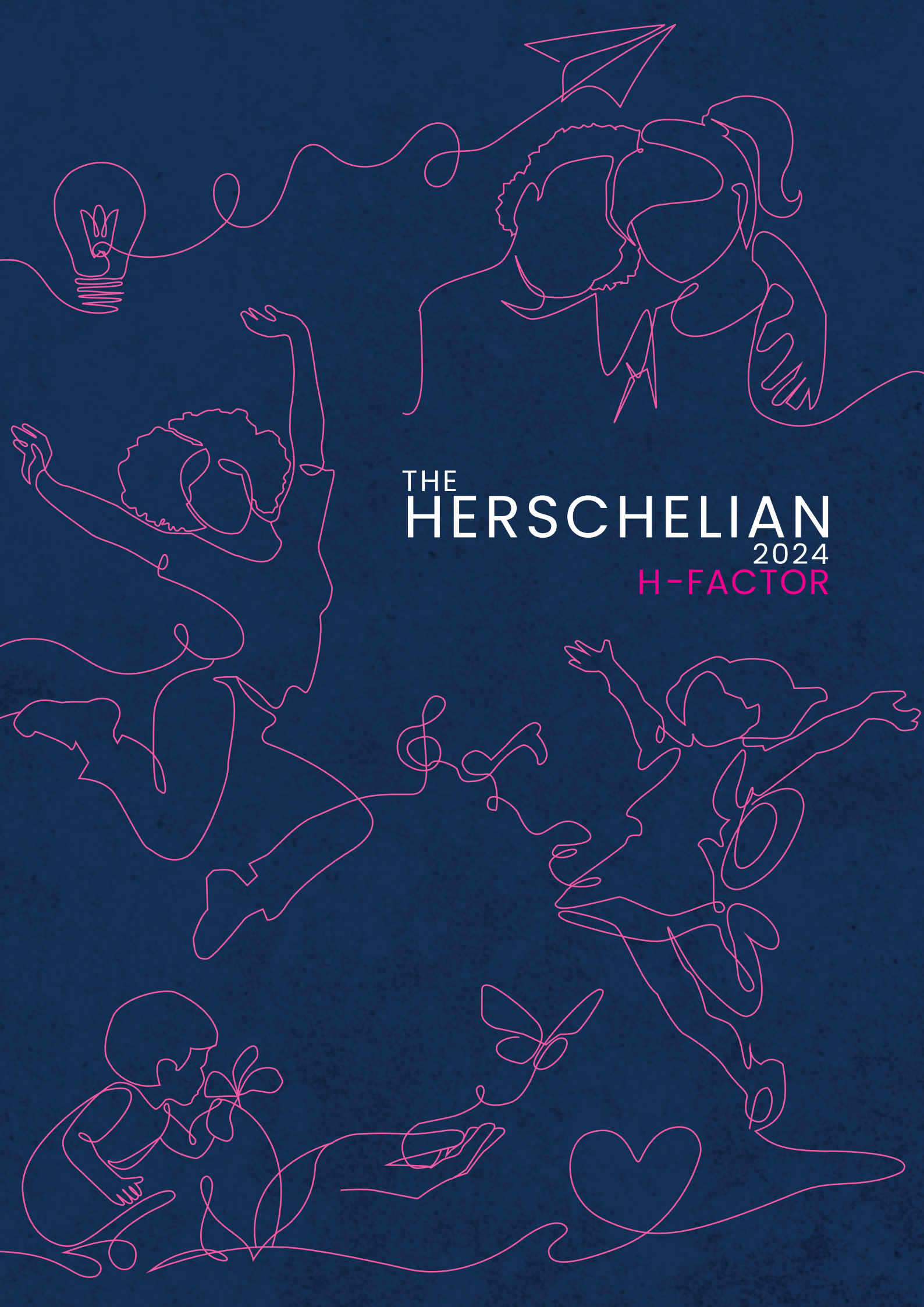




THE
HERSCHELIAN
2024
H-FACTOR

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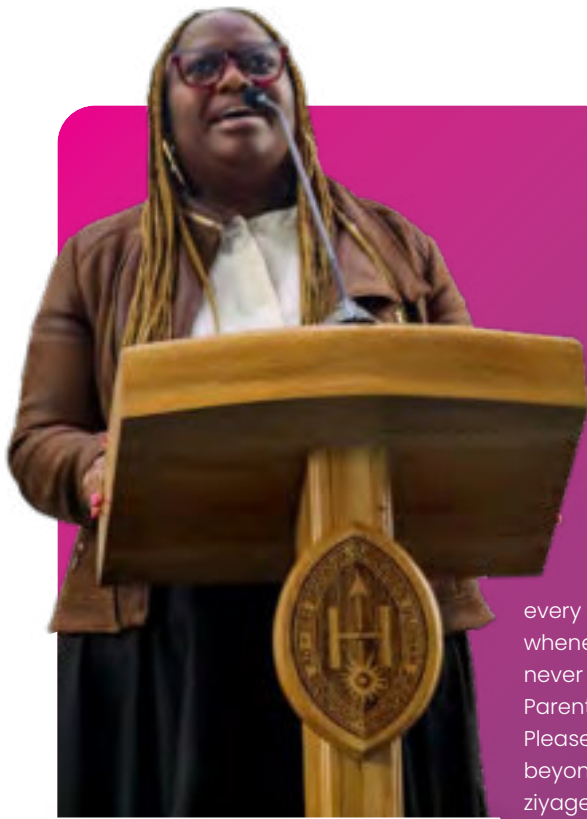
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CHAIRPERSON ADDRESS

by Mrs Tumelo Baloyi

Good morning, Molweni, Dumelang, Goeiemore to all students, parents, staff, special guests, and our matric class of 2024 as we gather to celebrate each of you reaching this significant milestone.

I stand before you as the chairperson of Herschel council, representing a dedicated governing board composed of diverse individuals who bring variety of skills to support the school's strategy and operations. More importantly, they bring their hearts, committed to seeing our students and school thrive. I extend my gratitude to the members present here today and those who could not attend.

A special thank you to Adv. Tracey Dicker, who is attending this valedictory as a proud Mom without the worry of preparing a speech as chair of the council, a role she fulfilled for five years. I also want to express my appreciation to Ms Siza Mazibuko and Mr Dawood Khan, whose tenure on the council has ended. Your service to Herschel is deeply valued and we warmly welcome the new Prep PA chair, Mr Gareth Hards-Williams, to Herschel Council.

Volunteerism is deeply in-built in the Herschel community. From pre-prep to senior school, I have witnessed parents actively participating in

every event and always stepping up whenever needed. This dedication is never taken for granted by council. Parents, we see and appreciate you. Please continue your good work, even beyond your years at Herschel. "Izandla ziyagezana", this is isiZulu Proverb That translates to "hands wash each other," emphasizing the importance of mutual support and cooperation. It reminds us that by helping others, we also help ourselves, fostering a sense of community.

To the Herschel staff, including our academic staff, admin, all campus employees and management and all our service providers, thank you for your unwavering dedication. You show up every day because of your commitment to the vision of helping our students thrive while learning to make a difference. The connections you build with your students is invaluable. Even at my age, I still fondly remember my teachers and the impact they had on my life. On Monday, October 5th, we celebrated Teachers' Day. Whether you received a note of thanks or not, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to you all.

To our Herschel Alumni Union members, I want you to know that through the leadership of HAU head Karen Meyer and council members Barbara Vincent and Emmanuel Tshala, your voice remains strong. Today, we entrust the class of 2024 into your capable hands. Please welcome them warmly. I also want to extend my gratitude to all the alumni who continue to return to Herschel to reconnect with our faculty and students. I encourage the class of 2024 to follow in their footsteps and stay connected with our community.

As we gather here, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress as a school we've made and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

- We've made great progress, from curriculum changes to facility upgrades. Our architecture plans for repurposing spaces in both prep and senior school are underway. We're committed to providing every student with a holistic education and essential resources.
- Our ambitious Vision 2040 project aims to position Herschel as a nurturing ground for students, preparing them for future challenges. We're already seeing significant shifts in STEM, social justice, digital transformation, renewable energy, environmental action, holistic health, and more. Thank you to everyone involved, including the various subcommittees like Education and ICT, Planning and Infrastructure, and Advancement Marketing.
- Our additional key priority is to continue to foster a supportive environment for all students from all backgrounds. We are committed to promoting equity and diversity, ensuring that every student feels valued and respected. This includes implementing programs that address the diverse needs of our student body and providing professional development for our staff to better support each other and our students.



TO CONTINUE READING, SCAN THE QR CODE.



ADIEUS LIZETTE ALEXANDER

written by Beth Gabriel

To my dear friend and colleague, Liz
It's hard to find the right words to say goodbye to someone as special as you. At first, it seemed like you lived in your own world – adorably ditzy, as if we might lose you in the middle of the street if we didn't keep an eye on you. I'll never forget those staffroom moments when we all laughed, and you would laugh along, not realising you were the joke. But beneath that light-hearted exterior was someone none of us fully expected – a brilliant, capable woman who took her job seriously and excelled at it beyond measure.

Your memory always amazed me – you could recall every single word from a meeting and knew every detail about the children you worked with. Your compassion and dedication to your job were undeniable, and your care for those close to you, including me, was deeply felt. You were always there to listen, to offer advice, and to lend a helping hand when it was needed most.

Losing you as a colleague feels like losing a part of what made our team whole. You are truly irreplaceable. Your quirky, compassionate, and intelligent self is something we will always remember and miss. Thank you for being the unique gem you are, and for touching our lives in ways we'll never forget.

Wishing you all the best in the next chapter of your journey.

With heartfelt appreciation and love,
Beth Gabriel

SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ MORE.



ADIEUS CAROL ALPERT

written by Alison Bodenstein

Carol's impact at Herschel
has been so varied:

I think of the passion and energy she has brought to her English classes, including FS English. I think she has the record of having had the largest FS class the school has ever had. It is her flair for acting, drama and general passion for life, the girls and for the subject that entrances the girls and I have often walked past her classroom and watched their faces as they wonder what Mrs Alpie will be up to today!

Carol has a passion for teaching literature, especially poetry where she enjoys sharing a love for the message rather than the technicalities that come with it.

Another area of her school involvement which has been really exceptional has been in the area of sunflowers or Rolt, something which is so close to her heart and maybe she will miss the most. I remember when the vertical tutor system was in its infancy and Michelle v Schalkwyk and I were thinking of possible House Directors which definitely had a different flavour from the Grade Heads. We both immediately thought of her as she embodied the soul of what we wanted in the house system. And, oh my word, she never disappointed.

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ADIEUS ALISON BAIKOFF

written by Linda Martin

It was with much sadness that we bid farewell to Alison Baikoff at the end of the second term – a dear friend to many and a highly respected colleague, who has been a cherished member of the Herschel Preparatory staff for almost seventeen years. As Head of Department, Alison has been the heart and soul of our Intersen Phase and a key member of the Executive Team for many years.

Alison was an inspirational leader and her unwavering dedication to excellence, her passion for teaching and her commitment to the success of her pupils and colleagues have left an indelible mark on Herschel. Her ability to inspire others, foster creativity and instill a lifelong love of learning, speaks to her unmatched talent and commitment.

Throughout her tenure, Alison successfully guided us through numerous challenges, from adapting to a shifting curriculum and introducing Integrated Studies, to leading the transition to online learning during COVID-19. She encouraged staff to continuously enhance their methodologies and embrace innovation in the classroom. Alison was always willing to share her knowledge and expertise. Her attention to detail was exemplary.

Alison leaves with the admiration and respect of all who have had the privilege of knowing and working with her. We acknowledge and thank her for her countless contributions to Herschel and the many lives she has touched. She leaves behind a distinct legacy and her impact will resonate for years to come. We will miss her and wish her happiness and fulfilment as she goes about the next exciting chapter of her life.



ADIEUS ALISON BODENSTEIN

written by Carol Alpert

I am so lucky to call you my friend and I could not have wished to teach alongside a more remarkable educator.

Alison has been teaching at Herschel for 25 years, more often than not, going beyond her role as an English teacher, driving broader advancements within the school's system, facilitating impactful clubs and societies; providing a space for her pupils that went so much further than the traditional Alison you have worn many hats of great significance.

You were the editor of the school magazine for several years, a role which was extremely appropriate for the grammar guru that you are. I am yet to meet an English teacher who understand the intricacies of grammar like you do.

As Grade 11 head, you coordinated the Grade 11 camps, organising incredible and inspirational speakers which I have no doubt have had a lasting impact on the very fortunate pupils! I went on several of these camps, and no school camps is without its surprises, but every situation was always handled with grace, even when Ali met Harry, the resident Alpha baboon in Simon's Town.

TO CONTINUE READING,
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ADIEUS EMILY ERASMUS

written by Malindri Eastes

Saying goodbye is never easy, but the Herschel community is deeply grateful for the time shared with Emily and for the significant contributions she has made to the team and students.

Although Emily's time at Herschel has been brief, her impact has been significant. Her passion for teaching and unwavering dedication to her students have been truly inspiring.

As she heads to Stellenbosch to pursue her Honours degree, her courage and determination to follow her dreams are commendable. Emily's energy and commitment promise great success in this new chapter, and we wish her well on this exciting new journey ahead.

Emily has left an indelible mark on Herschel through her kindness, wisdom, and care for the school community. It has been a privilege to work alongside her and witness her dedication firsthand. As she moves on to the next phase of her journey, she carries the community's admiration, gratitude, and best wishes.

The blessing from Numbers 6:24-26 serves as a fitting farewell: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace." The Herschel community wishes Emily courage and joy as she embarks on her next adventure, confident that she will continue to achieve greatness.



ADIEUS SHARMILA GORDON

written by Naseema Parker

Sharmila joined the Herschel team with a warmth and approachability that immediately made her a standout. From the very first day, she welcomed new colleagues with open arms, offering both guidance and friendship. For many, she became a source of strength – someone to rely on when times were tough, particularly during moments of personal struggle.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Sharmila's ability to connect with people made her a beloved figure among colleagues and students alike. She was known for her genuine ability to build relationships, nurturing an environment of trust and camaraderie. Her students, in particular, admired her selflessness and dedication to their success, always going the extra mile to ensure they felt supported.

While Herschel will miss Sharmila's presence, there is a deep sense of gratitude for the years she has given, and the many ways she has touched lives along the way. She leaves behind not just a legacy of hard work and dedication but also a network of friendships that will endure far beyond the walls of the office.

Sharmila's impact on Herschel is immeasurable. She has been an inspiration to all, showing what it means to be not only a dedicated professional but also a kind, compassionate, and loyal friend. While her colleagues are saddened to see her go, they know she is destined for great things. Sharmila will always have a special place in the hearts of everyone at Herschel, and her friendship will forever be treasured.



ADIEUS THANDI KAMUSHINDA

written by Malindri Eastes

Thandie's journey at Herschel has been one of grace and quiet strength. She has consistently demonstrated resilience and an unshakeable focus on her work and students. Her calm, compassionate presence and steadfast faith have been a source of inspiration to all. Thandie now prepares to complete her MBA and explore new opportunities, and we wish her well on her path ahead.

Thandie has left an indelible mark on Herschel through her kindness, wisdom, and care for the school community. It has been a privilege to work alongside her and witness her dedication firsthand. As she moves on to the next phase of her journey, she carries the community's admiration, gratitude, and best wishes.

The Herschel community wishes Thandie courage and joy as she embarks on her next adventure, confident that she will continue to achieve greatness.



ADIEUS LINDA MARTIN

written by Mrs Reneë Swartz

A Pillar of Strength and Support. Jim Collins, in his book 'Good to Great', makes a profound statement: "People are not your greatest asset. The RIGHT people are." Linda Martin was the right person at the right time for Herschel. She held the right space, added the right value, and, in doing so, became an indispensable part of our school community.

When I think of Linda, I see a woman of strength. Her strength was not just in the roles she held but in the way she carried them – with steadfast resolve, wisdom, and an unwavering commitment to the people around her. As Deputy Principal, she was a consistent but powerful force, anchoring the school through a time of transition. When I needed support stepping into my role as Head of the Preparatory School, Linda was there – not just to hold the fort, but to hold space, ensuring that Herschel remained steady and strong.

Leadership is often measured by influence, and Linda's influence was felt in every corner of our school. She navigated challenges with resilience, met obstacles with solutions, and fostered a sense of unity among staff and pupils. She led unpretentiously, but with purpose, proving that true strength is not about asserting power but about enabling others to thrive.

TO CONTINUE READING,
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ADIEUS MARGOT ROEBERT

written by Anne Lewis

After 24 years of dedicated service at Herschel, we bid a heartfelt farewell to Margot, our remarkable Technology and Natural Sciences teacher. Her influence has left an indelible mark on both pupils and colleagues alike. Leading by example and with energy and passion, she showed pupils that there is nothing they can't make, fix, or even bake! From organising eco-events such as; hikes, paddling with penguins and mushroom foraging, she helped pupils connect deeply with the natural world, always promoting a respect for nature and ensuring they embraced the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle.

Margot's commitment to sustainability was as unwavering as her passion for education. She played a pivotal role in eco-school events, showing pupils that learning extends far beyond the classroom. Her ability to engage and excite pupils through hands-on lessons has ensured that countless pupils have grown not only in knowledge but also in confidence.

TO CONTINUE READING,
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ADIEUS STELLA ROSSOUW

written by Hanneke Basson

Totsiens, Stella

Our Stella is a real treasure and it is impossible to give you even a glimpse of her worth in a few minutes.

I'll try anyway.

Stella is the ultimate **team player** – doing whatever is in her power to achieve the team's goals, doesn't matter whether it is the whole school team, our department team or her sports teams. I wish I kept a record of how many times she offered to take a task off my hands or to help with something in our department.

The number of afternoons she spent in her classroom waiting to attend a school event or a staff function are countless. She threw herself into Herschel's extracurricular programme with enthusiasm, spending hours with Cross Country runners, tennis and hockey players.

As a member of a hockey team herself, she is also an example to us all of doing what makes you happy and pursuing your passions.

Stella's **energy** is legendary! She gives every class her all and her students often comment on her energetic approach keeping them going through long academic days. When I asked some of them for memories, they noted her smile, warm greetings, pranks, jokes, stories, music and more.

Her **adventurous** side counts in our favour when she shares information about a new restaurant, snack, series, concert or camping experience she enjoyed. Stella is known to drive kilometres to try out a new ice cream flavour she read about.

Stella, we wish you a short, peaceful commute, a friendly department, a happy school and kind pupils.

So, in your own words: Baai, Bokkie.



ADIEUS KAREN VAN DER MERWE

Karen has been at Herschel for 35 years and Sandy for 24 years. Some extracts from the Farewell speech by Silvana Scarola:

ABOUT THE BIO DEPARTMENT AT HERSCHEL:

The Cape Floral kingdom has been recognized as one of the most special places in the world in terms of biodiversity. Why is it so rich in species? The answer is simple it has experienced muted climate change over the past several million years. Just like the Bio department at Herschel- it has not changed much over the past 24 years so some of you might see this as a weakness in the plot but NO as this has meant that evolutionary processes that spawn species have not been interrupted by unfavourable climate changes, resulting in low rates of extinction which has facilitated the rich accumulation of species. Why has there been muted climate change and low rates of extinction in the Bio department? To help explain the remarkable plot of the Bio Department at Herschel for the past 24 years are some extracts from a book titled "Africa's wild dogs- a survival story".

Their social structure bonds members of the group- helping to ensure their survival and their dynasty. When you watch wild dogs you will be struck by the feeling of security, strength and warmth in the family unit. The pack is everything. They have been known to slow their pace when travelling to enable an injured member of the pack to keep up. They celebrate daily events, there is a palpable sense of joy in each other's presence. The dogs celebrate significant life events together and mourn collectively when a family member dies. Communication is constant and ongoing. This lively,



ADIEUS SANDY RULE

written by Silvana Scarola

fun-loving appearance is underpinned by a cohesive social order- it is a team effort with individuals working together in a cooperative manner to achieve a collective goal.

In the Cape Floral Kingdom there are TWO special proteas the pincushion and the sugarbush protea.

Sandy: The pincushion protea

Sandy's life is full and multi-faceted. Each pin can represent some aspect of her adventurous spirit and how she is protective over things that she cares deeply about. She reminds us to seize the day and is a bit of a trail blazer. Over the last few years she has managed the Bio department wisely and with kindness. She has also been one of the key pioneers and instrumental in the development of STEPOUT since 2010. This is her wonderful legacy.

Karen: The sugarbush protea

The protea-stands tall and proud- weathers seasons with grace and continues to inspire with its enduring elegance and strength-just like Karen. She is an unbelievably good teacher. Her students feel secure and valued. She connects with them and will always go the extra mile to give support to those students that need it academically or emotionally. Her happy place is her classroom and there is no doubt that all of her students are happy to be in her happy space. She is a much-loved teacher.

"Thank you, Sandy and Karen for everything you've brought to Herschel and especially "The Bio Department". Your hard work, wisdom, and warmth have left an indelible mark on all of us." Your legacy here will live on in the 'eco' systems you've built, the people you've mentored, and the countless lives you've touched."



ADIEUS GRACE TALLARD

written by Lynne Gibb

As we bid Grace farewell, we recognize and reflect on the profound impact she has had on us all as she formed an integral part of our school for almost 20 years.

Grace's presence was everywhere as she served with dedication and love, always ready with a smile and a hug to bring us a cup of tea or coffee or to serve us lunch. Her kind and genuine care for every staff member will be sincerely missed and we extend our heartfelt wishes to her for fulfilment and happiness as she goes on retirement.

Thank you Grace for enriching our lives and building lasting connections.

We are very grateful for your commitment and service to Herschel and wish you all the very best for this new chapter!



ADIEUS LEANNE YOUNG

written by Karen Rutgers

Leanne Young joined us as a Grade One Teacher and Head of Mathematics in the Foundation Phase in 2018 and her commitment to education was evident from the start. In these roles, Leanne played a crucial part in shaping her pupils' foundational skills and fostering a love of learning early on. Leanne's classroom was a dynamic space where she crafted engaging lessons to spark curiosity and inspire her girls. With high expectations and care, she nurtured confidence and independence, fostering a love for learning and developing essential skills like resilience and a growth mindset. Her dedication to teaching empowered her pupils to tackle challenges head-on and excel both in and out of the classroom.

Beyond the classroom, Leanne made contributions to the Herschel community. She organised engaging math activities, shared the latest trends in Number Sense, and provided valuable support to her colleagues with her exceptional IT skills. She will be remembered for her dedication to helping others, her thoughtful demeanour, and her ability to find creative solutions to any problem. As Leanne leaves Herschel to join her husband Brett and embark on a new journey in Germany, we are reminded that "great teaching is about forming lasting relationships that inspire learners to reach their full potential." We will miss her friendship, support, and warm presence. We wish Leanne and her family all the best in this exciting adventure and thank her for her years of dedication to Herschel.



ADIEUS NICOLE YOUNG

written by
Veruscha Johannes and Tessa Brogan

"It takes a big heart to shape little minds"

Nicole joined Herschel in 2018 as Miss Stuart-Finley but it wasn't long before she became Mrs Young. She started as the Queen Bee in the Busy Bees class, but when an opportunity came up to teach the younger girls, she jumped at the chance to become the Little Lambs teacher.

Nicole is a dedicated and inspiring teacher. She is organized and enjoys laying the foundation for a love of learning. Nicole was never daunted by a challenge. Her biggest being, the teaching of three-year-olds online during Covid-19! She was a fun-loving colleague, always having a good laugh or teasing the other teachers. She freely doled out advice, anything from the latest fashion trends to medical advice. She is literally Dr Google! Nicole has many talents, ranging from tennis chaperone, dance teacher to play director and make-up artist.

We are very sad to see her go but wish her well as she embarks on a new journey and focuses on her little family.



From left to right

Back row:

Siseko Nqenqa, Siphamandla Hlongwa, Mongezi Blayi, Lungisa Kwezi, Luyanda Certani, Mzuvumile Phike, Mtundezi Songelwa, Mfezeko Matshona, Faizel Pregnolato
Hillary Morusi, Feroza Cerff, Nkosoxolo Mde, Corinne Levitt, Jeffrey Kanzi, Lorenzo Davids, Stuart Levey, Bronwyn Ralph, Aileen Schippers, Dean Hoffenberg

Second row:

Mlandeli Boko, Lydia Titus, Graham Jones, Lyn Lourens, Colin Jacobs, Bevan Odendaal, Mtheto Shorti, Zwelakhe Mngqelana, Waheeda Pregnolato

Third row:

Lindsay Petersen, Luyanda Lukwe, Norman Solomons, Lynne Gibb, Noel Daniels, Crystal Davids, Adeeb Latoe, Grace Taljaard, Zakeeyah Limbada

Fourth row:

Cindy Guercia, Andrew Scott, Heather Vaughan, Heather Goedeke, Reneé Swartz, Natalie Corin, Andrew Bearne

PREPARATORY

PREP





From left to right

Front row:

Second row:

Third row:

Fourth row:

Fifth row:

Back row:

Linda Cowie, Liane Karsten, Zazie Khan, Carem Kieffer-Walker, Reneë Swartz, Linda Martin, Ricky Anderson, Sonja Bräsler, Robyn Stakemire
 Phumla Nkantsu, Liesel Juries, Jodi Evans, Kirsty Meyer, Anne Focle-Price, Katie von Hasseln, Laeeqa Dollie, Tessa Brogan, Angela Sass, Itumeleng Lehomo
 Bernadine Julies, Nicole Barends, Sharandine Gabey, Amber Scott, Joybell Rasmussen, Mimi Kebeni, Zanele Mrasi, Annamarie van der Vyver, Ayesha Ally
 Abongile Matiya, Karen Rutgers, Alix Dawson-O'Connor, Beth Gabriel, Amanda Mozley, Janine Bearne, Terri Aubin, Anne Lewis, Mary Martin, Phumla Vundla
 Alexis Brown, Samantha Centurion-Harris, Rachelle Pretorius, Linda van Eysen, Shelagh Blake, Karen Bosch, Jessica Holtzhausen, Luyanda Ntuli, Nadia Robbertze
 Veruscha Johannes, Zayaan Behardien, Christine Moritz, Margot Roebert, Marise Laubscher, Karen Mde

DARING GREATLY

HEAD'S REPORT

Mrs Reneè Swartz



What motivates you to keep going every day, especially during challenging times?

I've known for a long time that what really matters is staying in the arena – showing up, daring greatly, and living my Why. Theodore Roosevelt's quote about the "man in the arena" has always struck a deep chord with me, and Brené Brown's Daring Greatly brings it to life in such a powerful way. Simon Sinek's Finding Your Why ties it all together, reminding me of what truly motivates and grounds me.

When I became a head for the first time in 2008, I made a deliberate decision: even in the face of adversity and the negative voices questioning my place, I would remain steadfast. I committed to being true to my calling, embracing leadership not merely as a position but as a role of influence and impact.

Leadership, to me, is about embodying courage, authenticity, and resilience, demonstrating that the role is not about titles but about purpose. Each day, especially during tough times, I remind myself that staying in the arena allows me to model these values for those I lead, ensuring I honour the trust placed in me and remain aligned with my Why.

What is a personal mantra or phrase you live by, and how did it come to be significant to you?

"My worth is dependent on God alone: His will and calling on my life." This truth has been my foundation throughout my 11 years as a head of school. Leadership can feel like

walking a tightrope, with countless voices offering opinions, critiques, and sometimes even doubts about your choices. It is easy to get lost in the noise, but this mantra keeps me grounded.

Leaning into God's wisdom for strength and clarity has given me the courage to lead with integrity, even when the path is hard. It reminds me why I am here – to serve with purpose and to make a difference.

For me, leadership isn't just about administration; it's about people. It's about creating a space where girls and staff feel valued, empowered, and inspired to **THRIVE**. It's about fostering connections, encouraging growth, and being a catalyst for positive change. Knowing that my worth comes from God and not from the approval of others gives me the confidence to stay true to this calling, no matter what challenges come my way.

How do you stay grounded and focused on your goals amidst the busy demands of your role?

I stay grounded by focusing on three pillars: my job, my role, and my heart. My job is to lead and manage; my role is to influence and inspire; and my heart is to love and encourage both my girls and wider community to dare greatly and live up to their potential and purpose. These pillars guide everything I do. They remind me why I am here and keep my hands busy ensuring all three remain aligned. By staying true to this balance, I find clarity and purpose even amidst the busiest of days.

What more could I ask for than to contribute to the growth and empowerment of those I serve?

In your opinion, what is the most important lesson that young girls should learn today?

The most important lesson is this: **You matter, and You belong.**

In a world that often feels dominated by the pressures of social media, perfection, and performance – especially within the unique environment of a girls' school – it's essential to drown out the voices that suggest otherwise. Know your worth, and don't let anyone diminish it.

When you truly believe that you matter and belong, you gain the courage to face challenges, embrace opportunities, and rise above the noise. This confidence will not only help our girls navigate the complexities of modern schooling and society but also empower them to thrive and soar in every area of their lives.

What is your vision for the future of the school and the girls it serves?

My vision for Herschel Girls Preparatory School is that it remains relevant in an ever-changing world and educational landscape while staying firmly rooted in the values that have transcended time. These enduring values – Respect, Equity, Empathy, and Accountability – are underpinned by a commitment to human connection, kindness, and authenticity.



It's much like the image of the vine and its branches: deeply rooted, providing strength and nourishment, yet allowing for growth, adaptability, and belonging. Herschel's strength lies in its ability to honour its foundation while embracing the possibilities of an evolving future, ensuring that we continue to inspire and empower every girl and staff member to thrive.

What is the most impactful book you've read recently, and why?

One of the most impactful books I've read recently is *Forgiving What You Can't Forget* by Lysa TerKeurst. This book spoke directly to the injustices I've encountered in my own life – both personally and professionally. It offered me a way to process the pain of what I couldn't simply "let go" and provided a roadmap for forgiveness that doesn't erase the past but releases its hold on the future.

TerKeurst's words resonated deeply, reminding me that forgiveness is not about condoning or forgetting but about choosing freedom. She writes with raw honesty about the struggle of forgiving when the wounds still feel fresh and unresolved, offering practical steps to begin moving forward.

As I reflect on this personally and professionally, I see parallels to how our country, schools and more personally our girls often linger on past injustices – whether it's personal struggles, societal inequities, or institutional challenges. We hold on to what hurt us, allowing it to shape our present and limit our future. This book challenged me to lead by example, showing that moving forward doesn't mean ignoring the past but addressing it with courage and grace.

For myself and our Herschel community, this is a powerful lesson. The ability to forgive and release bitterness is a

vital skill for growth and resilience. As a parent, teacher and leader, I would like us to acknowledge our struggles, learn from them, and choose a path that frees us to Embrace what lies ahead. Nelson Mandela stated: "Forgiveness liberates the soul, it removes fear. That's why it's such a powerful weapon." This book is life changing.

What's your idea of a perfect day off?

Being back in Cape Town, my perfect day off absolutely involves the beach. Now, full disclosure – I'm still working up the courage to actually swim because, let's face it, the sea can be a little intimidating (those waves have no chill factor).

But give me a spot on the shore, and I'm happy to spend hours gazing at the waves and soaking in the endless beauty of creation. It's like therapy, but cheaper – and with better views. The sea is my ultimate antidote to a busy day, even if I am only brave enough to dip my toes in!

What role does community play in shaping the experiences of students and staff?

Community is about belonging, support, trust, and shared values. It's a safety net that connects us to something greater while embracing our imperfections and authenticity. When this harmony is achieved, our girls and staff thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

At Herschel, our community is built on safety, care, kindness, honesty, and a true sense of belonging. It's not just a place where we coexist but where growth, meaningful connections, and a commitment to each other's success are at the core.

Community is the foundation of a thriving school, captured perfectly in the Springbok mantra, #StrongerTogether.

What's something about yourself that most people might not know?

In Jonathan Jansen's book *We Need to Act*, he features a school I led at the time in a chapter titled "An Old School Oasis." He describes the school with the following words: "Leicester Road (Primary School) restores the humanity that should lie at the heart of education and is one of the few schools I know that goes against the grain of loveless learning." (At the time, my name was Reneë Abrahams.) A meaningful moment of recognition.

How do you stay connected to the students and their needs while managing your leadership role?

I've introduced something called "Milo Moments" with my Grade 6 and 7 girls. Yes, I actually give them Milo, but it is really an opportunity for us to sit down in small groups and chat about whatever is on their minds. It is a space where they can share their "stuff" with me in a relaxed, informal setting. I want my girls to know that if they ever need to talk to the principal, they simply ask my PA for a Milo Moment.

For the younger girls, I've started something called "Best Book." Each girl brings in a piece of her best work, and we take a moment to celebrate it. They choose the work, and I affirm it with a personalized sticker from Mrs Swartz, letting them know how amazing and awesome they are. The look in their eyes when they receive that recognition is enough to fill my cup and remind me of the joy in celebrating their growth and hard work.



CELEBRATION

PREP

CELEBRATION

FOUNDER'S DAY



1922

The Prep girls all gathered in the hall for a special assembly on Friday 16 February, exactly 102 years since the school first opened its doors on 16 February 1922. We went back in time looking at how the school started and how we are currently doing. In some cases, the differences were vast and brought much laughter and amazement (we are all very grateful that life at Herschel has changed for the better). The one thing we noticed had not changed much and had received only slight modifications over the years, was our Herschel summer uniform.

I really didn't like the old blazer, it looked really uncomfortable.

I didn't know the two plane trees above the astro are actually named Ruby and Daisy.

I wish we still wore the white hat instead of our caps.

We started a new tradition in 2023 where all girls from Grade 1-12 would congregate around The Fountain on Founder's Day. This was the spot where the very first photograph was taken of girls arriving on that hot February day in 1922 in front of the original building which housed all 29 girls. We started with just 29 girls and have grown to 1029 girls. We all linked arms and sang our school song with heartfelt gusto, proud to be a part of a school that has a long

lineage of promoting and advocating for girls. Another cause for celebration was the 30th anniversary of our school song, which was written by Thandi Siebert, a Grade 12 Herschelion back in 1994. Thandi, who now lives in the U.K, had a very special message for our girls via video link and gave us some insight into how our school song came about. The words of which encompass the passion, love and pride of being a Herschelion.

I loved hearing about the French teacher that would stick the back of the girls' pencils into her ear to stop them from chewing on their pencils.

"We are assembled here in love, we are united, we care for one another. The greatest lesson of all is the one that teaches us to live together, together."

2024



PRE-**PREP** ★ SPECIAL DAYS



Grade R DAUGHTER AND DAD/ SPECIAL VISITOR DAY

On Friday, 7 June, we held a wonderful "Daughter and Dad/special visitor" day, where the girls enjoyed a fun and creative activity with their guests. Together, they worked collaboratively to build a dollhouse, which had to include a pet, a mini piece of art, two people, two pieces of furniture, and stairs. One of the highlights was choosing a unique name for each house. It was a joy to watch everyone engage so thoughtfully, showcasing their creativity and teamwork while bringing their dollhouses to life. The day was filled with smiles and a great sense of accomplishment!



Nursery VIP AND ME DAY

We had a wonderful time celebrating VIP and Me Day in the Nursery classes! The morning started with sweet songs, followed by a fun stone-painting activity where children and their VIPs created unique keepsakes. Playdough fun and colourful necklace-making added to the creativity and excitement. Special moments were captured at the dress-up photo booth, and the event ended with a lovely tea party, filled with delicious treats and laughter. It was a joyful day of bonding and memories!



Pre Nursery GRANDPARENTS' DAY

It was such an honour and a pleasure having our grandparents and special people celebrate the day with us. Guests came from all over the country for this special day to be in "our space". We sang some special songs, planted some thyme and enjoyed sharing a picnic together.



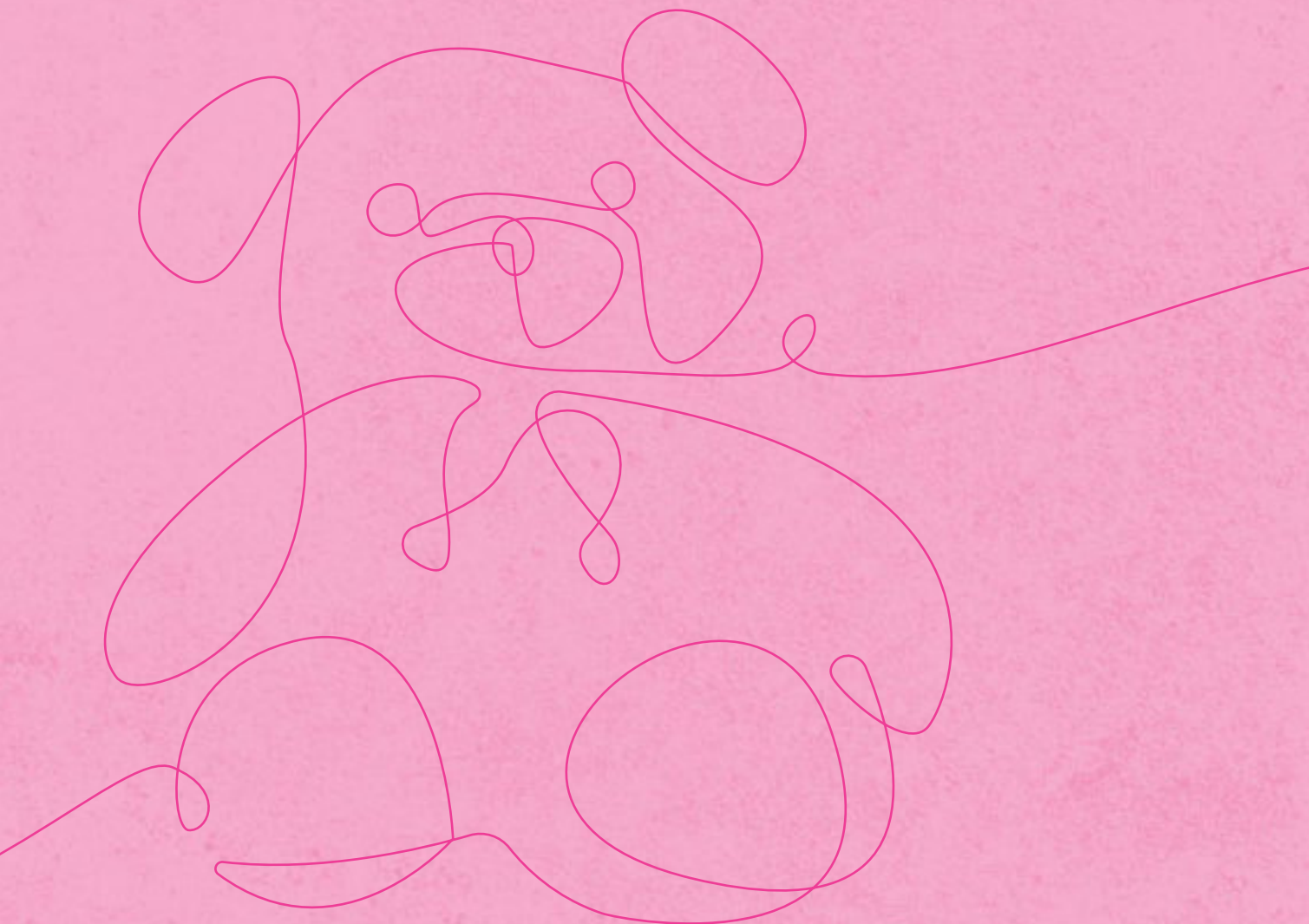
A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher
and a little bit best friend.

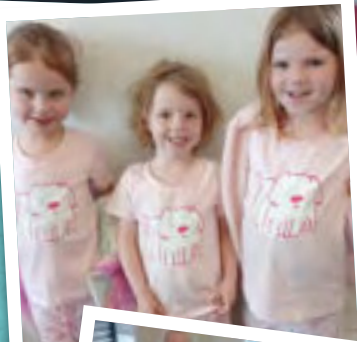


PRE-NURSERY

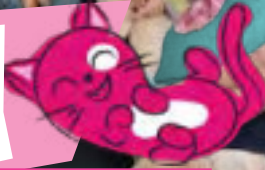
PREP

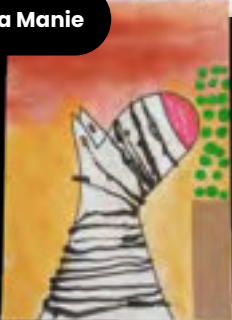
PRE-NURSERY





CUDDLY KITTENS





Aiyla Manie



Amelia Band



Asma Badroodien



Ava Campbell



Blair Rohassen-Rhoda



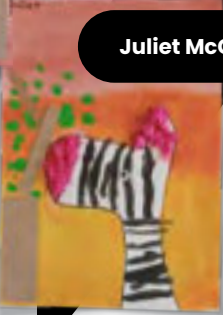
Charlotte Paizes



Elle Lau



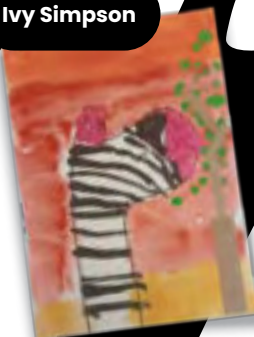
Eloise Bezuidenhout



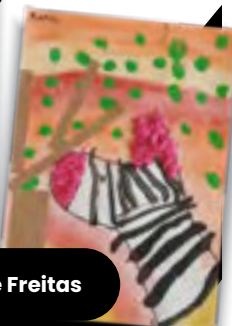
Juliet McGuire



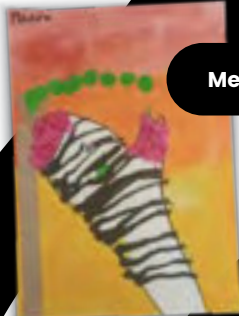
Georgia Nel



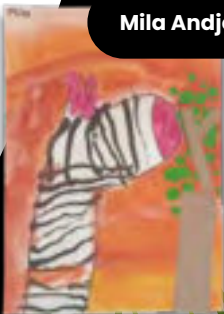
Ivy Simpson



Kate de Freitas



Meera Maistry



Mila Andjelopolj



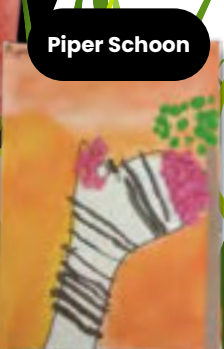
Nova le Clus-Theron



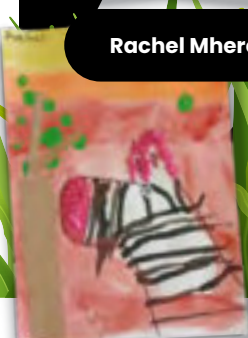
Penelope Huber



Piper Pitman



Piper Schoon



Rachel Mhere



Stella Gluckman



Victoria Lory

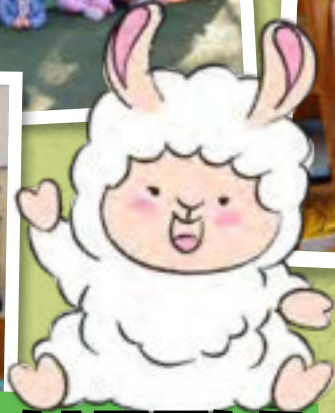
ZEBRA STRIPES

I am a zebra, black and white
Trying to stay out of sight

Africa is where I call home
The grasslands are where I roam

Four long legs to help me run
Quickly in the hot sun

Safer in a large herd
All the stripes make us blurred

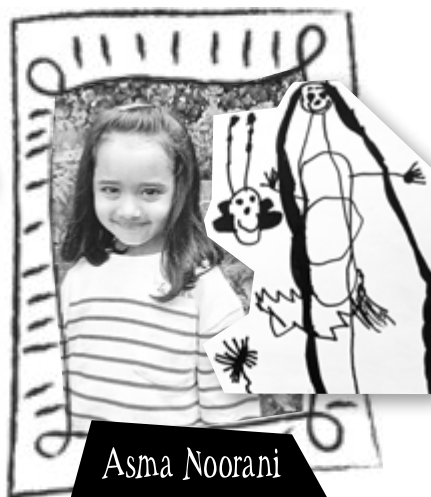


LITTLE LAMBS

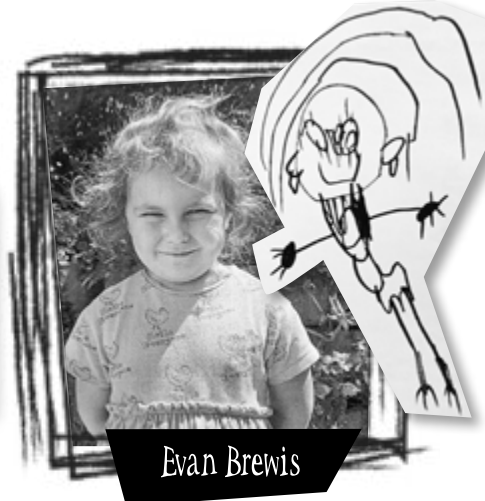




Amahle Sisulu



Asma Noorani

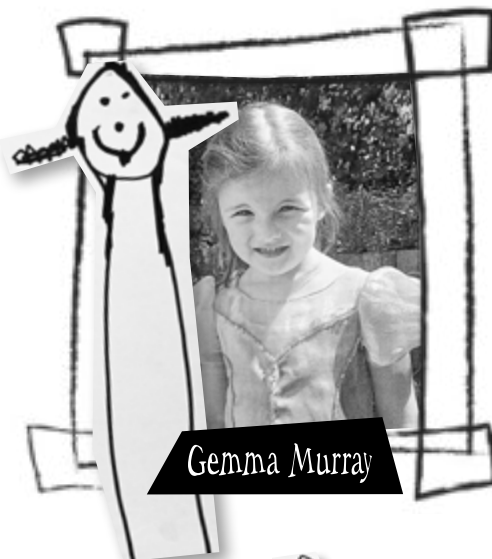


Evan Brewis



Francesca Pohl

LITTLE LAMBS ART



Gemma Murray



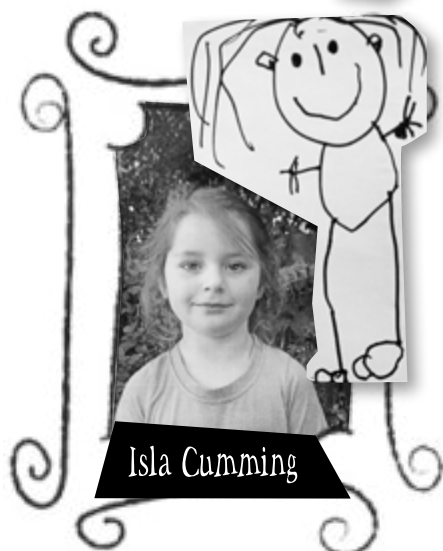
Gilah Sinclair



Holly Thirsk



Isla Beukman

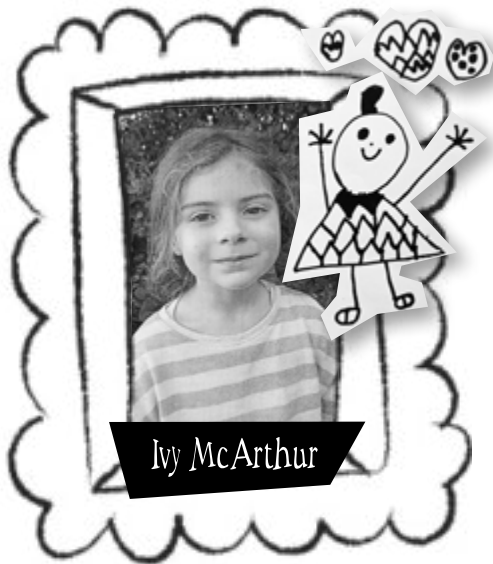


Isla Cumming



PREP

PRE-NURSERY



Ivy McArthur



Lana'ya Stuurman



Evan Brewis



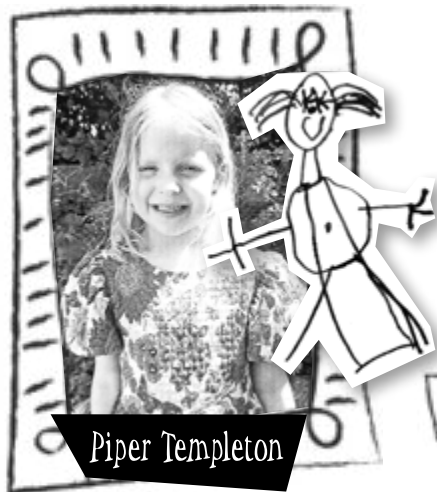
Mackenzie Deetlefs



Margot Ritchie



Mila Willmore



Piper Templeton



Sana Shimange



Sienna Martin



Simreen Lalloo-Ramjee

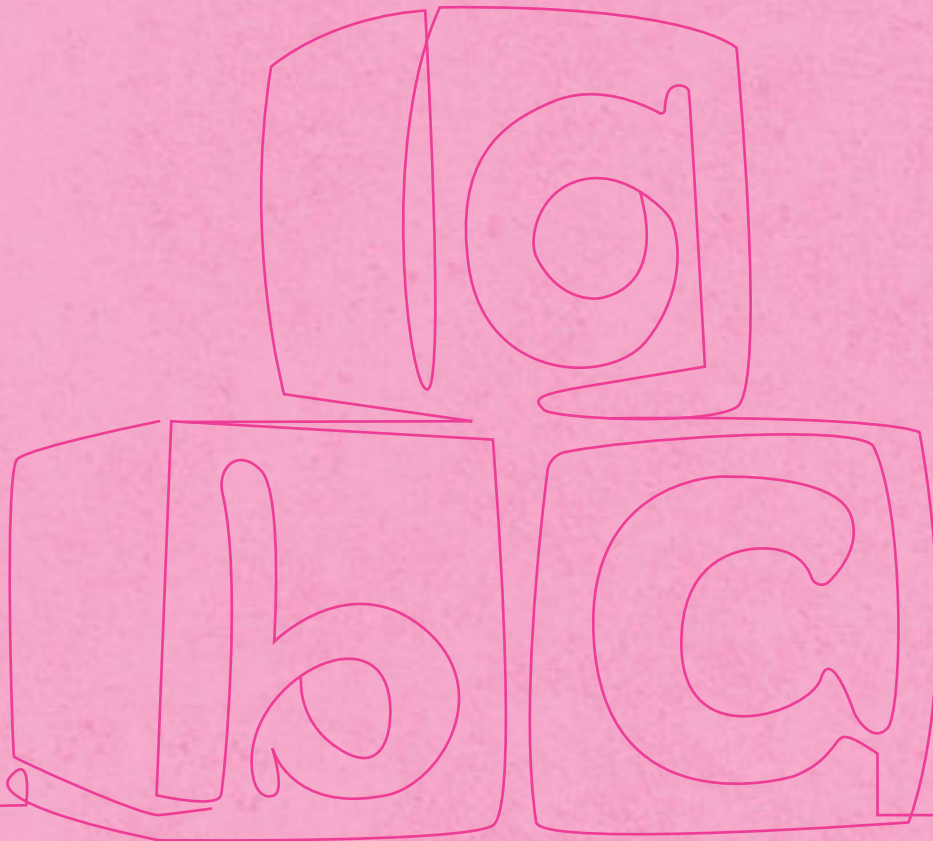


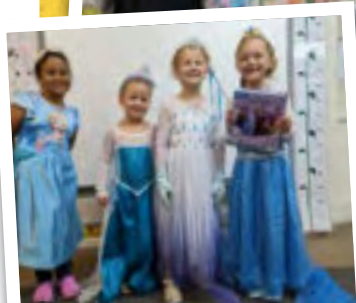
Yara Brown



Zoë Lingeveld

NURSERY





BEEES



Aiyla
D'Assonville

Amelia Louw

Anna Anderson

Annabella
McGregor

Gemma Pearce

Freya Duncan

Katy Elliot

Clare Henny

Bailey Neill

LunaBelle Rampf

Georgina Heyns

Kananelo Ntoi

Maxine Short

Maria
Rossouw-Steyn

Mmangaliso Pana

Philippa Dowse

Sizeka
Mzozoyana

Stella
Savage-Rheeder

Polly McDavid

Inari Sattar-Mayman

Sofia Andrews

Sophie Cowan

Zara Salojee

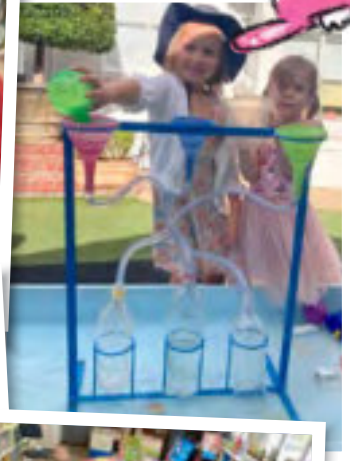
KOALA BEARS

Koala Bears are oh so sweet
They live in forests and not up your street
In fact they are not bears at all
They are called Marsupials and they're cuddly and small

A pouch can be found on the Koala mummy
Where she keeps her baby warm in front of her tummy,
A Joey is the name for a baby Koala Bear
They have the fluffiest ears and the cutest stare

In Eucalyptus trees you find them taking a seat
Australia is their home and Eucalyptus leaves they eat
The three colours of their fur are grey, brown and white
I bet you'd like to hold one and squeeze it with delight

But you cannot do this because from babies to fully grown
They are scared of humans and prefer to be alone.
So if you lucky enough to see a Koala bear for real
Just look, admire and enjoy but do not give them a feel



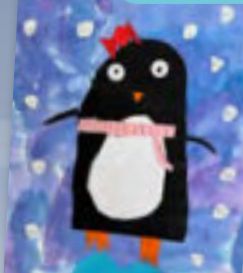
BUNNIES



Amelia Beaumont



Amelia Daffue



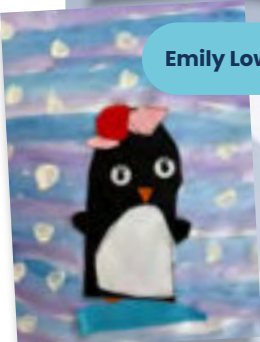
Catherine Caldicott



Charlotte Stewart



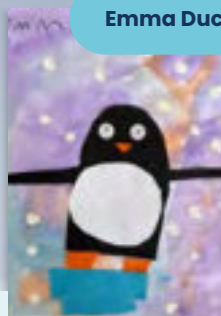
Emily Lowe



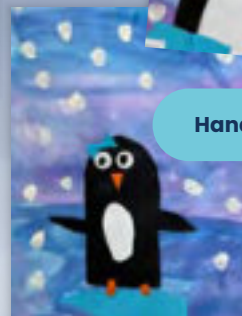
Emily Walker



Emma Duck



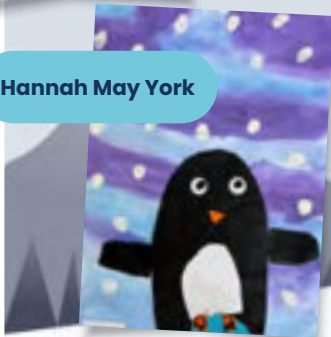
Hanaa Ally



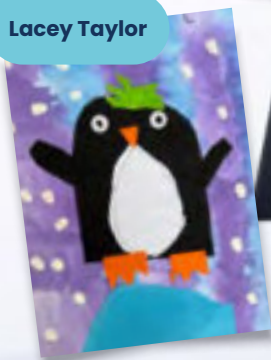
Hannah van Niekerk



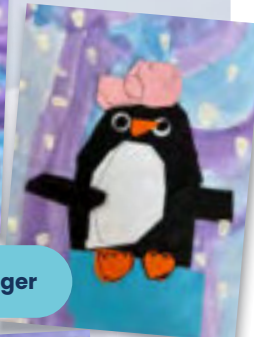
Hannah May York



Lacey Taylor



Jessica Böttger



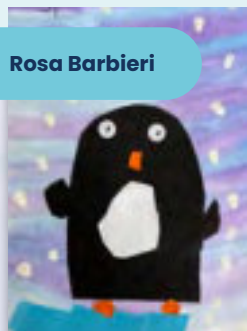
Lily Alexander



Nala Ntoi



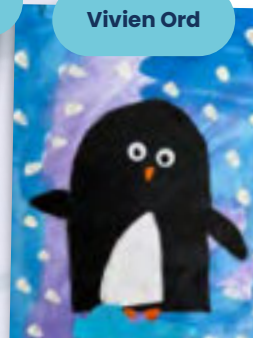
Rosa Barbieri



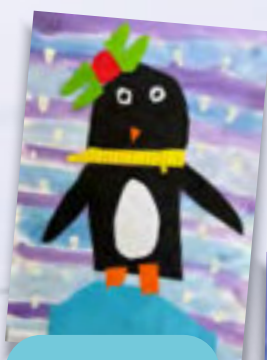
Saarah Sadien



Vivien Ord



Noa Joubert



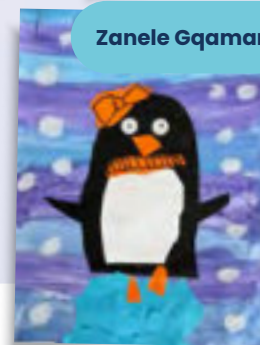
Taylor Parkhurst



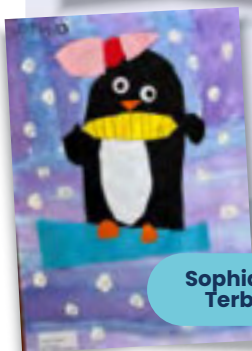
Tyla King



Zanele Gqamana



Sophia Whale-Terblanche



I'M A LITTLE PENGUIN

I am a little penguin
in the snow
I slide on my tummy
to and fro
I eat the fish
from the deep
blue sea
I'm black and white
as you can see.

