

2026

PIETERMARITZBURG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

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Mrs S Upfold, Mrs C Fox, Mr M Marwick

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Ms B Bosch, ABC&D

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Principal's Report



PRINCIPAL
Mr M Marwick

As 2026 draws towards its conclusion, I find myself reflecting on a year which has contained an extraordinary amount of life. There has been growth and innovation, wonderful achievement and celebration, moments of great fun and considerable pride, but also periods of profound sadness and some increasingly complex challenges. Through all of it, GHS has remained a remarkably robust, productive and overwhelmingly happy school. This was my first full calendar year as Principal, and we began it under the banner **#MyGHS**♥ Those few characters were chosen deliberately. I wanted our girls, staff, parents and Old Girls to regard GHS not simply as the school, but as our school – somewhere to which we belong, in which we take pride, and for whose future each of us accepts some responsibility.

On the sporting front, 2026 was tremendously energetic. We are deliberately working to reinvigorate our house system and the interhouse gala in March provided an early glimpse of the colour and enthusiasm we hope to foster. Our hockey teams toured successfully to Bethlehem, while girls represented GHS across an extraordinary range of sporting codes. The National All Girls' Festival at Rhenish, our Derby Days, the ever-growing Val Fowler Basketball Tournament and numerous tours, fixtures and festivals gave our girls opportunities to compete, travel and build friendships.

One of the most exciting developments was undoubtedly the introduction of rugby to our school. Our first junior fixture against Grosvenor Girls' High School in March was followed by the debut of our first team and by the second half of the year, rugby was firmly established with the inauguration of the Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival. The courage and enthusiasm with which our girls have embraced the game has been a delight to witness.

Our cultural life was equally rich. *Spotlight*, our collaboration with Maritzburg College, began the year in fine style, while the Harmony Music Festival, along with our choirs, bands, orchestras, dancers and individual performers, ensured that music and performance remained integral to the life of GHS. Among many notable achievements were a gold certificate for our choir at the ATKV-Applous competition, outstanding performances at the FUNK dance festival, a 93% adjudication result for our wind band and a gold certificate for our string ensemble at the Eisteddfod.

Our debaters enjoyed another exceptional year, with Iminathi Bacela's historic selection to the South African National Debating Team standing amongst the finest individual achievements of 2026. Our girls also distinguished themselves in Model United Nations, public speaking and numerous academic competitions.

There were also occasions which reminded us powerfully of who we are and where we have come from. Reunion Day brought hundreds of alumnae home to GHS and included the unveiling of our new Wall of Remembrance. Four days later we celebrated Founders' Day, marking 106 years since the establishment of this remarkable school.

Progress has also been visible in the refurbishment of laboratories and staff facilities, improved gardens and the centenary gate precinct, upgraded estates accommodation, new basketball scoreboards, intercoms and loudspeakers, improved Muslim ablution facilities and enhanced signage. We also began extending our sporting facilities, with the acquisition of property on Alexandra Road opening further possibilities.

Academics remain at the forefront, with GHS providing extensive intervention and support to maintain our high standard, but no programme can replace consistent attendance, disciplined study and personal responsibility. Subject choices must also be realistic and suited to the strengths of individual learners.

Our dedicated educators do more than teach; they assess, moderate, coach, mentor, counsel, supervise, communicate, document, report and respond to an ever-growing burden of administration and regulation. Our school calendar is extraordinarily full and we aim to protect teaching time while also providing the rich all-round education for which GHS is known.

The wellbeing and mental health of young people must similarly command our attention. This year brought heartbreaking reminders of the vulnerability of those within our community. In the first term we mourned the death of grade 11 learner Anathi Mtshare. Later in the year we mourned Luthando Ntshangase, who had been a GHS girl until April, and then, devastatingly, our beloved grade 12 prefect Sasasa Zondi. We also lost two much-loved, long-serving members of our Estates staff, Mr Elias Mdletshe and Mr Alfred Ndlovu.

Those were desperately sad moments in an otherwise happy year, and they reminded us that achievement, programmes and facilities can never be the whole measure of a school. Schools are communities of human beings. Our girls need to know that asking for help is not weakness, that difficult burdens should not be carried alone, and that friends must care for one another without believing that they themselves must solve problems which require adult or professional help. One of the simplest messages we shared during those difficult days was perhaps one of the most important of the year: we hold each other up.

We have improved our campus, strengthened management structures and invested in our future. 2026 will be remembered as a year in which this old and noble school continued to offer opportunity, service, friendship, resilience and a powerful sense of belonging. There are significant challenges ahead and our expectations are high, but there is a lot to be proud of in this remarkable school.

Obituaries

Thembinkosi Alfred Ndlovu



The GHS family mourns the passing of Thembinkosi Alfred Ndlovu, a cherished member of our school community who devoted 35 years of loyal service to Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School.

Throughout his many years at GHS, Mr Ndlovu served with steadfast dedication, commitment and pride.

He will be remembered not only for his remarkable years of service but also for the kindness, care and dignity with which he carried out his work each day. His generosity and willingness to help brought warmth to our school community and made a lasting difference to everyone who knew him.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, colleagues and all whose lives he touched, we remain deeply grateful for his contribution to GHS and the legacy of service he leaves behind.

Thank you, Mr Ndlovu, for your contribution to GHS will never be forgotten. Rest in peace.

Sipho Elias Mdletshe



It is with profound sadness that the GHS family mourned the passing of Sipho Elias Mdletshe, a beloved and highly respected member of our school community.

For 33 years, Mr Mdletshe served GHS with loyalty, humility and quiet dedication. His strong work ethic, gentle manner and genuine care for others made a lasting impression on generations of learners, staff and colleagues.

Mr Mdletshe's legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched and in the enduring memories held by those fortunate enough to have worked alongside him. His contribution to the life of our school extended far beyond his daily duties and enriched the GHS community in immeasurable ways.

We extend our sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues and remain profoundly grateful for his years of dedicated service and the positive impact he made on our school.

Rest peacefully, Mr Mdletshe. Your Green-and-White family will always remember you with affection and gratitude.

Anathi Mtshare



It is with deep sadness that we remember Anathi Mtshare, a cherished grade 11 learner whose passing followed a short illness. She has left a profound void in the GHS family.

Anathi will be remembered for her warmth, kindness and vibrant spirit. Friendly, thoughtful and compassionate, she had a remarkable ability to make others feel valued and welcome. She embraced school life with enthusiasm, serving as a dedicated member of the Girls for God Society and the GHS rugby team, where she demonstrated her commitment, teamwork and integrity.

Respected by staff and peers alike, Anathi's gentle nature, sincerity and unwavering positivity touched many lives. Though her time with us was far too short, the joy, light and kindness she shared will remain in the hearts of all who knew her. The GHS community will continue to treasure her memory.

Luthando Ntshangase



The GHS community was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Luthando Ntshangase, a grade 12 learner whose loss has been felt profoundly by all who knew her. Although Luthando had left GHS earlier in the year, she remained very much a part of our school family.

The news of her passing brought great sorrow to our community. While words can never fully ease the pain of such a loss, we hold her family, friends and loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.

Luthando's memory will live on through the many lives she touched and the lasting connections she formed during her time at GHS. She remains part of the enduring story of our school and all who knew her will remember her with affection.

Rest in peace, Luthando. You will be dearly missed.

Sasasa Zondi



It was with profound sadness that the GHS community received the heartbreaking news of the passing of one of our beloved grade 12 learners, Sasasa Zondi.

A respected leader and much-loved member of our school, Sasasa touched the lives of her classmates, teachers and the wider GHS family through her kindness, warmth and vibrant spirit. Her love of music and sport, combined with her wisdom, maturity and natural ability to connect with others, brought joy and inspiration to all who knew her.

Sasasa's presence enriched our school community and her memory will continue to live on in the hearts of those whose lives she touched.

We extend our deepest condolences to her family, friends and peers during this difficult time. As a school community, we share in their grief and remember with gratitude the remarkable young woman she was.

Rest peacefully, Sasasa. You will forever remain in our hearts and in the history of our school.

Head Prefect's Report



HEAD PREFECT
Olona Duze

When I was first announced as Head Prefect, I was both surprised and deeply honoured. I did not fully understand what the year ahead would bring, but serving alongside our incredible prefect body, my fellow Heads, Kiara Reddy, Lubanzi Jili and Asanele Ngcobo and our amazing Top 9 has been one of the greatest privileges of my GHS journey.

As prefects, our year was about far more than wearing a badge. We had our daily duties, maintaining discipline, assisting staff and ensuring that the standards of our school were upheld. There were difficult situations, difficult conversations and moments where we had to be firm, but we also learnt to balance authority with kindness, compassion and humility.

Beyond our responsibilities, we had the opportunity to create and be part of some incredibly special GHS moments. From the grade 8 Orientation and Valentine's Day to the fun and lively social, the Prefects' Fashion Show and the leadership assembly, there was plenty of planning, teamwork, stress and, most importantly, laughter. Watching the prefects grow throughout the year, build relationships with the girls and become people they could look up to was truly special.

This year also brought challenges that tested us, but we continued to show up for one another and for our school. My faith guided me throughout, reminding me to lead with grace, serve others and remain humble.

My highlight was giving back to the community through our donation of comforters to Peter Pan Special School. It reminded us that leadership is ultimately about service, because at the end of the day, being a prefect was never just about wearing the badge. It was about what we did with it.

– Olona Duze



PREFECTS

Back Row: L Walker, I Madikizela, N Uzodike, S Gamede, G Drake
Fifth Row: A Ramjatan, F Akinnusi, S Mbonambi, M van der Berg, S Mangundu, A Ndlela
Fourth Row: G Hamblin, O Chamane, S Khumalo, K Khanyile
Third Row: N Ndlovu, M Neizel, L Moodley, T Easthorpe, P Mthembu, S Sithebe, N Brown
Second Row: N Hlongwane, S Diedricks, P Dlamini, A Nzimande, S Zondi, S Mthalane, K Archery, L Adonis
Front Row: I Bacela, K Reddy, O Duze, Miss J Davids, L Jili, A Ngcobo, L Zondi



TOP 9
Back Row: P Sibiya (Deputy RCL Chairperson), O Eke (Head Peer Counsellor), A Ngcobo (Deputy Head Boarder Prefect), S Sibisi (Deputy Head Peer Counsellor), I Sewram (RCL Chairperson), M Molete (Head Peer Tutor)
Front Row: L Jili (Head Boarder Prefect), O Duze (Head Prefect), Miss J Davids, K Reddy (Deputy Head Prefect)

Learner Leadership: Prefects

The year began with the school's group of learner leaders leading the *Grade 8 Coast to Coast Kickstart*, allowing incoming learners to bond with both their leaders and peers. In February, the leadership team hosted a Valentine's Day Drive, sharing roses, teddies and sweets at GHS and neighbouring schools. Creativity shone in events like the *Mzansi Fo Sho* Prefect Fashion Show and the PC Awareness Week (*Inside Out: Judge Judy Edition*), prompting learners to own their emotions. Peer counsellors also held workshops on study skills and time management during the exam period.

As GHS ambassadors, all three leadership groups – Prefects, Peer Counsellors and Representative Council of Learners – led Open Day campus tours for prospective families and welcomed alumnae on Reunion Day. Prefects rallied support at swimming galas and home and away Derby Days against DGHS, Danville Park Girls' High School and Westville Girls' High School. Collaboration across the three groups powered the successful carnival-themed school social, bringing energy and fun to the community. Proceeds helped upgrade the leadership room, with most funds purchasing much-needed comforters for Peter Pan Special School learners. Visiting Peter Pan Special School humbled our leaders, highlighting gratitude, compassion and service.

The teams jointly presented a Women's Day Assembly celebrating girls and women within the GHS community. Highlighting positivity and diverse talents, the programme featured many of our talented learners and included basketball dribbling, a karate kata display, an original song with guitar, poetry and a mini orchestra performance, showing how collaborative leadership creates opportunities for learners to shine.

Learners also completed intensive training with Mr David Allen on respect, listening, assertiveness and team-building. Elections for the 2027 leadership team involved teachers and peers. This year, all elected RCL members, peer counsellors and prefects were eligible for Head Learner and shortlisted candidates were interviewed for selection.

The year culminated in the school's Induction Ceremony, Sisterhood in Service, which welcomed new leaders and honoured the outgoing group. We thank the 2026 learner leadership team for their passion, resilience and service, leaving an enduring legacy at GHS.







BOARDER MATRICS

Back Row: A Ndlela, N Sithole, I Madikizela, O Ngejane, S Lembethe, S Gamede, N Mkhize, S Mbonambi
Third Row: A Zuma, N Mkefa, A Khoza, A Shuttleworth, S Ndlovu, N Ndlovu, L Chirwa
Second Row: M Molete, K Modjadji, E Kleinhans, S Sithebe, Z Ntshangase, L Zithutha
Front Row: P Sibiya, T Manzi, L Jili, Mrs E Weigelt, A Ngcobo, K Khanyile, A Gcabashe

Head Boarder Prefect's Report



HEAD BOARDER PREFECT
Lubanzi Jili

Some experiences stay with you long after they are over; my time as head boarder at Morningside has been one of them.

Living in the boarding establishment has taught me that a home is defined not just by where you live but by the people you share it with. Over the past year, I have had the privilege of growing alongside people with distinct and varied personalities and experiences, each of whom has contributed to my journey.

This year has challenged me in ways I did not always expect. I have learnt to communicate effectively, manage responsibilities, remain patient and approach difficult situations with understanding. There have been moments that required me to step forward, make decisions and take responsibility, but there have also been moments where I simply needed to listen. Through these experiences, I have learnt that leadership is not about having all the answers, but about being willing to learn, support others and grow alongside them.

Some of my fondest memories have come from the simplest moments: conversations late at night, shared laughter, encouraging one another through difficult days and watching our boarding community come together. These moments have reminded me of the importance of sisterhood, compassion and belonging.

I extend my sincere gratitude to my Deputy for 2026, Asanele Ngcobo, for her hard work, commitment and support.

I am so grateful to the school for the invaluable opportunities it has given me to learn, grow and discover both the world and myself. I leave this chapter with lessons I will carry with me, friendships I will always treasure and a deep appreciation for the people who made boarding feel like home.

– Lubanzi Jili

RCL Chairperson's Report



RCL CHAIRPERSON
Iysti Sewram

More than just a group in leadership positions, the Representative Council of Learners (RCL) is a democratically elected platform that gives voice to learner ideas and concerns. Our core responsibility is to listen to our peers, communicate their feedback and work collaboratively with school structures to cultivate a supportive, positive environment for everyone.

At the start of 2026, we welcomed a new group of learner representatives elected by their peers. While the majority of members took office at the beginning of the year, the matric representatives were elected towards the end of 2025, providing guidance, mentorship and continuity for the incoming leadership team. A major highlight of the year was hosting the RCL training workshop to equip newly elected representatives for their leadership duties. The session focused on understanding roles, building practical communication skills and collaborating effectively with both learners and staff. Through interactive discussions and team-building activities, members learned that meaningful leadership is not about exercising authority but about serving others, valuing diverse perspectives and working towards shared goals.

Throughout 2026, the RCL strengthened its partnership with the School Governing Body (SGB) through regular termly meetings. These sessions allowed us to convey learner feedback directly and ensure student perspectives remain central to important school decisions. The council also actively contributed to various school initiatives and activities, ensuring we engaged directly with the student body rather than leading solely from behind the scenes. Beyond school grounds, members participated in external leadership events, interacting with other student leaders and broadening their understanding of service, adaptability and teamwork.

Reflecting on our growth this year, the RCL has developed into a stronger, more united team. We remain committed to acting as a bridge between learners, educators, staff and the governing body, continuing to listen, communicate and serve with dedication. As we look ahead, we strive to leave a legacy of unity, service and meaningful representation, remembering that leadership is about choosing, every day, to serve those who chose you.

– Iysti Sewram



RCL

Back Row: B Dlamini, A Deen Mahomed, T Radebe, Y Mpanza, A Dlamini, U Mkhize, L Sibeko, A Ngwabi, N Ngubane
Fourth Row: Z Majozi, E Ndlovu, K Naidoo, I Pillay, K Ndlovu, Z Qwabe, L Mfeka, M Mzobe
Third Row: Y Cele, S Zondo, N Mwamba, S Bhengu, N Mbona, E Khanyile, Z Mbambo, O Masoeu
Second Row: C Kwebulana, O Mazwane, A Radebe, A Ngcobo, B Reddy, K Naidoo, S Naidoo, A Zondi
Front Row: A Ngcobo, K Mdima, Miss A Dodo, I Sewram, P Sibiya, Mrs S Singh, M Mutereko, A Mkhize



PEER COUNSELLORS

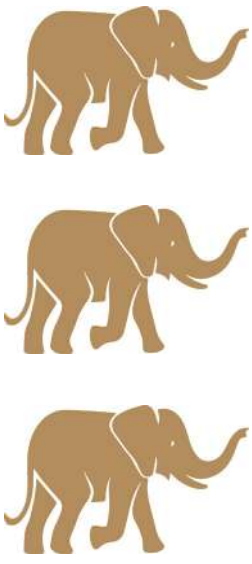
Back Row: L Sikhosana, N Mkhize, S Mthimkhulu, S Nganbeu Fonou
Fourth Row: E Potgieter, A Mazibuko, T Parasuraman, E Hyde, S Wüst, A Sarupen
Third Row: D Reddy, A Khoza, O Dlamini, S Bhugwanidin, K Naidoo, A Ndlovu, D Swartz
Second Row: K Naidoo, T Addison, K Gumbi, N Dell, A Gcabashe, K Mahlangu
Front Row: L Chirwa, S Sibisi, Mrs S Gumede, O Eke, Miss F Pather, M Molete, S Gwala

Head Peer Counsellor's Report

I still clearly recall the moment I decided to apply for Head Peer Counsellor of 2026. During the peer counselling session of our 2025 leadership workshop, we reflected on Virginia Satir's empowering words: "I own me and therefore I can engineer me – I am me and I AM OKAY." This deeply resonated with me, capturing the true heart of our peer counselling mission: not just guiding learners through academic and emotional hurdles, but helping them build self-awareness and confidence to stand strong on their own two feet.

PC Awareness Week 2026 made this vision a reality with our theme, *Inside Out: Judge Judy Edition*. Inspired by the *Islands* concept, learners reflected on the people, milestones and experiences shaping their unique identity. Bringing this week together was a demanding endeavour, yet it proved to be one of my most rewarding achievements – one made possible by an extraordinary support network.

I am profoundly grateful to my GHS sisters, Sasa Sibisi (Deputy Head Peer Counsellor) and Malebo Molete (Head Peer Tutor). Together with the wise guidance of Miss Pather and Mrs Gumede, our combined effort ensured the event's success. Despite tight deadlines and intense planning, the Green Machine and our dedicated 28-member PC team met the challenge. Glory be to God for His unfailing faithfulness.





HEAD PEER COUNSELLOR
Oluchukwu Eke

Above all, this year reinforced that true leadership isn't about being in the spotlight; it's about building a lasting legacy. I hope our efforts inspire future peer counsellors to serve with empathy, lead with courage and carry the GHS spirit forward with pride.

