



Sports Field

*“Sport has the power to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela*

Beyond the Classroom: Where Character Is Built

At Stanford Lake College, our co-curricular programme is not an extra to education, it is education. Too often parents and pupils struggle to understand the ‘why’ behind our sport, adventure and culture programmes. As parents, we are inclined to try and protect our children from challenges and hardship without realising that we then rob them of invaluable learning experiences.

While the classroom remains the foundation of academic growth, it is on the sports field, the stage, or on the lake, where many of life’s most enduring lessons are truly lived. Our sports and cultural programmes are designed to stretch our pupils beyond their comfort zones daily. Whether it is stepping up to take the final penalty, delivering a solo performance, competing in a new event, or persevering through a tough training session, our pupils are consistently challenged to grow.

Sport and culture in demand resilience. It requires early nights and mornings, disciplined preparation, and the courage to fail publicly, and then try again. These are not lessons easily taught in a classroom. They are earned through experience. Through victory and defeat alike, pupils develop grit, emotional control, humility, leadership, and the ability to work toward long-term goals. They learn to manage pressure, to support others, and to push beyond perceived limits. On stage, in debates, in music ensembles, pupils learn confidence, collaboration, creativity, and empathy. They discover their voice and how to listen to others.

There is no competition between academics and co-curricular involvement at Stanford Lake College. In fact, they strengthen one another. A pupil who has learned discipline through sport applies it to exam preparation. A pupil who has developed confidence in drama carries it into oral presentations. A team captain grows into a leader in the classroom. Too often I am told that a pupil may not participate in sport so as to ‘focus on academics’. Experience and research shows us that these pupils often struggle academically and socially over time, as they cannot apply the above-mentioned lessons to their school work. Historically our most successful Stanfordsians are the ones that participate in everything.

At Stanford Lake College, we believe education is about more than marks. It is about shaping capable, resilient, well-rounded young people who are prepared not only for examinations, but for a life independent of us parents and educators. When we try to protect them from every hardship or uncomfortable experience, we get in the way of that developmental process.

Our co-curricular programme ensures that every pupil has the opportunity to be stretched, supported, and strengthened every single day. Watching our children develop into capable and resilient young adults through our co-curricular activities is the most rewarding part of my job, and I look forward to pushing them out of their comfort zones in 2026.

Steven Willson
Sport and Co-Curricular Director

Meet Our Headmaster: Leading the Way



We are thrilled to welcome Mr Pierre Jacobs as the 7th Headmaster of Stanford Lake College,

With a wealth of experience, a genuine passion for education, and a heart for holistic learner development, Mr Jacobs is ready to lead our community into an exciting new chapter.

A bit about Pierre:

Pierre grew up in the Eastern Cape and has spent his career shaping young minds across South Africa. Before joining SLC, he was the Headmaster at Glenwood High School in Durban, and prior to that, he held key leadership roles at Queen's College Boys High, Graeme College, Holy Cross Primary, and Grey High School.

He describes education as a calling, giving him the chance to make a positive impact on the next generation – something he's been doing with dedication throughout his career. Pierre is fully bilingual in English and Afrikaans, and holds qualifications ranging from a National Diploma in Sports Management to an Advanced Certificate in Education.

What drives his leadership?

Pierre's style can be summed up in three words: consistent, caring, disciplined. He believes in servant leadership – leading by example, building strong relationships, and creating a safe, structured, and nurturing environment where learners and staff can thrive.

He draws inspiration from his faith and family, with his wife Lizelle keeping him grounded and supporting him every step of the way. Outside school, Pierre stays active, enjoys his hobbies, and contributes to his church and community – including serving as an elder and lay preacher.

Fun facts & philosophy:

He's all about holistic education, balancing spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical growth.

He values the boarding experience as a cornerstone for character building.

He loves seeing learners and staff grow, achieve, and transform through their experiences.

He's not afraid of the tough conversations – for Pierre, leadership is about doing what's right, not just what's popular.

We are excited for the energy, experience, and heart Pierre brings to Stanford Lake College. Please join us in giving a warm welcome to Mr Pierre Jacobs and his family – we can't wait to see the positive impact he will make in our community!

STRONG STROKES, STRONG RESULTS

Morgan Martins delivered an exceptional performance at the SSA Limpopo Level 1 meet in the Girls 13 years category.

50m Events

Breaststroke – 1st

Butterfly – 1st (New PB)

Backstroke – 1st

Freestyle – 2nd

100m Events

Freestyle – 1st (New PB – 1:18.51)

Backstroke – 2nd (New PB)

Morgan was also the fastest swimmer overall (Girls 11–16) on the day in the 50m Butterfly, Backstroke and Breaststroke, and was the only girl to swim under 1:20.00 in the 100m Freestyle.

A fantastic achievement —

Well done, Morgan!



BADGER OF

THE WEEK



Badger of the Week: Akani Mochaba –

Akani has impressed us with his outstanding participation, energy, and positive attitude at the Eiland Sporting Camp. He consistently pushed himself out of his comfort zone, tried new challenges, and inspired his peers with his determination and enthusiasm.

