not matter it was still fun.

– *Emma Burger & Taylor Jacobs*

During the interschools chess we had some tense games, we had easy games and hard games. Even though Union won Volkskool might win next year. Union might also win but nobody knows except for God. – *Matthew Jacobs*

Well done to all our Preppies, parents and spectators on making this a wonderful Interschools!

Results as follows: (Union score is first)

Chess

Won 5 - 2

U10 Tennis

Boys lost 0 - 9

Girls won 7 - 2

Hockey

u/7A lost 1 - 3

u/7B lost 0 - 2

u/7C lost 0 - 4

u/8 B won 6 - 1

u/8 A lost 0 - 11

u/9 A drew 2 - 2

u/9B lost 0 - 4

u/10A won 5 - 0

Rugby

u/7A won 50 - 5

u/9B lost 0 - 29

u/9A lost 5 - 43

u/11B lost 5 - 53

u/11A won 17 - 5



U7 Rugby

The grade 1 boys came out in full numbers and full enthusiasm this year. They had a tough start but the more they played the more confidence they gained. There was a mixture of results, but the game that stood out was their Interschool's fixture against Volkskool. The boys were victorious, beating their Volkskool opponents 50-0. Season wins - 2, season losses - 4

U9A Rugby

This year I was privileged to coach 25 talented young boys. The U/9A team showed a lot of guts, determination and perseverance throughout the season as most of our opponents were double our size. This did not deter our efforts and we always managed to stand up and face the pressure head on, to put up an amazing spectacle.

The most memorable game must be the game we played against Queens College. This game showed our team's true character for never giving up when faced with a formidable opponent. The team were trailing 25 - 7 at half time and they managed to fight back, almost winning the game as the momentum shifted in our favour.

Here are some of the results this year:

Union vs Narsingstraat won 54 - 0
 Union vs Karel Theron won 42 - 24
 Union vs Herbut Hurd lost 5 - 12
 Union vs Ryneveld Primary lost 17 - 31
 Union vs Queens College lost 35 - 27
 Union vs Hangklip lost 37 - 5
 Union vs Greame College lost 12 - 26
 Union vs Graaff Reinet Primer lost 27 - 7
 Union vs Gill College lost
 Union vs Volkskool lost 45 - 5

Interhouse Rugby

The Interhouse Rugby was played with great excitement as this is the opportunity for the boys to showcase their talents against their own teammates. Daly and Arnott played a closely contested game but Arnott came out victorious at the end of the day. Thank you to all the boys for making this a memorable game. The final score was 24 - 17 to Arnott.

"Rugby is a game of COMMITMENT TEAMWORK and LOVE. Scrums are TOUGH and POWERFUL. Lineouts make TRUST and FRIENDSHIPS come TOGETHER. Constant SUPPORT, wherever you are and when that one person scores that try. The whole team takes the Glory" ~ Unknown~
 ~ Mr van Rooyen

U11A rugby

The u11A rugby team had a brilliant season. They played extremely well as a team and it paid dividends through the results they got. This team will surely achieve great things in Union rugby.

The team attended the Claredon Park Festival, where they were very successful in their results. Here they played against Charlo Primary, Lillyfontein, Herbert Hurd, Grey Primary, Woodridge and Clarendon Park, totaling 3 wins, 2 losses and a draw.

During the season they also played against St Andrews Bloem, Herbert Hurd, Muir College, Karel Theron, Narsingstraat, Hangklip, Queens College, Graeme College, Clarendon Park, Kroonvale Primary, Gill College and Laer Volkskool, achieving 8 wins and 4 losses.

The stand out games were against Muir College where the team was very dominant and beat the opponents by 24-0.

The game against Graeme College really defined this u11A side. From the kick off, Graeme College was put under pressure. Union controlled the match until the final whistle, led by inspirational captain Lukhona Bulembu. Union won 26-10.



U7 RUGBY

FRONT: Hlalumi Manyonta, Caidon Swartz, Cwenga Dibi, Illuminati Camngca, Qazo Boo, Riko Steynberg, Anton Venter, Jamon Pienaar, Ayavuya Blouw, Nickathan Oormeyer, Tyler Mongwe

BACK: Mr L. Rodgers, Sonwabiso Mhambi, Eden Hufkie, Luca Schoeman, William Preston, Andrew Finlaison, Andre Putter, Liam Whyte, Lukho Pehlo, Liam Wormald, Mr B. Speelman



U9 A RUGBY

FRONT: Owam Kotishini, Connor Nel, Trenn Naudé, Andrew McEwan, Leandro Norman, Richter de Wet, Lunathi Wellman, Lihan van Jaarsveld, Luchumile Goliath, Liam Raath

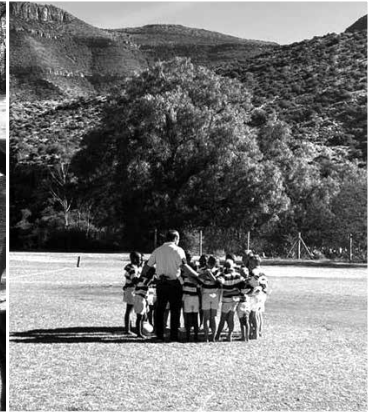
BACK: Diego Peterson, Iminathi Sididi, Matthew Bosch, Michael Maritz, Ben Steynberg, Ben Wormald, Frederick Maitland MC, Kwandokuhle Futshane



U9 B RUGBY

FRONT: Mark Copeman, Jaqwan Ahmed, Liam Pienaar, Natanim Wolde, Mandla Mahlaba, Owam Kotishini, Alexis Dyasi, Asiphile Ngdule, Tumelo Lukubeni, Kemar Klasse

BACK: Mr L. Rodgers, Milani Mayekiso, Lunathi Wellman, Frederick Maitland MC, Oyintando Desha, Iminathi Sididi, Taylor Bosman, Anthony Davids, Zack Arends, Israel Linch, Mr B. Speelman





U11 A RUGBY

FRONT: Alzano Japhtha, Isiphile Galela, Joshua Kingwill, Ryan Collett, Sibusiso Jantjies, Adam Clark, Muhammed Steele, Raydon Hendricks
BACK: Mr L. Rodgers, Ryonn Naudé, Grant Murray, Robert Finlaison, Lukhona Bulembu, Dante Mills, Lwandle Dali, Noel Shakane



U11 B RUGBY

FRONT: Mphumzi Runeyi, Edwin van Greunen, Eli Scott, Michael Finlaison, Aaron Dyter, Elijah Scott, Yolo Vutula, Benjamin Numunzwemge, El-Rico van der Merwe, Preston Owusu
BACK: Sinako Magwentshu, Matthew Jacobs, Likhazi Qomfo, Keith Hudson, Cayden Thompson, Noah Greene, Jameson Houseman, Kendall Krige, Mr M. Fletcher

Swimming

Keeping our heads above water in 2023

The 2023 swimming season was an eventful one. The season kicked off with the annual Interhouse gala, which was the first formal gala held in our new upgraded 25m pool. Arnott and Daly battled it out to be crowned gala champions. The competition was extremely close throughout the gala, but in the end it was the Daly swimmers' strong performance that saw them claim the victory. We saw amazing camaraderie and sportsmanship from all our learners who participated in the gala. The teacher relay team made quite a splash which will always be remembered by the swimmers.