– Oluchukwu Eke

Learner Leadership: Peer Counsellors



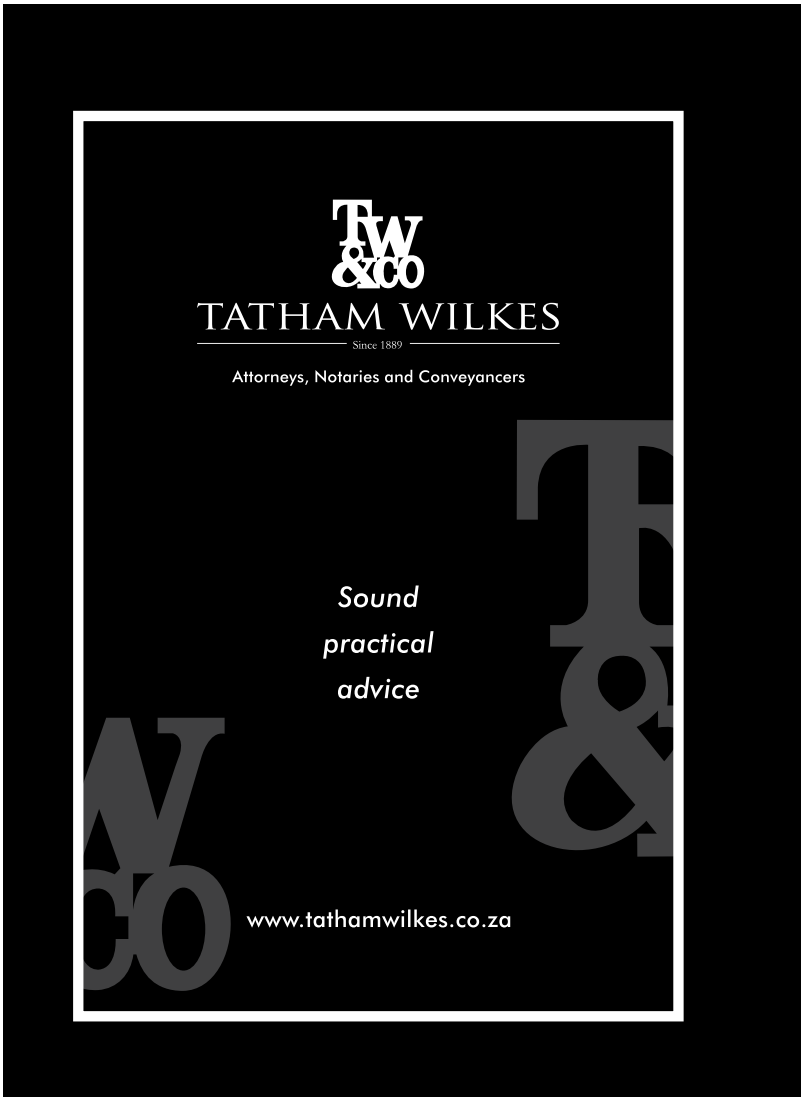
2026 has been an eventful and rewarding year for our peer counsellors (PCs). The girls have continued to demonstrate commitment, compassion and resilience in supporting their fellow GHS sisters while balancing their academic and personal responsibilities.

Through a mentoring initiative with grade 11 learners, prospective PCs had the opportunity to shadow current members. This mentorship allowed the younger students to build key leadership and interpersonal skills under the experienced guidance of their older peers. Although balancing these duties alongside exams and university applications proved demanding, the matric PCs demonstrated remarkable dedication and perseverance throughout.

There was a growing demand for peer tutoring and academic support this year, reflecting the confidence learners have in our PCs and the valuable role they play within the school community. The matric leaders have embraced this opportunity to make a meaningful difference, managing a full tutoring programme with enthusiasm and dedication. As an extension of their academic support, the PCs also hosted a time management and study methods session, which was open to the entire school. This initiative provided all learners with practical strategies to manage their time effectively and develop positive study habits in preparation for tests and examinations.

A highlight of the year was the PC Awareness Workshop, themed *Inside Out: Judge Judy Edition*. The programme emphasised the importance of recognising and acknowledging our emotions and finding safe, healthy and constructive ways to express them. The week began with an engaging assembly, followed by interactive activities throughout the week, which concluded with a screening of the animated film *Inside Out*.

Overall, our PCs have demonstrated leadership, empathy, resilience and a genuine spirit of service, making a positive contribution to the well-being and academic success of their GHS sisters.



Old Girls' Association



OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION CHAIRPERSON
Ms Taryn de Winnaar

Since its inception, our alumnae association's primary goal has been to build a lasting legacy through exciting new initiatives led by a dedicated committee. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Claire Allen, Nicole Bezuidenhout, Kara Botes, Ingrid Glass, Jane Perkins, Dinika Singh, Catherine Smith and Bronwyn Williams for generously devoting their time and heart to our school. We also thank our principal, Matthew Marwick, for serving as an invaluable bridge between the school and the association, as well as Rozanne Niemack, whose insight and guidance have been instrumental to our growth.

As we look ahead, the association is actively expanding. Our alumnae are leaders across diverse professions, from national sportswomen and cultural trendsetters to published authors and educators, representing an extraordinary network. We believe there is immense value in connecting this wealth of expertise with current learners and fellow alumnae through mentorship, career guidance, networking and volunteer opportunities. Together, our old girls leave a meaningful footprint in South Africa, with many returning to teach and lead at GHS as inspiring role models.

GHS is truly magical, weaving a lasting bond in the hearts of all who pass through its doors. As we continue expanding our sisterhood, we celebrate not only our individual milestones but also the foundational spirit of Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, a legacy rooted in excellence, resilience, friendship and service that will resonate for generations.

– Ms Taryn de Winnaar

School Governing Body



SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY
Back Row: Mrs R Swartz, Mr K Burt, Mr W Evans, Mr D Bester
Second Row: Mrs E Weigelt, Mrs S Chalmers, Mrs A-M Snyman, Mrs N Nzimande, Mrs L Shwala, Mrs J Makhaye
Front Row: Mrs I Glass, Mr M Marwick,Mr R Hamblin, Mr T Mchunu, Mrs S Khumalo

As I reflect on my last year as a grateful GHS parent, I'm reminded that the true strength lies not only in our school in what we achieve today but also in the foundation we lay for the young women who will walk through our magnificent Centenary Gates tomorrow. As a top girls-only school, in an ever-evolving world, we ensure our learners stay ahead of the pack with the tools needed to tackle any challenges that may arise, by surrounding them on a daily basis with great facilities and passionate staff.

Future-proofing our school in these tough economic times means investing wisely in our infrastructure, technology, learning environment and our people. It requires us to anticipate the evolving needs of education. Every investment must strengthen the school's platform, positioning it to succeed in a competitive educational sector. With these objectives in mind, we have expanded the GHS perimeter, intending to open a new facility in 2027, laying the groundwork for future projects.

On behalf of the SGB, I wish Mr Matthew Marwick and the team Godspeed as I step away from my role as Chairman.

I would like to thank our dedicated teachers and staff, our leadership team, parents, learners and governors for their roles in keeping this fortress of excellence at the front. To our ever-growing and involved alumnae and community, thank you for giving back to the bedrock of your academia and success.

– Mr Renzo Hamblin

GHS Governing Body

Chairperson: Mr R Hamblin
Vice Chairperson: Mr T Mchunu
Treasurer: Mrs I Glass
Principal: Mr M Marwick
Parents: Mr K Burt, Mrs S Chalmers, Mrs J Makhaye, Mrs V Pillay, Mrs L Shwala
Educators: Mr D Bester, Mr D Reddy, Mrs A-M Snyman
Non-Educator: Mrs N Nzimande
RCL: Miss I Sewram, Miss P Sibiya, Miss M Mutereko
Co-opted Members: Mrs E Weigelt, Mrs R Swartz

GHS Community Connections

Prefects' Fashion Show

The annual Prefects' Fashion Show once again brought creativity, confidence and plenty of laughter to the Norma Burns Hall stage. Partnering with our brother school, Maritzburg College, the event embraced this year's theme, *Mzansi Fo Sho*, celebrating Kasi flair, cultural expression and uniquely South African style.

The runway was filled with confidence, creativity and a strong sense of individuality as prefects showcased township-inspired fashion alongside timeless elegance. Learners proudly celebrated diverse cultures through fashion, while spontaneous break-outs of dance and enthusiastic crowd participation added to the festive atmosphere. Fashion, music and school spirit combined in a vibrant celebration of unity, diversity and self-expression. More than simply a fashion show, the event highlighted the leadership, camaraderie and willingness of our learners to step beyond their comfort zones in support of one another. It was a wonderful reflection of the vibrant and inclusive culture that makes GHS so special.













Matric Tea

Our annual matrics' farewell tea provided a memorable opportunity to celebrate the achievements, friendships and treasured memories of the class of 2026. This special occasion brought together the grade 12 learners to reflect on their shared journey through GHS and the bonds that have been formed along the way. Heartfelt speeches from each class captured the laughter, lessons and unforgettable moments that shaped their school experience, creating a moving tribute to their years at Girls' High. As our matrics prepare for their final examinations and look ahead to the exciting opportunities that await them, we wish the Class of 2026 every success and happiness as they embark on this next chapter of their journey.



STEM Fair

The annual STEM fair at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High was a vibrant celebration of innovation, discovery and learning. The event was filled with excitement and curiosity as young learners explored hands-on exhibits, conducted experiments and engaged with thought-provoking scientific concepts. It was inspiring to witness their enthusiasm as they questioned, investigated and imagined solutions to real-world challenges. As a school committed to empowering young women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, GHS is proud to nurture these bright minds and inspire the next generation of female leaders, innovators and changemakers in STEM.

Mom and Me: A Mother's Day Celebration

A special Mother's Day celebration was enjoyed at GHS as the consumer studies department welcomed learners and their mothers for a warm morning of connection and creativity. Together, they prepared delicious treats, shared meaningful conversations and spent quality time in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. The occasion served as an important reminder of the love, care and encouragement that mothers and mother-figures bring into the lives of our girls each day. From laughter around the tables to the beautifully prepared quiche recipes, the morning celebrated not only food but also the special bonds that strengthen our community.





Harmony Festival

The annual GHS Harmony Festival, held on 20 June in the Sylvia Vietzen Community Centre, was an outstanding celebration of music, talent and community. From early morning until late afternoon, the venue resonated with vibrant performances showcasing the exceptional abilities of learners from across KwaZulu-Natal. Parents, peers and members of the wider GHS family filled the hall throughout the day, creating an atmosphere of warmth, encouragement and celebration. Music has a unique way of bringing people together and learners from 15 schools shared their talents through a rich variety of vocal and instrumental performances. From choirs and orchestras to marimba bands, jazz ensembles and dance groups, the festival offered an inspiring showcase of musical ability. Each performance reflected countless hours of dedication and rehearsal, while highlighting the passion, hard work and creativity flourishing within our schools. The Harmony Festival once again demonstrated the power of the performing arts to connect, inspire and unite communities.







Reunion Day

There is something truly special about welcoming alumnae back to the place where they made so many lifelong memories. Held on 31 July, this year's Reunion Day was a memorable occasion as generations of Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School alumnae returned to reconnect with the school that helped shape their journeys. The day celebrated the longstanding legacy of GHS and the remarkable women who have contributed to its story over more than a century. A particularly meaningful addition was the unveiling of the Wall of Remembrance, a lasting tribute to some of our GHS family who have passed away and whose lives and contributions have made an impact on our community. This moving ceremony was followed by a candlelight remembrance during the traditional school assembly, creating a quiet and heartfelt opportunity to honour those whose legacy continues to inspire future generations.

The day included inspiring guest speakers, beautiful performances by our learners and guided tours that allowed alumnae to revisit classrooms, pathways and traditions that were meaningful to them. Over tea and lunch, friendships were rekindled, stories shared and the laughter of the past pupils echoed through the corridors once more. Whether they matriculated recently or many decades ago, our alumnae continue to embody the values and traditions of GHS. Reunion Day served as a powerful reminder that once a GHS girl, always a GHS girl.





Founders' Day

Founders' Day provided the GHS community with a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the rich heritage, traditions and values that continue to shape our school. On 4 August, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School proudly celebrated its 106th Founders' Day, marking more than a century of excellence, courage and service. Since 1920, generations of young women have discovered their strengths, embraced opportunities and contributed to a legacy that keeps inspiring. Founders' Day is not only a time to honour those who laid the foundations of our remarkable school but also to celebrate every learner, staff member and alumna who has contributed to its story. Together, they have built a community defined by resilience, friendship and unwavering Green Machine pride.

This year's festivities came to life through a vibrant Rainbow Picnic, which transformed the park below Morningside into a sea of colour. Each friendship group embraced its theme with creativity, enthusiasm and flair, creating colourful picnic spaces filled with delicious treats and laughter. From our youngest learners to the matrics preparing to leave their mark, the day was a joyful celebration of friendship, belonging and the enduring spirit of GHS.







Morningside Renamed

On Wednesday, 14 January, GHS celebrated a significant occasion with the formal naming of its boarding establishment as Morningside. Previously known as the Boarding Establishment, or simply “the BE”, Morningside carries a name that is deeply rooted in the school’s history. In 1920, the former Davis family home became the birthplace of GHS under the leadership of Miss Norma Burns and it is a little-known but special fact that the school was originally named after this very house. By naming the boarding establishment Morningside, we honour the Davis family, the pioneering girls of 1920 and the generations of boarders who have lived, learned and grown within these walls. May Morningside always be a place of light and belonging, shaping brave, kind and confident young women who carry its spirit long after they leave.

Trail Run

Adventure, endurance and enthusiasm were the order of the day at the annual GHS Trail Run, held for the second time at the beautiful Bisley Nature Reserve. Participants embraced the challenge of routes ranging from 2.2 km to 10 km, tackling the course with determination, energy and team spirit while enjoying the reserve’s spectacular scenery and wildlife. The event highlighted far more than physical fitness; it encouraged resilience, perseverance and a sense of adventure while bringing members of the GHS community together through a shared experience. Whether crossing the finish line among the leaders or simply celebrating the achievement of completing the course, every participant embodied the enthusiasm and camaraderie that characterise GHS. It was a day filled with challenge, achievement and plenty of Green-and-White spirit.





Open Day and the Boarder Sleepover

This year’s Open Day welcomed hundreds of prospective families, offering an exciting glimpse into the vibrant life of Pietermaritzburg Girls’ High School. Visitors explored the many opportunities available at GHS, from academic excellence and leadership development to rich cultural programmes and sporting achievements. Throughout the day, families experienced first-hand the nurturing environment that empowers our girls to grow into confident, capable and compassionate young women.

A few weeks later, the inaugural grade 6 Boarder Sleepover provided an equally memorable experience for future learners interested in boarding life. Through shared activities, new friendships and plenty of laughter, visitors experienced the unique sense of belonging that exists within Morningside. The event gave us valuable insight into the supportive and welcoming environment that our boarders proudly call their second home.

Together, these events showcased not only what GHS offers but also the strong sense of community that makes our school so special.



Rise Against Hunger

Earlier in the year, the GHS community joined hands with Rise Against Hunger Africa in a powerful effort to make a difference beyond our school gates. With great enthusiasm and teamwork, learners, staff and families worked together to pack approximately 234 boxes, equating to an impressive 50 544 meals for communities facing food insecurity. Throughout the day, purpose, compassion and a shared commitment to serving others filled the atmosphere. Initiatives such as these remind us of the meaningful impact we can make when a community comes together in service of those in need. We extend our sincere thanks to the Rise Against Hunger Africa team for their guidance and continued dedication to combating food insecurity across communities.



ACADEMIC STAFF

Back Row: Mr P Kucherera, Mrs H Coetzee, Mr T Nkosi, Mr K Bentley, Mr D Bester, Mr N Hiralall, Mr T Stellenberg, Miss D Dyson, Mrs M Nkwinika, Miss D Scholtz, Mr K Ameer
Fifth Row: Mr M Maikoo, Mrs S Gumede, Mrs C Bentley, Mr J Maistry, Mrs S Chetty, Mr D Reddy, Mr N Sibisi, Mrs R Croeser, Mrs C Tarr, Miss J Sibisi
Fourth Row: Miss Y Padayachee, Mrs R Boshoff, Mrs L Janse van Rensburg, Mrs R Diaz, Miss J Sivechurran, Miss N Hodi, Miss N Khumalo, Mrs L Reibeling, Miss S Maharaj
Third Row: Miss A Dodo, Mr K Naidoo, Mrs Z Mchunu, Miss M de Lange, Miss H Ngobese, Mrs S Duma, Mrs I Boshoff, Mrs A-M Snyman, Miss K Sahdar, Miss S Khan
Second Row: Miss C Harris, Mrs G Cocciante Gillespie, Ms S Nobin, Mrs B Mokodutlo, Mrs L Jasson, Miss J Davids, Miss Y Naidoo, Mrs H Mazibuko, Mrs C Biggs, Miss P Sikhosana, Mrs S Singh
Front Row: Mrs S Pillay, Miss F Pather, Mrs N Maharaj, Miss T Naicker, Mrs E Weigelt, Mr M Marwick (Principal), Miss M Achary, Mrs L Thomas, Mrs A Mohanlall, Mrs L Dellar

List of Staff

Management

Mr M Marwick: Principal, BCom, LLB (Natal), BA (Hons), PGCE (UNISA) – History
Mrs E Weigelt: Senior Deputy Principal, BA, HDE (Natal) – Afrikaans
Miss M Achary: Deputy Principal, BA, PGCE (UKZN) – Visual Arts
Miss T Naicker: Deputy Principal, MEd (UKZN), HDE (SACOL) – Business Studies
Mrs G van Veenendaal: Bursar (acting)
Mr W Evans: Bursar – BCom (UNP), PG Dip Acc (UND), CA(SA)
Mrs A Mohanlall: Grade 12 Head, BEd Hons (UNP), HDE SP Maths (SCE) – Mathematics
Mrs N Maharaj: Grade 11 Head, BA, BEd Hons (Natal), HDE (Natal) – Geography
Mrs L Thomas: Grade 10 Head, BSc, BEd Hons, HDE (Natal) – Geography
Mrs S Pillay: Grade 9 Head, BA (Natal), PGCE (UNISA) – English
Mrs L Dellar: Grade 8 Head, HDE Economic Sciences (UKZN) – EMS, Accounting, Economics and Business Studies
Miss F Pather: Senior Counsellor, BPsych (Honours) (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – History, Life Orientation, Counselling
Miss J Davids: Head of Leadership, MEd (Concordia), HDE (UKZN) – Physical Science
Mr J Maistry: Head of Discipline, BCom (UKZN) – Mathematics
Mrs T Coleman: Human Resources Manager, BSocSc (Hons) (UKZN)
Mr S Mkhonza: IT diploma (Icesa College), N+ and A+ (Boston College) – IT Manager
Dr M Nzimande: Head of Marketing, PhD (UKZN) Media and Cultural Studies, EMDP (Fort Hare)
Mrs S Upfold: Head of Marketing, MSc (Natal)
Mr T Mokhatla: IT Manager, IT Diploma, Microsoft Certified IT Professional
Mrs A-M Snyman: Head of Sports, BA (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – Physical Education
Mr F van Zyl: Estates Manager

