

NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2025 | ISSUE 3



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Term 3

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, 30 June

School Re-Opens

Tuesday, 22 July

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Wednesday, 23 July

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thursday, 24 July

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Tuesday, 29 July

Photo Day

Friday, 1 August

Yellowwoods Hockey
Festival

Saturday, 2 August

Kat River School
Color Run

Wednesday, 6 August

Term 2 Ends

Dear Parents & Guardians,

WRITTEN BY MRS PAINTER, HEAD OF SCHOOL

As we reach our half term, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every member of our school community. It has been a busy and rather chilly term so far, and we are deeply grateful for the much-needed rain that has nourished our land.

This year, our school has placed a strong focus on *community service*, and I must say, I have been incredibly touched by the response from our learners and their families. The generous donations of food and clothing for our local soup kitchen were truly heartwarming. A sincere thank you to all the learners and parents who contributed so kindly.

Delivering these donations was an eye-opening experience. It reminded us just how fortunate many of us are - to have warm clothes, hot meals, and comfortable beds to sleep in. Sadly, there are many children in our own community who go without these basic comforts and who depend on the soup kitchen for their daily nourishment. The empathy and willingness to help shown by our learners makes me proud beyond words.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend our learners not only for their generosity, but also for their conduct. Whether they are in the classroom, on the sports field, or representing our school in any setting, their good manners and respectful behaviour reflect positively on our entire school community. A reminder to all our learners: when you wear the school uniform, you carry with you the values and reputation of our school. Let kindness, integrity, and good manners always be your guide.

As we head into the short mid-term break, I encourage all families to spend quality time together and to celebrate the efforts and achievements of your children so far this term. They have worked hard, and we are proud of their progress and perseverance.

To our dedicated staff—thank you for your tireless commitment and passion for educating and nurturing our learners. Your hard work never goes unnoticed.

Wishing all our families a restful and refreshing break.

Warm regards,
Mrs Painter



Alunga, Olothando, Nizibone, Talitha, Kulowo and Indiphile posing in their pajamas.

Pre-Grade R News WRITTEN BY AUNTY TEDDY

We are delighted to share the wonderful experiences our preschoolers have enjoyed during the first half of this second term.

Each day begins with great enthusiasm as our children participate in their beloved morning song and dance sessions, which are the highlight of their daily routine.

Our young learners have embraced a variety of creative activities, including painting, art projects, and imaginative play with play-dough. These hands-on experiences have fostered their creativity and supported the development of their fine motor skills.

We have also explored several fascinating topics so far. We started with seasonal themes, focusing on Autumn and Winter, which allowed the children to observe and understand the natural changes around them. We also spent time learning about families, exploring the concepts of day and night, and discovering our five senses.

I am very proud of our girls who have begun their netball journey, displaying wonderful enthusiasm and team spirit.

We had a great time coming to school in our pajamas on Friday, June 6th. Aunty Thabi captured some lovely moments with her camera. On Friday, June 13th, we celebrated Youth Day at school with a fun-filled sports day.

The children had their faces painted and took part in running races, three-legged races, and sack races — creating lasting memories while promoting physical activity and healthy competition.



Lunake, Babalo, Iyona, Sibuve and Nozinga celebrating Pajama day in style.



Likhaya busy painting his art for National Bee Day.



Unabantu helping Imfu with his "sack race" during the sports day.



Mukundi busy painting her National Bee Day Art.



Hinaye during their Sport Lesson.

Lizelade with all the clothes she donated to the Newtown Soup Kitchen's children.



Pre-Primary News

WRITTEN BY AUNTY THABI

Our Grade R learners began the term on a high note, showing great enthusiasm and dedication towards improving their handwriting and letter formation. We are proud to share that they have also started reading three-letter words and are making remarkable progress.

This term, we explored a variety of engaging themes, including Safety, My Family, and the Autumn Season. The learners gained valuable knowledge about road safety and the meaning of traffic lights. During our discussions on autumn, they discovered how nature changes with the seasons and how animals prepare for the colder months ahead.

One of the highlights of the term was a nature walk through the orchards, where learners had the opportunity to connect their learning to the real world. Another favourite moment was our fun-filled Pajama Day, where everyone came dressed in their cozy sleepwear and enjoyed a wonderful time together.



Beloved and Lizelade, ready to run their race.



Lizelade and Akhela during their race.



Akhela, Hlela, Hinaye, Lizelade and Liyo showing off their beautiful art for National Bee Day.



Luphiwo, Oluthando and Lugcobo, very excited to spend their "Bee Bucks"!



Oluthando and Luphiwo celebrating "Ascension Day".