A group of our swimmers represented the school at the Interschools gala. Congratulations to Mateo Schoeman who was awarded the junior Victor Ludorum. The junior Victrix Ludorum title was shared by Unions'

Taylor Jacobs and Volkskool's Zenicke van Schalkwyk. Later, some of our swimmers attended the Karoo gala and some were selected to represent the Karoo team at the Inter-District gala held in East London. The Karoo team claimed second place among the competing districts with a total of 378 points.

Our swimmers excelled at swimming events outside school as well. Daniel Davenport and Mateo Schoeman qualified for the Swimming South Africa Level 2 Regional Champs. Michael Finlaison, Daniel and Cathryne Davenport completed the 99th River Mile's fun family half-mile. Cathryne and Michael were the youngest boy and girl to cross the finish line. Emma Burger, Cathryne and Daniel Davenport, Allison Giffillan and Klara van Jaarsveld completed their first ever River Mile (1.6km).





A + B SWIMMING (These swimmers also represented the school at Interschools)

FRONT: Grace Kitching, Andrew McEwan, Mercy Dzitiro, Muhammed Steele, Uziah Willemse, Trenn Naudé, Carlie George, Cara Murray

MIDDLE: Jameson Houseman, Cathryn Davenport, Gemma Murray, Klara van Jaarsveld, Michael Finlaison, Jocelyn King, Michael Maritz, Mateo Schoeman, Daniel Davenport, Mrs N. Davenport

BACK: Mrs B. Botha, Lisa McEwan, Taylor Jacobs, Thomas Krige, Grant Murray, Allison Gilfillan, Emma Burger, Mathew Jacobs, Emma van den Heever



C + D SWIMMING

ROW 1: Katelynn Brunett, Jaqwan Ahmed, Zanke Bellingan, Elcke-Lynne Blom, Lèmari Grobler, Mercy Dzitiro

ROW 2: Liam Raath, Connor Nel, Zanelle Botha, Kiara Knoesen, Hannah van der Walt, Isabelle Bester, Keira Kingwill, Jua van Jaarsveld, Liam Pienaar, Andrew McEwan, Trenn Naudé

ROW 3: Mrs B. Botha, Leah Abader, Courtney Diza, Skye van Loggerenberg, Grace Kitching, Cara Murray, Sisipho Matolengwe, Taylor Bosman, Carlie George, Mia Lategan, Mijke van Aswegen, Mrs N. Davenport

ROW 4: Mia Labuschagne, Tiyanah Abader, Noah Greene, Kate Scott, Kelly van Rensburg, Mathew Jacobs, Isabel Hyldig, Jameson Houseman



KAROO TEAM

FRONT: Muhammed Steele, Mackenzie Preston, Cathryn Davenport, Gemma Murray, Daniel Davenport, Jocelyn King, Klara van Jaarsveld, Michael Maritz, Uziah Willemse, Mateo Schoeman

BACK: Mrs B. Botha, Emma van den Heever, Michael Finlaison, Emma Burger, Grant Murray, Allison Gilfillan, Thomas Krige, Taylor Jacobs, Lisa McEwan, Mrs N. Davenport

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D.

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U/10 Tennis

The tennis season at Union Preparatory kicked off with a promising start, featuring several thrilling matches, interschool competitions, and a spectacular finale at the MatchPoint Tennis Tournament. The girls' team emerged as runner-ups to Stirling in their league, while the boys' team showed great resilience in the face of formidable opponents. The mixed team also held their ground admirably. The boys' team began the season with a tough match against Laer Volkskool, showcasing their determination and commitment on the court. Despite their best efforts, they fell short against their opponents. In contrast, the girls' team demonstrated their prowess in their opening match against Laer Volkskool, securing a convincing victory. Their efforts set a positive tone for the rest of the season.

The girls' team continued their impressive performance, defeating Gill with style and determination. Interschool Competition - Boys and Girls: The interschool competitions proved to be a formidable challenge. The boys faced a strong Laer Volkskool team and, while they fought valiantly, they couldn't secure a victory. However, the girls continued their winning streak, demonstrating their exceptional skills on the court. The season concluded with the highly anticipated MatchPoint Tennis Tournament. Players from Union Prep exhibited continuous improvement throughout the season, and it showed at this grand event. Their hard work and

dedication paid off as they delivered fantastic performances in each match.

Girls' A-League Performance: The girls' team's remarkable journey in the A-League was a highlight of the season. They faced stiff competition from renowned schools like Stirling, Stellenbosch, and DSG. Despite the challenges, the girls secured a commendable second-place finish, proving their mettle as formidable competitors.

Boys' A-League Performance: The boys' team faced incredibly strong opponents from Stellenbosch, Stirling, and Laer Volkskool, but put up an impressive fight throughout the season. Their resilience and determination were evident in their matches, earning them respect as worthy competitors. **Mixed Team Performance B-League:** The mixed team displayed remarkable teamwork and skill, securing a commendable fourth place in their division. Their performance exemplified the collaborative spirit of tennis, and they provided a testament to the school's holistic tennis development.

The tennis season at Union Preparatory School in 2023 was marked by determination, continuous improvement, and strong teamwork. As the season came to a close, it was clear that the players had grown not only in skill but also as a close-knit tennis community. We eagerly await the next season, where we are confident that the players will continue to shine on the court.



A + B TENNIS

FRONT: Liam Raath, Allison Gilfillan, Mia Lategan, Cara Murray

MIDDLE: Jocelyn King, Trenn Naudé, Klara van Jaarsveld, Lisa McEwan, Taylor Jacobs, Emma Burger, Mia Labuschagne, Edwin van Greunen

BACK: Mrs M. Hobson, Gemma Murray, Michael Maritz, Michael Finlaison, Matthew Jacobs, Grant Murray, Jameson Houseman, Emily Marais



C + D TENNIS

FRONT: Mrs G. van Deventer, Kiara Knoesen, Jamie-Lee Minnies, Liam Whyte, Liam Wormald, Lwandle Kubashe, Riane Victor, Esethu Mdotyeni, Zanke Bellingan, Mrs R. Bellingan
BACK: Hibbah Kazi, Mia Herrington, Isabel Hyldig, Bohlale Ralepelle, Mia Serfontein, Mijke van Aswegen



INTERSCHOOLS TENNIS

FRONT: Liam Raath, Taylor Jacobs, Emma Burger, Grant Murray, Matthew Jacobs, Jocelyn King, Klara van Jaarsveld
BACK: Mrs M. Hobson, Emily Marais, Mia Labuschagne, Lisa McEwan, Michael Maritz, Edwin van Greuen

Music at Union Prep School is well and alive, as always. When you walk down the corridors you always hear little fingers tickling those ebonies and ivories. It is always amazing to hear how they literally go from strength to strength. Little fingers get stretched, hand positions improve by the day, and their sight reading becomes part of playing the piano. What makes music lessons such an important part of a child's life, is that it develops the brain immensely. Music helps brain development. It fosters secure relationships and enhances learning and visual and auditory memory. It also reduces stress and anxiety, and with that, music causes joy and delight. Who doesn't want emotionally mature children who do well in school, are happy and secure at home, and laugh frequently?