Hope

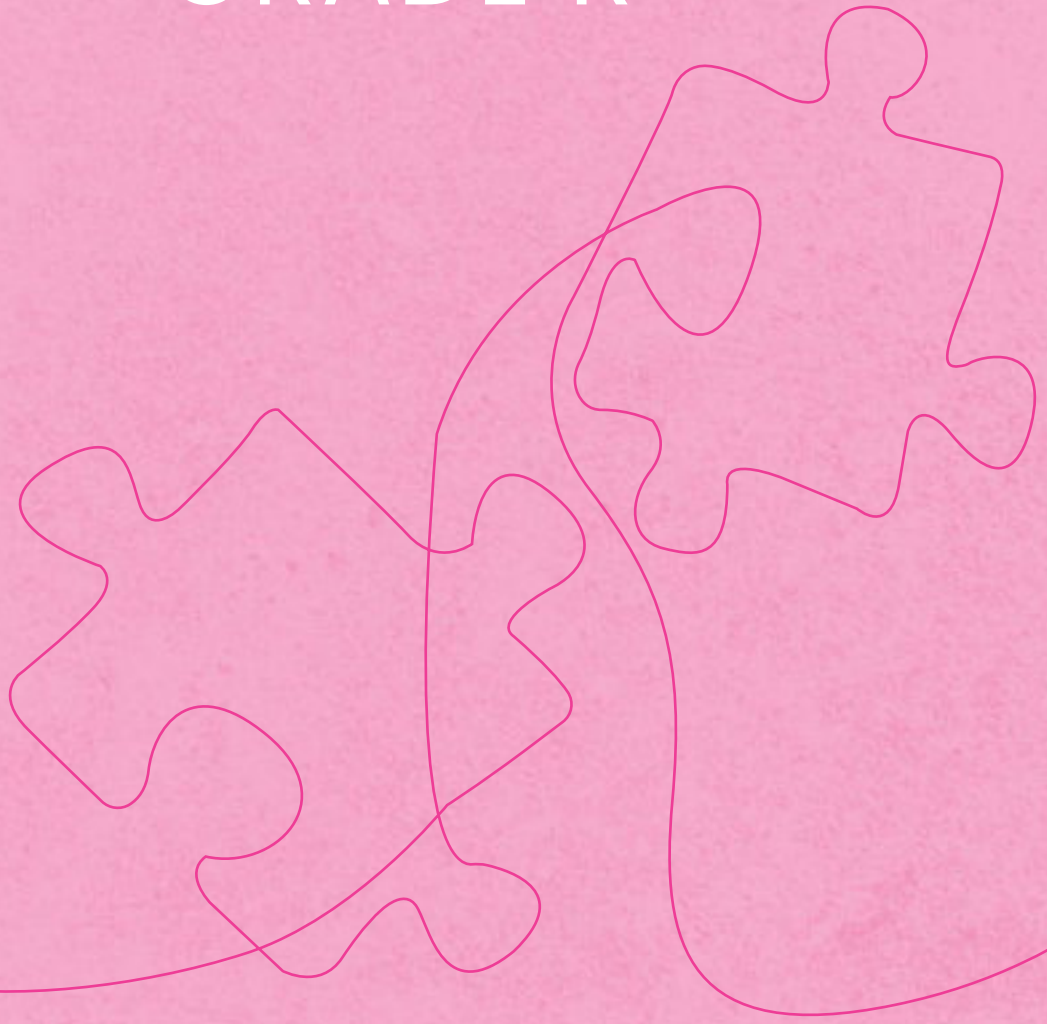
Don't ever lose hope.

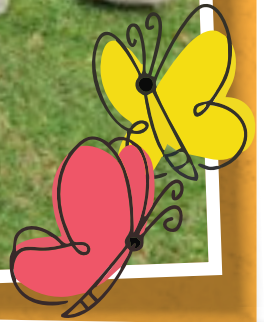
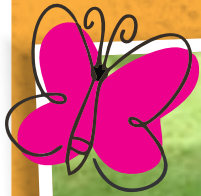


GRADE R

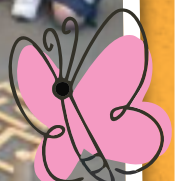
PREP

GRADE R





BUTTERFLIES





Alice Duck



Amelia Jane Kuhn



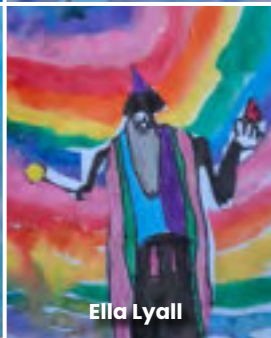
Amelia Popham-Holloway



Charlotte Pohl



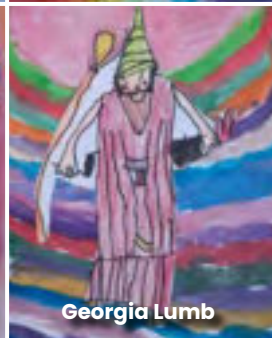
Charly Boyden-Pearson



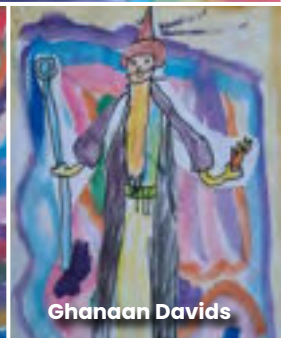
Ella Lyall



Farren Gomes



Georgia Lumb



Ghanaan Davids



Huda Dollie



Isla Ritchie



Jocelyn Stuart



Lianah Adam



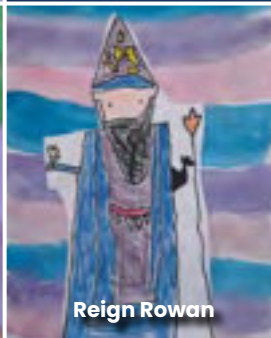
Lucy Hunt



Raadhiya Osman



Rania Harnekar



Reign Rowan



Sadie Turner



Sara Desai



Sarrinah Rahman



Sophia Bloem



Sophie Simkins



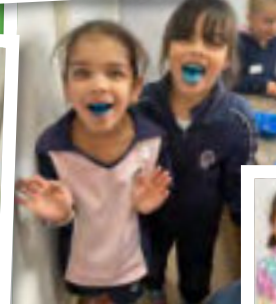
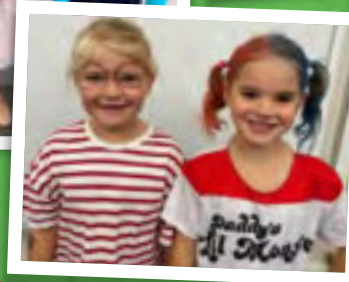
Stella Preston



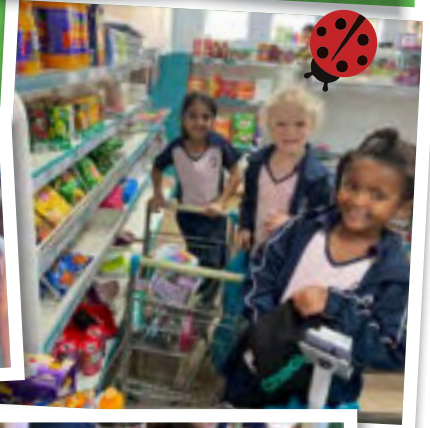
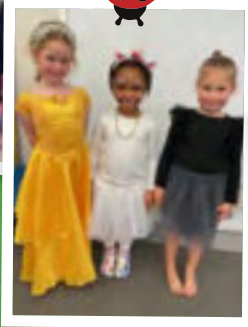
Tahiya Rahman

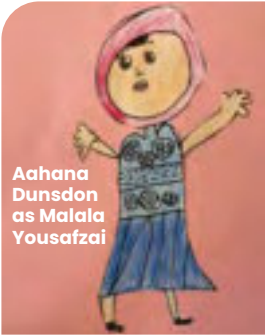


Yara Kambarami



LADYBIRDS

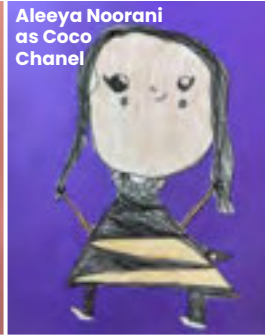




Aahana
Dunsdon
as Malala
Yousafzai



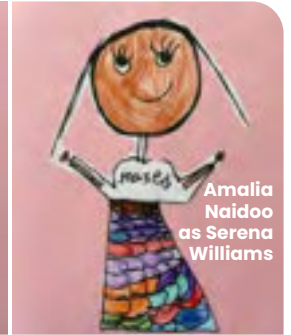
Agnes
Salvaing de
Boissieux
as Queen
Elizabeth



Aleeya Noorani
as Coco
Chanel



Alice
Daws
as
Taylor
Swift



Amalia
Naidoo
as Serena
Williams



Amber Bowes
as Morgot
Fortaine



Amelia
Grave
as Frida
Kahlo



Amy
Harcourt-Wood
as Steffi Graf



Anna
Lange
as
Simone
Biles



Anna
Womersley
as Amelia
Earhart



THE LADYBIRDS REPRESENTING WOMEN IN HISTORY



PREP

GRADE R



Annabelle
Griffiths
as
Florence
Nightingale



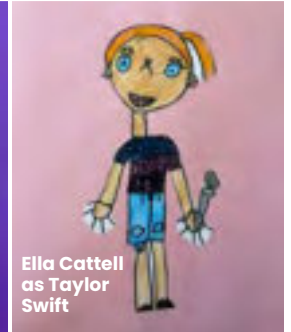
Arabella
McDonald
as
Coco Chanel



Ava Collins
as Taylor Swift



Elizabeth
Power
as
Princess
Diana



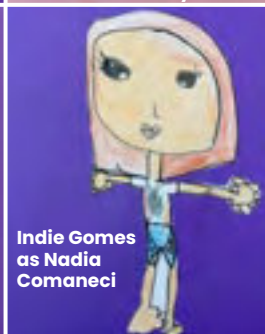
Ella Cattell
as Taylor
Swift



Frankie Jo
Gabriel
as Miss
South
Africa
Mia
le Roux



Hannah Ellison
as Steffi Graf



Indie Gomes
as Nadia
Comaneci



Lyla
van der
Westhuizen
as Gretha
Thunberg



Maheera
Masud
as
Princess
Diana



Milaya
Jama
as
Penny
Heyns



Olivia Robbins
as Serena Williams



Qhawekazi
Rwexana
as
Simone
Biles



Sienna
van Staden
as Princess
Diana



Sophie
Wessels
as
Taylor Swift

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR TEACHERS LIKE TO DO AFTER SCHOOL OR ON THE WEEKEND?



Lianah Adam – My teachers visit friends and go and have dinner.

Sophia Bloem – The teachers have ice cream and watch the tennis.

Charly Boyden-Pearce – They eat, swim when it is hot and have friends come over.

Ghanaan Davids – Work and study but not on weekends.

Sara Desai – Go to meetings and run but on weekends they relax.

Huda Dollie – Go home after school and go to malls on the weekends.



Lucy Hunt – They pick up kids and have dinner. They walk on weekends.

Yara Kambarami – Relax after school and go out for lunch on the weekends.

Amelia Jane Kuhn – Go to the beach on the weekends.

Georgia Lumb – Fetch their children after school and swim on weekends.

Ella Lyall – Pick up kids and go to movies.

Raadhiya Osman – My teachers have lots of meetings and drink hot chocolate.

Charlotte Pohl – After school they relax and play games and on weekends, they read.

Amelia Popham-Holloway – Plan activities and have fun with their friends on weekends.

Stella Preston – Fetch kids and make dinner.

Sarrinah Rahman – They drink coffee after school at the Café and go on the mountain on weekends.

Tahiya Rahman – After school, the teachers make dinner and watch TV on the weekends.

Alice Duck – They watch movies or they go to the beach and chill.

Farren Gomes – They attend meetings after school and relax on weekends.

Rania Harnekar – They like to go swimming and have coffee.



Isla Ritchie – My teachers have lunch after school and go to the beach on the weekends.

Reign Rowan – They eat after school and plan activities. They relax and watch television on the weekends.

Sophie Simkins – Go out for supper on weekends.

Jocelyn Stuart – The teachers go for walks after school. They go shopping on the weekends.

Sadie Turner – Set up the tables for activities after school, however they take the day off on the weekends.

Amber Bowes – After school they rest and have a walk.

Ella Cattell – On the weekends they go out with their kids and have fun.

Ava Collins – Drink coffee and lie in bed.

Alice Daws – Have walks and sit on the couch and have coffee.

Aahana Dunsdon – They like to go out, watch TV and work on their computers.

Hannah Ellison – They like to go on holiday.

Frankie Jo Gabriel – They like to have a cup of coffee and rest or watch a movie.

Indie Gomes – They look after their kids, work on their computers, go to the shops and do report meeting work.

Amelia Grave – On the weekends they like to chill and knit.



Griffiths Annabelle – They go on holiday and pack their bags.

Amy Harcourt-Wood – On the weekends they go on holiday and go away with their kids. After school they go home.

Milaya Jama – After school they have coffee and do some more work.

Lange Anna – They go to the shops, they also get stuff ready after school.

Maheera Masud – After school they go home and stay at home. They also like to go to the beach.

Arabella McDonald – They like to have a nap after school. On the weekends they go on holiday and relax.

Amalia Naidoo – They like to rest on the weekend.

Aleeya Noorani – They pack up their stuff after school. On the weekends they go to the shops.

Elizabeth Power – On the weekends they go out for dinner and go camping with their families.

Olivia Robbins – They sometimes have meetings and they turn off the lights and put out the stuff for the next day. On the weekends they make stuff for us or go on holidays.

Qhawekazi Rwexana – Have coffee and chill after school.

Agnes Salvaing de Boissieux – They like to sleep.

Lyla van der Westhuizen – They watch TV and run races on the weekend.

Sienna van Staden – On the weekends they like to go out to the beach. They also stay at home and watch the rugby.

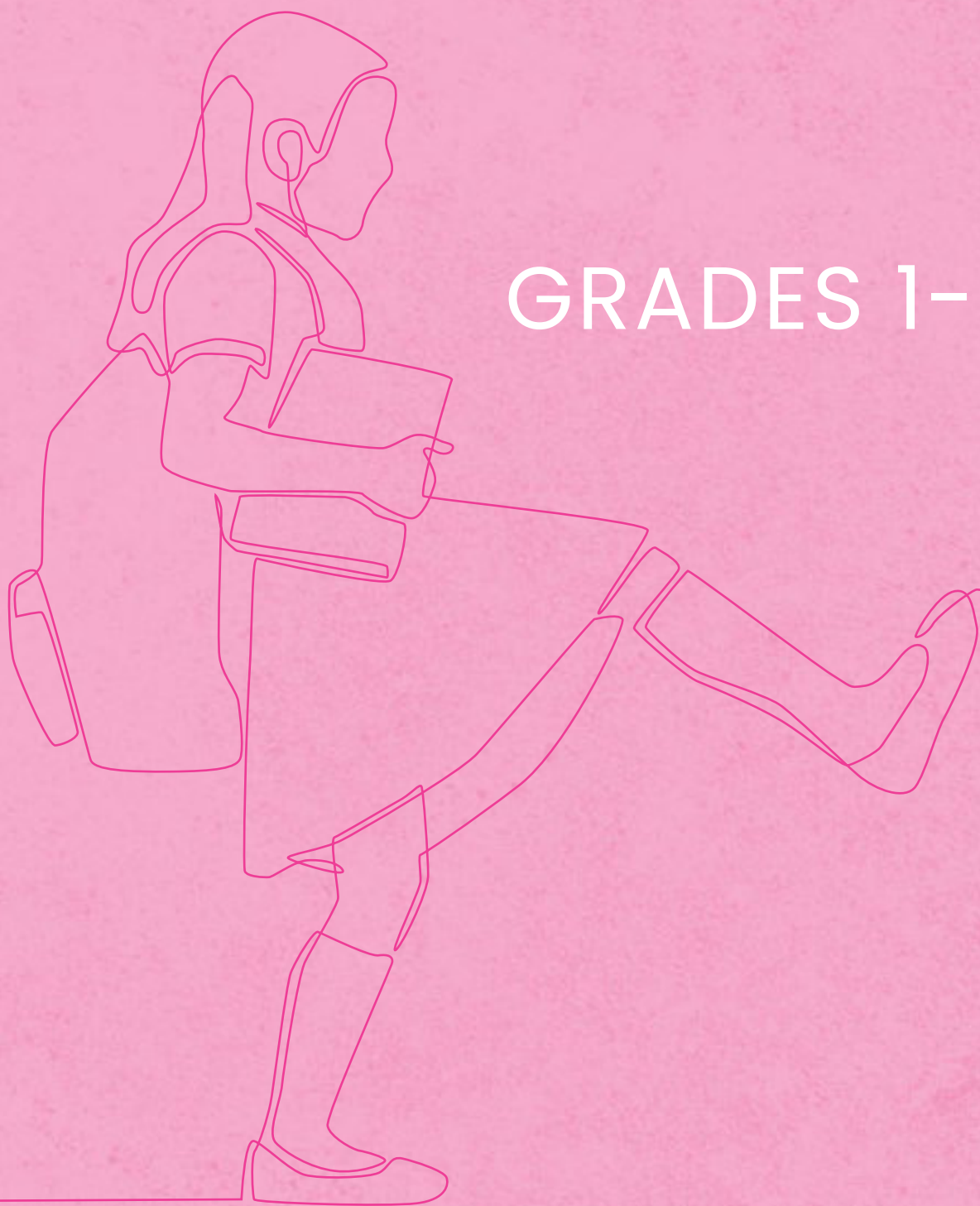
Sophie Wessels – They go to Vida and fetch their children from school.

Anna Womersley – They like to go and talk to each other and rest at the weekends.



Heart

Your heart is your compass
– keep it strong.



GRADES 1-7

PREP

GRADES

Leap year gave us an extra day and here's what we would love to do with it.

Georgina Palm

I would go to the forest with my family and see the frogs because it's leap day.

Aylar Darbandi

Mom showed me a noodle place, and I would like to go there with my family because I like noodles a lot.

Claire Marsal

I would go to a pizza restaurant with Mom and Dad, and my brother and I would spend time with my family. We would watch a movie together after the pizza.

Amaal Manuel

I would go to the toyshop with my mom and sisters and play with the best teddy bear in the shop. Afterward, we would eat flapjacks.

Lily Powter

I would go to the Sweetie Land that I made up with Isabelle. If it existed, we could eat sweeties, go down the sweetie slide and, play with the sweetie chickens.

Sophie van der Spek

I would want to go horse riding with my mom and maybe get my own horse. Afterwards, we can go to Total Ninja. I would go to the shops and buy all I need for my horse. Then play with my dog.

Ayah Ebrahim

I would like to go to a Bubble Tea shop with granny, drink tea all day, and talk about my cat.

Jemima Huber

I would go to my friend's house and we could play. Then we could go to the movies and have ice cream. And have a sleepover.

Josie Speres

I would go to a disco place with Sienna and Charlotte C. We would get in our dance clothes and dance and eat nice food.

Aria Pillay

I would play with my brother. I'll teach him how to sit up because I love him.

Alisa Nqayi

I would want to play Hide and Seek with Mila because she always has fun game ideas.

Sienna Murie

I would play with Charlotte C and Josie and go to the shops. We could get whatever we wanted.



LEAP YEAR



Charlotte Hodgins

I would go to the beach with Isabelle and go swimming. It is nice at the beach.

Pippa Walker

I would do all kinds of art with Kitty because I Love art, it makes me feel happy and Mom is always excited to see it.

Isabelle Daffue

I would go to an ice cream place and then the beach with Sophie.

Kathryn McArthur

I would go for ice cream with my family and play with my puppy, Solo!

Haadiya Abass

I would spend time with my family at Clay Cafe and have a playdate with Kitty.

Saba Corry

I would go for an ice cream with Charlotte C then go home and watch lots of Movies.

Maia Groenewald

I would have a sleepover with my cousin and we would go to the beach for ice cream.

Emma Whitfield

I would go with Jemima and Seinna, to the beach and build a giant sandcastle and we could eat ice cream.

Malaikah Nienge

I would love to go to Total Ninja with Haadiya, Aylar, and my mom and dad.

Harley Daniels

I would go with my mom and brother to the pet shop to buy a puppy and I would go to the water park.

Mila Sardo

I would take Alisa and I would love to slide down the rainbow and land on the clouds.

Charlotte Caldicott

I would go with Sophie to Mauritius and we could have fun at Club Med.



Safaa Abdulla

I would like to go to Total Ninja with my Mom, Dad and sisters. My Gran will stay at home.

Allegra Alston

I would like to go to the Alphen Hotel with my family. We will stay there for a day and have lunch, dinner and breakfast.

Jessica Baker

I would like to spend time with my friends and family.

Aemelia Bam

I would like to go to the Waterfront with my family and ride on the Ferris wheel and go for a cycle.

Rizqah Bassadien

I would like to go to the Waterfront with my family and then we can go out for supper.

Ingrid Bergenthuin

I would like to go to the movies with my mom and dad. We can have popcorn.

Bella Budden

I would like to go to the movies with my family and also lam ham. We will sit in the back to see better.

Aurora Delson

I would like to go to Mauritius with my family and my cousins.

Samiha Ebrahim

I would like to go to the mall with my family and go to dipndip and have some pancakes.

Lily Galpin

I would like to go and get my iPad fixed before the holiday starts.

Sophia Hughes

I would like to go for a cycle on the promenade with my family.

Sophia Johnston

I would like to go to England with Asma. We can get an ice cream together and have a sleepover.



Emma Laub

I would like to go ice skating with my family.

Julia Louw de Wet

I would like to go to my Granny's farm with all of my family. We can push each other around on the go karts.

Carniela Magazore

I would like to go and see my mom in England.

Anna Marshall

I would like to go to the promenade with my family and we can rollerskate.

Zingce Njana

I would like to go and see my Dad in Gqeberha.

Suha Parker

I would like to go to my favourite fresh doughnut shop with my family because the doughnuts are made in front of you.

Elizabeth Pearce

I would like to spend time with my family, watching a movie and cuddling together.

Asma Raja

I would like to go to a waterpark with my family and we can go on all the slides.

Maya Saunders

I would like to go to the beach with my family. We can build sandcastles and find shells.

Grace Speres

I would like to go to Mauritius. I will go with my Dad and we can go snorkeling.

Emily van der Merwe

I would like to go to the beach with my mom on a nice sunny day and watch the sunset.

Ana Vasiljevic

I would like to go out to eat with my family to Willoughbys and eat sushi.

Unathi Waters

I would like a 'yes' day and one of the things I would do is go on an aeroplane to England with my family.

Elodie Yazdanpanahi

I would like to go to the Waterfront to get some mochis.

LEAP YEAR

PREP

GRADE 1





Hug in a Mug





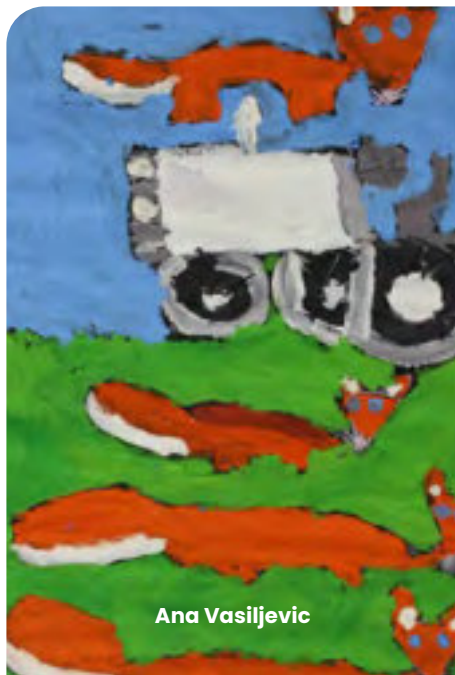
PREP

GRADE 1



GRADE 1 OUTINGS





Ana Vasiljevic



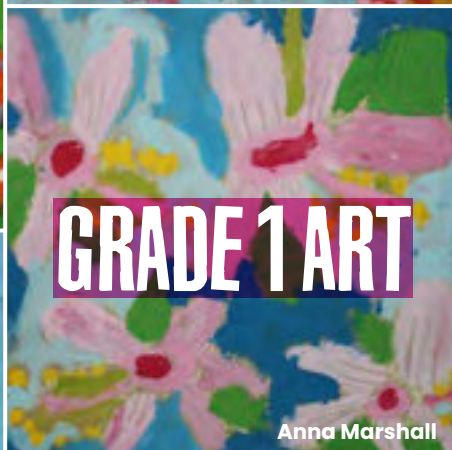
Lily Powter



Asma Raja



Suha Parker



Anna Marshall



Emma Laub



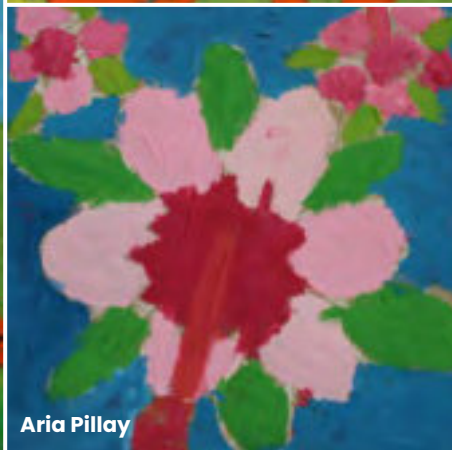
Sophia Johnston



Carniela Magozore



Lily Galpin



Aria Pillay

GRADE 1 ART

HOW I WILL LOOK WHEN I REACH RETIREMENT



Alina Essop



Amelia Golding



Anna Beadle



Ashley Fairweather



Charlotte Lewis



Elizabeth Murray



Emma Brasecke



Eva Briggs



Fatimah Mia



Francesca Elliot



Holly Clarke



Humaira Masud



Imaan Khan



Insaaf Pillay



Isla Titus



Jessie Naidoo



Lucy Lamb-Hughes



Maia Lowther



Mia Goliath



Naomi Sheraton



Scarlett Snaith



Sophie Sinclair



Tarisai Mhere



Zime Maila



Amani Buthelezi



Amber Fels



Antoinette Stuart



Ariana Esack



Asa Tofile



Cara Lyall



Charlotte Dunn



Christina Peroglou



Clara Whittaker



**Eléonore
Salving de Boissieux**



Emily Snaith



Emily Webb-Smith



Georgia Lewis



Georgiana McGregor



Hanna Vawda



Holly Billett



Isla McClelland



Kate Maggott



Layaan Rahim



Lily Duncan



Mila Vasiljevic



Nina D'Assonville



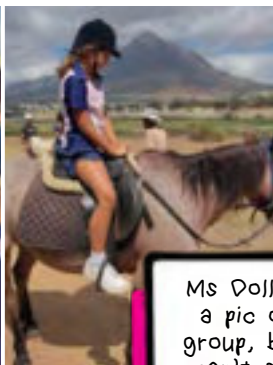
Riley Du Plessis



Sarah Neville



Scarlett Bulpin



The warthogs were so silly and funny, making funny sounds at Giraffe House.
- Naomi Sheraton

Ms Dollie took a pic of our group, but you can't see my face, only my body. We all laughed!
- Fatimah Mia



I liked being with my friends and when Mr Otie came. We had interesting talks and it was cool.
- Holly Clarke

Riding the cute pony was fun. I loved her name. That was a fun outing.
- Eva Briggs



I got to touch a snake.
- Isla Titus

I enjoyed doing
Number Sense
and Mental
Maths.

- Layaan Rahim

I love that I
got to do lots
of Maths in
our Number
Sense book.

- Nina D'
Assonville



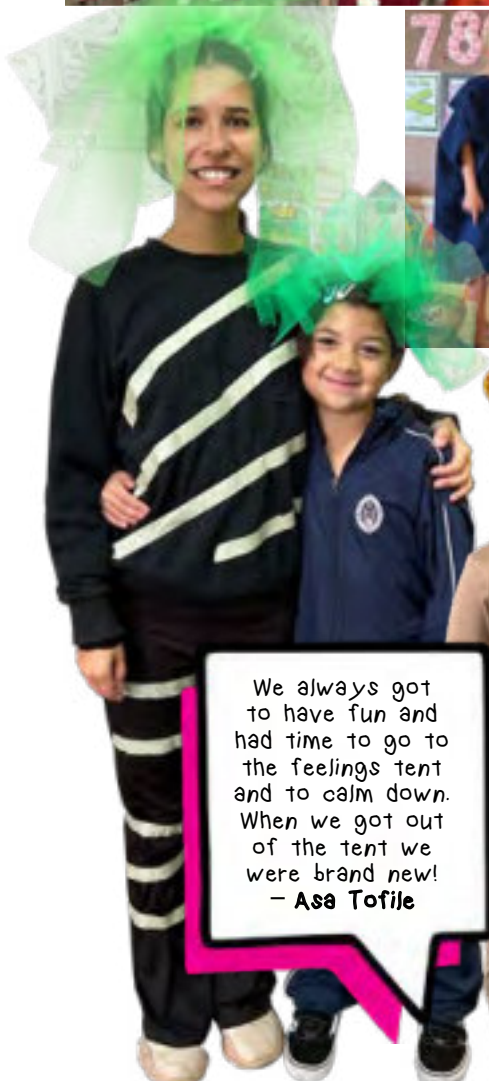
I enjoyed the
fun activities.

- Charlotte Dunn



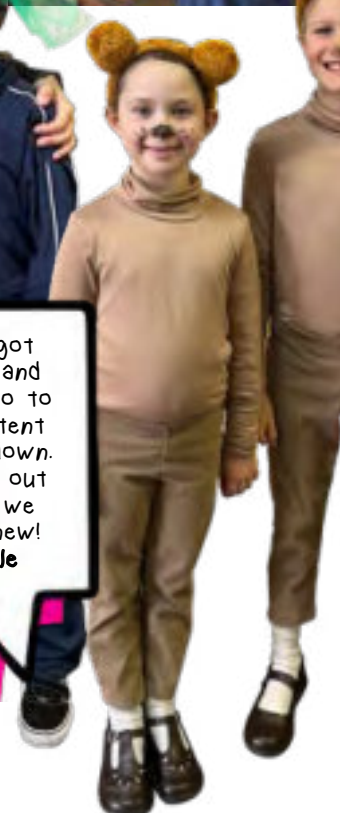
PREP

GRADE 2



We always got
to have fun and
had time to go to
the feelings tent
and to calm down.
When we got out
of the tent we
were brand new!

- Asa Tofile



I enjoyed getting
to do 2 pages of
story writing.

- Sarah Neville

We get to do brain
breaks and it's really
fun we also get
to eat snack on
the mat.

- Isla
McClelland



Alina Essop



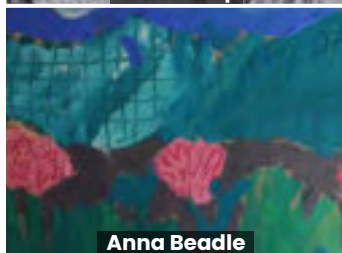
Amani Buthelezi



Amelia Golding



Antoinette Stuart



Anna Beadle



Fatima-Az-Zahra Mia



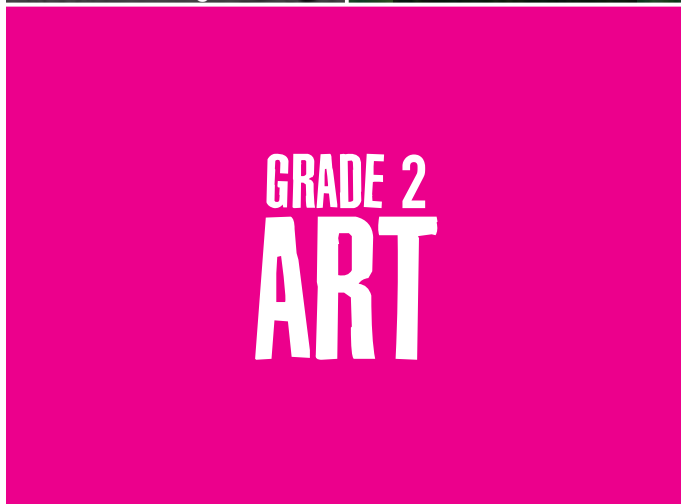
Emily Snaith



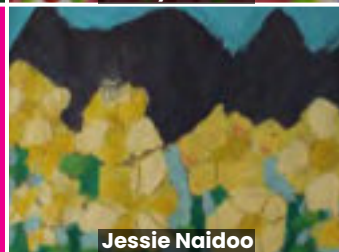
Isla McClelland



Eleonore Salvaing de Boissieu



GRADE 2 ART



Jessie Naidoo



Lucy Lamb-Hughes



Holly Billett



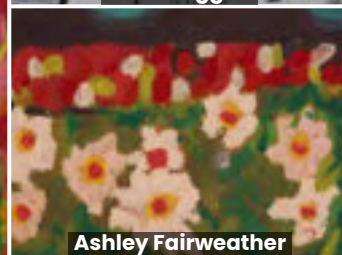
Kate Maggott



Isla Titus



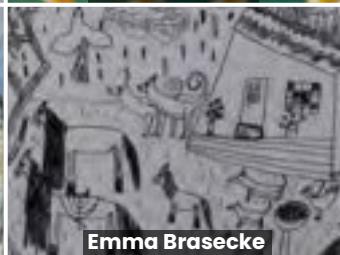
Scarlett Snaith



Ashley Fairweather



Lily Edwards



Emma Brasecke



Sarah Neville



Hanna Tawda

Never try to cut your own hair, it will never turn out well and will take months to grow back and everyone will know you tried to cut your own hair.
- Juliette Turner

Never sniff a bean up your nose when you are pretending to be a dog, it will get stuck there and you will have to blow it out and it will hurt a lot!
- Arabella Saunders

Never touch your brother's iPad, even though he is able to touch yours all the time because he will come after you and you will know about it! - Sophie-Kate Thomalla

Never ever jump off the couch shouting 'Freedom' because your finger will bend all the way back on landing and you will not be free from the pain. - Emma Daniel

If your bunny dies, don't just get another bunny to replace your dead bunny, rather get another bunny to bring you more joy.
- Aayah Khan

Never ever go to the bathroom when there are window washers at the window! Just don't!
- Elizabeth Edwards

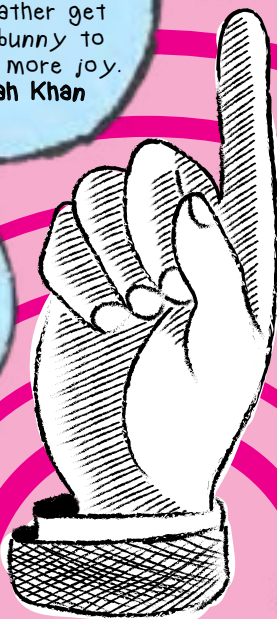
Never stick a picture to your bedroom wall using Pritt because when you go to take it off it will peel off the wall paint too!
- Eva Szabo

Never ever climb on your vanity when you and your friend are doing skincare and then try and be funny because I fell off and my friends laughed at me.
- Taiah Jakoet

Never let your parents see that you are listening to their conversations or they will start talking in Afrikaans.
- Nabila Gafoor

Never put your head too close to the pan to see what your mom is cooking - oil will end up splashing in your face and it is beyond painful.
- Zenande Njana

GRADE 3



WHAT I KNOW FOR SURE

Never try swinging on the countertop or else you will fall and split your lip open.
- Saarah Joseph

Never poke your older sister because she will smack you back 30x harder and get away with it.
- Emily Duff

Never stick a bead up your nose or you will have to pay a visit to your doctor who will ask a lot of questions.
- Charlotte Smit

Never jump on a trampoline with children older than you as they will land on your leg and break it.
- Frida-Märta Wilkinson

Never bite your little brother when you are frustrated with him,

because you will get into trouble just for being the eldest sibling and that you should know better.
- Stella-Belle Sale

Never do a split jump while dancing, even if you are listening to your favourite song, because you will end up spraining your ankle.
- Ava van Rensburg

Don't get distracted at the beach by your mom's friend and get yourself lost. It was a really scary couple of minutes before I found my mom. - Caitlin Buley

Never just grab the closest thing to you to hit your sister with as it may turn out to be something special and it will break! - Skylar Akampurira

My advice is to not try and do something nice for your older sister, like clean her room, because when she comes home and she will be more angry that you touched her stuff.
- Azura Puglia

Try not to run around large furniture items like a bookshelf as you are likely to hit your toe and break it! Turns out furniture doesn't move out of your way.
- Elimyoli Cossie

Never try something crazy you have never tried before. Let's just say I tried a headstand and I was fortunate not to have broken my head, but there was a bump!

— **Ziya Hendricks**

Never stand on a chair on top of a table while holding a pencil — you will fall, and the pencil will go through your cheek and you will need plastic surgery.

— **Sophie Power**

Never ever play with slime and stretch it out above your head because it will land on your head and get stuck in your hair and that is not a pretty sight.

— **Juliette White**

Never walk on your tippy toes for a long period of time. It will make your leg muscles so stiff you will hardly be able to walk for a week.

— **Nehara Moodley**

Never disturb your dad when he is watching rugby and try not to sit too close to him when South Africa score a try as you are likely to get a huge shock and go deaf!

— **Liora Mzozoyana**

I try not take any time for regrets, however, there was this one time where I touched an air freshener and then touched my eye and I had to sleep with an eye patch covering my eye — so that is a regret.

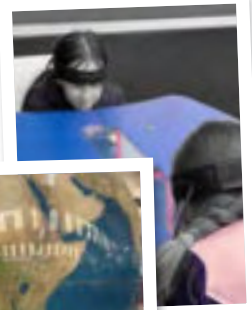
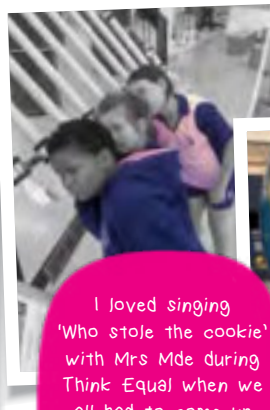
— **Maya Gajjar**

Never ever in your life attempt some crazy gymnastics move like a cartwheel without supervision or you will end up breaking something.

— **Jessica Miller**

If you are much younger and staying at a holiday house with a loft, don't try to climb the long ladder by yourself or you will fall and break both your wrists and someone will have to feed you!

— **Kate Muzzell**



I loved singing 'Who stole the cookie' with Mrs Mde during Think Equal when we all had to come up with excuses as to why we didn't steal the cookie.

— **Emma Daniel**



Starting at Herschel at the beginning of the year and making many new friends.

— **Liora Mzozoyana**



I won't forget the Dad's and daughter's Breede River Camp because we all played 'ghost', it was so much fun!

— **Elizabeth Edwards**

The H Factor play was the best part of Grade 3 and working with Carey at Saturday rehearsals.

— **Kate Muzzell**





I loved finally moving back into our newly renovated flexible classroom, instead of 4 wobble chairs, we now have 16. — **Skylar Akampurira**



I enjoyed learning about the Victorian times and dressing up on our outing and Zenande getting caned for being naughty and we weren't allowed to laugh. — **Jessica Miller**



The Science Centre was the best outing of the year! I loved going on the gyroscope. — **Taish Jakoet**



Have fun but listen to the rules, because this is what happened to me. I was playing tag and I fell and my nail fell off.
- Emilia-Marie Vanreusel

Be careful when you play with your sister's toys because you might break it.
- Alessandra van Staden

Never sniff salt and pepper because it goes to your brain and then you will sneeze a lot. I did that because I wanted to and it is a bad example to your younger siblings.
- Ayah Isaacs

I learnt that you must never fight back with aggression even if someone did something to you.
- Talia Parker

Be yourself. Don't try to be cool because you are cool.
- Helen Neethling

Never ever hit your brother, because if you are the oldest you'll get blamed for not managing your feelings. Rather say he hit you or think of a way to get him back.
- Sophia Hall

Never clean your sister's or brother's room because they will be rude to you straight away.
- Mackenzie Abernethy

Enjoy being young because it will not last forever. Try to embrace the moment which means enjoy the moment. Don't worry if you are scared, been there, done that.
- Layla Mahabeer

You should always keep on going, even though you are stuck.
- Deeyana Kader

Learn how to do the monkey bars because you'll always need to do them.
- Annabel Cowling

I want you to know that when you are playing with tape, don't put it on your arm and rip it off. It is like you're waxing and that is how sore it is. So, don't do it.
- Gia Swarts

Always be nice to your siblings because you will always get blamed.
- Lily Pienaar

Be proud of every step you take. Don't stop and don't give up.
- Isla Moore

Be kind to others and they will be kind back. Have fun. Never poke your sister otherwise she will hit you back.
- Annabelle Bam

Be yourself and don't say you are ugly because you'll never stay young forever. All I know is I don't care if you think you are ugly because I know you are pretty. So please find a place in your heart and believe that.
- Ashna Baba

Do the best you can and work hard. Have fun each day and don't lose your hat. Always be kind to your friends.
- Isabella-Rainn Meyer

You must always treat others the way you want to be treated and always share.
- Kate Thomas

The future of the world is in your classroom, meaning it is you, you are the future of this world.
- Meg Thomson

Never underestimate someone who is smaller or younger than you because they can hurt you.
- Charlotte Groenewald

Have fun and never give up. Something I have learnt so far is very funny and that is when I was playing with my dog, he pushed me over.
- Selena Freddy

Always laugh at least once in a school day.
- Amelie Graef

My advice is to NEVER GIVE UP! Even when things are hard, like a Mathematics test. I know I will never ever give up.
- Hannah Hunt

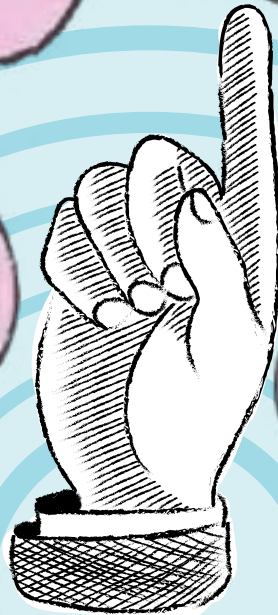
Always be grateful for what you have, you can be jealous, but always be grateful.
- Eloise Slingsby

I learnt to not rush my work and not look at people's tests. When it is hard, never give up and just ask for some help.
- Mia Knight

Be kind and don't underestimate yourself.
- Hafsa Fakir

Have fun in your life.
- Sophia Nel

Never leave your food or toys outside, otherwise monkeys will steal it.
- Unjali Naidoo



WHAT I KNOW FOR SURE

WHAT STOOD OUT FOR ME THIS YEAR



I loved it when we went on the Victorian Outing. It was so much fun and I loved it when Sandie and Anna got caned. – **Ashna Baba**

I loved the first day of Grade 3 because Mrs Robbertze was so kind and fun. – **Annabelle Bam**

My favourite part of this year was the Foundation Phase Production. It was so much fun. – **Annabel Cowling**

The thing that stood out for me was the Olden Day outing. It was so cool and I was a boy. We had packed lunches and it had to be packed in brown paper bags. – **Hannah Hunt**

The best moment for me this year was the Kaapse Afrikaanse Eisteddfod. I love playing the piano, so having the chance to join was really nice. I played Hunted Mouse and Ferris Wheel. – **Unjali Naidoo**

My best part of the year is being with friends and having time with my teacher. But my absolute favourite was the play. – **Ayah Isaacs**

What stood out for me is when we had a fun day and we had no school work. There were funny moments and laughing moments. We also saw different type of birds on one of our outings. – **Selena Freddy**

The thing that stood out for me was our outing to the olden day school. My name was Jessica and I was a poor child. – **Isla Moore**

What stood out for me was our poster we had to make about an insect, mine was about a Hornet. I also loved the play and to have a line to say. We were the Monsters and we loved it. This year we also learnt the times tables and how to divide. – **Mia Knight**

My favourite thing was when we learnt about the Victorian days. It was interesting and so much fun to pretend. – **Charlotte Groenewald**

What stood out for me this year was our fun day. I enjoyed making the lanterns and I also loved everything about the Foundation Phase Production. – **Isabella-Rainn Meyer**

Something I loved the best was the olden day outing. I loved it because there was so much history. – **Meg Thomson**

The play really stood out for me because I was a lead role and I loved every moment of it. – **Deeyana Kader**

My favourite thing was doing my Afrikaans pizza oral. It was hard but so much fun. – **Gia Swarts**

During our play this year I learnt to never give up because practise makes better. – **Kate Thomas**

Something that really stood out for me was the school play. I absolutely loved being a lead role and working with all the other girls to make an amazing play. – **Amelie Graef**

What stood out for me was the moment I stepped into this classroom, because I knew it was going to be a good year. – **Sophia Nel**

My favourite thing this year was when we learnt about acting in the school play and when we were all scared back stage on the first night. – **Sophia Hall**

What stood out for me was the Olden days outing because I got to see how strict the teachers were. I also really liked the play and loved wearing costumes and being on stage. – **Mackenzie Abernethy**

What stood out for me was our play and learning about the Victorian Era. – **Helen Neethling**

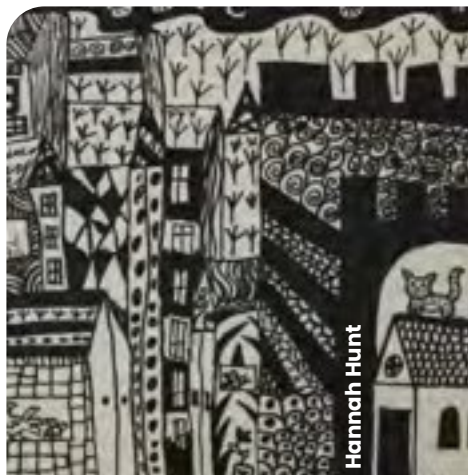
The play stood out for me the most because I went out first and it felt like I was a lead. The play was so cool. – **Alessandra van Staden**

Something that stood out for me was learning about the olden days. Did you know that toilets use to be called "the office" and most of all I loved the outing. It was the best outing ever! – **Layla Mahabeer**

Something that stood out for me was the play. We spent a lot of time with Carrie and it was so cool. We had such an amazing time on stage. – **Hafsa Fakir**

Our play that we did stood out for me and it also taught me to never give up and always do your best. – **Eloise Slingsby**

GRADE 3 ART



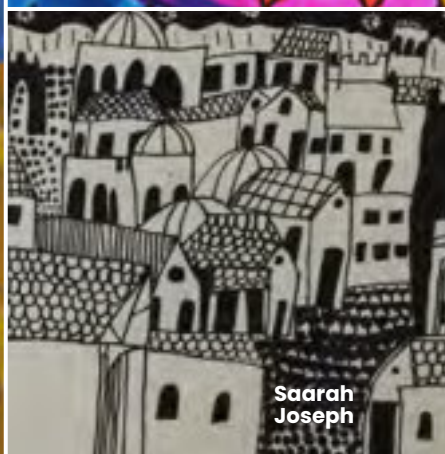
Hannah Hunt



Caitlin Buley



Elimyoli Cossie



Saarah Joseph



Lily Pienaar



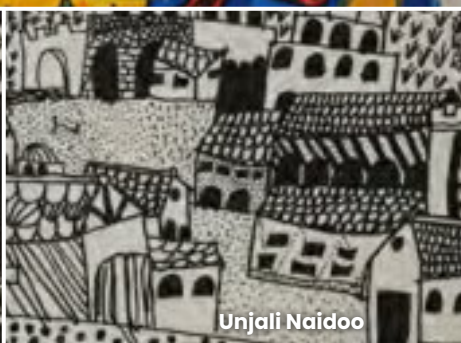
Kate Muzzell



Nehara Moodley



Stella-Belle Sale



Unjali Naidoo



Zenande Njana

Games

Science

Book reviews

Recognition

Off to sport
In the big shiny car
Past the small houses
Across the wonky bridge
In the smallest parking space
Within the school
By the weird swimming pool
On the green field
Finished the match.

– Zoe Lowan

Nabiha
Joyful, kind, generous, intelligent
Daughter of Khalied and
Tasneem
Who loves fashion, dancing and
shopping
Who fears loneliness and
boredom
Who needs her lovely family
Who gives warm hugs
Who would like to see the
pyramids
Resident of Crawford
Ebrahim.

– Nabiha Ebrahim

Off to riding
Past the music gate
Into the car
Off to Lane we go
Out of the car
Up to check what horse I am
riding
On Aladdin I get
Down to go and jump
Around the arena
Towards the jump: I did it!

– Jessica Ebbs

Liyanda
Clever, kind, sweet, cool
Daughter of Mila and Ilana
Who loves maths and netball
Who fears failure and natural
disasters
Who needs fun and Georgia
Thom
Who gives laughs and smiles
Who would like to see life
forever
Resident of Rondebosch
Ava.

– Liyanda Mafanya

Dog
Speedy, excited
Running, playing, jumping
Toys, tails wagging; wool,
hair balls
Sleeping, relaxing, lying
Sneaky, soft
Cat.

– Reyna Daya-Feasey

Georgia
Smart, kind, loyal, respectful
Daughter of Keran and Jason
Who loves maths, hockey and
friends
Who fears boredom and
creepy bugs
Who needs to be with her fun
family
Who gives beautiful smiles
Who would love to see the
Northern Lights
Resident of 4 Ventnor Road
Thom.

– Georgia Kate Thom

Winter
Chilly, miserable
Snowing, raining, freezing
Jackets, gloves; swimsuit, shorts
Swimming, tanning, beaching
Sunny, hot
Summer.

– Lucia Fontana

In the locker room
Out of the gate
Into the car
Between my mates
Near the school
Out of the car
In a great haste
Inside the opposition school
Among my friends
On the field
Until we win.

– Kundiso Runyowa

Dragonfly
Pretty, fragile
Buzzing, hovering, eating
Loves being around the water
Bug.

– Annabelle Mandy –
Woodcock

Onto the netball court
Into our positions
Towards my hands
comes the ball
Through the air
Inside the hoop
Before the final whistle
Score!

– Abigail Lange

Tlotlisang
Beautiful, creative,
amazing, kind
Daughter of Max and Monica
Who loves dancing, singing,
drawing and roller skating
Who fears the dark and spiders
Who needs friends and family
and more toys
Who gives kindness and gifts
Who would like to see other
countries and Taylor Swift
Resident of South Africa
Mototjane.

– Pearl Tlotlisang Mototjane

Day
Light, bright
Shining, flowing, sparkling
Happy, flower; sad, moon
Swaying, flying, dancing
Dark, gloomy
Night.

– Sarah Ebrahim

At NASA
Through the gates
In the rocket ship
Up into space we go
Next to the stars
On to the moon
Next to the flag is an alien
Off the moon we go!

– Emma Wood

Mom
Lovely, patient
Teaching, knowing, answering,
Books, warm; strong, kind,
Gyming, enjoying, running,
Thoughtful, amusing,
Dad.

