



Matters of Principal

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain."
1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)*

As we reach the end of a full and meaningful term, we are reminded of a familiar phrase:
"Time is of the essence."

In our daily work, this often relates to meeting deadlines and managing responsibilities with urgency and focus.

Yet, this truth extends far beyond our professional lives. It speaks even more powerfully into our relationships. How often do we find ourselves postponing what truly matters?

Later, the coffee grows cold.
Later, interest fades.
Later, the day slips into night.
Later, children grow up.
Later, loved ones grow old.
Later, life moves on...

And later, we are left with regret for moments missed.

Each of us is blessed with people who matter deeply, our families, our friends, and those we walk alongside each day. The question we must ask ourselves is whether we are truly intentional in giving them the time and presence they deserve.

Time is a gift unlike any other. When we give it to someone, we are offering a portion of our lives that we will never regain.

This principle holds just as true within our families and school community. Our children, colleagues, and families thrive when we are fully present, when we listen with care, offer encouragement, share in joy, and stand alongside one another in moments of challenge. These seemingly small acts carry immense value. There is no price that can be placed on time or on cherished relationships.

As we reflect on the term that has passed, may we be mindful not to let busyness, distraction, or pressure cause us to overlook what matters most. May we choose presence over postponement, and people over pace.

As we are reminded in Philippians 2:3-4:

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others."

May this guide how we live, lead, and care for one another, within our families, school and beyond.

The Easter holidays provide a valuable opportunity for families to spend meaningful, uninterrupted time together, creating moments and memories that will last a lifetime.

Travel Safely
God Bless,

Pierre Jacobs

Coaches Corner

Alicia Giles

We are thrilled to welcome Alicia to Stanford Lake College and the Afrikaans Department! Already making her mark, Alicia brings with her an impressive blend of sporting talent and valuable coaching experience. Her passion, energy, and competitive spirit are set to inspire and elevate our girls' cricket programme, while her presence on the hockey field promises strength, skill, and dominance.

We have no doubt that Alicia will make a powerful impact both in the classroom and on the sports field — the future of girls' sport at Stanford has never looked more exciting.

Qualifications

- Level 1 Hockey coach
- Qualified hockey umpire

Coaching Highlights

- Winning NWU Pukreeks 2 years in a row
- Winning the Mpumalanga Girls cricket league
- Ending 3rd in the Limpopo hockey league from 2023-2024
- Ending 2nd in the Limpopo hockey league 2025
- Lead multiple teams to Noordvaal tournaments
- Ending 3rd in Noordvaal B tournament

Coaching Experience

- 1st Team hockey coach for 3 years
- U14 hockey coach for 2 years
- U15 hockey coach for 2 years
- U16 hockey coach for 1 year
- 1st team girls cricket coach for 10 years
- U14 B Provincial hockey coach for 2022 (Limpopo)
- U18 B Provincial hockey coach for 2023 (Limpopo)
- U/16 Provincial cricket coach (Mpumalanga Rhinos)
- Javelin coach for 10 years
- Relay coach for 2 years

Career Highlights

- Played provincial womens cricket for the Mpumalanga Rhinos cricket team from 2016-2022
- Captained the side from 2021-2022
- Womens club batter of the 2016/2017 season
- Mpumalanga Rhinos batter of the year 2017/2018

Sport has always been central to my identity, shaping my character through discipline, resilience, and a deep-rooted passion for an active lifestyle. Alongside my personal journey, I have developed a strong commitment to coaching and mentoring learners across hockey, athletics and cricket. I am driven by a genuine passion to see young people grow, not only in their sporting ability but also in their confidence and character. Supporting learners in becoming the best versions of themselves, both on and off the field, remains one of the most rewarding aspects of my role.



ULTRA TRAIL 100KM

On the 21st of March, I lined up for the Hi-Tec Magoebaskloof Ultra 100km starting in Haenertsburg. The route delivered from the start — flowing through indigenous forests, past Debengeni Falls, and up Magic Miles till Schnellskop, where we started our decent to Krabbefontein.

Conditions got dangerous later in the race, and unfortunately, it was cut short at 90km due to safety concerns at night. Not the full distance, but still an unreal experience and proper test. Definitely a run I cant wait to experience soon again.

Coach Chris Nel

Congratulations



Knitting and Crochet Club at Stanford Lake College



At Stanford Lake College, we encourage our students to explore new skills and discover creative outlets.

What better way to unwind than by joining our Knitting and Crochet Club?

It's a relaxed, welcoming space where students can learn something new, express their creativity, and enjoy meaningful conversations with one another. Whether you're picking up needles for the first time or already have experience, this is a place to slow down, connect, and create something special.



BADGER OF

THE WEEK



Badger of the Week: Holly Mchugh

Badger of the Week goes to Holly McHugh for her positive attitude and unwavering team spirit. Even after an on-field injury, she remained committed and present for her team – a true example of resilience.