Grade 1 News WRITTEN BY MISS BOTHA

This term has been a busy and educational one so far, filled with exciting milestones and meaningful experiences. Our Grade 1 learners began writing spelling tests for the very first time — a big step in their learning journey — and they have done exceptionally well so far. It's been a joy to see their growing confidence and pride in their achievements.

One of our highlights this term was celebrating 100 years of the Afrikaans language on the 8th of May. The classroom was full of giggles and smiles as learners shared their favourite Afrikaans words with their classmates, creating a truly joyful and memorable experience.

We've also focused on building empathy and kindness in our children. The Grade 1 class, alongside some of our senior learners, visited the Newtown Soup Kitchen to deliver donated food and clothing. This visit was not only a humbling experience but also an opportunity to teach our learners about caring for others and the importance of giving back.

So many wonderful memories have already been made, and I look forward to creating many more in the second half of the term. Wishing all our families a restful mid-term break — I am excited for a productive and eventful remainder of Term 2!



Lugcobo being extremely proud and happy for getting full marks in his spelling test.



Our Grade 1's celebrating Yaseen and Oluthando's birthday.



Liphathwe with her beautiful Art for World Ocean Day.



Aluthando, Logan, Usisipho and Lunje with their World Ocean Day Art.



Grade 2 & 3's celebrating Jamal's birthday.



Ethelwe and Siphosenkosi with their World Ocean Day Art.

Grade 2 & 3 News

WRITTEN BY MRS CAVANAGH

What a busy yet fun-filled term we have had together! It has truly been a joy to return and spend time with each of you, getting to know your unique personalities and teaching you in ways that cater to your individual strengths and interests.

We kicked off the term on a high note, diving into our academic subjects with enthusiasm. This term, we explored several new concepts in Mathematics, and I am thrilled to see how many of you have made remarkable progress in your reading skills. Your hard work and dedication are commendable, and it's rewarding to see you grow in your abilities.

We also had the opportunity to celebrate several special days throughout the term. We expressed our creativity by making art for occasions such as World Ocean Day and Bee Day, allowing us to learn while having fun. It was wonderful to see everyone's artistic talents shine!

One of the highlights of our term was the Bedford Festival, where many of our learners participated, showcasing their skills and spirit. The festival was a fantastic experience, and it was heartwarming to witness everyone enjoy it so much. Additionally, we celebrated Youth Day with some exciting soccer matches against our interhouse teams. What a fun day that was! A special congratulations to Star Ruby (red house) for your victory on the day—well done!

As we approach the half-term break, I hope you take this time to relax and recharge. Use this opportunity to enjoy your holiday with family and friends, and come back feeling refreshed and ready for the upcoming assessments. Remember, your hard work will pay off, and I believe in each one of you!

Enjoy your holiday, and I look forward to seeing all of you back, ready to continue our learning journey together.

Grade 4 & 5 News

WRITTEN BY MISS HOMAN

As we reach the midpoint of the term, we are thrilled to reflect on the exciting learning journey our Grade 4 and 5 learners have embarked on over the past few weeks. It's been a busy and fulfilling time in our classroom, filled with creativity, curiosity, and collaboration!

This term in English, we explored the art of letter writing and learned how to express our thoughts in friendly letters. The learners also put their persuasive hats on and created some eye-catching advertisements – we were blown away by their imagination and persuasive flair! Reading *Revolting Rhymes* by Roald Dahl brought loads of laughter and enjoyment, as the learners loved his wicked twists and rhyming tales.

In Afrikaans, learners prepared and delivered their own orals with growing confidence. We explored the future tense ("toekomende tyd") and tackled comprehension activities that helped sharpen our reading and understanding skills. Mooi gedoen, almal!

Our budding scientists explored the wonderful world of solids, liquids, and gases. We delved into the water cycle and were amazed at how nature recycles water. We've just begun our exciting new unit on raw and manufactured materials – there's so much more to discover in the second half of the term!

In Mathematics, learners tackled improper, common, and mixed fractions like pros. We also explored the concepts of mass and conversion, building on previous knowledge and developing new skills along the way. It's been fantastic to see their confidence grow with every lesson.

I am incredibly proud of the effort, enthusiasm, and perseverance every learner has shown. I'm already looking forward to all the learning and fun that awaits us in the second half of the term. Enjoy a well-deserved break, rest up, and don't forget to pick up a good book during the holidays – reading is a wonderful adventure you can take from anywhere!



Learners busy in Decoupage club.



Grade 4's & 5's celebrating Pajama Day.



Grade 4 & 5 class in the Computer Room.



Grade 6's & 7's busy working out a "path" during a Coding & Robotics lesson.