List of Staff

Miss M Achary: BA, PGCE (UKZN) – Visual Arts
Mr K Ameer: BCom Hons (UNISA), PGCE (UKZN) – EMS, Business Studies
Mrs P Basi: BA Hons, PGCE (UKZN) – isiZulu
Mrs C Bentley: BMusEd (SU), BEd Hons (UNISA), PGCE (UNISA) – Music
Mr K Bentley: BA (SU), PGCE (UNISA)
Mr D Bester: BSc (UKZN), HBSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy
Mrs C Biggs: BEd Hons (UNISA and UKZN) – Consumer Studies
Mrs I Boshoff: BA Hons (UKZN) – Drama, History
Mrs R Boshoff: BA Hons (UNISA), BEd (NWU) – Afrikaans, LO
Mrs S Charfaray: BSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Mathematics
Mrs S Chetty: SPED (BTC), BA (UNISA) – Afrikaans
Mrs G Cocciante Gillespie: BA (UKZN), HDE (UKZN) – English
Mrs H Coetzee: BEd (NWU) – Mathematics
Mrs R Croeser: BA (UKZN), BA Hons (RAU), PGCE (UNISA) – History
Miss J Davids: BSc (UKZN), HDE (UKZN), BEd Hons (UNISA), MEd (Concordia) – Physical Science
Miss M de Lange: BEd (NWU) – Life Sciences, Natural Sciences
Mrs L Dellar: HDE Economic Sciences (UKZN) – EMS, Accounting, Economics and Business Studies
Mrs R Diaz: SPIII (Bechet College of Education), HDE (Natal College of Education), BEd Hons (UKZN) – Life Sciences, Natural Sciences
Miss N Dlamini: BSc Pure and Applied Mathematics (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – Mathematics
Miss A Dodo: MAFA-R (UKZN), PGCE (STADIO) – Visual Arts, Creative Arts
Mrs N Duma: BSoc Sc, HDE (Natal) – isiZulu
Mrs S Duma: STD (Esikhawini College), FDE (RAU), BEd Hons (UKZN) – Physical Science and Natural Sciences
Mr J Ebrahim: Diploma IT, BEd, Math/IT (UNISA)
Miss Z Ebrahim: BSocSc (UNP), HDE (UNISA), ACE (UKZN) – Mathematics
Mrs C Fox: BA (UKZN), BEd Hons (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – English
Mrs S Gumede: BSW (UCT) – Life Orientation
Miss C Harris: BA (Potchefstroom University), PGCE (UNISA) – Afrikaans and English
Mr N Hiralall: BEd (Wits) – Accounting, Economics, Business Studies
Miss N Hodi: BSocSc, PGCE (UKZN) – Physical Education, LO, Business Studies
Mrs L Jasson: PTD III (Bechet College of Education), ACE Educ (UKZN), BEd Hons (UKZN), Masters (Adult Education) (UKZN) – Life Sciences
Ms B Kelly: BA (UNISA), PGDIS (UKZN), BBibl Hons (UKZN) – Librarian
Miss S Khan: MSc Hydrology (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Mathematics and Geography
Ms J Kisten: BCom (UNISA) – Accounting, EMS
Miss N Khumalo: BSocSc (UKZN), BA Hons (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Dramatic Arts
Mr P Kucherera: BEd (EAPPS) – Physical Science
Mrs N Maharaj: BA (Natal), HDE (Natal), BEd Hons (Natal) – Geography
Miss S Maharaj: BEd (UNISA) – Consumer Studies and Life Orientation
Mr M Maikoo: MCom (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Dramatic Arts, Business Studies and EMS
Mr J Maistry: BCom (UKZN) – Mathematics
Mr M Marwick: BCom, LLB (Natal), BA (Hons), PGCE (UNISA) – History
Mrs H Mazibuko: BSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Mathematics, Physical Science
Mrs Z Mchunu: BA (UNISA), PGCE (MANCOSA) – English
Mrs A Mohanlall: BEd Hons (UNP), HDE (SCE) – Mathematics
Mrs BM Mokodutlo: MEd (CUT), PGCE (CUT), BPsych Hons (CUT): Registered Independent Counsellor, BA (VISTA) – Life Orientation and Counselling
Miss T Naicker: MEd (UKZN), BEd Hons (UNISA), ACE (UNISA), HDE (SACOL) – Business Studies, EMS, Accounting
Mr K Naidoo: BSc Sport Science Hons, PGCE (Varsity College) – Physical Education
Miss Y Naidoo: BA (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – English
Mr B Ngcobo: BA, HDE (Natal) – isiZulu
Miss H Ngobese: NDip Public Relations Management (UNIZULU), PGCE (UNISA) – isiZulu, Business Studies
Mr T Nkosi: BEd (UKZN) – isiZulu
Mrs M Nkwinika: BSc Marine Biology (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Mathematical Literacy
Ms S Nobin: JSED (SCE), DSp.Ed (UKZN), BEd Honours (UNISA) – English
Miss Y Padayachee: BEd (UNISA) – English
Miss F Pather: BSocSci (UNP), Postgrad Dip. in Psychology (UNP), BPsych Equiv (Honours) (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – History, Life Orientation, Counselling
Mrs S Pillay: BA (Natal), PGCE (UNISA) – English
Mrs K Ramlall: BAdmin (UNISA), PGCE (UNISA) – English
Mr D Reddy: Education Diploma (Springfield College of Education), Advanced Certificate in Intermediate Phase Teaching (UFS) – History
Mrs L Reibeling: BA Music (UP), BMus Hons (UP), PGCE (UNISA) – Music
Miss D Scholtz: BA (UFS), PGCE (UFS), BA Hons Psychology (UNISA) – Afrikaans
Dr A-L Shuttleworth: PhD (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – Life Sciences, Natural Sciences
Miss J Sibisi: BA (Wits), HDLib and Info Studies (RAU) – Assistant Librarian
Mr N Sibisi: BCom (Acc) (UKZN), PGDip (Acc) (UKZN), PGDip (UNISA), PGCE (UNISA) – Accounting, EMS
Miss P Sikhosana: BCom (UKZN), PGCE (TOGI) – Physical Education
Mrs S Singh: BCom (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Technology, Life Orientation, EMS
Miss J Sivechurran: BSc (UKZN), BSc Hons (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) – Life Sciences, Natural Sciences, Technology
Mrs A-M Snyman: BA (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA) – Physical Education
Mr T Stellenberg: BSc Information Systems (UFS) – Physical Education
Mrs C Tarr: BSc Biological Sciences, BA Hons Psych, PGCE (UKZN and TOGI) – Natural Sciences and Life Science
Mrs L Thomas: BSc, BEd Hons, HDE (Natal) – Geography
Mrs E Weigelt: BA, HDE (Natal) – Afrikaans

Administrative Staff

Mrs M Boucher: Finance Assistant
Mrs T Coleman: BSocSc (Hons) (UKZN), Human Resources Manager
Miss N Dlamini: BSc (UKZN), PGCE (STADIO) – Laboratory Technician
Mrs B Edwards: Admissions Coordinator
Mr W Evans: BCom (UNP), PG Dip Acc (UND), CA(SA) – Bursar
Mr L Grendon: Academic Administrator
Mrs C Hall: Creditors Administrator
Mrs B Hodge: Bookkeeping Diploma, Finance Administrator
Sister S Hebbron: registered general nurse, diploma in Public Relations and Media Studies
Sister L Jacks: Diploma in General Nursing, Registered Nurse
Miss R Kloka: Bookkeeping Diploma, Debtors Administrator
Mr N Lembethe: Microsoft 365 Certified Modern Desktop Administrator Associate, Microsoft 365 certified, Enterprise Administrator Expert, A+, N+ IT Technician
Miss P Mbambo: BCom IS and T (UKZN) – IT Technician
Mr S Mkhonza: IT diploma (Icesa College), N+ and A+ (Boston College) – IT Manager
Mr T Mokhatla: IT Diploma, Microsoft Certified IT Professional, CCNA Switching and Routing – IT Manager
Miss T Mthalane: Marketing Assistant: BTech (Walter Sisulu University) – Public Relations Management
Mrs R Niemack: BA (UNISA), Honours in brand leadership (Vega), Events/ Alumnae Coordinator
Dr M Nzimande: BA (UKZN) Media and Cultural Studies and Fine Arts, PhD (UKZN) Media and Cultural Studies, EMDP (Fort Hare), Basic Project Management (School of Government) – Head of Marketing
Mrs N Nzimande: Diploma in Human Resources Management and Training (Varsity College) – Human Resource Administrator
Mrs T Seegers: Professional PA Certificate – Uniform Shop Manager
Ms M Senekal: School Administrator
Mrs R Swartz: Office Administration Diploma, BEd (UNISA) – Executive PA
Mrs S Upfold: MSc (Natal) – Head of Marketing
Miss S Zondi: MCSA, MCSE, A+, N+, IT Technician

Boarding

Miss A Coopasamy: House Mother
Miss D de Bruin: Housekeeping Supervisor
Miss J Dixon-Smith: House Mother
Sister S Hebbron: registered general nurse, diploma in Public Relations and Media Studies
Sister L Jacks: Diploma in General Nursing, Registered Nurse
Miss N Khoza: BSS (UKZN) – House Mother
Miss P Sokhela: House Mother

Staff News

New Staff

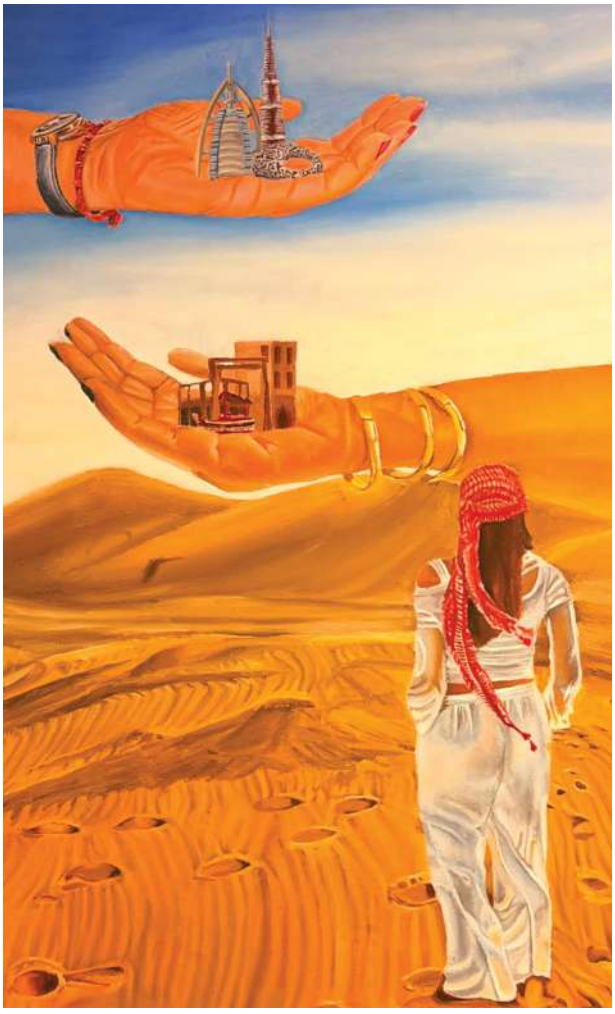
Mrs Rachel Boshoff – Afrikaans Educator
Mr Junaid Ebrahim – Mathematics Educator
Miss Jane Dixon-Smith – House Mother at Morningside
Mr Wayne Evans – Bursar
Ms Jayshree Kisten – Accounting and EMS Educator
Mr Parkson Kucherera – Physical Science Educator
Miss Sasha Maharaj – Consumer Studies and Life Orientation Educator
Mr Jared Maistry – Mathematics Educator
Mr Sipho Mkhonza – IT Manager
Mr Tyler Stellenberg – Sport and Physical Education
Mrs Cara Tarr – Life Sciences and Natural Sciences Educator
Mrs Sally Upfold – Head of Marketing
Mrs Gail van Veenendaal – Acting Bursar

Congratulations

Mr Darien Bester – Baby daughter
Mrs Ilanie Boshoff – Baby son
Miss Debbie de Bruin – Long service: 30 years
Miss Noluthando Dlamini – Baby daughter
Miss Bonisiwe Madlala – Long service: 20 years
Mrs Zamagazi Mchunu (née Zuma) – Married
Miss Yoraesha Naidoo – Engaged
Miss Nothando Ngcongo – Baby son
Miss Maritza Senekal – Engaged



Amahle Nzimande



Aadya Sarupen

Retirees



Mrs Nokuthula Duma (22 years at GHS) – isiZulu Educator



Mrs Myrtle Boucher (9 years at GHS) – Finance Assistant



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Miss T Naicker, Mr M Marwick, Mrs E Weigelt, Miss M Achary



SCHOOL MANAGEMENT
Back Row: Mrs N Maharaj, Mrs A-M Snyman, Mrs S Pillay, Miss F Pather, Mrs A Mohanlall, Mrs L Dellar
Front Row: Mrs L Thomas, Miss T Naicker, Mr M Marwick, Mrs E Weigelt, Miss M Achary



ADMINISTRATION
Back Row: Mrs B Hodge, Mrs N Nzimande, Miss R Kloka, Mr L Xaba, Mrs B Edwards, Mrs K de Goede, Mr N Lembethe
Second Row: Mrs R Niemack, Miss T Mthalane, Miss P Mbambo, Miss N Duma, Mrs T Seegers, Miss S Zondi
Front Row: Mr T Mokhatla, Mrs C Hall, Mrs R Swartz, Mr M Marwick, Mr L Grendon, Mrs T Coleman, Mrs M Boucher



MORNINGSIDE MANAGEMENT STAFF

Back Row: Miss N Khoza, Mrs S Goddard

Front Row: Miss A Coopasamy, Mrs E Weigelt, Miss P Sokhela



MORNINGSIDE HOUSEKEEPING

Mrs P Ndlovu



MORNINGSIDE HOUSEKEEPING

Ms Z Ngwenya



DRIVERS

Mr E Sikhakhane, Mr A Mdladla, Mr J Khenisa



Taliyah Easthorpe



ESTATES STAFF

Back Row: Mr Z Phetha, Mr S Malembe, Mr S Nzimande, Mr M Mnikati, Mr N Zuma, Mr E Mdletshe

Fourth Row: Mr W Mapanga, Mr K Wellington, Mr S Maseko, Mr P Ndlovu

Third Row: Mr T Zuma, Mr P Vilikazi, Mr A Mkhize, Mrs Q Mtshaha, Mr C Mdlalosi, Miss N Ngcobo

Second Row: Miss F Ndlela, Miss T Dumakude, Mr D Mkhize, Mr A Mkhize, Mr M Mgevani, Miss W Ngcobo, Miss B Madlala

Front Row: Mr C Lembethe, Mr J Zuma, Mr F van Zyl, Mr T Ngcobo, Mr C Fincham, Mr A Ndlovu

GHS through the year





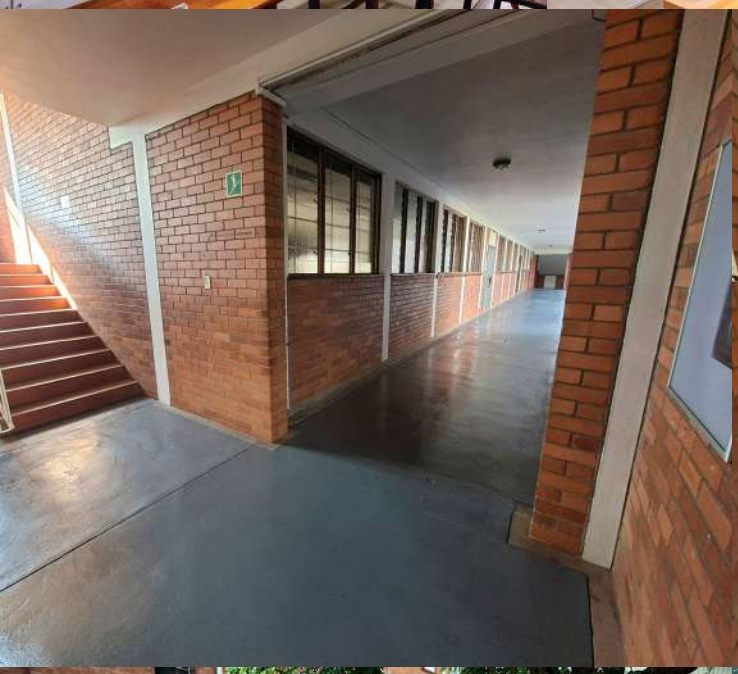
Boardroom





Laboratories







Corridors







Elly Deli



Centenary Gates








Norma Burns Hall



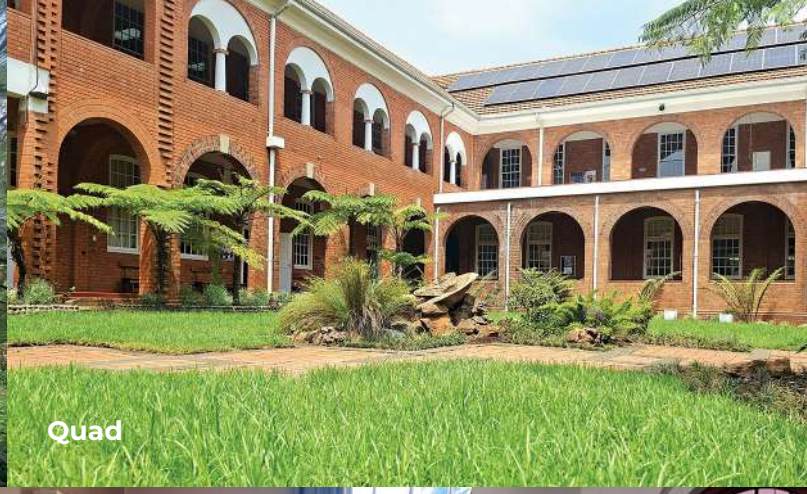


Marketing Department

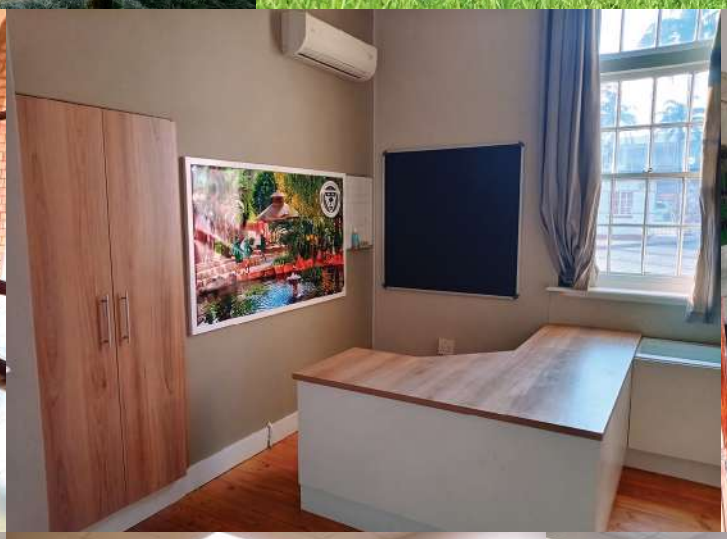



Wall of Remembrance




Quad


Reception








Academic Staffroom and Kitchen






Perimeter Fence Upgrade


ELLY
DELI


MORNINGSIDE
Signage Upgrades


PIETERMARITZBURG
WITH
GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
EST. 1920
ELLY DELI
NORMA BURNS HALL
SHELAGH BOWNESS
HOCKEY ASTRO
SYLVIA VIETZEN
COMMUNITY CENTRE (SVCC)
TOILETS

