



SNAPSHOT

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Matters of Principal

"An optimist is the human personification of spring"
- Susan J. Bissonette

The 1st of September ... Spring Day is one of my favourite days of the year. Spring is a time when nature rejuvenates itself, showering us in a multitude of colours and offering us a sense of new beginnings. Nature certainly has been at her best over the past few days, with a quite magnificent super 'blue moon', the days getting warmer and a wonderful sense of optimism in the air.

As with nature, there are new beginnings in a school too. As our matrics shift their focus to their trials and final matric examinations, our Grade 11s begin their senior leadership journey. Keeping the momentum after our very successful leadership workshop, they have injected fresh energy into the school. Extensive planning has gone into the Heritage Week celebrations, with numerous meaningful and exciting events planned that will allow us to share aspects of our many different cultures. It will be an opportunity for us all to learn and grow and - in doing so - hopefully create an even more harmonious school society.

The inter-house gala took place on Wednesday. We witnessed some fantastic performances. In particular, Jenny Zhang once again displayed her swimming class as she swept the board, breaking records and winning the Senior Victrix Ludorum. A highlight for me was the manner in which the Grade 11s stepped up, organised the swimmers in the houses and led from the front when it came to promoting house spirit. I congratulate Orvis on winning both the gala

and the spirit trophy.

With spring comes the Spring Dance: an opportunity for our pupils to dress up, feel a little special and spend an evening socialising and dancing. I thank the Grade 10 pupils who undertook the organisation of this dance, under the guidance of Mrs Schoeman and Mrs Meintjes. It was the Grade 10's first organisational task of this nature and they put together a fantastic event. Well done!

There have been a number of very sick pupils over the past few weeks. If your child is not well, please keep them at home in order to give them an opportunity to recover. We are not quite at the end of the term and need our pupils strong and well as we face the last 3 weeks. There is an enormous amount to look forward to and many successes out there still to be had. Let's all keep going, encouraging one another and keeping positive. There is so much for which we need to be truly grateful.

Have an excellent weekend.

God Bless.



On Wednesday the 30th August, the much-anticipated inter-house swimming gala took place. The atmosphere in the pool area was electric, with students from all houses cheering and laughing as they eagerly waited for the events to begin. This support continued throughout the afternoon as the sports houses sung to try and earn the overall spirit trophy of the day.

One of the highlights of the gala was the pool noodle fun race, which proved to be a huge hit among the swimmers. The race required participants to use a pool noodle as a relay baton while getting across the pool in the quickest means possible to win the relay event. It was a joy to watch the swimmers strategise and compete in this unique and entertaining event.

Throughout the gala, there was a palpable sense of team spirit as students cheered on their fellow housemates and sportsmanship was displayed at its best. The supportive and encouraging atmosphere added to the excitement and made the event even more enjoyable for all involved.

Special recognition must be given to the staff who worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of the event. Their efforts were greatly appreciated and contributed to the success of the gala. In addition, the presence of parents in the audience further

added to the sense of camaraderie and made the swimmers feel supported and valued. Congratulations to all the winners and well done to everyone that put their names down for even one event to earn their houses a point.

At the end of the gala, various trophies were awarded to the stand-out performers. The remainder of the trophies will be awarded in the next assembly.

A shout out to Orvis for taking a full house of trophies, namely the Spirit Trophy, the Baragwanath Relay Trophy and the overall winners for 2023.

Trophy winners:

De Vos Trophy for Individual Medley Girls
– Jenny Zhang

Willson Trophy for Individual Medley Boys
– Tristan Brett

Scott Trophy Stanford Challenge (100m Freestyle Girls)
– Jenny Zhang

Van Nieuwenhuizen Trophy Stanford Challenge (100m Freestyle Boys)
– Max Drewett





SNAPSHOT



Our deepest condolences and sincerest sympathies go out to a number of families in our community who have suffered recent losses. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs van Staden whose husband, Anthonie, tragically passed away this week. Also to Ms Perkins who lost her mother and Mrs White who lost her father.

