



From the Academic Desk

"Whatever you do, work heartily,
as for the Lord and not for men"
Colossians 3:23

In a world that feels constantly obsessed with digital visibility, performance metrics, and follower counts, our children are carrying an unprecedented amount of pressure. From chasing the perfect academic score to striving for that first-team sports selection, the relentless pursuit of human validation is simply exhausting. This modern "performance culture" turns self-worth into a brutal roller coaster. If people cheer, our kids feel on top of the world, but if they face criticism or are simply ignored, their world crashes. It is a direct route to anxiety and burnout for young people

This term, I challenged our students to make a radical shift in perspective. I looked at a timeless Biblical framework that completely flips the script on why we do what we do. This is grounded in the wisdom of 1 Corinthians 10:31: "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." Ideally the focus should be on moving away from external comparisons and anchoring our worth in an "audience of One". Fundamentally this changes how we navigate daily life, both inside and outside the classroom.

At Stanford Lake College, this spiritual anchor does not exist in a vacuum. It beautifully aligns with our seven core values and our identity as a proud Round Square school. When we commit to doing everything for a purpose greater than ourselves, the crushing pressure to be perfect just vanishes. It is replaced by a genuine desire to give our best, and our values cease to be mere words on a wall, they become our daily reality.

Beyond the classroom, this mind-set completely reshapes relationships through the lenses of Ubuntu. It dictates how we treat a peer sitting alone at break, or how we speak about teachers when they are not around. Through Ubuntu, recognising our deep interconnectedness, our words become tools that build people up rather than tearing them down. This same attitude transforms our sporting activities, cultural activities and the adventure that awaits each learner daily, where commitment and courage are forged. Whether on the rugby field, the netball court, in a debate, or a solo experience while on expedition, our students have the opportunity to experience their individual talents. Giving 100% effort through commitment becomes a habit, and it takes true courage to accept a loss with dignity, to celebrate a teammate's success when they get the position you wanted, and to win with genuine humility.

As a Round Square institution, our mission is to prepare students for life beyond the school gates by building real character, allowing them to live out the Round Square IDEALS with pure, uncompromised motives. When students are secure in who they are, the ideals of Internationalism and Democracy thrive; they no longer need to exclude others to feel important, but instead embrace a global perspective and champion equality because they see the inherent worth in every human being. Similarly, Environmentalism ceases to be a chore or a school requirement and becomes an act of stewardship, by protecting and respecting our beautiful Limpopo surroundings.

The ideal of Adventure comes alive because when students are not paralysed by the fear of looking foolish or failing in front of their peers, they find the freedom to embrace outdoor challenges, take healthy risks, and discover what they are truly capable of. Most importantly, Leadership and Service are redefined. High school leadership should never be about the badge, the status, or the applause. By looking to the ultimate model of servant leadership, our students learn to lead by lifting others, stepping forward to serve our wider community quietly and without expecting anything in return.

Education at Stanford Lake College is not meant to be a game of survival, anxiety, and comparison; it is a training ground for real, lasting purpose. Our students do not have to wait until their Grade 12 results are released to live a life that matters; they can start tomorrow morning, in their very first lesson, with the simplest task on their desk

God Bless,
Mrs T Nel
Deputy Head, Academics

ALIEN INVASION

Clearing the Way

Throughout the year, the Environmental Committee has been working to raise funds towards an important alien plant-clearing project along the R71.

Thanks to the funds raised by the committee, together with generous support from our Parents Association, the project has been able to get underway.

The project has focused on clearing invasive species, including **black wattle and bugweed (*Solanum mauritianum*)**, which threaten indigenous vegetation and the natural environment.

This is an ongoing commitment to caring for the beautiful natural environment surrounding Stanford Lake College. We are proud of the Environmental Committee for taking action and grateful to our Parents Association for supporting their efforts.



SWIMMING UPDATES

Stanford Lake College recently hosted the Interprovincial Gala, welcoming swimmers from across the region for a day of competitive swimming. Our students represented SLC with distinction, competing against some very strong swimmers, including Senior National swimmers.

Dario competed in the Senior Boys events, taking on races selected by Limpopo Swimming, which challenged him to step outside his usual events and comfort zone. He produced some excellent results:

100m Backstroke: 5th place
100m Breaststroke: 2nd place – Silver
200m Medley Relay: 1st place – Gold and a new record
200m Individual Medley: 5th place

Dario played an important role in the Medley Relay, swimming the breaststroke leg and helping his team move from second into first place to secure the gold medal and a new record.

Adding to an already busy day, Dario also managed to support his cricket team in their match, making it a full day of sport and school spirit.

Morgan Martins also competed in two relays. Her Freestyle Relay team took first place, while in the Medley Relay, where Morgan swam the breaststroke leg, the team finished second.



ART GRADE 10

The Grade 10s have been exploring the theory of the Renaissance art movement. As part of their practical assessment, they used AI alongside their own photographs to create Renaissance-inspired self-portraits, which they then painted using acrylic paint.



