



Matters of Principal

"Parents can only give good advice or put them on the right paths, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands."
– Anne Frank

As our Grade 11 and 12 pupils reach the end of their school journey, they stand at a pivotal crossroad, faced with the daunting task of selecting a career path and corresponding courses of study. This period is often fraught with uncertainty and pressure, as the decisions made now significantly influence their future trajectories. We acknowledge the pressures that families face when trying to make these decisions. Through exposure in the LO classes and other small initiatives, we can offer support to our pupils, but I must emphasise the indispensable role that parents play in guiding their children through these critical choices.

Today's global landscape offers an expansive array of career opportunities, many of which were non-existent a decade ago. Fields such as artificial intelligence, renewable energy, and digital marketing have emerged alongside traditional professions, presenting students with a plethora of options. While this diversity is advantageous, it can also be overwhelming. Students may grapple with questions like which career aligns with their passions and strengths? What are the educational requirements for the chosen field? How stable or in-demand is this particular profession? To address these queries, our pupils need to engage in self-reflection and research, and seek guidance from knowledgeable sources, perhaps even do some job shadowing during their holidays.

The journey to making informed career decisions is often accompanied by various pressures: the need to achieve specific grades to qualify for certain programmes can be a significant source of stress; observing peers who have clear career goals can create a sense of urgency or inadequacy; cultural norms and societal values may steer students toward particular professions, regardless of personal interest; rapid technological advancements and shifting job markets can make it challenging to choose a "future-proof" career.

These pressures underscore the necessity for a supportive environment where students feel empowered to explore and make informed decisions. While institutional support is vital, the role of parents in this journey cannot be overstated. Research indicates that parental involvement significantly influences students' career decisions. To support your child effectively, openly discuss their interests, aspirations, and concerns without judgment. Introduce them to various professions through your network, job shadowing opportunities, or informational interviews. Support them in pursuing internships, part-time jobs, or extracurricular activities that align with their interests. Educate yourself about current and emerging career trends, to offer informed guidance and seek the input of a qualified careers guidance counsellor.

This coming Monday at 14:30 in the DaD, center we have the first of our Career Days and parents are welcome to join. This mini expo will feature representatives from various universities and other educational institutions, providing students with the opportunity to interact directly with university marketing officers and get a feel for what these institutions offer, gain insight into the diverse courses and career paths offered, and gain clarity regarding admission processes, scholarships, and job prospects.

The transition from secondary education to higher studies or the professional realm is a significant milestone. With the combined efforts of the school, parents, and the students themselves, we can ensure that this journey is navigated with confidence, clarity, and support.

THE SCOUTS ARE OUT AND ABOUT!

During the midterm break, our Adventure staff (Mr Haarhoff and Mr Fullard) went on a scouting trip to Penge for the Grade 9 Trek. They checked the last camp site during the hiking section, as well as the fresh water situation for the camp and then headed to the river. The water was flowing quite steadily at the entrance point and they knew that they were in for a good time! An estimation was that the level was around 70cumecs when they started (for us novices; 1cumec= 1000L of water per second). All our campsites looked good and they both had a very good supply of fresh water coming out from the mountains.

Mr Haarhoff and Mr Fullard paddled 46km on the first day and our Grade 9 groups will do this over 3 days. Baobab Beach was camp for the night. Whilst camping, the river came up which made the last day of the scouting trip interesting (this estimate was 120 cumecs). The gents got off the river just before 09:00 and were comfortable that they could manage the group safely at the current level of 120cumcs. It may be challenging but is absolutely doable. Since then, however, the river has gone up to over 400 cumecs. An experienced paddler and instructor was on the river after Mr Haarhoff and Mr Fullard and got off the water on Wednesday. The paddler sent Mr Haarhoff the photo that Mr Haarhoff had sent to him of the two gents at Baobab Beach. The line (pictured top right) is where the current water level is!

The Olifants River is now at an unsafe level and we cannot risk taking the group down. Therefore, the call to postpone the Grade 9 Footsteps expedition to a later date has been made. Communication letter has been sent out to all of the Grade 9 parents, explaining our decision.

Adventure Greetings, Mr N Haarhoff



Duration
5:48'09

Total time
6:13'32

Pause time
25'23.7

Distance
46.14 km



WE WANT TO RIDE OUR BICYCLES!

