



Matters of Principal

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain."
1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)*

I would like to share a famous excerpt from a speech titled "Citizenship in a Republic" delivered by Theodore Roosevelt in Sorbonne, Paris, France on April 23, 1910.

The excerpt is entitled "The Man in the Arena"

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better.

The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

It has been said countless times that our school is a very busy school and there are many demands placed on students, staff and their time.

It is therefore so important to remember that each one of us is not only in the Stanford Lake College arena, striving over and over again but we are all also in our own personal arenas.

These personal arenas can be far more daunting, difficult, draining and complex at times than many may let on.

Yet despite that, we all show up at school in the morning with a brave face.

Criticism is defined as the act of expressing negative judgment or disapproval toward a person or thing based on perceived flaws or errors.

However; Grace can be defined as favour or goodwill (kindness) towards another whether they have earned it or not.

Grace is a gift that we freely give. It is a deliberate display of compassion.

As we head into the week ahead I would like to encourage you to reflect on these words.

Criticism is human nature's default response but grace and kindness require a conscious and deliberate effort to display.

Choosing grace and kindness by no means excuses poor behavior or performance, on the contrary, it means being prepared to walk alongside someone in order to help them grow, develop and improve.

"Iron sharpens iron"

Whether it be in your personal or professional life, remember to choose grace and kindness when it would be easier to criticise. Be an encourager.

God Bless

Mr P. Jacobs
Headmaster

Coaches Corner

Neil Haarhoff

Director of Outdoor Sports, Coach

Neil Haarhoff is the kind of educator who believes that some of life's most important lessons are learned far beyond the classroom walls. As Director of Adventure, he leads with courage, calm authority and an infectious enthusiasm for the outdoors, creating experiences that challenge, inspire and build character.

A passionate rugby coach and qualified referee, Neil brings both strategy and sportsmanship to the field. He understands the game from every angle — mentoring players, shaping teams and upholding the integrity of the sport with fairness and respect.

Qualifications

- Athletics coach (Javelin) for 15 years
- 1st Team rugby coach for 2 years
- 2nd Team rugby coach for 1 year
- U16 rugby coach for 2 years
- U15 cricket coach for 15 years
- 1st Team cricket coach for 2 years
- Girls Cricket coach for 3 years
- Golf coach for 15 years
- Multi-sport coach for 15 years
- Mountain Bike coach for 15 years (Limpopo league winners)

Sporting Achievements

- 5th overall in age category in National half marathon mountain bike series
- 1st League Rugby referee of the year for 2 years
- Fittest Referee of the year for 2 years
- Refereeing an International match (Kenya vs Limpopo Amateur)
- Refereeing NoordVaal cup u/16 Finals
- Refereeing 'Bonde Dag' game Lions vs Falke

Career Highlights

- Winning Limpopo rugby league for 5 years (u/15)
- Playing in NoordVaal quarter finals rugby for 4 years
- Beating Beaulieu u/15 rugby team for 5 years in a row.
- Golf league winners for 2 years.
- Finishing 2nd in the Gauteng Schools mountain bike league
- Assisting in starting the Limpopo Schools mountain bike league
- Winning Limpopo schools MTB league in 2014
- Attending various Xtreme kayak festivals

Highly qualified in adventure leadership and safety training, Neil's extensive certifications and risk-management expertise ensure that every expedition, practice and outdoor pursuit is carefully planned and professionally executed. His steady presence gives parents confidence and students the freedom to push their limits in a safe, structured environment.

Above all, Neil is a mentor. Whether guiding a team through a tough match, leading a sunrise summit, or teaching resilience through adventure, he develops more than skills — he develops confident, capable young people ready to take on any challenge.



Equestrian News

It is with the utmost delight that we share that Inbar Cohen proudly represented Stanford Lake College at the SANESA LP Q1 this weekend, achieving an outstanding second place in the province for Dressage.

What makes this achievement even more special is the partnership behind the performance. Inbar has personally trained and developed her horse, SHAVAR, building a relationship based on trust, discipline and dedication. Their hard work and commitment were clearly evident in the arena, where composure and precision earned them a well-deserved podium finish.

We are incredibly proud of Inbar's passion, perseverance and sportsmanship. Congratulations on flying the Stanford Lake College flag so beautifully — we look forward to many more milestones ahead.



Parents Meet Teachers

Parents, please check your email for information regarding making an appointment to see teachers on Wednesday, 18 February.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please email thnel@slc.co.za

Parents Association
Meeting 11:30-12:30
Mr Vollgraaff's Classroom



PLAYING WITH BLADES

While most students at Stanford spend their afternoons on the rugby field or netball court, I spend mine dressed like a Jedi in oversized white pyjamas, trying to poke people with a sword. On purpose.

I fence with Sello Maduma Fencing Academy in Polokwane which, for those wondering, does not involve building garden fences. It's the Olympic sport with steel blades, electricity and dramatic salutes. Yes, my mother is fully aware that I play with both weaponry and live scoring wires. I like to think this shows excellent parenting judgement and a deep trust in protective gear. We do wear masks, because generally our parents like our faces intact.

Fencing isn't a school sport here in South Africa, so I train outside school hours. Recently, I competed in the provincial championships and placed 1st in the U13 category and 3rd in the U15 category. This basically means I am moderately capable of striking people with an actual sword.

It's not the most common sport, and I often have to explain that no, I do not ride horses while fencing. But I love the strategy, speed and mental focus it requires. Plus, where else do you get to say "En garde!" before doing something super dramatic?

- Yoshka MacMillan



Stanford Lake College Weekly Notice

16 Feb - 21 Feb

Date	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday 16 February	Day 7			
	Choir	14:00 - 15:30	IJV	RMJ, Rene
	Jazz 2	14:30 - 15:15	RMJ	RMJ
	Ballet	15:15 - 16:00	RMJ	RMJ
	Track & field events (only Athletics team)	15:00 -16:00	Top Field	SJW,KH,TJM,JG,JIN,XJH,PJB,TPCJ,NHH
	Swimming	15:30 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Conditioning 1st Boys & girls hockey , netball	16:00 - 17:00	HPC	TJM,TPKH
	Rugby U14,U15,U16,U17,U19	16:00 -17:00	Top Field	PJB,SJW,NHH,JJN
	Hockey: Girls U14,U15,U16	16:00 - 17:00	Astro	AG,CN,TMJ,JG
	Gr 10 PS Lesson	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM,GVS
Gr 12 Math's	14:30 - 15:30	MCE Class	MCE	
Gr 8 Math's	14:45 - 15:30	JG Class	JG	
Tuesday 17 February	Day 1			
	Jazz 2	14:30 - 15:30	RMJ	RMJ
	Speakers Society	18:00 - 20:00	Blueberry Heights	RMJ
	Track & Field events (Athletics team only)	15:00 - 16:00	Top Field	SJW,KH,TJM,JG,NNM,JIN,XJH,AG,PJB,TPCJ,NHH
	Hockey: Girls U17 & U19	16:00 - 17:00	SLC Astro	KH
	Hockey : Boys U14, U15,U16	16:00 - 17:00	SLC Astro	IC,XJH,SF
	Gr 11 PS Lesson	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
Gr 11 Math's	14:30 - 15:15	NNM Class	NNM	
Wednesday 18 February	Parents meet Teachers by Appointment	07:30 - 11:00	Class Rooms	All Staff
	Parents Association Meeting	11:30 - 12:30	IJV Class	PRJ, CFR
	Half Term	12:00		
	Marketing Unicorn Preparatory School	13:30 - 14:30	Unicorn Preparatory	SF, CFR
Thursday 19 February	Half Term			
	Scout trip on the Olifants for Gr 9 Footsteps of Legends Expedition	05:00		NHH, Brad
Friday 20 February	Half Term			
Saturday 21 February	Scout Trip Return	13:00		NHH, Brad
	Athletics Trials R 3	08:00 - 13:30	Ben Vorster	SJW

AWARDS



Teya Zanetic
Grade 11
Honours, Academics



Alisha Calokechi
Grade 12
Honours, Academics



Mukundi Ralubuvhi (left)
Matthew Scriven (right)
Grade 12
Half Colours, Academics



