



Matters of Principal

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." – Ecclesiastes 3:1

This week has been one of mixed emotions and shifting energy across the school. With the Matric class celebrating their final days, the campus has been alive with excitement and reflection as we lead up to the Rose Ceremony, Bell Ringing, and Valediction. These traditions mark an important milestone for our Grade 12s and remind us all of the journey they have taken through Stanford Lake College. However, for the rest of the school, it is also a crucial time to refocus, reset, and plan carefully for the final stretch of the academic year.

During our welcome assembly on Tuesday, I spoke to the students about the importance of good planning and setting short-term, achievable goals as they move into the examination period. Success rarely happens by chance; it comes from preparation, consistency, and clarity of purpose. I encouraged our pupils to think about what they want to achieve in the coming weeks and to put practical steps in place to make it happen. Whether that means setting aside dedicated study time each evening, asking teachers for clarification on difficult topics, or forming small study groups, it is the habits built now that will determine outcomes later.

It is natural for the school atmosphere to feel slightly unsettled during this time of celebration, but it is essential that every student remains disciplined and committed to their personal goals. The academic rigour expected at this stage of the year must begin immediately. There is no time to waste. Focused attention in the classroom, consistent homework completion, and effective time management will help every pupil feel confident and prepared when examinations begin.

At the same time, I reminded students that maintaining involvement in co-curricular programmes remains an important part of their growth and balance. These programmes contribute significantly to mental well-being and help students manage stress while staying connected to the broader school community.

As we navigate this busy term, I encourage all students to approach their days with intention, plan effectively, work diligently, and stay grounded in the values that define our school.

The coming weeks are an opportunity not just to achieve academically, but to demonstrate character, focus, and perseverance.

Warm Regards

Principal



ROUND SQUARE PERTH BOUND

Adventure Awaits – JJ Naude and Ethan Hirst Begin Their Round Square Exchange

Two of our Stanford Lake College students, JJ Naude and Ethan Hirst, have arrived safely in Perth, Australia, to begin their Round Square exchange adventure. This incredible opportunity will see them immerse themselves in a new school environment, experience a different culture, and build connections that reach far beyond borders.

The Round Square Exchange Programme offers students a chance to grow as global citizens – developing leadership, resilience, and empathy while representing their home schools abroad. JJ and Ethan have already settled in and are eager to embrace every moment of this unique journey.

We are so proud of them both and wish them a memorable and enriching experience filled with learning, adventure, and friendship



Final Speakers Society Evening A Night of Reflection and Inspiration

Our Grade 12s recently took part in the final Speakers' Society event of the year, hosted at the beautiful Blueberry Farm Café. The evening was one filled with heartfelt speeches, laughter, and reflection – a fitting finale for our matric group.

We were honoured to have Christine de Villiers as our guest speaker. Christine has played an integral role in Stanford Lake College's history – as a founding alumna, a former member of the Board, and a proud parent of two SLC graduates. Her words reminded everyone of the strong community and legacy that make Stanford so special.

It was a truly special evening that celebrated the art of public speaking, personal growth, and the confidence our students have developed over their time at SLC.

Best Prepared Speech:

Ewetse Nkwada

Best Impromptu Speech:

Nsovo Mabila

Best Evaluator:

Kgonne Makuwa



Abigail Fair Shines in National Art Competition!

Well done to Abigail Fair, whose creativity took her artwork all the way to Stellenbosch! Her piece was selected for the Top Selection and proudly exhibited in the national competition. A huge achievement and a fantastic moment to see her work celebrated on such a big stage. Keep shining, Abi!



NATIONAL FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS — LIMPOPO TEAMS SHINE

During the October holidays, the National Fly Fishing Competition concluded with fantastic performances from our Limpopo teams.

The Limpopo A Team secured an outstanding second place overall, earning a silver medal. The team included Ludwick Esterhuizen and JJ Naudé from Stanford Lake College, alongside three anglers from Merensky High School. The Limpopo B Team, captained by Reeza Moosa (Stanford Lake College), finished 6th overall, with Bödo Schulenburg also representing Stanford. The C Team was led by Murray Newton.

Individually, Ludwick Esterhuizen delivered an exceptional performance, finishing 5th in South Africa. He now awaits confirmation for the Protea Trials in December — a remarkable opportunity to compete for a place to represent the country on the world stage. This marked Ludwick's third Nationals appearance, two of which were as part of the Limpopo A Team. JJ Naudé and Reeza Moosa also competed at Nationals for the third time, showing dedication and consistency across the years.

Ludwick has worked tirelessly towards this goal and remains focused on both his trials preparation and strong academic performance. Congratulations to all our Stanford anglers for their commitment, sportsmanship, and continued excellence — both on the water and off it!



T20 Cricket Bash 2025

Next week, Stanford Lake College will host the annual T20 Cricket Bash, welcoming teams from Merensky, Ben Vorster, Tom Naudé and Pietersburg High Schools. We encourage all parents, supporters, and cricket fans to join us on campus and enjoy some exciting T20 action!

Congratulations to the following boys who will be representing Stanford Lake College: Bödo Schulenburg, Mpho-Kane Mashego, Reeza Moosa, Josh Doolabh, Aryan Ghelani, Nathan Berrie, Nakedi Makweya, Dario Wasley, Matthew Scriven, Hlabi Tswaane, Alastair Wiltshire, Tadgh Egan, and Thatego Molokomme.

Let's get ready for a great weekend of cricket — full of energy, teamwork, and Stanford spirit!

TROPHY TOYOTA
T20 Bash
24-26 OCTOBER

Friday 24th
14:00
SCHOLEFIELD OVAL
 VS. 
HILLARY FIELD
 VS. 

Saturday 25th
10:45
SCHOLEFIELD OVAL
 VS. 
HILLARY FIELD
 VS. 
14:15
SCHOLEFIELD OVAL
 VS. 
HILLARY FIELD
 VS. 

Sunday 26th
09:00
SCHOLEFIELD OVAL
 VS. 
HILLARY FIELD
 VS. 

Saturday 25th
07:30
SCHOLEFIELD OVAL
 VS. 
HILLARY FIELD
 VS. 



Exploring the Wolkberg

From 19–25 September, our Grade 8 group embarked on their Exploring the Wolkberg expedition, covering 80km over seven days. They started at Consolata Estate and made their way to Camp 1 in the Bifrost Forest, impressing staff with their pace despite the high temperatures.

Day 2 brought misty, wet hiking conditions as the group trekked 15km to Camp 2, where they relaxed, swam, and set up a proper campsite for a two-night stay. Day 3 was a highlight, with a day hike down Mohlapitse Gorge to the stunning Crystal Waterfall for swimming, bum-sliding, and rock jumping.

The excitement continued on Day 4 with a food drop, followed by a visit to a “hippo” rock pool and the Serala-Bumslides. Day 5 was summit day! Rising at 03:30, the group hiked to Serala’s summit to catch a breathtaking sunrise and enjoyed Cleopatra Pools and The Horns before returning to camp.

The expedition wrapped up with a shorter hike to Bergplaas, a refreshing river swim, and a parent-surprise wors braai. On the final day, the group completed a 16km hike back to school, arriving just in time for assembly. Each pupil demonstrated teamwork, perseverance, and resilience, making this a truly unforgettable adventure!



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