

NEWSLETTER



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Term 2 Dates

Monday, 5 May

Staff Return

Wednesday, 7 May

School Starts

Friday, 20 June

School Ends - Half Term

Monday, 30 June

School Starts

Wednesday, 6 August

Term 2 Ends

WRITTEN BY MRS PAINTER, HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Thank you for your support this term as we've watched our students flourish in our happy learning environment.

Regular attendance is crucial for student success - being present daily ensures children don't miss important learning and social development opportunities.

We're noticing the negative impacts of **excessive screen time** on children's focus, sleep and social skills.

Please encourage reading, outdoor play and family time as healthier alternatives.

A very special thank you goes out to one of our parents, **Leroy Maisiri** who has generously volunteered his time to coach our chess team this term. His dedication has gone far beyond the chessboard—travelling long distances to accompany our students to tournaments and providing invaluable mentorship along the way. Thanks to his support, our chess team has performed exceedingly well, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements. **Thank you, Leroy, for your time, energy, and heart.**

As we break for holidays, I hope you all enjoy restful family time. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next term and thank our dedicated teachers and staff for their hard work.

Kindest Regards,

Mrs Painter



Marno enjoying himself on the slide,



Hlela enjoying himself on the swing during playtime.



Likhaya showing off his driving abilities.



Liyo making an outline of her body with Lego blocks.

Pre-Primary News

WRITTEN BY AUNTY THABI

We are delighted to see our learners engaging with a positive and eager attitude towards their education. It has been a fantastic term, and we are excited to share some of the highlights with you.

We are grateful to have Aunty Julie in our classroom, who has been a great help. Her support and dedication have been invaluable, and she has made a positive impact on the learner's daily experiences.

This term, we have explored the following themes: My body, Healthy living, Summer, and Shape & Colours. Our learners thoroughly enjoyed discovering more about their bodies and organs through interactive discussions and hands-on activities.

One of the highlights was creating body outlines using Lego bricks, which provided fun and creativity. One of our most enjoyable moments was Crazy Hair Day, where learners arrived with various creative hairstyles and vibrant colorful wigs, showcasing their enthusiasm and individuality.

We are looking forward to another exciting term filled with growth, discovery, and joy.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's learning journey.



Our Pre-Primary learners celebrating "Crazy Hair Day".

Grade 1's showing off their "Silly Socks"



Grade 1 News WRITTEN BY MISS BOTHA

What an incredible first term we've had with your wonderful children! As we wrap up these exciting first months of the school year, I'm delighted to share the highlights of our learning journey together.

Our Grade 1 learners have become safety superheroes these past weeks! They've learned about identifying dangerous situations and developed important skills for handling them.

From understanding "stranger danger" to knowing emergency contacts and safe meeting places, our little ones are growing more confident and capable every day.

The classroom has been buzzing with excitement over our "Bee Bucks" reward system! Students earned these special bucks for positive behaviour, completing work, and helping others. The joy on their faces, when they counted their savings and purchased real rewards from our class store, was truly priceless! This system has helped reinforce positive behaviours while teaching valuable lessons about saving and making choices.

We had so much fun with our Easter activities! The egg hunt brought squeals of delight as children searched high and low for hidden treasures. Their creativity shone brightly in our Easter egg art competition, with colourful designs and imaginative patterns.

As we close this wonderful first term, I wish all our families a peaceful and rejuvenating holiday break. Rest, play, and enjoy this special time together! I'm looking forward to an exciting and busy Term 2 filled with new adventures and continued growth.

Thank you for your partnership in your child's education!



Oluthando in his element during their Art Lesson.



Luphiwo showing off his "Bee Bucks".



Liphathwe enjoying matwork during Maths.



Isolam browsing through books at our Books2u event.



Jamal showing off his beautiful "space-theme art".



Siphosenkosi having fun during Mathematics.



Evandr  with his funky hat.

Juniors hard at work during hockey practice.



Grade 2 & 3 News

WRITTEN BY AUNTY TEDDY

During this last half of term 1, our second and third graders have experienced a remarkable journey of learning and joy this term.

