



SNAPSHOT

ISSUE 10 of 2023
14 April



Matters of Principal

“Be So Busy Living Your Life That You Have No Time For Hate, Regrets, Worries, Or Fears.”

- Unknown

We embark on what is traditionally the busiest term of the year - a term in which the weather gets colder, the days get shorter and our pupils will be stretched to the full. They are going to have to call on all their resources if we are to meet our full potential as a school. This is an examination term so we need to have a clear academic focus as our Grade 8 – 11 pupils work towards this milestone. The matrics will have an academic focus programme at this time. This term also brings an extremely busy extramural programme, with a number of Derby weekends, league fixtures and provincial trials, while rehearsals for our school production continue. I am really looking forward to what promises to be an exciting and action-packed term.

The Easter holiday, all over our country, is traditionally a time for school sports festivals and we were fortunate to participate in two festivals this holiday. We sent four hockey teams down to the Keith Fairweather Festival, hosted in the KwaZulu Natal Midlands. Our Stanfordians acquitted themselves well on the field of play but it was the positive feedback from tournament organisers about our pupil's behaviour, dress and manners off the field that was most gratifying. Keith Fairweather took the time to message me personally to comment on how well our pupils had conducted themselves. I am proud of our pupils for upholding the name of our school as they did and for the manner in which they behaved. Thank you too to the parents who travelled down to support our pupils.

Over the Easter weekend, we hosted our 25-year Celebration Netball and Rugby Festival. It took an enormous amount of time to put this festival together and I thank Mr Steve Willson and the sports staff for the work they did. The grounds looked spectacular, with a splash of autumn colour and the blessing of perfect mountain

weather. The festival was most successful. Visiting players and coaches could not have been more complimentary in their praise for the overall tone and organisation of the festival and have already requested that we consider running the festival again next year. Our 1st Netball team came away from the festival unbeaten after 8 games – a truly excellent performance. Our 1st Rugby team displayed enormous courage and fought under tough circumstances but unfortunately, the results did not go their way. Both festivals will serve as very good preparation for the sporting seasons that lie ahead. Again, I thank the parents who came to support from the sidelines.

Over the holidays, the building on campus has proceeded at pace-but not as quickly as we had all hoped. The contractor is committed to finishing the work inside the boys' boarding house as soon as possible. I acknowledge that this has been an enormous disruption for everyone but particularly for our boys. We are nearly there and I am confident that - once completed - we will be very proud of the final product.

Today, we conclude our week with a special Easter Service prepared by Mr Swann and the choir. It will, I have no doubt, be a fitting celebration of Easter and of the ethos of our school. It will also bring a busy week to an end on a high note.

We have an enormous amount to look forward to over the next few weeks. I hope to see many of you on campus this term supporting your children in the various activities.



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KEITH FAIRWEATHER HOCKEY TOUR

The school's senior hockey teams participated in the Keith Fairweather pre-season festival from the 28th to the 31st of March, where they played against various schools from different parts of the country. The festival provided a great opportunity for the teams to test their skills against tough opposition, learn from their experiences and improve before the start of the season.

The U/16 Girls played a total of five games, winning two and losing three games. Despite not being able to win all their games, they put up a good fight and played with great determination.

The 1st Team Girls had a tough run during the festival and were not able to secure a win. However, they played against some great opposition and held their ground against big hockey schools like Epworth. Despite the lack of wins, the girls should be proud of their performance and efforts, and this experience will only make them stronger.

The U/16 boys played five games, losing four, three of which were by a one-goal margin, and winning one. The boys showed determination and played with great team spirit throughout the festival. Although the results may not have been favourable, the boys should be proud of their efforts and have gained valuable experience.

The 1st Team Boys had a successful run during the festival, winning three games, drawing one and losing two. The boys showed great character throughout the festival, and their hard work paid off with some great results. This experience will serve as a great confidence booster for the team going into the season.

Overall, the festival was a great learning curve for our participating teams and the pupils enjoyed playing and watching some top-class hockey.