Grade 12



GRADE 12 A

Back Row: A Mpanza, R Phoko, N Uzodike, S Nganbeu Fonou, S Buthelezi, Y Mthembu
Fourth Row: R Phoko, O Eke, L Sikhosana, I Sewram
Third Row: N Brown, A Shazi, L Jili, S Naidu, P Mthembu, S Mthalane, K Naidoo
Second Row: Y Gangaram, M Fanta, E Marion, K Khanyile, S Hlela, K Naidoo
Front Row: K Reddy, N Dell, O Duze, Mrs S Duma, L Chirwa, Z Hove, A Ngcobo



GRADE 12 B

Back Row: S Mangundu, I Madikizela, S Lembethe, S Gamede, N Mkhize
Fourth Row: S Naidoo, R Naidoo, S Sibisi, A Ngcobo
Third Row: S Nhlangulela, O Dlamini, M Mutereko, A Ramjatan, A Sarupen, L Moodley, S Phakathi
Second Row: L Zithutha, M Mngomezulu, S Amod, S Zondi, A Samlal, L Zondi
Front Row: D Reddy, A Kruger, T Addison, Miss M de Lange, U Jele, S Samuel, K Mahlangu



GRADE 12 C

Back Row: J Sutcliff, A Hodge, B Reddy, G Hamblin, S Pillay, K Kinners
Fourth Row: U Manyoni, R Singh
Third Row: A Majozi, L Ndlovu, E Potgieter, O Chamane, A Myeza, N Ngubane
Second Row: T Naidoo, K Archery, D Swartz, D Moodley, S Manyoni, T Manzi
Front Row: A Shabalala, Y Thakurdin, S Sibiya, Mrs H Mazibuko, A Shabane, S Govender, A Mchunu



GRADE 12 D

Back Row: G George, R Meyer, O Ngejane, S Tajoodeen, T Venter
Fourth Row: S Mbonambi, L Ngema, C Ferreira, S Aboobaker
Third Row: O Ngcobo, A Ngcobo, E Hyde, M van der Berg, K Manuel
Second Row: B Ntlhane, S Vusani, I Bacela, S Gwala, M Rasool, U Mthembu
Front Row: Z Masikane, E Padayachee, A Hannuman, Miss H Ngobese, S Msimang, T Tarr, Z Hlongwa



GRADE 12 E

Back Row: S Dhanilal, M Naicker, S Howard, K Bapela
Fourth Row: S Khumalo, S Asmal, A Sithole, S Ndlovu, S Ngwenya, F Akinnusi
Third Row: A Mkhabela, M Neizel, N Ndlovu, A Zulu, A Zuma, M Vezasie
Second Row: S Ndlovu, A Mkhize, K Modjadji, N Ndlovu, N Ngubane, J van Zyl
Front Row: Y Arbee, N Khuluse, G Barnardo, Mr D Reddy, A Makhanya, K Gumbi, D Rampali



GRADE 12 F

Back Row: K Khanyile, K Bhagirathy, A Ndlela, A Shuttleworth, A Mazibuko, A Saeed
Third Row: S Bhugwanidin, A Koekemoer, L Mbambalala, A Khoza
Second Row: S Ndlovu, T Heslop, A Bhoola, J Green, Z Mntungwa, A Madlala
Front Row: J Singh, K Pillay, K Mdima, Mrs G Cocciante Gillespie, M Molete, P Dlamini, L Adonis



GRADE 12 G

Back Row: N Nxumalo, S Mthimkhulu, L Walker, N Sithole, T Parasuraman, A Ndlovu
Fourth Row: T Easthorpe, A Ndlela, Y Padayachee, L Mjwara, S Dlamini, N Mkefa
Third Row: A Nzimande, R Pillay, T Africander, S Sithebe, Z Khan, L Mkasi, H Govender
Second Row: T Dlamini, Z Ntshangase, D Reis, E Kleinhans, S Diedricks, S Singh
Front Row: N Msomi, B Mfeka, H Derengi, Miss A Dodo, S Dumakude, A Ngcobo, E Shezi



GRADE 12 H

Back Row: S Botha, G Drake, K Janse van Rensburg, M Hlongwane
Fourth Row: L Mazibuko, A Sokhela, S Wüst, T Msomi, S Ngcobo
Third Row: M Engelbrecht, G Marais, N Totaram, O Ratau, A Mncwabe, N Mthimkhulu
Second Row: K Jerrier, T Myeni, P Ngcongo, S Panday, M Lembethe, A Gcabashe
Front Row: Z Paterson, J Camp, A Sithole, Miss Y Naidoo, N Ndlovu, P Sibiya, N Hlongwane

Academic Awards

January 2026

GRADE 8 2025

Merit Certificates

S Ann-Ben, A Bhebhe, R Cele, Y Cele, R Dawood, P Lulaka, A Lutchman, A Mafuleka, T Marimuthoo, E Mbaraga, P Mchunu, Q Mdluli, A Mohamed, R Moodley, A Mthimkhulu, M Mzobe, S Ncobeni, M Ndlovu, Y Ndlovu, B Ntaka, A Ntlamba, R Pillay, R Rampali, L Shelembe, A Shirindza, U Sithole, Z Zulu

Subject Prizes

Daniella Job	Art
Noluthando Khoza	isiZulu
Aleena Lutchman	English
Tamika Marimuthoo	EMS and Technology
Qhawekazi Mdluli	EMS and History
Atikah Mohamed	History
Alutha Ntlamba	Mathematics
Kara Oldfield	Afrikaans
Riddhi Pillay	Life Orientation and Geography
April Shirindza	Natural Sciences
Scarlett Zorger	Drama
Zibusiso Zulu	Natural Sciences and Music

Top Three Learners in Grade 8

Tamika Marimuthoo	Third in grade 8
Zibusiso Zulu	Second in grade 8
Qhawekazi Mdluli	First in grade 8



Qhawekazi Mdluli



Zibusiso Zulu



Tamika Marimuthoo



Karissa Padayachee



Sinakekele Dlamini



Shanalia Raghubeer

GRADE 9 2025

Merit Certificates

J Botha, A Chetty, K Chetty, P Chirimba, B Dlamini, S Dlamini, Y Essack, G Hadebe, S Harrilall, A Hlatshwayo, S Hlengwa, E Jugadoe, H Keartland, N Keartland, L Kritzinger, P Kubheka, T Lenaba, U Mandukwini, S Maphisa, Z Mchunu, A Mdlalose, R Mdlalose, U Mkhize, A Msane, A Mshengu, M Msimang, A Mthethwa, J Naicker, P Naidoo, A Ntombela, I Oosthuizen, K Padayachee, S Pannalall, I Pillay, S Raghubeer, H Sewlal, Z Shezi, T Sigcau, K Sipika, N Sithole, P Soopal, K Totaram, A Vather-Sivenandan, Z Vilakazi, N Zulu

Subject Prizes

Sinakekele Dlamini	isiZulu and Mathematics
Isabel Oosthuizen	Afrikaans
Karissa Padayachee	Drama, EMS, English, Geography, History, Life Orientation, Natural Sciences and Technology
Shanalia Raghubeer	Geography and Art
Prerna Soopal	Mathematics and Music

Top Three Learners in Grade 9

Shanalia Raghubeer	Third in grade 9
Sinakekele Dlamini	Second in grade 9
Karissa Padayachee	First in grade 9

Special Prizes (Grade 11 2025)

Kiara Reddy and **Anele Sokhela:** The 1989 Matric Music Pupils' Trophy for Musical Endeavour

Nicole Dell: The UKZN Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in Mathematics and the Sciences

Zara Hove: The PricewaterhouseCoopers Trophy for Sustained Effort and Progress in Mathematics

Nwabuaku Uzodike: The Joseph Harvey Cup for Sustained Effort and Progress in Geography

Hannah Derengi: The Elizabeth Syphus Trophy for Progress and Consistent Effort in History

Yuvna Gangaram and **Malebo Molete:** The PricewaterhouseCoopers Trophy for Sustained Effort and Progress in Accounting

Sophia Wüst: The Ann J Wright Trophy for Overall Excellence in Consumer Studies Practical Work

Katie Janse van Rensburg: The Blue Ribbon Trophy for Progress in Consumer Studies Practical Work

Olona Duze and **Lunathi Zondi:** The Catherine Morewood Memorial Prize for Academic Achievement and Peers' Esteem

Kiara Reddy: The Valerie Fowler Award for Academic and Extramural Excellence, Leadership Potential and Willingness to Serve



Guest Speaker, Mrs Trodd and Mr Marwick

GRADE 10 2025

Merit Certificates

S Chonco, L Dlamini, N Dlamini, A Hlatshwayo, S Khumalo, B Kuzwayo, L Manning, N Masimula, O Mnyandu, M Ngcobo, R Nkonyani, N Ntuli, L Shezi, T Sujpathy, M Yobe, A Zulu

Academic Half Colours

E Glass, Z Khuzwayo, S Kunene, N Mbona, K Naik, T Ndleleni, M Ntenza, O Peters, T Pillay, Y Sarupen, C Wepener

Academic Colours

K Burt, H Ince, Q Jongisa, G le Roux, Y Makhaye, T Mthethwa, S Mvelase, L Rajah, A Sathianathan, M Singh, K Sithole, D Swart, A Zimu, S Zondo

Subject Prizes

Tessa Dunlop	Mathematical Literacy
Hannah Ince	History
Qhakazile Jongisa	Information Technology
Geneviève Le Roux	Business Studies
Lereece Manning	Consumer Studies
Aphelele Radebe	isiZulu
Yuvana Sarupen	Visual Arts
Aria Sathianathan	Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics and Physical Sciences
Grace Shwala	Music
Milania Singh	Business Studies and English
Danika Swart	Afrikaans, Geography and Life Sciences
Amile Zimu	Accounting and Information Technology
Alwande Zulu	Dramatic Arts

Top Three Learners in Grade 10

Danika Swart	Third in grade 10
Aria Sathianathan	Second in grade 10
Milania Singh	First in grade 10



Milania Singh



Aria Sathianathan



Danika Swart



Kiara Reddy



Nicole Dell



Keziah Naidoo

GRADE 11 2025

Merit Certificates

I Bacela, L Chirwa, S Dhanilal, A Gcabashe, S Gwala, S Hlela, E Hyde, A Makhanya, M Mngomezulu, Z Mntungwa, S Mthimkhulu, S Naidu, A Ngcobo, P Ngcongo, S Nhlangulela, R Phoko, R Phoko, A Shuttleworth, S Zondi

Academic Half Colours

T Addison, S Amod, M Fanta, K Mahlangu, E Marion, S Mthalane, Y Mthembu, N Ndlovu, R Pillay, A Shazi, N Totaram, N Uzodike

Academic Colours

K Archery, S Gamede, H Govender, Z Hove, L Jili, A Koekemoer, A Kruger, I Madikizela, K Naidoo, M Neizel, S Nganbeu Fonou, D Reddy, A Sarupen, I Sewram, L Sikhosana, S Wüst

Academic Honours

N Dell, O Duze, O Eke, Y Gangaram, M Molete, L Moodley, K Naidoo, A Ngcobo, K Reddy, L Zondi

Subject Prizes

Kezia Archery	Business Studies
Iminathi Bacela	English
Nicole Dell	Geography, Life Orientation and Life Sciences
Havanah Govender	Business Studies
Nomlando Hlongwane	Dramatic Arts
Anke Koekemoer	Afrikaans
Anneleen Kruger	Visual Arts
Leya Moodley	Accounting
Keziah Naidoo	Accounting
Megan Neizel	Life Sciences
Asanele Ngcobo	isiZulu
Esther Potgieter	Mathematical Literacy
Darshini Reddy	English and History
Kiara Reddy	Accounting, Information Technology, Mathematics, Music and Physical Science
Alison Shuttleworth	Consumer Studies

Top Three Learners in Grade 11

Keziah Naidoo	Third in grade 11
Nicole Dell	Second in grade 11
Kiara Reddy	First in grade 11

National Senior Certificate Examination Results – 2025

98.60% Pass, more than 400 Distinctions, 88.09% Bachelor's Pass

(Subjects in brackets indicate distinctions)

Abdoola, T (ENGHL, AFRFA, GEOG, LFSC)
Adjei, C (LIFE, HIST)
Ahmed, R (LIFE)
Badat, N (LIFE)
Badrian, S (VSLA, MLIT)
Basi, O (LIFE)
Betch, I (LFSC, GEOG, LIFE, ENGHL)
Bhengu, W (ZULFA)
Bhugwandeen, P (ENGHL, LIFE, GEOG)
Bishop, J
Black, M
Bonga, N
Breedt, S
Brewer, Z (LIFE)
Cebekhulu, S (ZULFA, LIFE, HIST)
Cekeshe, M (ENGHL, AFRFA, GEOG, BSTD, LIFE)
Cele, L (LIFE)
Cele, U (LFSC, ACCO, LIFE, ZULFA)
Chamane, S (ZULFA)
Chohan, Y
Clark, C (LFSC, ENGHL, LIFE)
Croeser, K (MLIT)
De Coning, B (VSLA, MLIT, LIFE)
Desai, A (HIST, DRMA, LIFE)
Devduth, T (LIFE)
Dladla, K (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, HIST)
Dladla, N (ZULFA)
Dlamini, L (ZULFA, HIST, LIFE)
Dlamini, L (ZULFA)
Dlamini, S (HIST, LIFE, ZULFA)
Dlukula, K (ZULFA, GEOG, LIFE)
Dube, P (ZULFA, LIFE, BSTD)
Duma, N (ZULFA)
Essa, Z (ENGHL, LIFE)
Essack, Y (ENGHL, AFRFA, LFSC, ACCO, LIFE)
Funzani, T (LIFE)
Gcabashe, A
Geldart, H (MLIT, LIFE)
Gomomo, M (ZULFA)
Gounder, D (ENGHL, AFRFA, MATH, LIFE, ACCO, LFSC)
Gumbi, N (DRMA)
Gwala, A (ZULFA, MLIT)
Gwala, S (ZULFA)
Haffajee, A
Harper, Z
Hassim, K (ENGHL, MLIT, LFSC, HIST)
Hedder, B (ENGHL, AFRFA, MATH, LIFE, LFSC, PHSC, VSLA)
Heeralal, B
Ismail, F
James, H (HIST)
Jangali, S (ENGHL, LFSC, GEOG, LIFE)
Jassat, A (LFSC, MLIT)
Johansen, K (LFSC, GEOG, LIFE)
Kader, A (LIFE)
Kadir, L (ENGHL, AFRFA, LIFE, LFSC)
Kama, B (ENGHL, LFSC, HIST, LIFE)
Khan, S (ENGHL, HIST, ACCO, LIFE)
Khanyile, Z (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE)
Khanyile, Z (ZULFA)
Kharwa, H (MLIT, HIST)
Khomo, Y
Khowane, Z
Khoza, N (ZULFA)
Khumalo, A (ZULFA, HIST, ACCO, LIFE)
Killian, A (VSLA)
Killian, P (AFRFA, GEOG, LIFE)
King, G (HIST, MLIT)
Langa, L
Launder, S (GEOG, LIFE)
Lawrence, G
Lombard, K (AFRFA, LIFE)
Long, T
Louis, T (ACCO, LIFE)
Lutchman, A (ENGHL, AFRFA, MATH, LIFE, ACCO, LFSC)
Maddocks, E (HIST)
Madlala, M (ZULFA, HIST)
Madlala, S (ZULFA)
Madolo, A (ZULFA)
Madondo, S
Magaia, S (ZULFA)
Mahlambi, S
Mahomed, A (ENGHL, AFRFA, MATH, LIFE, ACCO, LFSC, PHSC)
Majikijela, S (ZULFA)
Majola, A (ZULFA)
Majola, S
Makhathini, A (ZULFA)
Makhunga, A (LIFE)
Masemola, A (ZULFA)
Mashiloane, K (AFRFA, LIFE)
Masuku, N (ZULFA, LIFE)
Mathenjwa, S (ZULFA, LIFE)
Mavaneni, P (ZULFA)
Mbanga, K
Mbatha, A (ZULFA)
Mbatha, L (ZULFA)
Mchunu, N (LIFE)
Mchunu, S (ZULFA)
Mdunge, K (ZULFA)
Meman, F
Mfeka, T
Mfoboza, S (MLIT)
Miya, S (ZULFA)
Mjoli, Z
Mkhize, A (ZULFA)
Mkhize, A
Mkhize, Z (ZULFA)
Mlotshwa, A (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, ACCO, BSTD, HIST)
Mngadi, N (ENGHL)
Mofoka, D (MLIT)
Mokatsoane, O (ZULFA)
Moonsamy, Y (ENGHL, LIFE)
Mqadi, S (ZULFA, HIST, BSTD, LIFE)
Mshengu, S (ZULFA, LFSC, ACCO, LIFE)
Msimang, M (ENGHL, ZULFA, VSLA, LFSC, LIFE)
Msimang, N (ZULFA, BSTD, LIFE, MLIT)
Mthembu, L (ZULFA, LIFE)
Mthiyane, T (ZULFA, LIFE, DRMA)
Mtolo, A (ZULFA)
Muthwa, S (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE)
Naidoo, S (LIFE)
Ndaba, Z (ZULFA, LIFE)
Ndanganeni, L (ENGHL, ZULFA, MLIT, LIFE, HIST)
Ndebele, S (LFSC, LIFE)
Ndimande, A (ZULFA)
Ndlela, S (ZULFA, LIFE)
Ndlovu, T (ZULFA, LIFE)
Ndudane, L (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, VSLA)
Ndumo, A (ENGHL, AFRFA, LIFE, ACCO, LFSC)
Nel, M (MLIT)
Nene, S (ZULFA, MLIT, BSTD)
Ngcobo, A (ZULFA, MLIT, LIFE, HIST)
Ngcobo, A (ZULFA, VSLA, BSTD)
Ngcobo, A (ZULFA, LIFE)
Ngcobo, N (ZULFA, MUSC)
Ngobese, S (ZULFA, LIFE)
Ngubane, S (ZULFA)
Ngubane, W (ENGHL, ZULFA, LFSC, BSTD, LIFE)
Ngubo, M (ZULFA, MLIT)
Ngwenya, A (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, HIST)
Nondabula, S
Ntsele, L (ZULFA, LIFE, LFSC)
Ntshangase, N (HIST)
Ntuli, Y (ZULFA, LIFE)
Nundlall, K (MLIT)
Nxele, A (ZULFA)
Nxumalo, A (ZULFA, LIFE)
Nxumalo, E (ENGHL, ZULFA, MLIT, LIFE)
Nxumalo, F (ZULFA)
Nyembe, S (ZULFA, LIFE)
Nzimande, A (ZULFA)
Padayachee, K
Pepeta, L (ZULFA, PHSC, LFSC, HIST, LIFE)
Perumal, L
Phakathi, L (ZULFA)
Phewa, Z (ZULFA)
Phungula, K (ZULFA)
Pillay, K (ENGHL, AFRFA, LIFE, BSTD, GEOG)
Pillay, S (ENGHL, MATH, LFSC, ACCO, LIFE)
Radebe, U
Ramcharran, T
Ramjan, S (ENGHL, VSLA, BSTD, LIFE)
Ramsay, D (ENGHL, VSLA, BSTD, LIFE)
Ranchod, C
Rankapole, L (LIFE)
Shabangu, U (ZULFA)
Shandu, L (ZULFA, LIFE)
Shange, N
Shariff, A (ENGHL, LIFE)
Shembe, W (ENGHL, ZULFA, MLIT, LIFE, LFSC, VSLA)
Shezi, A (ZULFA, HIST)
Shezi, A (ZULFA)
Shezi, L (ZULFA)
Shezi, S (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, ACCO, LFSC)
Shunmoogum, Z (LIFE)
Shushu, O (ZULFA, BSTD)
Shwala, J
Sifo, Z (ENGHL, ZULFA, HIST, DRMA)
Sigwili, A
Singh, N (HIST)
Singh, Z
Sishi, A
Sithole, A (ZULFA)
Sithole, E (BSTD, LIFE)
Smith, C
Soji, L (LIFE)
Sokhela, L
Sokhela, N (ZULFA, LIFE)
Sookdiyal, K (ENGHL, LFSC, ACCO)
Sosiba, M (LIFE)
Sosibo, Y (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE)
Springolo, K (VSLA, MLIT)
Suliman, F
Swart, P
Thabethe, N (HIST, LIFE)
Thusi, S (HIST, LIFE, ZULFA)
Uzodike, N (ENGHL, AFRFA, LIFE, GEOG, LFSC)
Vorster, K (ENGHL, HIST, GEOG, MLIT)
Weilbach, K (ENGHL, AFRFA, LIFE, HIST)
Xaba, O (ENGHL, DRMA, LIFE)
Zakwe, E (LFSC, GEOG, LIFE, ZULFA)
Zakwe, Z (ENGHL, ZULFA, HIST, DRMA, LIFE)
Zondi, A (ZULFA, LIFE)
Zondo, N (ZULFA, GEOG, LIFE)
Zulu, S (ZULFA)
Zuma, A (ZULFA, LIFE)
Zuma, E
Zuma, S (ENGHL, ZULFA, LIFE, HIST)