As young scholars, they have made impressive strides in their academic pursuits while building lasting friendships and creating wonderful memories. The students demonstrated significant improvement in their reading abilities, mastering new vocabulary and comprehension skills.

They have learned more about time, and we have made our own clocks.

We also learned about our solar system, discovering fascinating facts about planets, stars, and the vast universe beyond our Earth.

Their curiosity and enthusiasm were truly stellar!

As the term is coming to an end, we have started with our preparations for Easter celebrations we made our Easter basket, participated in an Easter egg hunt, and Easter egg colouring competition.

I will truly miss the wonderful time spent with my Grade 2 & 3 learners once I transition back to my regular classroom. These students have made this temporary teaching experience a genuinely rewarding experience.



The Grade 2 students alongside Mr. Mohammed Abdi, who kindly purchased books for them.

Grade 4 & 5 News

WRITTEN BY MISS HOMAN

Wrapping up an inspiring term. The Grade 4 and 5 class has had an outstanding first term, demonstrating eagerness to learn, active engagement in classroom discussions, and exemplary behaviour throughout.

In Mathematics, learners worked diligently on rounding off, number ordering, numeric patterns, flow diagrams, long operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication), data handling, and fractions, showing remarkable improvement in their number sense and problem-solving abilities.

English lessons focused on creative writing, both prepared and unprepared reading activities, oral presentations, and understanding figurative language, while Afrikaans studies centered on vocabulary building, visual texts, and comprehension exercises.

Social Sciences provided differentiated learning with Grade 4 students exploring local history, different types of settlements, human needs, and transportation systems, while Grade 5 learners studied the San way of life, enhanced their map skills, learned about continents and provinces, and examined human activities and their environmental impact.

After a term filled with hard work, significant learning, and enjoyable activities, the class is ready for a well-deserved break before returning refreshed in May for Term 2.

Let the learners have their say,

Obakhe Saazone, " Our school feels like our home away from home", Kwanga Jebe, " In our class, we all help each other to improve and be better!"

Ettienne Wessels, " This school is our safe place, no one will hurt us here.",

Luqhamile Maxele, " Our teacher teaches us in a way that is simple and easy to understand!".

I am excited to see how learners will continue to build on their achievements and to continue strengthening core skills. I encourage all parents to stay engaged in their child's academic progress, as your support plays a vital role in their success.



Grade 4 & 5 boys with their "Silly Socks".



Grade 4 & 5 girls with their "Silly Socks".



Grade 4's & 5's on "Crazy Hair Day"



Our seniors battling it out on the hockey field.



Grade 6's & 7's busy with conservation training.



Our Grade 6 and 7 students proudly received certificates from Kwandwe Nature Reserve for completing the conservation course.



Unabantu, CJ and Luniko working on their presentation.

Grade 6 & 7 News

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

Grade 6 and 7 Students End Term 1 with Exciting Learning Experiences.

The Grade 6 and 7 students wrapped up the second half of Term 1 with hands-on learning and thrilling outdoor experiences. A key highlight was their exploration of wind-generated electricity, where they built their own wind turbines. This activity deepened their understanding of renewable energy and sparked interest in sustainable solutions.

In Social Sciences, students engaged in more research-based projects, improving their critical thinking and investigative skills. They explored historical and geographical topics, developing a greater appreciation for the world around them.

The term ended on a high note with a visit to Kwandwe Game Reserve. There, students learned about conservation efforts and the importance of protecting wildlife. A game drive gave them the opportunity to see animals in their natural habitat, reinforcing their studies on ecosystems and biodiversity.



Grade 6 & 7 girls on their Game Drive at Kwandwe Nature Reserve



CJ presenting his conservation presentation to the class.

Sport News

NETBALL

WRITTEN BY MISS BEZUIDENHOUT

The start of the netball season has been an exciting and promising one! Our focus during the first few practices has been on improving ball skills, with a strong emphasis on mastering footwork, following patterns, and staying within the designated side of the court. The girls have shown incredible enthusiasm and determination as they work on these fundamental skills, which are essential for their overall development in the game.

