



Matters of Principal

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."
— Billie Jean King

Finding Strength in Difficult Times

Viktor Frankl (1905–1997), an Austrian psychiatrist, neurologist and Holocaust survivor, devoted much of his life to exploring the human ability to find meaning, hope and purpose in the most difficult circumstances.

Following his liberation in 1945, Frankl wrote his renowned book **Man's Search for Meaning**, in which he said:
"When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves."

I have thought about Frankl's words often during this term. The term began in a tragic and painful way for our College. A start that none of us could have predicted. What followed has been a turbulent term, marked by uncertainty, change, challenges and, at times, sadness. And yet, amidst all of this, there have also been moments that have reminded me of what makes Stanford Lake College such a special place, and what a privilege it is to be part of this great school and community. What has given me the greatest sense of comfort and pride has been witnessing the extraordinary resilience and commitment of our staff.

In circumstances that have challenged us both personally and professionally, they have demonstrated a quiet strength and compassion that has provided stability for our students when they needed it most.

In many instances, they have also given our young people the courage to face their own challenges with resilience. But perhaps what has moved me the most has been what our students have taught us.

They have reminded us that life is still to be enjoyed and memories can still be made, even when things are difficult. That friendships are to be valued, nurtured and cherished. That being there for someone is not a burden, but a privilege. Most importantly, our students have shown us that resilience does not mean pretending that difficult things have not happened. It means finding the courage to acknowledge them, to support one another and to continue moving forward, finding meaning, purpose and joy along the way.

Stanford Lake College has shown itself to be a community of people who care deeply for one another. And this term, our community has shown its true character. That is something worth celebrating. And something worth protecting.

As Headmaster, I am deeply grateful for the way our community has responded.

To our staff, thank you for your strength, compassion and unwavering commitment to our students.

To our students, thank you for reminding us to cherish each day, value friendship, laugh and keep moving forward with courage.

And to our parents, thank you for your support, understanding and partnership through what has been an exceptionally challenging term.

We cannot always choose the circumstances we face, but we can choose how we respond to them.

As we head into the holidays, I encourage us all to pause. Take time to rest. Be intentional about nurturing relationships with family and friends, and stop to appreciate the ordinary moments with our loved ones – the moments that can so easily be taken for granted.

Sometimes, it is only when life becomes difficult that we truly understand the value of the people beside us.

This term has reminded us of that.

And perhaps, in the midst of everything we have faced, that is one of the most important lessons we can carry forward.

Warm Regards

Mr Pierre Jacobs

2027 Leaders

HEAD BOY

HEAD GIRL

**DEPUTY
HEAD BOY**

**DEPUTY
HEAD GIRL**



Lehlabile Tswaane



Teya Zanetic



Robert Noel



Carmen van der Merwe

BOARDING HOUSES

FOUNDERS NORTH

HEAD

DEPUTY



Una Singo



Temo Setlalekgosi

FOUNDERS SOUTH

HEAD

DEPUTY



Nick Dando



Ronewa Tsanwani

DAY SCHOLAR HOUSE

HEAD

DEPUTY



Andreas Toulou



JJ Naude



Bertsheba Makashe



Aila Tshella

KEN SHUTER

HEAD

DEPUTY



Ru Ngwarai



Dimpho Mangena

SERALA

HEAD

DEPUTY



Mufunwa Mabuda



Somila Papu

LAKESIDE

HEAD

DEPUTY



Tameka Khangale



Britta Göbel

ADVENTURE RACE

Expedition Africa Adventure Race – 19 September

The weekend of 19 September, Stanford Lake College took part in the Expedition Africa Adventure Race, hosted right here at the school. This was one of the first adventure races we've entered in a long time, and what a pleasure it was, with more than 100 participants from across South Africa.

Stanford Lake College entered four teams in the 60km race: Team Tangent, consisting of Hana MacMillam and Zoe Trusler; Cete of Victory, JC Els and Mr Hageman; The Boys, Richard Niemann and Samuel Gubitz; and The Hawks, Zavanna Shipalana and Bongani Banda.

In the 120km event, we had The Spartans, Judah Lehrer and Benjamin Terblanche.

We also had Team Mountain GOATS taking on the 60km course. The team consisted of SLC staff member and parents Jessica Snyman, Roaun Snyman and Shirley Scriven, together with SLC alumnus Mike Scriven.

The race started at 06:00 in misty, wet conditions, with everybody in good spirits. Stage 1 of the 60km race was a hiking leg of about 20km, followed by a 4km paddle and, finally, a 35km mountain-bike leg.

Our teams did very well, and the navigation was good – well, for most of them! The Hawks had to be pulled back in at 23:30 while they were still busy looking for points on the final cycle. The other teams were already back and resting by that time!