Matric Dance

After several years' absence, the much-anticipated Matric Dance returned to GHS, thanks to the vision, creativity and dedication of our matric mothers. Set against the vibrant *Party in Ibiza* theme, the evening was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year, providing the Class of 2026 with an unforgettable celebration of friendship, achievement and sisterhood. Beyond the glamour and elegance, the evening honoured a remarkable group of young women who have journeyed together through years of shared experiences, challenges and successes. From dazzling photographs to joyful moments on the dance floor, memories were created that will be treasured long after they leave the school gates. The Matric Dance was a fitting tribute to the resilience, friendships and Green-and-White spirit that define the GHS journey.

















Seasons' Ball

The grade 11 Seasons' Ball, held at the Golden Horse Hotel and Casino, provided the perfect opportunity for our girls to come together for an evening of elegance, celebration and connection. Dressed in their finest attire, learners and their partners enjoyed a memorable evening filled with music, dancing, laughter and friendship in a beautifully decorated setting. The event created an occasion for lasting memories while celebrating the bonds that make the GHS experience so meaningful. The grade 11 Seasons' Ball remains a cherished tradition, celebrating the friendships, achievements and unforgettable moments that make our school community unique.

Senior Speech Day



Guest speaker, Bronwyn Williams

Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School proudly celebrated the exceptional achievements of the Class of 2026 at its annual Senior Speech Day, a cherished tradition that recognises academic excellence, leadership, perseverance, service and character among the school's grade 12 learners.

In his address to the Class of 2026, Principal Mr Marwick reflected on the remarkable spirit that has defined this cohort throughout their years at Girls' High. He spoke of the exuberance, energy and joy the girls have brought to school life and the way they have embodied the unique GHS sisterhood through their unwavering support of one another. He also acknowledged the profound loss of Luthando Ntshangase, Sasasa Zondi and Anathi Mtshare during the year, reminding the audience that while achievements are important, it is ultimately people and the relationships we build that matter most. Encouraging the matriculants as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives, he urged them to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, remain true to themselves and carry the values of Girls' High with them wherever life may lead.

The ceremony was made even more special by the presence of guest speaker Bronwyn Williams (née Barnes), Class of 2002, who returned to her alma mater to inspire the graduating class. Drawing on her own journey, she encouraged learners to dream boldly, persevere through challenges and make the most of every opportunity presented to them.

Senior Speech Day honoured learners with Academic Certificates of Merit, Half Colours, Colours and Academic Honours, while subject prizes recognised excellence across a wide range of disciplines. A number of prestigious special prizes were awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement, talent, service and character.

SUBJECT PRIZES

Havanah Govender and **Lucy Walker:** First in Business Studies
Nomlando Hlongwane: First in Dramatic Arts
Anke Koekemoer: First in Afrikaans
Megan Neizel: First in Life Sciences
Asanele Ngcobo: First in isiZulu
Realeboga Phoko: First in History
Rhiannon Pillay: First in Visual Arts
Esther Potgieter: First in Mathematical Literacy
Alison Shuttleworth: First in Consumer Studies

SPECIAL PRIZES

Anele Sokhela: Margarethe Kerkovius Award for Musical Contribution
Sarah Botha: Cyril Wright Award for Musicianship
Kiara Reddy: Musical Excellence Award
Taliyah Easthorpe and **Aadya Sarupen:** Carolyn Burns Trophy for Art
Rhiannon Pillay: Sutton Trophy for History of Art
Anneleen Kruger: Garden Show Trophy for Art Practical Work
Nomlando Hlongwane: Joyce Dowse Award for Achievement in Drama
Asilondwe Makhanya: Pugin Award for Involvement in Dramatic Activities
Sophia Wüst: Consumer Studies Award for Outstanding Practical Work
Zarah Paterson: Consumer Studies Award for Significant Improvement in Practical Work
Zarah Paterson: Phipson Trophy for Progress in Life Sciences
Sophia Wüst: Library Service Award
Darshini Reddy: Rambiritch Trophy for Creative Writing
Zara Hove: Levin Trophy for Languages and History
Yuvna Gangaram: Standard Bank Prize for Excellence in Accounting
Keziah Naidoo and **Megan Neizel:** Gift of the Givers Trophy for Excellence in Mathematics and Sciences
Akhazimuliswe Mchunu: Honor Mitchell Award for Endeavour
Zarah Paterson: Eleanor Graham Award for Perseverance
Iminathi Bacela and **Siyamethemba Khumalo:** Nozipho Mbanjwa Award
Oluchukwu Eke: Olive Davies Award for Community Concern
Amahle Nzimande: Mary Harrison Memorial Award for Cheerfulness, Enthusiasm, Friendliness and Loyalty
Iysti Sewram: Clark/Pistorius Trophy for Empathy and Rapport



Megan Neizel



Oluchukwu Eke



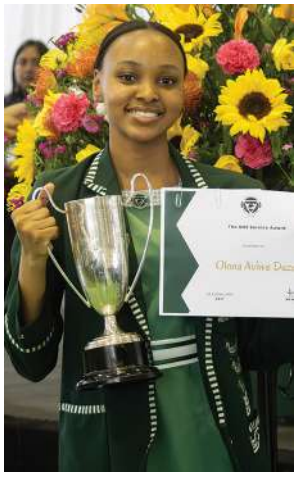
Amahle Nzimande

Kiara Reddy: Rotary Gay Le Page Award
Siyamethemba Khumalo: Gardner O'Connor Cup for All-round Achievement
Olona Duze: GHS Service Award
Iminathi Bacela: Niven Award
Oluchukwu Eke: Sylvia Vietzen Award for Exceptional Service and Contribution to the Life of the School
Megan Neizel: Steer Versatility Award


Akhazimuliswe Mchunu


Siyamethemba Khumalo


Zarah Paterson


Olona Duze


Iysti Sewram


Iminathi Bacela

TOP THREE LEARNERS IN GRADE 12, 2026


Keziah Naidoo

Third Position: Keziah Naidoo. Placed third in grade 12, Keziah Naidoo combined academic excellence with meaningful service as a committed student leader and active participant in the recycling society, interact society, string ensemble and squash. She received academic honours, the Standard Bank Prize for Excellence in Accounting and the Andrew Graaf Memorial Award for third in grade 12. She will be pursuing mechatronics engineering at Stellenbosch University.


Nicole Dell

Second Position: Nicole Dell. Placing second in grade 12, Nicole Dell distinguished herself through outstanding academic achievement and active involvement in robotics and quantum computing, the mathematics and science club, squash and peer counselling. She earned academic honours, placed first in English, geography and information technology and received the Taryn and Mandy Burroughs Trophy for second in grade 12. She will study mechanical engineering at the University of Cape Town.


Kiara Reddy

First Position: Kiara Reddy: Dux scholar Kiara Reddy is a consistently exceptional academic, leader and musician. She served as deputy head prefect and was chairperson of the 2026 recycling society and the 2025 Hindu students' society. She achieved academic honours, placed first in accounting, mathematics, music and physical science and received the prestigious Blunt Family Dux Award for first in grade 12. She will study actuarial science at the University of Cape Town.

Societies

Blood Buddies and First Aid Society

COMMITTEE: L Chirwa, O Duze, N Hlophe, H Ince, Q Jongisa, S Maharaj, E Naidoo, Z Sewram
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs S Chetty, Mrs M Nkwinikwa



BLOOD BUDDIES AND FIRST AID SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: N Hlophe, Z Sewram, E Naidoo, Q Jongisa, S Maharaj
Front Row: L Chirwa, Mrs S Chetty, O Duze, Mrs M Nkwinika, H Ince

This year was filled with activities and responsibilities. From eager newcomers earning level 1 certification to experienced first aiders achieving level 3, the society experienced remarkable growth and dedication. The society assembly at the start of the year inspired many learners to join. They subsequently participated in comprehensive workshops throughout the year to gain certification. These sessions combined online theoretical learning with practical, hands-on training. Our members thoroughly enjoyed these workshops, which provided valuable real-world life skills such as administering CPR, bandaging various wounds and managing emergency care.

First aiders regularly served at after-school fixtures across various sporting codes. Their commitment remained steadfast even during examination periods, as they willingly volunteered their services for their peers' and the school's benefit. Beyond day-to-day matches, members provided essential support at major events, including the Trail Run and the prestigious 34th annual Val Fowler Basketball Tournament. Spanning three demanding days, the tournament challenged our team to maintain composure during high-stress situations. The event highlighted their exceptional dedication, as they worked long, challenging hours while consistently maintaining a warm, cheerful demeanour.

Another highlight was hosting three successful blood drives in partnership with SANBS. Five grade 11 Blood Buddies led these initiatives, ensuring flawless execution throughout. They organised the event logistics, managed the administrative tasks and cared for donors recovering after giving blood. Furthermore, they actively raised awareness beforehand to maximise participation in this life-saving cause.

Overall, this year showcased the very best of our society. The first aid society comprises remarkable young women who demonstrate resilience and a profound commitment to community service, all while fostering strong bonds of sisterhood. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our first aiders for their invaluable contributions to the society and the broader school community. They truly embody our school motto, "Cheerfulness with Industry".



Art Society

COMMITTEE: R Pillay, A Sarupen, L Dlamini, N Nxumalo
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss A Dodo

The art society has enjoyed another wonderfully creative year, serving as a vibrant hub that connects learners through a shared love for art and expression. Throughout the year, our regular meetings focused on making art an enjoyable, social experience while allowing members to actively develop their creative skills. A primary focus was still life drawing, which tested learners' understanding of technical elements like perspective and taught them how to collaborate effectively with fellow creatives.

Beyond our regular sessions, members channelled their individual talents into key initiatives for the wider school community. The society published an Easter colouring book featuring unique designs created and drawn by each learner for others to enjoy. Another major highlight was our involvement in Founders' Day – one of the busiest events on the school calendar. Members experimented with painting creative designs on fellow learners' faces, bringing energy and colour to the occasion.



ART SOCIETY COMMITTEE
A Sarupen, L Dlamini, Miss A Dodo, R Pillay, N Nxumalo

Ultimately, the art society has been a fantastic space for learners to explore their creativity, work together and, most importantly, have fun. Looking towards the coming year, we hope to continue building on this creative momentum, exploring new artistic ideas and seeing what innovative projects we will come up with next.

Dance Society



DANCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: O Duze, Q Jongisa, D Reddy
Front Row: G Khethelo, A Sokhela, Mrs P Basi, Y Maphumulo, K Khanyile

COMMITTEE: O Duze, Q Jongisa, K Khanyile, G Khethelo, Y Maphumulo, A Ndlovu
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs P Basi, Mrs I Boshoff, Mrs L Thomas

The dance society enjoyed an exceptionally successful and rewarding year. On 9 May 2026, our members proudly represented the school at the prestigious Inqolobane Speech and Cultural Competition hosted by Estcourt High School. Competing alongside talent from eight participating schools across the Ukhahlamba, uThukela and uMgungundlovu districts, our girls delivered outstanding performances. Four of our members earned top honours, securing first, second and third positions across multiple categories, including in the prepared speech, poetry, quiz and reading sections of the competition.

Our African Zumba genre achieved exceptional recognition, taking home several distinguished awards, including Best Behaviour, Overall Excellence in Performance, Cheerfulness, and Pride in isiZulu Culture. Following this remarkable success, the African Zumba group, along with the award-winning speech and poetry participants, received a prestigious invitation from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) to perform at their official UKZN Africa Day Celebrations.

In August, the society hosted its highly anticipated annual Dance Society Showcase, providing a fantastic platform to celebrate the technique, artistic growth and dedication developed by our dancers throughout the year. The production profiled the society's rich variety of styles, including contemporary, hip-hop, kwaito, Latin and ballroom, modern Indian, ballet, K-pop and African Zumba. Entirely student-led, our members stepped into leadership roles as genre advisors and choreographers for their respective disciplines. We are particularly fortunate to have among our dancers some who train with external dance academies, as they generously shared their advanced skills and expertise, mentoring and elevating their peers within the school community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our members for their unwavering commitment and passion, which continue to drive the growth and success of the dance society.

Bridge Building Society

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs S Duma, Mrs S Singh

Participation in the SAICE Competitions 2026 – Building Bridges and Water Systems, Shaping Futures – serves as a vital gateway for aspiring young engineers at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, immersing them in the professional realm of civil engineering through creative design, structural innovation and practical problem-solving. Driven by passion, up to three teams of three learners each represented the school in every event. Members gathered for regular after-school practice sessions and intensive Saturday workshops during terms one and three, refining their technical expertise while building strong camaraderie.

The season kicked off with the term one Water Competition at St Charles College, followed by the prestigious term three Bridge Building Competition, generously sponsored by UKZN and leading civil engineering firms. Our grade 11 learners excelled in every aspect. In addition to securing an impressive seventh-place finish in the water category, the girls reached major milestones in the bridge-building arena. Veteran competitors Samiksha Maharaj, Alizwa Tolibadi and Amphiwe Ntombela achieved seventh place, while first-time participants Ongeziwe Zulu, Jordyn Anthoo and Omuhle Ndlovu placed sixteenth out of thirty-two competing teams.

Demonstrating true leadership, senior members Alizwa Tolibadi and Samiksha Maharaj spearheaded peer-led workshops to pass along critical knowledge to younger learners keen to become involved. Every entrant received a participation trophy and the programme proudly welcomed a new junior team – Raeesa Ismail, Mikayla Pillay and Mehdhavi Naidoo – who are ready to take on the challenges ahead.

Beyond the technical challenges, these activities cultivate teamwork, discipline and valuable networking connections. They also uplift the wider school community by empowering peers and reinforcing a strong dedication to excellence and female representation in STEM. Looking ahead, SAICE at GHS continues to inspire a confident new generation of leaders who are prepared to connect classroom theory with dynamic careers in engineering.



SAICE WATER COMPETITION
Back Row: S Maharaj, O Ndlovu, A Tolibadi, J Anthoo
Front Row: O Zulu, Mrs S Singh, A Ntombela



BRIDGE BUILDING SOCIETY
Back Row: M Naidoo, M Pillay, O Ndlovu, R Ismail, Mrs S Singh
Front Row: J Anthoo, O Zulu, A Tolibadi, A Ntombela, S Maharaj

Debating Society

COMMITTEE: I Bacela, I Madikizela, H Ince
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mr M Maikoo, Miss H Ngobese, Miss Y Padayachee

The debating society enjoyed an outstanding 2026 season, with our learners demonstrating confidence, critical thinking, resilience and a genuine passion for debating. Throughout the year, our debaters competed in the Pietermaritzburg Debating League and the KwaZulu-Natal Schools' Debating Championships, representing Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School with distinction.

A major highlight of our engagement with the PMB Debating League was when our grade 8 team, GHS 2, defeated Grace College in the quarter-finals before progressing to the final at Hilton College. The team, comprising Alibongwe Sibisi, Areya Dheoraj and Likhabiso Matete, defeated Maritzburg College to become the grade 8 champions. Alibongwe was named Best Speaker in the final, while Areya was also recognised as Best Speaker in the quarter-finals. Our junior team also enjoyed success, defeating GHS 1 in what turned out to be a Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School-only semi-final, where Yolanda Cele was named Best Speaker.

Twelve learners represented GHS at the KZN Debating Championships from 24–26 July. Several of our learners were selected for KZN trialist squads, while Qhawekazi Mdluli formed part of the Junior Open Runner-up Team and Hannah Ince, a KZN trialist, ranked first in the province for Senior Reply Speech.



DEBATING SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: Miss D Scholtz, H Ince, Miss Y Padayachee
Front Row: I Madikizela, Mr M Maikoo, I Bacela

The year brought further international recognition when Iminathi Bacela was selected to represent South Africa as a Protea at the World Schools Debating Tournament in Kenya.

With six learners selected to trial for Nationals, the future of GHS debating looks exceptionally bright. We look forward to another year of developing confident speakers, critical thinkers and young leaders.