– Hana Abdulla

GRADE 4 POEMS

In the litter
Among the others
Beneath a blanket
Out the cage
Through the door
Into a safe space
Surround loved ones
Since you got home

– Gia Yazdanpanahi

Monkeys
In the jungle
On the trees
Up in the canopy
Off the ground
Beside the river
Upon the vines
Out of sight
Among the birds
Through the dense tree tops
Off to the unknown

– Milly Popham-Holloway

Above the ground
Out of reach
Against the chimney
Among the roofs
Into stealth mode
Outside but safe
Along the drain
Between the trees
Below the sky
Near the moon
Without fear
Down for dinner my cat

– Katherine Morrissey

Diamanté
Music
Warm, Full
Violin, singing, sleep, library
Cold, Empty
Silence

– Nina West

DIAMANTÉ
OCEAN
WET, CALM
SPLASHING, SURFING, CRASHING
FISH, BEACHBALL, BONES, SAND
DRYING, WALKING, HEATING
DRY, HUMID
DESERT

– Emily Melck

At the mall
In the library
Across the food store
In my section
After the library
Up on the elevator
Before I went home
In the library again

– Amelia McDonald

Huda
kind, cheeky
loving, caring, reading
I will always be there
sister

– Aaliya Dollie

Name: Ayesha

Four Adjectives: kind, intelligent, loving, joyful
Daughter of: Ebrahim and Nazaly Stemmet

Who loves: Running, reading and spending time with her family

Who fears: Cockroaches and speaking to big groups of adults

Who needs: Hugs, happy spaces and calming music

Who gives: Education, instructions and help

Who would like to see: A world of peace and no hungry children
Resident of Athlone, Cape Town

Last name: Ally

– Isabella Hughes

I really enjoyed camp because it was so much fun. My favourite two activities were axe throwing and archery. I also loved who is with me in my dorm. - **Brooke Ross**

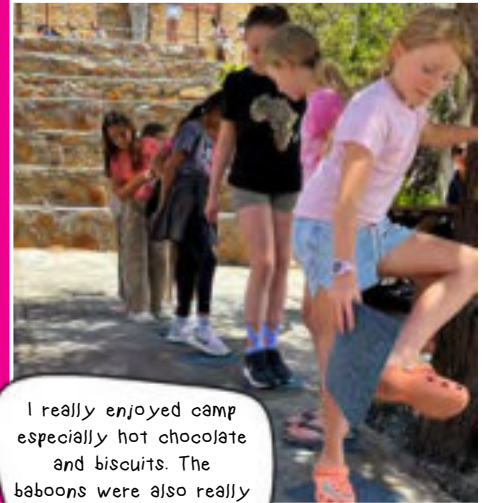
We went on a night hike and saw tiny scorpions! It was cool!
- **Kate Neville**



GRADE 4 CAMP

Grade 4 girls went on their first Herschel camp, for two days, from the 7th to the 8th of November. They travelled by bus to Rocklands Centre in Simonstown. Girls enjoyed team-building tasks, outdoor activities and learned much about leadership and themselves. There was a snake show and a night hike.

Additionally, a troop of baboons swimming in the pool and playing in the camp site was an unexpected treat. Most importantly, girls also had loads of fun!

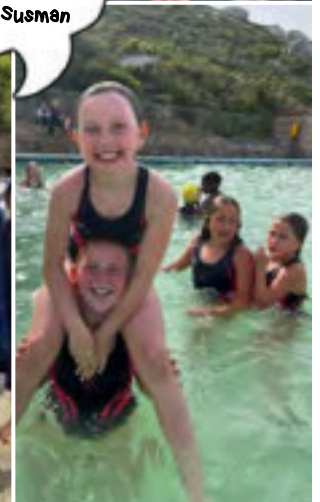


I really enjoyed camp especially hot chocolate and biscuits. The baboons were also really cool. - **Sienna Susman**

The very best fun with friends and new adventures like archery.
- **Anabel Alexander**



I liked being responsible and comfortable in the dorms.
- **Saudeh Munga**





GRADE 4 OUTINGS





Hana Ebrahim



Abbey Naidoo



Hana Abdulla



Katherine Morrissey



Jessica Boyes



Gia Yazdanpanahi



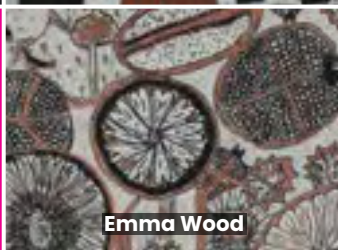
Zia Rinquest



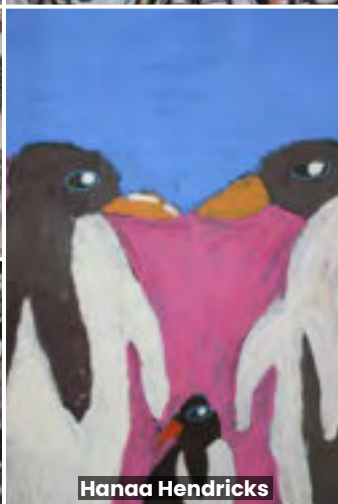
Zoe Lowan



GRADE 4 ART



Emma Wood



Hanaa Hendricks



Mia Maggott



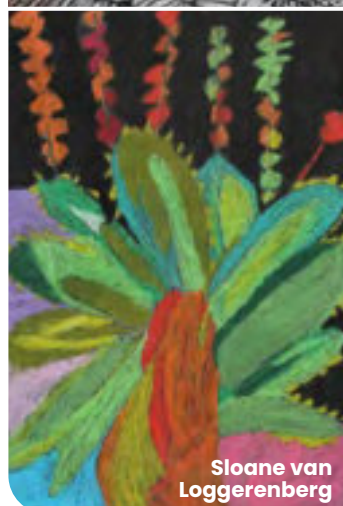
Annabelle Mandy-Woodcock



Tlotlisang Mototjane



Brooke Cadiz



Sloane van
Loggerenberg



Kundiso Runyawo



Nina West

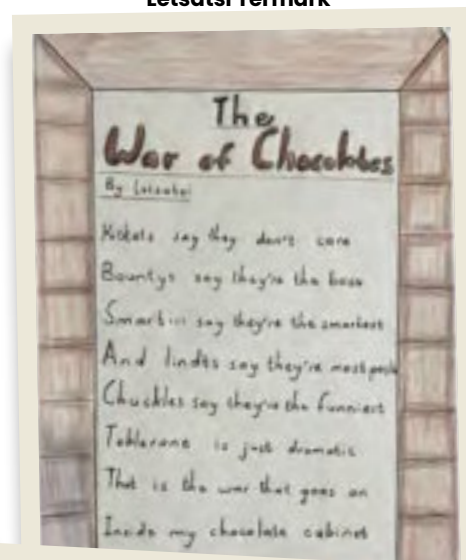


Hannah Daniels

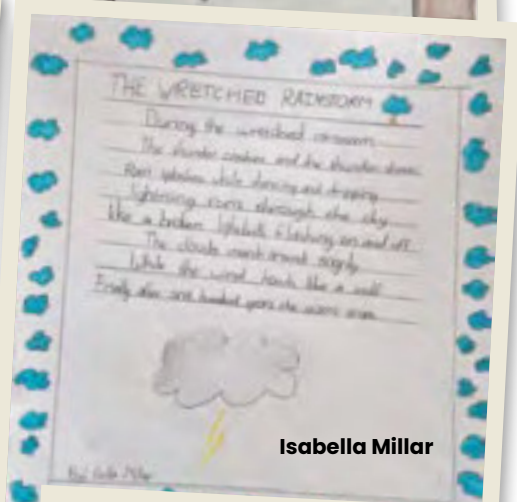


Emily Melck





Isabella Millar



ARE YOU GOOD AT
KEEP PLANTS ALIVE?



Sofia Khan

GRADE 5 MOMS AND DAUGHTERS CRAFTING





GRADE 5 LIESBEEK RIVER OUTING



PREP

GRADE 5



GRADE 5 OUTINGS





PREP

GRADE 5



Emma Logan

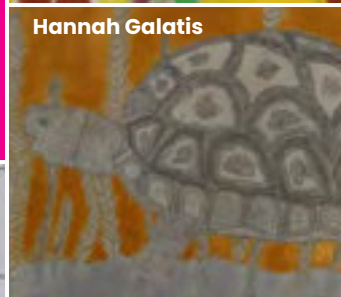


Bomisile Masemola

GRADE 5 ART



Ava Duff



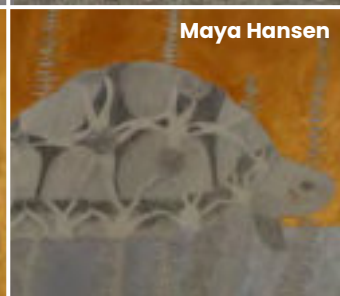
Hannah Galatis



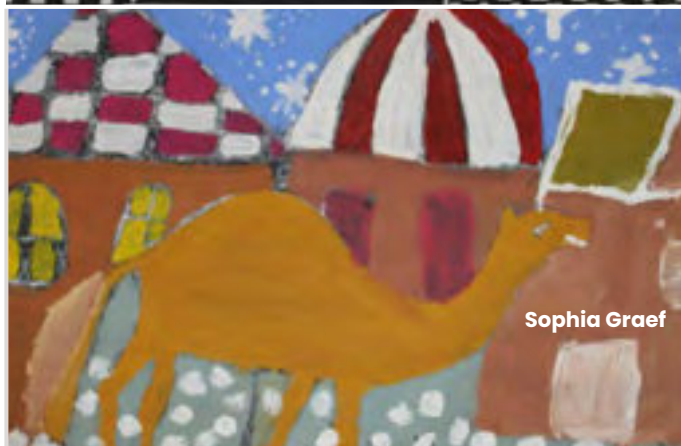
Christina Ratcliffe



Justine Louw-de Wet



Maya Hansen



Sophia Graef



Juliet Mundy



Zoe George

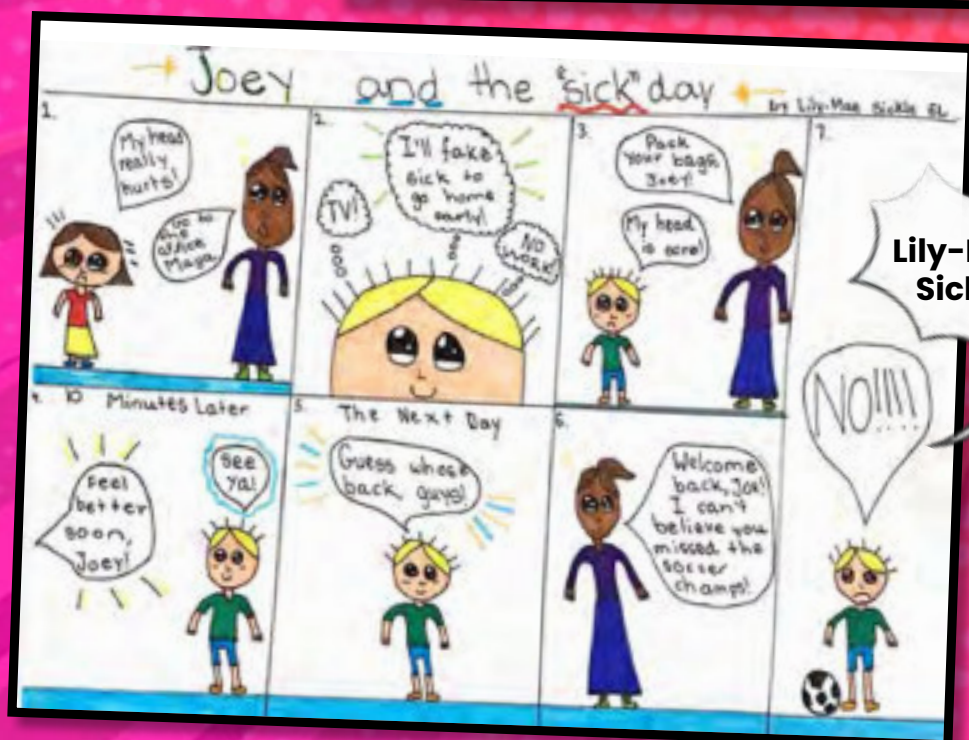


Sophia Hart

**Zaynah
Desai**

PREP

GRADE 6



Lily-Mae Sickle

**Emily
Groenewald**



MY FAVOURITE THINGS

The electric lightning striking the sky,
The loud rain tapping my window, waking me at night.
The musty scent of diesel, as the exhaust pipes roar,
The cheesy nachos, something I would die for.
The sun spilling over the sea, warming me toastily,
All these things, the things that complete me.

As I breach the surface and reach the beach,
The crashing of the waves beneath my feet.
The fragrance of roses as in spring they burst,
The bitter lemonade, quenching my thirst.
The chill of the water, restoring my soul.
I love these things, they make me whole.

– Megan Macdonald

The sight of a bright, brilliant bird flying by.
The sight of a cute and colourful butterfly.
The sound of a song like a cure to your despair.
The chirps of birds drifting through the air.
The pleasing, perfect perfume of puppies a few months old.
The smell of a candle both subtle and bold.
A cool piece of sushi on a hot summer day.
The taste of spaghetti never goes away.
The feel of fluffy wool through my fingers.
When water glides through my fingers it lingers.

– Elizabeth Wessels

The stunning sparkly stars at night,
The bubbly sound of excitement,
The smell of fabulous fresh fruit,
The feel of a hand as warm as the sun,
The taste of chocolate as it disappears in your mouth,
The bright brilliance of a sunrise,
The sound of happiness as it ripples through a baby,
The smell of shiny coats of paint,
The taste of wonderful water,
The feel of berge wind as it brushes my face.

– Zara Scholtz

Joy in a Jar

I love to see the smile of a girl,
Her mouth filled with teeth of pearl.
I love the gurgling of the waterfall of blue,
And the smell of the roses covered in dew.
I love creamy chocolate melting on my tongue,
And the ringing in my ears after a joyful child has sung.
I love the free flickering flames of the fire,
feeling warm as a mitten,
And the purr as I stroke the black-and-white kitten.
These are my favourite things, I'm sure you can tell,
They sing and put me under a wondrous spell.

– Amy Rich

The steel whispers "CRACK!",
And the raindrops dance as they fall from the SKY.
The SOFT, SILKY hair SLITHERS in my grasp,
And the DANCING, PRANCING features on people's faces.
THESE ARE MY FAVOURITE THINGS.

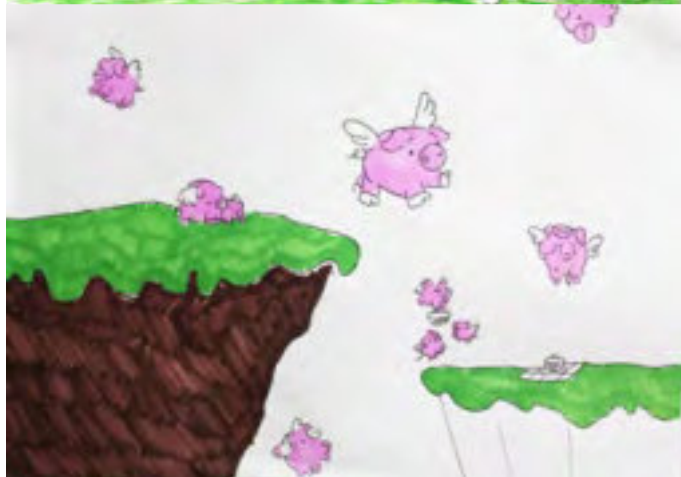
– Zimi Pana

Monkey and Molly's ambulance adventure



**Caroline
Rogers**

GRADE 6 IDIOMS



MIXED POETRY

HAIKU

When you are a child
Panic lurks in the unfinished
Words of an essay.

– *Indianan Joannou*

When you are a child
Friendship hugs you like blankets
While laughter warms you.

– *Sky Eyssen*

When you are a child
Freedom waits for you at the park
Playing in the sandpit.

– *Francesca Cowan*

When you are a child
Love sinks in the hearts of friends
And hugs those in need.

– *Sarah Gordan*

CONQUINS

Summer
Sunny, happy
Swimming, playing, surfing
Splashing through cold waves
Beach.

– *Olivia Melck*

Cat
Cuddly, cute
Playing, sleeping, hunting
Effortlessly affectionate yet cruel
Feline.

– *Sophie Popham-Holloway*

It felt good to see how my mom would vote and then I could help the younger children vote. It was a new experience which I enjoyed.
- Isra Abdulla

THE GRADE 6 ELECTIONS 2024



As part of their Integrated Studies this term the Grade 6 classes held the first ever Herschel elections. The girls were divided into 'political parties' and had to create and designed logos and decided on their party name. Policy issues, relating to the changes the girls wanted to make at Herschel, were prepared. By interviewing staff and pupils across the grades, as well as their own ideas they analysed problems that Herschel is facing and developed unique and diverse solutions.

The People's Choice (IEC) ran the elections on Thursday 29 May for Special votes (Grade 1-3) and 31 May for staff, Grade 6 parents and pupils from Grade 4-7.

After counting the votes, the final results were:

ENO	17
SFC	26
HNB	29
JFOS	31
HOH	35
FF	58
FAB	96
HHO	152

Well done to our winning party!

They will be meeting with Mrs Swartz to discuss a puffer jacket for pupils and a longer first break.

YOUR VOTE COUNTED!



There was a lot of plastic on the beach but it was fun to work as a team and clean it up. The beach looked much cleaner.

- **Najedi Soko**



I really enjoyed picking up the litter. We walked along the beach, picking up plastic as we went. I was surprised by how much glass we also found.

- **Amelia Mandy- Woodcock**



GRADE 6 BEACH CLEAN-UP HOUT BAY

PREP

GRADE 6



The amount of micro plastics was shocking and I felt really good when we started picking the plastic up and putting it in our bags.

- **Lily-Mae Sickle**



I found camp lots of fun and the meals were delicious. I enjoyed the river rafting the most. — **Sarah Gordon**



I loved the leaders, they were very kind and made all the activities fun. — **Isra Abdulla**



I really enjoyed singing around the bonfire. There was such a vibe. It was amazing to see scorpions on the night hike. — **Megan Macdonald**

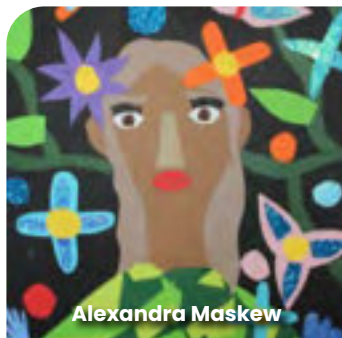


GRADE 6 CAMP

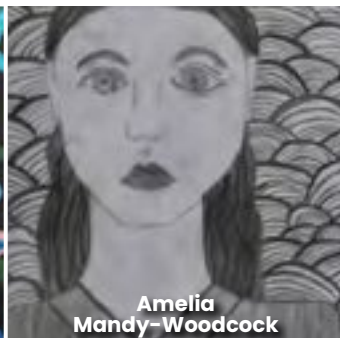
On February 28th, a group of 51 enthusiastic campers, accompanied by four teachers, embarked on the long-anticipated Grade 6 camp. After a two-hour journey, our bus arrived at the Bonamanzi campsite along the Breede River. Once the girls settled into their rooms, the excitement kicked in. The days were filled with a variety of team-building activities, as well as personal growth and reflection sessions, ensuring the girls were occupied throughout. We concluded the memorable adventure and returned on March 2nd, tired but content. What an incredible and fulfilling camp experience we had!

I enjoyed the delicious food, the fun activities and the awesome facilitators we had. — **Solange Akampurira**





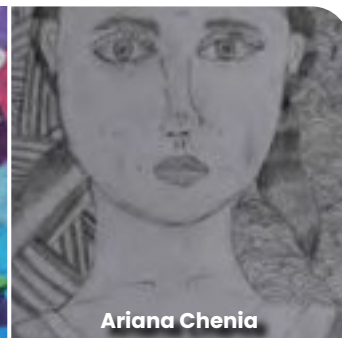
Alexandra Maskew



Amelia
Mandy-Woodcock



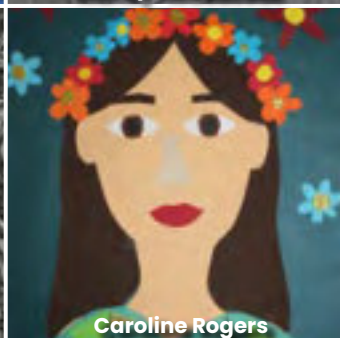
Amy Rich



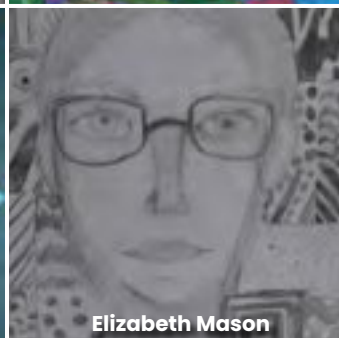
Ariana Chenia



Ariana Salie



Caroline Rogers



Elizabeth Mason



Ella Spaun

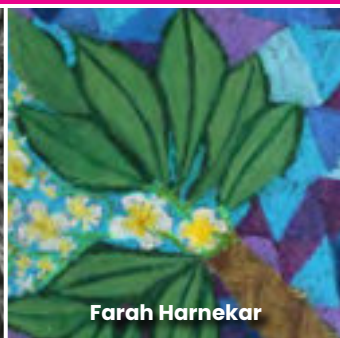
GRADE 6 ART



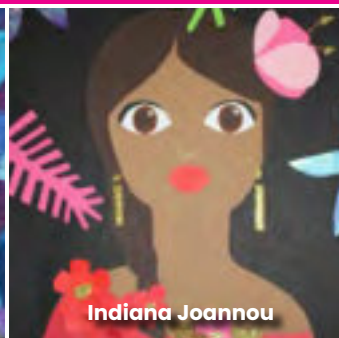
Emily Batchelor



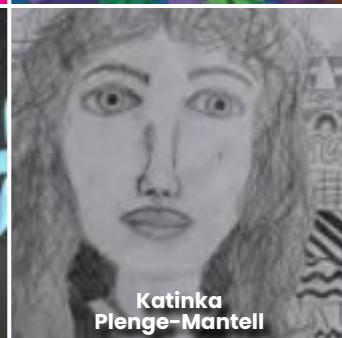
Emily Greonewald



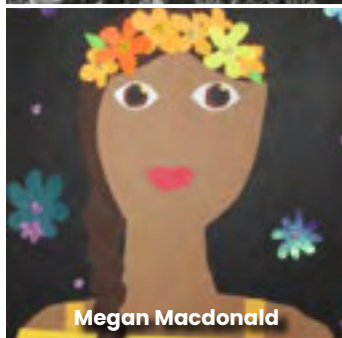
Farah Harnekar



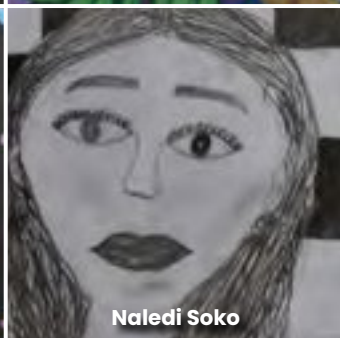
Indiana Joannou



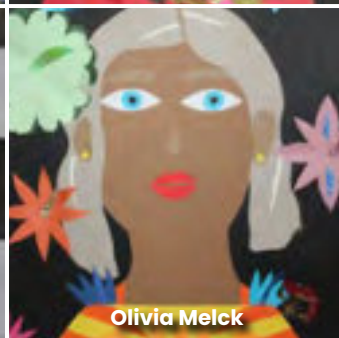
Katinka
Plenge-Mantell



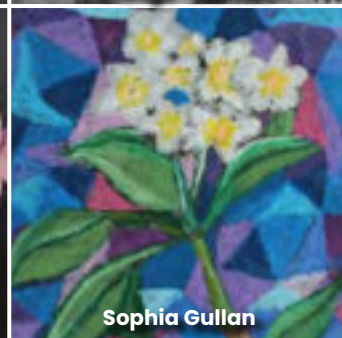
Megan Macdonald



Naledi Soko



Olivia Melck



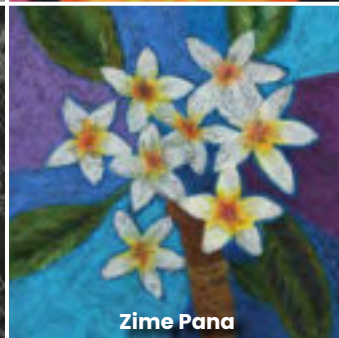
Sophia Gullan



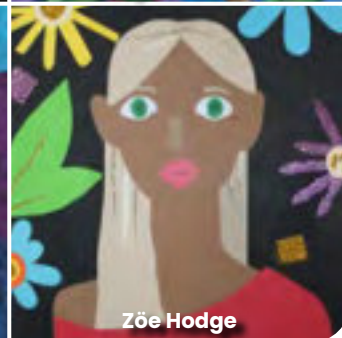
Tori Geyer



Zara Scholtz



Zime Pana



Zöe Hodge

H POEMS CREATIVE WRITING

Scan QR code
for more poems



PERFECTLY YOU

by Ariana Daniels

Perfect imperfections like the crazy, crashing, crying ocean
or an open door where wild, wind gushes through.

Perfect imperfections like a half-read Book that
leaves you in suspense or a Beautiful poem
that had not been planned ahead.

Perfect Imperfections like a Beauty spot or a
dark Brown scar.

Perfect imperfections like a unibrow or a
scratch on your arm.

these Perfect imperfections make everyone and
thing and I wish upon a star that
everyone feels complete.

one day I know my wish will come true
and when you walk into a room, you will feel
perfectly you!

THE LIFE OF GOOSE (THE FAMILY CAT)

by Sophia-Rose Sickle

3am

I've just returned from my nightly stroll,
During that, I ate an unsuspecting mole.
I cooked it on a half-lit cigarette,
And got lucky when I found a half-eaten slice of baguette.
But now I'm home and the house is dead.

8am

Crash! I wake up to the sound of pots and pans.
Mikey's up to it again.
He's pretending he's Iron Man!
My legs are tired, they feel so weak,
But it's in that moment I hear a faint, soft squeak.
"It's go time!" I think and get ready to pounce.
But it was just Mamma who stepped on my new toy mouse.

12pm

Help! She's coming!
I can hear her chubby little legs running.
There she is, as fat as a pig.
With a bush of hair that's most likely a wig,
She picks me up, she hugs me tight.
If there is anything this girl isn't, it's light.
She holds me closer into her chest.
I might be hallucinating, but maybe just out of breath.
Before she can cut off my oxygen supply,
I bite her hard and she let's out a cry.
Then comes Mamma, with horror in her eyes.
As she kicked me out the door I saw her true shoe size.

3pm

I've been outside for hours and it has started to rain.
At this point I've missed both my appetizer AND main!
How could Mamma do this to a spectacular cat like me?
My litter box is in the lounge and I really need to wee.
The door clicks and she lets me in.
Yes! Cute and fluffy Goose for the win.

8pm

It's getting late, which means I'm bored.
Pappa is busy poking the fire with a shiny silver sword.
Mamma's upstairs putting the kids to bed,
Which means in a couple of hours my day will come to an end.
Until tomorrow, where I'll have to do it all over again.



TIK-TOK TEASES THE CLOCK



by Charlotte Plummer

When most people see a clock,
All they think is tik-tok tik-tok.
But that isn't even the start of it all,
There's more to a clock ticking and hanging on the wall.

You see, the clock is a bit of a bully,
It sits on the wall and stares at me.
I beg and pray for it to move fast,
But it just stays there and hides a laugh.

I ask it to cut me some slack,
But sympathy is something it lacks.
I stare at it, wishing the lesson would end,
But that horrible sound is all it will send.

Tik-Tok Tik-Tok
Says the bully of a clock.
The look on it's face is a little bit smug,
But it keeps ticking along with a shrug.

Tik-Tok Tik-Tok
It goes slower than a granny walking a block.
Tik-Tok Tik Tok
Oh my gosh, just stop!

Tik-Tok Tik-Tok
Why do you torture me?
Tik-Tok Tik Tok
How much ruder can you be?

Brrrring, there goes the bell!
Good, I was about to yell.
I walked out the class relieved,
But when I looked back it was still staring at me.

Tik-Tok Tik-Tok
That is the secret of the clock.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

by Michela Pharo

Family game nights are bitter sweet,
With loads of friends, it's quite a treat.
Strictly 'family only' but come through the door,
Pull up a chair or sit on the floor.

A game of Twister is a family favourite,
We like it the most, take a photo and save it.
In a tangled heap, limbs intertwined tight,
Laughter so loud, what a delight.

My mom is the most competitive of us here,
She 'lets' everyone win, but don't get near.
My dad is next who is super strong,
But he falls all the time, all game long.

My twin brother is the worst at playing games,
Yet he wins all the time and never complains.
Next up is me, the clumsiest of them all,
But my mom says I'm quick and my dad says I'm small.

Twister is complete but we're not finished yet,
Charades is coming where we include the pet.
Walk up the stairs where we will start the game,
Once we're finished walking up, lets kick off with names.

The madness is beginning, it's like a thunderstorm,
But we're happy and calm, it's usual, just the norm.
My perfectly imperfect family is perfect for me,
Thank you for watching, close the door when you leave.

MOTHER NATURE OR MOTHER MONSTER

by Nsovo Baloyi

Mother Nature, the mother to us all
The beauty in this world that will never fail
She protects us, she makes us feel safe
This feeling that we all crave

She makes the stars shine so bright
It lights the way to our delight
A shooting star runs across the sky
Just like my hope, it's so so high

The sun shines, beaming down
Leaving everyone without a frown
Kids running around with ice-cream
This, right here, is living the dream

However, her raging fury, her rising
distress
These fires have Mother not looking her
best
Destroying homes, destroying families
This leaves us waiting so anxiously

Her vast oceans once held so dear
Now choked in plastic, a tale unclear
Beneath the waves, creatures weep
As pollution spreads in waters deep

Mother Nature or Mother Monster
Full of questions, yet – no answer
For good or ill she shapes our fate
Oh Mother Nature both love and hate

I AM ME

by Zara O'Connor

In a world, where perfection thrives
There lies a girl who makes sure she
survives.

I may not be wholly complete
But I sure am quiet, strong and sweet.
In my sleep I wriggle
My sister says I giggle.
I need to be fresh for my running,
So I can come out gunning.
I always strive to be fully fit
And nobody can take away my grit.

I do love my sister
Although our fights can hurt like a blister.
My neighbours complain about our dogs' bark
But it's such fun playing with them in the park.

My dad thinks he is cool
And that his 'dad jokes' rule.
My mom is often on the hop
But she's always there at a drop.

Next are my goofy golfing grandpas
And my two chattering grandmas.
The never stop spoiling
Unless something is boiling.

Everyone is unique and you are you
In all aspects that is true.
Perfectly imperfect
Flawed, yet worth it.

RESENTFUL STORM

by Dana Campbell

A beautiful, untouched land
of fun and games was
like a peaceful mind.

The valleys were larger
than space, high above.
They protected all the trust.

Tulips! Frangipanis! Zinnias!
All were a powerful burst
of colour against the green.

BOOM! CRACK! SMACK!
Havoc and lightning entered
the patient, peaceful place.

The monotone, angry storm
yelled and stomped across
the once joyful skies.

Then the splish-splash of rain
made the zinnias, now pretty
ugly,
bow their heads in defeat.



GRADE 7 LINE DANCING



PREP

GRADE 7



The most enjoyable thing about creating the play was when I saw it come together because everyone worked as a team.
- Mia Neale-Shutte, Rolt



My most enjoyable part was the full run throughs because it was fun to see what we had to fix and seeing it all come together was extremely fulfilling."
- Raya Shaboodien, Merriman



I loved helping create each character's individual personality that made them unique. I loved watching the characters come to life on stage. Each character was different and distinct. -
Sophia-Rose Sickle, Jagger

GRADE 7 HOUSE PLAYS

by Mrs Dawson-O'Connor
and Mrs Pretorius

This year the Grade 7s presented the first-ever Prep School House Plays. Each House took the theme of 'H-Factor' and turned it into an exciting and drama-filled play. Every aspect of the productions, from scripts to music, lighting, costumes, staging and rehearsals, was driven by the Grade 7s themselves.

The final performance was a celebration of nine months of hard work, collaboration and creativity. We are so proud of everything they delivered and the truly memorable performances!

The award winners:

Best Musical Piece: Carter

Best Individual Performance:
Michela Pharo

Best House Play: Rolt



The most enjoyable part of creating the play was making the idea of the play and the plot. I also loved having a chance to be on stage and having lines to say. -
Anne Blake, Carter



GRADE 7 OUTING TO AQUARIUM



PREP

GRADE 7

High Africa encouraged me to try new challenges and face my fears.
- Zara Govender



I loved camp so much. My favourite parts were definitely the river rafting, food and games!
- Jess Durant



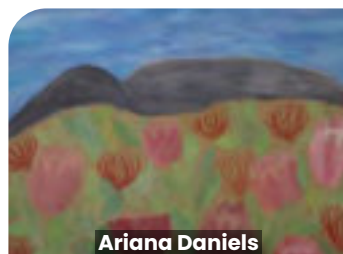
Grade 7 CAMP TO HIGH AFRICA



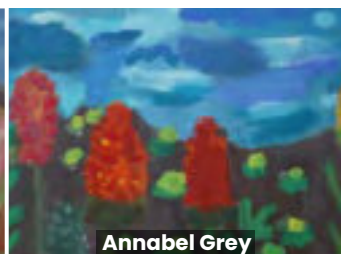
My favourite part about the Grade 7 camp was the fashion show. It was fun to work as a team to create a beautiful outfit. The facilitators were also so kind and funny.
- Sophie van Zyl



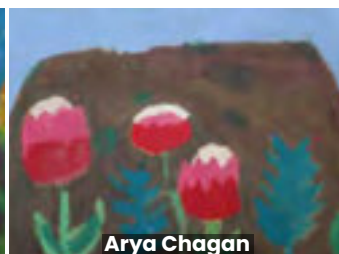




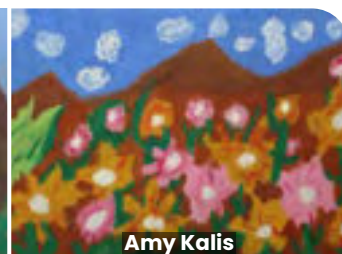
Ariana Daniels



Annabel Grey



Arya Chagan



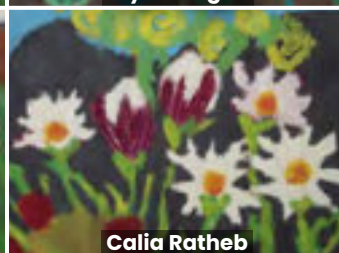
Amy Kalis



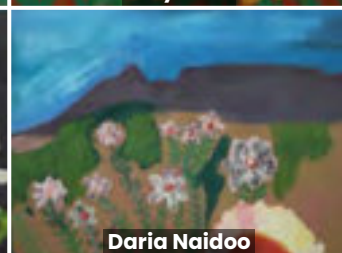
Alana Wareham



Claudia Böttger



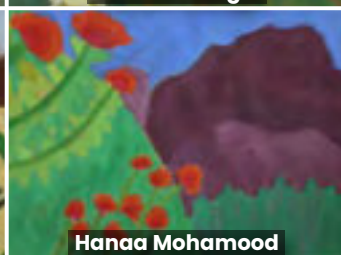
Calia Ratheb



Daria Naidoo



Faye Clark



Hanaa Mohamood



Imogen Brogan



Jaime-Lee Horn

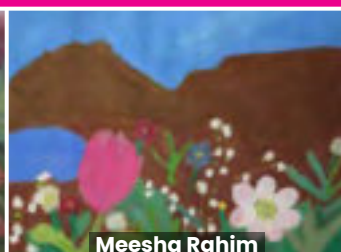
GRADE 7 ART



Jessica Durrant



Katinka Lowther



Meesha Rahim



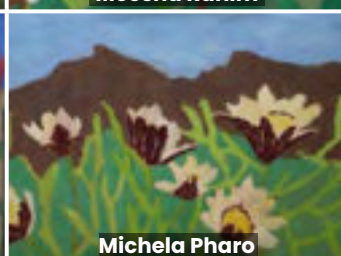
Megan van der Spuy



Mehreen Noorani



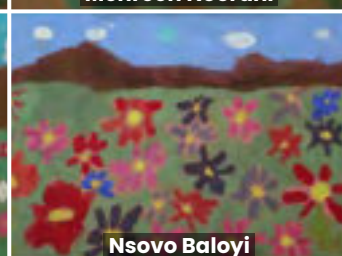
Mia Neale-Shutte



Michela Pharo



Mila Magugu



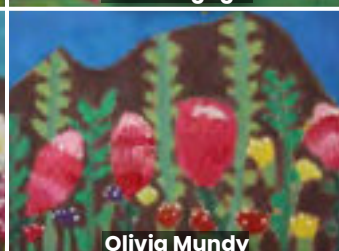
Nsovo Baloyi



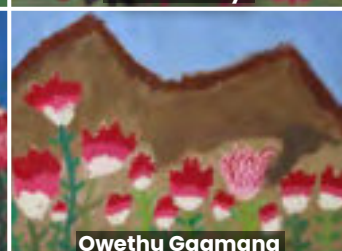
Nura Fakir



Olivia van Sittert



Olivia Mundy



Owethu Gqamana



Raya Shaboodien



Satara Govender



Sophia-Rose Sickle



Zarah Kenwright



**GRADE 7
FAIR**



PREP

GRADE 7



GRADE 7



LEADERSHIP DAY



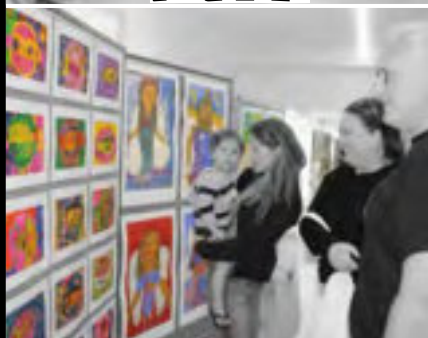


INSPIRE
IMAGINE
CREATE

PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE

ART



A child's world is fresh, new and beautiful full of wonder and excitement.

Psychologists say that "wonder is one of the key ingredients in the formation of the "grounded and whole person".

Let us nurture a sense of wonder by using tools of discovery, awareness, delight, reverence and surprise which are part of children's experiences on a daily basis.

The environment for wonder and creativity is an atmosphere of warmth, acceptance, love and freedom.

At Herschel we believe that dedicated teaching of the visual arts is a vital strength in our society.

We are committed to teaching sound fundamental art principles and to developing the gift of creativity inherent in every child.

Through systematic, qualitative lessons the learner develops the natural human activities of drawing, painting and creating with sound technique.

Artists are empowered to grow, explore, invent and discover throughout the term. They are encouraged to observe inquisitively and carefully in order to realize their individual artistic potential.

We believe that creativity is fundamental to cognitive and effective development.

– Anne Foale-Price



GRAAD 6 KLEUR GEDIGTE

AFRIKAANS

Die blou see,
Die warm briesie,
Koue borrelgom-roomys,
Die gevoel van duik in die koue water,
Die water polo swembad,
Die somerlug,
Swem in die see,
Blou is die kleur wat my gelukkig maak.

– **Sarah Gordon**

Ek hou van groen,
Die mooiste kleur,
Dit is kalm en vars,
Al rond in natuur.

Dit klink soos blare in die bome,
En voëls in die lug,
Dit voel soos gras onder jou voete,
En sonskyn op jou gesig.

Groen verryk die wêreld.

– **Indiana Joannou**

Groen is my gunsteling kleur.
Groen is in gras, kalk en plante.
Ek hou van groen omdat dit is blink, mooi en flambojante.
Pampoen, skoene en koene klink soos groen.
Groente, kruisement en pistachio's smaak soos groen.
Groen voel koel, gruwel en verkrummeld.
Dit kan in die wind swaai.
Groen.

– **Emily Groenewald**

Ek hou van blou.
Die see is blou, die lug is blou.
Dit voel gelukkig, soos 'n warm somer dag.
Dit maak my lag!
Dit kan my kalm laat voel,
Dit smaak soos lemoensap en die grootste roomys.
Dit klink soos golwe in die see.
Ek hou van blou.

– **Amelia Mandy-Woodcock**



GUNSTELING AFRIKAANS WOORDE

Komkommer
– Abigail Lange 4B

Hasie
– Mia Maggott 4A

Pantoffels
– Emma Wood 4B

Gees
– Nina West 4A

Donderstorm
– Sarah Ebrahim 4B

PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE

GRAAD 7

BOEK RESENSIE



“Die nuwe vriend” is ‘n baie interessante boek. Sodra jy dit begin lees wil jy nie ophou nie. Hierdie boek is goed vir jong tieners. Die skrywer van die boek is Andre Trantraal. Die tema van die boek is liefde en drama. Die hoofkarakters van die boek is Keegan en Alysha. Die storie is oor ‘n nuwe student Alysha, en Keegan hou van Alysha.

Keegan se vriende Samier en Samia hou nie van Alysha nie. Daar is altyd kompetisie tussen Samia en Alysha. Keegan moes die vrede bewaar. Keegan is baie sportief. Samia is baie slim. Samia en Alysha is goed in alles. My gunsteling deel van die boek was wanneer Samia 19/20 in ‘n toets gekry het en Alysha 20/20 in die selfde toets gekry het. Samia was smoorkwaad. Dit is ‘n wonderlike boek. Sal Alysha en Samia ooit vriende word, of sal hulle vyande bly? Lees die boek en vind uit.

– Michela Pharo



“Max en die dapper Gorilla” is bondel kort stories uit ‘n boek deur Wendy Maartens en Alex Houwelingen. Die stories gaan oor die diere in ‘n dieretuin in Johannesburg. Een van die stories gaan oor Max die Gorilla en hoe hy ‘n skelm vang. Max die Gorilla was ‘n ster. Baie mense het na hom gaan kyk. Eendag het Max ‘n skelm gesien. Die skelm kruip vir die polisie weg en spring in sy hok. Max was baie kwaad! Max storm op die man af. Die skelm skiet Max in die bors en nek. Dit maak Max smoorkwaad en sy wonde pyn. Die veearts kom help en Max gaan hospitaal toe. Die volgende dag is Max beroemd. Die koerante het almal oor hom geskryf. Max is gelukkig en hy sit in die son met sy maat.

Ek het die storie geniet want Max is dapper. Die boek is interessant en ek dink dit is ‘n goeie boek vir kinders. Die tema van die boek is avontuur.

– Annabel Grey



Skandeer
QR-kode
vir meer.



ISI KHOSA



"I enjoyed isiXhosa because the orals were always so much fun and gave us the space to be as creative as we want in a different language."
-Kristina Kalil

"isiXhosa is a very interesting language with lots to learn. We have a great time doing orals, learning and having fun. I love isiXhosa and will miss it next year."
-Lucy Cotterell

"My favourite thing about isiXhosa is that we can be creative with our orals. Mrs Vundla gives us the freedom to express ourselves in funny skit-like orals."
-Sophia-Rose Sickle

"isiXhosa is such a fun language to learn. This term we extended our vocabulary on "at a restaurant". We also did orals in groups of 3. We had so much fun. Thank you so much Mrs Vundla."
-Iona Slingsby

"My favourite part of isiXhosa is our orals. They are fun, entertaining and extremely funny."
-Jaime Smit




Welcome to our library!

Books
bring joy
and adventure
to my life!

- Abigail Lange

Take a moment and ask your mom or dad, an aunt or uncle, any grandparent...then sit back as they regale you with torrid tales from 'long, long, ago'.

A trickier time when little children would tremble at the prospect of having to enter their local library, hanging back fearfully as determined parents lug them through the dull door of the intimidating structure as it lurks in the shadows of the haunted town square. Tall, crumbling structures with murky towers and bottomless basements. Dark, cobwebby bookshelves with dour lighting, stale air and virulent shushings from puckered, pointy librarian lips!

The only puckering of lips you will find in our preparatory library, is the librarian's wind-blown kisses waved at Little Lambs as they pass through the foyer, the only trembling in little hands in those reaching for a brand-new book on the display shelf. Here we saddle our steeds and ride towards the Land of Possibility. Where the sun shines and clouds never stay long.



Our library is a place of laughter. And light. Of ecstatic flights of fantasy. Of shared reading and laughter and the making of heart-warming memories. Here our stories tell of baby dragons held safe, of magic paintbrushes that feed the hungry, of magical minds that dream bigger-than-ever, and hands that reach out to hug and to hold. To EMBRACE.

In a busy
day, the library
is a place to
find peace.

- Rosie Weldon

Never in
a million years
would I want our
library to
close down!

- Olivia de Souza

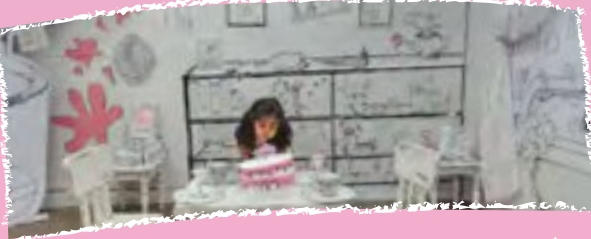
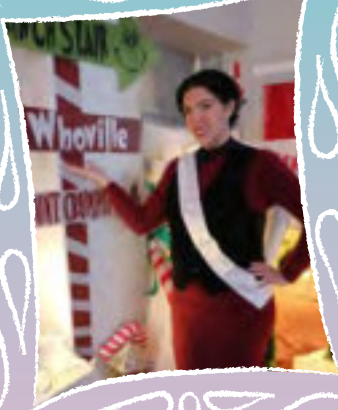
The Lorax says that

**'unless someone like you
cares an awful lot,
things won't get better,
no it will not!'**

I really believe that everyone at Herschel,
cares A LOT - we are real eco-warriors!

- Haniyya Bholey





DEBATING

Debating brought out The Law in everyone!
- Kristina Kalil

This was the first year that Debating was offered at Herschel. Girls enjoyed the benefit of weekly coaching with Zara Sidba and mastered many debating skills. Two teams participated in the National Debating League, competing in events hosted at schools around the Peninsula. In addition to competing, our teams also presented a mock debate for the Grade 4-7 classes.

At the Cape Town NDJ Awards ceremony, our Herschel Debating Team was placed 14th out of 30 teams. Satara Govender, Emily Groenwald and Lucy Cotterell were recognised for their outstanding achievements and awarded certificates. Special mention goes to Satara for being placed eighth overall. Congratulations to all members of the Debating Club for their growth, bravery and commitment this year.



Loved doing Debating with my friends!
- Ayesha Joseph

It was fun and challenging.
- Lucy Cotterell



We laughed using Mr Beast as an example during a debate.
- Emily Groenwald



I enjoyed working with the Grade 7s.
- Saika Mostafa

I learned to write and speak confidently.
- Nura Fakir

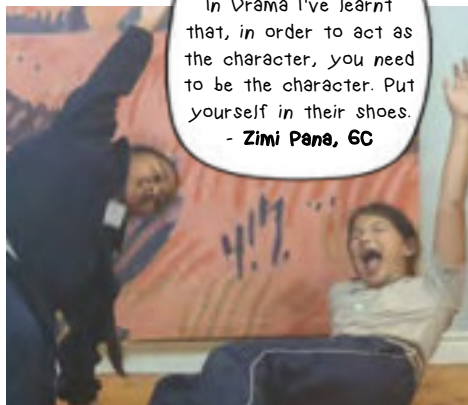


It was fun seeing people from different schools and debating against them.
- Satara Govender



I learned to share my thoughts and speak my mind.
- Mehreen Noorani

In Drama I've learnt that, in order to act as the character, you need to be the character. Put yourself in their shoes.
- Zimi Pana, 6C



Drama has been one of the best subjects ever, no matter what term. Mrs DOC always made Drama fun!
- Francesca Cowan, 6C



I enjoyed the group activities and games.
- Cwenge Rwekana, 5M



My best moment was the Assembly when I had to act tired. It was funny.
- Tlotlisang Mototjane, 4B



I loved playing the games, and learning and doing all the poems, it was all so fun!
- Taish Jakoet, 3K

DRAMA

by Mrs A. Dawson-O'Connor

Drama is more than lights, cameras, and action. It's a chance to see life from another angle and understand new perspectives. It helps us grow in confidence, creativity, and empathy, making everyday life richer and more meaningful.

The greatest joy as a Drama teacher is seeing a child uncover a piece of themselves while stepping into a character's shoes, discovering new emotions, and finding confidence in their own voice.



FOUNDATION PHASE PRODUCTION H-FACTOR

My favourite part about the play is when each one of us got to swap roles. I was Pumba but the next night I was a monster.
- **Eloise Slingsby**



PLAY SYNOPSIS

A few 'well-known' Disney Characters manage to escape through a Monster's Inc. door from Mickey Mouse's Clubhouse and land up at Herschel Girls Prep due to a well-meaning young Herschelian falling asleep outside Mrs Swartz's office. This results in the Disney characters trying to work out how to get back to where they came from, but in doing so, they meet many amazing characters and learn many valuable 'H' word lessons along the way. Herschel proves to be the place where ALL BELONG!

Message from producer:

I just love that this play was written for us by our hip and happening director, Carey Hickson-Mahony. This allowed her to expertly weave our theme for the year into a story about Herschel and all the values we hold so dear. It was a time for our girls to shine and boy did they Shimmer and Shine in costumes fit for Broadway and 4 performances filled with energy, excitement and pizzazz. Carey managed to bring out the best in our girls and ignited a newfound love for the stage for many of our girls. Watching our girls learn their lines, hone their acting skills and grow in confidence over a short 8-week period was a delight to witness. The Foundation Phase certainly showed us they have the H FACTOR!



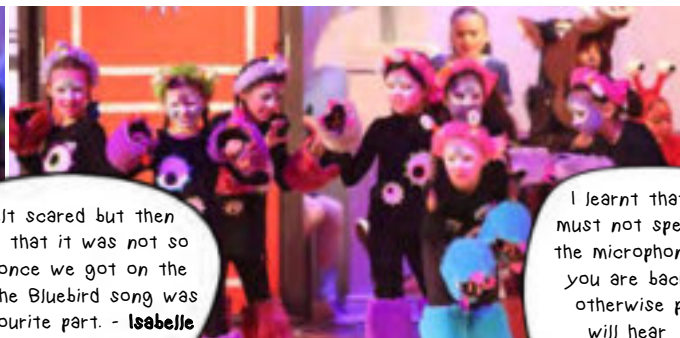
CHARACTERS	CAST HIP	CAST HAPPENING
Mrs Swartz	Jessica Miller	Charlotte Groenewald
Herschel Girl 1	Aayah Khan	Mackenzie Abernethy
Herschel Girl 2	Sophia Hall	Hafsa Fakir
Herschel Girl 3	Emily Duff	Kate Thomas
Herschel Girl 4	Stella-Belle Sale	Azura Puglia
Cruella	Skylar Akampurira	Isla Moore
Pumba	Annabelle Bam	Eloise Slingsby
Roz	Juliette White	Elimyoli Cossie
Tinkerbell	Liora Mzozoyana	Kate Muzzell
Sebastian	Ziya Hendricks	Deeyana Kader
Dory	Amelie Graef	Nehara Moodley

CLASSES

Grade 1Y – Birds	Grade 2G – Wild Animals	Grade 3K – Dancers
Grade 1R – Dalmatians	Grade 2M – Pirates	Grade 3R – Monsters



We felt scared but then realised that it was not so scary once we got on the stage. The Bluebird song was our favourite part. - **Isabelle Daffue and Lily Powder**



I learnt that you must not speak into the microphone when you are backstage otherwise people will hear you. - **Carniele Magazore**



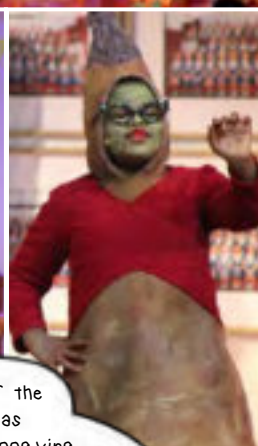
We were always laughing behind the curtains when we weren't supposed to. - **Grace Speres**



I loved the play. It was fun, cool and amazing. I was a monster with a headband, real feet and claws. I loved it the most because everyone took part. - **Hannah Hunt**



I loved my role and taking part as the crow. My excitement grew when I got on stage and saw my friend had come to watch and sat in the front row! - **Saba Corry**



My favourite part of the play was when I was Mrs Swartz and I was boogying to all the classes' songs. - **Charlotte Groenewald**



Coding with Sphero Balls feels so futuristic, like we're in the 3600s.

– Sarah Ebrahim

COMPUTERS stands for: Coding, Outstanding, Amazing, Play, Fun, Entertaining, Robots, Satisfying. – Jessica Ebbs

When you get things right you feel like a genius – Tlotlisang Motojane

COMPUTERS

ICT lessons are the perfect time to spark creativity and enthusiasm. Every day is an opportunity for fun, learning and investing in our futures. It is truly exciting to witness pupils really dig in, without fear, and dare to fail, confident enough to explore beyond the easy and the familiar.

Yes, instructions are examined and followed, assessments completed, and data handled. However, the real achievement is how pupils embrace opportunities that grow them and prepare them for a world not yet imagined by most. From skills and performance to collaboration and personal development – we do it all.

Foundation phase lays down fundamental skills for future-focused learning. A variety of platforms (some shared across the curriculum) with interactive learning, fun activities and challenging games, develop proficiency and integration over a broad base. Purple Mash is one such tool that is used across subjects, and so proficiency in one area supports learning over a broad spectrum.

When the Sphero Balls and Indi Cars come out, the challenge is on! Hands-on coding, exploration and problem-solving with robotics has never been so much fun. Our coding platforms allow pupils an insight into the world of programming, website building and robotics. Exploring basic coding languages and fundamental skills such as pattern recognition, direction, sequencing and critical thinking are developed. Collaboration and enthusiasm makes learning easy, as challenges are eagerly accepted, and when successes are achieved and celebrated, you know that quality learning has far exceeded expectations.

Our passion, curriculum and value-driven teaching not only aims to empower young people on devices, but also to equip future adults for life-long learning and responsible digital citizenship.



PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE



ECO CLUB





I enjoyed all the fun songs singing together with my friends. - **Mia Knight**

MUSIC

THE JUNIOR CHOIR

The Junior Choir had lots of fun learning music like 'I will sing with the Spirit', 'Chocolate', 'I'm a Spring Chicken', 'Dono Nobis' and much more. They concluded their year with 'The Sans Day Carol' as arranged by John Rutter at the Herschel Prep Carol service.



I loved Junior choir especially when we did the Evening of Music and Carol Service and we learnt all the fun and sophisticated songs. - **Nehara Moodley**



I loved it when we sang 'The Holly' at the Christmas Carols, it was lots of fun singing with all my friends this year. - **Amelie Graeff**



I really enjoyed orchestra this year, it was so fun and I loved making music with my friends and teachers. My favourite memory was the music evening with Wetpups. I liked playing 'Viva la Vida', it was a huge performance and it was incredible! - **Charlotte Plummer**

Being in the orchestra is fun. I like to play with the violins. - **Jessie Naidoo**

I joined the orchestra in Grade 4 and this year has been the best one yet. I loved performing 'Dragonhunter' as it is my favourite piece. It is magical how different instruments can work together to produce such amazing harmonies. Music at Herschel is so uplifting and I am thankful to have been a part of it. - **Satara Govender**

STRING ALONG AND THE SILVER SWANS

The recorder and junior violin girls went to the Kaapse Eisteddfod and played 'Rock Clock' and it was very exciting when we got a Diploma! - **Amelie Graeff**



I like string along because everybody is heard and we come together nice and in harmony. My favourite part is playing first violin with Deeyana. - **Elimyoli Cossie**

SENIOR ORCHESTRA



I've loved orchestra throughout the whole year. I have loved the pieces we have played and how Miss V helped us play with emotion. I didn't always enjoy the countless hours we played just to perfect a piece, but in the end it was all worth it when we would play together as if one instrument. I truly am going to miss orchestra next year. - **Sophia-Rose Sickle**

GUITAR ENSEMBLE

Our guitar ensemble had a great time playing all sorts of songs and pieces. From the 'Addams Family' theme song to 'Brazil' by Declan McKenna. My favourite part was all the fun and laughs we had on Friday mornings and my favourite song we played was 'Brazil' which we played with the chamber choir. It was a fantastic experience that showed out love for music and teamwork! - **Emma Warner**



SENIOR CHOIR AND CHAMBER CHOIR

The Senior Choir had an exciting year full of memorable performances. From the collaboration concert with WPPS to spreading Christmas cheer at the Carols service, the Senior Choir has shared the gift of music and song. We also had plenty of fun doing so!