SOCCER NEWS

BOYS SOCCER

This week Stanford hosted Hoërskool Louis Trichardt in the league fixtures. The games started off with the U/15A boys. The boys had a dominant first half as they had ball possession and created many chances. The boys continued playing good football and managed win the game 3 - 1, courtesy to a Lefa Mamabolo hat-trick. The first team game did not get off to a good start as there was negativity and chirping. The game became more physical and Stanford managed to score 4 goals, winning the match 4 - 3.

GIRLS SOCCER

The girls started very well, sticking to their plan and tactics. The girls created many chances and struggled for a while before finding the back of the net. They continued to press on and play well in the final third. The girls scored 3 more goals and the match ended 4 - 1 to Stanford.

MAGOEBA TREKKERS

A number of cyclists from the Stanford community took part in the epic Magoeba Trek race last weekend. Gordon Noel and his partner, Henro van der Walt, absolutely dominated the tracks, coming first in the 40km stage race. Alumnus, Herman Fourie (Class of 2021), and his partner, Alan Gordon, secured third place in the 70km event. Tristan Brett and Ruben Venter rode in partnership during the 40km event as did Lungile Sithole-Wiltshire and his guardian, Chris Harvie. Mr Friedrichs braved the one-day Magoeba Magic Race (50km) event on Sunday, whilst Mrs Schoeman and Mr Redfern tackled the Magoeba Magic Trail (30km). Kudos to all our pupils, parents, alumni and staff who braved the tracks to compete in such a tough event.

SINGING, DANCING AND PLAYING FOR GOLD

This year, we selected (for the most part) items from our school musical to enter into the Eisteddfod. We are hugely proud of Joy Ntjie, our Grade 8 singer, who came off Trek to sing early in the morning. She was literally the first contestant and attained an excellent 80% for her song. Later that day, our two matriculants (both of whom have just received Honours for Culture) took to the stage. Zoë Koster and Tukisho Ramohlale were awarded 85% for their duet and each attained an outstanding mark of 94% for their solo performance. These marks reflect years of effort and expertise.

We entered four dances the following day and posted these results. The examiner was strict and very particular so we are very pleased indeed with how our girls did. Special thanks to Rachel Johnson, our wonderful dance coach, for all her efforts with these girls.

What a Feeling (Modern Dance Group) 73%

No Man No Cry Jazz (Jana Prinsloo, Mieke van Wyngaardt and Sophia Lehrer) 79%

All Eyes On You Hip Hop Group (led by Zaara Turk) 73%

Tom London Amapiano (Thapelo Nare and Keneoue Maimemele) 78%

Carla Schulenberg also entered a number of competitions last week for piano. On Monday she competed in the Limpopo Eisteddfod in Polokwane and achieved a Gold and a Blue award. On Tuesday Carla was in Mokopane at the Bosveld Kunstefees where she obtained two silvers. Then on Wednesday she competed in the Merensky Eisteddfod and was awarded a Gold and a Silver.



Spring

The staff enjoyed a special Spring Day tea today, with each person bringing a plate of eats or flowers.



NEWS AT THE CREASE

1ST TEAM BOYS VS THE OAKS

On Saturday the 1st XI Cricket team took on The Oaks Hub. Stanford battled to get going and found themselves at 21 - 2 after 5 overs. A 41-run partnership between Zayd Moosa and Dylan Turner turned the game back in Stanford's favour. A 48-run partnership for the 7th wicket between Finn Straughan and Nakedi Makweya took the game away from the visitors. The tenth-wicket partnership of 20 runs between Christoff van der Westhuizen and Letsema White was also a valuable contribution. Stanford was bowled out for 185 in 24 overs. Dylan Turner managed to score 35 runs and Finn Straughan 44 runs. Stanford's bowlers began the defence well and Connor Veldsman took two wickets with the first two balls of the innings. A brilliant bowling display between Nakedi Makweya (3 wickets for 8 runs in 4.1 overs) and Connor Veldsman (6 wickets for 12 runs in 5 overs), ensured that the visiting team was bowled out for a mere 24 runs within 10 overs. Stanford won the game by 161 runs.

1ST TEAM BOYS VS FRANS DU TOIT

After their game against The Oaks, the team left for Phalaborwa and spent the night at the Bushveld Terrace Guest House, courtesy of the Turner family, and did some team building before their game against Frans du Toit on Sunday. As was the case of the previous day, Stanford wanted to bowl and Frans du Toit wanted to bat first. The bowlers battled at the start of the innings and Frans du Toit were on 29 - 0 after four overs. Connor Veldsman continued where he left off the previous day and took 6 wickets for 21 runs in 5.1 overs. He was well supported by Matthew Allison who took 3 wickets for 5 runs in his three overs. The home team was bowled out for 48. Stanford started the chase well by putting up a 30-run partnership for the first wicket. The batsmen then held their own and chased the target of 48 within 10 overs to win the game by 9 wickets. Dylan Turner scored 17 runs not out.

1ST TEAM BOYS VS CBC BOKSBURG

On Monday afternoon, Stanford played a match against a CBC Boksburg touring team. Stanford won the toss and elected to bat first. The boys were on the back foot early on after being 14 - 1 after 2 overs. Another wicket fell on 35 and this brought Zayd Moosa to the crease. Zayd and Ryno Schultz put on an unbeaten 140-run partnership and the team posted a target of 175 in the allotted 20 overs. Zayd scored an unbeaten 77 which included 7 sixes and Ryno scored his maiden half-century for the Stanford 1st Team ending on 52 not out.

Stanford started the defence of the total well, being 44 - 3 after the powerplay. Aryan Parekh, in his debut match for the 1st Team, had an exceptional spell taking 2 wickets for a mere 11 runs in his four overs. The visitors battled from there and were bowled out for 102 runs. Connor Veldsman, Aryan Ghelani and Aiden Rosendorff contributed with two wickets each and Zayd Moosa took one wicket. Stanford won the game by 73 runs.

GIRLS VS BEN VORSTER

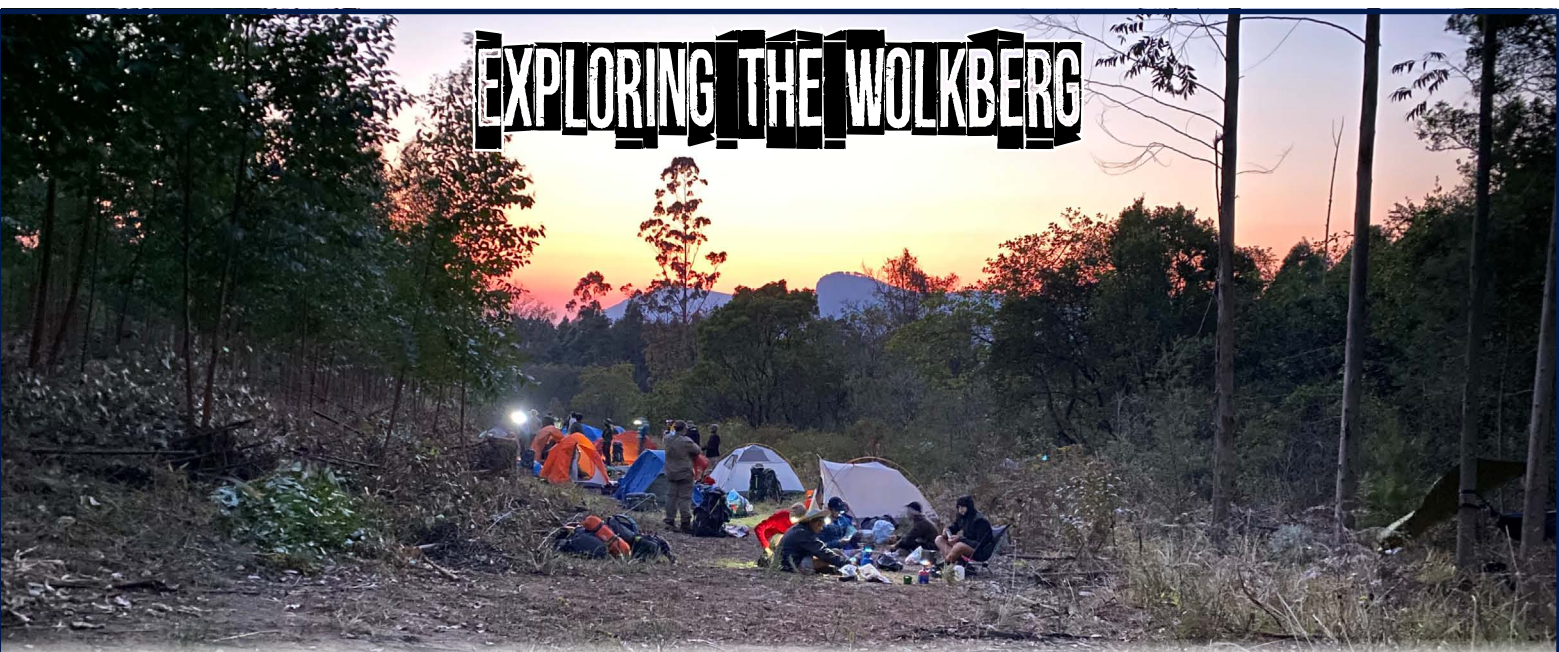
In a remarkable display of skill and teamwork, the girls' cricket team secured a resounding victory against Ben Vorster's Second Team on Monday. The match, filled with memorable moments, showcased the team's exceptional batting and bowling prowess. Winning the toss, our team elected to bat first, setting the tone for a confident and determined performance. Carmen Veldsman and Elia Jones opened the innings, with Carmen taking the lead against the opposing bowler.