Mrs Alet Kingwill
Mrs Kingwill you are the best music teacher I ever non. We don't now wat we wooduv dan with out you. Thank you for everything. – Keira Kingwill

Union Prep School offers Recorder lessons to Grade 2, 3 and 4 pupils. The Junior Choir accommodates Grade 2 pupils, whereas the senior Choir consists of pupils from Grade 3 and Grade 4. Piano lessons are offered to Grade 3 and 4 pupils. All grades come to singing twice per week. This is where our pupils are exposed to some dancing, singing and general music appreciation.

We are very proud of our Music Department as we truly believe that what the pupils do and achieve in this field is a very important part in any child's life and development.

Raising children who are hopeful and who have the courage to be vulnerable means stepping back and letting them experience. This is exactly what Music does to and for a child.



GRADE 2 RECORDER

Mia Herrington, Zahra Smith, Mrs A. Kingwill, Mark Copeman



GRADE 3 RECORDER

Kirsten Trollip, Mrs A. Kingwill



SENIOR CHOIR

FRONT: Mackenzie Preston, Ray-Lynne Visagie, Lwandle Kubashe, Liyanda Bodlani, Rosemary Brown, Willca Visagie, Nareece Wessels, Hannah van der Walt
MIDDLE: Mrs K. Kotzé, Layla Ott, Sisipho Matolengwe, Carlie George, Mateo Schoeman, Cathryn Davenport, Uyathandwa Tiyo, Leyanah Koeberg, Nicaylin Pieterse, Othandwayo Dontsa, Mia Serfontein, Elizabeth Fourie, Mrs A. Kingwill
BACK: Jocelyn King, Emma Burger, Kate Scott, Taylor Jacobs, Klara van Jaarsveld, Ayat Qaiser, Mia Labuschagne, Imboyethu Nondlazi, Achuma Magwentshu, Micela Stern, Gemma Murray



JUNIOR CHOIR

FRONT: Owam Kotishini, Mihle Langa, Mijke van Aswegen, Ghisela Lategan, Khazimla Fundi, Zanke Bellingan, Liam Pienaar,

MIDDLE: Mrs C. Potgieter, Zanelle Botha, Mandla Mahlaba, Keira Kingwill, Mia Herrington, Cara Murray, Mia Lategan, Zahra Smith, Katelynn Brunette, Asiphile Ngudle, Mrs A. Kingwill

BACK: Lèmari Grobler, Lilly-Ann Brunette, Richter de Wet, Taylor Bosman, Grace Kitching, Skye van Loggerenberg, Courtney Diza, Oyintando Desha, Israel Linch, Mercy Dzitiro



GRADE 3 AND 4 PIANISTS

FRONT: Harlee Palmer, Antonique Adams, Emily Marais, Gemma Murray, Klara van Jaarsveld, Cathryn Davenport, Carlie George, Leyanah Koeberg, Nareece Wessels

BACK: Mrs A. Kingwill, Leah Abader, Mia Labuschagne, Allison Gilfillan, Tiyanah Abader, Kate Scott, Emma Burger, Kirsten Trollip, Jocelyn King, Imboyethu Nondlazi

Music Hour 2023

The stage was set, the instruments tuned, and the voices ready to sing. On Thursday 14 September, the John Rupert Theatre was filled with music enthusiasts as Union Preparatory School, Graaff-Graaff-Reinet presented its annual MUSIC HOUR. Music Hour 2023

Excitement filled the air as parents gathered at the Drostdy Hotel for an opportunity to mingle before the show. And soon, the time arrived for everyone to head to the theatre.

The programme was a diverse mix of beautiful melodies, where music learners showcased their talents in a variety of instruments. The night was filled with poetry recitals, melodious items on recorders, accordion, guitar and of course, the piano. The Junior and Senior choirs added another layer

of charm and beauty to the event with their astounding vocal prowess. All those in attendance were enthralled by the variety and quality of the performances and we cannot help but commend the teachers Mrs Alet Kingwill, Mrs Katie Kotze and Mrs Corrie Potgieter, along with the assistance of Miss Merisha van der Merwe and Miss Judy van Heerden, for their tireless efforts in organizing and coordinating such a fantastic event

It was indeed a night to remember, an hour of music that left a lasting impact on all.

A special word of thanks is also extended to the Drostdy Hotel for hosting our parents prior to the event and to the John Rupert theatre committee for the use of their beautiful venue.





The Nativity Play at School

Carols by Candlelight

Under the summer evening sky, families gathered on their picnic blankets on the school field for the annual Carol Service. Titled *"The Nativity Play at School"*, the event merged choral verse with carols and told a humorous story of the challenges teachers and children face when putting on a Nativity production.

The young performers were dressed to impress and radiated enthusiasm as they enjoyed spreading the Christmas spirit through the school community.

We were also pleased to be able to support GRAWS with this event.



Arbor Day

On Friday 1 September the school celebrated both Arbor day and the start of spring, by dressing up in rainbow colours. The learners were treated to a tree planting lesson by the grade four learners. Mrs. C. Potgieter welcomed all the learners and Mr. van Rooyen asked the learners some questions regarding Arbor Day. Jameson Houseman had some Trivia questions which he asked the learners, about the importance of trees.

Mphumzi Runeyi and Preston Owusu then assisted grade 1, 2 and 3 learners to dig holes to plant the trees. Taylor Jacobs entertained the audience with a beautiful poem about trees while, Ray-Lynne Visagie blessed us with a prayer.

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit" ~ Nelson Henderson

~ Mr. van Rooyen



Union Preparatory Chess Club



INTER-SCHOOLS CHESS TEAM

FRONT: Matthew Jacobs, Mia Herrington, Anthony Blom
BACK: Ongako Soloman, Taylor Jacobs, Mateo Schoeman, Emma Burger, Jameson Houseman



Fostering young minds one move at a time!

Union Preparatory Chess team had a great year! The highlight of our chess season was coming out on top by winning our section in the Inter Schools chess matches. Our chess players have flourished and have learnt many new skills. We were lucky enough to enjoy a cool winter walk to our neighbouring school, Laer Volkskool, to participate in some friendly games of chess with them. We invited a few of our juniors to chess this year, in the hope that our seniors could share some of the valuable skills they have learnt before they leave us, going up to be part of the Middle school.

We have had many giggles and jokes, and do enjoy shouting out CHECK! While enjoying friendly competitions within our club. Another highlight of the year was our parent and child chess evening, where our youngsters took on their (seeming "unskilled") parents and enjoyed a warm cup of soup, while watching the senior players, from the High school, take on some serious competition.

A very poignant moment of the chess year was watching a young blind Chess player engaging with one of our players in a chess game. Such experiences can only build confidence and character in our young people.

We look forward very much to the coming Chess year, to building on our present skills and enjoying more mind-extending moves!

