

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 6



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Dear Parents, Guardians & Friends

WRITTEN BY MRS PAINTER, HEAD OF SCHOOL

As the end of 2025 approaches, I find myself filled with immense gratitude and pride for what we have achieved together this year. It has been a year of hard work, growth, and some unforgettable moments.

First, a huge congratulations to every single learner for the incredible effort they put into preparing for our annual Carol Service Concert. The hours of practice, the patience during rehearsals, and the sheer joy you brought to the evening were truly moving. You made our school shine – well done!

Academically, this has been a great year. The progress our learners have made – from Pre-Primary right through to Grade 7 – has been remarkable. The progress reflects the dedication of our learners and the commitment of our exceptional staff. Thank you to every teacher who supported, encouraged and believed in our children every step of the way.

A very special thank you must go to Leroy, our devoted Chess coach. Leroy, you have given countless hours of your personal time to train our chess teams, travelling with them to every tournament and celebrating every victory and encouraging them after every tough match. Because of your passion and sacrifice, our team have achieved results we have never seen before, and, more importantly, our learners have fallen in love with the game. Your contribution to Kat River Valley Prep has been nothing short of massive, and we are deeply grateful.

Today we say a very sad goodbye to Aunty Teddy, but we do so with hearts full of gratitude and love. Aunty Teddy has been more than a teacher - she's been a warm heart, a gentle guide, and a bright light in our pre-primary classroom everyday. She has always cared for our children, putting their happiness and growth first. You will have a special place in our hearts and the countless happy memories you have created here. We wish you well in your new adventures.

At Christmas, may we pause and hold close what matters most. There is no better treasure than the love of family – the hugs, the laughter. May the festive season bring you rest, joy and precious time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready, on Wednesday, 14 January 2026.

Wishing you a deeply joyful, blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy 2026.

IMPORTANT DATES

School Starts

Wednesday, 14 January 2026



Talitha enjoying her treats at the Pre-Primary fun day.



Pre-Primary learners painting at their fun day.

Pre-Primary News WRITTEN BY AUNTY TEDDY

As the year ends, I want to recognise the meaningful experiences we've shared.

This year has been filled with so much learning, play, and friendship-building. Our classroom has been alive with laughter, curiosity, and the joy of discovery as your children have grown in countless ways, creating beautiful memories together.

During the second part of this term, we explored a wide range of exciting topics! The children learned about various animals, including wild animals, farm animals, pets, reptiles, and even dinosaurs. We explored various types of transportation and prepared for the significant transition to Grade R. Of course, we also celebrated the magic of Christmas together.

Our swap day was a wonderful success, and the pre-Grade R learners had an amazing time visiting the Grade R classroom as they absolutely loved it! On November 14th, we had our Fun Day, which was truly unforgettable. The children bounced on the jumping castle, splashed in the pool, enjoyed pizza, sweets, and ice cream, and had the best time with our water balloon fight.

We also worked very hard preparing for our carol service, and I couldn't have been prouder watching each child shine like a star during their performance.

Teaching your children this year has been my greatest blessing. I have loved being part of their lives and watching them grow. Each child holds a special place in my heart, and I will miss them dearly. I wish them all the very best as they continue their learning journey.

Thank you for trusting me with your precious little ones.



Lunake decorating the Christmas Tree.



Olothando enjoying painting at the Pre-Primary fun day.



Pre-Primary learners getting their special treats at their fun day.



Beloved busy painting at the fun day.



Grade R News

WRITTEN BY AUNTY THABI

This has been an exciting term, with learners enthusiastically preparing for the Carol Service. The Grade R learners have worked diligently to improve their handwriting and reading skills.

Throughout the term, we explored a range of themes including Spring, Jobs People Do, Farm Animals, Reptiles, Wild animals (the Big Five), Birds, The Solar System and Dinosaurs. The learners particularly enjoyed our discussions about the solar system and how the planets orbit around the sun. They loved singing the songs about the planets and continents.

One of the highlights was our fun day, where learners had a wonderful time outdoors, enjoying the jumping castle, swimming and ending the day with pizza and sweets.