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EASTER SPORTS FESTIVAL

As part of our 25-year celebrations, the Sports Department hosted the College's first ever Easter Sports Festival from 5 - 10 April. Easter Festivals are an old South African school tradition and despite schools being spoiled for choice, it was fantastic to host nine other schools on our beautiful campus. The weather could not have been better and although it got a little hot on the Festival's main day, Saturday, the rain stayed away throughout and we managed to fulfil all fixtures.

In terms of our own teams, there were many highlights. Our 1st Rugby boys battled against Beaulieu and St Peters College, where they just could not gain momentum and gel as a team. However, they really stepped up in their game against a much bigger Tom Naude on the Saturday, where they not only showed improvement and courage, but also managed to score two tries due to a huge effort on defence. The 2nd Netball girls played against some really tough competition. However, the improvement in the team from day 1 to day 4 was huge and the girls are now ready for a strong showing this season. Big congratulations to the 1st Netball girls, who played some fantastic, fast netball and beat all other teams to go unbeaten in their home Festival, despite playing much bigger schools.

I would like to thank everybody who contributed to making our 25-year Easter Festival the success that it was. There are too many of you to thank each one of you, as it was a real Stanford team effort. Most of all I would like to thank the Stanford pupils who gave up their Easter weekend to host our visitors and who played their hearts out on the field and courts.

It was a long weekend of intense competition on the netball courts and on the rugby field. However, despite the teams going head to head, the real highlight of the Festival was that outside of competition - the pupils really enjoyed spending time with their contemporaries from other schools. The visiting staff also had a blast and it was good for our coaches to make new friends and acquaintances. Our visitors had many amazing things to say about our school and it's humbling to be reminded of how lucky we are to live, work and play in this beautiful area.





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STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Mr Redfern completed his certificate in School Management and Leadership through the Harvard Business School.



Mr Rachidi passed his Applied Information Security module with distinction through UNISA.



Mr Swann completed his level one NILD Educational Therapy course.



Miss Hlungwane received her Bachelor of Education Honours.



During the holiday Mr Fullard and Ruan Viljoen from the Warriors Academy went for a scout trip down the Olifants River. The purpose of this trip was to go and scout the river after the floods experienced the month before and also to get some good paddling training in as they are both taking

part in the Adventure Racing World Champs in October this year. With gauges showing good water levels, the plan was to complete the full 65km section from Penge to Manoutsa in one day. This is the same section we use for the Grade 9 expedition, but over four days. On arrival at the river in the morning, the water level was not as indicated by the gauges and running quite a bit lower, with some sandbanks peeking out here and there. After some quick head calculations on distance over timing and with a 50km bail-out option they decided to go for it, but they knew it was going to be a long and hard day. They set off at 7am, pushing hard and kept a good pace, stopping for a short snack and water break every 10km to make sure they didn't run out of steam. It was a successful expedition and a great day on the river, finishing the section around 4pm that afternoon. They both had very sore bodies and hands, but the sense of achievement and accomplishment trumped all of it. Well done lads, and a massive thank you to Ruan's wife, Renske, for the support and logistics.



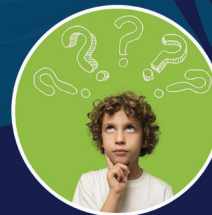
ENVIRONMENT WEEK (17 - 22 APRIL)

In honour of Earth Day (22nd April) and Arbor Day (28th April), and in line with our 25th-year celebrations, we have dedicated next week as Environment Week. We have a number of great events lined up throughout the course of the week and some prizes available throughout too.

Junk Couture
(Add on to school uniform)



Environmental Quiz
Period 8



Grassland Walk
Afternoon



Know what items you can recycle.

Make your own video of +3 minutes to inform the community about our recycling programme.
Work in groups of max four learners.