The newly formed Chamber Choir had a successful year of performance. They grew in strength and confidence and sang a wide variety of songs and styles.



HERSCHEL PREP CAROL SERVICE

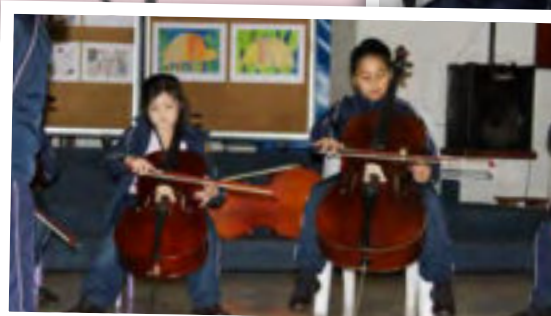
We held our wonderful, annual Prep Carol Service at the Senior School Sports Centre. The congregation and school were led by the Herschel Preparatory School Orchestra, as well as the Senior and Junior Choirs in a fantastic selection of festive carols, creating a lively and joyful atmosphere.

The service titled 'Christ in the Symbols' included a display of Christmas symbols, as well as readings by the Spirituality leaders and pupils across the grades. The Grade 7s shared their beautifully crafted lanterns as they processed to 'O Holy Night', played by the Music staff. After the service was concluded, the Grade 4 and 5 Marimba ensemble entertained everyone with fun Christmas songs, adding to the Christmas cheer.

FOUNDATION PHASE EVENING OF MUSIC

The concert was opened by StringAlong and the Silver Swan Recorder girls who played a medley of clock songs called 'Clockwork Rock', and this was followed by the Grade 1 Vibey Violins and the Cheeky Cello's playing 'Playful Pizzicato with a Sprinkle of Arco' to celebrate the introduction of the bow hold. The ukulele girls in Grade 1 and Grade 2 had everyone stomping feet and clapping hands to 'Can't Stop the Feeling' and 'We Will Rock You' while the Rumble Jumble Recorders, Recorder Robins and Silver Swans played gentle songs ranging from a two-part 'Pastorale' to 'The Bugs' – with a buzz!

The Junior Choir sang the well-known traditional 'Dona Nobis Pacem' as a round, followed by two funny songs, 'Ode to Chocolate' and 'I'm a Spring Chicken' which had the audience in stitches. The evening was concluded by everyone gathering on the stage to sing together 'Colours of the Wind', their favourite song from the FP play, H-Factor.





THE INTERMEDIATE PHASE EVENING OF MUSIC

This concert took place in our beautiful Herschel Theatre and was led by our 2024 Music Heads, Satara Govender and Sophia-Rose Sickle.

The evening kicked off with the Guitar Ensemble playing 'Adams Family' and 'Shotgun' and was concluded by the Senior Choir who sang 'Wind on the Hill', a quirky and dramatic song 'The Bat', as well as the much loved 'When I Grow Up' from the musical, Matilda. The Senior String

Orchestra performed two dramatic works, 'Dragonhunter' and 'Pirates of the Caribbean' with two contrasting dances in between. The audience was entertained by both African Percussion Ensembles who played well-known songs like 'Pata Pata' and 'Island in the Sun'. Our newly formed Wind Band made their debut with 'Skip to my Lou' while the Chamber Choir dazzled the audience with 'I have a dream' from ABBA and 'I ain't worried about it' by OneRepublic.



SOIRÉE

This year's Music Soirée at Herschel Preparatory was a dazzling display of our most talented musicians. The hall was transformed into an intimate concert venue, creating the perfect atmosphere for an evening of exceptional performances.

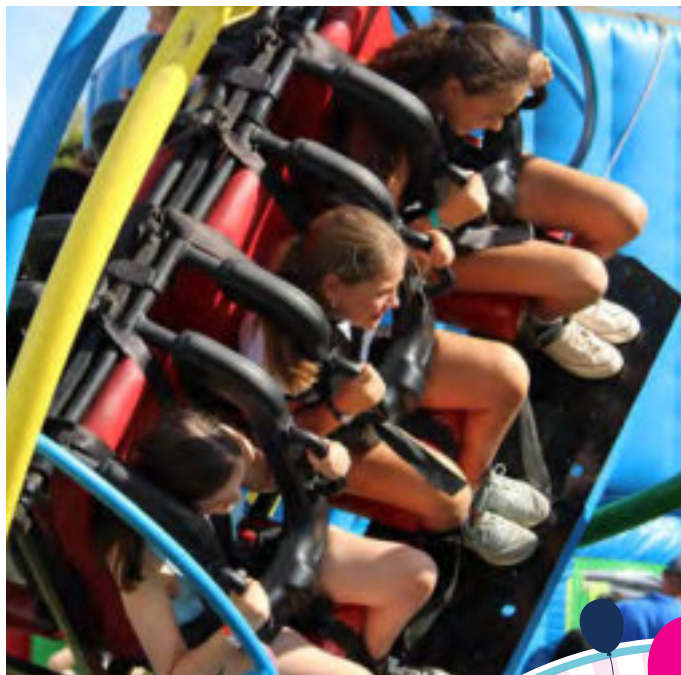
Friends, family members and teachers enjoyed refreshments on the veranda before being captivated by the carefully curated program.



WPPS AND HERSCHEL: MUSIC IS LIFE!

This year, the young Herschel Prep and Western Province Prep musicians came together to host a wonderful concert of choral music, band music, orchestral and marimba band music. The Sport Centre was bathed in colourful smoky hues while our amazing sound team made sure that every note was heard and appreciated. The programme included classical gems such as 'Spring' from The Four Seasons (Vivaldi), songs from musicals like 'When I Grow Up' from Matilda, pop songs like 'Final Countdown' and 'Jerusalem', as well as vibrant marimba music like 'Pata Pata' and 'Oceans' among others. The concert was titled 'Music is Life' and it was fittingly concluded with a mass item which included every singer and player called 'Viva la Vida' (Coldplay), which means 'Long Live Life'.





PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE



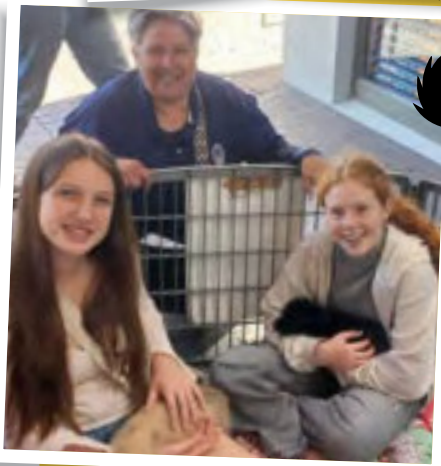
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



ACTS OF KINDNESS



ADOPTION DAY WITH MEGS MUTTS



The Magic has certainly happened at Herschel this year. Our girls and their families have given so many people HOPE. Hope in that there is kindness in the world and that there are people who care. Thank you, Herschel, for your generosity and the time you have given to all our fundraisers and Acts of Kindness this year. The charities we shared your contributions with, salute you. You have made a much-needed difference in the lives of so many adults, children, and animals this year. You have gone the extra mile yet again.

GRADE 7 FAIR



When there is kindness, there is goodness.
When there is goodness, there is magic.

— Hayley Atwell (Ella's Mother from Cinderella)

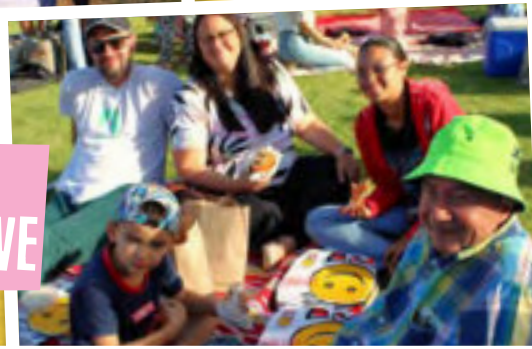
MANDELA DAY



PENINSULA SCHOOL FEEDING ASSOCIATION



PICNIC OF HOPE - LADLES OF LOVE



SANDWICHES AND SOUP



PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE



FAMILY GROUPS

MINI OLYMPICS



PICNIC



**SPRING
HAS
SPRUNG**



GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Whether it is helping my grandparents download Apps or just sitting around watching funny YouTube videos, every moment I get to spend with them is special.
– **Jessica Miller**

Grandparents' Day was held on Thursday 19 September. We always celebrate our Grandparents as close to Heritage Day as possible as they are the custodians of family traditions and cultural heritages. They play a pivotal role in passing down, values, traditions, religious practices and are the link to our ancestors. We love seeing the special bond between our grandparents and their granddaughter's on this special day! It was celebrated with entertainment in the hall and followed by a special Reading Picnic out in the sunshine.

My Makhulu is teaching me isiXhosa. I am trying to understand it, but it is so hard, but with her help I know I will get it soon. Enkosi kakhulu ngento yonke ondenzela yona – see I told you I would get it soon! – **Liora Mzozoyana**

My granny is the best granny in the world! When mum doesn't give me sweets, she is the one to give me some. Our favourite place to go is Hans and Lloyd. I like to have a baby chino and she drinks coffee. – **Sophia Hughes**

My Ma taught me how to Batsha. She also taught me how to Salah. But not fully yet. She is very kind and pretty. – **Safaa Abdulla**

When I sleep over with my grandparents, I make pancakes for breakfast. My grandparents watch TV with me. My grandparents spoil me! – **Haadiya Abass**

My Grandma H gave me my first horse riding hat and my Grandma S always swims with me. My Grandpa and I both love animals. My Grandparents make me feel special. – **Sophie van der Spek**

Oupa is the best when it comes to making work fun. He drives a tractor with a trailer, and he lets us ride on it. He and my Ouma also run a camp on their farm and that keeps them extremely busy. Talking about Ouma, she is really cool. My Ouma is funny and great at singing. – **Helen Neethling**



The Grade 6s and 7s had this to say about

PANORAMA DAY



Grade 7

I really enjoyed Panorama Day. My favourite was the flowerpot dessert. The calligraphy was also an amazing experience. It was so much fun to spend time with my friends and learn things you wouldn't normally learn.

– Iona Slingsby

I loved Panorama Day. I had so much fun doing mosaic and spending time with my friends. I am very sad that it is our last Panorama Day at the Prep because I really enjoyed it.

– Emma Buckham

I enjoyed Panorama Day. It was very fun and calming, my favourite activity was learning how to create a mosaic mirror.

– Mila Magugu

I had so much fun on Panorama Day. I also learnt how to make one of the simplest yet most delicious desserts ever. I enjoyed every minute of it and loved being with my friends.

– Meesha Rahim

Panorama Day was incredible! I had a BLAST! I learnt new skills that were very easy and fun to learn. It was an amazing experience that I got to do with my friends. I am very grateful to have such a special day at school and very sad that it's my last. – Daria Naidoo

Grade 6

It was really fun learning about calligraphy. The painting takkies was enjoyable because we had lots of supplies to work with.

– Emily Batchelor

It was amazing to experience new skills, like felting. Painting takkies was an enjoyable way to relax and be calm.

– Lizzy Wessels

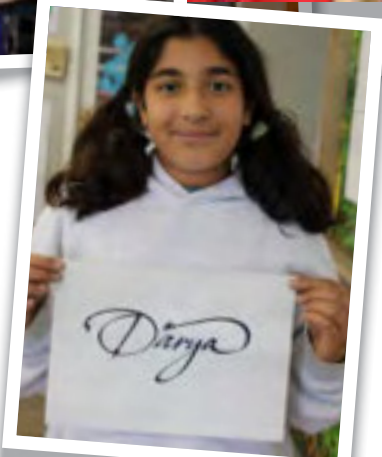
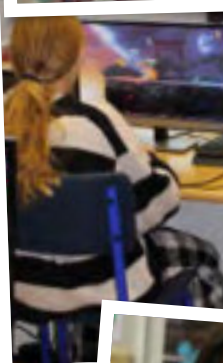
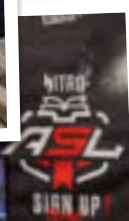
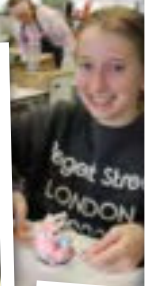
My first Panorama Day, what an experience! I made felt flowers and learnt calligraphy. It was interesting to learn how to make felt from raw wool. I loved calligraphy as my mom used to do it and the instructor taught us how to do it using movement, untraditional, but very fun. – Amy Rich

I had a great time during Panorama Day! I did painting takkies and LAN Gaming. I loved how we could do any design with the takkies and the gaming was a brand-new experience. It was an amazing day that I can't wait to do repeat next year!

– Katinka Plenge-Mantell

I really enjoyed Panorama Day. I did mosaic mirrors and calligraphy where we learnt about using different points of rotation in your body to make straight lines. It was a fun day!

– Amelia Mandy-Woodcock



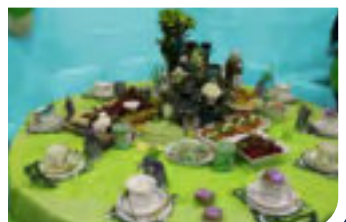
PREP

INSPIRE, IMAGINE, CREATE



WOMEN IN COLOUR

Women's Month



An abstract line drawing of a house, rendered in a light pink color. The drawing is composed of several overlapping, curved lines that define the roof, walls, and a chimney. The style is minimalist and modern, with a focus on geometric shapes and negative space. The word "HOUSES" is written in white, uppercase letters across the middle of the drawing.

HOUSES

PREP

HOUSES



HOUSE



CAPTAINS





CARTER

HOUSE HEADS
Daria Naidoo and
Lily Costa

It was truly an honour to serve as the House Heads of Carter in 2024. This year was filled with so many unforgettable moments and exciting highlights that made it truly special. The Interhouse Gala was an absolute blast! We cheered enthusiastically for Carter and had a great time decorating our section of the pool. The highlight was definitely the House Head race with Miss Bosch. It was full of excitement and laughter!

The Interhouse Maths was both challenging and fun. We were tasked with Maths questions, making us think outside the box for answers! It was a great opportunity to work as a house, applying our knowledge and learning new ways to tackle complex problems.

We were so glad to have won Interhouse Sports Day and look forward to what the future holds for Carter! We couldn't be more proud of everything we've accomplished together and we're grateful for the memories that will last a lifetime.





JAGGER

HOUSE HEADS Inara Hersov and Jamie-Lee Horn

This year has been full of excitement, laughter and of course plenty of spirited screaming. Serving as house heads has been such an honour and we could not be prouder of everything Jagger has achieved together.

From winning the Spirit Cup on Sports Day to cheering on our friends and uniting as a house. Jagger is always there for each other. Jagger has shown unwavering support for one another. Whether it's on the field, in the pool, or simply boosting each other's confidence, Jagger embodies teamwork and camaraderie.

Thank you for bringing endless laughter, energy, and Jagger spirit. Jagger has a special place in everyone's hearts and we know Jagger will continue to excel and shine next year.

GOOOO JAGGERRRR!





MERRIMAN

HOUSE HEADS
Michela Pharo
Gem Ferguson

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

As the Merriman House Heads we feel very privileged to have led such a fantastic house. We may not have won the Spirit Cup or dominated in the inter-house gala or sports days, but what truly matters is that we never gave up. Every single Merriman girl put in their best effort and that is something to be proud of. This year was particularly special because the Grade 7 House Plays were introduced for the first time. Being a part of such an incredible experience was something special. We all worked amazingly together and had minimal arguments and in the end our hard work paid off. Merriman should be proud.

Over the year there were many interhouse competitions like hockey, netball, water polo and tennis. The enthusiasm from all the Merriman girls made all of the events so so so much more enjoyable. The energy and spirit brought to each event really showcased what Merriman is all about. Let's not forget the Grade 7 dances at Sports Day. Making a dance with the Grade 7 Merriman girls was super fun. It brought us all closer together and we all bonded as a house. We also can't forget our dreadful house singing practices at break time in the hot sun. Even though it was a struggle to make the Merriman girls sing, they sang their hearts out when it came to the event and we were so proud of them.

Thank you Merriman, for a great year filled with hard work and lots of fun. We hope that you have a great time next year.



PREP

HOUSES



HOUSE HEADS
Emma Buckham and
Owetu Gqamana

ROLT

Being the House Heads of Rolt was amazing and we loved every bit of it. We shall always cherish all the special, memorable moments. The sports events and dances are memories we shall forever have at the back of our minds. We are so proud of how well Rolt House did this year. We succeeded in the gala, house plays and always showed incredible sportsmanship. We are very proud of all the hard work Rolt has put in this year. Thank you to all our teachers and the younger grades. We wish you good luck for the years ahead.

GO ROLTIES!





SPORT

PREP

SPORT



All Girls Festival was so much fun. I enjoyed every minute of it, whether it was playing in the boiling sun or laughing until my stomach hurt. It taught me so much. - **Megan van der Spuy**

All Girls Tour 2024 was amazing! My favourite memory is definitely when Miss Karsten made us all jump in the freezing cold pool so that we didn't get stiff. Was so much fun and had so many laughs! - **Annabel Grey**

ALL GIRLS FESTIVAL

The annual All Girls Festival was hosted by St. Michael's in Bloemfontein. Our Open A Hockey, U13A Netball, and Tennis teams participated this year, with 29 girls enjoying the opportunity to be a part of this tour. The competition was tough and served as a wonderful pre-season challenge for our Hockey and Netball girls, with some great wins, draws, and losses. Our Tennis girls finished off their summer season on tour, recording some excellent results. The girls also enjoyed all the activities off the field that St. Michael's organised, giving them an opportunity to make new friends and strengthen bonds within their own teams.



TOURS

KINGSWOOD WATER POLO TOUR

The Kingswood Water Polo Festival, saw 37 girls competing in three different teams. It was an incredible opportunity for the girls to gain experience both in and out of the water polo pool. Our U13B1 team was unbeaten, while the B2s displayed remarkable grit

and determination, drawing some exciting matches and narrowly losing others. Our U12As competed in the U13A section, winning all but two of their matches and proudly receiving the coveted Serfontein Plate for Sportsmanship.



SAINTS WATER POLO TOUR



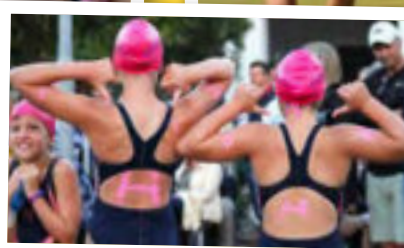
I am so honoured to have been a part of the All Girls Festival Tour. It was not only so much fun, but also a team bonding experience. I loved playing Netball, supporting the Herschel teams, the evening activities, I even loved the compulsory afternoon ice bath swims after sport, that Miss Karsten made us take. The All Girls Festival Tour was such a memorable experience and something that I will never forget. - Kareena Daya-Feasey

We are very proud of our U13A Water Polo team, who had an incredible tournament. They played exceptional water polo, winning all their pool matches, as well as the quarter and semi-finals. With 16 teams from around the country, reaching the final of this prestigious tournament is a remarkable achievement.

Congratulations to the girls and coaches on their silver medals!

More importantly, we are proud of the compliments they received as players, both in and out of the pool.

SUMMER SPORTS FESTIVAL



TWILIGHT GALA

On Thursday, 22 February, Herschel hosted 8 schools at the annual Prep Summer Sports Festival Twilight Gala. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as each school proudly cheered on their team. A highlight of the evening was the thrilling skins race, keeping everyone on the edge of their seats. Every swimmer showed determination and gave it their all. Herschel's overall success in clinching the trophy is a reflection of our swimmers' hard work and preparation for this event.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

On Friday, 23 February, Herschel, Rustenburg, Micklefield, St. Cyprian's, and Oakhurst competed in the Summer Sports Festival Tennis Tournament. The matches were filled with excitement, featuring several closely contested games.

WATER POLO FESTIVAL

This year, the Water Polo Festival expanded into a two-day event to accommodate all the participating teams. On Friday, 23 February, twenty-one U12 and U13 teams participated, followed by twenty-three U10 and U11 teams on Saturday, 24 February.

The festival-style format of the games promoted improvement and full team participation. Teams enjoyed playing in several matches, with each game providing an opportunity for growth. It was fantastic to see girls from so many different schools actively participating, allowing both A and B teams to experience the festival atmosphere while developing their skills.



WINTER SPORTS FESTIVAL



DAY/NIGHT NETBALL FEST

The Herschel Winter Sport Festival was again a highlight on the netball calendar. The Day/Night was played in a fantastic atmosphere with exciting netball being played on the 4 astro courts simultaneously. With 28 teams and over 250 talented girls gracing the courts, the netball event was an afternoon and evening filled with camaraderie. An U12B and U13B and C team festival was added this year, taking place on the Saturday morning. 12 teams from different schools enjoyed the festival experience.

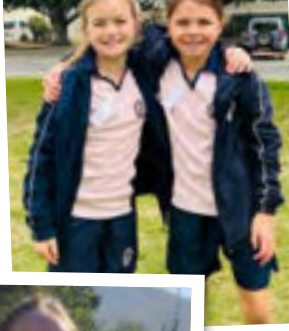
U9 HOCKEY FESTIVAL AND U11 TWILIGHT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

On the Saturday of the festival, we hosted 24 U9 hockey teams from different schools for our annual Hockey Festival. The event stood as a testament to the spirit of sportsmanship, bringing together young talents to share in the joy of the game. The Herschel U11 Twilight Hockey Tournament featured ten teams for a thrilling afternoon and evening marked by spirited competition. Our Herschel girls played some excellent hockey, making the final and finishing 2nd overall.

Emma Logan and
Brooke Stanley



Katie Morrissey and
Emma Wood



**CROSS COUNTRY
CAPTAINS**
Zara O'Connor and
Kristina Kalil

Michela
Pharo



Annabel Grey



Kristina Kalil, Katinka
Lowther, Annabel Grey,
Zara O'Connor



Emma
Daniel



I love cross country because every time I run it pushes me to go further than I thought I could. It's taught me that even when things get hard I can keep going. - **Inara Hersov**

This sport has taught me to carry on no matter what and to never give up.
- **Michela Pharo**

Rebecca
Hime



Scan QR code for
a full report.

The Herschel Prep Cross Country team had a fantastic season, with strong participation from girls in U8 to U13. Their hard work and commitment led to nine girls being selected to represent the South Zone at the WP Cape Metro Cross Country Championships.

The season was a mix of fun and competition. The Grade 1-3 girls enjoyed a spirited race, while the older girls showcased their abilities in the Grade 4-7 Interhouse Cross Country event. The highlight of the season was the PGSGU Interschool event, where Herschel earned 2nd place overall and dominated the U10 and U13 age group categories.

Herschel Prep is incredibly proud of the team's achievements, celebrating not only their athletic success but also the perseverance and sportsmanship displayed throughout the season. Congratulations to all the girls on their exceptional performance!

CROSS COUNTRY



Kristina Kalil and
Zara O'Connor - Captains

HOCKEY



Open B Interschool Hockey

It has been the most amazing season of hockey by far and it has always brightened my day, I loved tour and the captains were amazing. - **Jamie-Lee Horn**



Claudia Böttger

This hockey season was definitely one to remember! We had so much fun learnt a lot and made some amazing memories! - **Amélie Hardes-Williams**



Emma Warner

This year's Hockey season was both thrilling and fulfilling, with over 270 girls across 19 teams taking to the field each week. A highlight of the season was ensuring that every team had the chance to participate in a festival or tournament, offering the girls a fantastic opportunity to grow their skills while enjoying the game. The teams played an impressive 182 matches throughout the season, achieving 111 victories and 3 draws.

U12 Zonal Hockey



Over the years hockey has been a huge part of my life, it has taught me so much and I don't think I could survive without getting to play my comfort sport. The best part has been getting to train, play, and grow with my team, all the memories we have made and the fun we have had, I look forward to playing again. - **Aiana Warcham**

Scan QR code for a full report.



U13 WP Hockey



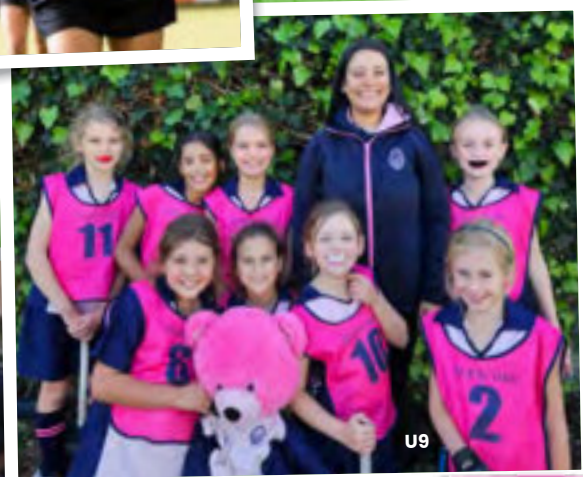
Alana
Wareham



Jessica
Durrant



HOCKEY CAPTAINS
Claudia Böttger and
Emma Warner



U9



Open A Interschool Hockey

This sport has taught me that there is no "I" in team and that everything is important no matter how small. - **Michela Pharo**



U11A



Jamie-Lee
Horn



Michela
Pharo

This sport means a lot to me and is my favourite sport. I've learnt how valuable camaraderie and mutual respect is to succeed as a team. - **Katinka Plenge-Mantell**



Zara
Govender



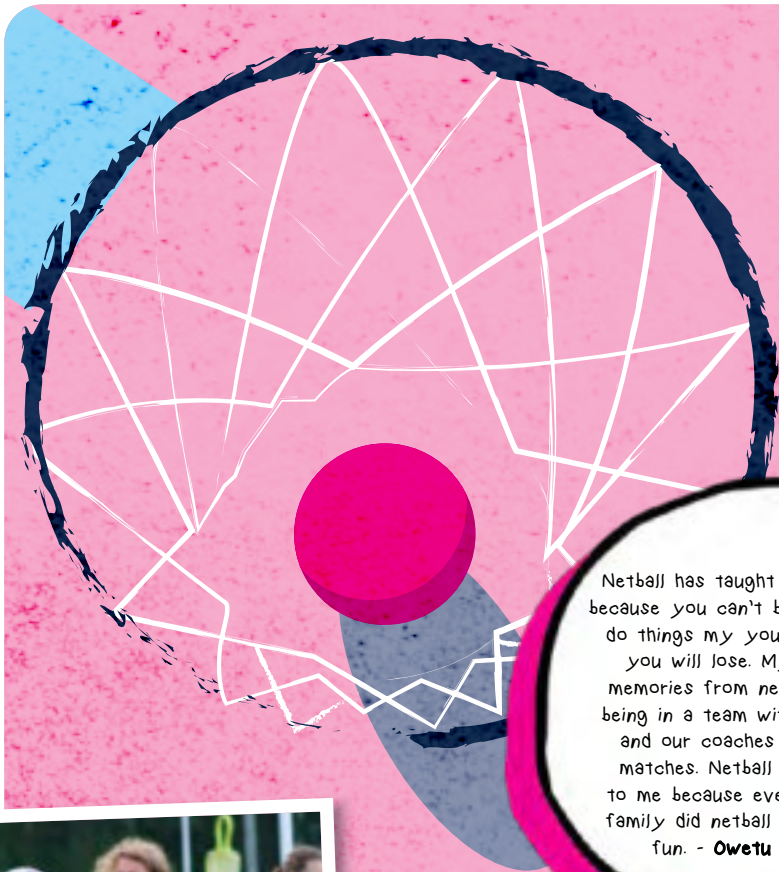
Annabel Grey



Gem
Ferguson



Amélie Hardres-Williams



I enjoyed playing netball this year because it is fun and it has taught me how to be a team-player and the importance of working together.
- Ayesha Joseph

NETBALL

Netball has taught me teamwork because you can't be stubborn and do things my yourself because you will lose. My favourite memories from netball are just being in a team with my friends and our coaches and playing matches. Netball means a lot to me because everyone in my family did netball and netball is fun. - Owetu Gqamane



Katinka Plenge-Mantell



Jaime Smit

2024 was another exciting season of netball for the 180 girls participating. The enthusiasm and commitment of the girls and coaches ensured progress and growth with some excellent results.

I love playing team sports because I have fun with my friends. Sport teaches me teamwork and patience.
- Iona Slingsby

Netball was a super fun sport that has taught me how to work together in a team. I loved the coaches as they were all so kind and helpful!
- Amy Rich

Netball is my absolute favourite sport, and I am so passionate about it. It has taught me so much over the years, such as determination, teamwork, resilience, courage and much more. I love playing with my team and having fun on the court.
- Kareena Daya-Feasey



Iona Slingsby
- Captain



Lily Costa



Emily Groenewald



Mia Neale-Shutte



Tori Geyer



U13A team



Jessica Durrant

I loved doing netball. It has taught me to be resilient.
- Nsoyo Baloyi

NETBALL CAPTAINS
Iona Slingsby and
Faye Clark

Returning to netball this year has taught me to appreciate my team and embrace teamwork more than ever before. It has also taught me to be patient with everyone! My favourite memory is finally scoring the goals my team needed to win our first match of the season - which we worked so hard for! Netball and sport, for me, means to have fun in physical activities and bond with your teammates over it.
- Dana Campbell

Netball has been amazing. I have learnt so much over the years and was very fortunate to be awarded netball captain. It has taught me how to lead and I am forever grateful for my amazing netball team.
- Faye Clark



Faye Clark - Captain



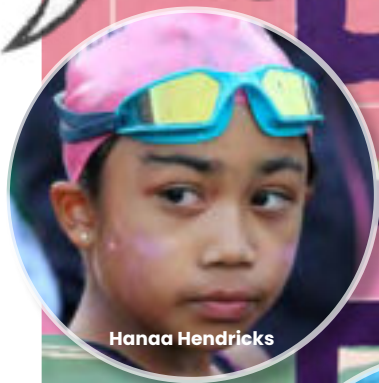
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PREP

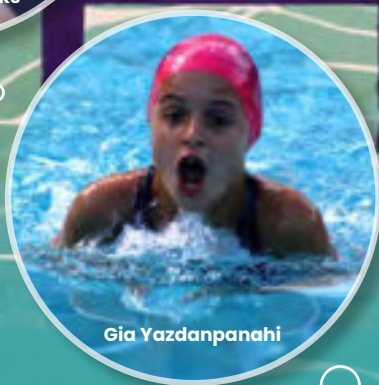
SPORT

Swimming has taught me to work hard and never give up even when I'm struggling. My favourite memory is interschools. Swimming always pushes my limits.

- Iman Levy



Hanaa Hendricks



Gia Yazdanpanahi



Swimming has been so rewarding and seeing your hard work and hours of training pay off is really amazing. I've loved being captain with Katinka and Iman and am so grateful for the opportunity.

- Megan van der Spuy

SWIMMING

Herschel's swimmers excel in another outstanding year

The Grade 4-7 Interhouse Gala launched our season with incredible energy, highlighting the talents and enthusiasm of our students, staff and parents. Rolt emerged as the overall champion, also taking home the Spirit trophy.

Our swimming teams, including A and B squads with over 80 swimmers ranging from U8 to Open, demonstrated their abilities during Friday afternoon Galas. The season kicked off with a win at the Herschel Twilight Gala, followed by a remarkable performance at the U10 - Open PGSGSU Interschool Gala, where the team earned several trophies and successfully defended the PGSGU Interschool Swimming trophy for 2024. They capped off the season with another successful showing at the Reddam Nite Gala defending that trophy too.

Our Training Squad, which is open to all girls and emphasises inclusivity and skill enhancement, boasting over 70 participants.

It truly was another swimming season to be proud of, and we extend a huge thank you to our phenomenal A team coach, Perry Cadiz and B team coaches Bridget van Beda and Grace Hudson.



I love team swimming because it challenges and pushes me to my limits. I know it gets hard at times but it's worth it, because I love watching myself get faster over time. It shows me that hard work pays off when I see my times improve.

- Inara Hersov



SWIMMING CAPTAINS

Iman Levy – A team
Megan van der Spuy – A team
Katinka Lowther – B team

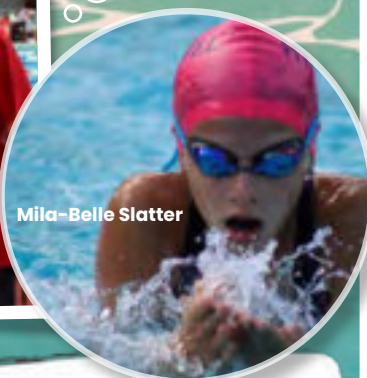
My favourite memory from swimming is the practices even though they were sometimes quite tiring we always had a laugh and kept pushing through.
- Gem Ferguson



Megan van der Spuy
and Iman Levy – A Team
Captains



Jessica Durrant



Mila-Belle Slatter



Katinka Lowther
B team Captain

I love swimming because it is competitive and fun and I've done it all my life. It taught me teamwork and resilience and I truly have a passion for this.
- Katinka Lowther

Swimming will always play a massive role in my life. I love the water and swimming brings me joy. My favourite memory is in summer walking down to the high school and knowing I've got swimming on a scorching hot day with all my friends. There are lots of memories that I know we won't forget.
- Jaime Smit



Sophie Cattell



Sophia
Gullan



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WATER POLO



This is a sport that has brought me an unimaginable amount of joy and happiness just through playing the sport the number of unforgettable memories like winning the Reddam action tournament or losing to Reddam in the Waller cup final has just given us more fire and energy to come back even harder. The friends that you make are most likely to stay with you forever and you have made some absolutely unforgettable memories and friends along the way. - **Jaime Smit**

Jaime Smit



Mila-Belle Slatter



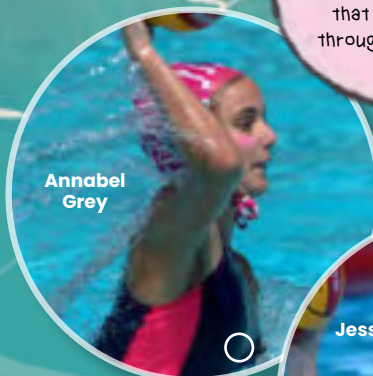
Claudia Böttger



One of the reasons why I love water polo is because it is such a team sport. You can't do all things alone and that is one of the things that water polo has taught me throughout these past few years.

- **Annabel Grey**

Annabel Grey



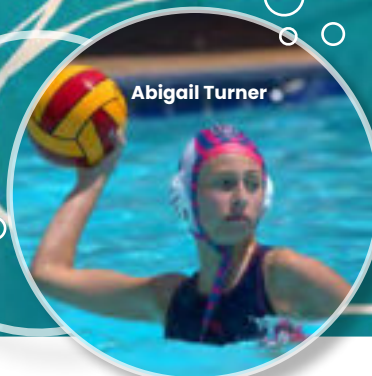
Jessica Durrant



Iona Slingsby



Abigail Turner



Polo is the sport I love the most, it's a great way to bond with your friends. - **Abigail Turner**

Herschel Prep School enjoyed an outstanding water polo season filled with enthusiasm, growth, and success. The Splash Water Polo program introduced over thirty Grade 3 girls to the sport, fostering active engagement. Across the U10 to U13 age groups, more than 100 girls competed in 9 teams, showcasing their talents in weekly Wednesday matches and focusing on skill enhancement.

The season was marked by impressive achievements, including the U13A team securing a remarkable 2nd place at the National Saints Invitational Junior Girls Tournament. Additionally, teams participated in exciting events like the Summer Sports Festival, Wynberg Water Polo Festival, and the Kingswood Water Polo Tour.

This season was a celebration of teamwork, dedication, and personal development, reflecting the school's commitment to nurturing both individual and collective success.



WATER POLO CAPTAINS

Jaime Smit and
Annabel Grey

Water Polo has taught me that when you put your mind to it you will always do well.
My favourite memory was McKenzie cup.
- **Iman Levy**

Ever since I started water polo I immediately fell in love with the sport, and now I'm in Grade 7, and it is still my favourite sport. Water polo has taught me so much, such as resilience, quick decision making and perseverance. Water polo will forever hold a special place in my heart! - **Inara Hersov**



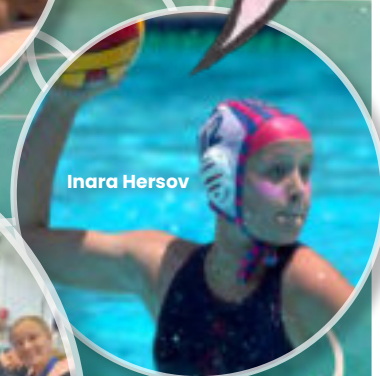
**Mackenzie Cup
Invitational Team**



Katinka Lowther



Michela Pharo



Inara Hersov



Olivia Mundy



Mackenzie Cup U13A

Water Polo has taught me incredible discipline and if I want to achieve my goals I need to work for them.
- **Mila-Belle Slater**



U10A



Lily Costa



Scan QR code for
a full report.

TENNIS

★
TENNIS CAPTAINS
Faye Clark and
Lilah Devlin

Tennis has taught me patience. My favourite tennis memory was when we were warming up and it was a great rally, and the crowd thought we were playing and started clapping so hard. Tennis means a lot to me because my dad and I always play together.
- **Emily Groenewald**

Deeyana Kader

Zoe Lowan

Team tennis is so much fun. You get to meet new people by playing against them and those friends you keep forever.
- **Zara Govender**

Hannah Galatis

Faye Clark - Tennis Captain



Scan QR code for
a full report.

Emily Batchelor

Sport has taught me perseverance, commitment, gratitude and just to be myself. - **Faye Clark**

**Lilah Devlin
- Tennis Captain**

Herschel has enjoyed a successful tennis season this year with 4 teams entered in both the Open and U11 league. Caroline Rogers, Elounda Charalambous, Emily Groenewald and Emily Batchelor represented Herschel at the All Girls' Festival in March. Interhouse tennis was an afternoon of fun for all the houses with Jagger winning overall.

I love tennis and it is my favourite sport! It was so much fun! I loved playing doubles with some of my friends. All team tennis girls will know the happiness and fun of playing the island game on the last day of season/term. - **Amy Rich**

Emily Groenewald

Caroline Rogers

SENIOR SCHOOL

SENIOR





From left to right

Back row:

Edwin Charikinya, Laura-Grace Hoffman, Lindsay Wills, Hanneke Basson, Nuraan Barendse, Sheldon Cross, Nicole Arendse, Nicole Mangondo, Silvana Scarola, Malindri Eastes, Yassien Kerbelker

Fifth row:

Monica Robertson, Pam Bowren, Candice du Toit, Heather Oosthuizen, Elsabe Cairncross, Laura-Jo Smith, Jenny van Loggenberg, Jane Horsfield, Meghan Anderson, Carol Alpert, Tillie Venter

Fourth row:

Wendy Patterson, Annemie Klopper, Parvathy Naidoo, Sibhahle Mama, Louise van Wyk, Denise Do 'O Filipe, Rochelle Klaasen, Bongani Sopam, Debbi Main, Victoria Campbell Stella Roussouw, Elmarie Smith, Susy McFarlane, Daniel Nambassi, Jan Gouws, Johan Swanepoel, Hanke de Bruin, Tasneem Variawa, Jenny Wesson

Second row:

Naseema Parker, Zikhona Bovana, Brigitte Cass, Claire Gerber, Carmelita Prins, Sandra Rule, Carmen Wilsch, Heste Oelefse, Thandekile Kamushinda, Ncita Koopman

Front row:

Alison Bodenstein, Maryke Eloff, Lorna Lavarello-Smith, Kerri-Lyn East, Heather Goedeke, Tracy Rousseau, Andrew Scott, Sarah McArthur, Karen van der Merwe



HEAD'S REPORT

Mrs Heather Goedeke

What motivates you to keep going every day, especially during challenging times?

I genuinely love the multifaceted nature of my role and the fact that there are so many opportunities to make a difference. I work with an incredible team of people, and I do not want to let myself or them, or the Herschel community down. When there are challenges, I know that I have the support I need and this calms me and keeps me focused on the greater purpose which is to make a difference to how pupils, staff and parents experience Herschel, to ensure that Herschel provides an excellent and relevant holistic learning environment and that it equips our girls for the future. I am fiercely passionate about girls' education and levelling the playing fields. This drives me and motivates me to keep going despite challenges and obstacles. In difficult times I tell myself

that 'this too shall pass' and I know that challenges are a part and parcel of leadership.

What is a personal mantra or phrase you live by, and how did it come to be significant to you?

Change only happens if you care enough to follow through.

It is easy to talk about what changes are necessary and why; but it can't stay in the 'talk zone'. It needs to be actioned if you really want to make a difference. There are so many inspiring leadership books, LinkedIn posts and quotes on Instagram and so on, but at the end of the day, you have to believe in what you do, show up with a practical and well-researched plan and work hard to translate it, to achieve its purpose. You must walk the talk...

How do you stay grounded and focused on your goals amidst the busy demands of your role?

I feel so privileged to have the role I do and take the responsibilities I have seriously. I love that education is important and relevant work and that if it is done holistically, relationally and collaboratively, it can make a real difference to how pupils, teachers and parents experience school life. I work hard as the leader of a diverse, dedicated and talented team. I am part of something so much bigger than myself and this is what keeps me grounded.

I struggle with focus at school at times because I seldom have uninterrupted time. To prioritise, declutter and distil my thoughts, I exercise, enjoy yoga and time with the family, listen to music and read fantasy, classics and poetry. I try

to 'work smart' and to prepare ahead of each week to ensure that if I need to manage unforeseen situations I have the capacity and time.

In your opinion, what is the most important lesson that young girls should learn today?

Self-acceptance, self-respect and self-belief will take them all the way. They must celebrate what makes them unique, discover what fascinates them and chase it! The possibilities are limitless.

What is your vision for the future of the school and the girls it serves?

To foster a happy, holistic, community-minded school environment in which the girls flourish because they feel safe enough to be courageous and to love learning, growing and challenging themselves to become young women who will make a difference in the world.

What is the most impactful book you've read recently, and why?

I re-read Jim Collins's Good to Great – it is an inspiring read about building great teams. Over the past five years, we have

been intentional in building teams at Herschel. Collins's theory applies well to the school environment where it is so important to create an optimal learning environment in which we have 'the right people in the right seats on the bus!' The book reinforced the importance of establishing excellent teams to take our school from good to great!

What's your idea of a perfect day off?

Time spent with my family. There is nothing that makes me happier than having my kids under my roof; be it at home or on holiday! It doesn't matter whether it's sunny or raining – just the sense of connectedness and the pride, love and relaxed conversation we have is soothing. I can let my guard down and I feel so content. Early morning tea, a hike/walk, followed by a hot breakfast comes a close second!

What role does community play in shaping the experiences of students and staff?

Community plays a massive role. Ideally, we want to work in partnership and contribute positively to the wider community. Before that happens we need to foster a Herschel community spirit which supports belonging, promotes the core values of the school and brings people together. A positive community spirit contributes to the holistic success of the girls and teachers, building trust, respect and belief in the school and in the educational journey that is experienced.

What's something about yourself that most people might not know?

People generally see me in an academic and pastoral leadership role and don't know the practical 'farm girl' side of me! 🐾

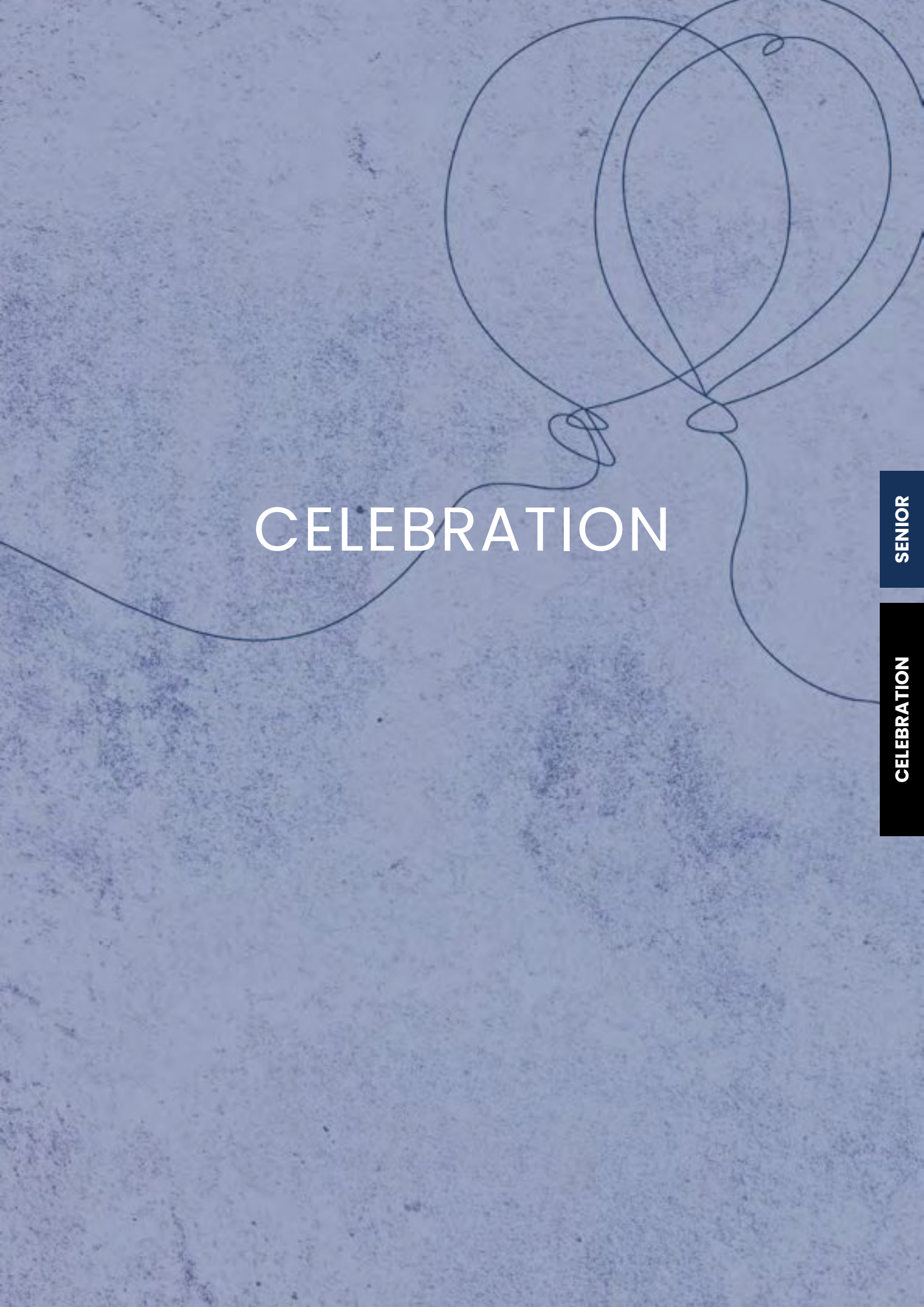
How do you stay connected to the students and their needs while managing your leadership role?

This is a priority. The pupils are the reason I show up! They are at the very centre of decision-making, be it pastoral or academic – their wellbeing is central to our strategy and purpose. I teach FS English and involve myself in the Grade 9 LO programme to get to know the girls when they start out in the senior school. I genuinely love cultural pursuits and sport and so supporting the girls in all that they do extramurally is great fun and a treat! This is where I get to know the girls as individuals. I try to be present across the campus and to attend as many events as I can.

I engage directly with the girls in presentations, assemblies and in feedback sessions so that we have an opportunity to hear directly from each other. I keep in touch with how the girls are doing via academic and pastoral meetings too.

As a member of the ICGS (International Coalition of Girls Schools) I have access to the incredible research and resources this organisation produces on girls' education. The idea-sharing, data-driven decision-making and debates and insights shared inspire me. My weekly meetings with the pupil leadership exec team keeps me in tune with what is important to the girls. It also gives me a window into any issues that need to be addressed. It is important to keep in touch and not to be a 'figurehead'. We work best when we work together. I absolutely love the Springbok hashtag that trended during the World Cup: #Strongertogether



The background of the entire page is a light blue-grey color with a subtle, grainy texture. In the upper right corner, there is a minimalist line drawing of three balloons. The balloons are represented by simple, overlapping circles. From the bottom of these circles, several thin, looping lines extend downwards and outwards, representing the strings and bows of the balloons. One line extends from the leftmost balloon, another from the middle one, and a third from the rightmost one, all curving downwards towards the bottom of the frame.

CELEBRATION

SENIOR

CELEBRATION

FOUNDER'S DAY

A day for reflecting on how far we have come as Herschelians, and as a school.



Senior and Prep school come together around the fountain to celebrate our schools birthday through the cutting of birthday cake and singing the school song.



TRADITION: signalling the welcome into Herschel for all new pupils, Grade 9-12 pupils make a arch from the gate and around the fountain, where all new pupils and staff move through...new Herschelians passing through the arms of those who have come before them.



TRADITION: signalling the start of the final year of High School, each Matric rings the school bell.



Founder's Day Eucharist, at St. Saviours, attended by pupils from the senior school, staff and HAU.

HERSCHELIANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

Caroline Herschel Award winner, Shona McDonald, addressed the Senior School in a special assembly. Having a child with special needs and realizing access to basic needs and the community for her child, and so many others, was limited, Shona started SHONAQUIP SOCIAL ENTERPRISE to create and sell posture support and mobility devices. The vision included community work and training.

Catherine Walker cutting the cake for the Senior School



VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

by Mrs Heather Goedeke

Grade 12s, the primary purpose of my speech this morning is to leave you with a message – something for you to take with you as you leave Herschel.

But before I do that, I would like to take this opportunity to thank your parents and guardians for their support of you in this, your high school chapter. Thank you for choosing Herschel and for being part of our community – for your support of culture, music, sport, community engagement and the events that make up school life at Herschel. It has been our privilege to have taught your daughters and to have had a part to play in their education and their growing up.

I want to thank **Mrs Tumelo Baloyi** (*Council chair*), **Professor Sarah Howie** (*Deputy Chair*) and all members of The Herschel Council for their passionate and committed service to Herschel. Your support, wisdom and attendance to the growth of our school is deeply appreciated – thank you for the time and expertise that you share so generously.

To the Herschel staff; we have just celebrated World Teachers' Day – appropriately just before this special ceremony. Thank you for teaching, guiding, growing and inspiring your pupils!

Thank you for the hard work and dedication you have shown in our transition to the IEB, and thank you for your commitment to excellence in education.

Our core business is teaching and learning and what you bring to this space is unique, exciting and relevant. Thank you for going beyond the curriculum and for the way in which you connect with your pupils!

A very big thank you to the teams involved in the set-up of today's event: there are so many aspects to large-event set-up. My sincere thank you to all who have contributed to today's programme.

A special thank you to the Music Department for the beautiful music they have rehearsed for today's ceremonies. We are fortunate to have such talented musicians and staff at Herschel. This adds a unique element to occasions such as this.

Matrics, today I want to reflect on some aspects of your journey at Herschel over the past 5 years, looking at **change**, **friendship** and **hope**.

One of my favourite passages in English literature, written by JRR Tolkien in his epic, Lord of the Rings captures an iconic moment between Samwise GamGee and Frodo:

It's like in the great stories, Mr Frodo. The ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger they were. And sometimes you didn't want to know the end. Because how could the end be happy? How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad had happened? But in the end, it's only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer. Those were the stories that stayed with you. That meant something, even if you were too small to understand why. But I think, Mr Frodo, I do understand. I know now. Folk in those stories had lots of chances of turning back, only they didn't. They kept going because they were holding on to something. That there is some good in this world, and it's worth fighting for.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS CONTINUED

THINK BACK TO 2020 – the pandemic, the darkness and danger it posed, the uncertainty, the constant adaptation required, the fear...we all experienced that collectively, and as individuals and we responded to it uniquely. It disrupted life. It initiated change. It challenged us. We kept going. We held on to our faith, each other and hope...we continued despite the uncertainty.

You were in Grade 8. And I know that what got you through the pandemic was your families and loved ones, your friends, your devices, your online classes which were different but nevertheless supported the continuation of your education and offered some structure to the week days at least.

And then there were things like banana bread challenges, exercise hacks and online yoga, group chats, the president's family meetings on Sunday evenings... conspiracy theories galore and series... binge-watching became a thing! Life changed almost overnight. You adapted to meet the change.

Like Frodo, you also wondered how it would end and whether the world would 'go back to how it was...I am not going to dwell on the pandemic here. That is not what I want you to remember. I know you'll remember it anyway. It was a momentous and life-changing experience for most of us, highlighting social and economic inequity in our country, revealing under-preparedness and disparity in healthcare provision, and disrupting daily life and access to things that we had taken for granted. Many of us re-examined our lives, priorities and purpose. Novelist, *Arundhati Roy* made this point: **Historically, pandemics have forced humans to break with the past and imagine their world anew. This one is no different. It is a portal, a gateway between one world and the next.**

Closer to home, in the words of *Abdullah Ibrahim*: **When time and space and change converge, we find place. We arrive in Place when we resolve things. Place is peace of mind and understanding. Place is knowledge of self. Place is resolution.**

This is what we strive towards.

Despite the pandemic, the class of 2024 bonded and has flourished.

You went online.

You formed WhatsApp groups and joined many Google classrooms. Going online meant that your attachment to devices – iPads, smartphones, laptops – increased tenfold – you couldn't meet at Cav, each other's houses, or the beach, you met online on WhatsApp groups, Zoom calls and Facetime...the pandemic intensified your reliance on technology. It was practical and useful – but for some it became invasive, addictive and excessive.

Screentime totally overshadowed dreamtime

But here you are! You are imagining your world anew! You have made up for lockdown and your Gen Z characteristics are clear to see! You were four years old when the iPad hit the market! Grade 8s – most of you were born in 2010 – that same year! It's interesting that right now we sit with Grades 9–12 representing Gen Z and Grade 8s heralding in Gen Alpha. Grade 12s, your Gen Z attributes proved useful. I am going to mention just a few of these qualities – the ones that we have experienced and seen in you here at Herschel.

