



From the Sports Desk

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."
— Billie Jean King

As we close out another busy term in our sports programme, it's worth pausing to reflect on what our Stanfordinians have achieved this term and why it matters.

This term saw action across swimming, football, tennis, cricket and trail running, with pupils training, competing and growing together throughout. We opened with our Inter-House Swimming Gala on just the second day of term, a lively start to the season. Our swimmers then closed out the term on a high, representing the School at the Mopani Inter-High Swimming Gala and finishing 4th out of 7 schools. On the tennis courts, both our teams competed with real consistency across the term, ultimately finishing 3rd in their league of five.

Our football and cricket sides brought different energy to the term. On the football front, the Boys 1st team topped their pool before going on to finish 3rd out of 12 schools overall, while both our Junior Girls and First Girls teams matched each other's efforts, each finishing 2nd in their respective competitions. Cricket, too, had plenty to be proud of, with both our boys teams progressing through to the play-offs and the first team remaining unbeaten so far, while girls cricket continues to grow. We're proud that Coach Chris Mathebula and Ms Alicia Giles have been selected as part of the technical staff for the U/16 provincial age group, a reflection of the coaching depth we're trying to building around all our sporting codes.

None of this happens by accident, and none of it matters only for the scoreboard. At Stanford, we believe sport is not an extracurricular afterthought, it is an extension of the classroom, and we take seriously our obligation to educate through it. The lessons pupils take from training and competing are not simply "soft skills", they are life skills, and they build on one another in ways that go beyond the field.

It starts with time management, learning to balance training across multiple sporting codes with academics, and still protecting space for the simple pleasure of downtime with friends. That balancing act only works because of commitment, the understanding that being part of a team means being accountable to others, who depend on you just as much as you depend on them. Out of that commitment grows leadership, often the quiet kind, the realisation that you don't need a title to be influential, because you're always shaping standards through your behaviour, and learning along the way to have honest, constructive conversations with teammates. None of that is possible without communication, learning to listen, to relay information clearly, and, perhaps hardest of all, to communicate under pressure. And underpinning it all is a lesson our pupils will carry well beyond school, goal setting and delayed gratification. In a world built around instant results, sport teaches them that real improvement comes through small, measurable steps, training for months toward an outcome that doesn't arrive overnight.

As we move into next term, our focus remains the same, strengthening every discipline and using sport as a tool to shape not just better athletes, but better young people. Next term also serves as pre-season for 2027 across rugby, netball, hockey and athletics, while cricket continues its season with our boys competing in the SA20 tournament. One of our main areas of focus heading into this period will be conditioning. For our high-performance athletes, this serves the purpose of injury prevention and building the physical foundation needed to compete at a higher level, while for our regular pupils, conditioning plays an equally important role in helping them lead a healthy lifestyle.

We thank our parents, staff and pupils for their continued support of our sports programmes this term, and we look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Warm Regards,
Mrs T Mabayah
Head of Sport

XCO FINALS

The XCO Schools League Finale put on a show on our home turf, and we are extremely proud of the growth of mountain biking at Stanford Lake College.

With 25 of our riders taking on the tough short course, our Badgers showed plenty of determination, resilience and school spirit throughout the day.

A special congratulations to Robbie Noel, who was selected to represent Limpopo at this year's Nationals in the Cape. Robbie went on to take the race win in the U17 Junior Men category on the day.

Our other riders also put in strong performances:

Zoe Trusler – 4th in her age group

Madison Miller – 8th in her age group

Benjamin Terblanche – 7th in a tough category

Hana MacMillan – 4th in the U17 Girls

Carola Noel – 5th in her age group

Nick Dando - 8th in his age group

Every cyclist represented Stanford Lake College with determination and pride. We are incredibly proud of each of our riders and excited to see mountain biking continue to grow at SLC.

The school also finished 3rd in the Spirit Cup and ended the season tied for 5th on overall series points.



SWIMMING RESULTS

Stanford Lake College proudly competed at the Mopani Interprovincial Swimming Gala on 15 September, competing against seven schools and finishing 4th overall, with both the boys' and girls' teams also placing 4th.

Our swimmers gave a strong account of themselves, with standout performances from Thatego Molokomme, who courageously swam the 100m Backstroke twice due to technical difficulties with the starting equipment, and Olive Humphreys, who led the senior girls with an impressive performance. Zoe Trusler also stepped up to compete in the Girls' Open section (17–19 age group), while our Grade 8, Grade 9 and Open relay teams showed tremendous determination and teamwork.

More than the results, we were incredibly proud of the way our swimmers represented Stanford Lake. They showed commitment, sportsmanship and support for one another throughout the day, giving their very best in every race. Many of our swimmers are not regular competitive swimmers, yet they stepped up and challenged some very strong schools. They showed exactly what it means to be a Stanfordian: show up, give your best and proudly represent your school.