CHESS

FRONT: Zahra Smith, Mateo Schoeman, Mia Herrington, Uzai Fillis, Andrew McEwan
BACK: Anthony Blom, Elijah Scott, Ongako Soloman, Taylor Jacobs, Mrs N. Burger, Emma Burger, Matthew Jacobs, Jameson Houseman, Eli Scott, Edwin van Greunen

A-10 Dinner

On Tuesday evening, 17 October, Union Preparatory School hosted its annual A-10 Dinner. This cherished event is a time-honoured tradition at our school and holds a special place in our hearts.

The Grade 4's arrived in style for the event, with little suits and ties for the boys and beautiful dresses for the girls. As always, it was a joyous occasion as the matric learners who have dedicated their entire educational journey to the Union Schools were graciously welcomed at the Prep School Dom, and escorted inside by our enthusiastic Grade fours.

Once inside, various versions of the *Do-si-do* dance ensued, and the

grade fours gleefully entertained all those present. The highlight of the evening was the repertoire of songs. In particular, the farewell song sung at the end of the evening, where each of the matrics' names are sung in turn, managed, as always, to evoke many emotions.

A walk across the Union fields followed, where a delectable meal awaited at the Tony Burrell Union. It was an evening filled with fun, laughter and the comforting atmosphere of togetherness. The beautifully prepared dinner served in the Union perfectly added the finishing touch to an extraordinary night celebrating our dedicated matric learners.





Dress up days





Fundraiser culminates in a Wild and Wonderful evening

The Union Preparatory School's sixth WILD KAROO fundraising event culminated on Friday evening, 17 March, in a magical evening beneath a tumultuous Karoo sky.

With thunder rumbling overhead, and the occasional bolt of lightning highlighting the surrounding nightscape, the gala function's guests were led to the back fields of the school where they found a tented wonderland glittering with fairy lights and beautifully decorated.

The tastefully adorned tables, trendy, well-equipped cocktail bar, classic soft furnishings and creative display of auction lots set the scene for the most enjoyable and spectacular event.

Throughout the evening, guests were treated to a feast for both the eyes and palate.

A seemingly endless assortment of delicious canapés and gorgeous treats were elegantly served and beautifully plated, greeting all those arriving, with a smorgasbord of food being served during the evening buffet-style main meal, followed by the cherry-on-top - a multitude of dessert platters laden with an abundance of gorgeously displayed assorted sweets, pastries and treats.

A highlight of the evening was a live auction superbly conducted by the dynamic auctioneer Duncan McLaggan. **A collection of 51 lots went under the hammer and the air was thick with excitement and tension as bidders challenged each other to get their lot.**

Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, a large variety of awesome lucky draw prizes were also given away.

Once the formal proceedings had come to an end, the 8-piece Franky and the Misfits swing band entertained guests with a selection of energetic jazz music, inviting all those present to take to the dance floor.

"Wild Karoo" is a unique fundraising event for Union Preparatory School, under the auspices of The Union High School Development Trust, and the school would like to extend its gratitude to all the contributors, sponsors, parents and staff who had a hand in making this fundraising initiative a success.

The UPS fundraising committee is pleased to announce that the targeted amount was superseded and are truly humbled by the overwhelming support and generosity.

Learner Support

It was a great privilege to be part of the Learner Support Centre for the past 5 months. There were 48 pupils in total. We worked in groups, not more than 5 pupils at a time, which made the circumstances excellent for practical work. All the children showed good progress. I'm so proud of them. Keep up the good work and believe in yourself. God never makes a mistake. Henry Ford once said: "Don't find fault, find a remedy."

Season greetings.

~ Mrs. A van Rooyen



Mrs Amanda van Rooyen
You the best teacher ever in the wole world ever. You are funny and cind. – Taylor Liessing



Art Club



ART CLUB

FRONT: Harlee Palmer, Alizwa Ngcangula, Mia Serfontein, Nicaylin Pieterse, Chumasande Tsewu, Cathryn Davenport, Ray-Lynne Visagie, Liyanda Bodlani
BACK: Micela Stern, Ayat Qaiser, K. Kotzé, Lisa McEwan, Emma Burger, Kate Scott, Matthew Jacobs, Isabel Hyldeg, Achuma Magwentshu, Zona Nazo Ongako Soloman, Rosemary Brown

Eisteddfod



EISTEDDFOD

FRONT: Jua van Jaarsveld, Lèmari Grobler, Trenn Naudé, Leah Abader, Carlie George, Emily Marais, Layla Ott, Harlee Palmer, Mijke van Aswegen, Mercy Dzitiro, Keira Kingwill

BACK: Mrs K. Kotzé, Cara Murray, Mia Labuschagne, Klara van Jaarsveld, Taylor Jacobs, Allison Gilfillan, Emma Burger, Kate Scott, Tiyanah Abader, Lisa McEwan, Kirsten Trollip, Jocelyn King, Gemma Murray, Mrs A. Kingwill

Grandparents Tea at Union Preparatory School:

A Memorable Journey through the Human Body

On the 13th of April 2023, Union Preparatory School held a heart-warming Grandparents Tea event that welcomed grandparents with open arms and a special theme, "Mr. Skelly Bones."

The event was a delightful blend of education and entertainment, leaving attendees with smiles, laughter, and a newfound appreciation for the human body.

The day began with a warm welcome, as the young hosts of Union Preparatory School created a beautiful guard of honour for their beloved grandparents. It was a sight to behold as the generations connected, setting the tone for a memorable day.

The theme, "Mr. Skelly Bones," served as the focal point of the event, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm among the learners and their grandparents.

The event kicked off with the dynamic duo of narrators, Kate Scott and Morgan Jacobs, who welcomed the audience with their captivating storytelling skills.

The real stars of the day were the learners themselves, who put on an

entertaining show about the human body. With creativity and humour, they enlightened their grandparents about the inner workings of this intricate biological masterpiece. The learners were guided by a trio of special characters: Mr. Skelly Bones played by Preston Owesu, Captain Heart played by Layla Ott and Doctor Brain played by Mateo Schoeman.

The delicious high tea spread, lovingly prepared by the devoted moms, was the perfect treat to conclude the event.

~ *Michaela Hobson*





Stoeptasting

Taste to Remember

The annual Stoeptasting event in Graaff-Reinet is renowned for its festivity, and UPS had a reputation to uphold! Hosted at Octofin, the fundraising committee rose to the challenge of providing the finest food in town, and even provided the crowd with live entertainment and a big screen showing of the rugby match! Despite the wind, the fires were lit and the gazebos tied down so that the crowd could enjoy the wine that was on offer and partake in the spoils of the braai-masters on duty. There was droëwors for sale and meal options included the most succulent lamb sliders, skaapstertjies, chops and a curried vetkoek, all served with a smile by the UPS parents and teachers.



A Valentine's Day well spent

From wearing special red, white and pink outfits, exchanging little gifts, sending their beloved a sweet message and exploring Valentine-themed activities - our Prep School experienced a little more love than usual on Tuesday, 14 February



Raffle assembly - Wild Karoo

It was with great excitement that the learners of UPS welcomed Mrs. Lene van den Heever and Mrs. Diane Murray to their assembly, to conduct the Wild Karoo raffle draw. The children had been frantically selling raffle tickets in the hopes that one of their loved ones might win one of the fantastic prizes. Competitive spirits came alive as they also tried to win the prize for *Most Tickets Sold*. There was also a prize for the class that sold the most tickets!