Well done, Akani, for showing true spirit and commitment to growth!

SENIOR SQUAD

CAMP 2026 DIE EILAND



Over the weekend, our senior hockey, netball, and rugby squads spent time at Die Eiland, preparing for the upcoming Winter Sports Season.



CAMP GOALS :

- To spend time with coaches, setting their own goals and expectations for the season
- To connect with teammates without the distraction of screens
- To focus on specific skills and fitness
- To bond as a senior sports group through shared challenges, including an evening session with the Headmaster
- To relax and enjoy time together with their coaches

All of these objectives were achieved. While everyone left somewhat exhausted on Sunday morning, the buzz and camaraderie on the bus ride back up the Mountain were a testament to the success of the weekend.

A big thank you to Mr Bouwer and the other 1st Team coaches for facilitating a productive, memorable, and fun-filled weekend for our senior athletes.



HOCKEY SEASONOPENER

The U14 and U16 hockey teams played friendly fixtures against Mitchell House on Saturday, marking the first winter sports matches of the season and a promising start. Results: U14 girls drew 0-0, U14 boys won 1-0, U16 girls drew 1-1, and the highlight was the U16 boys beating the Mitchell House 1st team 3-0.

Well done to all our Junior Badgers.



Word of the Week

- **£ Ž** Timely benefit, blessing or something helpful that improves quality of life. "The extra training received at the rugby camp will be a boon for the team this season."



If your child loves Diary of a Wimpy Kid, they might enjoy trying something a little different... like "Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made"!

Arefa Makatane, a regular reader of the Wimpy Kid series from our library, has just picked up this new title – and he's hooked!

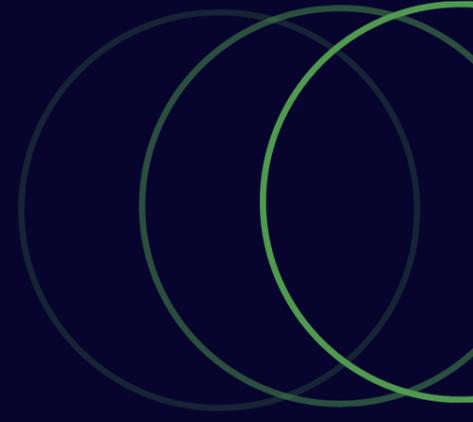
This laugh-out-loud story follows Timmy Failure, a detective-in-training, as he tackles mysteries with his quirky sidekick, Total, a stuffed bear. Packed with humour, adventure, and unexpected mishaps, the book is perfect for fans of funny, offbeat stories that keep readers giggling from start to finish.

Whether your child loves clever chaos, funny characters, or just a good laugh, Timmy Failure is a great next read – a new favourite waiting to be discovered!



Stanford Lake College Weekly Notice

16 – 22 March



Date	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday 16 March	Day 2			
	Senior Boys Hockey	14:45 - 16:55	Astro	TM
	Junior Boys Rugby (U14 -U16)	14:45 - 16:55	Top Field	JJN,NFH
	Netball Juniors (U14 - U16)	14:45 - 16:55	Netball Courts	TP,SS,MCM, LBM,LS
	Senior Girls Hockey	14:45 - 16:55	Astro	KH
	Senior Adventure	15:30 - 16:55	Adventure Centre	BA
	Swimming	15:30 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	1 st Girls Hockey vs University of Limpopo	16:00 - 16:55	Astro	KH
	1 st Boys Hockey vs University of Limpopo	17:00 - 17:55	Astro	TM
	Gr 11 PS Lesson	14:30 - 15:15	PS Lab	GVS,LBM
	Gr 12 Math's	14:30 - 15:30	MCE Class	MCE
	Gr 8 + 9 Math's	14:45 - 15:30	JG Class	JG
	Inter house WIK	14:30	Adventure	
Tuesday 17 March	Day 3			
	Jazz 2	14:30 - 15:30	RMJ	RMJ
	U14 Boys Hockey Trials		Merensky Astro	TM
	Departure :	09:45		
	U14 Girls Hockey Trials		Merensky Astro	TM
	Departure :	12:00		
	U16 / U18 Boys Hockey Trials	09:30 - 15:00	SLC Astro	
	U16 / U18 Girls Hockey Trials		PHS Astro	CN
	Departure :	08:45		
	Return : SLC	17:15		
	Senior Boys Rugby (U17 - U19)	14:35 - 16:55	Top Field	
	Netball Seniors (U17 - U19)	14:00 - 16:30	Netball Courts	TP,SS,LS
	Junior Boys Hockey (U14 - U16)	15:00 - 16:55	Astro	XJH,SF,IC
	Senior MTB/ Adventure	14:35 - 16:55	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:30 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	Badger Men	18:00 - 19:00	Astro	
	Gr 11 Math's	14:20 - 15:20	NNM	NNM
	IT Extra Class	14:30 - 15:30	IT Lab	EVA