On Monday 24th February, we had our Inter-House Mountain Bike Race. The event followed a very basic 1km route around the sports fields with lots of grass and some single-track. Each sports house was allowed 7 bicycles on the track at a time with at least two being ridden by the young ladies of SLC. The bicycles were identified by number boards in the house colours and could be inter-changed if the students used their own bicycles. The race was 45 minutes long and students could ride as many laps as they wanted or take turns riding laps, swapping bicycles and/or having a rest in between. The house with the most laps would ultimately win.

The turnout was good, with about 45 students representing and showing their skill on the bike or some of them showing their heart and “gees” for their house. The spirit of the students riding and supporting was uplifting and we enjoyed the afternoon. In the end the results were as follows: Fenwick 3rd, Loomis 2nd and Orvis took the win with the most laps. A special mention goes to Richard Nieman who rode start to finish and racked up a lot of laps for Orvis. Thank you to that students and staff that made this event possible.

Full photo album can be viewed online - [Click Here to View](#)

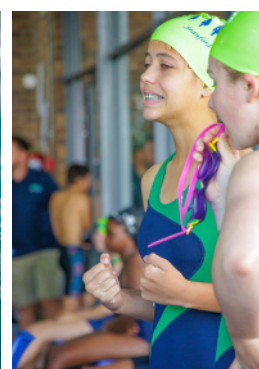


MAKING WAVES: SWIMMERS SHINE AT INTERHOUSE GALA

The Interhouse Swimming Gala took place on Wednesday afternoon the 26th of February 2025, bringing an exciting mix of competition, school spirit, and fun. Swimmers from all houses showed incredible determination, with many of the races coming down to the wire.

A highlight of the event was the breaking of four records, a testament to the talent and hard work of our athletes. Alongside the competitive races, students also enjoyed the ever-popular “fun races,” which added to the festive atmosphere. The much-anticipated staff vs. students race was a crowd favourite, with the teachers proving they still have what it takes to secure the win. Well done to the staff!

Overall, the gala was a fantastic afternoon filled with excitement, camaraderie, and school pride. Well done to all swimmers, supporters, and organisers for making it such a memorable event! A special shout out to Orvis for taking the overall win for their house for the afternoon, including the spirit and Relay trophy.



TROPHY WINNERS 2025

De Vos Trophy for Individual Medley Girls	Alessia Dowle
Willson Trophy for Individual Medley Boys	Dario Wasley
Scott Trophy Stanford Challenge Girls	Alessia Dowle
Van Nieuwenhuizen Trophy Stanford Challenge Boys	Anrich van Wyngaardt
The Baragwanath Relay Trophy	Orvis
Spirit Winner	Orvis
Junior Victrix Ludorum	Alessia Dowle
Junior Victor Ludorum	Richard Niemann
Best U/16 Girl	Holly McHugh
Best U/16 Boys	Dario Wasley
Senior Victrix Ludorum	Isabella Dando
Senior Victor Ludorum	Thomas Imrie
Winning House	Orvis - 424 Loomis - 352 Fenwick - 314



CHECK OUT FULL
PHOTO
COLLECTION



GET READY FOR A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

Stanford Lake College proudly presents...
ALL THAT JAZZ! Variety Show.

Our students have been working tirelessly to bring you an unforgettable evening of music, dance, and drama!

Don't miss out on the excitement! Book your seat NOW and be a part of this SPECTACULAR event!

Tickets available now on ALLXS!
Friday is bring your Supper Theatre
– book your table by emailing kblandy@slc.co.za.

We cannot wait to share this special event with you!

Moving at Mopani Champs

Congratulations to the following athletes that have made the Ritavi Cluster athletics team. They will compete in the Mopani District Champs this Friday:

Tiger Peniston
Andani Rembuluwani
Olivia Turner
Fia Niemann
Ethen Mwesigwa
Thato Thobejane
Lwandile Nkuna
Mika Jones
Amon Negogogo



WATCH THIS SPACE

Our Librarian Jane Meintjies has been hard at work 'flipping' the library. Here are some photos of the 'new' space.



Stanford Lake College
Presents

ALL THAT JAZZ!

VARIETY SHOW

THURSDAY 13 MARCH 18H00 – SCHOOL PERFORMANCE – R60
FRIDAY 14 MARCH – SUPPER THEATRE – 18H00 R130PP
BOOK TABLES WITH KBLANDY@SLC.CO.ZA

Recycled Broken Toy Art Project

Please donate any broken toys for an art club sculptural project.

Toys can be dropped off in the Visual Arts class.
Thank you! Mrs Obojkovits