Entrepreneurship Society

COMMITTEE: K Dlamini, L Manning, N Ndlovu, M Nyathi
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr N Hiralall

In a rapidly changing world, the traditional classroom is only the beginning of an education. Today's young women are not waiting around for opportunities to find them; they are actively creating them. At the entrepreneurship society, we believe business is about far more than simple profit and loss. It is a dynamic platform for creativity, independence, problem-solving and building the confidence needed to lead in any industry. Our society serves as a bustling incubator for big ideas, offering a dedicated space where ambitious dreams begin to take shape, whether that means launching a global tech startup, designing a sustainable fashion line, or creating a community-focused social enterprise.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP SOCIETY COMMITTEE
K Dlamini, M Nyathi, Mr N Hiralall, L Manning, N Ndlovu

As a completely student-led initiative, we operate daily to develop practical business skills that extend far beyond the limits of standard textbooks. Our regular activities give members a hands-on taste of the real commercial world. Through interactive pitch workshops, students learn how to structure viable business models, manage strict budgets and confidently present their visions to an audience. We also regularly host successful female entrepreneurs and accomplished alumnae as guest speakers who share raw, honest insights about navigating modern business. Furthermore, our members put their learning to the ultimate test during Market Day, running actual micro-businesses on campus while handling everything from inventory supply chains to marketing strategy.

This past year has been one of our most successful yet, marked by incredible member achievements both on and off campus. In line with our commitment to social entrepreneurship, our annual Market Days generated record-breaking revenues that directly supported community initiatives. Members also learned invaluable lessons in resilience, pivoting through design challenges to launch several sustainable product prototypes. You do not need a fully formed business plan to join us, just curiosity and drive. We look forward to welcoming new members as we continue building the future together.

Empower-her Society

COMMITTEE: O Khumalo, T Mthethwa, N Sahle
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs N Maharaj, Miss T Naicker

Throughout 2026, the empower-her society served as a vibrant sanctuary where students could learn, grow and build lasting connections within a fun, uplifting environment. Designed to cultivate resilience and self-assurance, the society's dynamic programme inspired members to embrace their individuality and unlock their full potential.



EMPOWER-HER SOCIETY COMMITTEE
N Sahle, T Duma, Mrs N Maharaj, T Mthethwa, O Khumalo

Our sessions featured an array of interactive, confidence-building games and creative activities. These engaging icebreakers encouraged us to try new things, speak confidently and share our ideas openly. Beyond the lively group challenges, the society provided a safe, welcoming space for meaningful dialogue. During our round-table discussions, members openly shared personal experiences, offered diverse perspectives and tackled real-world issues facing young women today.

A stand-out highlight of the year was hosting an inspiring guest speaker, Megnot Fanta (a GHS alumna). She generously shared her professional journey, imparted practical life wisdom and offered invaluable guidance on navigating personal growth and career ambitions. Her powerful message resonated deeply, leaving everyone motivated to pursue their goals with renewed determination.

Ultimately, the empower-her society delivered far more than weekly meetings; it forged a powerful network of peer encouragement. By developing vital leadership skills, refining public speaking capabilities and fostering genuine empathy, the society reminded us of the profound impact of uplifting others as we climb. As we look ahead to next year, the society remains dedicated to nurturing bold future leaders and strengthening the spirit of sisterhood across our school community.

Enviro-care Society

COMMITTEE: K Burt, H Derengi, A Madlala, M Mutereko, D Reis, P Vorster
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Dr A-L Shuttleworth, Miss J Sivechurran, Mrs C Tarr



ENVIRO-CARE SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: P Vorster, Mrs C Tarr, H Derengi, Miss J Sivechurran, K Burt
Front Row: M Mutereko, Dr A-L Shuttleworth, D Reis

The enviro-care society is a dedicated group of approximately 30 learners who are passionate about the environment and enjoy learning about the natural world around them. The girls meet once a week on Monday afternoons.

The society has participated in several environmental initiatives, including a litter clean-up around the school grounds and a civvies day to raise funds for rhino conservation. The civvies day was a great success and raised enough money for the society to adopt two rhinos through WWF.

The girls have also been learning about the importance of recycling and have put their knowledge into practice by creating a beautiful artwork using recycled bottle tops. They are also decorating a wire rhino using recycled plastic bags. This project aims to raise awareness of the plight of rhinos while highlighting the importance of conservation and recycling.

More recently, the girls have been developing their tree-identification skills by exploring the school grounds and identifying the many indigenous tree species on our campus. This has helped them develop a greater appreciation for the biodiversity around them.

Looking ahead, we hope to provide opportunities for the girls to visit nature reserves and conservation areas. These experiences will give them valuable hands-on learning opportunities, deepen their understanding of conservation and inspire them to become responsible environmental stewards and passionate advocates for protecting our natural world.

Library Monitors

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Ms B Kelly, Miss J Sibisi

The year began with grade 8 library orientation, introducing new learners to the library's rules, procedures and resources. Book Week in the first term featured games organised by library monitors, a talk by local author Laurel Brits on self-publishing and a lively open-mic event that showcased student poetry and songs. The week concluded with a book character dress-up day and fashion show, which the monitors judged.

In the second term, a book scavenger hunt with cryptic clues encouraged participants to explore the collection and discover new authors. During the third term, monitors prepared digital slideshows and green-and-white decor for Reunion Day and also hosted an information table for visiting grade 6 learners on Open Day.

New monitors from grades 8 and 9 joined the team and received training from committee members and senior monitors to help them develop the skills and confidence needed for their new roles.

Later in the year, author Elise Chidley visited to discuss her book, *The Raven, the Wolf and the Rose*, offering insights into writing fiction. Meanwhile, to extend a love for reading beyond the school, the library donated older books to the Thaba Chweu Boarding School in Mpumalanga, supporting marginalised learners from closed farm schools. Special thanks to the library monitor team for their dedication, creativity and service throughout the year.



LIBRARY MONITORS
Back Row: E Hyde, T Parasuraman, N Mkhize, S Wüst, D Reddy
Front Row: Ms B Kelly, T Myeni, Miss J Sibisi

Green Elly Society

COMMITTEE: T Msimang, M Naidoo, C Reddy
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss Y Naidoo

Green Elly is the school's vibrant online newspaper and blog, providing learners with a unique platform to explore campus events while actively developing an understanding of modern journalism and creative writing. The society is a small, dedicated group consisting of six passionate members who regularly participate in workshops and contribute compelling articles to the blog throughout the school year.



GREEN ELLY SOCIETY COMMITTEE
C Reddy, M Naidoo, Miss Y Naidoo, T Msimang

Over the course of the past year, members have focused primarily on covering major events taking place within the school community. By engaging in this hands-on reporting process, learners have gained practical experience in identifying newsworthy stories, conducting interviews, gathering reliable information, writing polished articles and considering how current events can best be presented to a diverse readership. These activities and engagements have provided every member with invaluable opportunities to sharpen their written communication, editing and investigative skills.

In addition to publishing content on the school's online intranet, members enjoy full access to the global Write the World platform, which offers extra avenues to refine their creative writing techniques. This interactive system connects learners to international writing competitions held throughout the year, allowing them to engage with storytelling far beyond the immediate school environment and broaden their understanding of different literary forms, genres and global audiences.

Looking ahead to next year, the Green Elly society will continue to provide learners with opportunities to strengthen their journalism and creative writing skills while encouraging the broader student body to engage with and contribute to the wider life of the school.



GIRLS FOR GOD SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: S Gumede, N Gumede, N Ssekayita, Z Mchunu, Y Makhaye, N Mhlongo
Front Row: K Gumbi, Mrs S Chetty, O Dlamini, Mrs H Mazibuko, A Ngcobo

Girls for God Society

COMMITTEE: N Gumede, S Gumede, O Dlamini, K Gumbi, Y Makhaye, Z Mchunu, N Mhlongo, A Ngcobo, N Ssekayita
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs S Chetty, Mrs H Mazibuko

The Girls for God (GFG) society has enjoyed an exceptionally reflective, vibrant and deeply meaningful year, defined by a steadfast commitment to fellowship, heartfelt worship and active service. Throughout the academic year, our Wednesday break meetings served as a consistent sanctuary and weekly highlight. During these gatherings, students enthusiastically participated in uplifting worship sessions, thought-provoking group discussions and engaging Bible-based activities designed to foster individual spiritual growth alongside a strong, supportive sense of unity.

To enrich our meetings further, guest speakers frequently joined us to share valuable insights and encouraging words. Most notably, we were blessed to host the dedicated ministry team from One Life Church, whose inspiring monthly sessions resonated deeply with everyone present.

The executive committee met regularly during Monday breaks to plan upcoming initiatives. These included our major annual endeavours: the charity drive, our vibrant Founders' Day stall and the highly anticipated worship afternoon. Held on 21 August, this special afternoon event was organised in collaboration with Lisa de Kock and the energetic DLA Team from One Life Church. Additionally, morning prayer sessions on Mondays provided a peaceful start to the week, offering a quiet space for personal reflection, prayer and joyful testimonies.

Our Founders' Day stall was a fantastic success, raising vital funds that directly supported the worship afternoon and boosted our annual charity drive. The worship afternoon itself stood out as a memorable peak of the year, a powerful gathering where members united to worship, offer prayers and deepen their personal connection with God.



Though we navigated occasional scheduling challenges, the committee introduced creative solutions to keep meetings accessible, welcoming and engaging. Reflecting on this past year, these shared experiences have strengthened our bonds, inspiring our entire community to live out faith, kindness, selfless service and warm fellowship in all we do.

Hindu Students' Society

COMMITTEE: Z Sewram, K Naidoo, K Naidoo, S Raghubeer, S Singh
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs A Mohanlall

The Hindu Students' Society (HSS) promotes Hindu values, culture, spirituality and traditions while fostering an inclusive and supportive community. The society comprises 54 learners from grades 8 to 11, with five learners serving on the committee.

The HSS enjoyed a successful and enriching year, highlighted by its well-supported cultural show. Grade 11 learners participated in the Maritzburg College Hindu students' cultural show in June, while many learners supported their movie night. The annual excursion included visits to the 1860 Indian Heritage Centre in Durban and the Sivananda International Cultural Centre in La Mercy, providing valuable cultural and educational experiences.

The HSS also collaborated with Shri Vishnu Temple, giving learners opportunities to participate in the Basant Panchami and Holi festivals alongside learners from other schools. Community service included assisting with a temple fundraising event, packing meals for Rise Against Hunger and embarking on a clothes collection drive to support victims of the flash floods in Nepal.

During Gita Week in August, two learners presented an engaging discourse on Lord Krishna's teachings from the Bhagavad Gita. The HSS also developed entrepreneurial skills through a profitable vegetable biryani sale on Founders' Day.

All funds raised through HSS activities will be donated to charitable organisations, reinforcing the society's commitment to seva (selfless service) and community upliftment.



HINDU STUDENTS' SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: S Singh, K Naidoo, K Naidoo
Front Row: Z Sewram, Mrs A Mohanlall, S Raghubeer

Muslim Students' Association

COMMITTEE: S Aboobaker, S Amod, S Asmal, A Saeed, S Tajoodeen
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Miss Z Ebrahim, Mrs C Fox, Miss S Khan

The Muslim Students' Association enjoyed an exceptionally fruitful and fulfilling year in 2026. Our activities started off with our annual "Bonding" event, warmly welcoming the new grade 8 learners into our vibrant community. This year, we introduced a unique creative project in which members strung together personalised "tasbihs" (prayer beads used to count recitations). It was truly inspiring to see how deeply engrossed and delighted the girls were throughout this hands-on activity.

Our regular weekly gatherings took on an enriched format this year through the introduction of online guest speakers who delivered short, uplifting talks. We remain deeply grateful to the dedicated women who generously volunteered their time to prepare and present these meaningful, insightful lectures to our learners each week.

During our special Ramadaan observance, two guest speakers joined us to complete the recitation of the Holy Quran, which was followed by a heartfelt collective prayer. We also organised a dedicated *Zikr* programme, where members gathered to recite specific prayers in remembrance and praise of God.

The undisputed highlight of our calendar was the flagship MSA *Tea and Talk* fundraiser. This relaxed, entertaining afternoon brought together around 100 women to share delicious food, hear inspiring guest speakers and socialise. The event raised a wonderful R12 000 for an underprivileged school and showcased our association's broader mission. Additionally, we raised R4 000 at the Founders' Day picnic by selling delicious brownies, pancakes and refreshing Bombay Crush, with proceeds benefiting the Gift of the Givers Foundation.

Our annual Bake-Off proved to be another joyous occasion, featuring a fun *Scoopable Cookie* theme that brought plenty of laughter and culinary creativity to everyone involved.

Finally, the most impactful milestone of 2026 was the installation of two dedicated ablution facilities in the school bathrooms. This crucial upgrade enables Muslim learners and staff to perform their compulsory daily prayers with greater ease, dignity and efficiency. We extend our sincere gratitude to the school leadership and our generous sponsor for making this initiative possible.



LEGO WARRIORS' SOCIETY

Back Row: A Konar, O Daniels, D Naidoo, K Padayachee, A Ramsundar, R Pijoos

Front Row: N Ramkilowan, K Ranjeeth, Mrs S Pillay, D Padayachee, L Dlamini

LEGO Warriors' Society

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs S Pillay

The LEGO warriors' society is a vibrant, creative and educational extracurricular initiative that actively encourages learners to explore their imagination while refining essential technical and collaborative skills. Through hands-on building projects using LEGO, members systematically develop their problem-solving, spatial reasoning, teamwork and architectural design capabilities in a supportive setting. The society currently comprises 11 dedicated members and meets twice a week after school to collaborate on various constructive endeavours.

Throughout the academic year, members engaged in a diverse array of themed building activities and structured engineering challenges. These activities included fast-paced, timed building competitions that tested adaptability under pressure, as well as extensive collaborative projects that demanded thorough preliminary planning, effective communication, group coordination and artistic vision.

Beyond technical construction, the society contributes significantly to the broader school culture by fostering a highly inclusive, welcoming and engaging environment. It serves as a constructive space where learners can freely express their individual creativity while cultivating vital life skills, including patience, logical thinking, hand-eye coordination, effective leadership and collective problem-solving.

Looking ahead, the LEGO warriors' society aims to expand its membership, introduce increasingly complex building themes and dynamic multi-stage challenges and participate in broader inter-school exhibitions and external collaborative projects. Ultimately, the society remains committed to inspiring learners to think outside the box, embrace innovative design principles and bring their imaginative concepts to life brick by brick.



INTERACT SOCIETY COMMITTEE

M Ebrahim, Z Sewram, Mrs L Jasson, C Zondi, E Naidoo

Coding and Robotics Society



CODING AND ROBOTICS SOCIETY
Back Row: A Ntombela, A Ngcobo, S Maharaj
Front Row: Miss S Maharaj, K Mahlangu, N Dell, Mr N Lembethe

STAFF-IN-CHARGE: Mr N Lembethe

In coding and robotics, learners develop their coding, problem-solving and creativity skills through coding platforms. They learn how to build devices that can run successfully through set projects.

The coding and robotics programme typically begins the year with approximately 15 learners in the first term. However, due to commitments in other extracurricular activities, such as sports, music and art, membership numbers may decrease throughout the year as some learners need to prioritise those commitments.

This year, the coding and robotics society completed several practical projects, including the construction of a buzzer-wire game and a remote-controlled car. The society had also planned to begin work on an automated bridge project, which would incorporate sensors to control the opening and closing mechanism.

Coding and robotics contribute positively to both school life and the wider community by developing learners' problem-solving, creativity, teamwork and digital skills. They encourage innovation and prepares learners for future careers in technology and STEM-related fields. Through practical projects, learners also use technology to identify and develop solutions to real-world problems within their communities.

Going forward, we are hoping for more people to join the club and also to start participating in some external competitions.

Interact Society

COMMITTEE: M Ebrahim, E Naidoo, Z Sewram, C Zondi
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs I Boshoff, Miss M de Lange, Mrs R Diaz, Mrs L Jasson

At the Interact society, service and community engagement are central to everything we do. Throughout the year, our members enthusiastically participated in a diverse array of initiatives, dedicating their time and effort to support both individuals and local organisations in need.

A highlight of 2026 was our dual sandwich-making project. Through dedicated teamwork, close to 500 sandwiches were prepared and delivered to the feeding scheme at Injoloba Secondary School in Howick, generously donated via the God's Family Life Church Foundation. A second outreach provided another 500 sandwiches to the Ramatha Road Primary School feeding scheme in Northdale, ensuring nutritious support for young learners.

Our outreach extended to those with special needs during a deeply moving visit to the boarding establishment at Peter Pan Special School. Having gathered generous donations of toys and stationery from GHS learners and staff, the girls spent a humbling and emotional afternoon sharing laughter, music and conversation with the children.

Demonstrating compassion for our four-legged friends, members also combined creativity and care by handcrafting toys for dogs and cats. These creations were donated to Pietermaritzburg Kitten Fostering and Rescue to support animals awaiting their forever homes.

Another cherished highlight was our visit to Marian Villa Retirement Village. The girls spent an uplifting afternoon interacting with residents over games, heartfelt conversations, classic songs and decadent cupcakes. We were especially delighted to discover several GHS old girls among the residents. Additionally, dedicated members braved a cold Saturday morning to man tables and serve at the annual Marian Villa fête.

Through every project, the Interact society continues to foster a spirit of generosity, leadership and meaningful connection within our wider community.

Marketing Society

COMMITTEE: K Bapela, K Mahlangu, S Mangundu
STAFF-IN-CHARGE: Miss T Mthalane, Mrs S Upfold

The GHS marketing society continued to play an integral role in showcasing and celebrating the vibrant life of our school throughout 2026. Through their creativity, innovation and dedication, members contributed fresh ideas and valuable skills, helping to tell the GHS narrative in meaningful and engaging ways.

The society provided essential support at key school events, including on open days, Reunion Day, at the Harmony Festival and the Val Fowler Basketball Tournament. Through photography, videography and the creation of dynamic digital content, the team captured memorable moments and highlighted the energy, achievements and spirit that make GHS such a special community.

From producing engaging social media content and visual communications to supporting recruitment initiatives and major school events, the marketing society played a key role in showcasing the GHS brand. Their compelling storytelling helped celebrate the everyday experiences, successes and opportunities that define the GHS journey.

The team also engaged with a wide range of stakeholders, including staff, fellow learners, parents, alumnae and prospective families, helping to strengthen connections and profile the GHS experience within the broader community. Their efforts ensured that the school was able to creatively communicate its diverse activities and distinctive identity authentically and with pride.

A special thank you goes to our outstanding 2026 leadership team, Karabo Bapela, Keoagile Mahlangu and Sharon Mangundu, whose vision, enthusiasm and commitment inspired the society and guided its many successes throughout the year. Their leadership has made an indelible mark and helped ensure that the spirit of GHS continues to shine both within our school and beyond.



MARKETING SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: Mrs R Niemack, Mr N Hiralall, Mrs K de Goede
Front Row: K Mahlangu, Miss T Mthalane, K Bapela, Mrs S Upfold, S Mangudu



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Model UN Society

COMMITTEE: N Mthimkhulu, T Myeni, O Ngcobo
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs M Nkwinika

Model United Nations (UN) is a society that simulates the United Nations, where learners engage in diplomatic debates on world issues. The purpose of our society is to educate young ladies about international relations and open their minds to global issues while simultaneously developing their public speaking and research skills.



MODEL UN COMMITTEE
Back Row: N Mthimkhulu, I Pillay, B Dlamini
Front Row: O Ngcobo, Mrs M Nkwinika, T Myeni

We currently have 20 members and we meet every Wednesday after school. Key events this year include our attendance at two conferences hosted by EduFleek. On 30 May 2026, our young ladies proudly returned with two awards: Bonita Dlamini was named Distinguished Delegate, while Zenzo Mchunu and Bonita Dlamini were named the Best Delegation at the conference.