My wonderful Grade R's, what an incredible journey we've had this year. I have watched you learn, laugh, and grow into confident, curious learners. As you step into Grade 1, remember how capable and special you are. Believe in yourself, be brave and never stop exploring.

I will always be proud of you. ❤️



Lizelande cutting out wild animals.



Hlela enjoying the Pre-Primary fun day.



Beloved and Lizelande getting into the Christmas spirit.



Hinaye busy painting at the Pre-Primary fun day

Grade 1 learners busy building their Tiny Town.



Isolam enjoying the Scavenger Hunt at their fun day

Grade 1 News WRITTEN BY MISS BOTHA

What an incredible year it has been for our Grade 1s! This third term was especially busy and wonderfully successful. One of the biggest highlights was the creation of our very own “Tiny Town.” As part of our Life Skills topic on different houses and maps, the children worked together to build a miniature community filled with creativity, teamwork, and imagination. They were so proud of their creation and loved showing it off to the rest of the school—and of course, playing with it every single day!

This term, our brave Grade 1s also each received their very own poem, which they rehearsed and then confidently performed in front of the whole class. It was such a special experience, and they all did beautifully!

Our Grade 1s have performed exceptionally well in their assessments, too. Each child has shown growth, confidence, and a strong work ethic. They can be truly proud of how far they have come since walking into Grade 1 at the start of the year—there has been so much improvement, maturity, and positive change.

We wrapped up the year with a super fun class party, complete with scavenger hunts, pin the tail on the donkey, swimming, and endless laughter on the jumping castle. It was the perfect way to celebrate a year filled with learning, friendships, and unforgettable moments.

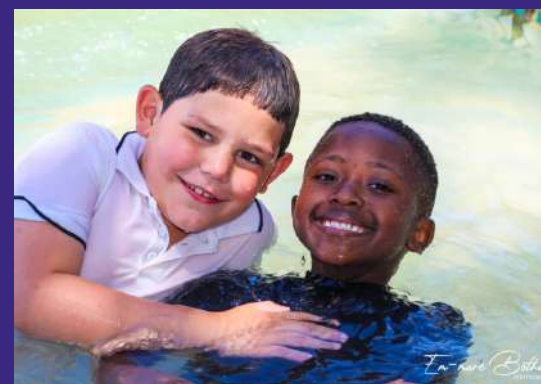
Thank you to all our children for a fantastic year. Wishing everyone a wonderful, restful holiday—you all deserve it!



Liphathwe hard at work in Number Sense.



Grade 1 learners posing with Mr Potato & Miss Avocado



Logan and Lugcobo enjoying a dip in the pool.



Grade 1 learners received Bee Bucks for getting full marks in their Spelling Tests.



Luphiwo smiling from ear to ear.



Chulumanco building a house with 2D shapes.



Grade 2's & 3's enjoying a dip in the pool.



Ethelwe sending a letter to Santa.



Atarah, Azingce, Jamal & Logan in their Halloween Costumes.



Jamal creating pictures with 2D shapes.

Grade 2 & 3 News

WRITTEN BY MRS CAVANAGH

As we reach the end of a wonderful year, I would like to reflect on the excitement, growth, and joy we shared throughout the term.

Our Grade 2 learners mastered a brand-new skill—cursive writing! They amazed me with how quickly and beautifully they took to it. They also worked hard on learning their times tables and used 2D shapes to create their own imaginative pictures.

Our Grade 3 learners shone brightly as they mastered division. Their curiosity pushed them even further as they eagerly took on the challenge of long division, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They also explored their creativity by designing their own pictures using 2D shapes.

Both grades had a wonderful soccer season, ending with a fantastic match against Yellowwoods. Our Fun Day was another highlight—filled with laughter, scavenger hunts, pizza, and of course, plenty of swimming! With Christmas around the corner, the excitement grew as the children wrote their special wish lists to Santa Claus. And as always, the Carol Service was a beautiful way to end the year.