- You are self-drivers who care deeply about others,
- You strive for a diverse community. You wish to establish greater equity for all. More than any

other generation, you collectively demand purpose, accountability and the creation of more opportunities for people of diverse and under-represented backgrounds.

- You are highly collaborative and social, valuing flexibility, relevance, authenticity and non-hierarchical leadership.
- You are more vocal, values-driven and individualized than previous generations.
- You are known for working, shopping, dating and making friends online.
- You believe in doing your part to help stop the intensification of climate change
- Your approach is pragmatic and you value direct communication. Despite your affinity with technology, you value 'in person', face-to-face communication.

Does this sound like you? I think it does.

A random fact: Your generation makes up 60% of TikTok's one billion-plus users! This is the platform that dominates trends, feelings and culture for you. This is a big part of **your** world – for now. But hold on – Gen Alpha is snapping at your heels, and they will disrupt aspects of this and challenge your thinking, much as you have done ours. This is the way of things...generational change is inevitable.

You will continue to navigate change.

Hold on to that which is good and makes sense to you – always. In the inimitable words of Maggie Smith: *Speak your mind, even if your voice shakes!*

Listen to your gut – intuition is something that we girls and women have evolved in us to be a powerful thing – it protects us. Use it. This, together with friendship and your faith or whatever it is that gives you hope, will enrich your life and give it meaning.

TO CONTINUE READING, SCAN THE QR CODE.



MATRIC RESULTS

The 2024 results are awe-inspiring and excellent. Through a particularly challenging three years our 2024 matriculants have achieved exceptional results!

Highlights include:

- Of the Class of 2024, who wrote the IEB NSC examinations, 100% passed and they achieved a **100%** Bachelor Degree pass.
- The 108 candidates achieved 381 distinctions (excluding FS subjects) which equates to **3.53** distinctions per candidate. Including Further Studies Mathematics (Standard) and Further Studies English, the Class of 2024 achieved 394 subject distinctions, which equates to an average of 3.65 subject distinctions per candidate.
- 20 Pupils in Top 1% of candidates for particular subjects
- 4 Pupils on the IEB Outstanding List – *(Achieved within the top 5% in 6 or more Subjects and achieved a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation.)*
- 3 Pupils on the IEB Commendable List – *(Achieved within the top 5% in 5 Subjects and achieved a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation.)*
- 10 pupils attained an aggregate over 90%. (9%)
- 48 pupils attained an A aggregate (over 80%). (36%)
- 44 pupils attained an B aggregate (over 70%). (41%)
- In total, 92 pupils attained an A or B aggregate (over 70%). (86%)
- 34 pupils achieved 6 or more subject distinctions (32%) and 55 pupils achieved 4 or more subject distinctions (51%).
- 11 subjects achieved a subject average of over 80%. These are Business Studies, Design, Dramatic Arts, English, French, Geography, IsiXhosa FAL, Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, Music and Visual Arts. In addition to these subjects, Further Studies Mathematics Standard achieved an average of 83%.

- We must particularly congratulate the isiXhosa and Dramatic Arts Departments for achieving a full house of distinctions. Additionally, the Business Studies, Design, French, Information Technology, Mathematical Literacy, Music and Visual Arts departments are celebrating achieving 60% or more distinctions.

OUTSTANDING PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS:

IEB Outstanding list (4 pupils) – (Achieved within the top 5% in 6 or more Subjects and achieved a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation.)

Zoë Arenhold; Cate Lea; Kaitlyn Knight; Erin Meyer;

IEB Commendable Achievements (3 pupils) (Achieved within the top 5% in 5 Subjects and achieved a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation.)

Emma Gordon; Leah Josi; Taskya Pillay;

Top 1% of Candidates per Subject

Leah Josi (English, History, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

Emma Gordon (Dramatic Arts, English HL, Life Sciences)

Tia Deliperi (English HL, Life Sciences)

Cate Lea (English HL, History)

Zoë Arenhold (English HL)

Gabrielle du Toit (Life Sciences)

Taybah Isaacs (Visual Arts)

Kaitlyn Knight (Afrikaans FAL)

Taskya Pillay (Afrikaans FAL)

Maggie Mallinson (Design)

Mia Sainsbury (Mathematical Literacy)

Anna Searson (Mathematical Literacy)

Emily van Heerden (English HL)

8 subject distinctions (9 pupils):

Zoë Arenhold; Kate Formby; Emma Gordon; Taybah Isaacs; Kaitlyn Knight; Cate Lea; Taskya Pillay; Emily Van Heerden*

7 subject distinctions (12 pupils):

Anna Ashbolt; Tia Deliperi; Leah Josi; Erin Meyer; Emma Naude; Anna Searson; Ashley Silberbauer; Victoria Van Der Watt; Ana Vaughan-Scott; Elen Vermaak; Hanna Wright *

6 subject distinctions (15 pupils):

Safara Ackermann; Adelaide Barnard; Catherine Barton; Gabrielle Du Toit; Sanaa Ebrahim; Francis Hathorn; Kiera Howard; Nobuntu Lingela; Ruth Madonko; Maggie Mallinson; Ameerah Yacoob ****

5 subject distinctions (7 pupils):

Enqi Du; Zahra Gouda; Rebecca Joshua; Georgia Makin; Mia Sainsbury; Lily-Rose Tomlinson *

4 subject distinctions (12 pupils):

Zaynah Darsot; Amy Kai Davis; Sofia Dearnaley; Michaela Edwards; Matilda Loggenberg; Razeenah Parker; Gemma Prinsloo; Bianca Stewart; Jessica Tomaz Weeden; Georgina Withers *

6 pupils completed the Further Studies Mathematics Elective of which 5 achieved a distinction. The Further Studies Mathematics Elective average was 84%.

*** Some pupils did not consent to the publishing of their names and some were not present to give their consent to the publishing of their names. Herschel Girls School respects and upholds the regulations set out in POPIA and therefore these names are not reflected above.*

Awards

GRADE 12 SUBJECT AWARDS

Accounting: Taskya Pillay

Afrikaans First Additional Language: Taskya Pillay

Business Studies: Kaitlyn Knight and Hanna Wright

Consumer Studies: Catherine Barton

Dramatic Arts: Emma Gordon

Design: Maggie Mallinson

English Home Language (Lady Woolley Prize): Zoë Arenhold and Emma Gordon

Further Studies English: Emma Gordon

French Second Additional Language: Catherine Barton and Emma Naude

Geography: Anna Ashbolt

History: Leah Josi

Information Technology: Taskya Pillay

Life Orientation: Erin Meyer

Life Sciences: Leah Josi

Mathematics (Liz Gibbons Prize): Taskya Pillay

Further Studies Mathematics: Taskya Pillay

Mathematical Literacy: Safara Ackermann

Music: Julia Mira

Physical Sciences: Taskya Pillay

Visual Arts: Taybah Isaacs

GRADE 12 AWARDS FOR GENERAL ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Certificates of Academic Excellence

Mia Andrew, Zoë Arenhold, Anna Ashbolt, Catherine Barton, Tia Deliperi, Gabrielle du Toit, Sanaa Ebrahim, Sufiyah Essa, Kate Formby, Amy Gordon, Emma Gordon, Francis Hathorn, Taybah Isaacs, Leah Josi, Kaitlyn Knight, Cate Lea, Ruth Madonko, Maggie Mallinson, Erin Meyer, Emma Naude, Taskya Pillay, Tai Ravat, Ashley Silberbauer, Victoria Van der Watt, Emily van Heerden



SENIOR

CELEBRATION



SPECIAL AWARDS

PricewaterhouseCoopers Book Award for Accounting and Mathematics: Taskya Pillay

Ethel Hill Cup for Spoken English: Emma Gordon

Multilingual Oral Proficiency: Tia Deliperi

Mrs McCormick's Prize for Spoken French: Amy Heffren

Janet Steyn Prize for Interest in the Humanities: Emma Gordon

Award for Interest shown in the Natural Sciences:
Ashley Silberbauer

Daphne Beames Aequa Mente Cup: Leah Josi

The Alicia Wilkinson Silwood Prize for Practical Cookery:
Anna Searson

Mary Muller Picture of the Year: Taybah Isaacs

Karen Dudley Design Award: Nobuntu Lingela and Alba Swanepoel

Stobie Musicianship Prize: Enqi Du

Choral Prize: Buhle Lekoma

Inkwenkwezi Music Award: Enqi Du

Jennifer Sale Drama Trophy for Outstanding Performance: Francis Hathorn

Annette Hartmann Trophy for the Dramatic Arts: Michaela Edwards

McClurg Trophy for the Theatre Arts: Emma Gordon

Waterfield Prize for Commitment, Initiative and Fellowship in the Creative Arts: Jasmine Hatherill and Nobuntu Lingela

Jenny Torr Prize for Service to the Library: Kaitlyn Knight and Ameera Yacoob

Claremont Rotary Club Prize: Kate Hodgson and Zöe Arenhold

Kirsten Locke Fellowship Award: Leah Faurholm

Sandra Wingfield Fellowship Prize: Emily van Heerden

The Jenna Lowe Trophy: Michaela Edwards

Schönborn Trophy for exceptional achievement: Erin Meyer

Pietas Trophy presented by the Labia Family: Ruth Madonko

Pamela Duff Award for an Enquiring Mind: Cate Lea

The Di van Zyl Award: Maggie Malinson

The Head's Award for Focused, Consultative Servant Leadership: Taskya Pillay

The Head's Award for Consultative and Compassionate Servant Leadership: Zaynah Darsot

The Head's Award for Commitment, Authenticity and Dedicated Servant Leadership: Emily van Heerden

The Old Herschelian Award for Service, Loyalty and Leadership (trophy): Emily van Heerden

PREMIER ACADEMIC AWARDS: Grade 12 Order of Merit

Third place: Zöe Arenhold

Second place (Proxime Accessit): Leah Josi

The Desmond Loch Davis Award for Dux of the School:
Taskya Pillay

SPORTS AWARDS

SUMMER SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Most valuable U14 player	Lisakhanya Sitelo and Jade van Vollenhoven
Most valuable U16 player	Ashley Bassett
Most valuable Basketball player (Nicola Vernon Trophy)	Leah Faurholm
Most improved junior player	Liqhamile Adonis
Most improved senior player	Chloë Taylor
Most dedicated player (Shield)	Leah Faurholm
Special mention (special certificate)	Liqhamile Adonis and Leah Faurholm and Kiera Howard

INDOOR HOCKEY

Most valuable junior player	Heather Kane
Most valuable senior player	Mia Andrew
Most improved junior player	Sophie Luger
Most improved senior player	Hannah Henderson

SWIMMING

Most valuable junior swimmer	Riziki Magotsi
Most valuable senior swimmer	Cassidy Burgess
Most improved junior swimmer	Rebecca White
Most improved senior swimmer	Jemma Pearse
Most dedicated swimmer (Glass trophy)	Bianca Duarte Reibero and Amy Combrink
Swimmer of the year (Gilbert Trophy)	Cassidy Burgess

TENNIS

Most valuable junior player (Karin Macfarlane Trophy)	Annabel Leath
Most valuable senior player	Georgie MacKay
Most improved junior player	Anamae Smith
Most improved senior player	Nathalie Heyns
Most dedicated player (Shield)	Manilla Tantraal
(Balance Trophy) made an ongoing contribution to Herschel tennis, both on and off the court	Gemma MacGregor

WATERPOLO

Most valuable U14 player	Ruby Lumb
Most valuable U15 player	Jessica Bosch
Most valuable U16 player	Nina Wides
Most valuable U19 player	Amy van Breda, Alex de Villiers and Emily van Heerden
Most improved junior player	Hannah van den Heever
Most improved senior player (Lawrence Trophy)	Jemma Pearse
Most dedicated player (Kate Watts Trophy)	Isabella Tooley
Biggest contribution to waterpolo (Morelli Trophy)	Amy van Breda
Special mention (no certificate)	Amy van Breda, Alex de Villiers and Emily van Heerden

CHESS		
Most valuable junior player		Devanya Naidoo
Most valuable senior player		Ameera Yacoob
Most improved junior player		Ayanda Bordiss
Most improved senior player		Ameera Yacoob
Most dedicated player (Shield)		Neve Brogan and Ameera Yacoob
CROSS-COUNTRY		
Most valuable junior runner		Sienna Airey
Most valuable senior runner		Anna van Aarde
Most improved junior runner		Zara Snyman
Most improved senior runner		Alice Bailey
Most dedicated runner (Shield)		Leah Faurholm
Most Physical Endurance and Excellence (Scott Trophy)		Anna van Aarde
HOCKEY		
Most valuable U14 player		Abigail Jacobs
Most valuable U16 player		Heather Kane
Most valuable U19 player		Mia Andrew and Elen Vermaak
Most improved junior player		Kera-Lee Ball
Most improved senior player		Amy Gordon
Most dedicated player (Shield)		Katherine Featherstone
Dedication and commitment throughout her hockey career (Bonellie Trophy)		Mia Andrew
Outstanding Player (Thomas Trophy)		Hannah Henderson
Special mention (no certificate)		Mia Andrew and Emily van Heerden
NETBALL		
Most valuable U14 player		Jade van Vollenhoven
Most valuable U15 player		Isabella Thompson
Most valuable U16 player		Sophia Lobert
Most valuable U17 player		Olivia Egerer
Most valuable U19 player		Chloë Taylor
Most improved junior player		Ashley Kropman
Most improved senior player		Kwakhanya Ntकिनca
Most enthusiastic, talented and committed U14 player (Sibu Dlova Trophy)		Annebelle Leith
Most dedicated player (Justine Peters Trophy)		Onathi Peter and Liqhamile Adonis
Best shooter (Zee Biyela Trophy)		Leila Billimore
Special mention (no certificate)		Rebecca Joshua
SQUASH		
Most valuable junior player		Zayaan Sirkot
Most valuable senior player		Zoë Arenhold
Most improved junior player		Chloë Emm
Most improved senior player		Georgia Morkel
Most improved overall (Jill Philip Trophy)		Zayaan Sirkot
Most dedicated player (Shield)		Lucy Mulder
GENERAL		
Team of the Year (Helen Botha Trophy) – certificate to each member of the team		Winning Team: Basketball 1 st Team Team members
Leadership Trophy		Leah Faurholm
Pick-up		Emily van Heerden
HFactor Trophy		Emily van Heerden



HERSCHEL ALUMNAE UNION



*As my first year as Chair of the Herschel Alumnae Union concludes, I am honoured to share a summary of our accomplishments, challenges, and aspirations. Our previous Chair, **Kris Miller**, left very big shoes to fill and we are grateful for her years of dedicated service and for spearheading so many successful projects and initiatives. The HAU is lucky to still have Kris on the committee as she tirelessly heads the Heritage Centre and Digital Archives portfolio.*

Founder's Day

As always, our Founder's Day celebrations were the highlight of the year, starting with our 96th AGM. The cocktail party in the Senior School atrium was a chance to gather and catch up before Founder's Day the following day, which included a service at St. Saviours, the special arch ceremony and school song around the fountain and the HAU Founder's Day lunch in the Mary Jagger Hall. We hosted the Matric classes of 1954, 1964, 1974, 1994 and 2004, and the constant buzz of chatting and reminiscing meant the tours of the school by the Matric girls were almost missed. Each year group regaled us with memories and anecdotes of their time at Herschel which were special to hear.

Future Alumnae

This year, we met with the Matric class of 2024 in the first term instead of at their valedictory and it was wonderful to meet our next group of Herschel Alumnae Union members. We wish them all the best as they await their final results and look forward to them being part of our Union from next year.

Welcome

We welcomed two new members to the committee this year:

Siobhan Mannion de Esnouf (1978) and **Zoë Simpson** (2004). Siobhan joins Caroline Isted on the Overseas Branches and Reunions portfolio and Zoë will be handling the Digital Marketing portfolio. Please do follow our Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn pages to keep up to date with news, events and a bit of Herschel history. We said goodbye to **Zanele Ngalonkulu** who resigned as treasurer, and we thank her for her time and efforts. **Ariyaana Cader** has accepted the new role of treasurer going forward.

Looking to the future

We are excited for the digital archives to be made public in 2025. This has been a mammoth undertaking, and we look forward to the Herschel community being able to access and enjoy our rich heritage from wherever they are in the world. Another goal is to set up regular gatherings and reunions elsewhere in the world to better serve our alumnae across the globe. The focus is to start in London early next year and from there spread the model far and wide. Along with this is the aim of setting up an alumnae network of mentors in various global cities for when our younger members graduate and go out into the world – watch this space.

Our Vision

The HAU's overarching vision is to not only preserve the heritage of our school but also build a brighter future for our alumnae community and the students who will follow in our footsteps. We are privileged to be able to contribute at least R30 000 to the school's Bursary Relief Fund per year and would love to do more in supporting the school as well as establishing the HAU Bursary one day. We encourage our members to visit the school when in the area to have a look at our Heritage Centre. Also to experience the school as it is today and the vision they have for the future. Please contact our secretary, Nikki Turner, via email if you would like to visit or have a tour:

hau@herschel.org.za

Thank you to all the alumnae for their continued support and engagement and we look forward to sharing time together in 2025. My thanks also go to the HAU committee who has worked so enthusiastically and diligently together, especially with me in my first year as Chair. And lastly, to our secretary, Nikki Turner, who so effortlessly keeps the HAU on track.

Ad Dei Gloriam

Karen Meyer, HAU Chair



SCAN TO READ MORE.

LADY MARGARET HERSCHEL Cocktail Club

by Daphne Beames



Our Cocktail Club has just celebrated its 23rd anniversary – the time has simply whizzed by and we are literally watching a new generation grow up before our eyes. Caroline Maddock (Sylvester 1999) sent a photo of her lovely daughter, Victoria, celebrating her First Communion in the US and Angie Montandon (Jacobs 2003) brought her beautiful baby daughter, Raphaella, to meet us. Our inclusive club was designed to fill a ‘gap in the market’ and welcomes not only Herschel Alumnae but also their friends and family.

Our club is named after Lady Margaret Herschel (the wife of Sir John Herschel) who arrived in Cape Town in 1834 age 23 and lived on the Feldhausen/Grove/Herschel estate with her growing family. (Three of her twelve children were born at the Cape.) She was a noted hostess and botanical artist, and also took a keen interest in education.

The Lady Herschel Club has forged friendships across the world and we are in regular contact with friends in far flung places: Siobhan Mannion de Esnouf (from Chile) and her sister, Deirbhle Mannion (from Australia) joined us for our most recent evening in August.

Our ‘end of year’ celebration at the Mount Nelson’s Planet Bar is always a dazzling cynosure and sets the tone for ‘end of year’ festivities.



SENIOR

CELEBRATION

HERITAGE CENTRE

Report by Kathy Wheeler

2024 has been a year of consolidation for the Herschel Heritage Centre. Projects have included the acquisition of a custom-built display cabinet for school memorabilia which includes storage drawers underneath for documents. A database has been acquired to facilitate the management of the collection and the project of digitising the documents continues.



From left to right

Back row: Amy van Breda, Georgia Finlayson, Anna Searson, Catherine Barton, Elysia Aspinall, Nicole Macey, Kate Formby.

Elen Vermaak, Jasmine Hatherill, Emily van Heerden, Alexa de Villiers, Amelia Badenhorst, Bianca Stewart, Hanaan Saith, Kate Hodgson, Tia Delliperi.

Third row: Sufiyah Essa, Olivia Sherren, Mia Sainsbury, Francis Hathorn, Jessica Petersen, Finnley Kleingeld, Liphelo Mangxola, Gemma Prinsloo.

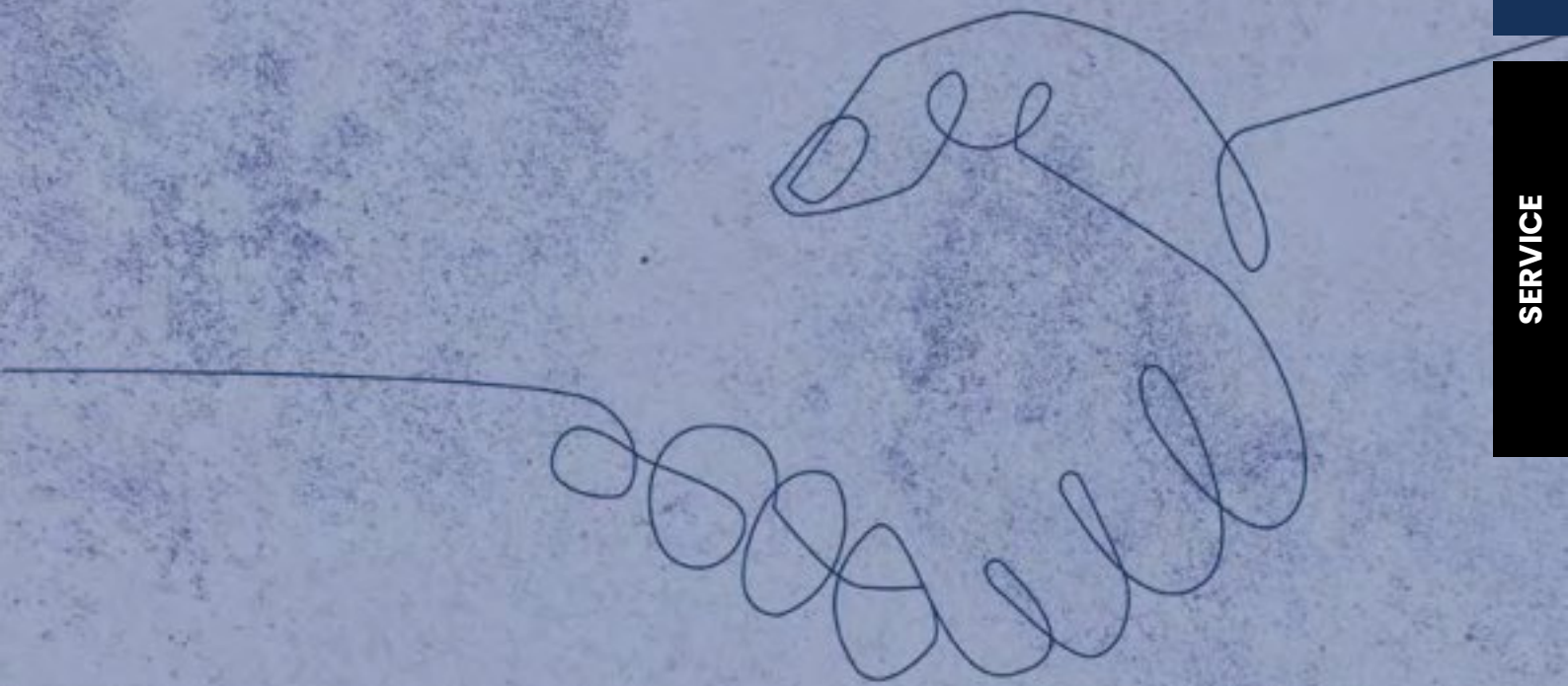
Second row: Taskya Pillay, Enqi Du, Jessica Ratcliffe, Sabiha Sondag, Tayla Katz, Sofia Dearnaley, Anna Ashbolt, Razeenah Parker, Hanna Wright.

Front row:

SERVICE

SENIOR

SERVICE





CHAPLAIN'S REPORT



The end of 2023 saw us back at St. Saviour's-Senior and in the Sports Centre-Prep School and in the Theatre-PrePrep for our Carol Services. In 2024 we were honoured to have Bishop Joshua Louw lead our Senior School Easter Service and Mrs Juries for our Prep School Easter Service. We joined with Bishops and St. Cyps for our annual Confirmation Service, lead by Archbishop Thabo Makgoba our students were sterling ambassadors for the school. Throughout the year we have been blessed and our worship enhanced with beautiful music from the Music Department, the Chorale, the orchestra and the worship band. Our two Heads of Chapel Dani and Bianca were exceptional in their leadership, always willing to go the extra mile.

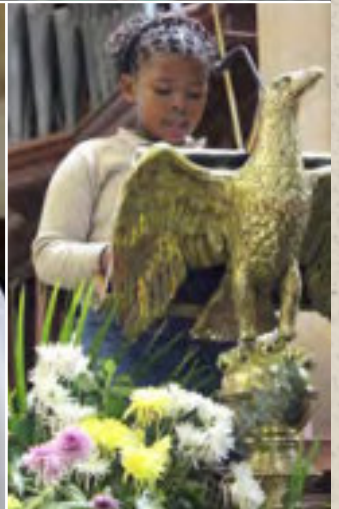
Our Chapel services continue each term across all three schools, it is

lovely to be using the Chapel in this way again. Sadly the heavy rainfall this year has seen further damage to our beautiful chapel and extensive renovations will be required in 2025. It is important in a school like Herschel to have a sacred space that is used by all three schools across the campus. In the Senior School in addition to the Chapel we also have a Peace Garden and a prayer room for our Muslim students.

It is so important in our busy life to have a space where we can retreat to without interruption and without explaining our need to be there. Jesus said "Come with me to a quiet place and there you will find rest" Matt 6:31.

I pray you will find your quiet space this term amongst the busyness.

Blessings – Reverend Lorna



SENIOR

SERVICE

My Why

PASTORAL

by Tracy Rousseau

German philosopher Frederick Nietzsche once said, 'He who has a **WHY** can endure any how.'

Knowing your **WHY** is an important step in figuring out how to achieve a life and career you enjoy...rather than one you just get through/survive. When you know your **WHY** you will find the courage to take the risks needed, stay motivated and move forward when things get tough.

Dr Margie Warrell wrote in her book "Stop Playing Safe" that ones purpose is found in the intersection of your talents, skills/expertise, passions and deepest values. So, to really get to the core of your **WHY**, we need to look at those four aspects of ourselves.

Your Values

Your values as your personal code of conduct. They are your core beliefs that guide your actions, behaviors and your interactions with the world.

Your skills and expertise

Things that get you excited for work because you do them well.

Your Passions

Your passions are your interests that constantly leave you wanting more. You want to spend more time experiencing them than you are currently able to do. You can't stop thinking about them.

Your Strengths and talents

Your strengths encompass your natural abilities, your talents, marketable (hard) skills, people (soft) skills and other life skills. They are your natural tendencies for work. They are tasks that come easy to you and feel satisfying when you complete them.



Finding your **WHY** will bring energy, enthusiasm, and purpose. You'll engage more deeply with your work and the world around you, know the direction your choices should take, and inspire everyone around you to make a difference with their lives. It gives us authentic direction. It allows you to recommit to yourself, your own potential, the potential of those around you, and to your purpose in life.

If only it was that easy. Trying to really understand our purpose in this life is never as simple as it sounds. We are bound to face many challenges along the way...life happens; not everyone has the same values as us; not everyone wants to celebrate or help develop your strengths as they may feel threatened; sometimes we are mislead by others thoughts and feelings about people, places and things and this makes us want to rethink our passions and purpose. To really delve into who we are and what our purpose is we need to be brave and do deep introspection and reflection.

To be brave. A word we hear often. Connected mostly with dangerous situations. But what is being brave really all about? Most dictionary definitions refer to brave as having or displaying courage, resolution, or daring; not being cowardly or timid. Some definitions go further and explore that being brave means

having or showing mental or moral strength; to face danger, fear, difficulty or change. This is important – it's not just about danger, it's about facing difficulty and change – every day has its challenges and these are different as we learn and grow and navigate relationships and situations – and having moral strength – upholding our values even when it's not the "cool" thing to do.

Brené Brown writes in *Dare to lead*:

'One of the most important findings of my career is that courage can be taught, developed and measured. All it requires is a commitment to doing bold work, having tough conversations and showing up with our whole hearts. Easy? No. Choosing courage over comfort is not easy. Worth it? Always. We want to be brave with our lives and work. It's why we're here.'

As Brené Brown says, "BRAVE is a verb" – an action we intentionally choose and develop through constant practice.

For some, waking each morning and getting out into the world, be it going to school or work, is brave and takes a lot of courage; for some facing a difficult test/task, standing up for something or someone that is going against what others are doing and saying, doing things that are out of our comfort zones, allowing our own individuality to shine through and not worrying what others are saying about us...or showing up despite what others are saying about us.

School is a place where we face many different challenges each day...the biggest and most important of which is finding out who we really are and hopefully learning how that person fits into the world. In exploring this concept of "my **WHY**" and bravery I came across the symbolism of a butterfly that held so much significance for me.

Not surprisingly given their life path, the symbolism of butterflies embraces key themes of positive life forces such as rebirth and change. They're born as caterpillars, cocoon themselves, and emerge in their true form – a butterfly. A butterfly knows their purpose, their **WHY**...it is to undergo a metamorphosis. But not only can we see the before and after with a butterfly, we can actually see the process happening, and be inspired by it to do the hard work on ourselves, knowing we too can grow and transform if we are brave enough to take that step and really look for our **WHY** in life.

A powerful beacon of growth and new beginnings, the butterfly signifies the power of transformation and the incredible feats we can achieve when we trust ourselves. We all have the ability to listen to our innate wisdom, guide ourselves through difficult times, and emerge better and stronger than before. The butterfly can be a powerful reminder to be brave and trust the process.

We enter school, pupils and adults, as one person, but as we learn and grow and interact with others and the world around us, we change. You never really know what someone is going through, how brave they are needing to be on a day...in a moment...so let us enter each day and every space and interaction with kindness, love, and courage.

Let us be brave...

Brave to try new things
Brave to put yourself "out there"
Brave to persevere
Brave in growth
Brave in challenges
Brave in joy
Brave in gratitude
Brave to have tough conversations
Brave in kindness
Brave in learning
Brave in vulnerability
Brave in love
Brave in anger
Brave in change
Brave to show up...even when it's hard
Brave to stand up for what's right
Brave to be authentically YOU
Brave to become the best version of ourselves

...and find and live out our WHY.

Honesty

Love is honesty. Love is a mutual
respect for one another.



CURRICULUM

SENIOR

CURRICULUM





WHAT KIND OF LEARNER DO WE WANT TO GROW AND DEVELOP AT HERSCHEL

**A KIND, RESPECTFUL, CONFIDENT/
BRAVE, AND WELL-BALANCED PUPIL
WHO IS ABLE:**

- To critically and creatively engage constructively in the world/different environments in an empathetic, responsible, anti-fragile and curious manner;
- To be adaptive, agile and open minded;
- To direct their own learning;
- To work collaboratively;
- To be a life-long learner

in order to be the best version of themselves
and to make an impact, not for personal gain but
for the greatest good for the greatest number.

CURRICULUM MATTERS



GRADE 9: RE-DESIGN THE PREP SCHOOL TUCKSHOP COLLAB
Collaboration / Entrepreneurship / Problem solving
Critical and Creative thinking / Real life learning

GRADE 8: PROJECT 'LOCALE'
Inquiry based learning / Experiential learning
Critical and Creative thinking
Social Justice and Environmental awareness

MARS ROVER DESIGN: GRADE 9 SCIENCE
Design thinking, problem solving, creative thinking

BUSINESS STUDIES AND CONSUMER STUDIES: GRADE 10 COLLAB
Entrepreneurship / Responsible citizenship - sustainability
Strategic and problem-solving

CRITICAL ENGAGEMENT WITH AND QUESTIONING OF SOURCES IN HISTORY
Curious / Engage constructively with empathy
Open minded and adaptability

'UN-BOXING' DESIGN AND DRAMA COLLAB
Creative and critical thinking / Empathy / Collaboration / Adaptive

BEHIND THE CURTAIN COSTUME DESIGN
Creative thinking / Open-minded

GRADE 9 MUSICAL THEATRE
Directing their own learning
Collaboration

GRADE 9 HACKATHON
Social justice / Empathy / Problem-solving / Digital literacy

GRADE 11 LIFE SCIENCES: Fynbos Fish Conservation
Responsible citizenship / Real life scenario problem solving





New perspectives can change yours.



You can't compare anyone's work as they are all so different and art has the widest range of interpretation and perspective.



There's no such thing as a mistake in your artwork and you should learn to work with something if you don't like it because it can be worked on.



Dig deep into your soul and create from your heart.

ART

by Mrs Laura-Jo Smith

The Visual Arts department at Herschel provides a vibrant curriculum designed to cultivate creativity and critical thinking across a range of artistic practices. Pupils partake in hands-on projects, delve into historical and contemporary art theories, and enhance their technical skills. The art studio fosters self-expression, innovative ideas, and a deeper connection with the world. It is a space where pupils are encouraged to think and create freely.



I love the practical lessons where we can get lost in working on our art.



Art topics

Grade 8:

- Colour schemes and drawing fundamentals
- Picasso inspired portraits
- Zines inspired by 'My World'

Grade 9:

- Positive and negative space ink work
- Mixed-media artwork
- Surrealist inspired collage and painting

Grade 10:

- Portraiture
- Byzantine inspired self-portraits
- PAT artwork – in response to the theme Natural Forms

Grade 11:

- Contextual research and creative processing in response to the theme Fragments
- Specialisation in their own discipline in response to the theme Fragments

Grade 12:

- Paper 2 responses to the theme: Truth and Fiction, with an exhibition to celebrate their year work portfolios
- Specialisation in their own Visual Arts Matric Practical portfolio



GRADE 8 AND 9 ART

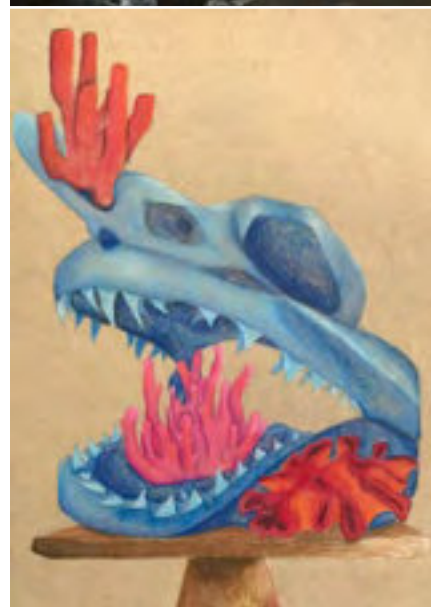


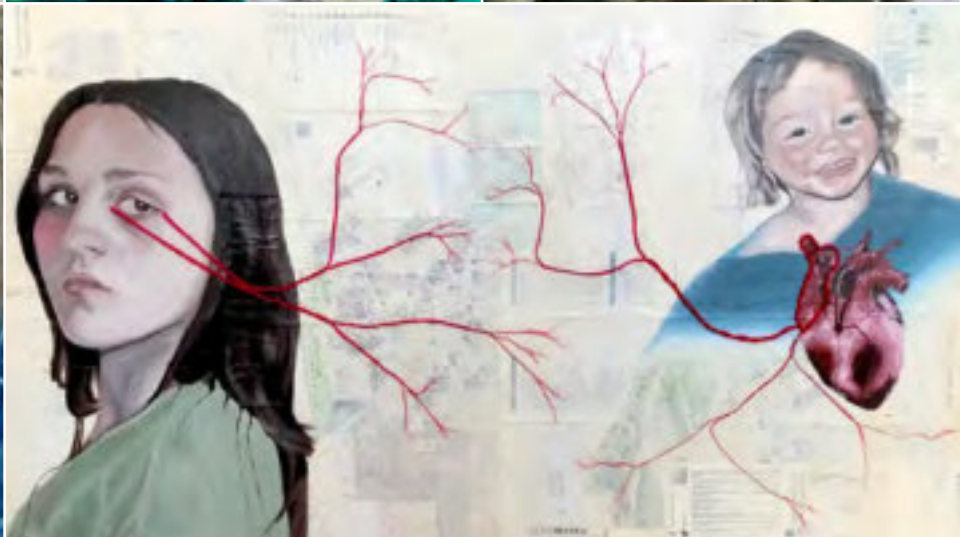


GRADE 10 ART SFD DAY

Ardmore Trunks in Trouble Exhibition at Constantia Uitsig

The Grade 10 Visual Art pupils recently visited the Trunks in Trouble exhibition at Constantia Uitsig, which celebrates South African artistry while raising awareness about the impact of plastic pollution on elephants. The pupils received a presentation from the founder of Plazrok, an innovative company addressing plastic waste, and enjoyed an insightful guided tour by the founder of Ardmore. The outing emphasised the power of art to inspire change and encouraged pupils to consider the broader impact of their creative work.





GRADE 12 ART

Visual Arts Year Work Exhibition in response to the theme: 'Truth and Fiction'

The Grade 12 artists put together an exciting exhibition which showcased the wide range of responses to the theme of the year, 'Truth and Fiction'. Their work brought together an incredibly dynamic collection of ideas, perspectives, and expressions. The pieces in the exhibition were not only a reflection of their technical skills, but also of their engagement with the world around them.



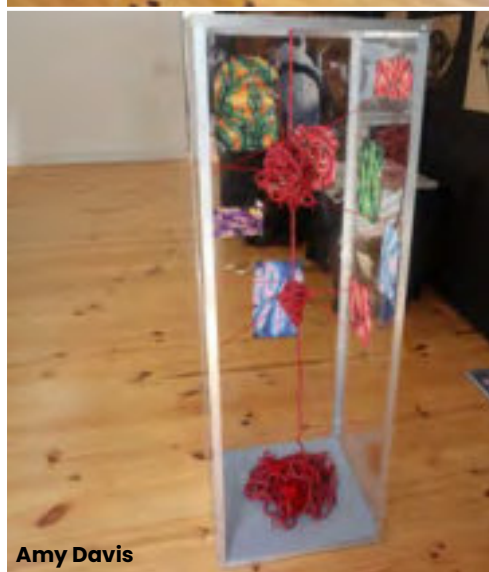
Alessia Grandi



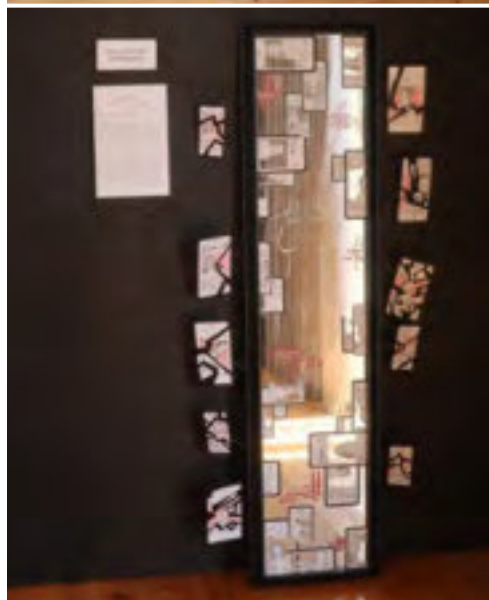
Alessia Grandi



Amy Davis



Amy Davis



Amy Davis

SENIOR

CURRICULUM



"I HEARD YOU'RE
ADMITTED BECAUSE
YOU'RE S&S IS SHY!"



"WELL, IS YOUR BOSS
LIKE THAT?"



"YOUR BOSS IS
A LITTLE BIT
DIFFERENT FROM
THE OTHERS!"



"YOUR BOSS IS
A LITTLE BIT
DIFFERENT FROM
THE OTHERS!"



"IS YOUR BOSS
A LITTLE BIT
DIFFERENT FROM
THE OTHERS?"



"IS YOUR BOSS
A LITTLE BIT
DIFFERENT FROM
THE OTHERS?"



Amy Heffren



Ashley Silberbauer



Ashley Silberbauer



Elen Vermaak



Elen Vermaak



Georgina Beauchamp



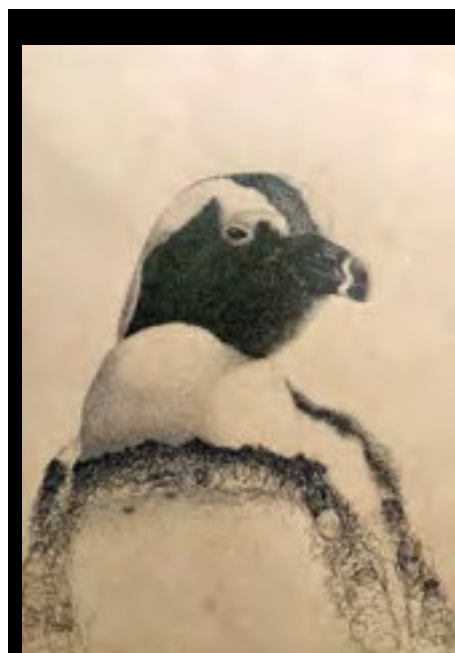
Emily van Heerden



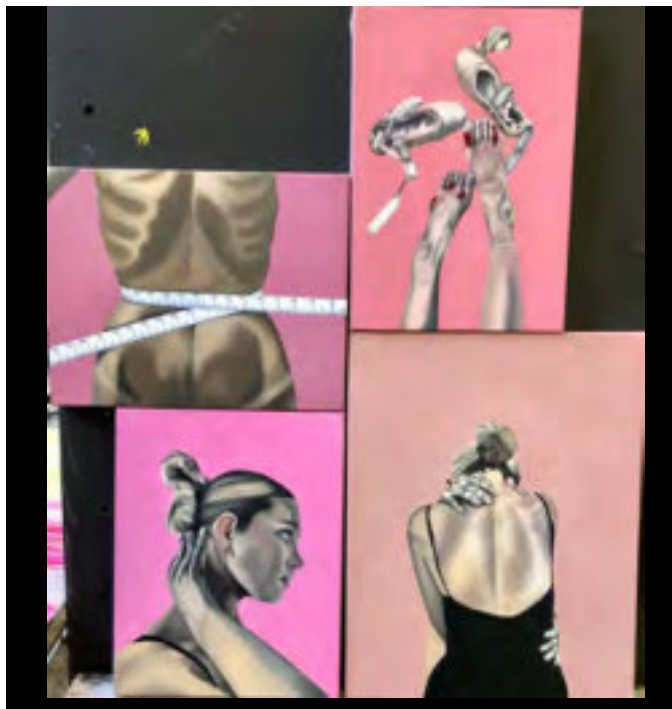
Georgina Beauchamp



Rebecca Wolhuter



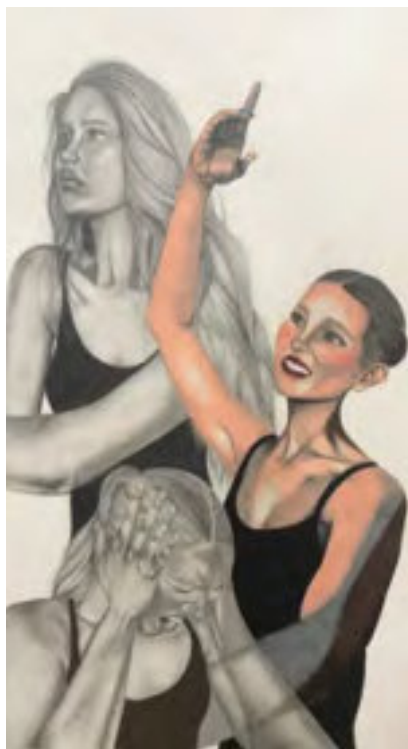
Emily van Heerden



Jessica Petersen



Rebecca Wolhuter



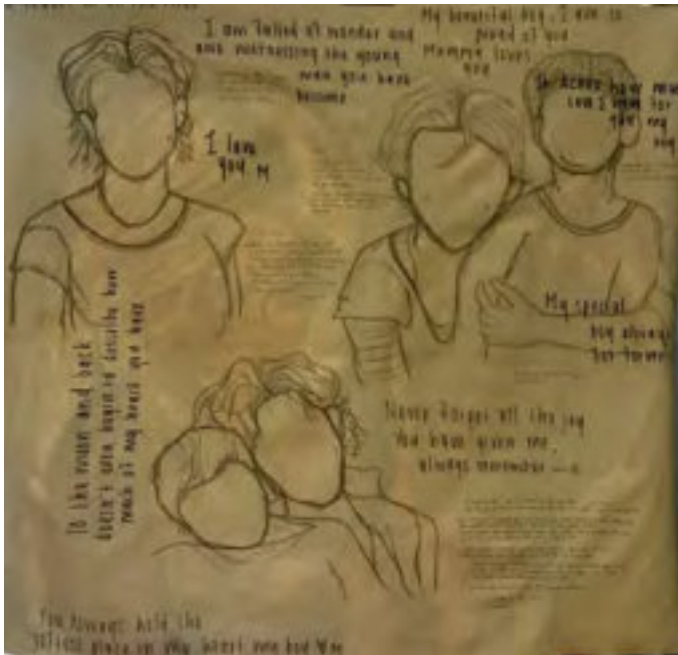
Jessica Petersen



Taybah Isaacs – Prize Winner



Taybah Isaacs – Prize Winner



Victoria van der Watt



Victoria van der Watt



Victoria van der Watt



Zaynah Darsot



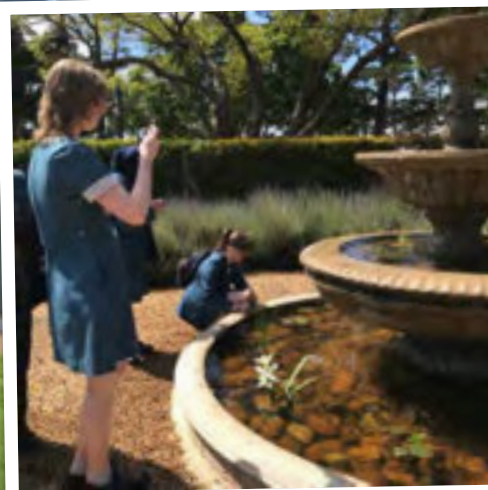
Zaynah Darsot



Zaynah Darsot



ART OUTINGS



SENIOR

CURRICULUM

COMMERCE

Grades 10 –12 Subjects

Accounting and Business Studies

Teachers

Mrs N. Barendse,

Mrs N. Koopman, Ms T. Rousseau

Business Studies and Accounting equips students with a diverse skill set, encompassing financial analysis, strategic planning, and effective communication. It allows for discovery in areas such as marketing, management, and ethics, fostering an understanding of the modern corporate world. Additionally, it imparts values of ethics, collaboration, creativity and adaptability, preparing pupils to thrive in a competitive and socially responsible business environment.

We focus on current trends affecting markets and look at new ways to solve problems. We reflect on traditional methods of management as well as explore more modern approaches that are prevalent today. The aim of Commerce subjects is to equip pupils with the skills, knowledge and values needed by entrepreneurs of the future.

That even on your worst day just being in Ms Koopman's presence can make you feel 100 times better.

- Tahlia Toll

CORONATION WOMENS DAY BREAKFAST EVENT



The most valuable thing that I have learnt this year is that time is the most valuable resource in a business.

- Angeliki Efstathiou

Grade 10s

ATTENDING THE UCT ENTREPRENEURSHIP EXPO



The most valuable thing that I have learned is how important teamwork is in a business. I can relate to this in my everyday life as it makes simple tasks go faster in school or at home if we just work together.

- Caitlin Ratcliffe

Grade 10s

MARKET DAY



Grade 11s OUTING TO CENTURY CITY TO COLLECT RESEARCH ON THE FOSCHINI GROUP STORES



FASHION RETAIL

A detailed study of the fashion retail space in South Africa and beyond, examining how the various economic factors affect this industry and how management concepts can be applied to adapt to change.

I learnt that in order to have a business you must be able to adapt to changes and plan carefully for success.

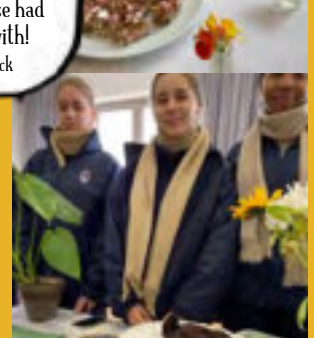
- Georgia MacKay



My favourite memory was cooking our ramen noodles, as I enjoyed it the most, learnt more about its origin and was my favourite dish to eat as it was delicious.
- Caitlin Balcliffe



My favourite memory is creating my novelty cake and seeing what everyone else had come up with!
- Julia Turk



INTERIOR DÉCOR OF COFFEE SHOPS

Consumer Studies is my favourite subject because the stuff you learn isn't useless info, it's actually interesting info and we cook yummy stuff.
- Riley Hoskin



CONSUMER STUDIES

In a subject that covers a wide variety of topics that are relevant to day to day life, Consumer Studies students learn about consumer issues, clothing and fashion, sustainability, interiors and housing, entrepreneurship, finances, and budgeting and of course food which includes the practical aspect and nutrition. Relevant and skills- focused, Consumer Studies highlights many issues and situations and trends that consumers are exposed to, making it a life-lesson subject, preparing students for real-life situations.

MARKET DAY



Ms Cass is very good at helping students with self or personal growth within the subject.



Have the confidence to try and let the thought of failure push you forward"
- Fatima Mohammed

ART OF SUSHI

DESIGN

The Herschel Design Department embarked on an innovative journey with the Drama department's 'Unboxing' project, which explored life-sized packaging design. We sewed for Steampunk themes and costume design, created textile and repeat pattern tote bags, and designed architectural plans and scale models for Boutique Hotels on the Atlantic Seaboard and in Cape Town CBD, inspiring new creative design opportunities. – Mrs Candice du Toit

Ella Floquet



I really appreciate all the helpful advice Ms Hoffmann gives and how she always has our best interests at heart when it comes to Design.

Grace Ludlum



Zeenat Cader



Jay Donte Kerekes



GRADE 8 DESIGNS DESIGN-O-VATION

Isabella Saville



Surface Designs inspired by Art Deco patterns
Design and construction of prototype toasters



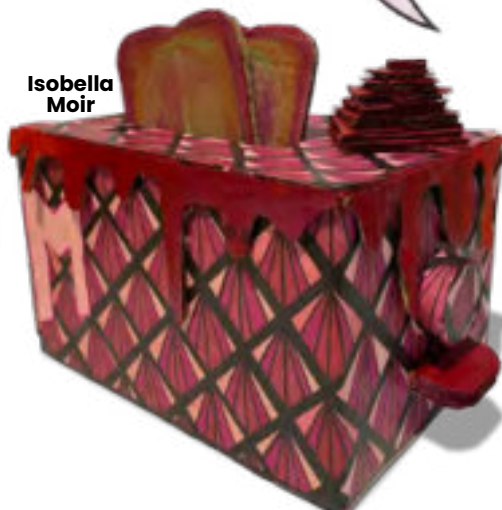
Hannah Embrahim

Design is a crucial subject in which one learns how to think creatively, uniquely and intuitively. As well as being creative, design forces students to use critical thinking to tackle writing tasks and tests.

Ava rowlands



Isobella Moir



If you are thinking about Design, be prepared to spend a lot of time working on projects over weekends. If you put in the effort, you will definitely be happy with the outcome!

Layla Ofsowitz





Stella Boshoff

I appreciate that Ms du Toit is willing to spend time individually with each student and work through their pages of workbooks with them. She is always willing to help and offer advice wherever needed. I appreciate how she sees the good and positive aspects of each students work and offers advice to help them with the negative aspects.



Abigail von Stittert



Chloe Mills



Ms du Toit pushes us to keep on striving to achieve and do our best!

GRADE 9 DESIGNS INSIDE OUT

Interior Design – Ground plans and scale models for a teenage bedrooms and en-suite



Gabi Laubscher



Ayanda Bordiss

SENIOR

CURRICULUM



Anemae Smith

Design is a subject which allows you to explore many different types of design, as well as allows you to learn the broad skills needed for all disciplines of design.



Georgia Nicklin



Scarlett Turck



GRADE 10 DESIGN ZEITZ MOCAA OUTING

The Grade 10 Design pupils and exchange students had a wonderful SFD outing to Zietz MOCAA in the third term. After a guided tour of the Cape Town Creative Academy they went and explored the architecture and history of the Zietz and Silo District of the V&A Waterfront. The pupils were impressed by the incredible structure and suitably inspired for their own architectural project – designing a Boutique Hotel. To end the day they visited The Southern Guild Gallery where they were exposed to how Design disciplines can be used within the consumable art market.



Make sure you have time for everything and don't leave anything to last minute.

The pracs are SO much fun! If you enjoy designing things you should definitely take Design.

In Grade 10, I really enjoyed working with the Consumer Studies classes on our cupcake packaging design, and the opportunity to sell our products to the school.

It is a really great opportunity to escape the hustle and bustle of the school and take a few moments to rest and be creative.

GRADE 10 DESIGNS UNBOXING

Collab with Design and
Drama Departments

SENIOR

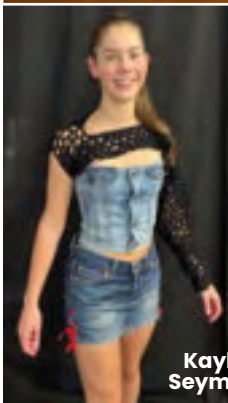
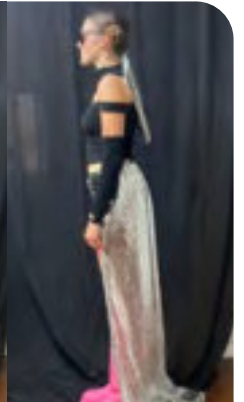
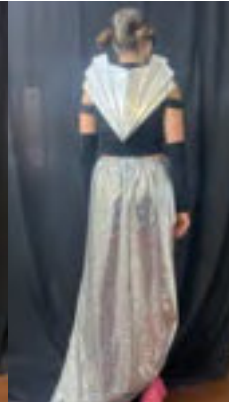
CURRICULUM



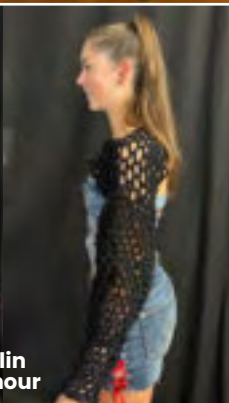
Emma McGaw



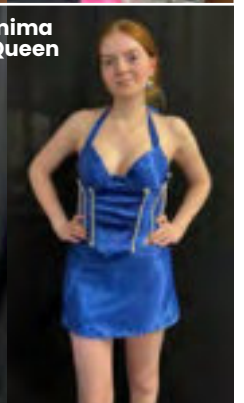
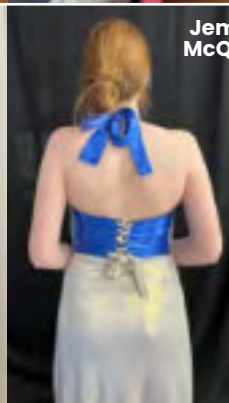
Isabella Maltz



Kaylin Seymour



Jemima McQueen

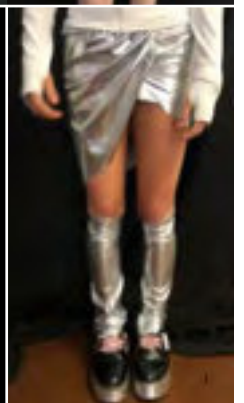


I really enjoyed doing our first fashion project and all sewing together.

