



Matters of Principal

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

Legendary American football coach Nick Saban built a dynasty at the University of Alabama not through motivational speeches, but through standards. Success, in his view, was never about hype — it was about the standard of performance that every person in the organisation chose to uphold every single day.

Saban often spoke about the five choices that face all of us:

- We can be bad at what we do
- We can be average
- We can be good
- We can be excellent
- Or we can choose to be elite

Each level is a choice.

We choose through our mindset, our habits, our effort and the standards we are willing to maintain. Excellence is never accidental — it is intentional. It requires doing the extra when no one is watching, preparing when others relax, and refusing to settle for “good enough”.

The truth is that we do not accidentally become elite — we drift into average. Excellence requires effort and discipline.

Saban also reminded his teams that success depends on having the right people in the right seats on the bus, all aligned to the same principles and expectations. Team culture is not automatic; it is built when everyone commits to the same standard.

The lessons are simple but powerful:

- The little things matter
- Nothing happens by accident
- Outcomes are shaped by what we do every day

As a school community, our commitment to our principles, values and standards will shape the strength of our culture. When expectations are clear and shared, responsibility and accountability follow naturally.

Let us continue to choose excellence — deliberately, consistently and together.

God Bless,



Pierre Jacobs
Headmaster



SAILING AWAY

Mykonos Regatta

The annual Mykonos offshore sailing regatta is one of the most recognisable races in South Africa which starts in Cape Town at, Royal Cape Yacht club and ends at Club Mykonos in Langebaan. The race is over 60 nautical miles along the west coast of South Africa.

I had the opportunity to sail with my grandfather and dad in this race. We left cape town at 8am on Friday morning and completed the race at 6pm that night. The day was filled with excitement and fun from racing 80 other boats and seeing whales breaching, dolphins, penguins and 5 sun fish as we made our way up the west coast.

- Emily Noel



BADGER OF

THE WEEK

Badger of the Week – Emily Noel

Congratulations to Emily Noel, our Badger of the Week, who recently competed in the Mykonos Offshore Regatta.

Starting at the Royal Cape Yacht Club in Cape Town and finishing at Club Mykonos in Langebaan, the 60-nautical-mile race saw Emily sailing alongside her grandfather and dad against around 80 other boats.

Well done, Emily!

PRESIDENTS

AWARD



Congratulations to Carmen Van Der Merwe, who has achieved her Silver President's Award!

The President's Award is South Africa's local branch of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, a globally recognised youth development programme active in over 130 countries, including 18 across Africa. With more than 1 million participants worldwide, the Award empowers young people aged 14–24 to explore their potential, develop skills, stay active, contribute to their communities, and take on adventurous challenges.

Carmen's Silver Award recognises her dedication, perseverance, and commitment to personal growth. Well done, Carmen, on this outstanding achievement!

ACADEMIC ASSIST

Student-Led Tutoring Programme

Academic Assist is back at Stanford Lake College! This student-led tutoring programme gives pupils the opportunity to both receive support as a tutee and develop leadership and teaching skills as a tutor.

If you would like to sign up, please complete the sheets outside Mrs Nel's office. Sessions will take place:

Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the boarding houses

Wednesday afternoons in Mrs Nel's classroom

This wonderful initiative fosters collaboration, peer support, and academic growth within our student community.

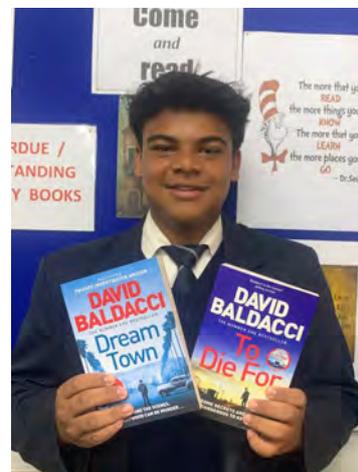
Word of the Week

Odius

Extremely unpleasant or repulsive

Although Reza usually enjoys non-fiction, particularly wildlife stories, he has decided to try something different and has picked up a few novels by David Baldacci. Known for his fast-paced thrillers and gripping storylines, Baldacci's books are hugely popular with readers around the world.

We're hoping Reza — and perhaps a few other boys — will enjoy diving into these exciting reads.



Student Reflection:

Small Words, Big Impact

As members of the TED Committee at Stanford Lake College, we recently had the opportunity to present to the school on a topic we believe deserves more attention: micro-aggressions and how everyday language and attitudes can contribute to broader social issues such as gender-based violence.

While preparing for the talk, we realised how often micro-aggressions go unnoticed. Comments that are dismissed as jokes or harmless remarks can carry deeper messages about gender, power and respect. Individually they may seem small, but collectively they shape the culture of a community and influence what people come to accept as normal.

Our aim in speaking to the school was not to accuse or criticise, but to start a conversation. We wanted to encourage students to reflect on how the things we say — and sometimes what we choose not to say — can either reinforce harmful attitudes or help create a more respectful and supportive environment.

Presenting on this topic reminded us that schools are not only places where we develop academically, but also where we learn what kind of people we want to become. Conversations like these encourage us to think more critically about the world around us and about the role each of us plays in shaping it.

— Paityn Landsman and Teya Zanetic



POWER, FOCUS, GOLD



Well done to Zamaan Theba, who recently competed in a provincial Japan Karate Association tournament in Polokwane. Zamaan delivered an outstanding performance, winning two gold medals in his division.