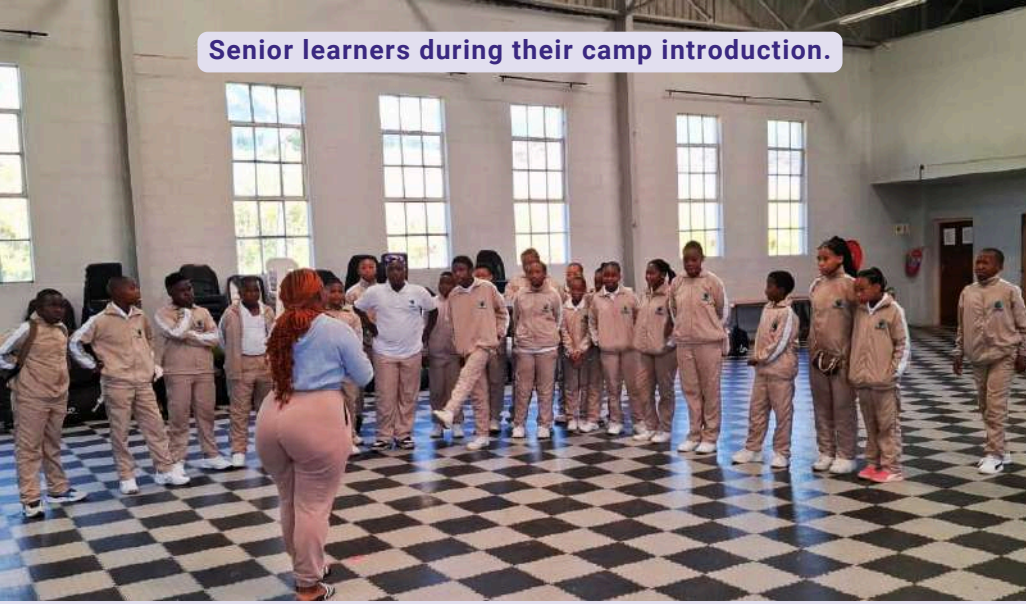
To all my Grade 2 and 3 learners—thank you for a truly wonderful year! And to all the parents - thank you for your support, encouragement, and involvement.

Wishing you and your families a joyful holiday season filled with love, laughter, and precious memories.

Enjoy the holiday!

Warm regards,
Mrs Cavanagh

Senior learners during their camp introduction.



Buncwane busy digging on the beach.

Grade 4 & 5 News WRITTEN BY MISS HOMAN

From sleepless nights over long division to uncovering the mysteries of our solar system, this term has been unforgettable! Our learners grew far beyond the pages of their textbooks—turning challenges into triumphs and curiosity into real understanding.

In Maths, we explored measurement, tackled area and perimeter, dove into fractions, and finally conquered long division! We even became mini cartographers while learning grid references.

In English, our communication skills blossomed through prepared and unprepared orals, creative writing, and a thrilling Halloween story that sparked imagination.

Afrikaans kept us on our toes as we mastered tricky tenses, strengthened our reading, and became more confident with language rules.

Natural Science took us on a cosmic adventure through Earth, the Sun, and the Moon—myths busted and facts discovered! Creating our own solar systems was a highlight, as was learning about endangered animals and how our choices impact the world around us

Our senior outing to LekkerOord Campsite was the cherry on top! Rain or shine, we enjoyed beach games, team-building challenges, great food, and unforgettable laughter with friends.