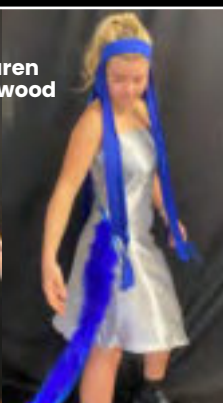
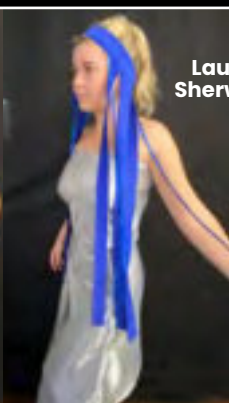
GRADE 11 DESIGNS FASHION

Costume Design in response to the theme:
Steampunk

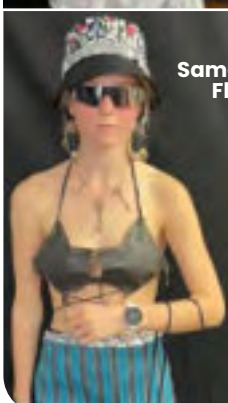
Being able to see my drawings come to life, especially in the fashion project from term 2.



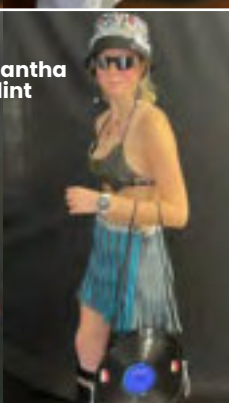
Lauren Sherwood



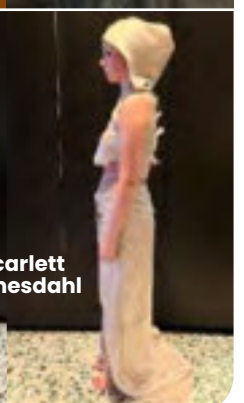
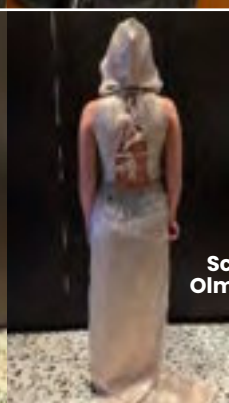
Mia Scheibe

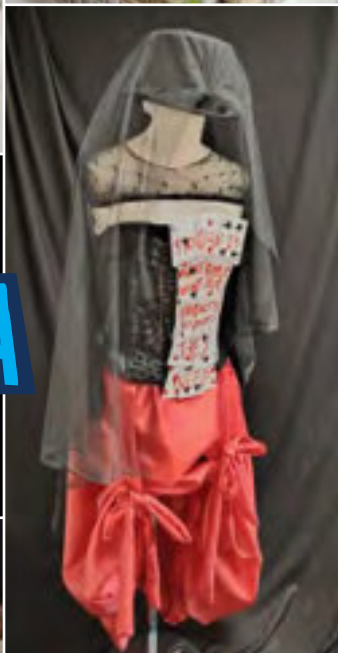
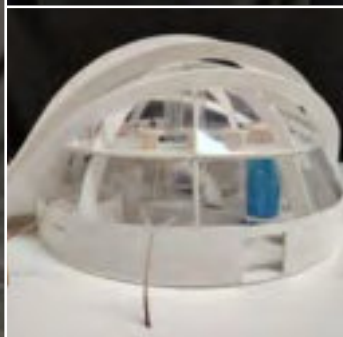
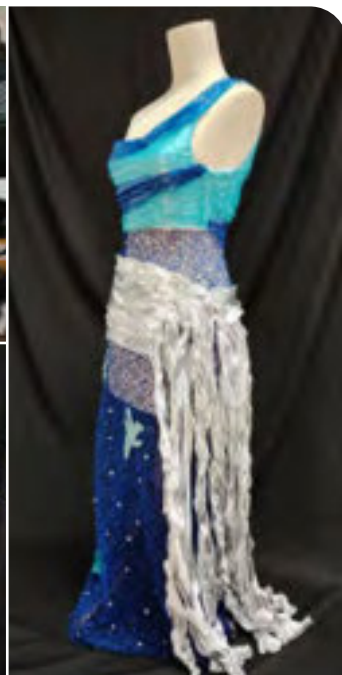
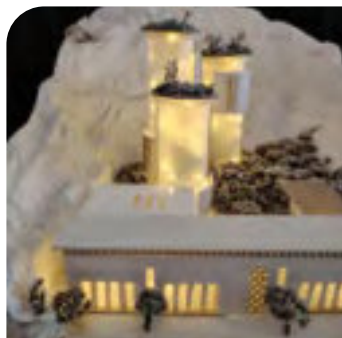


Samantha Flint



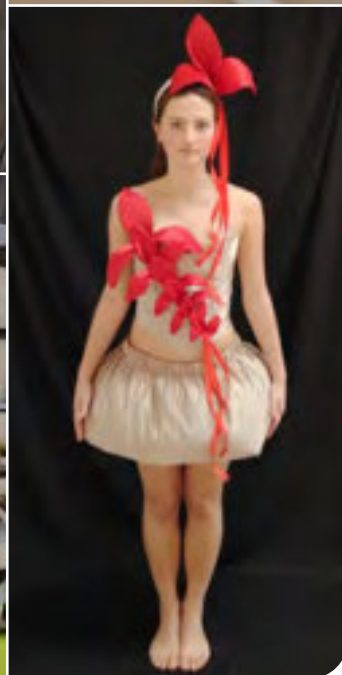
Scarlett Olmesdahl





GRADE 12 DESIGNS PRAGMATIC UTOPIA

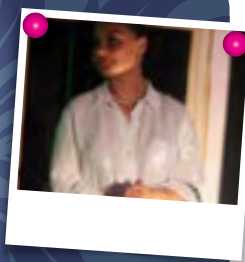
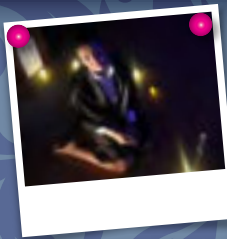
Paper 2 responses to the Theme: Pragmatic Utopia, where they specialised in their chosen Design discipline.



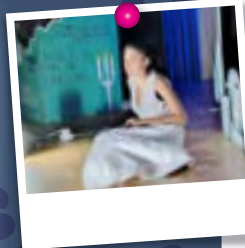
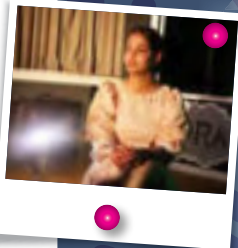
SENIOR

CURRICULUM

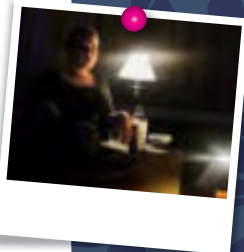
Embracing the journey of my design project taught me that trust in the process transforms uncertainty into creativity.
- Katherine Featherstone



COLLAB: DESIGN AND DRAMA



UNBOXING



Unboxing taught me so much about myself, the more I learned about and became my character, the more I was able to reflect on real-life experiences.
- Isabella Wier-Smith

I enjoyed the collaborative process of merging design with drama, as it highlighted the power of visual storytelling in enhancing the emotional depth.
- Emily Clinton



This year's interdisciplinary project, "Unboxing," merged packaging design with Realism performance, exploring the intersection of visual communication and theatre. Drama students selected monologues that played to their strengths, while Design students created life-sized "doll boxes" representing each character. The boxes, rich in symbolism, reflected themes, personality traits, and the narrative style of the plays.

"The main factor in any form of creativeness is the life of a human spirit, that of the actor and his part, their joint feelings and subconscious creation."

- Constantin Stanislavski

Unboxing allowed me to step out of my comfort zone, I discovered an unused strength in Drama and found confidence I never knew I had.
- Fatima Tu Zahra Parker



Design students balanced creativity with practicality, staying true to the playwright's vision. Drama students applied Stanislavski's Realism theories, delving into their characters' motivations and emotions within socio-historical contexts. Performed in the Mary Jagger Hall, each box was uniquely lit to enhance the mood, and actors performed within the boxes, using movement and stillness to add depth.



The project sparked discussions on objectification and the commodification of the female body, illustrating the power of creative collaboration.

Collaborating with the Grade 11s felt like having a real client and pushed me to deliver my best work which allowed me to grow as a designer and discover what I am capable of.
- Samantha Miller



CABBARET PRODUCTION

The cabaret is a production that brings together all facets of the performing arts and celebrates the diverse talents and abilities of our students. This year's show was born from the long-time desire of our Head of subject Music, Jan Gouws, to stage an all-ABBA production that celebrated the music and heart of one of the greatest Pop sensations of all time. The audience was immersed in a beautiful space of light, lavish costumes, gorgeous choreography, familiar melodies and rich harmonies. It was a joy for the creative team and staff to work together with our students on this feel-good show that brought our Herschel community together in a performance that had us saying "Thank You for the Music" long after the curtain had fallen"



SENIOR

CURRICULUM



Grade 9

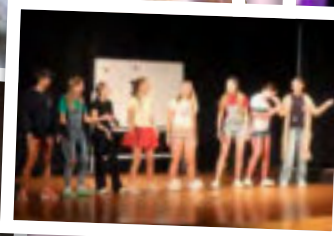
JUKEBOX MUSICALS

The Grade 9 Core Drama students staged a second semester project in which they worked in groups to conceive, write and stage original Jukebox musicals, set to the work of a performing Artist of their choice. From prison-escape hijinks ("Under Pressure" – Queen), love or teenage angst in High School ("All for Her" – One Direction, "Lucky" – Britney Spears) to issues around mental health ("Whispers in the Ward" – Billie Eilish) and the Suffragette movement ("The

Rising" – Adele), these incredible productions had it all. Workshops with LAMTA (Luitingh Alexander Musical Theatre Academy) and choreography guided by teachers from the BBATA (Byron Bure Academy of Theatre Arts) further developed the musical theatre skills of our young triple-threats. We are so proud of them for what they delivered, but more importantly of how they developed their creativity and grit throughout this process.

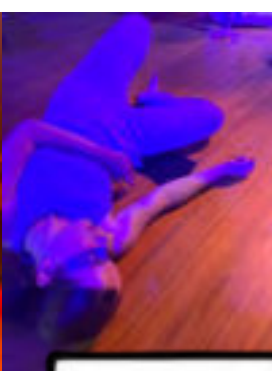
SENIOR

CURRICULUM



Grade 8 Children's Theatre Collab IN THE CLASSROOM

Our Grade 8 year culminated in a meaningful collaboration between the High School and Pre-Prep. Our students took books from the "Think Equal" programme in the Pre-Prep school, in which key lessons are taught through stories, and adapted them into children's theatre pieces devised for an audience of Pre-Ns to Grade Rs.



Grade 10 ANTIGONE

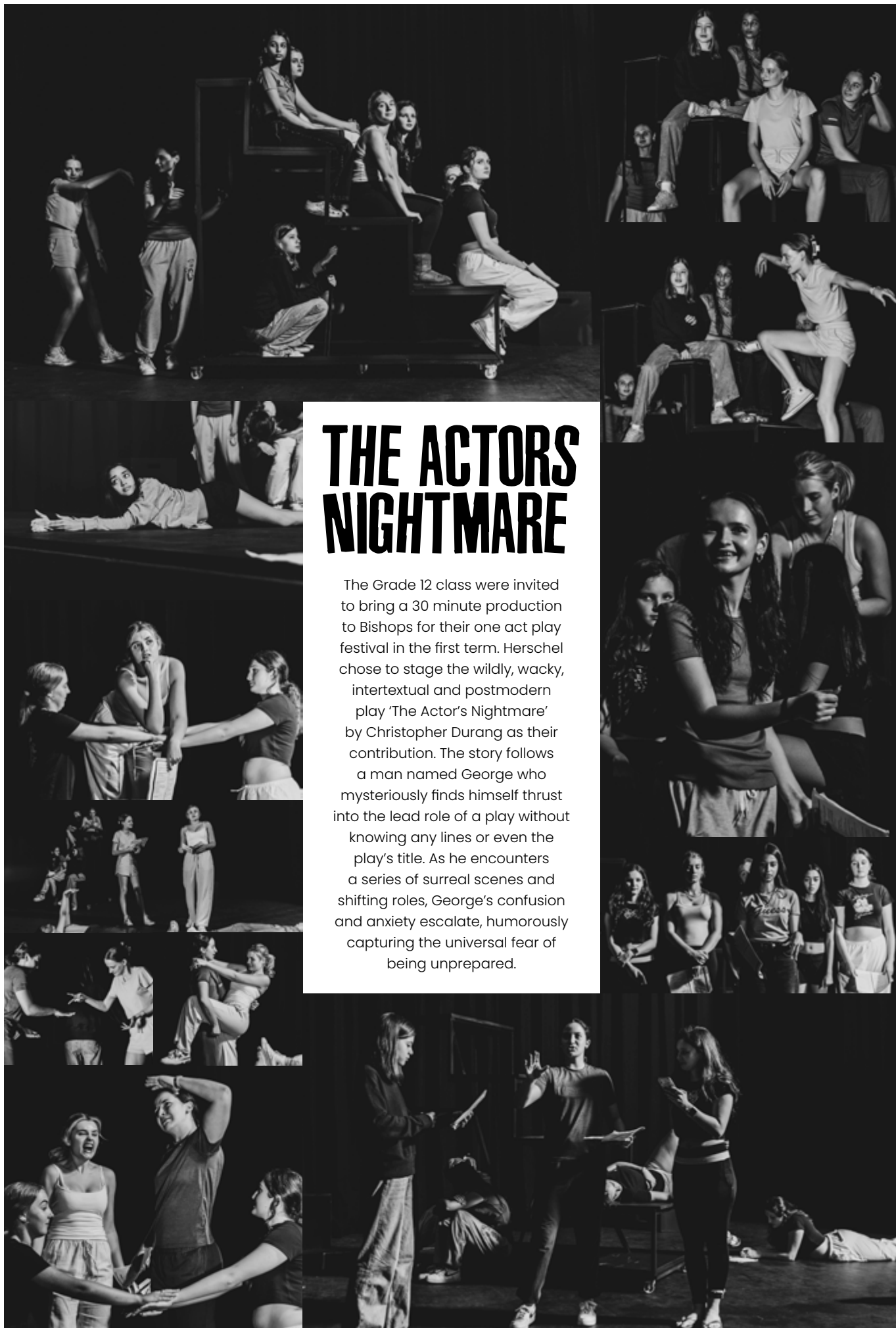
It was such a highlight getting to finally perform our Antigone play after working on it for so long and putting in so much effort, and it paid off.
- Gigi Stodel



Performing Antigone with the class is a wonderful and exciting memory. - Rania Macnab

Grade 10 Drama class performed a modernisation of the classical Greek Tragedy 'Antigone' for an invited audience of family and friends. Seated on stage, in an immersive, intimate experience, the audience were drawn into this timeless story of a young princess in a war-torn land who

defies the will of a king to do what she knows is right. The Grade 10s took on the dual roles of actors and creatives, with each owning a critical production role. Directing, choreographing, makeup design, lighting, sound and music design – they did it all.



THE ACTORS NIGHTMARE

The Grade 12 class were invited to bring a 30 minute production to Bishops for their one act play festival in the first term. Herschel chose to stage the wildly, wacky, intertextual and postmodern play 'The Actor's Nightmare' by Christopher Durang as their contribution. The story follows a man named George who mysteriously finds himself thrust into the lead role of a play without knowing any lines or even the play's title. As he encounters a series of surreal scenes and shifting roles, George's confusion and anxiety escalate, humorously capturing the universal fear of being unprepared.



I really enjoyed exploring a new Shakespeare play through acting it out and putting it on stage for a live audience. I loved that we decided to set it in an 80's high school and give it an original twist. - Aisha Mia, Grade 9



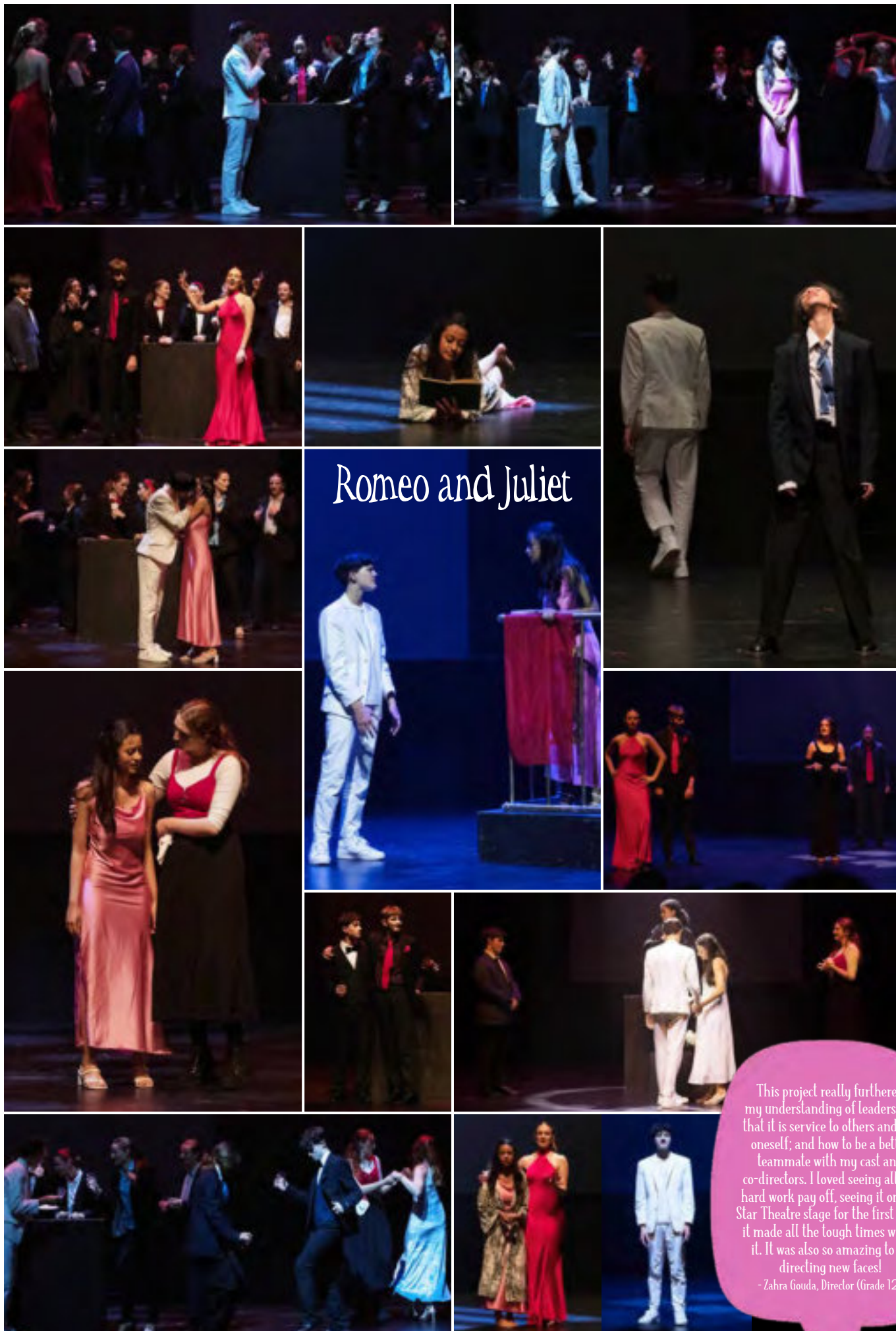
SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL



The Shakespeare Schools Festival: Every year, Herschel participates in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, which affords our students the chance to make connections with other schools and to perform in professional theatre spaces in Cape Town. This year, they staged 'Romeo and Juliet' (Grade 10-12) and 'Much Ado about Nothing' (8-9) at the Star Theatre. 'Romeo and Juliet', was directed by the Grade 12 drama students, who took complete ownership of the play's production. They worked with students from Bishops and SACs in the cast to stage a James Bond themed tale of love and death. 'Much Ado about Nothing' embraced the concept of an 80's High School movie, complete with cheerleaders, jocks, outcasts, villains and the soundtrack of 80's rock and pop music.

Much Ado about Nothing





Romeo and Juliet

SENIOR

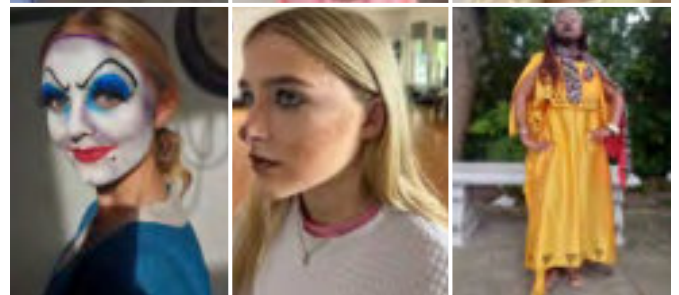
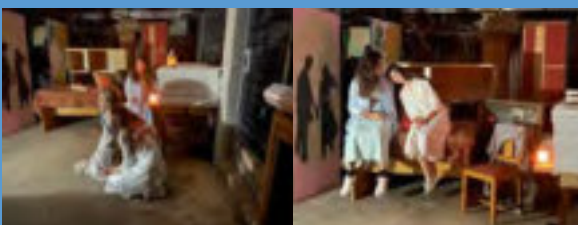
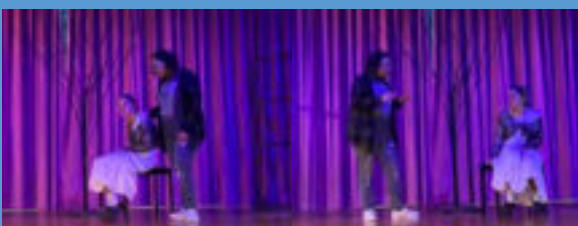
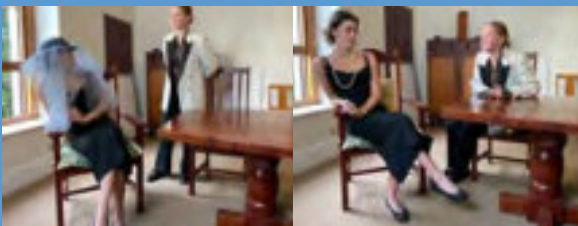
CURRICULUM

This project really furthered my understanding of leadership, that it is service to others and not oneself; and how to be a better teammate with my cast and co-directors. I loved seeing all the hard work pay off, seeing it on the Star Theatre stage for the first time; it made all the tough times worth it. It was also so amazing to be directing new faces!

- Zahra Gouda, Director (Grade 12)

ELIZABETHAN THEATRE AND DESIGN CONCEPT

Featuring extracts from Twelfth Night, Macbeth, Hamlet, Othello and Romeo and Juliet, each group was tasked with reimagining the play in a new context and concept, designing the set, lighting and costume for the scene and staging it in a site-specific performance space.





GRADE 12 PRACTICALS



SENIOR

CURRICULUM

GEOGRAPHY



Our Geography Department is a vibrant center for learning, discovery, and growth. We are committed to cultivating a deep appreciation for the world's varied landscapes, cultures, and environmental systems. Our team of dedicated and knowledgeable educators ensures that each student receives a rich, immersive education, extending far beyond the classroom. We emphasize experiential learning, integrating fieldwork into our curriculum to promote hands-on exploration and sharpen analytical thinking. Whether your passion lies in human geography, physical geography, or the intersection of both, our department offers an environment where inquisitiveness is encouraged, and global perspectives are expanded. Embark on a journey with us to explore and understand the complexities of the world we live in.



You learn practical things that you can use in day to day life.
- Jemma Pearce



I love being part of such a connected class that has been on many outings together. We are a small group that shares many laughs. - Samantha Flint



Geography turns my curiosity into real-world adventures.
- Gabi Russel

FIELDTRIPS OVERVIEW

Grade 10 PENINSULA TOUR SEA POINT TO HOUT BAY



The Grade 10 group explored various factors along the scenic route from Sea Point to Hout Bay. They, explored coastal environments, examining coastal rock formations, the significance of oceans, and the effects of currents and tides. Additionally, they studied mountain ranges, focusing on their shapes, rock types, and vegetation. The outdoor classroom provided the ideal setting to experience Geography at its finest.

Grade 11 PAARL ROCK AND FAIRVIEW FARM



The Grade 11 group concentrated on climate, settlement, and geomorphology. Despite the likelihood of rain, we made our way to Paarl Rock, where we were able to admire the stunning rock formations and the breathtaking views of the Paarl Valley. As we reached the summit, we were greeted by rain, and we concluded our excursion with a delightful hot chocolate at the Fairview dairy farm.

Grade 12 URBAN LAND USES



The Grade 12 students explored the city as local tourists, focusing on its evolution in architectural design, street layouts, and various land uses such as retail, commercial, residential, and industrial areas. They examined how these aspects have changed from the past to the present and shared their perspectives on the city's future developments.



Our SFD was really exciting and I learnt a lot about the spies during the Cold War. My favourite part of the day was definitely wearing the fake moustaches.
- Michelle Parasnath



HISTORY

It has been an exciting and transformative year for the History Department. Our students' curiosity and passion for the past have continued to shine, as they have delved into the big questions of politics, social justice, and human behaviour. This year has been packed with action, from Grade 12 History students participating in the Grade 6 Election Campaign, to fun-filled SFDs, to hearing fascinating guest speakers, and hosting a successful International Women's History Month in March, which helped raise the profile of History within the school. We are also super proud of our first IEB Grade 12 cohort, who have shown excellence and perseverance ahead of their final examinations. It has indeed been a historic year, with seismic changes and challenges in the world reminding us just how critical the past is in shaping our understanding of the present. I want to thank our incredible students for their dedication to honing their historical thinking and writing skills, and for making every discussion lively and engaging. We look forward to 2025!



History helps in understanding reasons for current events and makes one grateful for the things that they have today as they know the hardship that people endured for us to have the resources and things that we do today. - Daniella Hancock



The best thing I've learnt was about the technological advancements since the Industrial Revolution.
- Nina Lewis



FIRST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CLASS

by Edwin Charikinya, Subject head of IT



Class of 2024

Anna Ashbolt,
Adelaide Barnard, Amy Davis,
Ahlam Dharsey,
Hlubikazi Djabakoane,
Nandi Dlamini, Amy Gordon,
Finnley Kleingeld, Ruth Madonko,
Taskya Pillay, Tai Ravat,
Georgina Withers,
Ameera Yacooob

In a landmark achievement, Herschel Girls School has introduced its first Information Technology (IT) class since the school's inception in 1922. This year, the pioneering students became the first candidates to write the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Independent Examinations Board (IEB) exam in IT, marking a significant milestone in the school's history and the broader educational landscape.

This achievement is not just a testament to the students' hard work and dedication but also a reflection of how far society has come in embracing the rise of girl power in the tech industry. Historically, technology has been a male-dominated field, but initiatives like this are paving the way for a more inclusive future. The success of Herschel's IT class is a beacon of progress, highlighting the importance of providing young women with the tools and opportunities to excel in technology.

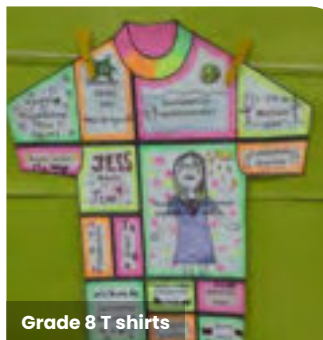
Looking ahead, Herschel Girls School is committed to expanding this initiative through a variety of upcoming and diverse programs that align with IT. Starting in Grade 8, students are introduced to the world of technology through hands-on experiences with EV3s, Spike Primes, Drone coding and Swift programming. These tools help students grasp the fundamentals of coding and understand how different programs operate on gadgets, offering a practical, real-life aspect to their learning.

In Grade 9, the curriculum delves deeper into the creative side of technology with courses in Python, HTML, Micro: bit and CSS. Students learn to create functional websites and apps, meeting the growing consumer demand for digital solutions. This early exposure not only equips students with valuable skills but also ignites their passion for technology, preparing them for more advanced studies in Grades 10–12.

The integration of IT into the curriculum is designed to expose Herschel learners to the future of technology and education. By the time they reach their senior years, students are well-versed in various programming languages and technological concepts, ready to tackle more complex challenges.

In 2025, Herschel Girls School aims to take this initiative a step further by exposing students to international competitions. These opportunities will not only showcase their talents on a global stage but also inspire them to pursue careers in technology, contributing to a more diverse and innovative industry.

The introduction of IT at Herschel Girls School is more than just a new subject; it is a celebration of progress and a commitment to empowering the next generation of female tech leaders. As we continue to break down barriers and challenge stereotypes, we look forward to seeing our students thrive and lead the way in the ever-evolving world of technology.



Grade 8 T shirts



Grade 8 Stompi in the garden



Grade 8 Stompi in the garden



Grade 8 role play



Grade 11 Sokkie



Grade 10 Erfeniskos



Grade 11 Askieskoek



Grade 12 Konsolidasie



Grade 9 Black out poems



Grade 10 Erfeniskos



Grade Nine Valentynsdag



Grade 10 Erfeniskos



Grade 12 Wenner van aktiviteit



Grade 12 Konsolidasie

AFRIKAANS

Another year flew by as critical skills were developed in Afrikaans lessons: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, character and citizenship. Verbal activities at the start of most lessons developed vocabulary and confidence to speak Afrikaans. Studying poems, short stories and novels fostered empathy for characters who have struggles different from our own.

SO TROTS HET EK NOG NOOIT GEVOEL NIE

"Doef-doef! Doef-doef!"

My hart het vinniger as 'n trom in my bors geklop. Ek het senuweeagtig na die verhoog Gordyne gekyk.

Op die laaste nippertjie het my balletonderwyser, Sam, vir my gevra of ek as hoofdanser kon dans, want sy het haar enkel seergemaak.

Die ander meisies het my 'n giftige kyk gegee. Almal wou die hoofdanser wees en toe ek dit kry, het hulle gedink ek verdien dit nie.

Daardie dag het ek besluit: "Vandag is die dag dat ek hulle verkeerd sal bewys."

Die Gordyne het oopgegaan en die musiek het begin speel. Die wêreld het verdwyn terwyl ek gedans het.

Ek het gedink aan al die lang ure van oefen en het my hart uitgedans.

Toe die musiek eindig, het ek in stilte gestaan. Die gehoor het gejuig en vir my hande geklap. Ek het so intens gedans dat my bene soos jellie gevoel het, maar ek het nog nooit so trots gevoel nie.

Ek het al die meisies verkeerd bewys. Nooit weer sal ek toelaat dat ander mense se opinies my keer nie.

Caitlin Campbell (Graad 8)

**Grade 8
LITERATURE**
Vis & Tjips

SO TROTS HET EK NOG NOOIT GEVOEL NIE

Het jy al ooit iets besit wat nét joune is en wat niemand anders het nie? Ek dog ek het totdat Annie besluit het om my borreltjie te bars!

"Dis fantastiese skoene, Annie!" sê iemand. Die kind loop verby my en sê dan: "Haai, jy dra dieselfde skoene as Annie."

My bloed kook. Ek gil amper op die kind. Hulle is MYNE. Hulle was nog altyd myne!

Annie groet my vrolik, soos 'n engeltjie, maar ek sien 'n monster.

"Kom ek vandag na jou huis toe, Ella?" vra sy.

Net daar kry ek 'n idee. Ek grinnik. "Natuurlik, sien jou daar."

Later die middag sit ons op my bed. Annie se skoene lê in die kombuis. Ek gaan kombuis toe om kastig vir ons 'n glas koeldrank te skink, maar eintlik is dit net stap een van my plan.

Ek vat haar skoene en roep vir Sammy. Hy trippel nader, stert in die lug.

"Kyk, Sammy! Soek jy 'n happie?" Ek waai die skoene voor sy snoet.

Sammy kou hulle stukkend en ek sluip weg.

Saterdag is ek by 'n partytjie. Annie is nie daar nie. Sy is gehok. Ek wonder hoekom...

Almal komplimenteert my skoene en een ding is verseker: Sô trots het ek nog nooit gevoel nie!

Lisa van As (Graad 8)

EK LAG NOU NOG OOR DIE DAG TOE

Almal het in die tuin gedans toe ons oë groot geword het.

Dit was donker toe ek wakker geword het. Ek het my gunstelingrok aangetrek. Toe was dit tyd om vir Ouma se verjaarsdagpartytjie reg te maak en om die huis te versier.

Ek en my ma het pers versiering en ballonne gekoop. Toe ons al die blomme op die tafel gesit het, het die huis perfek gelyk!

"Hulle is hier!"

Almal het groot glimlagte op hul gesigte gehad. Ouma was verbaas toe sy die huis en al die versiering gesien het.

Die pret het begin toe almal speletjies gespeel het. My familie het baie van die speletjies gehou. Dit was die beste tyd van die dag.

Toe het ons vir Ouma gesing, sy het 'n wens gemaak en haar koek gesny. Dit was 'n sjokoladekoek met lekkertjies bo-op. Dit was heerlik!

Toe almal klaar met hulle koek was, het die ouers die "goeie ou" liedjies gespeel. Die kleinkinders het glad nie die liedjies geken nie, maar almal het buite in die tuin gedans.

Ouma en Oupa het gedans asof hulle op televisie was. Hulle het hul harte uitgedans! Ouma het so lekker gedans dat sy nie gekyk het waar sy gaan nie.

Almal se oë het gerek! ... Ouma het in die swembad geval!

"Kom swem saam met my!"

Toe al my familie in die swembad was, het ons baie hard gelag!

Lauren van der Spuy (Graad 9)

NET EEN Vliegtuig WEG

"Sien julle volgende vakansie, Ma en Pa."

Jolanda en Heinrick het totsiens vir hulle dogter, Kristy, en haar gesin gesê toe hulle deur die lughawe se hek gegaan het.

Kristy en haar gesin het na Amerika vertrek omdat haar man 'n nuwe werk daar gekry het.

Terwyl Jolanda en Heinrick daar in die lughawe gestaan het, kon hulle nie glo hoe gou tyd verby gegaan het nie...

Nie lank gelede nie was Kristy 'n klein meisiekind wat elke dag roomys vir ontbyt wou eet en Muizenbergstrand toe wou gaan.

Toe Jolanda en Heinrick terug by die huis gekom het, was alles stil. Die kleinkinders se speelgoed was oral op die sitkamer se vloer. Vir 'n baie lang tyd het niks in die huis 'n geluid gemaak nie.

Die enigste ding waarvoor hulle gewag het, was vir Kristy om te bel en te sê hulle het veilig by hulle nuwe huis gekom.

Tingeling.

Net twee maande later.

Jolanda kyk vir die laaste keer na die huis. Daar was baie herinneringe wat in die huis gebeur het. Kristy het in hierdie huis grootgeword.

Die trok wat help trek, het van die huis weggery met al hul goed.

Kristy het vir haar ouers gevra of hulle saam met haar gesin wil bly. Nou is Jolanda en Heinrick op pad om saam met hulle familie te wees.

Nuha Timm (Graad 9)

**Grade 9
LITERATURE**
Leeus met letsels

MY GUNSTELINGPLEK IN SUID-AFRIKA: DIE HERSCHEL-HOKKIEVELD

My hart klop blitsvinnig en die skoelappers in my maag vlieg skielik na my keel toe. Dis die grootste dag van die jaar: die Herschfield-derby.

Terwyl ek na die Herschel-hokkieveld toe stap, voel ek regtig senuweeagtig. Ek weet my span voel ook die spanning. Ek is so trots op my skool en ek wil dit deur my passie vir hokkie wys.

Wanneer ons naby die hokkieveld is, voel ek dadelik die elektriese atmosfeer. Dit lyk asof daar 'n pienk kombors bo-oor die Herschel-toeskouers is. My gesin staan saam met die ander Herschel-toeskouers. My ma hou albei haar duime op om vir my sterkte toe te wens. Maar dit doen niks vir my senuwees nie.

Ek draai om en kyk na die Springfield-toeskouers. Hulle potblou kleres is in kontras met die flaminkpienk wat ek oral sien. Dis amper tyd om te speel, maar eers moet ons op die veld draf.

Ons span en die Springfield-span staan langs mekaar. Ons gaan oor een minuut verby die leerders van ons skole hardloop tot ons op die veld is. My hart klop al vinniger as vroeër. Ek het nie geweet dis moontlik nie. Nou is dit tyd...

Een, twee, drie!

Ek begin hardloop. Ek voel siek van die stres. Maar sodra ek op die veld is, is die spanning weg. My siel is helder. Nou voel ek die energie van die dag en ek is opgewonde oor die uitdaging! Dis hoekom die Herschel-hokkieveld my gunstelingplek in Suid-Afrika is. Hier vergeet ek van al my stres en angs. Hier is ek kalm.

Nina Wides (Graad 10)

Grade 10
LITERATURE
Fie! die drama

ONS ALMAL BEHOORT 'N PLANTGEBASEERDE DIEET TE VOLG: JA OF NEE

"Almal behoort 'n plantgebaseerde dieet te volg," sê veral vegetariërs en veganiste.

Ek stem nie saam met hulle nie, want plantgebaseerde diëte kan 'n negatiewe impak op 'n mens se fisieke en geestelike gesondheid hê.

Navorsing van die Universiteit van Oxford het bewys dat mense wat 'n plantgebaseerde dieet volg, dikwels gebrekkig in mikro-nutriënte soos vitamien D en B-12, Omega-3, sink, yster en kalsium is.

Vleis, veral rooivleis, het baie hema-yster en as iemand te min het, kan hulle bloedarmoede kry. Plantgebaseerde ysteraanvullings is moeiliker vir die liggaam om op te neem as hema-yster.

Terwyl sommige mense sê dat jy baie geld kan spaar as jy 'n plantgebaseerde dieet volg, is daar iets wat hul nie sê nie: goeie aanvullings is peperduur. Jy sal die geld wat jy op kos spaar, gebruik om aanvullings te koop.

Tweedens het suiwelprodukte, soos melk en kaas, baie kalsium. Kalsium is baie belangrik, want dit maak bene sterk. As iemand min of geen suiwelprodukte eet nie, sal hul bene swakker wees en die risiko van gebroke bene vergroot.

Volgens navorsing van die Nasionale Biblioteek van Medisyne van die VSA is daar bewys dat mense wat plantgebaseerde diëte volg, ook geneig is om beperkende eetgewoontes te begin volg. Mense, veral vroue, kan streng kosbesluite maak en hulself straf en as iemand te min sink en Omega-3 inneem, kan hulle angs en depressie kry.

Die meeste mense weet dit nie, maar daar is ook ongesonde plantgebaseerde diëte. Sommige plantprodukte is hoogs geprosesseerd en het dieselfde vet as diereprodukte en gee 'n mens dieselfde kans om hartsiektes te kry as iemand wat vleis eet. Dit kan ook moeilik wees om gesonde plantprodukte te vind, want min mense benodig dit en dit is dikwels duur (in sommige lande).

Ten slotte is dit duidelik dat daar te veel risiko's aan 'n plantgebaseerde dieet is en ons moet net al ons kos met matigheid voor oë eet.

Anastácia Butler (Graad 10)

'N BESERING IS VINNIGER VERGETE AS 'N BELEDIGING

Grade 11
LITERATURE
Die perfekte brander

Hoekom kan ek nie vergeet hoe hy egoïsties vir my geglimlag het toe ons oogkontak gemaak het nie? Hoekom het sy oë walglik van my oë af na my bors gereis?

Ek is 'n vroulike bokser wat teen 'n vroulike bokser veg. Daardie plakkaat wat hy vasgehou het, is duidelik gemaak om 'n misogynistiese punt te bewys. Daardie "veg soos 'n man"-plakkaat.

Vroulike atlete in sport wat deur mans oorheers word, kry deurentyd seksistiese kommentaar, of jy die Serena Williams van jou sport is of nie. Deur 'n vrou se hele sportloopbaan kan sy nie aan haar manlike eweknieë gestand doen nie. Sy kan haar bloed, sweet en tranes in haar sport sit. Sy kan met kneusplekke huis toe kom, maar geen besering beseer meer as die kritikus se beledigings nie.

Hoekom! Hoekom verdeel ons die samelewing in die binêre van manlik en vroulik? Wat 'n mens werklik benodig om in 'n sport uit te blink, is toewyding. Een eenvoudige waarde. 'n Waarde wat niks met geslag te doen het nie.

Die Springbokke het die regte idee. Die samelewing is sterker saam. Die mensdom moet as een verenig en mans vir hul sportprestasies toejuig en – net so hard – vroue toejuig. Verander die narratief rondom vroulike atlete en die wêreld sal besef hoe uitstekend ons sportvroue werklik is.

Wanneer daardie verandering uiteindelik plaasvind, sal ek vergeet van daardie seun se plakkaat. Sy belediging sal nie soos geweervuur in my gedagtes uitbars nie. Sy woorde sal verdwyn en genees net soos die kneusplekke wat ek van my sport gekry het, maar ek is trots om te sê ...

Ek is 'n vrou en ek baklei ook soos een. Die dag wat ek besluit om soos 'n man te baklei, is die dag wanneer ek werklik 'n bokseveg verloor het.

Syriana Mohamed (Graad 11)

KENNIS IS LEWE MET VLERKE

Jy is met vlerke gebore. Hoekom verkies jy dan om deur jou lewe te kruip?

Daar word dikwels na kennis as die sleutel tot sukses, die bron van mag en die grondslag van 'n betekenisvolle lewe verwys. Net soos voëls met hulle vlerke en spesiale kragte wat hulle toelaat om die magnetiese magte van die aarde te bespied, beskik die mens oor vlerke om na nuwe hoogtes te styg.

Kennis stel ons in staat om ons lewens te bestuur, wyse besluite te neem en ons volle potensiaal te ontwikkel. Dit is kennis wat dit moontlik maak om wyer horisonne te verken.

Een van die magtigste aspekte van kennis is die vermoë om ons 'n breër perspektief van die wêreld te gee. Wanneer ons bereid is om nuwe inligting aan te leer en te verstaan, kan ons dinge meer objektief benader en die diversiteit wat in ons wêreld bestaan, begryp. Dit stel ons in staat om nuwe moontlikhede te oorweeg. Kennis verskaf die gereedskap wat ons benodig om ons drome te verwesenlik en ons doelwitte te bereik.

Kennis bemagtig ons om 'n verskil te maak en 'n blywende erfenis na te laat. Die wesenlike van die saak is dat kennis lewe met vlerke is, want dit laat ons toe om grense te oorskry en ons beperkinge te bowe te kom. Kennis maak dit moontlik om ons wêreld groter te maak, ons intellek te verbeter en om die eindelose potensiaal wat in ons almal versteek is, te ontsluit.

Kennis is beslis lewe met vlerke. Dit maak nuwe deure oop en het 'n positiewe inslag op die wêreld om ons. Gebruik die vlerke wat jy het om nuwe hoogtes te verken, want as jy ophou droom, is jy soos 'n voël met 'n gebroke vlerk.

Sophie Vickers (Graad 11)

EK KON MY OË NIE GLO NIE

"Trieng, trieng!"

Ek rol om in my bed, maar dan onthou ek dat vandag 'n spesiale dag is.

Ek hardloop na my ma se kamer en skree: "Mamma, ek is uiteindelik agtien jaar oud!" Ek glimlag van oor tot oor, want ek het my hele lewe vir hierdie oomblik gewag.

Wanneer ek na my selfoon kyk, sien ek baie boodskappe van my familie en vriende, maar geen boodskap van my pa nie. Dis vreemd. Pa stuur altyd 'n video op my verjaarsdag.

"Miskien is hulle besig," dink ek.

Alhoewel ek dit probeer regverdig, sak my hart 'n bietjie in my bors.

Ek is seker jy wil weet waar my pa is, reg? My pa en stiefma het in 2019 na Australië verhuis. My ma en pa het geskei toe ek twee jaar oud was; dus was ek gewoon daaraan om my pa vir 'n paar dae lank nie te sien nie. Maar dit was 'n groot verandering om hom vir máánde lank nie te sien nie. Alhoewel dit moeilik is, bly ons in kontak en bel vir mekaar, veral op ons verjaarsdae...

Ek mis hom daaglik, veral vandag. Ek voel 'n traan op my wang, maar ek vee dit weg. Ek sit 'n glimlag op en herinner myself dat dit my verjaarsdag is!

Nadat ek soveel koek geëet het dat my maag soos 'n geswelde ballon voel, kom my vriendinne kuier. Ons doen ons grimering om uit te gaan. Ons gaan vanaand na 'n klub en daar is soveel skoenlappertjies van opwinding in my maag. Alhoewel dit 'n aand van pret saam met my vriendinne is, voel my wange later seer van al die glimlag. My hartsnare word steeds getrek wanneer ek aan my pa dink – nog geen boodskap nie...

"Tiengalienglieng!"

Die deurklokkie lui skielik.

"Wie is dit?" wonder ek.

Ek maak die deur oop en kan my oë nie glo nie!

Daar staan my pa! Ek kan nie beweeg nie en voel hoe my oë so groot soos pierings rek. Dan voel ek hoe sy arms om my vou en my gesig is papnat.

"Baie geluk met jou verjaarsdag, my liewe Leah."

Leah Josi (Graad 12)

Grade 12
LITERATURE
Donker web

HIER IS EK OP MY GELUKKIGSTE

"Waar is ek op my gelukkigste?"

Ek dink oor die vraag. Die warm water drup in my ouma se wasbakkie. My yskoue vingers voel verlig onder die warm kraan terwyl die winterbriesie buite blaas. Ek kan die fluit van die wind hoor. Die lug ruik soos koel suurlemone, skoon messegod en Ouma se parfuim.

Die proses om skottelgoed te was is eenvoudig: sit 'n bord onder die kraan, skrop met 'n growwe spons, sit in seperige water en maak dit met die ou rooi-en-wit kombuislappie droog.

"Almal leef in hulle koppe," dink ek. Dis waar! Elke oomblik: dink, bekommer, beplan, oordeel ... En die kringloop het geen einde nie!

Dikwels dink ons oor die verlede. "Hoekom het hulle dit gesê? Hoekom het ek dit gedoen? Ek wens ek het na daardie partytjie toe gegaan ..."

Partykeer dink ons oor die toekoms. "Ek wens dat dit al naweek was. Wanneer sal dit vakansie wees? Ek is so opgewonde vir universiteit!"

Maar wat van nou?

Ek merk op dat ek my gesig in die borrels soos klein spieëltjies kan sien. In die weerkaatsing kan ek eenhonderd Tias sien. Elkeen staar terug na my.

Miskien is dit nie so sleg om die skottelgoed te was nie. Ek voel rustig terwyl ek die blink borde in die skinkbord pak.

Asem in. Asem uit.

Ek besef dat ek gelukkig is, net waar ek is. In hierdie oomblik is ek so seker soos twee maal twee is vier dat ek hiér op my gelukkigste is.

Winnie the Pooh het gesê: "Die lewe is 'n reis wat ons moet ervaar; nie 'n bestemming wat ons moet bereik nie."

Tia Deliperi (Graad 12)

The library is a comfortable warm space to be in the mornings and during school. It is always welcoming and a great place to relax - Onathi Peter

The library is a space that I can go to whenever. Whether it's to finish off some homework or to relax and read a book. It is a space that I value and love very much. - Nuriyah Ebrahim



BAXTER RESOURCE CENTRE

by Kaitlyn Knight and Ameera Yacoob – Library Heads

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY



On World Read Aloud Day, a delightful collaboration unfolded between the Prep and Senior libraries, fostering a love for storytelling and nurturing connections across ages. Senior students led, reading enchanting stories to the Prep girls, who listened with wide eyes and eager smiles. This heartwarming event encouraged literacy and built mentorship bonds, as seniors shared their favorite tales and the magic of reading. The atmosphere was filled with laughter and curiosity, creating a memorable experience that highlighted the joy of stories and the importance of community within the school.

2024 has been a year filled with creativity and engagement, and the BRC remained a vibrant space for exploring, learning, and being inspired. We have been honoured to spend this year with a dedicated and effervescent group of library monitors who have approached each meeting and project with enthusiasm, for which we are greatly appreciative. We are also endlessly grateful to Ms Prins, who has been a constant source of support and encouragement. Her ready smile and compassion made our year as Library Heads delightful. Thank you, Ms Prins, for your commitment to making the library a safe space for all.



New Teachers Resources and other Popular books

1. The Coming Wave – Mustafa Suleyman
2. The Anxious Generation – Jonathan Haidt
3. Stolen Focus – Johann Hari
4. On Earth we're briefly gorgeous – Ocean Vuong
5. Between Starshine and Clay – Manyika, Sarah Lapido

WORLD BOOK DAY

On World Book Day, each schoolhouse brought different book genres to life. Jagger dressed as characters from classic tales like Alice in Wonderland and Winnie the Pooh, bringing back the magic of childhood favorites. Carter showcased characters from The Maze Runner and The Hunger Games. Rolt brought characters from novels such as Bird Box to life, sparking discussions about gothic literature. Merriman created a magical realm, featuring wizards and fairies from iconic books like Harry Potter. Seeing the entire high school participate in this fun-filled day was heartwarming and memorable.

The library is a special place to me because it is always a calm and relaxing place to reset and enjoy before, during, and after school. It has an amazing and extensive amount of books that everyone can enjoy reading. Their couches and bean bags are also a highlight of the library and are essential in making the place feel peaceful and serene. - Bella Madonko

A YEAR OF WORDS AND WONDERS

The Herschel Girls School English Department in Review

In the Herschel Girls School English Department, the past year has been a hive of activity. The year saw many staffing changes with Ms Do O' Filipe joining the team at the start of the second term, Ms Naidu (Subject Head) and Ms Mama joining at the start of May. Additionally, the department played an important role in mentoring Ms Chloë Jansen, an aspirant student teacher from the university of Cape Town. We thank Ms Geber for stepping in with flair to locum for Ms Nesset who went on maternity leave. We are really sad to be bidding farewell to Ms Bodenstein and Ms Alpert who have been long-standing members of the department and have shared a wealth of knowledge and expertise in elevating the subject and the students. We wish both well in the next phase of their lives.

With projects and lessons that ask students to be creators, performers, and independent life-long learners, the English Department extends and challenges students to be critical thinkers so that they may leave indelible marks when they change the world for good.

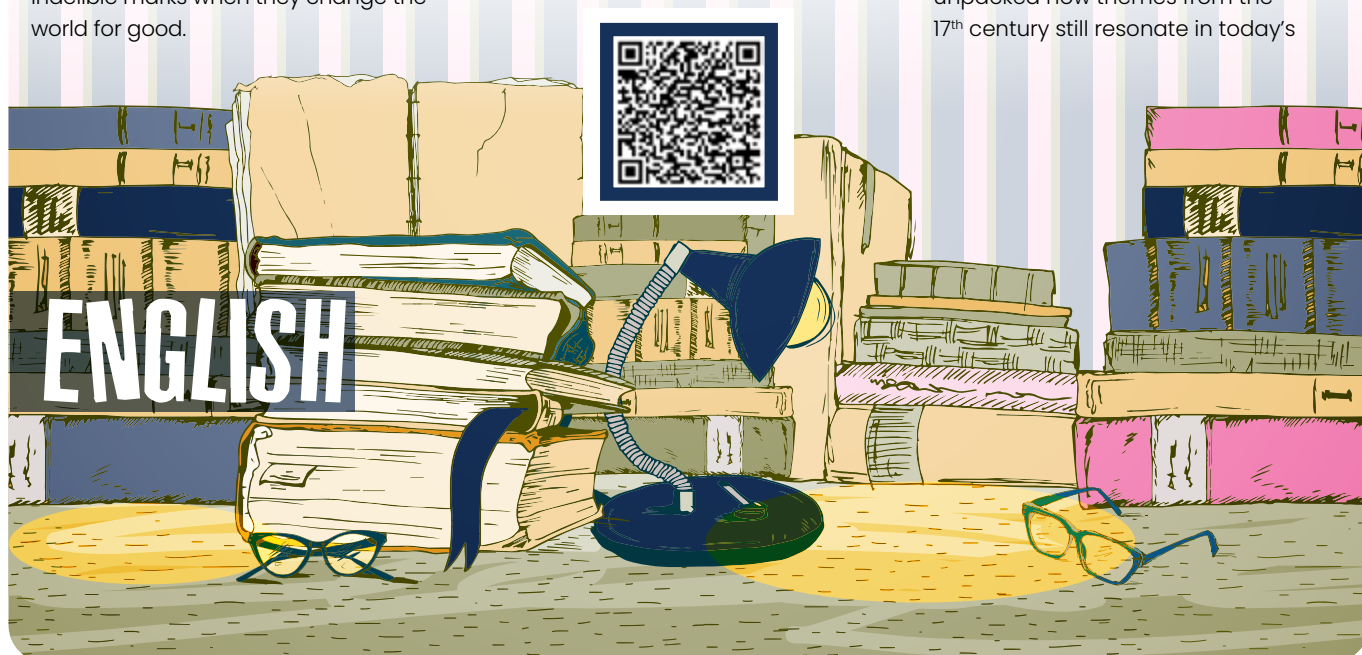
With students exploring the world through Shakespeare, BookTok, film, vlogs, and novels, it is safe to say our English teachers outdid themselves. Their mission? To infuse every grade with a love for language and critical thinking, making each English lesson memorable. Here's a look at some of the highlights of our journey this year.

The year included a burst of digital creativity for our Grade 8 students. During their Single Focus Day (SFD), they took to their phones, channelling their inner influencers to create a series of clever, quirky BookToks. Armed with their favourite novels and a dash of bravado, students crafted short, snappy videos that showcased their ability to bring literary themes to life through music, humour, and a range of TikTok trends. Whether defending a beloved character or delivering "book recommendations for people who say they hate reading", our Grade 8s discovered that their reading voices are powerful – and that literature can go viral. You may view some of their offerings here.



Our Grade 9s took a deep dive into the world of film with their study of *Strictly Ballroom*, Baz Luhrmann's colourful, chaotic comedy that is not just about dancing but about challenging the status quo. Their SFD was dedicated to exploring the themes, symbols, and over-the-top style of Luhrmann's work. With screenings, analyses, and a most delightful ballroom dance workshop where they were taught how to waltz, students examined how Luhrmann's world of sequins and defiance speaks to ideas of self-expression, courage, and individuality. It was a day that combined film theory with a touch of glamour and fun.

If Grade 8s were BookTok stars and Grade 9s were ballroom aficionados, then the Grade 10s were our resident Elizabethans. Their study of *Twelfth Night* breathed new life into Shakespeare's cross-dressing comedy of errors, misunderstandings, and love triangles. Through lively class discussions, scene enactments, and analysis of the play's witty wordplay and gender-bending roles, students unpacked how themes from the 17th century still resonate in today's



world. And, with teachers guiding them, students were not just learning Shakespearean language – they were owning it, with enough flair to impress even a noble from Illyria.

The Grade 11 focus on independent reading and persuasive communication proved to be a very worthwhile activity. Each student chose four novels and was tasked with promoting their favourite through presentations, persuading classmates to dive into their chosen story. It was not just about summarising plots or discussing characters, but about making a case, passionately defending why a particular novel is worth reading. In a series of inspired presentations, students brought stories to life, showing just how varied their reading tastes were. From thrillers to classics, their enthusiasm made the English classrooms feel like a literary marketplace where novels were treasures waiting to be discovered.

In their final year, the Grade 12s took on real-world communication challenges,

creating advertising vlogs and delivering persuasive speeches that would have impressed any seasoned orator. Each student tackled complex topics, bringing insight, humour, and clarity to their subjects in vlogs and speeches that felt professional and punchy. Please treat yourself to some of these professional vlogs here.



Then, in a special experience, they left the classroom behind for a visit to The Baxter Theatre to watch a production of *Othello*. This modern adaptation of Shakespeare's tragedy left the students spellbound, sparking profound discussions about power, manipulation, race, and identity. The experience of seeing Shakespeare's work performed live brought his words to life in a way that only theatre can – a transformative experience that left a lasting impression.



From the digital delights of Grade 8 BookToks to the timeless tragedy of *Othello* for Grade 12, each grade had its own unique explorations and experiences. Our teachers, ever resourceful, created an environment where English was not just endured but performed, debated, and celebrated. It was a year of learning, laughter, and discovery and, as we close the final chapter of the school year, we look forward to many more English adventures next year.

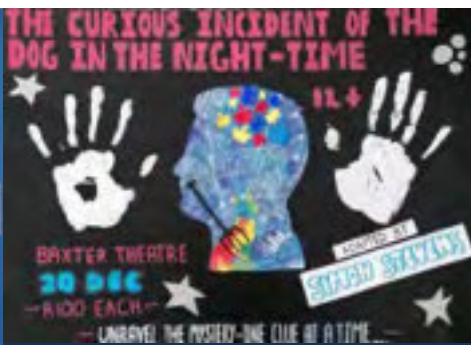
– P. Naidu, English Subject Head



GRADE 8 OUR BOOKTOK SFD

In Grade 8, Herschel held BookTok Day,
With tales stacked in a fabulous way.
It started with a talk by Ms Naidu
And that was the cue.
Books swapped and books sold,
Stories thrilling and bold,
They read 'til the bell rang – hooray!
The students all dressed as their fave,
From wizards to heroes so brave.
With laughter and cheer,
They shared books far and near,
And made memories they'd treasure and save.
Even teachers joined in,
With a smile and a grin.





GRADE 9 POSTERS



GRADE 10

TWELFTH NIGHT

Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night' brainstorming and character crest design by groups in Ms Horsfield's Grade 10 English class.



GRADE 11

Tableaus from our study of the play, THE CRUCIBLE



LEFT TO RIGHT: Safa Hendricks, Micah Engel, Jemima McQueen

PHOTO ON THE RIGHT:
Micah Engel
Jemima McQueen
Julia Komninos
Rebecca Hewat
Saushan Rinquest



SENIOR

CURRICULUM

GRADE 12 VLOGS



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO VIEW VLOGS.

The French SFD where we made crepes in the consumers classroom and got to dress up in french civvies. I loved the games that helped us learn but also gave a fun element to learning.

FRENCH

by Madame Susy Macfarlane HOD

What I appreciated most about my French teacher was their ability to make even grammar fun, often turning lessons into quirky performances. Our class bonded over the funniest 'Franglais' mistakes.



Frank Smith, a contemporary psycholinguist recognized for his contributions in linguistics and cognitive psychology had this to say: "One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way."

Learning French at school is more than just memorizing vocabulary and grammar – it's an opportunity to unlock new doors and explore a

world of culture, travel, and global connections. French is spoken in over 29 countries, and mastering it allows you to engage with people from different corners of the globe, appreciate French films, literature, and even cuisine! Plus, it's an exciting challenge that sharpens your brain, improves problem-solving skills, and boosts confidence. The fun lies in discovering new expressions, practicing with friends, and immersing

yourself in the rhythm of the language. French gives you access to a whole new perspective, expanding your worldview and providing skills that will last a lifetime.

I'm so proud of my students who have said "oui" to learning French, taking each lesson as a step closer to unlocking new opportunities and exploring the world!



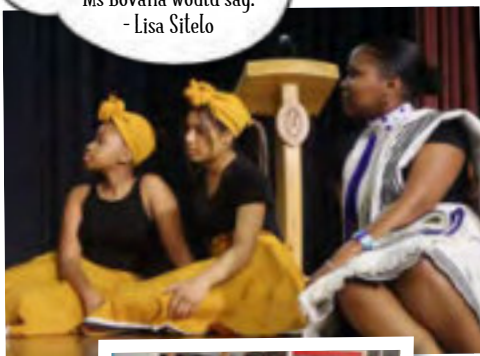
I loved the moment I had this year when I finally felt confident in my speaking abilities and felt myself speaking well without many mistakes!

My favourite memory was going to Cafe Du Cap on our single focus day. The food and ambiance was wonderful. I felt fully immersed in the french culture.



My favorite memory in isiXhosa is the Africa Day assembly where different isiXhosa grades did different things like, fashion shows, a skit, a dance and in my grade, we made a fun quiz.
- Onalhi Peler

How not to speak "corrupt" isiXhosa, as Ms Bovana would say.
- Lisa Sitele



The best thing I have learnt in isiXhosa is to stay consistent and committed when learning a subject. Understanding your work always makes it fun to ask makes studying more fun than a task.
- Vuyo Mkosi

Trust yourself and let your brain figure it out.
- Kwakhanya Ntikanca



The more I am getting the hang of the rules of the subject and how the language works, I love seeing sentences work together because of simple rules.
- Millie Blyth



The most memorable memories I have in isiXhosa is when we had our single focus day was how we dressed up in traditional clothes and bought vetkoeks and bought Malva pudding and shared with the class we also did some fun activities.
- Liqhamile Adonis



My favourite memory is when one of us is absent the other partner would try and teach the topic to the other student and that is a nice way to see if you understand the topic or not.
- Kellelo Dube

My favourite memories is walking down to the isiXhosa classroom and immediately hearing the laughter of my best friends.
- Layla MacNaughton

The best thing I have learned is buying or ordering something using isiXhosa. We had a lesson on the restaurant/shopping, and we had to go to the luckshop and perform our oral task which was buying something in isiXhosa.
- Tiffany Tulu

I learnt that I need to take initiative for my work. To learn a language you need to revise it everyday and make sure you understand the concepts and if you don't you need to ask for help.
- Riziki Magotsi



ISIXHOSA

by Ms Zikhona Bovana

Teaching isiXhosa to such a vibrant and diverse group of pupils is an everlasting reward. Though we have said farewell to some and welcomed new faces, each learner's progress – whether mastering a phrase or engaging in conversation – has been inspiring. Their dedication and growth are a constant reminder of the beauty of teaching.

EVENTS

isiXhosa Departments Africa Day Assembly

The focus of the event was to introduce our non-mother tongue speakers of isiXhosa to the culture and experience of using/speaking isiXhosa outside the classroom. It was a stunning showcase of different cultures across the African continent. In this event we had amazing dancing, a fantastic cultural attire showcase, music, acting and it was such a joy to have the whole isiXhosa department come together for such a beautiful event.

I had so much fun at the aquarium learning about all the different species of fish.



The teachers are lovely and amazing at their jobs, making this very enjoyable subject even more fun to be part of. - Bella

Another great memory I have of Biology is when my mate Zara and I took out the heart and lungs out of the skeleton and said "I took your breath away" and then Zara was like "I stole your heart!"
- Luca Graaff



Bio shows us the complexity of life and how understanding it can help solve big challenges.



My favourite section this year was Rocky shore. I loved learning about the different organisms and their habitats.
- Paige



If you are truly passionate about the subject and listen in class you are guaranteed to do well.

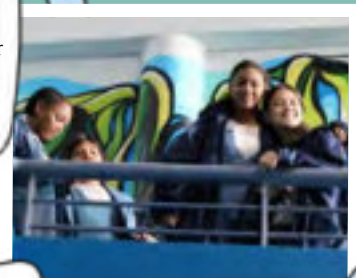
LIFE SCIENCES



Pregnancy and birth. It is amazing what our bodies can do- and it was so interesting to learn how I came into the world.

I loved our practical experiment with testing if the yeast gave off carbon dioxide with sugar (glucose) or without it.

Dissecting the heart and being able to feel the organ-seeing it for ourselves- unlocks a whole new realm of curiosity.



I really enjoyed learning about the Nervous system and the body's "fight or flight" response.
- Carla Lampe



Doing fun practicals especially when we blew up sheep lungs while we were learning about breathing. - Millie Weir

Learn everything well, and if you don't know the answer, or you don't know what to do, don't panic, move on and finish all that you can, you will learn from your mistakes. - Holly

Biology is amazing because once you learn about different sections you start noticing things in the world that you previously would not have looked at.





PHYSICAL SCIENCES



This year started with a BANG! Literally. It turned out Herschel's supply of potassium was a little more reactive than anticipated, producing fireworks that convinced even the most sceptical Grade 9 that the reaction with water is, indeed, exothermic. The year was meant to end with the Grade 11 creation of pleasing fragrances (esters) with subtle undertones of apple and pear, but Chemistry has a wonderful way of keeping us all humble. It was when the aggressive, pervasive overtones of rotten egg wafted all the way to the Preparatory School, that the Science Department felt obliged to declare a public "Mea Culpa – we aim to be better". Thomas Edison's wisdom comes to mind at times like these "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

Fortunately, it only took a few attempts and design tweaks for many budding Grade 9 engineers to successfully build their own elastic propelled Mars rovers, with wheels made from our recycled bottle tops. Some teams excelled on design (and less so on functionality), while others ignored aesthetics in a fierce bid for top performance.

Our Grade 12s deserve a special nod for grit. When it came to being coerced into long workshops, they responded true to form: they arrived armed with grins and buckets of garishly coloured sour-worms, which apparently helped them

digest oxidation, reduction and Newton's unforforging laws.

As the year now races to a close, it has been a joy to have some Grade 12 students spontaneously share their personal reflections of growth in this stimulating and challenging subject. While many aim to pursue studies directly in the sciences, others will have grown their problem-solving skills that will serve them well along any path they choose.

It was a bittersweet 30th September when we bid farewell to Ms Pippa Broadhurst, a much-loved colleague, friend and Physical Sciences teacher, who brought a warm and enthusiastic energy to our spaces. Ms Broadhurst's strong relational style of teaching

embodied what it means to work with young students in 2024. Our work is about so much more than the academic project: it is about facilitating the growth of resilient, empathetic, curious learners who, in Physical Sciences, embrace mistakes and are eager to step up to try just one more time.

And...look down there at the little pink hat... there she is again...Molly. Molly lived her best life on International Mole Day (25th October). She popped up **everywhere**, on our digital news board, in our emails, on our desks, on our tea-trays...





MATHEMATICS

In a world where logic meets creativity, mathematics empowers young minds to break barriers and think beyond limits. For girls, especially, engaging with mathematics is more than just solving equations – it's about cultivating confidence, resilience, and a belief that they can excel in any field they choose.

This year, the Mathematics Department proudly participated in the UCT Mathematics Competition, with 25 individual learners and 25 pairs representing our school.

We are thrilled to announce that 19 merit rankings were achieved in both the individual and paired categories.

A special congratulations goes to **Anastacia Butler**, who was invited to the prestigious UCT award evening, where she received the Oxford Prize for her outstanding performance. We also had an excellent showing in the South African Mathematics Olympiad, with **Lisa Browne** progressing to the highly competitive third round – an exceptional achievement!

Throughout the year, we had lots of fun in mathematics, encouraging all our girls to think outside the box, to investigate, and to explore various aspects of mathematics. One such example was the exciting investigation our Grade 8 learners undertook, constructing

3D shape models using jelly tots and toothpicks. They were not only challenged to think critically and creatively but also enjoyed a sweet reward afterward – because who doesn't love jelly tots!

It seems food and mathematics went hand in hand this year! After mastering ratios, Miss Maine's Grade 9 class decided to put their knowledge to the test with a cake recipe. Naturally, the cake was a perfect example of proportions done right – resulting in both delicious success and a treat for everyone to enjoy!



Anastacia Butler



Lisa Browne



LIFE ORIENTATION

by Mike Howell

This year, the Life Orientation Department continued to guide our students through essential life skills with the support of Dr. Alexa February, Ms Sharmila Gordon, Mr Sheldon Cross, Ms Victoria Campbell and Ms Heather Goedeke. Together, we bring our unique expertise to ensure that each student's holistic well-being is at the forefront of our program. We are committed to empowering our learners with the tools they need to navigate the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

GRADE 8

The transition into high school can be both exhilarating and daunting, so our Grade 8 program is structured to build confidence and foster a sense of belonging. Students explored vital topics such as self-esteem, the responsible use of social media, and their rights and responsibilities within their communities. We emphasised the importance of nation-building, helping learners understand their role in shaping a positive future for South Africa. The dangers of addiction, alongside discussions around healthy relationships, rounded out a curriculum designed to support the social and emotional growth of our youngest learners.

GRADE 9

The Grade 9s engaged in a year of diverse and enriching modules, each aimed at deepening their self-awareness and decision-making skills. The first module focused on emotional intelligence (EQ) and mindfulness, encouraging students to develop inner balance and manage stress effectively. Another module consisted of goal setting and time management, equipping them with practical skills for personal and academic success. Ethics taught and guided by Ms Goedeke, fostered a strong sense of moral and civic duty while exploring ethical dilemmas. The Grade 9s explored healthy decision-making, ensuring they are equipped to make informed, responsible choices. In addition, much of term two was dedicated to preparing for their subject selection for Grade 10, a pivotal moment as they begin to shape their future academic career.

GRADE 10

In Grade 10, our students embarked on a journey of self-discovery through courageous conversations, tackling topics such as human rights violations and social justice. They engaged deeply with issues that shape our society, learning to articulate their perspectives and advocate for equity. Community service was a key component, with each student completing

volunteer hours and reflecting on the importance of giving back to their communities. These experiences have begun to shape their personal values and understanding of the larger world around them.

GRADE 11

As academic rigor increases in Grade 11, students were challenged to think critically and engage thoughtfully with complex texts. Interpersonal skills and emotional intelligence were at the heart of their learning, emphasizing the importance of adaptability in an ever-changing world. Healthy lifestyles were a focus, along with the development of career-readiness skills through CV writing and career research. A standout experience for many was their job shadow, an opportunity to gain real-world insights into potential career paths, helping them make informed decisions about their future studies and professions.

GRADE 12

The Grade 12s faced a year of preparation for final examinations as they tackled stress management and personal branding in the first term. A major highlight was their six-week physical education task, where students tracked their exercise and reflected on its impact on their well-being. Mental health was explored in depth, with a focused task allowing them to better understand its significance in their lives. As they approached their IEB final exams, they focussed on the transformative impacts of the fourth and fifth industrial revolutions, preparing for a world where technology and human innovation intersect in new found ways. We are proud of our Grade 12s being the first year to work through the IEB LO curriculum and write their final examination.



MUSIC

The Inkwenkwezi Music Department continues to grow and become a place of true belonging and joy. We are continually amazed, not only by the talent, but by the passion, confidence and courage of our music students. It is a privilege to nurture these young women and allow them to find their very own musical voice. The language of music is common to all generations and nations; it is understood by everybody, since it is understood with the heart. – **G. Rossini**

Petra Conrads, Jan Gouws, Rochelle Klassen, Johan Swanepoel



HIGH MAINTENANCE

High Maintenance has had a year filled with many performances. Our most exciting performances were at Herschfest and Herschel Unplugged. We also went up against five other schools in the Herschel hosted Battle of the Bands where we tied for first place with Bishops. We are grateful to our teacher, Gary Craig, for making this band possible even though we are all a bit high maintenance!

– **Zoë Arenhold**

Music can change
the world, because
it can change people.
– Bono

Being a part of the school rock band, High Maintenance, has been an incredible experience this year. We've worked hard to put pieces together that can be both entertaining and audibly pleasing. We started the year with Herschfest, which not only boosted our confidence for the year ahead, but also concluded the night on a high note. Secondly we performed in Unplugged, which is an acoustic music performance hosted at Cafe Roux in Noordhoek. High Maintenance ended the afternoon off with some popular songs, such as 'Staying Alive' by the BeeGees, 'Teeth' by Five Seconds of Summer and 'Heart of Glass' by Blondie. A few other performances were the Herschel Eisteddfod, Herschfield Cultural Evening and a Cornwall College collaborative performance. All of these performances contributed to growing and building our stage presence and performance skills. The members of the band enjoy enriching their band experience by covering a wide variety of cover songs and working together as a band to make informed decisions.

– **Isabella Lindsay**



ORCHESTRA

Being part of the Herschel Orchestra has been an exhilarating experience, filled with the joy of creating music. We have performed in numerous concerts throughout the year, even having the privilege of collaborating with other schools, including Springfield, Oakhill, and Cornwall College. Every concert and rehearsal brings us closer as musicians, making each performance unforgettable. – **Farah Parker**

STRING ENSEMBLE

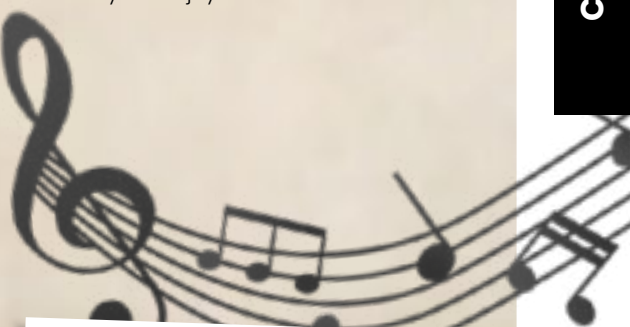
Having been a member since Grade 8, I have loved being part of the Herschel String Ensemble. From the lovely people to the music and memories made in rehearsals to the ensemble concerts and Music Tour. – **Julia Mira**

String ensemble has had a jam packed year of performances, concerts and Eisteddfods. We welcomed Springfield, Oakhill and Cornwall College to perform with us in exciting concerts. It has been a fabulous year of fantastic music and lifelong bonds. We are looking forward to another year of joyful music. – **Grace Mulder**

HERSCHEL GUITAR ENSEMBLE

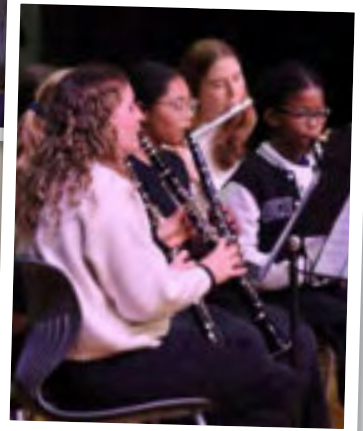
The Guitar Ensemble has truly shone this year, showcasing remarkable talent and dedication. Whether we play classical pieces or modern tunes, the ensemble's ability to move and inspire audiences is a testament to the ensemble members' love for music. This year we performed in many school events. A distinct highlight was making our musical debut at Herschfield alongside Springfield, as well as performing with Oakhill College for a musical showcase. Our repertoire this year was diverse, ranging from a Spanish-inspired "Farruca" to an infamous cover of "Everybody wants to Rule the World". As we continue to grow and evolve every year with new students joining, we look forward to sharing even more unforgettable musical moments in the future. – **Syriana Mohamed**

The Herschel Guitar Ensemble has had an exciting year. Term 3 was a busy term for the Music Department and the Guitar Ensemble excitedly participated. Some of the highlights included our annual Herschfield performance, where we were able to watch not only our school's talent, but also Springfield's! Being part of a small school guitar ensemble is an enjoyable experience. I enjoy collaborating closely with other musicians and exploring diverse musical styles. – **Zeah Douglas**



WIND BAND

I love the Wind Band so much because of the incredible sense of community amongst the members and our amazing teacher Ms Klassen. Even though we may not get the notes right on the first try, we always end up sounding beautiful! – *Lucy Mulder*



Explore music
of different
languages, styles
and cultures.



FUSION

Fusion is Herschel's vibrant and exciting a capella singing group. I have been in Fusion since Grade 8 and I have thoroughly enjoyed being surrounded by fellow singers and immersing myself in Mr Swanepoel's beautiful music arrangements for our special group. Fusion performs in various ways and aspects, whether it is the Voices of Herschel concert, Herschfest or our own annual show at the end of the year. This singing group has a unique style and presence at Herschel. – *Enqi Du*

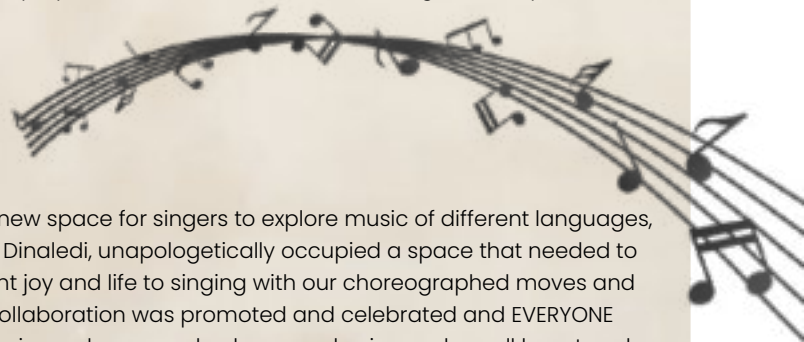
The Herschel a cappella group, Fusion has had a very busy and successful year filled with performances. The year started with the debut of the new members at Herschfest. We then performed at Unplugged, Voices of Herschel, Interhouse Singing, the Herschel eisteddfod, culture evening and then at Wynberg joined with neighboring schools in the Southern Suburbs. We ended the year with our annual concert where we displayed all of our hard work from throughout the year.

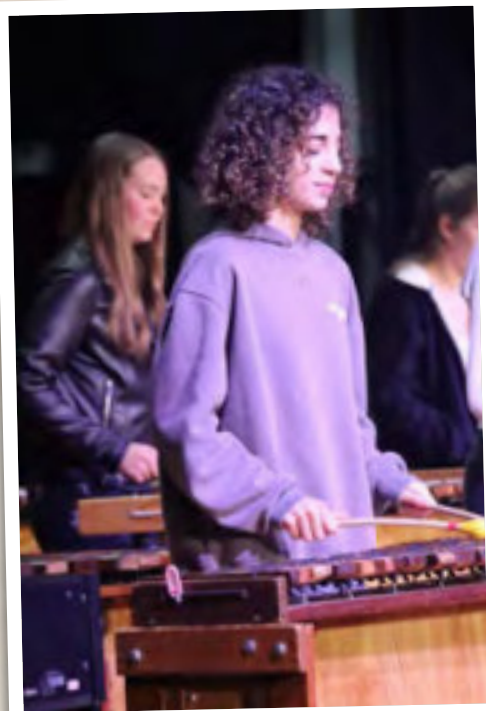
– *Emily Molyneux*



DINALEDI

Dinaledi created a new space for singers to explore music of different languages, styles and cultures. Dinaledi, unapologetically occupied a space that needed to be filled and brought joy and life to singing with our choreographed moves and catchy melodies. Collaboration was promoted and celebrated and EVERYONE despite their grade, view or language had an equal voice and we all learnt and made mistakes together. In that way many felt at home and grew their love for music. – *Miriam Maihambo*





MARIMBA BANDS

We have all thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the junior Marimba Band this year. We have had the opportunity to play a variety of different songs at many different events, showcasing all of our hard work and talent. The Marimba Band is a place where people can get involved in cultural activities and events without playing an instrument. This year has been filled with so many memories and we made many new friends. – *Talia Daniels*



CHOIR

I have had so much fun in Choir this year, it is such a relaxed yet engaging activity. Singing with a group of people is always a very rewarding experience and is also a really great way to practise or learn new ensemble skills. – *Zoë West*



CHORALE

This year has been an exciting one for the Herschel Chorale! We began Term 2 with a tour to the Drakensberg to perform at 'Music in the Mountains.' It was an amazing experience to be able to perform for a different audience, as well as watch many other incredible choirs and chorales, such as the Drakensberg Boys Choir. We then had our annual Voices of Herschel concert where all of our vocal ensembles performed, including the Chorale and Choir. One of our most exciting performances of the year was the Chorale's collaboration with SACS and the Symphony Choir to perform the Armed Man by Karl Jenkins, at the City Hall. After long hours of rehearsing and late nights on the days leading up to the performance, the reward was amazing. The Armed Man was such a rewarding and enriching experience, and we can't wait to see what the chorale will do in the years to come! – *Daniella Böttger*



Harmony

When there is harmony within,
there is beauty in the world.

COLLABORATIVE SPACES

SENIOR

COLLABORATIVE SPACES



Nobuntu Lingela



Ayanda Bordiss

ANIMATION CLUB

by Ayanda Bordiss – Head of Animation

Founder of Animation Club in her Grade 11 year, Nobuntu Lingela, nurtured and shared her talent in the club space to make it the place it is. Her creating an inclusive space to look forward too every Tuesday and explore animation is beyond appreciated. Thank you, Nobuntu for making this place of creative collaboration possible, through your kind and talented energy. You will be missed and have inspired me more than you can ever know. I hope I can honour you legacy through my leadership and could never be prouder to call you our founder!

Q&A

In the Animation Club, we delve into the art of storyboarding, character design, effects animation, world-building, and so much more. This is not merely a space for drawing but it is a community where we explore the art of storytelling by breathing life into our creations. Here, we learn to channel emotions, craft entire worlds, and express human experiences through the characters we design.

SIYANDA

Can you describe your favourite animation project you've worked on this year?

I'd say the comic that I haven't even finished yet.

How do you think animation impacts storytelling?

Well, the visual medium adds greatly to the overall experience and it really pushes the boundaries of reality.

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio?

Warrior Cats + szin on YouTube (Hamilton animatics)

LETSATSI

Can you describe your favourite animation project you've worked on this year?

Lighting animation

How do you think animation impacts storytelling?

I think animating can elevate stories by adding movement and personality to the characters.

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio?

MAPPA!!

What are your goals for the Animation Club this year?

To finish an animation.

MORGAN

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio, and how have they influenced your work?

She's more of an illustrator, but Elise Hurst. I was looking at the images alongside the story (The Ocean and the End of the Lane) and it really portrayed the mood and the feeling of the book.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to start learning animation?

In animation you need to pay a lot of attention to each movement of characters so Pinterest can be a lot of help for drawing things that are harder to visualise.

What role do music and sound play in your animation projects?

I feel like music affects the way you move your pencil and it makes it easier to portray what I really want to.

What's a future animation project that you really want to try?

I want to try a really detailed fighting scene, something that'll give you goosebumps.





Scan this QR code
to view animation



AYANDA

How do you come up with ideas for your animation projects?

I usually take inspiration from the internet and try new things that I thought looked cool.

Fun memories?

I liked when we kept adding more syllables to one of our character's names (Aslynxiaeyxeque)

What's a future animation project that you really want to try?

I really think it would be cool to try a collaboration with the school's music department.

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio?

MAPPA + Studio Trigger is also cool. There's also this person called Mean Velvet on YouTube that I really like.

Can you describe your favourite animation project you've worked on this year?

I know we only did this last week but the animatic of Yusuf Direk was so fun.

ALEXA

What advice would you give to someone who wants to start learning animation?

Just do it!

How do you come up with ideas for your animation projects?

I just let my deep thoughts consume me.

Fun memories?

I loved when we were making a story even though we didn't go very far with it.

What's a future animation project that you really want to try?

An animatic of my OCs to 'Tongues & Teeth'.

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio, and how have they influenced your work?

MAPPA + sadist + OH MY GOSH! I really love this person (Ehlihr) because they make really great Dungeon Meshi animatics.



ISSY

How do you come up with ideas for your animation projects?

Because I'm not good at drawing I just start with something small and work up from there.

What's a future animation project that you really want to try?

Oooh gosh... gosh darn. Maybe more background things, plants are very nice since proportions don't matter.

Who is your favourite animator or animation studio?

vivziepop + Studio Ghibli

Can you describe your favourite animation project you've worked on this year?

I think the storyboards were quite fun even though I did remake them like 100 times.

One of our favourite memories is the thrill of making s'mores, which always brings out the excitement. Crafting lollipops from scratch was a blast, and the satisfaction of filling biscuits with jam is hard to beat! It's a joy to create tasty treats to share and to donate our goodies to charity, making a difference in someone's day!



THE BAKING BUSINESS

A small but passionate group of students meets weekly in the Consumer Studies Laboratory to experiment with new recipes and whip up a delightful array of baked goods! This year, the club dedicated their efforts to baking cupcakes for cancer patients at the Red Cross Children's Hospital and also held a market stall at Hershfield to sell their creations. Among the scrumptious treats they made were lollipops, s'mores, crunchies, chocolate chip cookies, waffles, and pancakes, all infused with creativity and care.

Beyond expanding our baking knowledge and discovering handy tips and tricks, we've learned the value of teamwork and the art of improvising when things don't go as planned - even if our improvisations aren't always spot on! One crucial lesson we've learned the hard way is that accurate measuring is a must; a little too much of this or not enough of that can lead to unexpected results. But hey, that's all part of the fun in our baking adventures!

Ms Cass is an exceptional head teacher for our club. Her incredible patience allows her to navigate our club's boundless energy and enthusiasm, turning our passion into delightful baking creations. She generously shares her baking secrets with us, and we're truly grateful for her guidance. A special shout-out also goes to our fellow club members, who are always ready to come to the rescue when we forget ingredients - teamwork makes our baking adventures even more enjoyable!

Our club is a hub of fun and camaraderie! Laughter fills the air as we watch Katherine playfully fumble with her measurements - after all, as long as it tastes good, that's what matters! Our playful "bickering" adds a unique flavour to our time together. We might not be a traditional baking business, but we certainly know how to promote our delicious creations to excited buyers.

Head Teacher: Ms Brigitte Cass

Head Students: Selah van Rooyen and Saushan Rinquest



CRAFT CLUB

I looked forward to unwinding with friends, trying out new creative projects and just enjoying the time with no pressure. A perfect break from everything else. - Azraa Solomans

I enjoyed being able to talk, relax and be creative without the pressure of school weighing down on me. It's a safe space for creativity and every school needs one. - Paula Nekesa

Head Teacher: Mrs Parker

Head Student: Alba Swanepoel

The Craft Club offers a welcoming environment where students can explore their creativity and build new friendships while sharing their skills with one another. This year, we had fun learning various crafts such as rock painting, colouring for fun and knitting for a purpose. The club this year was made up of a very small group of matric learners and provided a space for a much-needed break in their busy school day, allowing them to unwind and express their creativity or just chat.



DEBATING

HERSCHEL SHINES IN PROVINCIAL AND ROTARY DEBATING TOURNAMENTS

The Herschel debating teams have once again proven their mettle in both the **Western Cape Provincial Debating Tournament** and the **Rotary Debating Tournament**, solidifying the school's reputation for excellence in oration and critical thinking.

Provincial Debating Success

A huge congratulations goes to **Katherine Slingers** and **Ayanda Bordiss** for being selected to join the **Western Cape Provincial Debating Squad**. Being part of this prestigious squad is an outstanding achievement, and we are incredibly proud of them.

Adding to this excitement, Herschel's **Senior Debating Team** claimed victory in the **Provincial Debating Championship**, held at the University of Cape Town (UCT). The finals saw a thrilling and hard-fought battle between Herschel and Reddam Constantia, with Herschel emerging victorious. This achievement reflects not only the skill of the debaters but also the hard work of their coach, **Jonathan Shiferaw**, whose dedication has played a pivotal role in guiding the team to success.

The **Provincial Champions** are:

- Charlotte Jacobs
- Katherine Slingers
- Chella Petrie
- Chloe Smith
- Nobuntu Lingela (Captain)

This remarkable win is a reflection of the tireless effort, teamwork, and passion each member has brought to the debating floor.



Healthy debate

Rotary Debating Tournament Progress

Herschel also competed in the ongoing **Rotary Debating Tournament**, and the results have been nothing short of impressive. The **Junior Team** successfully advanced to the Quarter Finals, while the **Senior Team** participated the Octo Finals.

The Junior Team:

- Daniella Okedi
- Alexa Ashaba
- Ayanda Bordiss
- Rachel Batchelor

The Senior Team:

- Nobuntu Lingela
- Charlotte Jacobs
- Katherine Slingers
- Chella Petrie
- Chloe Smith

Gratitude to Our Coaches

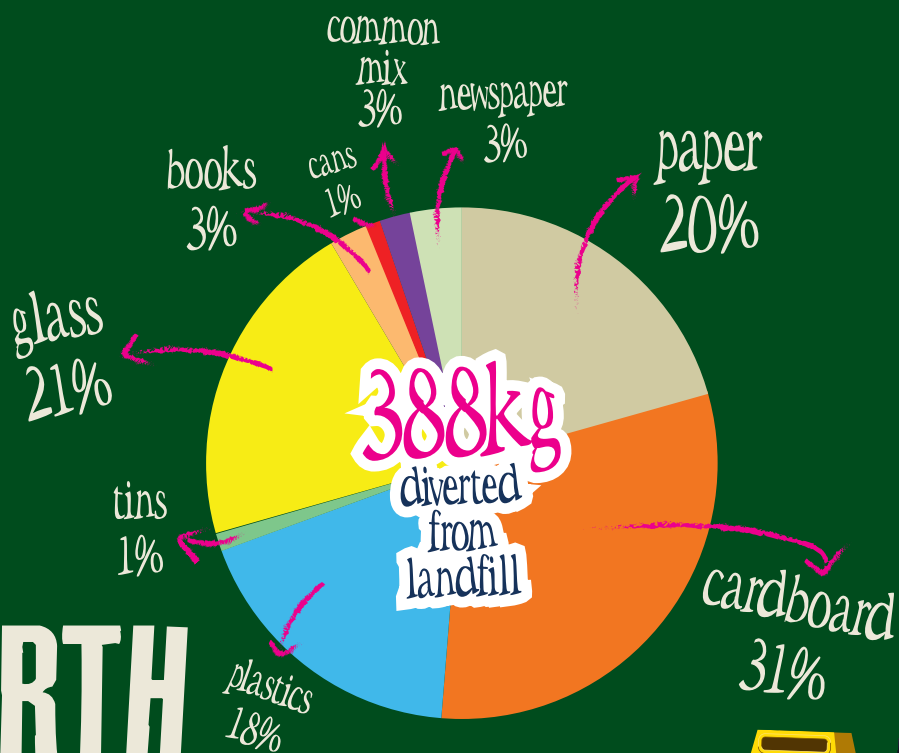
None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication and expertise of the team coaches. We extend our deepest gratitude to **Imama Uddin**, coach of the Junior Team, and **Jonathan Shiferaw**, coach of the Senior Team. Their unwavering commitment to the development of each student, both as individuals and as debaters, has been a cornerstone of Herschel's continued success in debating.

Looking Ahead

Herschel's debating teams will continue to make us proud. We wish both the Junior and Senior teams the best of luck for next year and are excited to cheer them on as they aim for further glory.



EARTH MATTERS AND SUSTAINABILITY



2024 saw the introduction of RECYCLING infrastructure and training at Herschel. It feels good to be DOING something to improve our environment and reduce the amount of waste that our school community sends to landfill.

A monthly report on the school's recycling data is provided to encourage continued good recycling habits and ongoing education is provided as a reminder about how to recycle correctly.

2024 highlights:

Earth Day – Georgina Bennett, founder of **Style Rotate** spoke to the school about sustainability in the fashion industry and the circular economy.

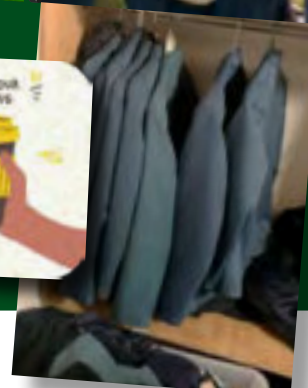
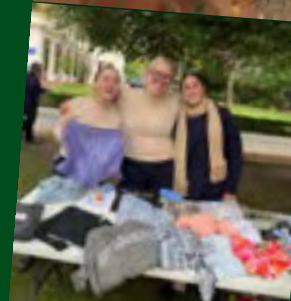
The Earth Matters Club organised a **thrift sale and a bake sale** during break to raise funds for the **Rhino Foundation** and **9 Miles**.

Muizenberg Beach clean-up.

Re-vamping the “Sustainability wall”.

Trying to manage the insane amount of lost property and encourage better care of belongings.

Bring **YOUR OWN mug** to school.





I learned how to be able to speak to God and my understanding of what Jesus did for us is much bigger.
- Phoebe Madonko

FISH is a family and I will always be supported by my friends there.
- Daniella Okedi

Ruth, you are such a kind and thoughtful person with a deep faith. Although high school is over for you, a new journey will begin filled with blessings and new experiences. God loves you and has an amazing plan for you. You are going to be missed at FISH, but not forgotten."
- Manilla Trantraal

I really enjoyed the movie night. It was so much fun and I enjoyed myself very much. Between the games, food and good movie - it was a wonderful experience.
- Faith van Wyk

Herschel's Christians Union, FISH, stands for *Faithful In Serving Him*. FISH is a group of girls who have a passion to serve the Lord. Although we all meet from different walks of life we have really come to be a family who meet to encourage each other and grow in our faith together.

Broad topics taught at FISH this year

- Emotions (*guest speaker*)
- Identity in God (*guest speaker*)
- Encounters with Jesus: Mary and Martha
- Psalm 1 discussion
- Inspiring Olympic athletes (*Eric Liddle*)
- Women in the Bible – Ruth
- Story of Jesus healing woman with bleeding disorder (*guest speaker*)
- Youth day assembly – Timothy and Samuel (*Ruth and Christy*)

EVENTS

Quiz night – 14 March

"We hosted an Inter-Schools Quiz Night and it was a lot of fun to socialise with Christian young people from other schools who love God as much as we do."



Thank you Ruth, Mrs Oelofse and Ms Oosthuizen for all the effort you have put in to make FISH so meaningful and fun. We have learned a lot about God.
- Lauren van der Spuy



Movie night at Scarlett's gran

"One Saturday evening we gathered at Scarlett's grandma's house and watched 'The Jesus Revolution' movie. We ordered pizzas and it was a good bonding experience."



Assembly message

"Ms Oosthuizen spoke about Eric Liddle, a famous 100m athlete from the 1924 Olympics in Paris. It was inspiring to hear how he stood by his principles and put God above everything else. Even above a gold medal at the Olympics."





GAMING



Gaming is not just about competition; it is about grit, teamwork, and stepping out of your comfort zone to learn something new. Whether it is the high energy of charades, a fierce game of dominoes, or a clever round of Cluedo, we tackle every challenge and opportunity head-on, all while having fun and making friends. An honorary mention goes to Neve Brogan (Grade 9) for introducing us to the new card game Taco Hat Cake Gift Pizza, which has left many of us with "battle scars" and laughter-induced headaches. We look forward to more laughs and unforgettable memories.

– Mrs Alexandra Himunchul – Supervising Teacher



ST. GEORGE'S HOUSE



Seeing the girls' faces light up when we arrive always makes my day. The games we've played and the conversations we've shared will be cherished forever. Even the bus rides were filled with love and created so many unforgettable memories.

- Zaynab Abrahams

I love visiting these amazing girls - they're always so excited to see us and remind me how important it is to be grateful for everything we have. I cherish the time spent with them, hearing their stories and offering my help. Each visit creates unforgettable memories, both with the girls and the peers I share this experience with.

- Isabella Jeffries

I had an amazing time with the girls at St. George's this year. Their beautiful smiles, infectious laughter, and the unforgettable memories we created together made it truly special. Even the bus rides with my peers were exciting, giving us a real sense of belonging. I can't wait to go back and make even more memories with them.

- Fatima Davids



HAPPY HANDS

I truly enjoy visiting these girls - they warm my heart and remind me how much there is to be grateful for. The bus rides to and from are always filled with excitement and plenty of laughter!

- Ruqaya Bassadien

Happy Hands students visit Saint George's Home for Girls in Wynberg three times each term. Saint George's Home provides specialized care, education, and life skills training for the girls in a safe and nurturing environment. With the support of Child and Youth Care workers, the girls are empowered with the knowledge and confidence to become independent individuals, ready to leave the home and make positive contributions to society.

Mr Jeffrey Kanzi accompanies us on Tuesday afternoons, from 15:10 to 17:00, as agreed upon by the students. Our visits, lasting about an hour and a half, are always met with warm welcomes from the girls, who are eager to spend time with us.

They enjoy playing games, chatting, running around, and even styling our students' hair.

Sometimes, a few girls will quietly sit beside us, simply seeking individual attention. If they feel comfortable, they may even open up and share their personal stories and emotions.

There are some ways we could further enhance their experience. For example, the girls have expressed interest in having a netball pole and hoop, which would allow them to practice netball - a popular sport at their public schools. Having this equipment at the Home would give them more opportunities to develop their skills.

Moreover, the clothes the girls wear are often donated from outside sources. It would be a kind gesture if our students, or even those in the Prep School, could donate some of their gently used clothing. The girls at Saint George's range from Grades 1 or 2 to Grade 12, and clothing that may be sitting unused in our closets could make a big difference for them. As we all know, there's something special about having "new" clothes, no matter where they come from!

Our students - Ruqayqa, Nurah, Fatima, Ra'eesa, Rayna, and Zaynab - are always eager to give their time and energy to the girls, sharing their enthusiasm and kindness during each visit.



THE HERSCHEL MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

by Maaryah Brey –
Chairperson of the MSA

The Herschel Muslim Students Association (MSA) was established to create a space where Muslim students can feel a sense of belonging in their school community. As a minority at Herschel, it's essential for Muslim students to have a supportive environment where they can connect with others who share similar experiences, values, and challenges. However, the MSA serves many more purposes beyond that.

While primarily a space for Muslim students, the Herschel MSA is open to students of all faiths and backgrounds. Many students have questions about Islam, and the MSA offers a welcoming space where curiosity is encouraged, and misconceptions are addressed. By fostering dialogue and promoting cultural awareness, the MSA helps create a more inclusive school environment, promoting understanding, respect, and tolerance.

The MSA is also deeply committed to community service and social engagement. Over the past year, Herschel's MSA has hosted two major events, both in collaboration with SACS and in support of the orphans from Vision Care and Youth Centre.

The first event was an iftar, a dinner during the holy month of Ramadan, where SACS and Herschel hosted the orphans who had fasted for the day.

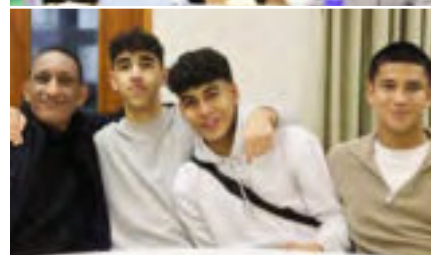


FOSTERING BELONGING, UNDERSTANDING, AND SERVICE



This event allowed the children to enjoy a special meal and experience the joy of community, just as many others do during Ramadan. The second event was a game night, held on the last day of the third term. We set up board games, live quizzes, and other activities, inviting students from various schools to join. This initiative helped foster social engagement and builds a sense of community while including the orphans in a fun and interactive environment.

In addition to hosting these events, Herschel's MSA has participated in a range of other MSA initiatives at other schools. Notably, we took part in a sanitary packing drive on 14 September, where we helped assemble hygiene products for young girls. Earlier in the winter, we contributed to the distribution of food parcels to help families in need,



making the harsh season a little more bearable.

Furthermore, Herschel's MSA has been invited to various iftars hosted by other schools in the area. These invitations have strengthened our ties with other MSAs, allowed us to share in the spirit of Ramadan, and build connections with other students across the region.

The Herschel MSA has had an incredible year of outreach and community impact, and we look forward to continuing our efforts, inshallah (God willing).

BISHOPS-HERSCHEL BALLROOM DANCE SOCIETY

An enthusiastic group of Grade 11 Herschel students, together with a group of friendly Bishops students, embarked on an exciting dance journey. These intrepid students explored the fundamentals of the waltz, salsa, jive and sokkie. Once again, the joy of dancing and forming new friendships brought a wonderful energy and light heartedness to our ballroom dance society!

The journey concluded with a formal dance at the Bishops Pavilion. It was a special evening filled with glamour and glitz, fun and friendship, providing a perfect opportunity to showcase all the dance moves learned.

*Bishops dance teacher: **Phil Court***

*Herschel staff co-ordinator: **Monica Robertson***

*Student head for Ballroom Dance 2024: **Selah van Rooyen***

light
heartedness





Relaxation and exercise



Fun in the sun



Love and learn about nature



Be brave
Be free



Restore and rejuvenate



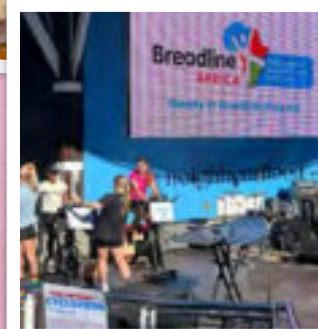
Time with friends

Hike up Skeleton Gorge to see the Disas, hike along the beach to swim at Dalebrook tidal pool, hike in Silvermine to a view across False Bay, marshmallow braai. Unfortunately, our sunrise hike was postponed three times and eventually cancelled due to the rainy weather!



HIKING CLUB

INTERACT CLUB



This year, the Herschel Interact Club was deeply involved in several meaningful and fun initiatives, continuing our commitment to service and community involvement. With guidance from Rotary International, our student-led organization focused on charitable activities that engaged the Herschel community and the broader public. Here's a look at some of the exciting projects we participated in during 2024:

Papa Paul's Halloween Party

In October 2023, our Interact Club joined forces with Rotary to participate in Papa Paul's Halloween Party, an annual event dedicated to raising funds for charity. We volunteered to host various games for the children attending, which was not only a blast but also a deeply fulfilling way to make a difference. A highlight of the day was the slime-making activity, where our members set up a production line to help the kids craft their very own slime. While things did get a bit messy, the joy and laughter that filled the air made it all worth it. Dressing up for Halloween added an extra layer of excitement to an already lively day, and it was heartwarming to see the event raise much-needed funds for charity.

Cupcakes of Hope

In support of Cupcakes of Hope, a charity that raises money for children with cancer, our club hosted a bake sale during one of the second breaks at school. The enthusiasm of our Interactors was evident as they baked and decorated cupcakes at home, resulting in a colourful and delicious display that drew attention from across the school. Selling cupcakes during break was a fun and interactive way to involve the school community, and it gave us a deep sense of pride knowing that all the proceeds went to such an important cause. Plus, enjoying a few cupcakes ourselves was a sweet bonus!

Sandwiches for Ladles of Love

Collaboration with the Rustenburg Interact Club led to one of our most heartwarming projects this year – making sandwiches for Ladles of Love, a charity dedicated to feeding those in need. Inspired by Rustenburg's regular sandwich donations, we organized our own production chain during one of our club meetings. Everyone chipped in, ensuring that we worked efficiently and produced four loaves' worth of sandwiches. The atmosphere during the activity was lively and full of camaraderie as we worked toward the shared goal of helping those less fortunate. It was a truly rewarding experience for everyone involved, knowing that our efforts would make a difference in someone's day.

Cyclathon

In April, our club had the opportunity to participate in the Cyclathon organised by Rustenburg. Held at the Amphitheatre at the Waterfront, 10 of our Interactors took shifts cycling on electric bikes for about an hour each. The event had a vibrant energy, with school band performances and enthusiastic onlookers supporting us. We were thrilled to be part of this event, which successfully raised R35,000 for Breadline, an organization focused on uplifting underprivileged communities. The smooth running of the event and the camaraderie made this one of our most successful fundraising efforts of the year.

Uncle Willy's Christmas Party

In December, a group of our students volunteered at the annual Uncle Willy's Christmas Party, organized by Claremont Rotaract. Our involvement spanned various activities, including tractor control, sweeping hay, stage management, and distributing presents (affectionately referred to as "unmentionables" by Rotaract). One of the highlights for our students was dressing up as Noddy's friends and helping to create a festive, joyful atmosphere. The entire event ran smoothly thanks to the dedication of the Rotaract leaders, and we were grateful to be part of such a magical and charitable evening.

Looking Forward

As we reflect on 2024, we are incredibly proud of the contributions we've made as a club and the impact we've had on our community. These events not only allowed us to raise money for essential causes but also helped foster a sense of teamwork and service among our members. We look forward to continuing this spirit of service in the year ahead, with even more exciting projects and collaborations planned.

Thank you to all our Interactors for your hard work, Rotary for their ongoing support, and the Herschel community for being so generous and enthusiastic. Your support and participation have been invaluable to us. Here's to another year of making a difference!



The Makers Club was founded in 2022, following the exciting arrival of a laser cutting machine in the Design studio. Mrs du Toit, who is passionate about providing students with hands-on opportunities to explore new technologies, spearheaded the club. With Maggie and Kate stepping up as club leaders, the Makers Club quickly became a vibrant space where creativity and community flourished. The club offers more than just a chance to make things; it's a place where friendships are built, ideas flow, and conversations take on a life of their own. Whether we're brainstorming new projects, sketching ideas on the whiteboard, or simply spending time together, the atmosphere is one of support, collaboration, and plenty of laughs.

Over the year, the club has been involved in various projects, including designing and constructing props for Inter-House plays, collaborating on a banner for Mental Health Awareness Month – incorporating sewing and laser cutting techniques – and designing a logo that embodies the spirit of the club. One of our current projects involves painting laser-cut letters for the Sustainability Board, a therapeutic process that allows us to relax and chat while creating something meaningful. Makers Club is more than a workshop – it's a community where creativity, camaraderie, and innovation come together, offering students a space to express themselves and make lasting memories while working on meaningful projects.





The memories made on this trip will truly never leave me. I'm extremely grateful for this experience!
- Julia Turck



Orange river was one of my best experiences of high school so far. It felt so amazing to be able to bond with so many special people all while having so much fun together. - Jordan Gossmann

6 days of pure happiness - an experience I will cherish.
- Julia Komninos

ORANGE RIVER TRIP



A trip I will never forget! It was so amazing to spend time as a group and I will cherish these memories forever.
- Rebecca Hewel



One of the toughest yet most memorable camps I have ever had - truly an unforgettable experience!
- Charlize Karimi-Tabesh



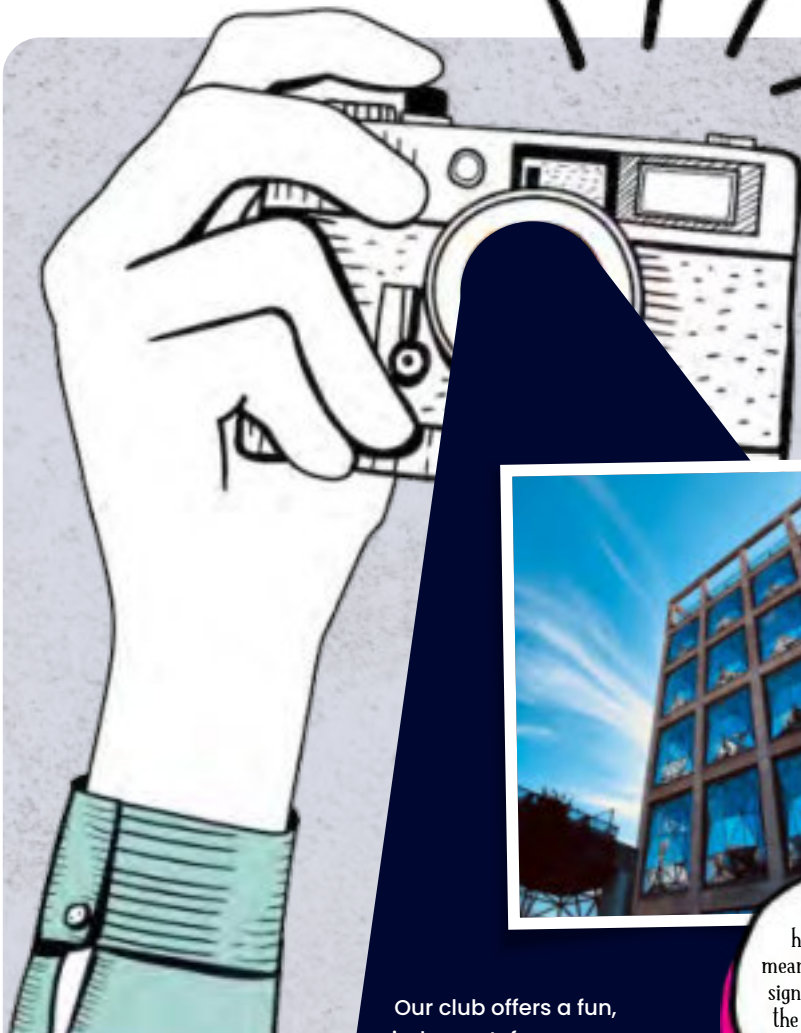
Amazing memories made with the best people. I will never forget this experience.
- Nicole Downard

Such an incredible experience where so many memories were formed - vibes were high and would definitely choose to do this again! - Gemma Furst

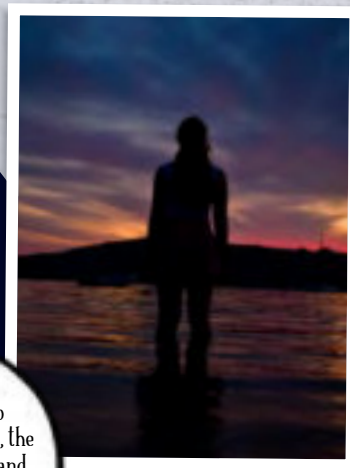
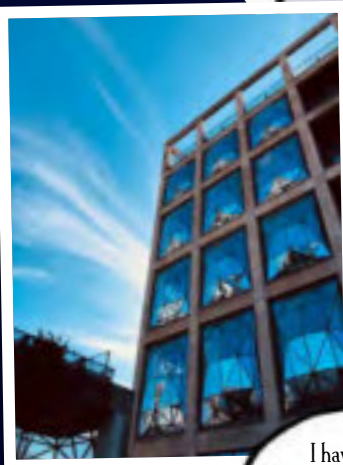


I loved every minute of it and made so many long-lasting friendships and memories! It was such an awesome way to end the year. - Kaylin Seymour

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB



Join the
Photography Club
and let your
creativity shine!



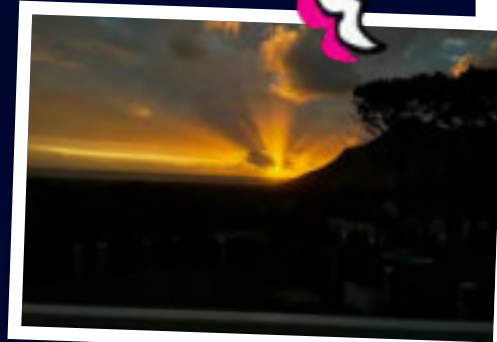
I have learnt
how to gain a deep
meaning from photos, the
significance of light and
the power of conveying
stories through images.
- Emily Stodel

Our club offers a fun, judgment-free space for students to express themselves through the lens. Each year, we explore exciting themes that challenge your imagination and allow you to showcase your unique vision. With plenty of encouragement from fellow members, it's a great way to develop your skills, make friends, and capture moments that inspire. This year we explored themes on reflections and silhouettes, night time and my happy place. Suggestions for 2025 include running a photography workshop and going on an outing where we can all take photos as a group. Thank you to Jaime Thompson for co-ordinating activities this year.