On 1 August we attended yet another conference by EduFleek, where we returned with the following awards: Thulisile Ndleleni – Distinguished Delegate; Bukhobakhe Silinga – Best Speaker; Bonita Dlamini and Indira Pillay – Silver award for teamwork.

We started this society to make a difference in our school. We hoped to encourage people to think outside the box and develop their critical thinking skills while having freedom to debate their different views with decorum and diplomacy. We have noticed a wonderful growth in confidence among the learners, particularly in how comfortably they express themselves and approach challenges with maturity.

Going forward, we hope to reach more people, particularly the junior grades, so they can all grow together and, hopefully, one day host our own conference at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School.

Mathematics and Science Society

COMMITTEE: A Khan, P Khubeka, L Ngubane, K Mthethwa, K Padayachee
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs S Charfaray, Mr P Kucherera

Throughout 2026, the mathematics and science society proudly provided learners with a vibrant and stimulating space to explore fascinating concepts, tackle intellectual challenges and uncover the wonders of the physical and mathematical universe. Through creative interactive workshops, collaborative discussions and passionate participation, our mission was to cultivate an enduring sense of confidence, critical thinking and boundless curiosity in every member.

Our regular Wednesday afternoon sessions quickly became a buzzing hub of discovery. Members eagerly engaged in strategic mathematics puzzles, logic games and hands-on science experiments, all of which emphasised problem-solving and teamwork. Popular general knowledge quizzes offered a thrilling format to test scientific literacy, foster friendly competition and reveal surprising truths about everything from quantum mechanics to natural ecosystems.

The undisputed highlight of our academic year was the unforgettable excursion to the Olwazini Discovery Centre on 8 October 2026. This immersive experience offered learners a fantastic opportunity to see abstract classroom theories come alive through dynamic, hands-on exhibits and real-world applications. The girls spent hours exploring interactive displays representing physics, robotics and environmental science. The trip successfully ignited fresh enthusiasm, encouraged active inquiry and deepened everyone's appreciation for how mathematical and scientific innovation shapes our everyday lives.



MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SOCIETY COMMITTEE
Back Row: A Khan, K Mthethwa, K Padayachee, P Khubeka
Front Row: L Ngubane, Mr P Kucherera

Looking ahead, the society aims to broaden its programme with an exciting range of new and engaging activities. Through these initiatives, we hope to nurture learners' curiosity, strengthen their enthusiasm for mathematics and science and inspire more learners to join the society in the coming year.



RECYCLING SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Back Row: H Sewlal, C Hauptfleisch, M Roestorf, P Vorster, L Manning, G Shwala, C Slaughter

Front Row: S Sithebe, Mrs L Dellar, K Reddy, K Naidoo, Mr N Sibisi, N Uzodike

Recycling Society

COMMITTEE: K Naidoo, K Reddy, S Sithebe, N Uzodike, M Vezasie

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs L Dellar, Mr N Sibisi

The recycling society is a committed group of learners who are passionate about protecting our environment and making a positive contribution to our school and wider community.

The society has grown significantly, with over 150 committed and passionate members who regularly contribute to our recycling initiatives. The girls give of themselves selflessly and have shown wonderful dedication and enthusiasm.

We had a particularly successful year, with our second term recycling competition creating great excitement and encouraging classes to increase their recycling efforts. A huge congratulations goes to grade 8E, Mrs Ramlall's class, who collected the most recycling. As winners of the competition, they were rewarded with a well-deserved class party.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our grade 12 committee girls for their outstanding service to the recycling society. Their commitment, dedication and enthusiasm have contributed greatly to the growth of our society. We also thank all the other grade 12 girls who have participated in the recycling society for their service, commitment and dedication.

As we look ahead, we hope to continue growing our membership and encouraging even more learners to recycle. Recycling is important because it reduces waste, saves valuable resources and helps protect our environment for future generations.

Poetry Society

COMMITTEE: Z Dube, S Tobo

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr T Nkosi

The poetry society has enjoyed a vibrant and productive year, defined by the impressive hard work, steadfast commitment and artistic dedication of its members.

A major highlight of the calendar was the annual *Night of the Writer* evening. Far more than a simple recital, the event offered a wonderful platform for our young ladies to connect with fellow writers and immerse themselves in the creative process, keeping the spirit of poetic expression alive. Hosted by Maritzburg College, the gathering brought together poets from Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School and Epworth for an evening filled with creative inspiration, enriching conversation and delicious food.

Our members also extended their reach beyond the school gates by participating in the UKZN Centre for Creative Arts, where ten students from Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School were invited to attend the Poetry Africa Festival and the fifth World Poetry Slam Championship. Notably, Philasande Mchunu had the distinct honour of winning the event and being invited to represent the school on 5 October 2026 at the Durban Playhouse, where she delivered an outstanding performance in the Chalkboard Slammer. The society takes immense pride in these achievements and looks forward to continuing to nurture our writers' creative voices in the future.



POETRY SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Miss S Maharaj, S Tobo, Z Dube, Mr T Nkosi



RUGBY REFEREES' SOCIETY
Back Row: K Sipika, A Ndaba, K van Rooyen, H Hlophe
Second Row: A Maartens, L van der Berg, R Ismail, L Draai
Front Row: B Mbambalala, S Mbonambi, Mr M Marwick, N Shabalala, P-F Cebekhulu

Rugby Referees' Society

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr M Marwick

Established in January 2026, the rugby referees' society introduced a novel dynamic to the growing rugby culture at Girls' High School. While rugby development typically concentrates on players, creating this society acknowledged that young people can engage with the sport in diverse ways, finding unique rewards and challenges through officiating.

The initial objective of the society was ambitious yet clear: introduce interested GHS girls to rugby's laws, traditions and spirit, equipping them with sufficient practical knowledge to progress from touch judge to assistant referee and ultimately to referee. Training started with core fundamentals. Participants discovered rugby extends beyond memorising rules. They explored the Spirit of the Game, fair play, contest and continuity, alongside scoring methods, player roles across fifteen positions and distinctive elements like scrums, lineouts, rucks and mauls. Crucially, they studied the match official's duties.



The programme benefited greatly from the mentorship and guidance provided by the Midlands Rugby Referees' Sub-Society, with special thanks to Mr G Little for his ongoing support. Furthermore, over 20 GHS students completed the national refereeing examination, marking a vital step towards formal qualification. Wednesday afternoon workshops provided practical instruction, but the primary learning occurred on the touchline. During the boys' rugby season, our girls spent Saturdays gaining field experience as touch judges at local schools, notably Maritzburg College, learning that applying rules under pressure from players, coaches and spectators differs greatly from theoretical understanding.

The society's stand-out achievement during its inaugural year was seeing students take on new challenges, master complex technical skills and test their decision-making in public. Officiating instils courage, fairness, composure and decisiveness, qualities that are valuable far beyond the sports field. With firm foundations established, we anticipate the society expanding in future years, hopeful that GHS officials will advance from touchlines to blowing the whistle at higher levels.

GHS-Awake Society

COMMITTEE: B Dlamini, L Manciya, I Pillay
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss F Pather

GHS-Awake continues to be one of the most dynamic and engaging discussion-based societies at our school. Every week, learners gather to explore thought-provoking issues that shape our world. More than simply a discussion group, GHS-Awake provides a safe, welcoming and non-judgemental space where young women can educate themselves, challenge their perspectives and develop the confidence to express their views respectfully.

Each meeting introduces a relevant topic and encourages open and honest dialogue. This year, discussions focused on important issues, including women's health and safety, menstrual health, media literacy and religion. These conversations encouraged learners to ask questions, consider different perspectives and develop a more profound understanding of the world around them.

A key focus of GHS-Awake is engaging in meaningful action. Our involvement in the Founders' Day Picnic Market, where the society sold ice creams to raise funds, demonstrated our commitment. We used the money we raised to purchase sanitary pads for an underprivileged school, allowing our discussions to translate into tangible support for others.



GHS-AWAKE COMMITTEE
L Manciya, B Dlamini, Miss F Pather, I Pillay

GHS-Awake continues to empower young women to think critically, engage respectfully, broaden their horizons and use their voices to make a positive difference within their school and wider community.

President's Award



PRESIDENT'S AWARD COMMITTEE
Back Row: H Sewlal, N Ngubane, S Buthelezi, S Pannalall
Front Row: Mrs K Ramlall, S Maharaj, T Dunlop, Mr D Reddy

COMMITTEE: S Buthelezi, T Dunlop, S Maharaj, N Ngubane, S Pannalall, H Sewlal
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs K Ramlall, Mr D Reddy

The President's Award is an internationally recognised youth development framework designed to challenge young people, foster essential life skills and empower them to become proactive, responsible leaders. Operating outside the traditional classroom setting, the programme provides a structured pathway for participants to set personal goals, develop resilience and expand their perspectives.

At the heart of the programme, four core sections cultivate distinct qualities and strengths. Physical recreation encourages an active lifestyle while instilling discipline, commitment and perseverance. The skills component promotes patience, dedication and creative thinking as participants learn new crafts or refine existing talents. Through voluntary service, learners develop empathy, social awareness and civic responsibility by actively addressing challenges within their local communities. Finally, the adventurous journey tests teamwork, leadership and outdoor problem-solving skills in demanding physical environments.

Our learners echo the transformative impact of these challenges. Reflecting on her silver level expedition, a rigorous 48 km hike through the Karkloof area, Tessa Dunlop shared that stepping outside her comfort zone proved to be an eye-opening experience. She noted that overcoming the physical and mental hurdles taught her invaluable lessons in determination, resilience and self-belief, while also creating meaningful, lasting friendships along the way.

Our school continues to build a strong legacy within the programme. This year, we celebrate ten learners who successfully earned their bronze certificates and three who achieved their silver awards. We would like to give special recognition to the three dedicated girls who are taking on the prestigious gold level this year. Their ambition and commitment to personal growth embody the true spirit of the President's Award and we wish them every success on their journey.

Indigenous Games Society

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss H Ngobese

Our indigenous games society has continued to flourish and we were thrilled to welcome several new faces to our community. With our membership now standing at 15 girls, our weekly after-school gatherings have quickly become a vibrant and meaningful highlight of the school week.

While we have not yet ventured into external inter-school competitions, the heart of our society lies in the strong sense of camaraderie built right here on our campus. Every week, the girls gather to connect, stay active and share their heritage through play. From energetic tests of quick reflexes and strategy to lively outdoor team games and rhythm challenges, our sessions are always filled with laughter, friendly rivalry and movement.

More than just a physical activity, the society offers a well-deserved sanctuary from the digital world. Stepping away from their cellphones, the girls immerse themselves in traditional outdoor games that promote fitness, strategic thinking, teamwork and quick reflexes. What makes our society truly special is its collaborative spirit: it serves as a platform where students proudly share games from their own cultural backgrounds, teaching their peers and discovering new traditional pastimes together.

Looking ahead to next year, we are eager to keep this momentum going. We warmly invite even more girls to join our growing family, whether looking to rediscover childhood favourites, learn something entirely new, or simply enjoy an afternoon of screen-free fun outdoors. We look forward to mastering new skills, introducing even more traditional games and continuing to celebrate our rich cultural heritage together.



INDIGENOUS GAMES SOCIETY

Back Row: N Phungula, S Phoswa, Z Shezi, S Tshabalala, O Zimu, Z Duma

Front Row: A Mqadi, N Mntungwa, S Zondi, Miss H Ngobese, A Mlotshwa, L Mfeka

Social Boardgames Society



SOCIAL BOARDGAMES SOCIETY
Back Row: A Ngcobo, Z Kok
Second Row: Z Khanyile, Z Zungu, O Ratau, S Naidoo
Front Row: S Wüst, Miss Y Naidoo, K Janse van Rensburg

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss Y Naidoo

The Social Boardgames Society provides learners with a relaxed and enjoyable space to play boardgames, socialise with their peers and take a break from the academic pressures of the school day. The society has 13 regular members, although many additional learners join for individual afternoons when they feel they need an opportunity to unwind and enjoy some time away from their academic responsibilities.

The society meets on Wednesday afternoons and gives learners the opportunity to choose from a variety of boardgames provided by the school, as well as games that they bring from home. Activities throughout the year have primarily centred on learners developing their skills in the various games and on providing them with a welcoming, informal environment where they can relax and have fun. There have been no formal competitions, awards or major events during the year, as the focus of the society is on participation and social interaction rather than achievement.

The society encourages learners to develop critical thinking, strategic decision-making and problem-solving skills through gameplay. Boardgames also provide opportunities for healthy competition and allow learners from different grades to interact, socialise and develop friendships outside of their usual classroom environments. Most importantly, the society gives learners an opportunity to have fun, relieve stress and build connections with others.

Going forward, the society hopes to continue providing a welcoming space where learners can relax, connect with others and enjoy the simple pleasure of playing games together.





PERFORMANCE COMPANY
Back Row: A Thusi, N Hlengwa, A Ndaba, M Mbatha
Third Row: N Mthombeni, Z Vilakazi, A Krishnalall, L Sidane, S Nel
Second Row: P-F Cebekhulu, O Molefe, T Dlamini, Z Khan, S Diedricks, A Ngcobo
Front Row: K Modjadji, Mrs Z Mchunu, N Brown, Miss N Khumalo, A Madlala

Performance Company

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Miss N Khumalo,
Mrs Z Mchunu

The performance company is a dynamic dance and performance collective that gives learners a space to move, create, express and tell stories that matter.

In 2026, the performance company proudly consisted of 30 dedicated members, meeting regularly throughout the year for rehearsals, choreography, conditioning and creative development. The company continued to push boundaries, transforming the stage into a space where movement became a powerful language.

A major highlight of the year was our participation in FUNK, where our dancers took on the challenge of exploring important social issues through contemporary movement, storytelling and powerful physical theatre. The company also participated in ExperiDance, presenting *Dear You*, a lyrical and emotional work that centred on the nostalgia of youth and the importance of remembering who we once were. These performances challenged our learners artistically while allowing them to engage with meaningful themes beyond the classroom.

Throughout the year, members demonstrated commitment, discipline, teamwork and artistic growth, proudly representing the school at various performance platforms. Their dedication to rehearsals and performances contributed to a vibrant school culture, encouraging other learners to engage with the arts and experience the power of performance.

Beyond recognition and applause, the greatest milestone has been watching our learners grow in confidence, resilience and artistry. Every rehearsal, missed step, breakthrough and standing ovation has been part of the journey.

As we look ahead, the performance company hopes to dream bigger, dance louder and tell even more stories that deserve to be heard. The stage is waiting and we are only getting started!

Jazz Band



COMMITTEE: L Sikhosana, K Khanyile
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Bentley, Mr S Majola

The jazz band brings energy, creativity and a distinctive musical voice to school life, offering learners a dynamic platform to refine their performance skills while exploring the rich, diverse world of jazz. From classic swing standards to contemporary fusion, the ensemble challenges musicians to master complex syncopated rhythms, dynamic balance and the art of live improvisation.

Throughout the year, the band maintained a vibrant performance schedule across both school and community stages. Early on, members set a collaborative tone during a joint Valentine's event with Hilton College. A major musical milestone was participating in the Hilton College Jazz Festival, where pupils attended interactive workshops led by renowned jazz pianist Shem Mahabeer. These masterclasses offered invaluable guidance on ensemble cohesion, phrasing and building confidence during solo improvisations.

Beyond campus, the band proudly represented our school at key regional events, including the Msunduzi Hospice Winter Fair, the prestigious Hilton Arts Festival and the lively Empangeni High School Band Bash. Performing in these varied venues helped pupils adapt to different acoustic settings while bringing live music to wider audiences.

A notable highlight this year was the selection of a small group of ensemble members to perform alongside the Maritzburg College Jazz Band and St John's DSG in their joint Supper Theatre production, *Stars over Broadway*. Taking on complex theatrical arrangements alongside talented peers was a fantastic showcase of our musicians' versatility and dedication.

These invaluable opportunities have allowed members to collaborate with fellow artists, learn from industry professionals and enrich our school's cultural landscape. Looking ahead, the jazz band aims to build on this year's momentum by expanding its repertoire, sharpening technical skill and taking on even more festival and performance opportunities in the coming year.



JAZZ BAND
Back Row: Z Oduola, A Ngobese, S Botha, E Hyde, Z Sigcau
Fourth Row: S Mhlongo, A Sokhela, O Eke
Third Row: N Gwamanda, O Mnyandu, Y Govender, N Kanakawo
Second Row: Mr S Majola, L Sikhosana, K Khanyile, Mr K Bentley, R Nkonyani
Front Row: N Uzodike, N Bhengu



String Ensemble

COMMITTEE: K Naidoo, S Sibisi
TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs C Bentley, Mrs C Mathews

The GHS string ensemble is a space that gives the school's string and percussion players a way to develop and shine. The ensemble comprises violins, violas and cellos, as well as guitars and a variety of percussion instruments. The ensemble currently consists of 30 active members who attend rehearsals twice a week.

Throughout this year, the string ensemble has taken part in multiple events, including assemblies, workshops, music festivals and concerts. Highlights from this year include playing at the Harmony Festival hosted by GHS and receiving an outstanding gold certificate at the annual SASMT Eisteddfod.

As part of the growing music programme at GHS, the ensemble has also played with select wind and brass instrument players to form the GHS orchestra. The orchestra has performed alongside the KZN Youth Orchestra and demonstrated the instruments of the orchestra at Longmarket Girls' High School.

Going forward, the GHS string ensemble will continue to be a symbol of excellence and we are excited for the new adventures that 2027 will bring.