CRICKET WICKETS

The 1st Boys played against Louis Trichardt on Saturday, 12 September, putting in an impressive all-round performance. After winning the toss and electing to bat, the team batted through all 50 overs for the first time in two years, posting an impressive 292/8. Tristan Savage led the way with an outstanding 126 not out, supported by Christian Jacobs with 39 and Thatego Molokomme with 34.

The boys then bowled Louis Trichardt out for 162 runs to secure a convincing 130-run victory. Christian Jacobs was the standout bowler, taking 4 wickets.

Our U15 team also enjoyed a strong outing against Louis Trichardt, securing an 8-wicket victory. Caleb Jacobs finished unbeaten on 52 and took 3 wickets, while Luzuko Mabila claimed an impressive 4 wickets. Tristan Savage also contributed with an unbeaten 39.



BADGER OF

THE WEEK

Badger of the Week goes to Tristan Savage for an outstanding weekend of cricket.



Tristan scored an impressive 126 not out for the 1st Team before backing it up with another 39 not out for the U15s. A fantastic contribution across both teams. Well done, Tristan!

SOCCER SEASON WRAP UP

The 2026 soccer season has been one of commitment, perseverance and plenty of Badger spirit. Across all our teams, our players have continued to work hard, apply themselves at training and show a willingness to learn and improve with every match.

Our U15 Girls had an excellent season, showing consistency and determination to finish as silver medallists. The 1st Team Girls also enjoyed a remarkable season. They were crowned gold medallists at the PEPPS Festival and finished second on the league log, earning silver medals. Even more impressively, the team has played eight matches this year without losing a single game.

The U15 Boys finished as bronze medallists at the PEPPS Festival. While their league campaign presented some challenges, the season provided valuable lessons and opportunities for growth — an important part of any sporting journey.

Our 1st Team Boys had an exceptional season. They finished top of their pool, competing against six schools, which saw them qualify for the semi-final playoffs. In the semi-final, they faced Ben Vorster and went down 2–0 in a closely contested match.

The boys responded in impressive fashion, facing Northern Academy in the third-and-fourth-place playoff. After working hard to close the gap against one of the province's established soccer schools, Stanford secured a 1–0 victory, finishing third overall.

There was also individual recognition for our players. Captain Nakedi Makweya attracted interest from several semi-professional teams and received recognition from current Bafana Bafana goalkeeper Ronwen Williams. Alexandra Mentis was also recognised by former Mamelodi Sundowns and Bafana Bafana midfielder Tiyane Mabunda, who is involved in organising the league through his foundation.

Beyond the results, we are particularly proud of the way our players conducted themselves on and off the field. They represented Stanford with pride, respect and sportsmanship and demonstrated the commitment that comes with wearing the Badger badge.

A season like this is never achieved by players alone. Thank you to our coaches, staff, families and supporters who have stood behind our teams throughout the year. Your encouragement from the sidelines has played an important part in the journey.

With the league season now complete, there is still one more opportunity for our soccer players to represent Stanford, with teams travelling to Johannesburg this weekend for the St Peter's Festival.

We wish all our teams the very best and look forward to seeing them carry the Badger spirit onto the field once again

- Mr Kenneth Ndoda



FUTURE ENTREPRENEURS

Inspiring Future Entrepreneurs!

What does it take to turn a big idea into a successful business? Our Grade 10 Business Studies learners recently had the chance to explore this question when they welcomed Ms Lucinda de Kock, from Luci's Enterprises, for an inspiring and thought-provoking workshop.

Lucinda shared some fantastic insights into the world of entrepreneurship and encouraged our learners to dream big, set goals and, most importantly, stay focused. She reminded them that success does not happen overnight – it takes determination, discipline and a willingness to keep moving forward, even when things do not go according to plan.

The learners were also encouraged to become lifelong learners. Reading business books, following industry leaders, listening to podcasts and watching interviews can all help young entrepreneurs learn from those who have already walked the road to success. Perhaps the biggest takeaway was the importance of having the right mindset. Challenges and setbacks are not reasons to give up; they are opportunities to learn, grow and try again.

It was an exciting session filled with ideas, inspiration and plenty to think about. Who knows? Somewhere in that room may have been a future CEO, entrepreneur or business owner just waiting for their big idea to take off!



TENNIS DOUBLES

Good luck to our tennis teams taking part in the St Peter's College Sport & Cultural Festival this weekend.



MATHEMATICS ACHIEVEMENTS

Stanford Lake College is proud to celebrate five of our learners who have been selected for recognition at the 2026 Komatsu Adopted Schools Mathematics Programme Awards Ceremony for their performance in the South African Mathematics Olympiad (SAMO).

Congratulations to Yoshka MacMillan (Grade 9), Jan-Carel Els (Grade 11), Elton Norris (Grade 8), Hana MacMillan (Grade 11) and Juliette Leher (Grade 10) on this excellent achievement.

The awards recognise learners who performed well in SAMO through the Komatsu Adopted Schools Mathematics Programme, presented by the South African Mathematics Foundation (SAMF) in partnership with the Komatsu Foundation Trust.

