

Dear Parents,

"Anyone can make the simple complicated. Creativity is making the complicated simple."

— Charles Mingus

We have entered the last term for 2026 and how time flies! We are already one week into the third term and, generally, the teachers and learners are all working at finishing off the curricula for this year. The mid-year exams have come and gone and while the Grade 12s are hard at work writing their Prelim(inary) exams, the final NSC exams start very soon on the 15th October.

There are lots of activities planned for this term, so I hope to provide an overview of the events that will take place, in this newsletter.

1 PRELIM EXAMS

The Grade 12 learners will continue writing their Prelim exams until the 22nd September. The 23rd September is a holiday for Grade 12 learners. Normal classes, teaching and revision will continue from the 28th September until the Grade 12's last day, which is the 9th October.

All Grade 12s will receive their personalised NSC exam timetable soon, along with a book of rules for the NSC exams which they have already received. Learners are expected to familiarise themselves with the rules.

2 SUN CITY EXCURSION

Mrs Byrne is organising a trip to Sun City. This is scheduled for the 5th November. Numerous letters have been sent out to parents concerning this trip. As numbers are limited, booking is on a first come, first served basis. Please contact Mrs Byrne on lbyrne@randschools.co.za if you have any further queries relating to this excursion.

3 HERITAGE DAY

The 24th September is Heritage Day, which is a public holiday. On the 23rd September, we will host a number of events leading up to our cultural day celebrations:

- 23rd September, 08:00 to 13:30 — Normal classes will continue, but children may wear cultural dress to celebrate the diversity within our school.
- There will be a Cake 'n Candy hosted by the Grade 11s. During break time, children will be able to buy cultural foods and experience the variety on sale. Left-over meals can be sold again at 13:30.
- 23rd September, 13:30 to 14:30 — We will allow the children to join the Preparatory children in a picnic.
- School will dismiss at 14:30 on the 23rd of September.

4 PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOLLOWED BY SCHOOL HOLIDAY

Thursday, 24th September is a public holiday and Friday, 25th September has been set as a school holiday, so there will be no school for those two days. School will continue on Monday, 28th September.

5 TOP ACADEMIC PERFORMERS

I would like to extend my congratulations to the following learners on placing among the top students within their grade, according to their academic performance during the second term. Every learner who achieved an average of **75% or greater** (highlighted in gold below) will also be awarded their academic badge for the second term. Congratulations! For Grade 10 and 11, the number of subjects the learner is taking is shown alongside their average. Please note that only the final Life Orientation mark, and not the separate components of Life Orientation, contributes towards the calculation of the term average. Learners' marks have been rounded off, so a learner with a mark greater than 74.5% will receive their academic badge.

GRADE 8

LEARNER	AVERAGE
Siyazingca Giladile	80.51%
Teyobesta Bedesa	76.30%
Sbusiso Nyathi	74.95%
Chinonyerem Ikechukwu	74.47%

GRADE 9

LEARNER	AVERAGE
Victoria Mchineuta	91.14%
Maria Yesuf	90.51%
Mohau Petja	87.58%
Lonwabo Giyose	86.49%
Ondwela Muabve	84.61%
Sbonginkosi Mota	82.10%
Kyla Sibanda	81.43%
Kevin Kasanji	79.01%
Patricia Mushota	78.16%
Njabulo Siwela	77.97%
Rethabile Sera	76.68%
Emyline Miya	74.56%
Yosef Abeza	74.54%
Esihle Nyuswa	74.44%

GRADE 10

LEARNER	AVERAGE	SUBJECTS
Manelisi Dube	86.59%	7
Mbalenhle Mthimkulu	78.93%	8
Khanyisile Magonya	78.15%	10
Eyoseyas Kebede	73.02%	9

GRADE 11

LEARNER	AVERAGE	SUBJECTS
Landisiwe Zimba	83.56%	8
Mjoli Bekwa	82.61%	9
Jordan Mwanja	81.20%	9

6 ACADEMIC PARENT INTERVIEWS

During the course of this month, the school will contact selected parents to arrange interviews to discuss your child's progress. Please make every effort to attend, as it is important that the school, parent and learner work together to address any issues arising from the last academic cycle. If you have not been contacted by the school but would like to meet with the teachers, please feel free to contact Mrs Ludolph on 011-618-3331 to arrange an appointment.

