

# SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

ISSUE 4 OF 2024



## Matters of Principal

*"If there's one message I want people to take away is never compromise being your authentic self. Even if that means making others uncomfortable."  
~ Halima Aden*

My wife and I have entered a very new phase of parenting with our daughter, Megan. She has graduated from University and is finding her way as an intern in the working world. It has been a baptism of fire for her, to say the least! As educators, we have needed to reflect on how nurturing and protective our schools are. Whilst it may not seem like it to our pupils, we protect and buffer them from so much whilst at the same time, doing our very best to prepare them for a challenging world outside of school. University offers a small step into this world but again, our children are largely protected from the real challenges that they will face. We were adamant that both of our children had to have part-time jobs whilst at university. They chose to work in restaurants - an environment where many lessons are learned, particularly regarding how people behave and interact. From difficult clients to managers who feel the need to exercise their authority, to people who are downright lazy and dishonest, this time was a learning curve and yet still not the real world entirely.

In the working world, there are no soft landings or bailouts. It becomes the survival of the fittest. One of the greatest learnings for her has been understanding the masks that people find themselves wearing in a working environment. Society creates situations where people (both adults and children) find themselves feeling forced to

wear figurative masks and behave in a manner that they believe aligns with a particular role. We see this in schools all the time. The learnings I have reflected on are two-fold:

We must continue to teach our children the skills to navigate, with courage and confidence, a tricky world that can be cruel whilst maintaining their value system;

We must continue to empower our pupils to be themselves, to remove these masks and be authentic.

It is impossible to be authentic if one is "playing" a role or wearing a mask. It is impossible to be all things to all people at all times. Our school needs to be a safe space in which our pupils can be themselves.

Have a great weekend.

God Bless.



Tristan Brett



Nanaki Kgopong



Jenny Zhang



Amber McHugh

### HONOURS AWARDED

A number of pupils were awarded for their commitment to sports and academics during the assembly held on Monday, receiving Junior Achiever, Half Colours and Colours awards. A special mention to Tristan Brett who was awarded Honours for Athletics /

Cross Country, to Nanaki Kgopong and Jenny Zhang who were reawarded with Honours for Academics and to Amber McHugh who received her white blazer for Academics. These pupils have exemplified the value of Commitment.

### BADGER OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Mokgale Mamabolo on his recent outstanding athletics performances. He won Senior Victor Ludorum at the Independent Schools meet as well as Interhouse athletics. He also broke the U/19 long jump record. He has shown incredible determination and came first in many of his events.



We have 2 free range, premium Botswana sheep up for raffle. Tickets are available on ALLXS and the winners of each sheep will be announced on 25 March. The sheep will be cut into specific cuts and delivered frozen. Money raised will go towards the upcoming George Sports Tour. Buy your tickets now!

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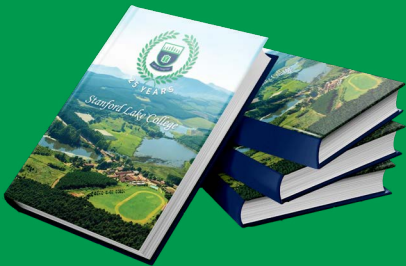


## THE WIK MEMORIAL TRIATHLON

17 / 03 / 24

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER](#)

The hardcover coffee table book detailing 25 years of Stanford Lake College is available to purchase. The publication is a beautiful history of Stanford photos, memories and traditions. It is an absolute must for any previous or current Stanfordian! You can order your copy via the ALLXS system at the cost of R460.00 or by emailing [marketing@slc.co.za](mailto:marketing@slc.co.za)



**OPEN WEEKEND** 15 - 16  
**MARCH**  
**2024**



FOR GRADE 6 & 7  
DISCOVER STANFORD  
LAKE COLLEGE  
ADVENTURE CHALLENGE  
HIKE UNDER  
THE STARS  
PRIZES UP FOR  
GRABS

**LET'S  
ADVENTURE**

BOOKING  
ESSENTIAL

RSVP by 4<sup>th</sup> March '24 to:  
[admissions@slc.co.za](mailto:admissions@slc.co.za)

[www.slc.co.za](http://www.slc.co.za)

As the Open Weekend falls on the same weekend as The Wik Triathlon and the Ebenezer Mile, we suggest parents make accommodation bookings as soon as possible via [Bookings.com](http://Bookings.com) and [www.limpopobookings.com](http://www.limpopobookings.com). It's going to be a busy weekend on "the mountain"

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### CRICKET

The U/15 cricket boys played a match against Ben Vorster on Wednesday. Stanford Lake College won the toss and elected to bat first. The team got off to a steady start, with openers Reza Moosa and Mpho-Kane Mashego occupying the crease for several overs. The stand was broken with Stanford on 20. The team showed some fight to bat until the 18th over but were unfortunately bowled out for 55 runs. Ben Vorster chased the target in seven overs, winning the match by nine wickets. Although not the results the boys were looking for, they showed much improvement from last week's game.

### ENVIRONMENTAL



The Environmental Committee met with Mr van der Merwe from the Cape Parrot Project during Clubs & Societies yesterday to discuss their commitment to assisting with the project going forwards.

### SQUASH



Giano October participated in the Mpumalanga Junior Squash Open last weekend. It was a very tough tournament for Giano as he played U/19 but he had fun and it was a good experience. He played against SA Junior no.2 and no.4 ranked players. He won one match and lost two matches. This tournament was good practice for the Bloemfontein tournament that will take place in April.

### DEBATING

The Senior Debating Team participated in the 2023 final of the Mayor's Cup yesterday. In debating against Eagle's Nest Christian School, the team proposed the motion "COP27 was concluded during November 2022 - The Loss and Damage Fund will effectively address the consequences of climate change in developing countries." They unfortunately lost the debate to the opposing team.

### READING



Mrs Meintjes, the School Librarian, writes, "Emma Stewart is an inspiration, not only to me but to her peers as well, as she has set an excellent example of good reading. Emma was the top reader in the school last year, reading up to 8 books per term. One of which was the 715-page *The Storm Sisters* by Lucinda Riley. Emma devoured and returned the book to the library in just five days (there was a weekend in there)! It is encouraging to see a young reader eager to get the next book in the series."