Unfortunately, Elia was dismissed after contributing 9 runs due to an LBW. This paved the way for Isabella Brett, who, alongside Carmen, formed a dynamic partnership that injected a significant impact on the game. Carmen and Isabella combined their efforts, accumulating a formidable total of 93 runs for the team, with Isabella scoring an impressive 46 and Carmen notching up 47 runs. Their synergy and determination were evident throughout. However, Isabella's innings was cut short as she inadvertently hit her own wicket, stepping back too far. Shortly thereafter, Carmen was stumped out while not being in her crease, signalling the end of their formidable partnership.

Undeterred by the losses, Moratiwa Inama and Tanya Raulinga took over the batting responsibilities and exhibited resilience as they guided the team through the remaining overs. Their steady performance ensured the team reached a commendable score of 153 runs. As the game transitioned to the bowling phase, the Stanford girls carried the same level of determination and focus. Isabella's remarkable skills shone once again, as she claimed two crucial wickets. Elia, Tanya, and Mika Jones also showcased their bowling expertise by taking one wicket each, effectively restricting the opposition's progress. Throughout the 20 overs of bowling, they demonstrated their unity and discipline, eventually leading to an impressive victory with a 75-run margin.



EXPLORING THE WOLKBERG



With the Iron Crown Expedition still fresh in the minds of the Grade 8s, we headed into the Wolkberg mountains on Monday 21 August. The group started off cheerfully and definitely enjoyed the surprise we had for them – a short trip on a raft to get them to the other side of Ebenezer Dam.

year they could actually see the ‘Horns’. It was a long and slow climb to the summit but another grade of intrepid Stanfordinians made history by making it there. Back at camp some made their way down to the “bum slides” and some opted to take a break. The bum slides did not disappoint and great fun was had by those who made the journey down to the nippy water!

However, this is where the fun on day 1 ended! The hot weather and many uphill climbs, made for a less enjoyable second part of the day. The group did very well and reached camp at a good time. Day 2 was so much better as the group headed downhill into the Mohlaptse Valley, where they planned to camp for two nights. Everybody enjoyed the river at camp and a nice ‘bath’ that afternoon! Day 3 was a relaxed walk to the waterfalls, carrying only daypacks. Not everybody jumped but the day was enjoyed by all.

Heading to Bergplaas the next morning, they decided to split the group and the girls left before the boys. The girls enjoyed the challenge and pushed hard to stay in front of the boys. They managed a good pace and reached camp just before 14:00. The rest of the afternoon was spent relaxing in the cold river to soothe tired muscles!

The next morning, the explorers packed up camp again and headed up to Serala with lighter packs as the food drop happened at the top of the hill! Group work was the order of the day. A strong wind greeted the group as we reached the grasslands but that didn’t dampen the spirits. Tea time was spent at Cleopatra’s Pools and this

The last day route is well known to the group as they traced the same path as during the Iron Crown Expedition. They walked at a good pace and finally arrived back at school on Sunday 27 August around lunch time. Seven days and 90km later, the end had come to another successful expedition. Well done to everybody, you can be proud of your achievements!