It's been great to see their excitement as they learn and grow together as a team. Their commitment to improving and their positive attitude makes every practice enjoyable, and I'm confident that this season will be filled with progress and success. I'm looking forward to what the rest of the netball season has in store for the girls, and I'm excited to continue watching them develop their skills and teamwork!



Haylen, Gqwesa and Eldana working on their Netball skills.



Juniors hard at work on the Netball court.



Obakhe working on her her passing skills.



Juniors playing a mini match during practice.



Senior hockey match during practice.



Buchule and Luniko fighting for the ball.

HOCKEY

What an incredible first term it has been for our hockey program! Our junior and senior players have made tremendous strides since those early training sessions.

Our juniors focused on mastering fundamental stick skills and positioning, while our seniors refined their tactical awareness and built their endurance. Across both squads, we've witnessed something special individuals becoming teammates who communicate effectively and support one another both on and off the field.

The early-season emphasis on team building has paid dividends. Players who once hesitated to call for passes now confidently direct play, showing how far they've come in trusting their teammates.

As we look forward to Term 2, excitement is building for our competitive matches. All the foundations we've established will be put into action as our players showcase their abilities against other schools. This is when we'll truly see our teams blossom.

I'm immensely proud of everyone's commitment and can't wait to see what we'll accomplish together next term!

WRITTEN BY MISS BOTHA

RUGBY

WRITTEN BY COACH SYDNEY

We're delighted with the progress this term. Junior and senior players have shown impressive improvements in passing accuracy, tackling technique, and overall skills development.

The teamwork has been outstanding. Experienced players have done a fantastic job supporting newcomers, and communication during games has strengthened considerably.

Fitness levels are rising across all age groups, with notable gains in agility and spatial awareness during our drills.

Next term we will build on these foundations with more complex play patterns while continuing to emphasize rugby's core values.

We're excited about your potential and look forward to seeing everyone back on the field!



Juniors doing rugby drills.



Oluthando showing off some skill with Chulumanco, Enzo & Elona during rugby practice.



Azingce in action.

KARATE

WRITTEN BY LEROY MAISIRI

The Kat River Valley Karate Club continues to thrive, with students developing in skill, confidence, and discipline. This past year, our karatekas have embraced core principles while growing stronger both physically and mentally.

We've welcomed several new students who recently completed their first term. Students have consistently improved their techniques, stamina, and understanding of karate fundamentals. Our recent assessment showed significant progress, with many students on track for belt advancement in June.

The club has fostered strong camaraderie and teamwork, with members motivating each other to excel. We've introduced sparring sessions to develop real-time techniques and prepare for competitions.

Our upcoming plans include belt grading exams, friendly inter-school competitions, and self-defence workshops.

We welcome new students of all experience levels to join us in mastering karate and challenging themselves.



Karatekas in action.



Leroy taking the lead during Karate practice.



Karatekas showing off their moves.

CHESS

WRITTEN BY LEROY MAISIRI



Achumile at the award ceremony.

The Kat River Valley Chess Club enjoyed an exceptional term marked by tournaments, strategic play, and player development.

Our school's chess program is flourishing!

The year began with a 5-week In-House Tournament where CJ won gold and became 2025 Chess Captain, demonstrating the impressive improvement of our players.



Kwanga receiving her medal.

Our club competed externally at the Alice Activation Tournament at University of Fort Hare, performing admirably against regional schools. Kwanga earned gold in the female section and CJ took silver in the under 14 category.

Recently, we focused on qualifying for the Sarah Baartman District Union, attending three major tournaments in Makhanda Grahamstown and Graff-Reint. Our first trial saw Achumile win gold with the club maintaining a 70% win rate. In the second trial,

Kat River Valley won the most medals of any school: Achumile (gold), Liyabonga (bronze), Kwanga (bronze), Tafara (bronze), and Eldana (silver). At our final tournament in Graff-Reint, Achumile and Unabantu secured silver medals while Eldana won gold. Remarkably, 90% of our players are now officially FIDE rated.



Achumile, Eldana & Unabantu with their well-deserved medals.