Olive Humphrys



Munaka Nemaorani



Daniela Esteves



Bokang Monate

CRICKET COACH

Congratulations to our coaches, Alicia Giles and Chris Mathebula, on their selection to the Limpopo Cricket U16 coaching teams.

Alicia has been selected as U16 Girls Coach, while Chris will take on the role of U16 Boys Assistant Coach.

We are proud to see our coaches recognised for their expertise and commitment to developing young cricketers. Well done, Alicia and Chris!



EISTEDDFOD ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Culture Department recently took part in the ATKV Eisteddfod, with our students performing exceptionally well across their respective categories.

Our pianists achieved excellent results, with Mashela Boshomane receiving 85%, Megan Lamminga 88%, Esther van Staden 90%, and Miano Tshivula an impressive 94%.

A special congratulations to Charlie Peniston, who was named the category winner for Creative Writing.

Well done to all our students who took part. Their preparation, commitment and confidence were evident throughout, and we are proud of the way they represented Stanford Lake College.



GRADE 9 SOUTIES

The beginning of Spring marked the final expedition for the Grade 9 group from Stanford Lake College. This expedition is a self-guided expedition, where students are responsible for their own navigation through the mountains. Navigational exercises were completed in class in preparation for the expedition.

On 31 August, all the Grade 9s boarded the bus to Louis Trichardt for the start of their expedition. The bus dropped the students off in Louis Trichardt, where they received their first set of maps and briefings – and then the fun started!

The students hiked approximately 13 km in their groups to their first camp. That evening, they received their second set of instructions to guide them to Base Camp. Problem-solving and group work were very important at this stage. The groups had to determine their own wake-up times, hiking speeds, rest times and more, based on the sessions they had completed in class.

Later that afternoon on Day 2 at Base Camp, Group 1 received their briefing for their self-guided mountain section. They had to plot the points on a 1:50 000 topographical map and work out their planned routes to reach their campsites. They spent three days guiding themselves through the mountains, with plenty of problem-solving along the way. Group 1 did very well and managed to reach Camp 1 before 15:00.

Group 2 remained at Base Camp and took part in activities including abseiling, bush tracking, viewing Bushmen paintings and a problem-solving activity. This was followed by a 24-hour SOLO experience – all by themselves and with their thoughts for the next 24 hours. They also had to write a letter to themselves, their parents and another student who was taking part in SOLO with them.

After three days, the groups swapped. Group 1 returned from their mountain section and began their activities and SOLO experience, while Group 2 set off on their self-navigating mountain section.

During this time, we experienced some interesting weather – wet and very windy! Those who took part in SOLO will certainly have some stories to tell for a lifetime.

On the final afternoon, we held a review session before the groups performed the songs they had practised during the week. Their reward? Ice-cold cooldrinks, a fire and a wors braai! Eventually, the whole group was invited to join the braai.

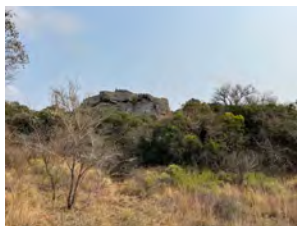
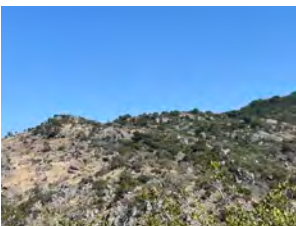
While sitting around the fire, we held a small prize-giving ceremony. The students had to elect a boy and a girl whom they felt had benefited the most from the expedition. The group chose Willa McHugh as the girl and Hakeem Masango as the boy.

Our alarm on the final morning was a rather impressive thunderstorm! Luckily, it subsided before we made our way down the mountain to finish the expedition at Schoemansdal.

Well done to everybody for completing this challenging but fun expedition!

A big thank you to the parents who sponsored the wors braai for the group, as well as those who brought everything in for the students. They certainly enjoyed it and can't stop talking about it.