He will now be competing in the JKA South African National Tournament in May. Congratulations and best of luck for Nationals!

Stanford Lake College Weekly Notice

09 - 15 March

Date	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday 09 March	Day 4			
	Showtime Rehearsal	18:00 - 18:00	DAD Centre	RMJ, Rene, SS
	Senior Boys Hockey	14:45 - 16:55	Astro	TM
	Junior Boys Rugby (U14 -U16)	14:45 - 16:55	Top Field	JJN,NFH
	Netball Clinic (U14 - U19)	14:00 - 16:30	Netball Courts	TP,SS,MCM,LBM,LS
	Senior Girls Hockey	14:45 - 16:55	Astro	KH
	Senior Adventure	15:30 - 16:55	Adventure Centre	BA
	Swimming	15:30 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	Gr 10 PS Lesson	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	GVS,LBM
	Gr 12 Math's	14:30 - 15:30	MCE Class	MCE
Gr 8 - 9 Math's	14:45 - 15:30	JG Class	JG	
Tuesday 10 March	Day 5			
	U14 Girls & Boys Hockey Trials	09:45 - 15:00	Merensky Astro	AG,XJH,CN
	U16 / U18 Boys Hockey Trials	09:30 - 15:00	PHS Astro	TM,IN
	U16 / U18 Girls Hockey Trials	10:30 - 15:00	SLC Astro	KH,JG
	Senior Boys Rugby (U17 - U19)	14:35 - 16:55	Astro	PJB,SJW
	Netball Clinic (U14 - U19)	14:00 - 16:30	Netball Courts	TP,SS,MCM,LBM,LS
	Junior Boys Hockey (U14 - U16)	14:35 - 16:55	Astro	XJH,SF,IC
	Senior MTB/ Adventure	14:35 - 16:55	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:30 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	Badger Men	18:00 - 19:00	Astro	
	Gr 11 PS Lesson	14:30 - 15:15	PS Lab	LBM,GVS
	Gr 11 Math's	14:20 - 15:20	NNM	NNM
IT Extra Class	14:30 - 15:30	IT Lab	EVA	
Wednesday 11 March	Day 6			
	Showtime Dress Rehearsal	18:00 - 20:00	DAD Centre	RMJ,Rene, SS
	Senior Boys Hockey	14:00 - 16:55	Astro	TM
	Junior Boys Rugby (U14 -U16)	14:00 - 16:55	Top Field	JJN, NFH
Junior Netball (U14 -U16)	14:00 - 16:50	Netball Courts	TP,SS,MCM,LBM	

	Senior Girls Hockey	14:00 - 16:50	Astro	KH
	Junior MTB / Adventure	14:00 - 16:55	Adventure Centre	BA
	Swimming	15:30 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	1 st Team Girls Hockey Vs University Limpopo	16:00 - 17:30	SLC Astro	KH
	Gr 12 PS Lesson	14:00 - 15:00	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Gr 10 Math's	14:00 - 14:45	NNM Class	NNM
	Gr 9 Math's	14:00 - 14:45	JG Class	JG
	Gr 11 FSE	13:50 - 14:45	JET Class	JET
	ISAM360 Grade 12	17:00 - 19:00	Online	
Thursday 12 March	Day 7			
	Dress up like a mathematician			
	Easter Egg Hunt (During Clubs)	13:50	SLC Campus	GVS,UV
	Scholar Performance	18:00 - 20:00	DAD Centre	RMJ,RENE,SS
	Senior Boys Rugby	14:40 - 16:55	Top Field	PJB, SJW
	Junior Boys Hockey	14:40 - 16:55	Astro	XJH,SF,IC
	Senior Girls Netball	14:40 - 16:50	Netball Courts	TP,SS,MCM,LBM
	Junior Girls Hockey	14:40 - 16:50	Astro	TP,JG,CN,AG
	Junior MTB/Adventure	14:40 - 16:50	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	14:40 - 16:50	HPC	KO
	PS Lesson	15:30 - 16:50	PS Lab	GVS
Friday 13 March	Day 1			
	Open Weekend	14:00 - 18:00	HPC	All Staff
	Public Showtime Performance	18:00 - 20:00	DAD Centre	RMJ,RENE,SS
Saturday 14 March	Open Weekend	07:00 - 13:00	SLC Campus	TK,CR,NH,TM and Hockey Coaches
	Departure Polokwane Netball Merensky	05:30	Merensky	TP,SS,MCM,LCM,LS
	SLC vs Northern Academy U16 A	08:30	Merensky	
	SLC vs LTT 1 st Team	08:30	Merensky	
	SLC vs Noorderland U14 A	09:00	Merensky	
	SLC vs Merensky U17 A	09:30	Merensky	
	SLC vs Noorderland U15 A	10:30	Merensky	
	SLS vs Northern Academy U14 A	12:00	Merensky	
	SLC vs Merensky U15 A	12:00	Merensky	
	SLC vs LTT U16 A	12:30	Merensky	
	SLC vs Noorderland U17 A	13:00	Merensky	
	SLC vs Merensky 1 st Team	14:00	Merensky	
	Return to SLC and Polokwane	16:30	Polokwane	
Sunday 15 March	WIK Triathlon	07:00 - 14:00	SLC	All Staff

