

Matters of Principal

"Do not stop thinking of life as an adventure. You have no security unless you can live bravely, excitingly, imaginatively; unless you can choose a challenge instead of competence."

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

What an amazing week we have had! An enormous amount has transpired on our campus since I last penned a Snapshot. Friday saw the Induction Ceremony for our Grade 8 and Grade 12 pupils. They committed themselves to internalising and living our values as they read the pledge. It was a moving service.

Friday evening was a celebration of our values as the Grade 8 class put on the Hatchery Concert which consisted of 7 little scenes linked to animated movies that depicted our values. These scenes had been written and staged by the matrics on the Cultural Committee but the finale showcased the entire matric grade working with all the Grade 8s in a vibrant and energetic dance that summed up the feel in the school over the past few weeks.

On Saturday we hosted our Inter-house Athletics Day. In typical Magoebaskloof mountain fashion, we literally could not see 50m in front of us for the first 45minutes, with runners fading into the mist and out of sight entirely. Fortunately, as the clouds lifted, the sun came out and we were able to witness some excellent performances with a few long-standing records being broken. The most notable being the boys' 100 m record, which has stood for 14 years. Orvis dominated the day, winning both the overall points competition and the spirit trophy. The only down side of an excellent day of track and field was the number of pupils who sustained injuries – indicative in many cases of insufficient physical activity over the long holiday.

While our athletes were charging around the athletics track, our swimmers were plying their trade on Saturday and Sunday in Tzaneen at the Limpopo Champs. They really did us proud, with Jenny Zhang once again winning the Senior Victrix Ludorum. Most of our

swimmers posted personal best times in their events, which is an excellent sign for the remainder of the season.

On Tuesday, we successfully defended our Independent Schools' Athletics title, comfortably beating our nearest rivals. Once again, the heart displayed by our pupils to ensure that we won our tenth title in a row was gratifying. Congratulations to everyone involved. To cap off an excellent week of sports, our First XI Cricket Team recorded their second straight victory in the Limpopo T20 friendly series, winning by a convincing 8 wickets. At the time of writing this, our junior team had yet to complete their fixture.

Whilst I am a firm believer that winning at all cost is not what we do and that plenty is learnt in defeat, there is little doubt that the positivity that is created by starting the year on such a positive note cannot be underestimated. Long may it last.

Our pupils have a well-earned sport free weekend (although some will be in rehearsal for the school production) and I wish them all a restful one. Next week, we continue at pace as we embark on two more inter schools athletics events.

Let's all rally behind Bafana Bafana as they take on Cape Verde in the last 8 of the AFCON!

Have a wonderful weekend.

God Bless

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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



BADGER OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Amber McHugh for being nominated as Badger of the Week. Even after she participated in many events at the Interhouse Athletics, she showed courage and tenacity by volunteering to run the hurdles last minute, even though she is not a hurdler. She displayed true badger spirit by not giving up easily.





NEW STANFORD STARS ARE Hatched!

It is always interesting to see how the Cultural Committee approaches the Hatchery Concert, as it often sets the tone for the cultural calendar that follows. The 2024 Cultural Committee began work on their scenes, which they need to script, in November last year. This commitment, coupled with the cooperation and enthusiasm of the rest of their grade, led to an energetic and fun-filled hour of performance. Designed to be a bonding experience between Grade 12 and Grade 8, it also serves to showcase new talent as well as to teach the seven values of our school. The concert achieved all of that. The Grade 8s stepped out of their comfort zones and were well supported by their mentees, many of whom were mouthing their lines, dancing in the background or openly applauding their juniors to encourage them. The matrics were quite remarkable. Even the most reticent, reluctant dancer among them was beaming on stage and dancing their hearts out. Their sense of fun was contagious and the Grade 8s saw that. Well done to all of the participants for a most entertaining evening.





















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18 MEDALS FOR OUR SWIMMERS

Last weekend, a few of Stanford's swimmers participated in Limpopo Schools' Swimming Champs held in Tzaneen. Some swimmers participated in up to 10 events over the two days, of various distances and strokes. Overall, Stanford represented and swam extremely well among a cohort of athletes from 32 other schools, receiving 18 medals in total. The results from this event help with selecting the Limpopo School Swimming team that will participate in the SA Schools Swimming Champs to be held in April in Gqeberha. Once the team has been announced we will publish the respective names. Congratulations to the following swimmers who participated; Andreas Toulou, Emma Imrie, Pippa Wood, Kim Ruwona, Dario Wasley, Jaimee Marais and Jenny Zhang. Many of these swimmers swam personal bests in their respective events and Jenny broke a few records over the two days and was named Senior Victrix Ludorum. Medals were as follows:

Dario Wasley:

3 x first places in 50m, 100m and 200m Breaststroke.