Try, try, and Tri the Karoo

This year's Tri The Karoo event wasn't just a triathlon, but a celebration of community and shared accomplishments. The stage was set bright and early on the morning of October 15th and the air was a-buzz with the anticipation felt by participants of all ages.

Participants could take part as teams or as individuals and there were several different options depending on the participants' ages and abilities.

These included the mammoth Olympic event, the Sprint event and the Kids event. It was wonderful to witness the team work, camaraderie and support. Many families enjoyed supporting the event from the sidelines or by visiting the market.

Special mention must be made of Mrs. Katjana Ott, who played a massive role in the organisation of the remarkable event.





Peter Parker

It is widely believed that animals can sense “good people”. The theory being that when animals sense kindness in people, they seem relaxed and at peace in their company because they feel safe.

If this theory holds water, it says a lot about

the characters of our little learners and the general air around them, that this adorable kitty cat – fondly known as ‘Peter Parker’ by our learners – felt completely safe waltzing into assembly at Union Preparatory School this year, making its rounds between our learners, and settling in to observe the proceedings.

RUGBY WORLD CUP 2023 CIVVIES

In celebration of the Rugby World Cup, we kicked off Term 3 with a rugby-themed civvies day!

On this special day, our little rugby enthusiasts had the chance to show their support for their favourite rugby teams by dressing up in their team’s colours and jerseys.

Whether they were fans of the mighty All Blacks, the inspiring Springboks, or any other team, it was time to let their rugby spirit shine!

The money raised from this event was used to purchase 5 rugby balls for the 1st teams of Asherville and Spandau School. The Union High School 1st team captain accompanied Mr. Koeberg, Mr. Njoloza and Mrs. Botha to hand over the balls to the respective teams before their Interschools were to take place.



Local Fire Department visit

Our young learners had an informative and exciting visit from our local fire department!

They got to witness firsthand the vital services our brave firefighters render and also learned some invaluable fire safety tips. The Grade 1 to 4 learners were thrilled and grateful for the demonstration.

A big shoutout to our local heroes for educating and inspiring our young minds!



Summer Prizegiving 2023 - Term 1

UPS Sports Stars in the Limelight

On the evening of April thirteenth, UPS held its summer sports prize-giving in the UHS hall. The occasion celebrated the successes of our talented swimmers, athletes and cricketers. The room was a-buzz with proud families, excited prize-winners and supportive friends, as we joined together in recognising the sports achievers.

While it was the athletes' turn to receive prizes, UPS remains a school that values the holistic development of its learners, and so the evening contained a cultural element too. The audience was treated to Kirsten Trollip's recorder recital as well as the melodies of the junior and senior

choir, who finished off the evening on a most entertaining note with their rendition of the "Dum-Dum" song, which had the audience in stitches of laughter!

As the well-known proverb goes, "It takes a village to raise a child," and we all know that although many of our top achievers have innate talent, they would not succeed as well as they do without the continuous support of their parents, coaches and peers. UPS is extremely proud of its sports stars and we hope that they will continue to nurture the talents with which they have been blessed.

~ Katie Kotzé

TERM 1 PRIZE GIVING

ATHLETICS

GIRLS U/7			
Taygan George	1st 2nd	60 m 80 m	
Keishia Martins	14.69 1st 2nd	80m 60m	
Gabriella Lekas	3rd	60m	
Skylar Goliath	3rd	80m	
BOYS U/7			
Qazo Booi	1st 1st	60 m 80m	
Riko Steynberg	2nd	60m	
Ayavuya Blouw	2nd	80m	
Luca Schoeman	3rd	60m	
Jamon Pienaar	3rd	80m	
GIRLS U/8			
Mercy Dzitiro	1st 2nd	60 m 80m	
Jua van Jaarsveld	1st 2nd	80m 60m	
Madison Klerk	3rd 3rd	60m 80m	
BOYS U/8			
Trenn Naudé	10.06 13.66 1st 1st	60 m 80m	
Lihan Van Jaarsveld	13.66 1st 2nd	80m 60m	
Richter de Wet	3rd 3rd	60m 80m	
GIRLS U/9			
Hannah van der Walt	1st 2nd 3rd 1st 2nd 3rd	400 m 800m 80m High Jump Long Jump Shot Put	
Leah Abader	2nd	High Jump	
Zoey Buys	2nd 2nd	80m 100m	
Jocelyn King	1st 1st 2nd	80m 100m 400m	
Kelly van Rensburg	3rd	400m	

Antonique Adams	3rd	800m	
Gemma Murray	3.26.90 1st 3rd	800m 100m	
Nicaylin Pieterse	1st	Long Jump	
Cathryn Davenport	3rd	Long Jump	
Micela Stern	4.93 1st 3rd	Shot Put High Jump	
Imboyethu Nondlazi	2nd	Shot Put	
BOYS U/9			
Michael Maritz	3.19.69 1st 1st 1st 2nd 1st 1st 2nd	400 m 800m 100m 80m High Jump Long Jump Shot Put	
Leandro Norman	1st	Shot Put	
Frederick Maitland MC	1st 2nd 3rd 3rd	80m 400m 100m Shot Put	
Ben Wormald	2nd 3rd 2nd 2nd 2nd	800m 400m High Jump Long Jump	
Ben Steynberg	3rd 3rd	800m Long Jump	
Lunathi Wellman	2nd 3rd	100m High Jump	
Zack Arends	3rd	High Jump	
Luvuyo Hlabisa	3rd	80m	
GIRLS U/10			
Allison Gilfillan	5.12.04 1st 2nd 3rd 3rd 1st 3rd	1200 m 800m 80m 100m Long Jump High Jump	
Emma Burger	1st	High Jump	
Taylor Jacobs	12.88 1st 1st 3rd 1st 3rd	80m 100m 800m Shot Put Long Jump	
Mackenzie Preston	3.19.78 1st 2nd	800m 1200m	
Klara van Jaarsveld	3rd	Shot Put	

Kim-Lynn Finnis	2nd 2nd 2nd	80m Shot Put 100m	
Uyanthandwa Tiyo	3rd	1200m	
Lisa McEwan	2nd 2nd	Long Jump High Jump	
BOYS U/10			
Mateo Schoeman	4.52.22 1st 2nd	1200 m 800m	
Edwin van Greunen	12.56 1st	80 m	
Grant Murray	7.05 1st	Shot Put	
Preston Owusu	2nd 3rd 2nd	1200m 800m High Jump	
Muhammed Steele	1st 2nd 2nd 2nd	100 m 80m Shot Put Long Jump	
Noah Greene	3rd	Long Jump	
Raydon Hendricks	3.05.25 1st 2nd 3rd 3rd 1st 1st	800m 100m 1200m 80m Long Jump High Jump	
Sintayu Kaitiro	2nd	High Jump	
Eli Scott	2nd	High Jump	
Yolo Vutula	3rd	Shot Put	