Unabantu busy creating a 3D object during Mathematics.



Singalaka and Gqwesa busy with a Project Based Learning activity on "Oil Spills".

Our Grade 6 and 7 students in their cosy Pajamas.



Grade 6 & 7 News

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

What an exciting and productive term it has been for our Grade 6 and 7 learners!

In Technology, we explored the world of computers and how they are programmed. Learners gained valuable insight into coding and how technology influences our everyday lives. Through engaging lessons, they began to understand the logic behind computer programming.

Our Project-Based Learning (PBL) journey challenged learners to think critically, work collaboratively, and problem-solve as they investigated ways to clean up oil spills. This hands-on project encouraged innovation and teamwork as learners designed and tested their own small-scale cleanup models.

In Mathematics, we focused on practical, hands-on activities to deepen learners' visual understanding of concepts. By connecting maths to real-life situations, learners developed a stronger grasp of geometry, measurement, and data handling.

A highlight of the term was our Pajama Day, where learners arrived at school in their coziest attire in exchange for donating canned food. Thanks to everyone's generosity, it was a massive success and a wonderful way to give back to the community.



Tafara and Gqwesa busy with Coding & Robotics.

Sport News

NETBALL

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

This term has been an exciting and rewarding journey for our netball teams! The girls had fantastic exposure and gained valuable experience by participating in multiple matches throughout the term.

We had the privilege of playing against strong teams from BCS, Yellowwoods Primary school, Fort Beaufort Primary School, and Newtown Primary School. Each game presented its own challenges and learning moments, helping us grow not only as a team but as individual players.

These matches allowed us to identify areas where we could improve and motivated us to work harder during our practices. The team showed great determination, resilience, and a positive attitude both on and off the court.

We are incredibly grateful for the opportunities we've had to deepen our knowledge of the sport and develop our skills. It has been wonderful to see the players grow in confidence, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The girls have done exceptionally well so far, and we are beyond proud of their progress and commitment. We look forward to building on this momentum in the upcoming term!



Netball girls during Netball practice.



Our under 9 girls playing against Newton Primary School.

HOCKEY

WRITTEN BY MISS BOTHA



Under 13 hockey players during a fitness drill.



Our under 9 hockey team after a hockey match against Yellowwoods.

As we reach the midpoint of Term 2, it's exciting to reflect on the remarkable progress made by our hockey players this season. From our junior to senior phase teams, it's clear that dedication, teamwork, and consistent practice have paid off.

Since the beginning of the season, our players have shown impressive improvement — not only in their skills but also in their confidence and teamwork on the field. They've had numerous opportunities to compete against other schools, showcasing their talent and determination with pride.

A standout moment was our participation in the Bedford Country School Sports Festival, where our teams performed exceptionally well.

Looking ahead, we are eager for the upcoming fixtures during the remainder of Term 2. These games provide the perfect platform to continue building on the experience and skills gained so far.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to every player for the time and effort they put into their weekly practices. Your commitment does not go unnoticed — hard work truly pays off!

We encourage all players to continue showing pride and perseverance — both on and off the field. Let's keep pushing forward and finish the season strong!



Our under 11 hockey team celebrating victory against Yellowwoods.

RUGBY

WRITTEN BY COACH SYDNEY AND COACH DHILLEN

This term has seen outstanding growth and determination from our rugby players across all age groups. Both junior and senior players have made impressive progress, showing dedication, enthusiasm, and a true love for the sport.

Throughout the term, players have taken great strides in their skill development. Passing has become more accurate and consistent, with juniors mastering the basics and seniors executing swift, precise passes even under pressure.

Tackling has improved significantly - players now show more confidence and better technique. Ball-handling skills have also seen marked progress, with better control and fewer turnovers, especially in fast-paced moments.

Our players are now more confident in rucks and mauls, demonstrating a solid understanding of body positioning and possession tactics.

One of the highlights of the season has been the strong sense of teamwork. Senior players have stepped up as leaders, supporting their younger teammates and creating a positive, inclusive team spirit. Communication on the field has improved remarkably, resulting in better coordination, clearer calls, and smarter play during matches.

As we look ahead to the next half of the term, our focus will shift to more advanced gameplay. This includes introducing new attacking patterns and defensive strategies, while continuing to strengthen core skills and promote rugby's values.

Our coaching team is proud of the effort and growth shown this term and excited to build on this momentum in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all our players for their hard work and commitment. We can't wait to see what the next chapter holds.

Keep rucking on!



Under 9 rugby boys in Bedford during a rugby match.



Jamal in action during a rugby match at the Bedford Sports Festival.



Kat River Valley Preparatory School staff and Parents cheering on the athletes for our Sports Day.