Jaimee Marais:

1 x second place in 100m Butterfly

4 x third places in 400m Freestyle; 100m and 200m Backstroke and 50m Butterfly.

Jenny Zhang:

8 x first places in 400m, 200m and 100m Freestyle; 200m, 100m and 50m Backstroke; 200m Individual Medley and 50m Butterfly.

2 x second places in 50m Breaststroke and 50m Freestyle.



On Wednesday Afternoon the 1st XI Cricket Team took on Taxila High School from Polokwane. Stanford won the toss and decided to field first. This paid off as the visiting team found themselves wandering at 15 for 4 after Connor Veldsman and Tristan Brett opened the bowling attack with good lines and lengths. They were well supported by Joshua Doolabh and Nakedi Makweya as wickets kept falling and the visitors were 40 - 6 after 10 overs. A bit of a concentration lapse in the field allowed the visitors some easy runs before a direct hit for a run-out from the boundary by Finn Straughan brought an end to a well-played innings by one of their players. The visitors managed to reach 100 before being bowled out. Connor, Tristan, Finn and Nakedi took two wickets apiece. Stanford's run chase did not start well as they found themselves at 5 - 1 after the first over. A conservative partnership between Ryno Schultz (23 runs) and Joshua Doolabh helped to steady things and made the run chase easier as the home team scored 50 runs in 12 overs. Zayd Moosa joined Joshua at the crease and the pair scored an unbeaten 53-run partnership to help the home team chase down the runs in the 17th over. Zavd finished on 30 runs off 14 balls and Joshua on 40 runs off 45 balls. Stanford secured an 8-wicket victory - their second of the season.



A DECADE OF VICTORIES

On Tuesday, Stanford Lake College set off to Polokwane to defend their Independent Schools' Athletics title. It was an exceptionally successful day for all of the athletes, as they dominated almost every event from start to finish. It was fantastic to see that many of them had worked hard during the December holidays and were fit, fast and strong. The Spirit Committee did a great job of ensuring that the athletes were well supported from the stands as well. At the end of the day, Stanford Lake College defended the trophy for the 10th year in a row, and won the 2024 Independent Schools' Athletics by 100 points. Congratulations to Mokgale Mamabolo who won Senior Victor Ludorum, winning the 200m, 100m and coming second in the long jump, despite breaking the U/19 boys' record. Well done to all athletes and coaches.



































YELLOWS TAKE GOLD

On Friday and Saturday, the Interhouse Athletics took place. Friday afternoon started with long hurdles and a couple of field events. It did not take long before the first record was broken by Thato Thobejane who broke the 400m hurdles record for boys U/17. Saturday we started in the mist and it was a true misty mountain morning. The day was filled with athletes giving their best and an additional three records were broken on Saturday by Mokgale Mamabolo who broke the Long Jump and 100m record for boys U/19 and Tristan Brett who broke the U/19 boys record for 1500m. Well done to all the athletes who participated, and sang their lungs out.

The Trophy winners are as follow:

Vavasour Cup for Boys U/19 1500m - Tristan Brett - 622 points - 04:44:15

McGaffin Trust Trophy for the Top Sprinter - Rachel Gobel - 1896 points

McGaffin Trust Relay Trophy - Loomis

Cheerio Trust Trophy - Best Senior Middle Distance Runner - Isabella Alcock - 1076 points

Kenney Trophy - Best Senior Boys Discus - Zayd Moosa - 596 points Kenney Trophy - Best Senior Girls Discus - Ellain Chidavaenzi - 473 points

Revelas Trophy - Best Boys Hurdler - Thato Thobejane - 1045 points Revelas Trophy - Best Girls Hurdler - Olivia Turner -1230 points Loubser Trophy - Junior Victor Ludorum - Michael Mentis - 1814 points

Loubser Trophy - Junior Victrix Ludorum - Holly McHugh - 1699 points

Loubser Trophy - Senior Victor Ludorum - Mokgale Mamabolo - 2110 points

Loubser Trophy - Senior Victrix Ludorum - Nanaki Kgopong - 2253 points

Stanford Lake College Spirit Trophy - Orvis The Zamparini Family Trophy - Winning House - Orvis

> 3rd Place - Fenwick - 788.5 points 2nd Place - Loomis - 842 points 1st Place - Orvis - 935.5 points

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