Wednesday 18 March	<p>Day 4</p> <p>Jazz 1</p> <p>Ballet</p> <p>Junior Boys Rugby (U14 -U16)</p> <p>Junior Netball (U14 -U16)</p> <p>Junior MTB / Adventure</p> <p>Swimming</p> <p>Heronbridge Invitational 1st Teams</p> <p>Departure: SLC</p> <p>Arrival Heronbridge College</p> <p>Arrival Time:</p> <p>Matches :</p> <p>1st Girls Hockey vs Hoërskool Linden</p> <p>1st Boys Hockey vs Beaulieu College</p> <p>1st Boys Rugby vs Leeuwenhof Akademie</p> <p>Gr 10 PS Lesson</p> <p>Gr 10 Math's</p> <p>Gr 9 Math's</p> <p>Gr 11 FSE</p> <p>Academic Assist for DS</p>	<p>14:00 - 14:45</p> <p>14:45 - 15:30</p> <p>14:00 - 16:55</p> <p>14:00 - 16:55</p> <p>14:00 - 16:50</p> <p>14:00 - 16:50</p> <p>08:00</p> <p>12:30</p> <p>14:32 - 15:18</p> <p>15:18 - 16:04</p> <p>20:00 - 21:00</p> <p>14:00 - 15:00</p> <p>14:00 - 14:45</p> <p>14:00 - 14:45</p> <p>13:50 - 14:45</p> <p>14:00 - 14:45</p>	<p>RMJ</p> <p>RMJ</p> <p>Top Field</p> <p>Netball Courts</p> <p>Adventure Centre</p> <p>HPC</p> <p>PS Lab</p> <p>NNM Class</p> <p>JG Class</p> <p>JET Class</p> <p>TN Class</p>	<p>RMJ</p> <p>RMJ</p> <p>JJN , NFH</p> <p>SS,MCM,LBM,LS</p> <p>BA</p> <p>KO</p> <p>SJW,PJB,KH,TM,TP,SE,JVN</p> <p>LBM, GVS</p> <p>NNM</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JET</p> <p>Academic Com</p> <p>NH,BA,XJH,CN,AG,CR</p>
Thursday 19 March	<p>Day 5</p> <p>Junior Boys Hockey</p> <p>Senior Girls Netball (U17)</p> <p>Junior Girls Hockey</p> <p>Junior MTB/Adventure</p> <p>Swimming</p> <p>Heronbridge Invitational</p> <p>Matches:</p> <p>1st Boys Hockey vs Curro Nelspruit</p> <p>1st Netball vs Curro Thatchfield</p> <p>1st Girls Hockey vs Rand Park High School</p> <p>1st Netball vs Heronbridge Invitational</p> <p>1st Netball vs Grace College</p> <p>1st Rugby Boys vs Curro Heuwelkruin</p>	<p>14:40 - 16:55</p> <p>14:40 - 16:50</p> <p>14:40 - 16:50</p> <p>14:40 - 16:50</p> <p>15:30 - 16:50</p> <p>07:46 - 08:32</p> <p>10:00 - 10:50</p> <p>13:23 - 14:09</p> <p>17:00 - 17:50</p> <p>19:00 - 19:50</p> <p>19:00 - 20:00</p>	<p>Astro</p> <p>Netball Courts</p> <p>Astro</p> <p>Adventure Centre</p> <p>HPC</p>	<p>XJH,SF,IC</p> <p>SS,LS</p> <p>XJH,JG,CN,AG</p> <p>BA,NFH</p> <p>KO</p> <p>SJW,PJB,KH,TM,TP,SE,JVN</p>

Friday 20 March	<p>Day 6</p> <p>Heronbridge Invitational</p> <p>Matches :</p> <p>1st Girls Hockey vs Heronbridge College 07:00 - 07:46</p> <p>1st Netball vs Dainfern College 10:00 - 10:50</p> <p>1st Boys Hockey vs Heronbridge College 10:50 - 11:36</p> <p>1st Netball vs Curro Heuwelkruin 14:00 - 14:50</p> <p>1st Netball vs Reddam House Waterfall 15:00 - 15:50</p> <p>1st Boys Hockey vs Grace College 15:41 - 16:27</p> <p>1st Netball vs Curro Wilgeheuwel 18:00 - 18:50</p>			SJW,PJB,KH,TM,TP,SF,JVN
Saturday 21 March	<p>Heronbridge Invitational</p> <p>Matches :</p> <p>1st Girls Hockey vs Uplands College 08:32 - 09:18</p> <p>1st Netball vs Alma Mater International 10:00 - 10:50</p> <p>1st Boys Hockey Vs Rand Park High 10:50 - 11:36</p> <p>1st Rugby vs Curro Durbanville High 2 13:00 - 14:00</p> <p>Departure: 14:30</p> <p>Polokwane Drop off : 18:45</p> <p>Return : SLC 19:45</p>			SJW,PJB,KH,TM,TP,SF,JVN
Sunday 22 March				