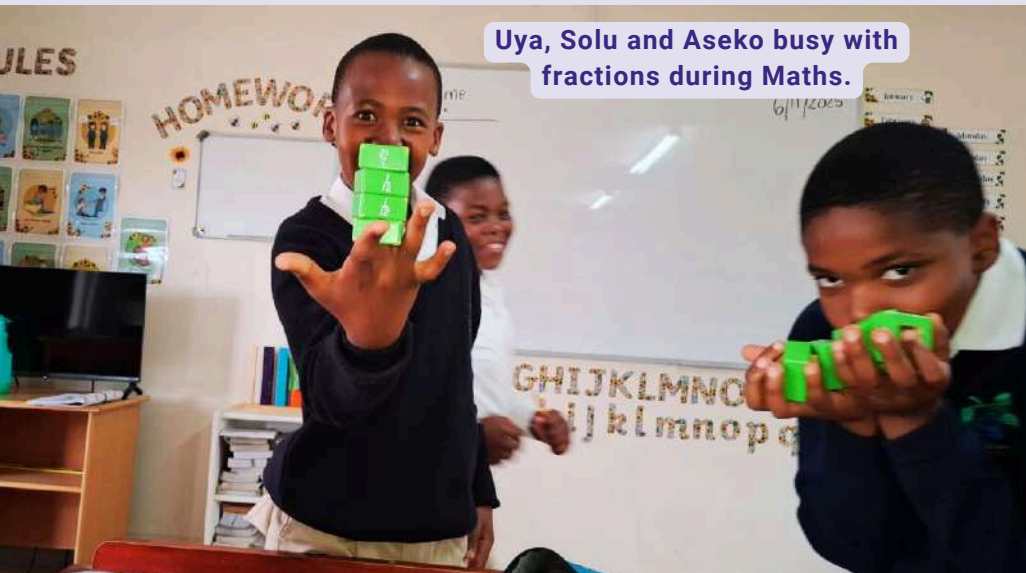
As we close this incredible year, we celebrate more than academics—we celebrate growth, friendships, confidence, and lifelong lessons. Here's to the memories we've made and the bright futures ahead! ★



Our seniors on their way to their camp.



Solu, Asekho and Hlalumi, making their telephones.



Uya, Solu and Aseko busy with fractions during Maths.



Hlalumi, Onika and Haylen working on their Solar Systems.

Grade 6 & 7 News

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

Learning, creating, and growing together. This term has been filled with exciting hands-on learning experiences that encouraged creativity, teamwork, and real-world problem-solving. Our learners had the opportunity to explore science, arts, and social studies in meaningful and engaging ways.

In PBL, the Grade 6 and 7 learners proudly showcased their solar ovens and homemade kites. These practical projects allowed them to apply scientific thinking, test ideas, and see the results of their hard work in action. In Mathematics, the Gr.6 learners deepened their understanding of volume by measuring, comparing, and building 3D objects—turning abstract concepts into tangible learning.

The senior phase outing was a major highlight. Learners participated in a range of team-building challenges that required communication, perseverance, and supporting one another, especially in moments of failure. This valuable experience reminded them that teamwork and resilience are essential life skills.

In Social Sciences, learners explored children's rights, creating eye-catching posters that demonstrated both creativity and empathy. They also began planning their own voyages, imagining life as early explorers and gaining a deeper understanding of past civilizations, travel challenges, and global connections.

Our dramatic talents also shone brightly this term as learners prepared and performed short drama pieces, gaining confidence while learning to express themselves effectively on stage.

As we reflect on an exciting and productive term filled with discovery, creativity, and growth, we also take a moment to bid a sad but proud farewell to our Grade 7 learners. They have been leaders, role models, and an important part of our school community. We wish them every success as they take on new challenges in high school, and we hope they carry the lessons, memories, and friendships from their time with us into this next chapter of their journey.

Written By:
Miss B



Eldana & Liminathi with their Solar System Project.



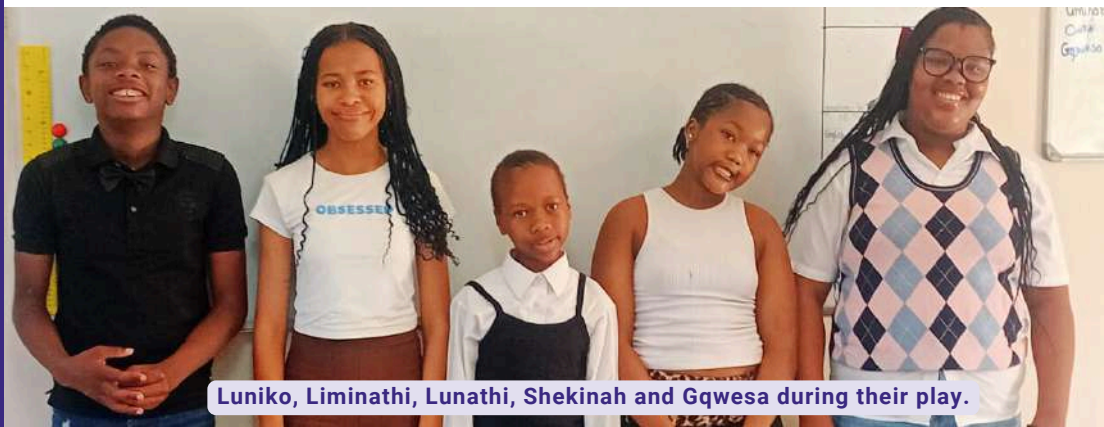
Unabantu acting out for her play.