7 BLOOD DRIVE

The South African Blood Bank will be at our school on the 18th September to host a "bleed". Learners who are 16 or older and weigh 50kg or more are eligible to donate blood. Every unit of blood donated can save up to two lives, and the Blood Bank usually has an exciting gift for children who make a donation.

8 HOPE JARS

I would like to send a huge thank-you to all the parents who supported our Mandela Day / Hope Jar project! Mrs Harris and the team in Grade 11 were able to pack **140 Hope Jars**, with each jar providing enough food for four people. We delivered these jars to Kencare, Kensington Methodist Church on the 16th September, where they were received with great joy! Here are some photos of the jars we created.



Cycle tests are written every Wednesday at 07:50. Please ensure that your children are at school on time for these tests. The full schedule was published on the school's website; the remaining tests for the term are included below:

DATE	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11
16 September	English	Life Orientation	English	Afrikaans/isiZulu
23 September	Afrikaans/isiZulu	English	Maths/Maths Literacy	English
30 September	Maths	Afrikaans/isiZulu/French	Business Studies/Physical Science	Maths/Maths Literacy
7 October	NS: Natural & Life Sciences	Maths	Afrikaans/isiZulu	Business Studies/Physical Science/History
14 October	Creative Arts	SS: History & Geography	IT (Practical)/CAT/History	Life Orientation
21 October	SS: History & Geography	EMS: Business Studies & Accounting	Life Sciences/Art	IT (Practical)/Life Sciences/Art
28 October	EMS: Accounting & Business Studies	Natural Science	Life Orientation	Accounting/Economics/CAT
4 November	Life Orientation	Creative Arts	English	Maths/Maths Literacy

10 IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 3

Please could parents take note of the following important dates for the remainder of this term:

DATE & TIME	EVENT	WHO SHOULD ATTEND
10 to 12 Sept	Second half of prelim exams for Grade 12s	All Grade 12 learners
15 Sept	Official IEB Life Orientation Exam	All Grade 12 learners
16 Sept	Official IEB Life Sciences Exam	All Life Sciences Grade 12 learners
18 Sept	SA Blood Bank drive	All 16 year olds and older, plus parents and staff
23 Sept	Grade 12 learners on leave	All Grade 12 learners
23 Sept	Heritage Day celebrations School dismisses at 14:30	All Staff and Learners
24 Sept	Heritage Day — Public Holiday	All Staff, Parents and Learners
25 Sept	School Holiday	—
5 to 8 October	IEB Visual Art Practical Drawing Exam 6 hours per day for 4 days Venue: Art Display room	All Visual Arts Grade 12 learners
9 October	Final day for Grade 12 learners Ringing of the bell ceremony Grade 12 Valediction	All Grade 12 learners and their parents
10 October	Open Day, Entrepreneurs Day & Scholarship Day	Prefects on duty
15 October	IEB NSC Exams start	All Grade 12 learners and their parents
23 to 26 October	Mid-term break	All parents, learners and staff
4 November	School holiday — Voting Day	All parents, learners and staff
11 November	End-of-year exams start	All parents, learners and staff
4 December	Last school day of the term Civvies day School closes at 11:00	All Staff, Parents and Learners

11 ENROLMENTS FOR 2027

I would like to ask any parents who are considering enrolling a learner into our school in 2027 to contact Mrs Ludolph in the office as soon as possible to finalise the enrolment. We have had a huge number of enquiries and the Grade 8 classes, in particular, are filling up fast. Please do not leave this for later, as you may be disappointed.

12 EMAIL ADDRESSES

We note that when we send emails to our parents, quite a few of our emails are being sent back to us, stating that the email address is invalid or that your email address inbox is full. Parents are missing out on important information.

Can we please urge parents to check that we have a valid email address for them, and also please check that your email address inbox is not full. The issue with full inboxes is particularly noticeable with parents who have Gmail email addresses. We thank you in advance for paying attention to this issue.

As I end this newsletter, you can see this is an incredibly busy term. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all our learners to continue to work hard. I also want to wish all our Grade 12s everything of the best, as they start their final exams. I know they are going to slay the exams and make us proud!

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Harris

EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER