



## Matters of Principal

I sit in this chair this Friday on the most beautiful Magoebaskloof morning as an incredibly grateful and proud Head. The sunrise was exquisite, as I stood on my veranda enjoying a cup of coffee surrounded by the tranquil beauty of this valley, I was able to reflect on the glory of God's creation. Along with 8 other staff members I am currently doing an online course on Well-being. A key aspect of Well-being is gratitude and acknowledging that we have an enormous amount to be grateful for. I quote from the course work provided by Alkimia

***"Research suggests that gratitude is strongly related to what psychologists call "your sense of coherence", your belief that life is manageable, meaningful and understandable. It helps you to reframe your experiences in a positive way."***

We have so much to be grateful for! Despite the challenges we face I reflect on a week in the life of this school and I realise that we are blessed. Our academic programme is up and running, pupils are in class and are being challenged and stimulated on a daily basis. As the weather has lifted and the sun has dried the fields out I have spent a few afternoons on the athletics track watching our pupils train and compete in a healthy safe environment.

I continue to host the Grade 8 pupils for dinner or lunch and again I am blown away by the manners, confidence and decency of our young Stanfordians. On Monday we had our hatchery and leadership assembly and we officially welcomed our new Stanfordians. Despite the restrictions on gatherings, we held a very dignified ceremony down in the open air of the bottom Astro. The Grade 8s handed in their pine cones and "name boards" and the Matrics were inducted into their leadership positions. In my address to the Matrics, I reinforced the important role they had to play as mentors and how as the senior group they would set the tone in the school. I encouraged the Grade 8s to take every opportunity possible in the next few years in order to achieve success. I also had the pleasure

of ceremonially issuing the Head Girl and Head Boy with their Matric 2021 jackets. Once this was done the Class of 2021 claimed their garments and proudly donned them for the first time.

This year we initiated a new tradition! Directly after the Induction ceremony the group made their way up to the bell, which is mounted outside of the logistics office. Under the watchful gaze of their mentors the Grade 8s rung the bell, symbolically signifying their induction as Stanfordians. (We will develop this tradition to include a symbolic 'ringing out' ceremony when the Matrics complete their time at the school).

The highlight of the week must, however, be the matric results. By now you are all aware of the amazing achievements of our top academic scholars. We must pay tribute to them and to their teachers, but I must also congratulate so many of our matrics who are not listed in the top ten. Pupils who have worked hard and improved their marks by 5 – 7 % over the course of the past year. Students who through their resilience, hard work and commitment have earned a matric that will open doors for their future, pupils who throughout their five years here were the heart and soul of our school, richly contributing in all aspects of school life. When I cast an eye over the top academic achievers I am aware that their contribution to the school was not only an academic one. Amongst this group are National and Provincial athletes, school athletics record holders, adventure racers, Provincial hockey and netball players, mountain bikers, debaters, social activists and leaders. As a community we can be incredibly proud of them. Bon Voyage Class of 2020, go well with our love and God's blessings.

***"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues but the parent of all others"***  
- Cicero

*Handwritten signature.*



The latest group of Grade 8s who were hosted for dinner.







## CLASS OF 2020 TOP ACHIEVERS

## Stanford Lake College



**Danica Altenroxel**  
**8 DISTINCTIONS**

Accounting  
Afrikaans  
English Home Language  
Information Technology  
Life Orientation  
Mathematics  
Physical Sciences  
AP Maths



**Lia Revelas**  
**8 DISTINCTIONS**

Afrikaans  
English Home Language  
Geography  
Life Orientation  
Life Sciences  
Mathematics  
Physical Sciences  
AP Maths



**Husnaa Dada**  
**7 DISTINCTIONS**

Accounting  
Afrikaans  
Business Studies  
English Home Language  
Life Orientation  
Mathematics  
Physical Sciences



**Faaria Rhemtula**  
**7 DISTINCTIONS**

Accounting  
Afrikaans  
English Home Language  
Life Orientation  
Life Sciences  
Mathematics  
Physical Sciences



**Owen Venter**  
**6 DISTINCTIONS**

Afrikaans  
CAT  
Geography  
Information Technology  
Life Orientation  
Mathematics



**Juan Botha**  
**5 DISTINCTIONS**

Afrikaans  
English Home Language,  
Geography  
Life Orientation  
Life Sciences



**Jamie de Witt**  
**4 DISTINCTIONS**

History  
Life Orientation  
Mathematical Literacy  
Visual Arts



**Malaika Mohlaba**  
**4 DISTINCTIONS**

Afrikaans  
English Home Language  
History  
Life Orientation



**Tshedza Moila**  
**4 DISTINCTIONS**

Afrikaans  
English Home Language  
History  
Life Orientation

**100%**

Matric pass rate since the  
inception of the school

**87%**

University exemption

**2.05**

Average number of distinctions  
per candidate





## MEET THE CLASS OF 2021

### CALLAN SCHULTZ - DEPUTY HEAD GIRL

**1** What are your hopes for Stanford Lake College as you lead the school in the year ahead?

I would like to see the students rebuild the spirit that we had before the pandemic hit. The willingness to take part has been overshadowed by the convenience of staying in. However, I would like to help the students make the effort to find alternative ways to raise funds and play sports etc. That is what our school is about at the end of the day.

**2** What is your proudest accomplishment?

My proudest accomplishment thus far would probably be the fact that I have used high school to discover my true self. I am so lucky to have been given the opportunities necessary to find my passions in the arts and outreach. Unfortunately, I can't write a paragraph about how I made it into a sports team or achieved my academic goals, because I simply didn't get those things right. However, to me, that doesn't matter. I have never been happier and that is the biggest achievement of all.

**3** Share a memorable moment during your time at Stanford Lake College...

My most memorable moment would probably have to be coming back to school after the Twin Peaks Trek. Arriving back at school had never felt so calming and therapeutic. I felt accomplished and tired but at the same time, I was so full of energy. Everything in that moment was so crisp and new. The school looked beautiful, the lake looked refreshing, it was just "wow".

**4** What are your hobbies?

Watching good movies and reading good books. I also thoroughly enjoy drawing in my sketchbook.

**5** If you could share a meal with any 4 individuals, living or dead, who would they be?

Margaret Atwood, Madonna, Adrienne Rich and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

**6** What's your favourite movie?

Dead Poets Society.

**7** What's the most daring thing you've ever done?

Taking art has been a constant challenge for me. I have always had problems with expressing myself. When I made the decision to be daring and assumed the position of vulnerability, I was petrified. However, all of the positivity I have received over the last three years have been so worth it!

**8** If you had to describe yourself as an animal, which one would it be?

A sloth

**9** Where do you see yourself in five years?

I see myself in an art museum or a gallery, hopefully working there. I see myself being able to see the artworks I've been admiring in textbooks for the past couple of years in real life. That is definitely the dream.



## COVID COMPLIANCE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Last Saturday, Mr Pietersen, the new Community Engagement Co-ordinator, together with 14 students and staff went to Glenshiel Primary and Appel Combined School to assist in readying the schools for reopening. The team marked the classrooms and put up COVID-19 awareness signs in order to make the two schools COVID-19 compliant and ready to start the academic year.

We would like to thank Tzaneen PrintCo for the COVID-19 signs, Pan-Solutions for donating 20 litres of hand sanitiser, numerous parents who donated masks and Sequoia Garden Retreat for donating hand soap bars to the project.

We would like to thank all the staff and students for their assistance on the day.





# SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

ISSUE 05 of 2021- 19 February

## ART CORNER

The Grade 9s have been working on some lovely ink drawings whilst the Grade 11s are working on their portfolios.



## ONE BIG ADVENTURE

The Grade 8 pupils enjoyed their sleep out experience on the field on Tuesday evening. It gave the newbies a small taste of how their Treks will be. A few forgotten sleeping bags and basic equipment led to lessons being learned and we are confident the same mistakes won't be made again. The Grade 9 pupils have been taking part in capsizing drills on the lake, readying them for their Water Trek next month.



Congratulations to Jenny Zhang (Grade 9) who participated in the Limpopo Swimming Championships this past weekend. She swam in 10 events, received 9 gold medals and 1 silver medal and was awarded the trophy for best female swimmer overall.

She also qualified for the SA Junior National Championships in 800m Free, 400m IM, 200m Free and 200m Back.



If you have any old Trek equipment that you would like to donate to the dad centre, please contact Mr Haarhoff: [neil@slc.co.za](mailto:neil@slc.co.za)



# SNAP SHOT

*Stanford Lake College*  
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## GRADE 8 INDUCTION

On Monday, our new Grade 8 pupils were officially inducted as true Stanfordians. Pine cones and name tags were set aside, marking the end of Hatchery and the official beginning of their Stanford careers. The Grade 8 class of 2021 are the first intake to start a new tradition at Stanford Lake College - ringing the bell ceremoniously to mark their induction. In just five short years time, they will ring it again at their Valediction Service. We cannot wait to walk this journey with them.