We are delighted to see our learners' hard work and mathematical ability recognised at this level and look forward to celebrating their achievements at the awards ceremony.

UPCOMING EVENTS



BE THE LIFELINE
#GiveBloodGiveATomorrow

25 YEARS

Stanford Lake College
Dining Hall
Thursday 22.10.2026
08:30 to 15:30

sombx.org.za      

INF-MAR-098



Stanford Lake College

CULTURE WEEK

A WEEK OF CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY

17 September: Debating Round 1
21 September: Debating final & Cultural Assembly
22 September: Chess Competition

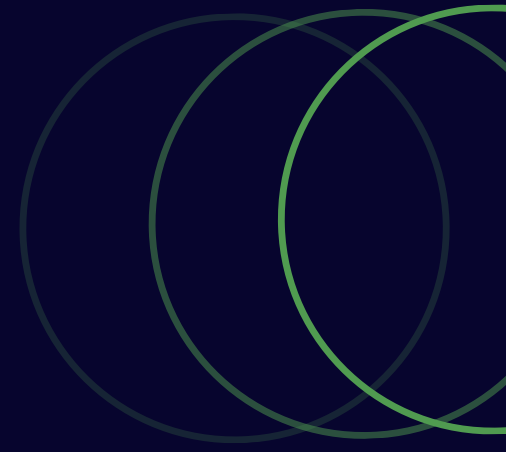
23 September: Hostel Singing & Winners Announced: art, chess, debate
24 September: Best Dressed-Culture/style

ONE COMMUNITY. MANY CULTURES. ENDLESS PRIDE.



Stanford Lake College Weekly Notice

21 – 25 Sept



Date	Activity	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday 21 Sept	Day 6			
	Culture Week			
	Culture Assembly with Marimba Performance	13:50	DAD Centre	
	Debating Finals	14:30	DAD Centre	KN
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Choir	14:00- 16:00	IJV	Renee
	SNR Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Field	CM/TM
	JNR Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH
	JNR Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR
	JNR/SNR Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	DAD Centre	PJB
	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	NH/BA
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	KO
	Gym	15:00 -17:00	HPC	JG/TM/KH/KO/AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 12 Maths	14:30 - 15:30	MCE class	MCE
	Grade 8 Maths	14:45 - 15:30	JH Class	JH
	Grade 12 Visual Art Drawing exam	8:00 - 15:00	ART room	JM, KO
Tuesday 22 Sept	Day 7			
	Culture Week			
	Chess Competition	14:00	DAD Centre	AG,KO
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Fields	CN,TM
	Jnr Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR,GM
	Jnr Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH,SB,TH
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB,JH
	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO

	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JH,TM,KH,KO,AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30 - 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 11 Maths	14:30 - 15:15	NNM Class	NNM
	Senior Accounting Extra Lessons	14:30 - 15:30	CR Class	CR
	Grade 12 Visual Art Drawing exam	8:00 - 15:00	ART room	JM, KO
	Grade 12 St Peter's catch Up exam Physical Sciences P2	8:30 - 12:00	HPC	TN
	Grade 12 St Peter's catch Up exam Mathematical Literacy P2	8:30 - 12:00	HPC	TN
Wednesday 23 Sept	Day 1			
	Culture Week			
	Boarding House Singing	18:00	DAD Centre	
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Field	CM/TM
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB
	Snr/Jnr Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	NH/BA
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JG/TM/KH/KO/AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:00 - 15:00	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 10 Maths	14:00 - 14:45	NNM Class	NNM
	Grade 9 Maths	14:00 - 14:45	JH Class	JH
	Academic Assist for DS	14:00 - 14:45	TN Class	Academic Com
	Junior Accounting Extra Lessons	14:00 - 15:00	CR Class	CR
	Grade 11 FSE	13:50 - 14:45	JET Class	JET
	Grade 12 Visual Art Drawing exam	8:00 - 15:00	ART room	JM, KO
Thursday 24 Sept	Day 2			
	Culture Week			
	Civvies Day			
	Music Lessons	15:00 - 17:00	IJV	Cal
	Snr Boys Cricket	15:00 - 17:00	Top Fields	CN,TM
	Jnr Boys Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	PR,GM
	Jnr Girls Soccer	15:00 - 17:00	Bottom Field	KH,SB,TH
	Jnr / Snr Trail Running	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	PJB,JH

	SNR/JNR Tennis	15:00 - 17:00	Tennis Courts	IC
	MTB	15:00 - 17:00	Adventure Centre	BA,NFH
	Swimming	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	KO
	Gym	15:00 - 17:00	HPC	JH,TM,KH,KO,AG
	PS lesson by appointment	14:30- 15:30	PS Lab	LBM, GVS
	Grade 12 Visual Art Drawing exam	8:00 - 15:00	ART room	JM, KO
Friday 25 Sept	Day 3			
	Karkloof Trail Run			
	Departure SLC	04:00		SJW,PJB,TM,KH
	End of Term	12:00		