- Neil Haarhoff



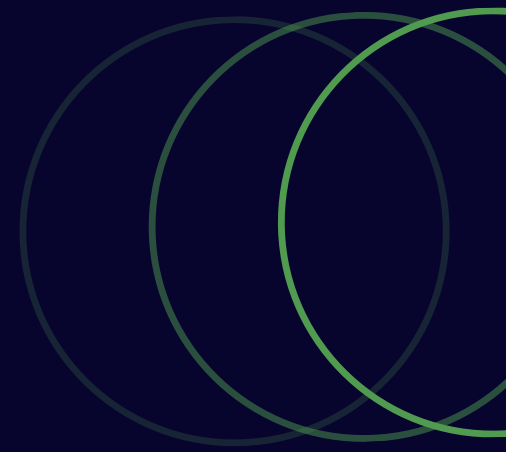
GRADE 9 SOUTIES





Stanford Lake College Weekly Notice

14 – 20 Sept



Date	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday 14 Sept	Day 1			
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Choir	14:00- 16:00	IJV	Renee
	SNR Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Field	CM/TM
	JNR Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH
	JNR Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR
	JNR/SNR Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	DAD Centre	PJB
	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	NH/BA
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	KO
	Gym	15:00 -17:00	HPC	JG/TM/KH/KO/AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 12 Maths	14:30 - 15:30	MCE class	MCE
	Grade 8 Maths	14:45 - 15:30	JH Class	JH
	Grade 12 Mathematics Paper 2 Trial Examination	8:30 - 12:00	HPC	TN
Tuesday 15 Sept	Day 2			
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Fields	CN,TM
	Jnr Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR,GM
	Jnr Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH,SB,TH
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB,JH
	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JH,TM,KH,KO,AG
	Mopani Inter high Swimming Gala			
	Departure SLC	07:15	Ben Vorster	KO,TM,TP,AG
	Return SLC	TBC		
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS

	Grade 11 Maths	14:30 - 15:15	NNM Class	NNM
	Senior Accounting Extra Lessons	14:30 - 15:30	CR Class	CR
	Grade 12 IEB Life Orientation CAT B	8:30 - 11:00	HPC	TN
Wednesday 16 Sept	Day 3			
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Field	CM/TM
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB
	Snr/Jnr Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	NH/BA
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JG/TM/KH/KO/AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:00 - 15:00	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 10 Maths	14:00 - 14:45	NNM Class	NNM
	Grade 9 Maths	14:00 - 14:45	JH Class	JH
	Academic Assist for DS	14:00 - 14:45	TN Class	Academic Com
	Junior Accounting Extra Lessons	14:00 - 15:00	CR Class	CR
	Grade 11 FSE	13:50 - 14:45	JET Class	JET
	Grade 12 IEB Life Sciences PAT	10:00 - 12:00	NCN and GVS LAB	NCN, KSH
Thursday 17 Sept	Day 4			
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Fields	CN,TM
	Jnr Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR,GM
	Jnr Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH,SB,TH
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB,JH
	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JH,TM,KH,KO,AG
	Cricket T20 vs Ben Vorster (SLC)	14:00	SLC Oval	LBM, GVS
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30- 15:30	PS Lab	TN
	Grade 12 Accounting Paper 1 Trial Examination	8:30 - 11:00	HPC	TN
	Grade 12 Accounting Paper 2 Trial Examination	13:30 - 16:00	HPC	

Friday 18 Sept	Day 5			
	Grade 12 Physical Sciences Paper 2 Trial	8:30 - 12:00	HPC	
	Grade 12 Mathematical Literacy Paper 2 Trial	8:30 - 12:00	HPC	
	St Peter’s Soccer and Tennis Festival		St Peter’s College	
	Departure SLC :	05:00		
	Matches Soccer			
	1 st Girls SLC vs Enjabulweni Indepentant School	12:00	Mandela A Field	
	1 st Boys SLC vs African Leadership Academy	13:00	Mandela B Field	
	1 st Girls SLC vs St Anne’s Diocesan College	14:00	Luthuli B Field	
	1 st Boys SLC vs St Peter’s College	15:00	Luthuli B Field	
	Tennis Fixtures			
	Boys			
	SLC vs St Davids Marist Inanda	11:00	Court 2,4,6	
	SLC vs SAHETI School	14:00	Court 1,3,5	
	SLC vs Waterford Kamhlaba	15:00	Court 2,4,6	
	Girls			
	SLC vs Brescia House School	11:00	Court 1,3,5	
	SLC vs Mitchell House	12:00	Court 2,4,6	
	Expedition Africa Adventure Race		Magoebaskloof Mountain Lodge	
	Registration	17:00 - 20:00		
	Race Briefing	20:00	Magoebaskloof Mountain Lodge	
Saturday 19 Sept	St Peter’s Soccer and Tennis Festival			
	Soccer Fixtures			
	Playoff’s TBC	09:00 - 15:00		
	Tennis Fixtures			
	Boys			
	SLC vs Woodlands International College	11:00	Court 2,4,6	
	SLC vs Pinnacle College Rynfield	14:00	Court 1,3,5	
	Girls			
	SLC vs SAHETI School	08:00	Court 2,4,6	
	SLC vs Woodlands International College	11:00	Court 1,3,5	
	SLC vs Jeppe High School for Girls	13:00	Court 1,3,5	
	Expedition Africa Adventure Race Start @ SLC	06:00	SLC	
	Boys Cricket vs Frans Du Toit			
	U15 Boys (Away)			
	Departure SLC :	06:00		
	Match Start	09:30		
	Return SLC	TBC		
	1 st Boys Cricket vs Frans Du Toit (SLC)	09:30		

Sunday 20 Sept	St Peter’s Soccer and Tennis Festival Soccer Finals TBC Tennis Finals TBC Return SLC: Expedition Africa Adventure Race Awards Ceremony	TBC 09:00	Magoebaskloof Mountain Lodge	