TROPHIES

INTERHOUSE	
Barclays Insurance Brokers Trophy for Athletics -	Collected FOR DALY BY - Michael Maritz & Allison Gilfillan
SA Biathton Championship:	Klara van Jaarsveld - 34th Mateo Schoeman - 24th Taylor Jacobs - 10th
ATHLETICS	
Skietkuil Floating Trophy – Victrix Ludorum:	Allison Gilfillan
Neville Willows Floating Trophy – Victor Ludorum:	Michael Maritz

SWIMMING CERTIFICATES 2023

Girls U8			
Isabelle Bester	1st	Backstroke (25m)	32.77
	1st	Freestyle (25m)	29.85
	2nd	Breaststroke (25m)	
Keira Kingwill	1st	Breaststroke (25m)	Record
Grace Kitching	3rd	Breaststroke (25m)	
Mercy Dzitiro	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
Cara Murray	3rd	Backstroke (25m)	
Jua Van Jaarsveld	2nd	Backstroke (25m)	
	3rd	Freestyle (25m)	
Boys U8			
Trenn Naudé	1st	Freestyle (25m)	29.87
Taylor Bosman	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
Andrew McEwan	3rd	Freestyle (25m)	
Girls U9			
Cathryn Davenport	1st	Breaststroke (25m)	30.74
	1st	Breaststroke (50m)	1.06.96
	1st	Freestyle (25m)	22.44
	1st	Freestyle(50m)	53.06
	1st	Individual Medley	1.59.86
	1st	Butterfly (50m)	59.5
	1st	Butterfly (25m)	27.19
	2nd	Backstroke (25m)	
	2nd	Backstroke(50m)	
Gemma Murray	1st	Backstroke (25m)	26.56
	1st	Backstroke(50m)	54.79
	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
	2nd	Individual Medley	
	2nd	Freestyle(50m)	
	2nd	Butterfly (25m)	
Jocelyn King	3rd	Breaststroke (25m)	
	3rd	Breaststroke(50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle (25m)	
	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	
Boys u9			
Michael Maritz	1st	Backstroke(50m)	1.03.15
	1st	Freestyle (25m)	21.72
	1st	Freestyle(50m)	50.54
	2nd	Backstroke (25m)	
Thomas Krige	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
Matthew Bosch	1st	Backstroke (25m)	28.32
	2nd	Freestyle(50m)	
	2nd	Backstroke(50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle (25m)	
Uziah Willemse	3rd	Backstroke(50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	
	3rd	Backstroke (25m)	
Girls Open U/10			
Klara van Jaarsveld	2nd	Backstroke(25m)	
	2nd	Backstroke(50m)	
	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
	2nd	Freestyle(50m)	
	2nd	Butterfly (25m)	
	2nd	Butterfly (50m)	
	2nd	Individual Medley	
	3rd	Breaststroke (25m)	
	3rd	Breaststroke (50m)	

Taylor Jacobs	1st	Freestyle (25m)	18.03
	1st	Freestyle(50m)	40.06
	1st	Backstroke (25m)	20.46
	1st	Backstroke(50m)	44.71
	1st	Butterfly (25m)	21.78
	1st	Butterfly (50m)	48.4
	1st	Individual Medley	1.38.53
	2nd	Breaststroke (25m)	
	2nd	Breaststroke (50m)	
Emma Burger	3rd	Backstroke(50m)	
Lisa McEwan	3rd	Freestyle (25m)	
Emily Marais	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	
Emma van den Heever	3rd	Individual Medley	
	3rd	Backstroke (25m)	
Allison Gilfillan	1st	Breaststroke (25m)	25.35
	1st	Breaststroke (50m)	56.91
	3rd	Backstroke (25m)	
	3rd	Butterfly (25m)	
	3rd	Butterfly (50m)	
Boys Open U/10			
Mateo Schoeman	1st	Backstroke (25m)	23.15
	1st	Backstroke(50m)	47.25
	1st	Breaststroke (25m)	25.25
	1st	Breaststroke (50m)	54.44
	1st	Individual Medley	1.43.41
	2nd	Freestyle (25m)	
	2nd	Freestyle(50m)	
	2nd	Butterfly (25m)	
	2nd	Butterfly (50m)	
Daniel Davenport	1st	Butterfly (25m)	22.6
	1st	Butterfly (50m)	52.0
	2nd	Breaststroke (50m)	
	3rd	Breaststroke (25m)	
	3rd	Backstroke (25m)	
	3rd	Backstroke(50m)	
	3rd	Individual Medley	
Michael Finlaison	1st	Freestyle (25m)	18.56
	1st	Freestyle(50m)	40.18
	2nd	Breaststroke (25m)	
	2nd	Backstroke (25m)	
	2nd	Backstroke(50m)	
	2nd	Individual Medley	
	3rd	Breaststroke (50m)	
	3rd	Butterfly (25m)	
Grant Murray	3rd	Butterfly (50m)	
	3rd	Freestyle(50m)	

Perseverance in swimming:	Gemma Murray & Daniel Davenport
Most improved swimmer:	Mercy Dzitiro & Michael Maritz
Inter-house:	Daly - collected by Mateo Schoeman & Klara van Jaarsveld
Pearson Floating Trophy - Victor Ludorum:	Mateo Schoeman
Pohl Brothers Floating Trophy - Victrix Ludorum:	Taylor Jacobs

Winter Wonders and Academic Accolades - Term 4

In October, UPS held its final prize giving ceremony, which celebrated the successes of the winter sports season as well as the academic and cultural achievements of the learners. The evening sparkled with musical enchantment, as choirs lent their voices to the celebration. Each child, a star in their own right, basked in the spotlight, their individual

triumphs acknowledged. We extended heartfelt thanks to the parents and teachers whose unwavering support paved the way for these victories. In this kaleidoscope of excellence, we salute not just accomplishments, but the collective spirit that propels every child toward greatness.

~ Katie Kotzé

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY – October 2023

GRADE 1

Effort and PERSEVERANCE		
1B	1E	1K
Luminathi Camngca	Ayavuya Blouw	Esethu Madotyeni
Oyame Konongo	Sonwabiso Mhambi	
Akhanani Maphanga		
Lusikelelo Mdlalana		



GRADE 2

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS overall ave over 80%
Lemari Grobler
Jamie-Lee Minnie
Trenn Naudé
Asiphile Ngudle
Liam Raath
Richter de Wet
Courtney Diza
Gia du Preez
Khazimla Fundi
Mia Herrington
Keira Kingwill
Martech Persensie
Mijke van Aswegen
Lihan van Jaarsveld
Zanelle Botha
Callum Geel
Hibbah Kazi
Kemar Klasse
Kiara Knoesen
Mia Lategan
Cara Murray

Connor Nel
Jua van Jaarsveld
Quade Roman

Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Madison Klerk	Afrikaans
Luchumile Goliath	Maths
Mihle Lange	Maths
Ngcwele Nofemele	Maths
Nicole Vermeulen	Maths
Leah Scriven	Maths
Mark Copeman	Maths
Iminathi Sididi	Maths
Alexis Dyasi	Maths
Scarlett May	Maths
Isabelle Bester	Maths
Grace Kitching	Maths
Zanke Bellingan	Maths & Eng
Nixon Borlase	Maths & Eng
Milani Mayekiso	Maths & Eng
Natanim Wolde	Maths & Eng
Mandla Mahlaba	Maths & Eng
Kamva Galada	Maths & Eng
Liyasanelisa Kula	Maths & Eng