WIN 4 SEALAND BAGS AND STAND A CHANCE TO RECEIVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD FOR 2023

SUBMIT TO CVANSTADEN@SLC.CO.ZA BEFORE 1 MAY 2023

EXTERNAL JUDGING BY ZEROWASTE AND ALI OONI FROM SA HARVEST

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Assembly Guest Speaker
- Bronwyn Egan
& Bake Sale



Wattle Wars!
At least 25 wattles per sports house
16:00 - 18:00



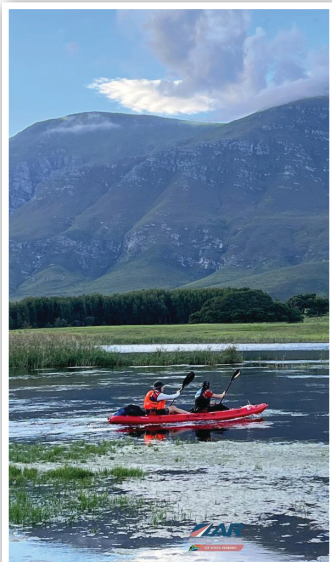
Arbor Day
Planting of White Olive Trees during tutor period



TEAM NAMAQUA TAKE THE WIN

by Tristan Brett

This past holiday I was at it again, this time taking on Expedition Africa's 200km Adventure Race in Hermanus. I had the absolute privilege of racing with Team Namaqua (Danie van Aswegan, Riaan and Maretha Combrinck), a highly experienced and respected team having completed over 7 expedition races. The race start was at a small cultural farm, Vortelgat, which was just 10km from the town of Stanford. The race kicked off on Friday afternoon at 17:00. The first three legs consisted of 25km kayaking on the lagoon to Stanford, then a 5km run through the town and then a paddle back down to the transition area. We had a fast and productive transition. The next leg was a 50km run/trek over the mountains then through Hermanus and straight to Gaansbaai via the beach which consisted of harsh terrain that burnt the legs a lot. We completed the leg in a time of 9hrs 58min and were surprised to hear that we were in the lead with a 2-hour gap.



The next transition was a bit longer as we had to plot the maps carefully for the 170km cycle. We left the transition area not expecting the next 11 hrs to be so harsh. This leg was brutal, we battled intense heat for the first few hours, then a headwind for four hours that reached insane speeds of 60km/h that made us come to a standstill when we stopped peddling on a downhill. We also experienced two hail storms which brought freezing cold rain to the 3500m of vertical climbing through the hilly Winelands of the Cape. We finished the race in a time of 29 hrs and completed a total distance of 250km. We took the overall win with a 9-hour lead which felt amazing. Overall, it was a tough but memorable experience and I look forward to many more.

Mountain Biking News

Over the past holiday there were a few mountain bike races that took place. First was the third round of the Limpopo Open XCO Series that took place at Bouncy Croc Adventure Farm, where Gordon Noel fought hard lap for lap. It came down to the last 2km of the race and Gordon finished in 2nd place, well done Gordon! The next race was the Mango Mania Marathon Race that took place just outside of Hoedspruit. Stanford was well represented with students, staff and parents racing. Gordon managed to finish 3rd overall and Lungile Sithole-Wiltshire 7th Junior in the Half-marathon (35km) race. Mrs Schoeman as well as many other parents also completed the half marathon and there were some parents that rode the full-marathon (70km) race, with Walt Katzke finishing 3rd overall and Shirley Scriven 2nd in her category. Well done to the whole Stanford Family.



Whilst this was all happening, Stanford old-boy, Herman Fourie competed in the Cape Epic MTB stage race for his team, Insect Science Mountain Biking. This is the pinnacle of mountain biking and a massive achievement for just being on the starting line. He rode with local hero Alan Gordon and they stayed in the front bunch, fighting it out with some big names through most of the race. Unfortunately, on one of the last days they kindly offered a wheel to their front running Insect Science team, who were struggling with an issue. This led to their front team finishing on the Africa Jersey podium and themselves falling down the ranks, but that is what teamwork and commitment is all about. They still managed to finish the race in good standing. Well done, Herman!



Congratulations to the Stanford family on all the achievements and just getting out there on your two wheels.



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