Mazvita working on volume during Mathematics.



Eldana & Tafara with their Solar Oven



Luniko, Liminathi, Lunathi, Shekinah and Gqwesa during their play.



Grade 6 & 7's acting out their play, in front of the audience.

Sport News

SOCCER

WRITTEN BY COACH SYDNEY

Our young players have shown outstanding progress this term, demonstrating stronger skills, better teamwork, and growing confidence. They've learned new techniques, improved communication, and supported one another consistently. Their dedication is paying off, and they are steadily moving toward greatness. Above all, they've embraced key values—discipline, respect, effort, and resilience. It has been a privilege watching them grow as both players and teammates.

Coach Sydney



Juniors during their soccer match.



Junior soccer players after their victory against Yellowwoods.



Juniors during tennis practice drill.



TENNIS

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

During the second half of the term, our focus was on building essential foundation skills for the young players. Learners practised activities designed to strengthen coordination, helping them control their movements with greater accuracy. We also worked on crossing the midline, which supports better body awareness and smoother racquet handling. In addition, targeted drills helped improve their reflexes, allowing them to react faster to moving balls. Together, these skills laid an important groundwork for more confident and effective tennis play.



Junior tennis players during practice.

CHESS

WRITTEN BY LEROY MAISIRI

The Kat River Valley Chess Club has had an incredible year and made sure to end it on a strong note. After completing all our circuit tournaments within the Sarah Baartman District, we honoured an invitation to compete in the Amathole Chess League.

The chess club brought home more medals and trophies than any other school, officially crowning Kat River Valley as the Amathole Chess League Champions! We received two trophies and six medals in total from our ten players who competed.

Congratulations to the following players:

1. **Eldana Tadesse** – Gold Medal & Trophy (U14)
2. **Liminathi Mangcotywa** – Gold Medal & Trophy (U12)
3. **Tafara Munchenje** – Silver Medal (U14)
4. **CJ Janeke** – Silver Medal (U14)
5. **Liyabonga Qupe** – Silver Medal (U12)
6. **Kwanga Jebe** – Bronze Medal (U12)

We also extend our congratulations for the incredible performances by Achumile Makwetu, Luniko Ntengu, Lunathi Ntoli, and Unabantu Jebe. As the year wraps up, eight players from the Kat River Valley team have been handpicked to compete in the MyMzasi National Chess Tournament taking place from 14–20 December, the biggest chess event in South Africa.

We are proud to celebrate the following players who secured places on the official Eastern Cape Provincial Team:

- **Saron Tadesse** – U10 Girls – Full Colours
- **Eldana Tadesse** – U14 Girls – Full Colours
- **Kwanga Jebe** – U12 Girls – Full Colours
- **Unabantu Jebe** – U14 Girls
- **Liminathi Mangcotywa** – U12 Girls – Full Colours
- **Achumile Makwetu** – U12 Boys – Full Colours
- **Tafara Munchenje** – U14 Boys – Full Colours
- **Liyabonga Qupe** – U12 Boys

What a remarkable achievement! In just one year, our chess club dominated two districts—Sarah Baartman and Amathole—and advanced straight to the Nationals.

We wish our travelling team all the best as they sacrifice part of their holiday to make our school and town proud.



Kwanga receiving her medal.



CJ receiving his medal.



Tafara & Eldana receiving their medals.



Liyabonga, Liminathi & Kwanga receiving their medals.



Achumile, Liminathi and Eldana during a chess game.



Carol Service







Gr. 7 Leavers Dinner





HAPPY HOLIDAYS!