Tumelo Lukubeni	Maths & Eng
Zahra Smith	Maths & Eng
Jaqwan Ahmed	Maths & Afr
Elcke Blom	Maths & Afr
Ghisela Lategan	Maths & Afr
Andrew McEwan	Maths & Afr
Taylor Bosman	Maths & Afr

GOOD PROGRESS	
Oyintando Desha	
Lilly-Ann Brunette	
Effort & PERSEVERANCE	
Linique Booysen	
Katelynn Brunette	
Anthony Davids	
Mercy Dzitiro	
Nathan Kiggundu	
Arseman Okbagergish	
Skye van Loggerenberg	
Lithalande Zono	
Israel Linch	
Nola Msutwana	
Liam Pienaar	
Owam Kotishini	



GRADE 3

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS overall ave over 80%		
3H	3K	3M
Cathryn Davenport	Anotonique Adams	Rosemary Brown
Frederick Maitland MC	Nicaylin Pieterse	Zoey Buys
Gemma Murray	Kirsten Trollip	Elizabeth Fourie
Chivandre Stoffels	Uziah Willemse	Jocelyn King
Kelly van Rensburg		Leyanah Koeberg
Willca Visagie		Achuma Magwentshu
		Harlee Palmer
		Mia Serfontein

3H Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Miah de Bruin	Eng & Afr
Shiloh Plaatjies	Maths & Eng
Angelique Fortuin	Eng
Imboyethu Nondlazi	Maths
3K Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Zachary Mostert	Afr
Bohlale Ralepelle	Eng
Michael Maritz	Maths
Ava Mafeking	Eng & Afr
Ben Steynberg	Eng & Afr
Hannah van der Walt	Eng & Afr
Nareece Wessels	Eng & Afr
Anthony Blom	Maths & Eng
Alizwa Ngcangula	Maths & Eng
3M Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Jianna Hardine	Eng
Amia Steenkamp	Eng
Thomas Short	Maths

OUTSTANDING PROGRESS
3H
Kwandokuhle Futshane

EFFORT & PERSEVERANCE		
3H	3K	3M
Leah Abader	Liyanda Bodlani	Zack Arends
Othandwayo Dontsa	Taymor Davids	Matthew Bosch
Thomas Krige	Clashay Lamont	Cayley Brunette
Humera Shoaib	Diego Peterson	Othaliwe Daliwe
El-Rico van der Merwe	Ayat Qaiser	Taylor Liesing
Lunathi Wellman	Micela Stern	Imitha Memani
		Leandro Norman
		Faith-Lynne Plaatjies
		Ben Wormald

GRADE 4

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS overall ave over 80%		
4D	4H	4V
Emma Burger	Sibabalwe Silimeni	Aaron Dyter
Matthew Jacobs	Reece Gibbons	Jameson Houseman
Grant Murray	Sintayu Kaitro	Alexander Olivier
Ongako Solomon	Mackenzie Preston	Ray-Lynne Visagie
Isabel Hyldig	Raydon Hendricks	
	Buhle Mamase	

4D Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Lwandle Kubashe	Maths
Bthote Mussa	Maths
Emily Marais	Social Sciences & Natural Science & Tech
Megan Meyer	Maths, Social Sciences & Natural Science & Tech
4H Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Kim-Lynn Finnis	Social Sciences
Elaih Morkel	Social Sciences
Kamohelo Mosotha	Natural Science & Tech
4V Merit Certificate - over 80 %	
Noah Green	Maths, Social Sciences & Natural Science & Tech
Chumasande Tsewu	Eng & Maths & Social Sciences
Brynmere Lepotha	Social Sciences & Natural Science & Tech
Preston Owusu	Social Sciences & Natural Science & Tech
Morgan Jacobs	Social Sciences
Eli Scott	Social Sciences
Elijah Scott	Social Sciences
Ziyamo Tsutsu	Social Sciences
OUTSTANDING PROGRESS	
4H	
Ahnaf Uddin	

PERSEVERANCE		
4D	4H	4V
Uzai Fillis	Minentle Pink	Uyathandwa Tiyo
Sisipho Matolengwe	Sibusiso Jantjies	Faith hoffman
Emihle Pietersen	Limyoli Tsibane	Zona Nazo
Bonolo Raula	Zizo Nazo	
Phawoluhle Teka	Edwin van Greunen	
Yolo Vutula		
Shionay van Heerden		
Muhammed Steele		

Determination & Dedication	
4V	
Luvuyo Hlabisa	
Kiaan Beyers	
Daniel Davenport	
DILIGENCE	
4V	
Mphumzi Runeyi	

SPORTS AWARDS

HOCKEY

U/7

Certificate for most improved player/s:

Liyasanelisa Nonnies, Aaliya Madaugee

Certificate for showing positive sportsmanship: **Gabriella Lekas;**

Riley Johaar

Certificate for most promising U/7 hockey player: **Keishia Martins**

Carol Lee Floating Trophy – Most promising Junior Hockey Player/s:

Gia du Preez & Courtney Diza

Corrie Potgieter Floating Trophy – Most improved Jnr Hockey Player/s:

Mia Herrington, Cara Murray

& Skye van Loggerenberg

U/9

Certificate for most improved player/s: **Kelly van Rensburg.**

Certificate for showing positive sportsmanship: **Gemma Murray**

Sulette Damons Floating Trophy donated by the UHS 2005 First XI for

most promising U/9 player: **Jocelyn King**

U/10

Certificate for Most Improved Player: **Tiyanah Abader**

Certificate for showing positive sportsmanship Player: **Mia Labuschagne**

Haloise Middleton Floating Trophy – Most Promising U/10 Player: **Klara van Jaarsveld**

Hockey teams un-beaten this hockey season:

U/9

Jocelyn King
Gemma Murray
Antonique Adams
Kirsten Trollip
Cayley Brunette
Hannah van der Walt

U/10a

Emma Burger
Lisa McEwan
Emily Marais
Klara van Jaarsveld
Taylor Jacobs
Allison Gilfillan

RUGBY

The Van Wyk Floating Trophy for most improved rugby player- Gr 1-4:

Raydon Hendricks & (Muhammed) Uthmaan Steel

U/9

Graaff-Reinet Hardware and Building Supplies Trophy – Most Promising

U/9 Rugby Players:

Trenn Naudé & Matthew Bosch

Bennett Floating Trophy – U/9 Player of the Year: **Michael Maritz**

U/11

Most promising U/11 rugby player: **Sibusiso Jantjies**

Mpilo Njoloza Floating Trophy – Player of the Year: **Grant Murray**

TENNIS

Boys' Doubles Tennis Championships

3rd Place:

Liam Raath & Jameson Houseman

2nd Place:

Edwin van Greunen & Matthew Jacobs

Robin Slater Floating Trophy – Boys' Doubles: **Michael Maritz &**

Grant Murray

Boys' Singles Tennis Championships

3rd Place:

Grant Murray

2nd Place:

Michael Maritz

Richard Slater Floating Trophy – Boys' Singles: **Edwin van Greunen**

Girls' Doubles Tennis Championships

3rd Place:

Emma Burger & Allison Gilfillan

2nd Place:

Emily Marais & Klara van Jaarsveld

Gary Sullivan Floating Trophy – Girls' Doubles: **Taylor Jacobs &**

Jocelyn King

Girls' Singles Tennis Championships

3rd Place:

Emily Marais

2nd Place:

Jocelyn King

B.P. Floating Trophy – Girls' Singles: **Taylor Jacobs**

Mixed Doubles Tennis Championships

3rd Place:

Klara van Jaarsveld &

Edwin van Greunen

2nd Place:

Jocelyn King & Liam Raath

Dassie Fontein Floating Trophy – Mixed Doubles: **Taylor Jacobs &**

Michael Maritz

Special award to Prep School boy/girl/both who achieved above his/her age group in tennis:

Trenn Naudé & Liam Raath

CROSS COUNTRY

Junior Cross Country - Girls

3rd Place:

Zahra Smith

2nd Place:

Mercy Dzitiro

1st Place and the Andrew Bates Floating Trophy – Junior Girls:

Keira Kingwill

Liam Raath

Junior Cross Country - Boys

3rd Place:

Connor Nel

2nd Place:

Connor Nel

1st Place and the André Naudé Floating Trophy – Junior Boys:

Trenn Naudé

Uyathandwa Tiyo

Senior Cross Country - Girls

3rd Place:

Taylor Jacobs

2nd Place:

Mackenzie Preston

Senior Cross Country - Boys

3rd Place:

Preston Owusu

2nd Place:

Raydon Hendricks

1st Place and the George Mundell Floating Trophy – Senior Cross Country Boys:

Mateo Schoeman

CRICKET

Lutho Pohlango Floating Trophy – Most Promising Junior Cricketer:

Michael Maritz

Brian Bands Floating Trophy – All Round Mini-Cricketer:

Mark Copeman

Merit Certificate for batting U/9:

Michael Maritz

Merit Certificate for bowling U/9:

Leandro Norman

Merit Certificate for Progress in cricket – U/9: **Liam Raath**

Lee Joseph Floating Trophy - Most Promising U/11 B Cricketer:

Bthote Mussa

Quinton Family Floating Trophy – Achievement in Bowling:

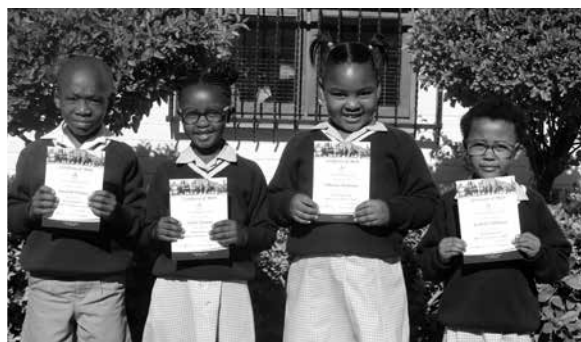
Edwin van Greunen

Dennis McEwan Floating Trophy – Achievement in Batting:

Grant Murray

Donald Kingwill Floating Trophy for Cricket – Achievement in Fielding:

Raydon Hendricks





Merit Certificate for batting U/11: **Edwin van Greunen**
 Merit Certificate for bowling U/11: **Sintayo Kaitro**
 Merit Certificate for Progress in cricket – U/11: **Grant Murray**

CULTURAL AWARDS

CHESS

JP Kruger Floating Trophy for most improved Chess Player:
Ongako Soloman
 Chanzelle Heunis-Jones Floating Trophy for Senior Chess Champion:
Matthew Jacobs
 Tossie Minnaar Floating Trophy for Junior Chess Champion:
Anthony Blom
 UPS Floating Trophy for Most promising Chess Player: **Uzai Fillis**
 Positive Sportmanship in Chess: **Mia Herrington** - Mia afforded a blind chess player the opportunity to participate in the interschools chess match.

MUSIC PRIZES

RECORDER

Grade 2: **Mark Copeman; Mia Herrington; Zahra Smith**
 Grade 3: **Kirsten Trollip**

PIANO

Grade 3: **Progress in Piano: Leah Abader; Imboyethu Nondlazi; Harlee Palmer**
 Merit Awards for Piano: **Leyanah Koeberg; Nareece Wessels**
 Distinction Awards for Piano: **Antonique Adams; Cathryn Davenport; Jocelyn King; Gemma Murray, Kristen Trollip**
 Grade 4: **Progress in Piano: Mia Labuschagne;**
 Merit Awards for Piano: **Carlie George; Allison Gilfillan; Emily Marais**
 Distinction Award for Piano: **Tiyanah Abader; Emma Burger; Klara van Jaarsveld**
 Alet Kingwill Floating Trophy for the most outstanding Piano Pupil:
Emma Burger
 Marlene Rubidge Floating Trophy for achievement and progress in Cultural Activities: **Emma Burger; Mateo Schoeman; Klara van Jaarsveld**

MERIT CERTIFICATES FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:
Carlie George; Jameson Houseman; Mia Labuschagne; Morgan Jacobs; Taylor Jacobs; Mateo Schoeman; Kate Scott.

HORACE STANTON Floating Trophy: **General Knowledge Champion: Emma van den Heever (in absentia)**

Merit Certificate for excellence in Art: **Lisa McEwan**

SPECIAL AWARDS:

Oudeland / Murray Floating Trophy - Participation and Endurance in Sport: **Daniel Davenport**
 Stern Family Floating Trophy – Sportswoman of the Year: **Taylor Jacobs**
 Carl Bezuidenhout Floating Trophy – Sportsman of the Year: **Mateo Schoeman**
 Brendan Minnaar Memorial Trophy donated by the A-10 class of 2003 for Top Mathematician: **Mateo Schoeman**
 Old Unionite Floating Shield for Top Academic Achievement in Grade 4: **Mateo Schoeman**
 Rebecca Kingwill Memorial Trophy – for the Grade 3 pupil/s who demonstrates the most praiseworthy social skills: **Humera Shoaib / Alizwa Ngangula / Zoey Buys**

The **Rebecca Kingwill Memorial Bursary** is awarded to a scholar in Grade 2 going to Grade 3 next year. Such a scholar is not necessary top in her/his grade, but all things considered has brought credit to herself/himself and her/his school in the following areas:

Academic Cultural Sport Social
 Such a child is deemed to be deserving of, and seen as one who would benefit by a bursary.
 Rebecca Kingwill Bursary: **Mia Herrington**

Harlin Lepotha Memorial Shield

donated by the 2007 A-10 class for the pupil who demonstrates strength of character and shows personal growth while maintaining a positive disposition: **Limyoli Tshibane**

Bruce Cumming Award:

This Honours Trophy is awarded to the pupil who is an all rounder. This pupil achieves as a scholar, participates in cultural activities and on the sports field. He/she displays leadership qualities and sportsmanship: **Layla Ott**



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