OPEN WEEKEND 2026

We welcomed Grade 6 and 7 learners from across the country to experience the Stanford Lake College way of life.

From time spent in boarding, getting a real feel for daily routines, to hands-on fun in the science lab and adventure-filled moments out on the lake, it was an unforgettable experience. Friendships were formed, confidence was built, and plenty of memories were made along the way.

We can't wait to see these future Stanfordsians return and become part of the SLC family.



FAREWELL AMY TAYLOR

Mrs. Amy Taylor has been a cherished and integral part of Stanford Lake College. As HOD of the English Department, she has led with passion and heart, inspiring students across the school and nurturing a love of literature and learning.

Beyond the classroom, Amy's contributions as Head of Discipline and Housemom for the Day Scholars have been invaluable, shaping the culture and wellbeing of our community. Always bubbly and full of energy, she has brightened life on campus, whether on the trails, by the pool, or simply greeting everyone with her signature warmth. Her friendly dogs have been a delightful part of campus life, adding even more joy to her presence.

We will truly miss her vibrant spirit, dedication, and kindness. We wish Amy a safe move and every success in her exciting new journey at Oakhill School.



HERONBRIDGE INVITATIONAL

Stanford Lake College 1st Team Tour – Heronbridge Invitational Festival 2026



Stanford Lake College's 1st Team squads returned from the 2026 Heronbridge Invitational Festival having shown resilience, growth, and unity across all codes. Competing against strong opposition over a demanding schedule, our rugby, hockey, and netball teams rose to the challenge and demonstrated both skill and determination.

Rugby

The rugby squad gained valuable experience in high-pressure matches:

- SLC 5 – 42 Leeuwenhof
- SLC 14 – 16 Heuvelkruin
- SLC 20 – 24 Durbanville

Despite the results, the narrow margins in two games reflect a team growing in confidence and competitiveness.

Boys' Hockey

The boys' hockey side impressed with three wins out of four:

- SLC 1 – 0 Curro Nelspruit
- SLC 2 – 1 Heronbridge College
- SLC 2 – 1 Grace College
- SLC 0 – 2 Randpark Ridge

Netball

The netball team played consistently across seven matches, with several dominant victories:

- SLC 33 – 19 Curro Thatchfield
- SLC 33 – 11 Heronbridge Invitational
- SLC 35 – 12 Grace College
- SLC 21 – 33 Dainfern College
- SLC 26 – 20 Heuvelkruin
- SLC 10 – 30 Reddam House Waterfall
- SLC 25 – 8 Curro Wilgeheuwel

Girls' Hockey

The girls' hockey team combined strong defence with clinical finishing:

- SLC 2 – 0 Heronbridge
 - SLC 1 – 0 Rand Park High School
 - SLC 0 – 2 Uplands College
- Two wins highlight the squad's cohesion and progress.

Beyond results, the tour's true success lay in the character displayed by our players, who remained committed, supportive, and determined throughout. A sincere thank you to the parents who travelled to support the teams, and to the coaches whose guidance continues to shape our athletes on and off the field.

This tour marks another step forward for Stanford Lake College sport, and we look ahead with confidence to the remainder of the season.



SHOWTIME



Under the bright lights and roaring applause, Showtime Presents brought the magic of the stage to life at Stanford Lake College.

Inspired by the spirit of *The Greatest Showman*, the production was a celebration of courage, individuality, and the power of performance. From the moment the curtain rose, the audience was swept into a world of bold characters, dazzling choreography, and unforgettable music.



Each act told a story — of stepping into the spotlight, of embracing what makes you different, and of finding your voice. The students transformed the stage into a vibrant spectacle, seamlessly blending drama, dance, and song into a performance that was both powerful and deeply moving.

Backstage nerves turned into onstage brilliance, as every performer gave their all, supporting one another and shining as part of something bigger. It wasn't just a show — it was a journey of growth, confidence, and pure joy.



As the final note echoed and the audience rose to their feet, one thing was clear: this was more than a performance. It was a moment our students will carry with them forever — a true show of heart, talent, and the unmistakable magic of Showtime.



BLOOD BANK VISIT-23 MARCH



Stanford Lake College proudly hosted a successful blood drive, in partnership with the South African National Blood Service. A total of 76 donors attended, resulting in an impressive 56 units of blood collected, surpassing the target. Notably, 24 of these donors were first-time participants, reflecting a growing awareness and willingness among pupils to make a meaningful contribution.

The Haenertsburg and Magoebaskloof communities also showed strong support, adding to the success of the day.

Dearest Reader

Research shows that in order to build a reading culture in our school everyone needs to be involved.

Reading is key to academic success.

Many research studies show measurable results in improving comprehension, memory and thinking skills by simply practising daily reading.

Our school plans to introduce DEAR - Drop Everything And Read on a trail basis in the new term. Where the entire school will get the opportunity to read for pleasure and develop good reading habits.

- Jane Meintjes
Librarian

