

Matters of Principal

"Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."
- Dr. Seuss

Four days into the term and it feels like we haven't been away from school for a single day! The term has started at a serious pace. Our Matrics returned on Sunday to begin their final week in school classrooms. The matric revision camp signified the end of twelve years of sitting behind a school desk listening to and absorbing knowledge from schoolmasters and schoolmistresses. From here on out it's all about studying and preparations for their final examinations. The Matric Art students sat their 24-hour Practical Examination held over four days. It was a pleasure for me to pop in every now and again and witness their ideas and creativity develop over this time into masterpieces. They can be proud of what they have produced. Our pupils have taken part in Interhouse Netball, Hockey, Cricket and Soccer and our swimmers have put the final touches on their preparations for the High Schools' Gala being hosted on Saturday.

Yesterday was Day Zero for our matrics: a day to celebrate the last 12 years of school, play a few pranks, throw a lot of water around and on the whole, have a great deal of good, clean fun. Days like yesterday have the potential to go horribly wrong. We have all seen stories in the press where pupils have literally destroyed their schools and humiliated teachers and younger pupils. Our matric class of 2023 got it 100% right. They chose a theme based of school being a prison, assigning staff as guards and themselves as inmates. They dressed in orange overalls (something I have never seen before -

and thought was excellent), and as far as I am aware, they behaved impeccably. Well done to the class of 2023 - they have followed the wonderful example set by last year's Matrics.

Today they have a day filled with a number of rites of passage culminating in the Valediction Service this morning and the Valediction Dinner this evening. Today we added what I hope will become another small rite of passage when we dedicated the Memorial Fountain and reinstalled the old school bell as a feature of this fountain. Upon closing of the short ceremony, the matrics (led by the Headboy and Headgirl) rang the bell once to signify the end of their time at this beautiful school. In years to come, I hope the ringing of this bell will signify the entrance into this school for Grade 8 pupils and at the end of 5 years the end of a journey well-travelled.

There is once again a wonderful energy on campus and amongst our pupils I look forward to what is going to be an excellent quarter.

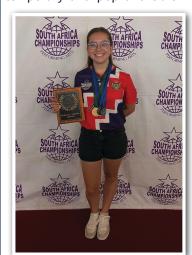
Have a great weekend

God Bless

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Zoë Koster, Grade 12, recently spent 10 days competing in the South African Competition of Performing Arts. She had to sing six songs, the categories being; Broadway, contemporary, open, pop, rock and variety. She won gold for contemporary and pop and silver for Broadway and variety.



She also won the overall award for the age 16 - 24. This achievement is remarkable but even what is even more exciting is that she has won a place in the team to represent South Africa at the Worlds Competition in Los Angeles next year, with an opportunity of being signed by a record label there!





During the holiday Zayd Moosa participated in the Limpopo Impala Cricket U/17 trials, where he was selected to be part of the Training Squad for the team. This team will tour to Eastern Gauteng from 7 - 10 December 2023.



by Ilne Kotzé

My family and I went to Sodwana Bay this past holiday to complete our NAUI Open Water Scuba Diving qualifications. After fairly rough sea conditions the first day and a rainy second day, the weather turned out quite well the last couple of days. The marine life is spectacular, and something everyone should see. We saw three different species of sharks and sting rays, two electric eels, and lots of beautiful and colourful types of fish.

SCUBA DIVING



SNAPSHOT

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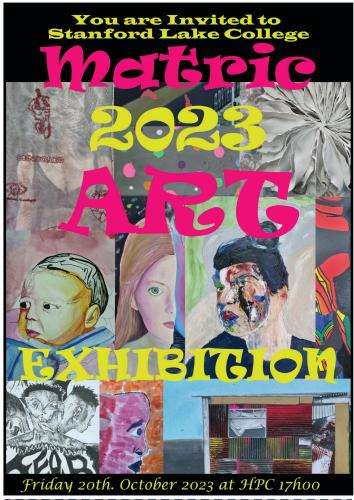


by Gordon Noel

The Limpopo Schools' XCO MTB Series was held in the third school term of this year. The series consisted of 4 XCO events hosted by various schools across Limpopo. The final event of the series was successfully hosted by Stanford Lake College with over 400 school riders participating on the day.

I completed the Limpopo Schools' Series finishing in 1st place in the Youth Men age group. I received my Limpopo schools colours and was selected to race for Stanford Lake College as well as Limpopo at the Schools National event held at Hoërskool Wagpos in Brits on the weekend of the 30th September and 1st of October 2023.

It was a hot weekend in Brits and the track was dry, loose and dusty. I raced for Stanford on Saturday and without a seeding for the day it was a tough race fighting to make up places over each of the four laps. I completed the race in 7th position. On Sunday I raced in Limpopo Colours and finished in 6th place overall. A great big thank you to Mr Fullard for all the support in the tech zone on both days. I was very proud to represent my school at National level.





Seven Stanfordians represented the Limpopo-A and Limpopo-B Fly Fishing Teams during the SA Youth Nationals held in Douglas during the holidays. The Limpopo-A team were crowned SA champs for the second year in a row. Luke Fairhead was the awarded as SA champ and David Mulder finished in 6th place overall.