Sasha Boyum (left)
Lethlabile Tswaane
Grade 11
Half Colours, Academics



Angel Maponya
Grade 12
Full Colours, Academics



BADGER OF

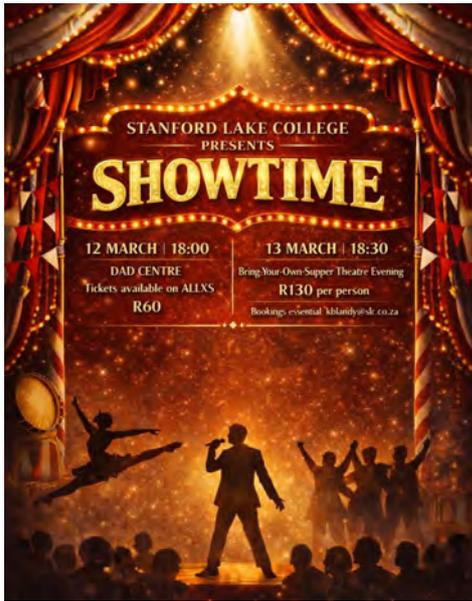
THE WEEK

Badger of the Week goes to Robert Noel for breaking the SLC Boys U/17 1500m record at the Fikkie Deysel Athletics Meet — an incredible achievement and a moment to remember.

This talented runner is just getting started, and we can't wait to see what races lie ahead. Watch this space — big things are still to come. Congratulations, Robert.



IMPORTANT DATES 13-15 March



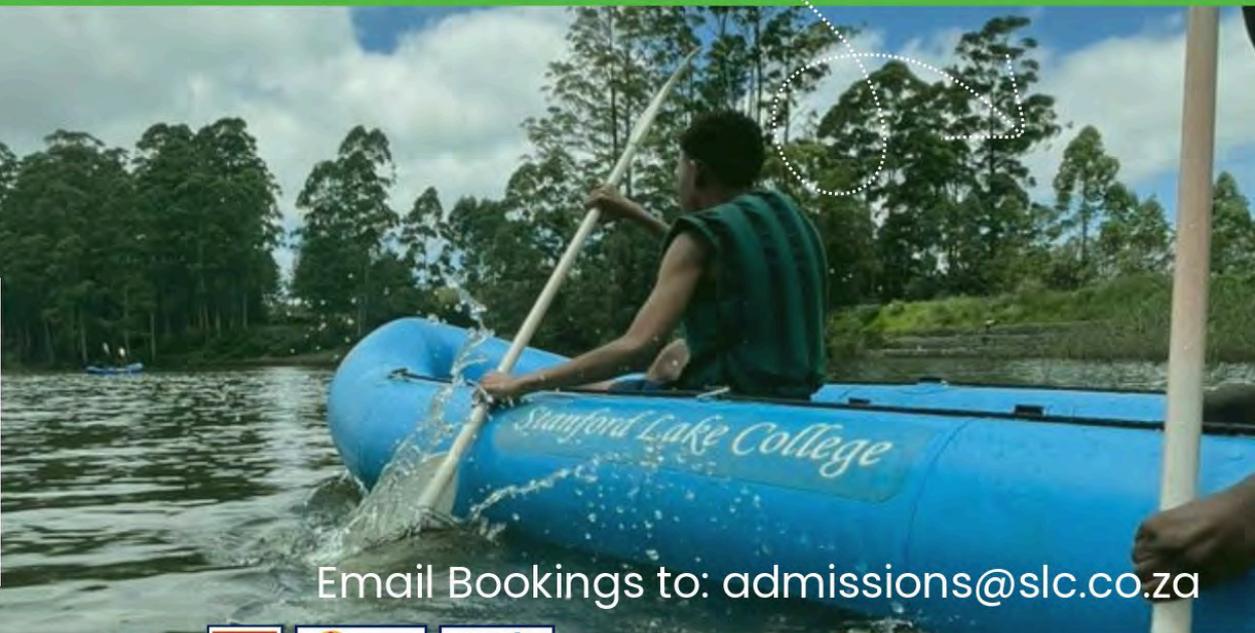
Join us for a busy and exciting weekend on campus. The school production team takes the stage with SHOWTIME, we open our doors for Open Weekend for all future Stanfordians, and wrap it up with our annual WIK Triathlon.

Get a team together and come be part of the action on campus.



OPEN WEEKEND Friday – Saturday Stanford Lake College 13-14 March

Let your child join us on campus and find out what its like to be part of an adventure school



Email Bookings to: admissions@slc.co.za

www.slc.co.za



info@slc.co.za