Team Tangent finished 4th overall in the 60km race, making them the first female pair across the finish line, as well as the first school team to finish. With this result, they also won the Schools Series Trophy.

An hour after the girls came Cete of Victory, finishing 2nd in the Schools Men's category, while The Boys placed 3rd in the same category.

In the 120km race, The Spartans just kept going – not sure where to, but they kept going! At 00:20 they were put onto a short course and finished at 00:22, taking 3rd place in the Men's category and 1st place in the Schools Men's category.

Well done to all these teams for competing alongside adults and other learners in this tough competition. You showed everyone what it means to be a Badger, and you made us very proud!



SPORTS FESTIVAL

St Peter's Festival of Sport

Our 1st Boys' and Girls' Soccer teams and our Tennis Doubles teams took part in the St Peter's Festival of Sport, competing alongside some of the strongest school sporting programmes.

For our 1st Girls' Soccer team, it was a chance to experience first-hand just how competitive the game can be. They faced some tough opposition and learnt that converting opportunities into goals takes drive, composure and determination.

Our Tennis players also stepped onto the court for the first time at the festival after being invited to compete. The Girls played with gusto, while our Boys' Tennis Doubles team produced an impressive 3rd-place finish, with the Girls finishing 6th overall in the tournament.

A special shout-out to our tennis stars Michael Kiggundu and Alastair Wiltshire won all their double games.

Being invited to compete alongside schools of this calibre is something to be proud of. It is about putting yourself out there, taking on challenges, learning from every experience and representing Stanford Lake College with pride.

That is what being a Stanfordian is all about.



CRICKET WICKETS

Our cricket teams put in some exceptional performances this week, with plenty of determination, teamwork and some standout individual efforts.

The U15 Boys took on Frans Du Toit and came away with a convincing 6-wicket victory, securing their place in the semi-finals.

The 1st Boys faced Ben Vorster and recorded an impressive 134-run win. Christian Jacobs led the way with an outstanding 134 runs, while Caleb Jacobs finished unbeaten on 38.

The 1st Boys team ended first in pool and unbeaten to date, they will also head into the semi finals.

The 1st Girls took on PHS this week. Although they didn't get the result they were hoping for, the team walked away with valuable experience and lessons to build on.

Nina Schulenburg making an impressive 65 runs.



BADGER OF

THE WEEK



Badger of the Week goes to Alastair Wiltshire and Michael Kiggundu for an outstanding performance at the St Peter's Festival of Sport. The pair remained unbeaten throughout the Tennis Doubles tournament, winning all their matches and showing great skill, composure and teamwork.

Well done, boys! A well-deserved Badger of the Week.

SAMRO MATHS

Five Stanford Lake College students were invited to the 2026 Komatsu Adopted Schools Mathematics Programme Awards Ceremony on 23 September, in recognition of their performance in this year's South African Mathematics Olympiad.

The scale of the competition in the Mopani District was impressive: 66 schools took part, with 4,918 students writing Round 1. Of those, 439 progressed to Round 2, and just five students from the district reached the Final Round.

Stanford's highest performing students were Elton Norris (Grade 8), Yoshka MacMillan (Grade 9), Juliette Leher (Grade 10), Jan Carel Els (Grade 11), and Hana MacMillan (Grade 11). Yoshka progressed to the Final Round for the second year in a row and was Stanford's only representative among the five Mopani finalists.

Also attending the ceremony was Herman Bosman, SAMF Project Manager for the South African Mathematics Olympiad, who gave the students a presentation and put their problem solving skills to work with a selection of mathematical riddles.

The students were treated exceptionally well at the awards ceremony, receiving certificates as well as backpacks, sports water bottles and mugs. Final Round participants even received smartwatches, perhaps useful evidence for any Stanfordinian still wondering whether doing maths can come with perks.

Congratulations to all five students on representing Stanford so strongly in a field of nearly 5,000 young mathematicians.



CULTURE WEEK

As we headed into Heritage Day, our Stanfordinian community took the opportunity to celebrate the cultures and traditions that make our school so diverse.

Our dining hall became a celebration of food and flavour, with dishes inspired by Ethiopia, India and South Africa making their way onto the menu. It was a wonderful opportunity for our learners to experience something different, share in one another's cultures and enjoy the simple pleasure of good food together.

At Stanford Lake College, we are proud to celebrate the diversity within our community and the Ubuntu that brings us together.

Results

Chess - Orvis
Debate Orvis
Art - Orvis

House Singing

First Place - Founders South
Second Place - Ken Shuter
Third - Founders North

Best Dressed

Tophier Beukes-King
Somila Papu and Mufunwa Mabuda
Thebe Thobejane