Whether you're a beginner or a pro, everyone's welcome – grab your camera and **let's make magic!**



That often you can't get a perfect photo, but you can still have fun trying and exploring interesting themes. - Scarlett Turck



SENIOR

COLLABORATIVE SPACES



Carys Morkel



Chloe Hughes



Christy Braune



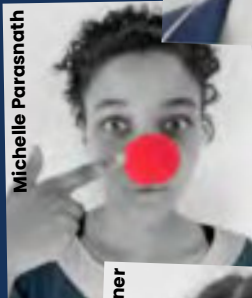
Lauren Sherwood



Simone de la Harpe



Tessa Bottomley



Michelle Parasnath



Madelyn Rathner



RED NOSE EAGLE CLUB

by Susy Macfarlane

Maya Angelou once said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

The Red Nose Eagle embodies this wisdom by showing that we all have the potential to be agents of change. This club serves as a symbol of choosing love over fear, emphasizing the importance of emotional connection. The eagle, representing not just strength but also the limitless potential of the human spirit, encourages individuals to rise above challenges. Being a "Red Nose Eagle" means confronting fears and embracing personal growth. This club encourages turning beliefs into actions, fostering a deep alignment between thoughts, emotions, and deeds, and promoting meaningful change in the world through connection.

Laughing is contagious! If you just smile, it can really brighten someone's day. - Christy Braune

This club can give you skills for various different aspects of life, and you see the difference almost immediately! It has helped me to feel happier, calmer, and have more fun in the process! - Tessa Bottomley

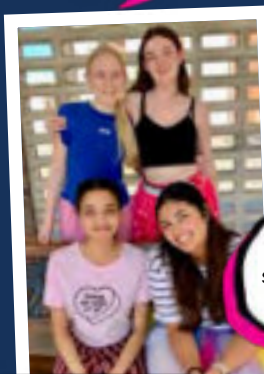
I have learnt how best to comfort someone and make someone feel cared for without speaking, but just through facial expressions and body language. - Nathalie Heyns

It is important to get involved in the community around you and help bring others joy. - Chloë Hughes



This club is very important as it teaches you how to appreciate and value the things you have in life and to give back to the community who doesn't have those things. - Emily Stodel

My favourite memories in the club were watching the movie and doing the training. - Carys Morkel



It taught me to be selfless and showed me not to take things for granted. - Maddy Rathner

Being with the children really changes your mindset. When you're with a lot of children younger than you, you have to almost become a child and obtain that child-like spirit. It really is so healing for my inner child. - Michelle Parasnath



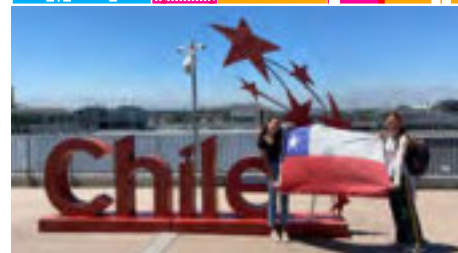


CULTURAL EXCHANGE

by Michelle Seymour

This year has marked a significant turning point for the Herschel Girls' Cultural Exchange Programme. With a renewed emphasis on fostering stronger, more inclusive relationships with our partner schools, we have a greater understanding of what they are able to offer thereby enabling us to better pair pupils. We have also begun to connect with new institutions, paving the way for future collaborations. Our international exchange pupils enjoyed a curated experience, which engaged them in a rich tapestry of activities that offered deep insights into our history and contemporary issues. From exploring all the Kruger National Park has to offer, to indulging in the vibrant tastes of 'local is lekker,' our visitors have truly immersed themselves in the essence of our culture. It's been incredibly rewarding to witness the level of engagement and the thought-provoking discussions that have emerged from the exchange pupils.

Join us as we reflect on a year filled with enriching experiences and transformative connections.



SENIOR

COLLABORATIVE SPACES



The language barrier can sometimes be a challenge, but I have learnt really well how to adapt to it and communicate with people who are unable to or weaker in speaking English.



One of the most meaningful experiences for me was boarding as this taught me to manage my time. Within the boarding house there is a time and place for everything. There is a set work time and a set social time. This has taught me to really maximise my time spent on each priority and to find a balanced lifestyle and exchange. It has also been extremely meaningful for me to explore differences between Culford and Herschel as this will allow me to bring back what works at Culford to Herschel and also to share the beauty of Herschel with Culford. In this way, it was meaningful for me to present my presentation in front of the school as the students got to find out more about my school and I even had teachers coming up to me afterwards asking if they could also do an exchange with our teachers! Lastly, it has been extremely meaningful to connect with so many students at Culford as I've managed to get to know them really well and I think these friendships will last forever.

REFLECTIONS FROM HERSCHEL EXCHANGE PUPILS

I'm slowly getting used to the late dinners and late bed times and I have been loving all the food and the Spanish music.



One of the biggest adjustments has been cycling everywhere, especially in the cold! Before coming here, I knew cycling would be a part of the experience and I was so excited, but nothing could prepare me for cycling in this cold and the rain, but it's growing on me. Learning how to navigate the bike lanes with so many other people have posed as a challenge, especially because I have to remember to stick to the right side instead of the left. Despite the cold and the few angry cyclist's, I'm loving it all and it's slowly becoming my new favourite thing.



The most valuable lesson I learned from hosting my exchange partner was the importance of being considerate and fulfilling someone else's needs. I had to constantly think about her, especially when it came to meals, activities, and making sure she felt comfortable and included. It taught me a lot about empathy and the responsibility that comes with looking after someone else. I had to ensure that she was always okay and enjoying her time with us.

For math we get pop quizzes which are short tests that we didn't know about and then there are also quizzes which are regular tests. However, you do all the tests in class and they don't feel as strict as our tests. For English and history, we have multiple choice and true or false tests on the books we are reading. I also have assignments and projects for classes like design, English, and forensic science.

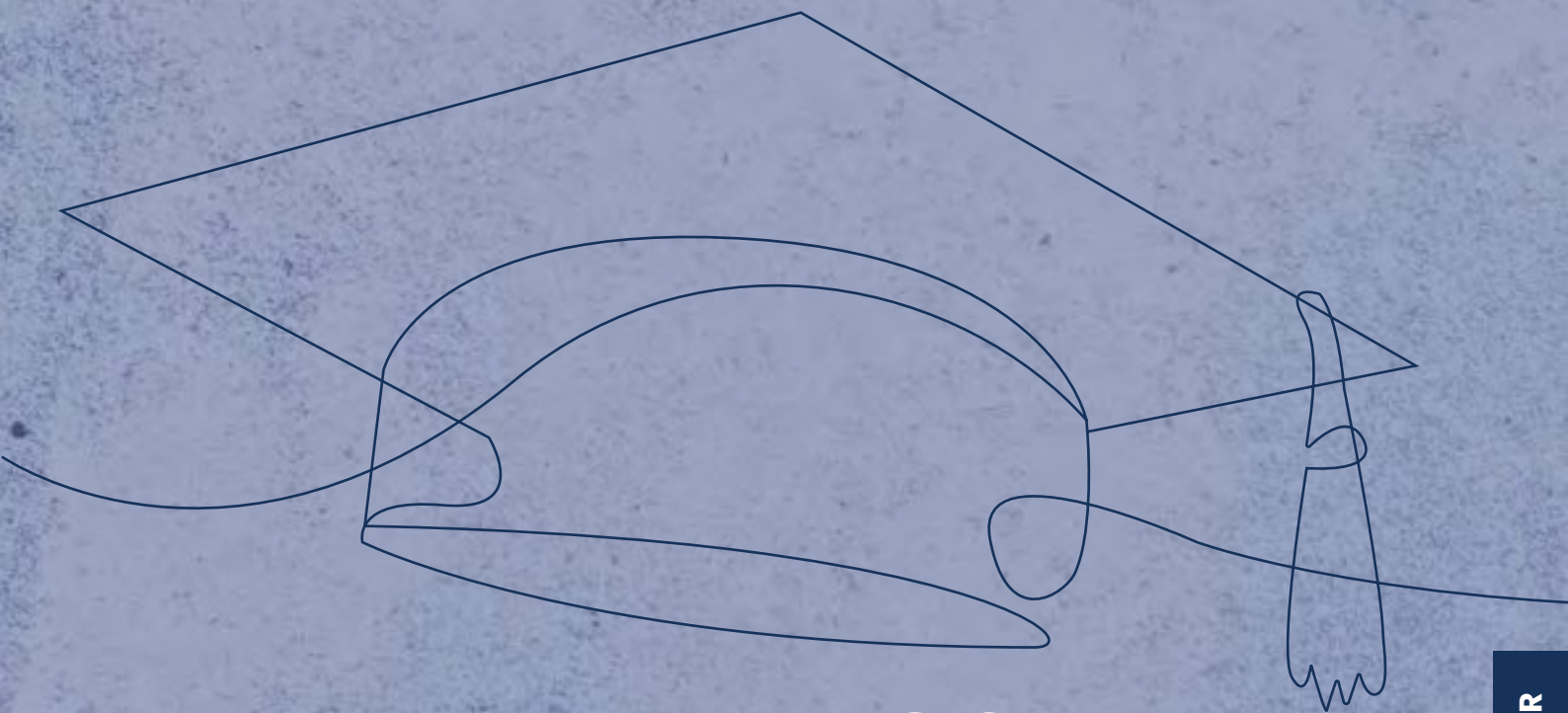
The exchange coordinator has given me my own schedule which includes US history, biology, art, English and maths. I am very happy about my schedule and am enjoying my classes. Each teacher has different standards for my input in the class but mostly I am able to sit quietly and do any work from home that I need to do.

Being able to go to an NBA game, experiencing an American Halloween and getting to go to a homecoming have been my favourite experiences so far.



I learnt that I am capable of being independent. I flew there and back, doing a layover in Frankfurt. I've taken the tube and many more public transportations alone in a foreign country. I've also learnt that I can fit into any routine quite easily. I made close friends and got into the rhythm of school relatively quickly and surprised myself with how easy it was.





MATRICES

SENIOR

MATRICES



Back row: Adelaide Barnard, Bianca Stewart, Leah Josi, Victoria Van der Watt, Jasmine Hatherill, Anabelle Slabber, Alba Swanepoel, Emma Pooley, Georgina Beauchamp, Kate Hodgson, Mia Andrew, Amy Gordon.

Sixth row: Ahlam Dharsey, Amy Heffren, Tia Deliperi, Finnley Kleingeld, Julia Mira, Olivia Klerck, Hanaan Saith, Ashley Silberbauer, Ruth Madonko, Francis Hathorn, Elen Vermaak, Gabriella Wright, Carmen Whittaker, Stella Golby, Georgia Makin, Jessica Petersen.

Fifth row: Tai Ravat, Paula Nekesa, Jenna Hutchinson, Zenazi Nkonkie, Liphelo Mangxola, Sufiyah Essa, Olivia Sherren, Tayla Katz, Hlubikazi Dibakoane, Olivia Davies, Alexa Knott, Sanaa Ebrahim, Matilda Loggenberg, Gemma Prinsloo, Zoë Arenhold.

Fourth row: Ameera Yacoob, Taybah Isaacs, Miriam Haihambo, Lily Rose Tomlinson, Rebecca Joshua, Sofia Dearndley, Motlalepula Lekoma, Bianca Duarte Reibero, Anna van der Vent, Lara Moore, Kai Davis, Isabella Tooley, Jessica Rataliffe, Gabrielle du Toit, Sabiha Sondag, Azraa Solomons.

Third row: Michela Benettolo, Nobuntu Lingela, Amelia Badenhorst, Emma Naude, Nicole Macey, Catherine Barton, Maggie Mallinson, Kaitlyn Knight, Cate Lea, Kiera Howard, Anna Searson, Georgia Finlayson, Kate Formby, Amy van Breda, Elysia Aspinall.

Second row: Daniella Mwoyosvi, Alessia Grandi, Jessica Tomaz Weeden, Okuhle Sopam, Hanna Wright, Nadhira Khan, Rania Abrahams, Layla Abrahams, Zara Palmer, Nusrat Chokdar, Zahra Gouda, Nicole Bantom, Miyolo Mvalo, Razeenah Parker, Nandi Dlamini, Lamiya Hussain.

Front row: Alexa de Villiers, Erin Meyer, Leah Faurholm, Zara-Leigh Oliphant, Intando Taitai, Mia Sainsbury, Taskya Pillay, Emily van Heerden, Zaynah Darsot, Enqi Du, Emma Gordon, Georgina Withers, Anna Ashbolt, Michaela Edwards, Safara Ackermann.

Absent: Anja Bräsler, Zahra Esack, Alice Kuhn, Ana Vaughan-Scott, Rebecca Wolhuter.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

by Emily van Heerden



Good morning everyone and welcome to the prize-giving and valedictory for the matric class of 2024! On this day last year, I said my first ever speech as head girl, and today I am saying my last. It is astonishing for me how quickly time has flown, not just over the past year, but over the past 14 years.

I struggled quite a lot to write this speech. How do I conclude this school journey that has spanned across 3/4 of my life? How do I say how it's changed me, how much I've learnt, how it's inspired my future? I could use one of the many metaphors describing how I entered school in Grade R as a tiny caterpillar hungry for knowledge and now am leaving as a fully fledged butterfly ready to soar and reach my dreams, but that line was already taken by Ms Rousseau for our yearbooks. So moving on from that, how else could this school journey be described?

Although clichéd, I think a rollercoaster is most apt. This school journey has been filled with highs and lows for every single student. We've all had moments we wished would last forever, as

We have so much life ahead of us. And that is so exciting,

well as moments we wished we had never experienced. But however bad these experiences might have felt at the time, they form part of who we are today and prove that we are stronger than we know. I think that is one of the most important lessons I have learnt here: how to solve the problems we encounter and how to overcome the challenges faced in everyday life. I think those are skills that are so important to have as we leave school. The outside world feels so daunting, at least to me, and I know that I will encounter things that are unfamiliar and uncomfortable. It is then that being able to adapt to situations and think of creative ways of overcoming challenges is so critical.

But enough about hardship and challenges, there are also so many good things to look forward to. Yes, yes, yes, Plett Rage is going to be great, but

next year is the start of a new phase in all of our lives. Whether you are going to university, taking a gap year or going straight to work, next year will be a time to meet new people, explore new places and learn new things. As Ms Oosthuizen said to our AP Maths class yesterday, we have so much life ahead of us. And that is so exciting.

To those of you staying behind for a few more years, I know many are looking at all the matrics with envy, wishing you were the ones about to finish school, but I want to ask you not to wish the years away. Enjoy all the time you have left at school and be present in every moment. I promise that school can be really fun if you choose to make it so. Dani, I am so proud to be handing this position over to someone who I know is so capable and will do such amazing things. Your team is amazing and Herschel is in good hands.

This wouldn't be a Herschel speech without thank yous. Thank you to all of our teachers for sticking with us through the tough times and for believing in us despite our prelims marks. Thank you to our parents for taking care of us and being a shoulder to cry on when things got a little hard. Thank you to the matrics for always supporting me and each other and for staying positive this year. I know it's intimidating being the first grade to do IEB (as we've all heard many many times) but I also know that if any grade could do it, it's this grade.

Matrics, whether you've been here since little lambs or since Grade 8, you have all been a part of Herschel and I hope that you will remember that time with happiness. I can't wait to see you all at our first reunion!

SENIOR

MATRICS



MRS ALISON BODENSTEIN'S VALIDICTORY ADDRESS

So I'm sure for you and for me this is a very bitter/sweet occasion – yes that's an oxymoron!...I see that some of you have been doing some revision and picked up that oxymoron before I even mentioned it! Bitter in the sense that you are saying farewell to what have hopefully been wonderful years for you... and sweet because you are looking forward to what lies ahead and maybe can't wait to get out and experience life – I mean after the next few weeks. For me it is bitter as it marks the end of 40 wonderful years of teaching as a career – 25 at Herschel... and sweet because I can't wait to wake up a little later in the mornings and perhaps some other things too!



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ
MRS BODENSTEIN'S FULL
VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.**

I've spent many hours of my life trying to figure out the perfect recipe to live a happy, fulfilled life. What makes life worth living? What makes us better people? How can we ensure that each day feels lived to its full potential? Throughout my many hours of thinking, I looked back on my own life, trying to find key moments where I felt the most fulfilled and most happy, and in my search to find the perfect recipe to live a well-enjoyed life, I found three core ingredients to try to achieve this - laughter, love, and life.

- Daniella Böttger



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO READ
DANIELLA BÖTTGER'S
FULL VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.**

LEADERS



EMILY VAN HEERDEN
Head



TASKYA PILLAY
Deputy: Operations



ZAYNAH DARSOT
Deputy: Student Affairs



ERIN MEYER
Chair of SRC



MIA SAINSBURY
Head of Media and Events



ANNA ASHBOLT
Head of Environment
and Sustainability



LEAH FAURHOLM
Head of Sport



ENQI DU
Head of Culture



GEORGINA WITHERS
Head of Community
Engagement

SENIOR

MATRICES



ZARA-LEIGH OLIPHANT
Head of Carter



MICHAELA EDWARDS
Carter Deputy:
Junior phase



GEORGIA FINLAYSON
Carter Deputy:
Senior phase



INTANDO TAITAI
Head of Jagger



ANNA SEARSON
Jagger Deputy:
Junior phase



SAFARA ACKERMANN
Jagger Deputy:
Senior phase



EMMA GORDON
Head of Merriman



TIA DELIPERI
Merriman Deputy:
Junior phase



KATE FORMBY
Merriman Deputy:
Senior phase



ALEXA DE VILLIERS
Head of Rolt



KATE HODGSON
Rolt Deputy:
Junior phase



ZOË ARENHOLD
Rolt Deputy:
Senior phase



SRC – A YEAR IN REVIEW

by Erin Meyer

SRC Representatives:

Chairperson: Erin Meyer

Deputy Chairperson:

Dani Böttger

Secretary: Reece Corker

Treasurer: Enqi Du

Grade 12:

Zoë Arenhold

Erin Meyer

Ahlam Dharsey

Hanaan Saith

Enqi Du

Cate Lea

Georgia Makin

Taskya Pillay

Emily van Heerden

Zaynah Darsot

Grade 11:

Dani Böttger

Reece Corker

Gemma MacGregor

Eryn van Vollenhoven

Lauren Sherwood

Farah Parker

Sophie Vickers

Maaryah Brey

Kirsty Buissonne

Aasiyah Bailey

Grade 10:

Saara Moosa

Raania Bhagoo

Zaara Dalwai

Katherine Slingers

Chella Petrie

Sophia Lobert

Gabriella Efstathiou

Alexandra Knutsen

Kyla Muller

Grade 9:

Aisha Mia

Carla Plenge-Mantell

Zaynab Abrahams

Anna Dillon

Logan Lamb

Hayley Le Grange

Devanya Naidoo

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is a student-run organisation that was established to give a voice to the students of Herschel. Serving as a solution-driven body, the SRC works to create a space where students feel empowered to share their ideas, suggestions and concerns about any aspect of school life. Through its efforts, the SRC aims to foster a safe and inclusive environment for all students at Herschel.

Now in its third year, the SRC reached a major milestone with the ratification of its constitution – a process that has been in the works for two years. This achievement formalised essential structures that enabled the SRC to strengthen its presence within the school and operate more efficiently. With this foundation in place, the SRC was able to focus on achieving its goals, which included: fostering collaboration between the SRC and the student body, ensuring students' voices were heard and acknowledged, and advocating for student concerns.

With these goals in mind, the SRC launched and completed many initiatives. We began the year by hosting an SRC Leadership Workshop, which was attended by SRC representatives from various schools in the southern suburbs. Our objective was to exchange ideas, share experiences, and build connections. The workshop sparked inspiration for new initiatives at Herschel, setting the tone for a productive and impactful year.

During 2024, the SRC:

- Provided ongoing input to improve the school uniform and make it more inclusive
- Addressed specific academic concerns
- Held panel discussions on relevant school issues
- Proposed the introduction of new sports
- Collaborated on a proposal to implement a Compulsory Events System to enhance school spirit
- Coordinated a school initiative to show appreciation for the staff on Workers' Day
- Attended SRC events hosted by other schools
- Advocated for the recognition of Debating in the Awards Policy
- Engaged in discussions with staff members about school policies, to ensure that student perspective and insight was considered
- Sought clarification on various student queries
- Worked on re-establishing VOX, a platform for students to participate in discussions on current affairs
- Hosted a speaker to engage in topical conversations with the student body
- Addressed general student concerns

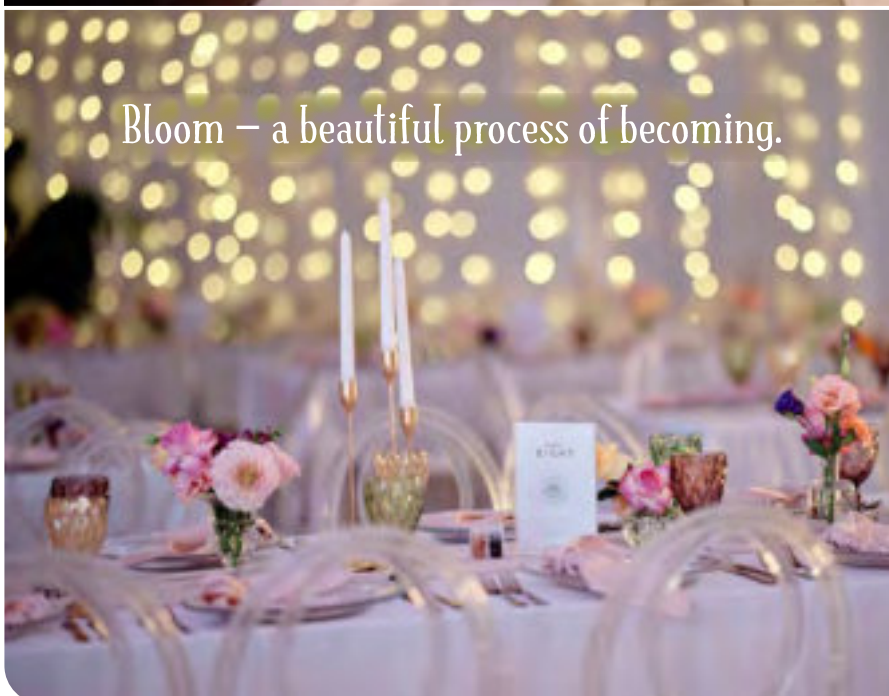
The 2024 SRC representatives have worked incredibly hard and I would like to thank them for their dedication and contribution. A thank you is also extended to Mrs Bodenstein and Mrs Alpert who have supported the SRC every step of the way.

The SRC will undoubtedly continue to grow, thrive and make a meaningful difference at Herschel. Wishing the 2025 SRC Executive every success!

MATRIC DANCE



Bloom into the fullest expression
of yourself, and let your authentic
self shine through.

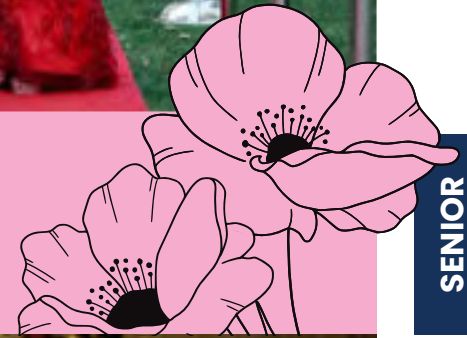


Bloom – a beautiful process of becoming.





Wherever life plants you,
bloom with grace.



SENIOR



MATRICES



Happiness blooms
from within.



Live life in full bloom.



Live Simply
Bloom Widly.



An abstract line drawing in a light blue color on a textured blue background. The drawing depicts a house with a chimney, a tree, and a fence. The word "HOUSES" is written in white capital letters across the middle of the drawing.

HOUSES

SENIOR

HOUSES



Having the opportunity to be Head was such a privilege and I'm so grateful for the amazing group of people I got to work with along the way! I've made some of the funniest memories and met amazing new people this year and it's safe to say nothing will beat the amazing spirit that Carter has to offer.

CARTER

2024 has been an awesome year for Carter. We had a blast at the Interhouse Mini Olympics day and at Interhouse singing as well as with the Mandela Day initiative where the true Carter spirit of caring and unity was felt. We were so proud to earn the top spot in the Interhouse Plays with an engagingly suspenseful and cleverly crafted play, supported by a huge cast. It's the spirit of our pupils that continues to make our house a place where everyone feels supported, empowered, and ready to give their best. Here's to another year of success and unforgettable memories!



Carter has been a home within school and a family within my school life.
- Rania Abrahams



Carter means family, support and endless gees to me. It's a house that feels like home.
- Anna van Aarde

Carter is one big family that's filled with fun and every moment turns into a great memory. - Juwairiya Bassa

Being Deputy Head has been one of my greatest achievements of high school. I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to know and lead all of the amazing people in Carter. This is one extremely special house that I've been so lucky to be part of. - Michaela Edwards



Carter is a certified blue family. I love how we always bring that energy to every event. - Ayanda Bordiss

Being Deputy Head has not only taught me what it means to be a good leader, but it's brought me much laughter and great memories. I am so grateful and thankful to have been able to bring joy to other people and be part of such a spirited and supportive community. My blood with forever be blue. - Georgia Finlayson





I loved the inter-grade soccer games that we played. It was such lovely bonding time.
- Viola Unite- Penny (JIN tutor group)

My favourite House memory is singing karaoke in house assembly.
- Emma Coenen (JTV tutor group)

JAGGER

WE DID IT!!!

After 25 years (or more) of trying, Jagger has finally won the Interhouse Gala! Of course, 2024 was about so much more: loads of fun and happiness together: Interhouse Singing was a blast and the house performed "This is me" again at the Prep School Women's day function. A spirit of generosity shone through as we busily created our soup jars of hope on Mandela Day and Jagger House again won the Herschel Eisteddfod, testament to wide-ranged participation from the whole house. But the year was also, simply, about laughter and togetherness in tutor groups. Many thanks to Intando, Safara and Annie, as well as the Matrics of 2024, for their inspired leadership!



I loved going to sing our song at the Prep school. - Ayana Nqayi (JPN tutor group)



My house is like a family. I love that Jagger has so much spirit and is full of so many amazing people and it's great to do all of our house activities.
- Zarna Douglas (JAH tutor group)



I loved long tutors where we are left to naturally bond with other tutor members without pre-planned activities to complete.
- Frances Leinberger (JPN tutor group)



An amazing memory is long tutor where we always talk and learn about each other's lives.
- Maaryah Brey (JIN tutor group)



SENIOR

HOUSES



MERRIMAN

My tutor group is a part of who I am. The joy and laughter that fills our classroom every morning as we share memories and advice really brought us closer together this year. While Tayla and I were the senior leaders this year I think everyone stepped up to form a tighter bond within the MJH family and I'm so grateful for them.
- Bianca Duarte Ribeiro

Working hard and having fun together as a house. The happiness of everyone celebrating winning interhouse singing and dance, and the experience of house plays. - Fatima Mohamed

What a fantastic year it's been for Merriman! From laughter-filled mornings to high-fives and huge group hugs after every challenge, we've proven that excellence and joy go hand in hand. We hit all the right notes – literally – winning Inter-House Singing, slaying at Inter-House Dancing, and taking home Best Script for Inter-House Plays! We've also built a meaningful connection with Mary Kihn School for Partially Hearing Children, with a hugely successful fundraiser during September's International Deaf Awareness Month to provide stationery and school supplies for our paired classes. Our Merries have shown incredible generosity of spirit and enthusiasm, and it has been a privilege to be along for the ride. Here's to more fun, friendship, and victories in 2025!



It was just loads of fun to have the whole House at most events - Dylan Land



Taking pictures as a tutor group after we had won inter house singing! - Nuriyah Ebrahim

My favourite house memories actually just include the incredible bonding within my tutor group. In inter house singing, plays, swimming etc, we all came together as a tutor group and became so much closer. MEC really does feel like a family to me. I also loved how plays this year as I was able to write and direct Merriman's play and watch the vision come to life.
- Dani Bottger

Merriman's night at Inter-House singing this year was my favourite!
- Ava





Loved the vibe we had when making sleeping bags for Mandela day.

ROLT



Making a mood board and cheering at the gala - Rolt has the best gees!



Favourite moment was making slime during tutor and drinking hot chocolate.

Term four was filled with the emotions of saying goodbye, of endings and beginnings. To the Rolt house leaders, Alexa, Kate and Zoe, a huge thank you for your unwavering support and passion throughout the year. We now welcome, Lauren, Julia and Emma, who have already illustrated their passion and commitment to Rolt. I am so excited to hand over the baton to Denise Do O' Filipe, who will continue to keep the sunshine.

House activities for this term included what was meant to be Interhouse Soccer (but due to a surprise rainy day) became a spectacular dance off. The Mary Jagger was buzzing with moves as each house worked together to present their awesome choreography.

Carter, Jagger, Merriman and Rolt gathered in the Atrium to fill the Santa Shoeboxes that were delivered to children at Victoria hospital.

The Atrium end-of-year celebration was delightful, as the Herschel community gathered to sing and dance as we all bid farewell to 2024.



We enjoyed playing soccer during house time.



SENIOR

HOUSES

Happiness

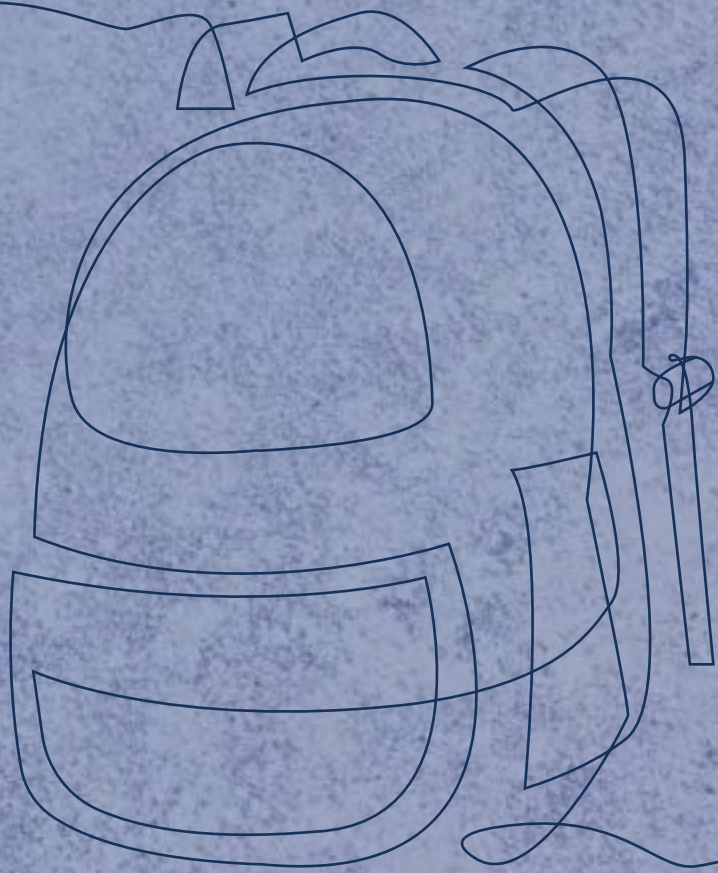
To live happily is an
inward power of the soul.

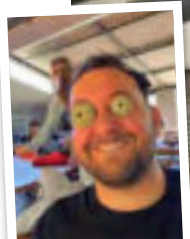


GRADES

SENIOR

GRADES





I was making tea one night before bedtime. It was dark in the dining hall and the kettle was boiling. Suddenly the hot water was everywhere. Luckily a girl named Simra saw this and came over to help me- she became my best friend. - Cara-Grace Henriques

GRADE 8 CAMP

by Elsabe Cairncross

The camp was very enjoyable. I made many new friends that I probably wouldn't have met within classes. The activities were fun, and it definitely brought our grade closer together.
- Kiera Hodgkinson



My funniest camp memory was everyone running around the cabins, going in and out of them every night. The most challenging thing about camp was not knowing who was in your cabin and who you were going to be with as we barely knew anyone yet. Also having to wake up so early to do exercises. From camp I learnt to make do with what you have and to make the most out of every moment. - Sienna Airey

The Grade 8 camp at the Habonim rest camp in Onrus, near Hermanus, was an absolute blast! The students certainly kept the staff on their toes, especially with their late-night antics running between cabins. It was heart-warming to watch the Grade 8s bond and forge new friendships throughout the camp.

The late evening adventures, like searching for the missing flashlight and roasting marshmallows over the fire, brought the most joy. During our nightly

patrols, we lost count of the pairs of eyes peeking around corners, trying not to get caught!

The camaraderie displayed during the long promenade walk and various team missions was a fantastic way for students to connect, especially with those they hadn't spoken to yet. A standout moment was witnessing an elephant seal on the beach, casually flicking sand to cool off – what an incredible sight!

The facilitators from Lead4Life did a fantastic job keeping everyone engaged, ensuring there was no shortage of singing and laughter. It was wonderful to hear their joyful laughter and see their bright smiles throughout the camp, although it was fitting to see a mix of nostalgia and homesickness on the bus ride home. What a memorable experience for all!



My funniest camp memory: When the teachers were hiding in the bushes and spraying people with water guns. What was most challenging about the camp: Waking up to the loud bell early in the morning.
- Safaa Bassadien



I enjoyed all the activities and the hot chocolate in the evenings. I learned how to improve my teamwork skills.



I learnt so much about team work and I really enjoyed the activities.

I loved bonding with the girls in my dorm room and my teammates. The teachers and camp counsellors were really friendly and I made a lot of special memories.

GRADE 9 CAMP

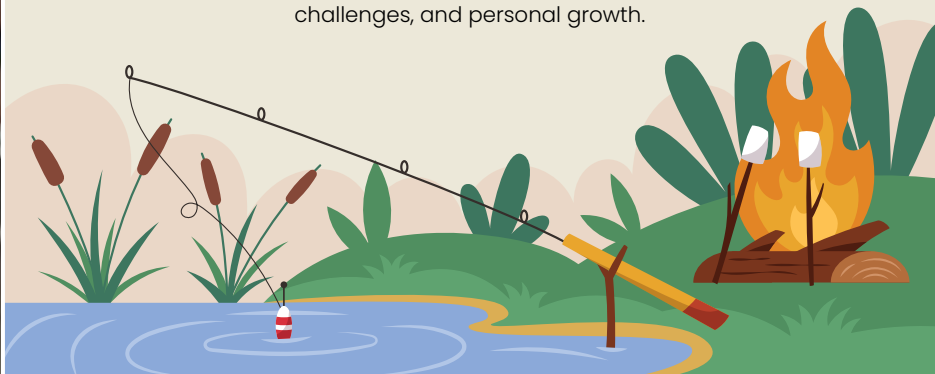
by Zikhona Bovana

I enjoyed the fashion show and learnt to work with others and to better socialise with people i havent socialised with before.

The Grade 9 Themed Camp at Witzenberg Game Park from February 26th to 28th, 2024, was all about bonding, adventure, and making unforgettable memories.

This camp was packed with exciting activities like scavenger hunts, water olympics, and fun around the campfire, all designed to bring the students closer together. From high-energy games to meaningful reflection moments, the students explored their strengths, discovered new friendships, and learned the power of teamwork and communication.

It was more than just a camp – it was an epic journey filled with laughter, challenges, and personal growth.



I enjoyed the freedom that we were allowed and I learnt that my grade is very very loud.



GRADE 10 STEPOUT



Don't overthink it and go on Stepout, its really an amazing experience and I wish I could do it again but start with a better mindset in the beginning.
- Skye-Leigh Esterhuizen



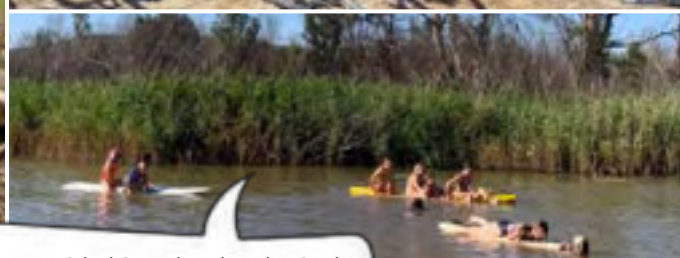
Confidence and trust in myself and my physical capabilities, as well as in my mental fortitude. For example, at the end of the 40km cycle, bruises, fatigue and all, I felt immense pride in myself for never having given up.
- Charlotte Jacobs



A new perspective on how accomplishing it feels to complete something that I found difficult without giving up. - Morgan Munting

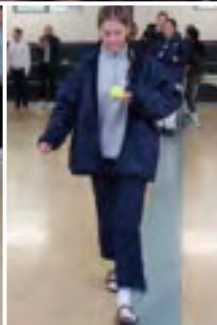


Make the most of all the activities you do, take the time to get to know people you don't usually talk too, they might just surprise you! And be excited. This experience teaches you a lot and is very rewarding.
- Sarah Surgeoner



Canoeing was definitely my favorite part and just being away from technology and being able to bond with people in my grade who I may not usually talk to and just having fun together. - Azra Janoodien





GRADE 11 CAMP

This camp is based on personal development: each pupil has the ability to lead themselves, friends, family, communities...but can only do this if they get to know themselves and others better.

Activities and talks were based on:

- Getting to know your own strengths and weaknesses, your leadership style and those of others so that they can be utilized to build a strong team.
- Team dynamics and trust.
- Disconnecting from devices and the other busyness of normal school days, and taking time to connect and see people and places for what they are.
- Doing activities that aren't your strengths and its easier as part of a team and to see that its easier when people are supporting you.
- Analyzing the things that make us, make Herschel Herschel...and what we want to keep and what we want to change.
- Quite moments spent talking, reflecting and thinking.
- Having fun together.



Honour

Since the dawn of history, mankind
has honoured and respected brave
and honest people. – *Nelson Mandela*



SPORT

SENIOR

SPORT



BASKETBALL CAPTAIN
Leah Faurholm
Point guard

BASKETBALL

If there's one thing you need to be able to do in basketball it's a layup. Practice layups and the rest of the sport will come.

I want to thank my coach Bugi for helping improve my skills and for cheering me and the team on throughout the season. To the team thank you for sticking with each other and for all the laughs in practices and at matches.
- Onathi Peter

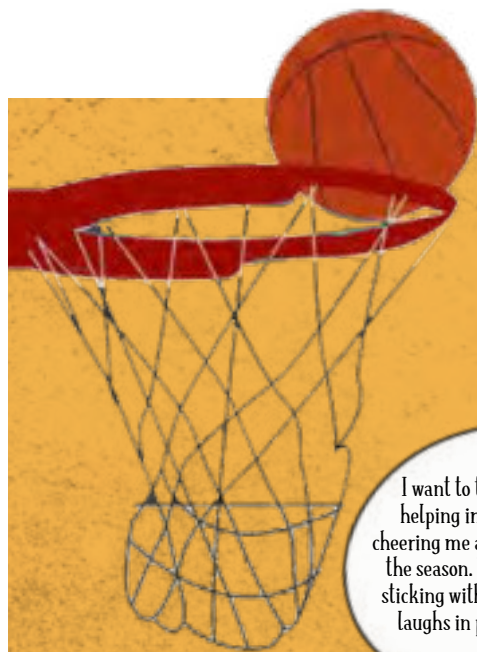
Basketball at Herschel is truly a family. It incorporates all grades and a variety of different skills. The hard work and dedication of both coaches and players is accurately portrayed on and off the court. Congratulations to the u14, u16 and 1st teams on being cape metro champions. I am so proud of how far basketball at Herschel has come and I can't wait to see how much further it will go.

- Leah Faurholm

The feats we make as a team and the defeats that we face together that builds our bond as a team and makes us beyond teammates but the bestest of friends.
- Zoe Haung

Stay resilient, play for the love of the game, remember why you started, stay disciplined, keep going, always play hard and have fun, and strive to be a better version of yourself each day.
- Inlando Taitai

For me the best thing about basketball is that it's a fun, fast-paced game with lots of strategy. It is a great way to release energy and do a sport you love with your friends. Basketball is always exciting and I love learning new skills and being part of an amazing team. - Sophia Lobert





CHESS CAPTAIN
Ameera Yacoob
Board 1

Having a hobby that not only keeps you connected with your friends but keeps your brain active.

- Ayanda

Being able to challenge another person mentally instead of physically. Although physicality is a very important. It is a truly a incredible skill and a true challenge to another person mentally. I also enjoy the amount of fun chess is. Whether losing or winning (not so much not the losing) it is so fun to play, and analyze. Chess allows us to push past the boundaries of our own minds and opens up a world of creativity and brain power.

- Faith

Experiment in friendly matches with friends. It's a game and experimenting with new moves is part of the fun! Doing dumb moves during practice is part of the comedy and learning experience.

- Ayanda



SENIOR

CHESS

As the first Captain of the A-team Chess in Herschel's history I can say I'm incredibly proud of how our team has grown over the past few years. Our performance has improved each year, and we played brilliantly at the Jamie Tindall Tournament and especially when beating St. Cyps and Springfield at the derbies. The team worked hard, and it's exciting to see all our effort paying off. Can't wait for what's next for them as future competitors!

- Ameera Yacoob, Board 1

Chess is great because it's a pure test of logic and skill - no luck involved. It exercises and stretches your mind beyond its limits. It helps you look at things from different perspectives.

- Devanya Naidoo

SPORT

Learn from friends and from your own mistakes.

- Devanya Naidoo

Don't feel so bad when you lose a game because everyone loses a few games before they start winning.

- Neve Brogan

Allow yourself to celebrate your wins!

- Ayanda

Playing chess can actually be such a flex. People think that because we play chess we are just naturally so smart, and gifted. And have to be a briliant to play it. Which is not true. But i wont correct them.

- Faith

Everyone is so supportive. The coach is very good and teaches us very important skills that we need in the game and analyzes our games with us afterwards. In the chess team it's like a little family.

- Faith



CROSS COUNTRY

★
CROSS COUNTRY
CAPTAIN
Leah Faurholm

The cross country season was a blend of grit and growth. Every race revealed our progress, and the thrill of competition was matched only by the camaraderie we built. We emerged stronger, united by shared goals and experiences. Thank you so much to all the coaches and runners on an amazing season.

– Leah Faurholm

Throughout the season, the cross country team was a place of support and encouragement, no matter how hard a race or practice was. It's a community of runners who want to push themselves to improve and uplift their teammates to do the same. - Charlotte Jacobs

I really loved the vibes and high spirits throughout every race. Through rain, wind and sunshine, the team was always there and ready for the challenge ahead! The support for all age groups was so amazing and truly showed the essence of the Herschel community. - Anna van Aarde

I love how cross country makes me appreciate the little things - like clean socks and mud-free shoes.



When you are tired, push yourself, go one step further than you thought you would. Don't stop on the tough hills, just keep moving even if you do a slow jog, you are still moving closer to the finish line. As my dad always says "Just keep putting one step in front of the other!" - Kirsty Buissinne



Dear Coach Darren, Ms Bowren, Juffrou Roussouw and all of our other coaches and runners: Thank you so much for making this cross country season so enjoyable and fun. I am sure that every single trip to our races and every training session filled each of our runners with joy and a passion for cross country! We are all so thankful for the work and support that you have shown to our cross country runners this season. Thank you! - Reece Corker

Weeden: Cross country has been so much more than just running this season. It's about cheering on one another, talkative bus rides, and running with new people. And dominating in HerschField and HerschCyps of course! It doesn't matter if you're the best runner or the worst, everyone always still has fun! - Caleigh Tomaz

I would say that you must try your hardest, even if you're slow and have fun because that's what it's all about. - Catherine Barton



Find your own pace and rhythm and just have fun with it! "Strength doesn't come from what you can do, it comes from overcoming the things you once thought you couldn't." - Kyla Müller

To Juffrou Rousseau, thank you for your genuine love for coaching and supporting us, your encouragement doesn't go unnoticed; to being at every single race cheering us on as well as being so passionate for us to carry on with the sport! To Leah for her non stop enthusiasm and constant energy and to Mr K, for capturing all the unfortunate pics of us while running mid blinking, breathing or dripping with sweat!! Thank you to all the runners who carried on showing up to races, showing their commitment!! - Isabella Tooley

When you step onto the field, know that you are playing for your team and friends. Hockey isn't an individual sport.
- Emily Raubenheimer, u14A



HOCKEY CAPTAIN
Mia Andrew
Center Link

I love the trotters as we have awesome vibes and fun times!
- Amy van Breda, Trotters



Don't be scared to take shots.
- Nina Wides, u16A

I appreciate how when I do something wrong, Mr Scott tells me and then I can correct it.
- Ella Floquet, u14A



We don't call ourselves a team just because we work together, but because we respect, trust and care for each other. Hockey has taught me life skills like these, that you can't just put a price tag on.
- Gabby du Toit, First Team

I have loved getting to know all my teammates better and making new connections. Stacey has been an amazing coach and has really helped our team flourish this season.
- Emily Van Heerden, First Team



SENIOR

SPORT



Play for your teammates.
- Intando Taitai, Second Team

The only limit to what you can achieve is the limit you set for yourself. Don't hold back, don't give up, don't settle. You are capable of greatness.
- Sofia Dearnaley, First team

If you don't try, you will never know. So why don't you just try!
- Hannah Henderson

The 2024 season was truly unforgettable! We faced many challenging matches across all age groups, but what stood out was Herschel's incredible fighting spirit. It was inspiring to watch players develop and grow throughout the year. Hockey has brought me the chance to connect with amazing people, and I'm forever grateful for the sense of family we've built over these five years.

- Mia Andrew

I think every single person played extremely well this entire season. Mr Scott was proud of us no matter if we won or lost.
- Jade Neale-Schulte

HOCKEY

INDOOR HOCKEY



INDOOR HOCKEY CAPTAIN
Mia Andrew
Midman

I enjoy all our indoor training (and Mr Scott's playlist), but most importantly indoor is a space to try new skills and compete in practice matches.

- Amy Gordon, First Team

Don't compare yourselves to others, the purpose of the game is to have fun, meet new people and build friendships.

- Hannah Henderson, First team

Mr Scott is always so supportive and indoor practices are always a safe space to try new things and to mess up and laugh about it. Each indoor season is such a confidence builder and I have always loved each practice!

- Ashley Silberbauer, Second team

Indoor hockey has been one of my highlights at Herschel. The energy at practice is unmatched. In fact, our laughter often drowns out everything in the sports center! I'm incredibly proud of our amazing players. This season, every team has demonstrated grit, determination and most importantly, plenty of gees!

- Mia Andrew



I love playing a fast-paced, exciting game where the team makes every moment fun and rewarding.

- Anna Ashbolt, Second team



The older girls made an effort with the younger girls to feel included.

- Anna Sherren, u16

The hockey team becomes a family where there is always someone to ask for advice or relate to.

- Elen Vermaak, First Team



Never be afraid to take a shot

- Jenna Formby

The connections and memories I've made through indoor hockey, have been one of the greatest highlights of my time at Herschel.

- Gaby du Toit



NETBALL CAPTAIN
Rebecca Joshua
Wing Defence

This season was filled with some terrific netball! There were some amazing achievements such as the second team winning the league playoffs. All teams showed their dedication and were eager to continue improving throughout the season playing matches every Thursday. There were some memorable events including the annual Hershfield derby, the first Herschyps derby and sports tours across South Africa. In all these events Herschel and netball spirit was shown.

– **Rebecca Joshua**

Being a part of the u14 netball team has been such a privilege, to create strong connections with the whole team and to become a family. Coach Mangondo taught us how to become great sportsmen.

Play hard in practice and you'll play hard in the match.



SENIOR

SPORT

NETBALL



Coach Kayla taught us not only valuable skills that we can use on the court, but skills that we will be able to use in our daily life. She has really made a difference to all the U15's.



Your teammates are the ones who make you wanna push yourself and support you through everything.



I am so privileged to play with such passionate and full of life girls. This season was tough but I could not have chosen a better team to learn and grow through it all with.





SWIMMING CAPTAIN
Bianca Duarte Ribeiro

Swimming is considered an individual sport, but the swim team puts in a collective effort to make it feel like a family.
- Bianca Duarte Ribeiro

Thanks to Alex, Bianca and Sophie we are always able to stay organized and compete at our best at school galas.

Appreciation for the whole team for always pitching up to practice even though it is at the crack of dawn and bringing the team closer together.
- Bianca Duarte Ribeiro

SWIMMING

Swimming at Herschel is a very respected and appreciated sport. Our team consists of 4-8 girls in each age group and we participate in galas on Thursday's at various schools within Cape Town. Over the last 5 years Herschel has consecutively won both the PGSGU trophy and the highly sought after A-League shield as well as placing 3rd in the very first Super League gala which was attended by the top 10 schools from the various districts. Our team not only places highly in league galas but also has individual swimmers that represent our School on an international level. The swimming team has a tight bond that is rare as our sport is an individual sport for the most part, but together we have created a family, in and out of the water.

- Bianca Duarte Ribeiro

To Sophie Vickers, for being the best vice-captain and support anyone could ask for.

Consistency beats talent. Work hard, stay committed, consistent and patient. Good things take time and extraordinary things take even longer. Trust in the process.

Swimming teaches you the importance of support, teamwork and staying consistent. Swimming is the one sport that challenges your entire body, pushing you to test your personal limits with every stroke. It is all about relying on yourself, facing the water alone and seeing how far your determination can take you.



The energy and enthusiasm of water polo at Herschel is what makes it such an enjoyable sport to be a part of. Being involved in water polo has taught me many valuable things and allowed me to meet many new people! - Lauren Sherwood

Working as a team helps to boost confidence and creates a space for long-lasting friendships to form.
- Carla Lampe

Play for the team, not for yourself.
- Ruby Lumb

★
WATER POLO CAPTAIN
Amy van Breda
Right Mid/ Wing

WATER POLO



The best thing about this polo season was being part of such an incredible team where everyone trusts and believes in each other. It made the season super fun!
- Kelly Cadiz

The time and dedication Nicole puts into our team, to help us improve.
- Jay Kerekes

This year of water polo has been a successful one for Herschel with the 1st team having an unbeaten season winning St. Stithians, Brian Baker, St. Peters and the Waller league finals. The u16's had a fun tour to Knysna where they ended unbeaten and finished their league at the top. The u15's had a strong start to the season travelling to Crawford in Joburg and finishing with a bronze medal. The u14's did well and finished 3rd at Dave Pitcairn in the beginning of the year and ended the season by winning the league knockout tournament. Well done to all the players for an awesome season and thank you to all the coaching staff. Good luck for the next season and make Herschel proud.

- Amy van Breda

A big thank you to my team for an amazing season! Thank you to Amy and Alexa for leading our team, we could not have done it without you guys!
- Sophie Vickers

I have loved this season with our amazing players and coaches and how Amy has led our team and made an amazing sisterhood.
- Kate Formby

Our coach brings a fun and creative approach to practices and he motivates our team to play the best of our ability.
- Tamika Nair, u15A

Always look for opportunities within the game and think about your next move.
- Kirsten Böttger



If you're not sure where to hit the ball, aim for the spot where your opponent looks least prepared.



SQUASH CAPTAIN
Zoë Arenhold

Racket up, get to the T, on your toes - Every coach/squash parent ever.

Always swing your racquet in a smiley face. It will force the ball to go up instead of hitting the floor.

- Dylan Land

The Squash team at Herschel is a family. We were honoured to have Siyoli Waters join us this year as our coach, and we've made many fond memories during our practises. We had the privilege of attending the Grahamstown Schools Festival once again this year, which allowed our team to play against different players from

around the country. Our first team played in the boys A league this year and our second team played in the girls A league. This allowed us some challenging fixtures and taught us a lot. Congratulations to our first team who made it into the final round to qualify for Top Schools. I am incredibly proud of the work our players have done this season, and I cannot wait to see what they achieve in the future.

- Zoë Arenhold

Siyoli Waters has been a role model of mine since I was a small girl, and being coached by her is an extreme privilege. Her expertise and encouragement have made a huge impact, not only on me but on Herschel squash as a whole.

The best thing about squash is that it's both a physical and mental battle with your opponent.

- Georgia Morkel

The best thing about squash: we can play all year round, and it doesn't matter what the weather is because squash is played indoors!

- Lucy Mudler

To Siyoli, although it has just been a year that she started coaching us I am so grateful for what she has done for Herschel squash and especially what she has done for me as a player. She supported me when coming back to squash after re-injuring my knee and helped me overcome the anxieties that were holding me back. She knew exactly how to get through to me and I have never felt so heard and seen by a coach before.



What I love most about tennis is the mix of strategy and competition, but also how it brings people together. Playing with friends makes it more fun. Every game is a chance to learn, improve and enjoy some time with people who share the same passion. - Georgie Mackay

Tennis is such a freeing sport that you can have fun playing and you play your best matches when you don't overthink it and have fun with your doubles partner!
- Manilla Trantraal

Tennis encourages teamwork and resilience as well as great fun with your peers!
- Gemma MacGregor


TENNIS CAPTAIN
Matilda Loggenberg
1st team no. 4

My favorite thing about tennis this year was the tour!
- Ali Rogers

I love the dedication and fulfilling feeling of fighting for a point, and the accomplishment at the end of the match! - Emma McGaw

Cath has been such a supportive coach this season, greeting us with a smile even on cold early morning practices. With Coach Cath and our team, there are always positive vibes and I'm so grateful for all of their encouragement and support! - Katie Gutsche

Keep your head in the game and have fun.
- Jada Martin

Coach Cath is such a kind person who is always giving you tips when you make a mistake and how you can improve.
- Manilla Trantraal

Our team has created an unbeatable vibe. There's not a day without unlimited smiles and laughter! - Anemae Smith

Our tennis teams have had an outstanding season, traveling to the Eastern Cape for the ISTT, to scorching fixtures in the Northern Cape, and many more. All of the players consistently brought their A game, with many players sacrificing their Friday afternoons to show up, representing the true spirit of Herschel sport and the commitment and dedication of the athletes. Tune in to see our incredible tennis players in the 2028 olympics!

- Matilda Loggenberg

Tennis is such a positive outlet for all the school stress we have. It's also such a good time to meet other players at other schools." - Rebecca Edwards

Thank you so much to Coach Catherine for all that she has done for us! She always makes practice so much fun and encourages us to play our best! - Lauren van der Spuy

The easiest way to win a tennis match is to focus on the next point. - Katie Featherstone

SENIOR

SPORT