STRING ENSEMBLE
Back Row: M Nozigqwaba, S Maphumulo, J Hopkins, S Ramnarian, M Ncanana
Fourth Row: A Ntombela, Y Naidoo, M Israel, L Dladla, L Hlongwane, A Hlatswayo
Third Row: P Pillay, M Mzobe, T Lenaba, Y Govender, P Mchunu, C Slaughter
Second Row: M Naidoo, M Yobe, A Bhebhe, Q Mdluli, O Khumalo, A Zondi
Front Row: K Naidoo, K Naidoo, S Mahlaba, Mrs C Bentley, S Sibisi, H Nathoo, L Moodley



SCHOOL CHOIR

Back Row: L Tindleni, Y Mpanza, M Suter, Z Maphumusa, A Meyiwa, S Mfeka, B Reddy, K Khanyile
Eighth Row: Z Ngcobo, N Shabalala, L Mkhize, F Dlamini, N Hlongwane, Z Mtolo, L Liphuko, O Mnyandu
Seventh Row: A Ndadane, A Khuzwayo, S Mhlongo, T Duma, A Hlatshwayo, M Nozigqwaba, A Ngwabi
Sixth Row: K Gumbi, Z Sigcau, Z Makhaye, S Maphumulo, L Sindane, A Hlatshwayo, N Mkefa
Fifth Row: N Nxumalo, R Mdlalose, A Msane, L Khumalo, S Nkabinde, Z Duma, D Swart, M Israel
Fourth Row: B Ntaka, F Ngubane, S Ngcobo, R Nkonyani, M Mzobe, N Kanakawo, S Hlophe
Third Row: P Mhlongo, E Nxumalo, S Khomo, A Ngidi, E Zungu, T Sikhakane, E Malinga, T Lenaba
Second Row: S Msimang, A Sokhela, Mrs L Reibeling, S Sibisi, Mr T Tshale, A Mazibuko, U Mthembu
Front Row: Z Mshabe, A Buthelezi, M Keswa

Choir

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs L Reibeling



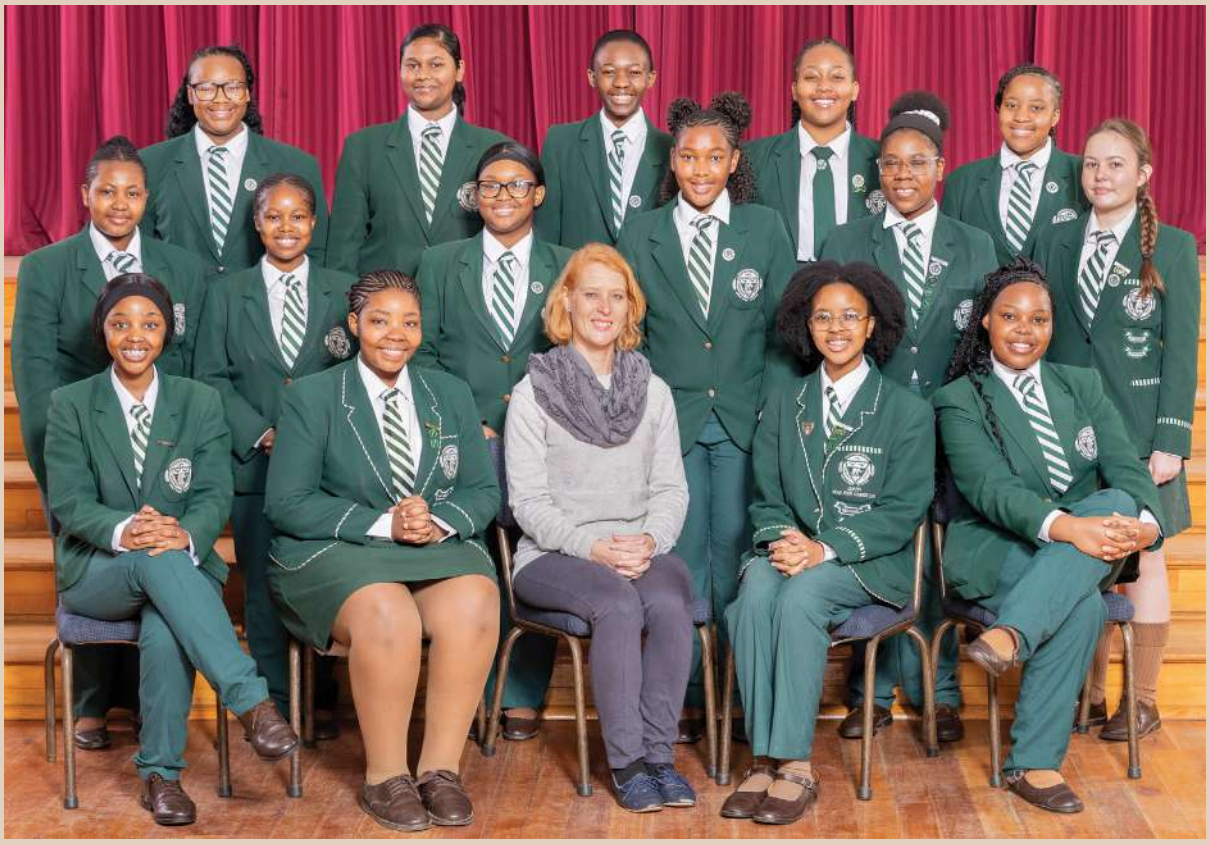
Under the dynamic leadership of conductor Mr Thabang Tshale, the choir has enjoyed an exceptionally successful and diverse year of music-making, marked by prestigious competitive accolades, meaningful community outreach and powerful collaborative performances.

The year began strongly in the competitive arena, where meticulous preparation, vocal discipline and expressive phrasing earned the ensemble top honours. At the renowned ATKV-Applous competition, the choir delivered a captivating performance that secured a coveted gold certificate. This streak of excellence continued at the SASMT Eisteddfod, where they earned another gold certificate, cementing their reputation as a premier youth choral ensemble capable of exceptional tonal richness and technical precision.

Beyond competitive stages, the choir brought its repertoire to broader audiences through regional festivals and collaborative events. Travelling to Hillcrest for the celebrated CCNF Choral Celebration, our singers shared the stage with top-tier talent, contributing to a vibrant tapestry of choral music. Later in the season, the choir joined forces with Maritzburg College for a spectacular gala concert. The evening showcased the distinct identity and musical style of each choir through individual sets, culminating in a soaring, emotionally charged combined performance that left the audience spellbound.

While large-scale concerts defined much of the calendar, the heart of the choir's mission shone brightest during intimate community initiatives. A specialised chamber choir visited the Marian Villa Retirement Village, delivering a moving performance that brought immense joy, comfort and nostalgic warmth to the residents and proved that music is ultimately about human connection.

These diverse experiences have allowed our choristers to grow both as disciplined vocalists and empathetic performers. As we look ahead, the choir remains dedicated to inspiring audiences, fostering strong artistic partnerships and keeping the passion for choral excellence alive across our school and wider community.



KZN YOUTH CHOIR

Back Row: Z Makhaye, M Suter, L Sindane, N Mkefa, S Ngcobo

Second Row: S Khomo, E Nxumalo, E Zungu, A Buthelezi, N Kanakawo, D Swart

Front Row: Z Duma, A Mazibuko, Mrs L Reibeling, S Sibisi, L Liphuko



GOSPEL CHOIR
Back Row: A Hlatshwayo, T Mthethwa, N Magwaza, A Sokhela, A Khuzwayo
Third Row: Z Duma, L Mfeka, P Dlamini, J Ndlamlenze
Second Row: R Nkonyani, Miss J Davids, S Sibisi, Mrs N Duma, A Mazibuko
Front Row: E Maphanga, N Hlongwane, E Dlamini, B Mhlongo

Gospel Choir

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Miss J Davids, Mrs N Duma

The gospel choir has had an eventful and inspiring year, filled with music, ministry, outreach and meaningful connections. Auditions were held early in the year to grow the choir and discover new talent, resulting in the welcome of enthusiastic new voices. The choir delivered memorable performances at the annual Academic Awards Ceremony, Reunion Day Assembly and Sports and Cultural Awards, showcasing their passion, dedication and love for gospel music.

Outreach remained an important part of the choir's ministry. Visits to Sunnyside Homes and Marian Villa provided opportunities to share music, connect with elderly residents and learn from their experiences. At Marian Villa, the girls had the privilege of meeting Mrs Bleek, a 93-year-old Girls' High alumna and former geography teacher, highlighting the strong and lasting sisterhood within the school community.

Collaboration was another significant feature of the year. The choir participated in a workshop with Maritzburg College and prepared a collaborative song for their festival. They also partnered with GFG during the Easter assembly, sharing a message of hope and resurrection through song. At the Harmony Festival, the gospel choir performed alongside the string ensemble, jazz band, wind band and school choir.

A major highlight was hosting the Gospel Festival, which brought together choirs from Alexandra High School, TYCC, Maritzburg College and Riverwood College for an evening of gospel music, praise and unity. The choir also performed at St Nicholas and Maritzburg College, continuing its valued partnership with our brother school. Through music, fellowship and outreach, the gospel choir continues to uplift others and spread joy, hope and faith.





WIND BAND

Back Row: A Zulu, A Ngobese, E de Goede, T Sujpathy, K Mkhize, N Uzodike, T Radebe, M Sibiya, S Botha, A Ramjatan, Z Mchunu
Seventh Row: O Dlamini, N Zulu, B Werner, K Pay, L Shezi, I Sinuka, A Zimu, B Dlamini, Z Oduola, I Bacela
Sixth Row: M Israel, M Ncanana, Z Sigcau, A Khuzwayo, S Dladla, S Mhlongo, A Hlatshwayo, S Zondi, A Mhlaluka
Fifth Row: U Ngcobo, L Ndlovu, P Mhlongo, Z Mzobe, L Mbatha, M Sikhakhane, S Kunene, O Mnyandu, C Basson, Z Zulu
Fourth Row: S Sikhakhane, T Petersen, A Mafuleka, K Khanyile, K Gumbi, T Lenaba, S Jansen, N Kanakawo, N Ngubane
Third Row: A Muthwa, A Bhebhe, Q Mdluli, S Mhlungu, A Mdakane, L Rajah, L Ntuli, U Bhengu, J Ndlamlenze, Z Shange
Second Row: R Nkonyani, N Gwamanda, Mr S Majola, A Sokhela, Mr K Bentley, P Dlamini, Mrs C Bentley, U Buthelezi, U Manyoni
Front Row: A Gcumisa, S Naidoo, A Zulu, F Ngubane, L Sikhosana, G Shwala, K Reddy, A Ximba

Wind Band

COMMITTEE: U Buthelezi, P Dlamini, N Gwamanda, U Manyoni, R Nkonyani, G Shwala, A Sokhela
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Bentley

The GHS wind band is the flagship music group of the school. The group comprises woodwind, brass and percussion instrumentalists who rehearse twice weekly, preparing for upcoming concerts and performances.

The year's calendar featured performances have included both performances at GHS and at various other events, including the NSC District Awards ceremony, a Valentine's performance with Hilton College, a performance at the Msunduzi Hospice Easter Fair, a concert at Wartburg Kirchdorf School, a concert with the KZN Youth Orchestra, the CCNF Prestige Concert in Durban, a Band Bash at Empangeni, the Eston Show and the PCO Orchestra from Scratch.

During the third term school holidays, the band travelled to Springs to represent the school at the South African Schools Bands Association National Competition. The band came second in the Open Concert Band category and won the Concert Band category.

Musicians in the wind band join the music family and learn discipline and perseverance through hard work. The band has continued to perform at a high level and embodies the school motto, "Cheerfulness with Industry".







PIETERMARITZBURG CITY ORCHESTRA
Back Row: N Zulu, J Hopkins, A Zimu, Z Mchunu, S Mhlongo, A Ngobese, A Khuzwayo
Third Row: P Mhlongo, N Gwamanda, M Israel, A Ntombela, Z Sigcau, Y Govender
Second Row: Mr S Majola, G Shwala, Mr K Bentley, A Sokhela, Mrs C Bentley
Front Row: N Bhengu, A Zondi, H Nathoo



Spotlight – A Singing and Dancing Showcase



***SPOTLIGHT* CAST**

Back Row: A Meyiwa, N Hlengwa, A Qasha, J Sparrow
Fifth Row: L Mbhele, S Maphumulo, S Mqadi, S Ndlovu, M Mbatha
Fourth Row: D Swart, Z Nkosi, L Sindane, S Maharaj, S Nkabinde, T Lenaba
Third Row: S Buthelezi, A Msane, A Ndlovu, A Phathwa, N Mkefa, S Ngcobo
Second Row: A Kruger, Mrs L Reibeling, S Mhlungu, A Ndlovu, Miss D Scholtz, M Molete
Front Row: A Mbatha, N Dlamini

This year's school production, *Spotlight*, presented a dynamic musical journey spanning from the roaring 1920s to modern TikTok trends, featuring a collaborative performance by a group of talented girls from GHS as well as boys from Maritzburg College. The show featured powerful vocal soloists, harmonious ensemble numbers and a diverse range of choreography, from high-energy hip-hop routines to romantic duets. At the end of each evening of the five-night performance, the audience was invited to vote for their favourite performances, with the hip-hop routine being a group favourite! Well done to all the girls and staff involved in the production.

Subject Reports

Afrikaans First Additional Language

This year has passed by quickly, demanding determination and gusto from both learners and teachers as we balanced a rigorous syllabus with our school's vibrant extramural calendar. To ensure our curriculum remains engaging, accessible and user-friendly, our teachers have significantly increased the integration of artificial intelligence, using it for dynamic slideshows, enhanced online resources and specialised language guides. We prioritised student success by consistently offering extra lessons and targeted intervention programmes throughout the year for both junior and senior learners.

Our learners continue to distinguish themselves beyond the classroom; notably, six students participated in the Senior Afrikaans Olympiad, achieving commendable results. The third term brought a significant new challenge with the Department of Education's unexpected implementation of the General Education Certificate (GEC) initiative, rolled out this year to the grade 9s. This initiative required a creative adjustment to our annual planning; our proactive department united seamlessly to accommodate these new components.

Reflecting on our academic standing, last year's matric results remain a source of profound pride. GHS successfully achieved the highest number of distinctions in Afrikaans First Additional Language within the entire district, which is a remarkable achievement and one that we are confident our current matriculants are well prepared to match or even surpass. Despite the rigorous demands we face each term, the Afrikaans department remains committed to this high standard of excellence and eagerly anticipates another year of continued success.

English Home Language

The English department focused on promoting professional growth this year, with educators participating in targeted workshops where staff members exchanged key insights on classroom management, addressing barriers to learning, enriching literature and creative writing instruction and incorporating artificial intelligence into the classroom.

The staff's dedication to excellence is visible in the stand-out 2025 NSC examination results. Among 211 candidates, more than 40 learners achieved A symbols. In the English Olympiad, four learners earned silver awards (Thakasani Mthethwa, Jessie Hopkins, Chulumanco Kwebulana and Yereesa Naidoo), four achieved bronze awards and three participants gained merit certificates.

Curricular initiatives further enriched the academic experience. Grade 9 learners participated in a newly introduced GEC career research project to investigate potential future pathways. Additionally, weekly intervention lessons provided personalised guidance for grade 8 and 9 pupils, while GET phase reading projects and the computerised Digibook programme actively boosted overall language proficiency.

A focus on diversified educational materials bolstered student participation across all grades. Matric learners attended a professional theatrical performance of *Hamlet* at Hilton College to deepen their literary appreciation, while updated textbooks benefited grade 10, 11 and 12 learners. Furthermore, students regularly used the campus computer laboratories to facilitate in-depth research for various academic assignments in the subject.

Demonstrating a strong commitment to community outreach, several English teachers dedicated time to mentoring student teachers over several months. Looking ahead, the department plans to intensify its focus on reading development across grades while leveraging AI tools to streamline administrative tasks, allowing our team of nine teachers to focus directly on inspiring our learners.

isiZulu First Additional Language

It is always a privilege to lead the isiZulu department at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School. Year after year, we are blessed with dedicated learners who take immense pride in mastering the language. Building on our commendable 2025 matric results, our current grade 12 cohort continues to excel, setting high expectations for their upcoming National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations.

Our commitment to education extends beyond traditional classroom boundaries. We attribute our department's success to the hard work of our learners alongside the passion and expertise of our educators. To deepen cultural understanding and linguistic skills, we offer engaging experiential learning opportunities, including the annual grade 8 excursion to PheZulu Safari Park and participation in the prestigious Inqolobane Challenge.

The grade 8 visit to PheZulu Safari Park was a highlight of the year, allowing learners to step back in time and explore traditional Zulu heritage at the cultural village. Meanwhile, the Inqolobane Challenge, a competitive isiZulu speech and literature contest involving schools across KwaZulu-Natal, saw outstanding performances from our representatives in poetry as well as prepared and unprepared speaking. Notably, Asanele Ngcobo earned second place in the grade 12 prepared speech category, Zibusiso Vilakazi took third place in the grade 10 prepared speech and Sinakekele Dlamini achieved first place in grade 10 poetry.

We commend every student who took the opportunity to compete. Their courage, dedication and enthusiasm make us immensely proud to guide and teach the future leaders of Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School.

Commerce: Economic and Management Sciences (EMS), Accounting and Business Studies

The commerce department continued to provide learners with valuable opportunities to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of the world of commerce.

A highlight of the year was our participation in the SAICA (South African Institute of Chartered Accountants) Business Games, where our learners had the opportunity to apply their financial and business knowledge in a practical and competitive environment using a boardgame called *Risk and Reward*. We are particularly proud of Qhakazile Jongisa, who was part of a team that was placed third out of approximately 50 teams.

Complementing these academic milestones, the entrepreneurship society provided a dynamic space for learners to experience the realities of the business world first-hand. Through active involvement in real-world sales and marketplace dynamics, the girls experienced authentic, high-pressure business conditions. These practical experiences challenged them to manage cash flow, navigate customer relations and adapt to market demands in real time, building vital resilience and sharp commercial instincts. This hands-on learning was further enriched by a visit from Colenbrander, a leading firm of chartered accountants and registered auditors, who spoke to our grade 11 and 12 learners about accounting as a profession, providing senior girls with valuable guidance for their future studies and careers.

Beyond the classroom, the department actively sought to connect learners with broader industry opportunities. Our students demonstrated their commitment and subject mastery by participating in the Proverto Olympiad for EMS, business studies and accounting, with several learners progressing to the final round. Furthermore, three of our students – Olona Duze, Philiswa Mhlongo and Hannah Sewlal – attended *Take a Girl Child to Work Day*, gaining practical insights into the accounting profession and the various career paths available in the field.

Looking ahead, the commerce department aims to continue encouraging academic excellence, practical learning and participation in external opportunities, while inspiring our learners to become confident, capable young women who are well prepared for the world of business and finance.

Colenbrander

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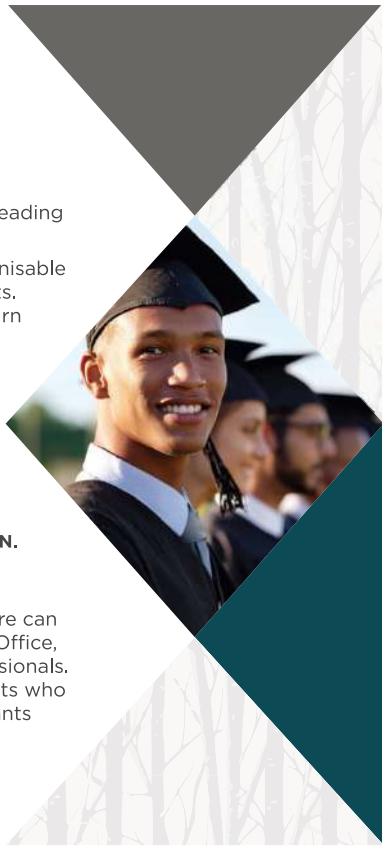


Geography

The geography department celebrates a remarkable year of growth, dynamic learning and excellence. Our curriculum continues to embrace modern technological advancements alongside critical practical skills, fostering deep environmental, social and economic awareness among our young geographers.

Academic achievement remains a cornerstone of our success, highlighted by a stellar 100% pass rate achieved by the Class of 2025 in the NSC examinations. Demonstrating exceptional knowledge, our learners also excelled in the National Geography Olympiads: 19 senior participants earned both gold and silver medals, while 45 junior learners actively participated in this prestigious competition.

Learning extended well beyond the classroom through engaging field trips and external initiatives. On 24 July 2026, grade 12 learners embarked on an educational excursion to Karkloof Nature Reserve, studying river systems along the uMngeni River, observing catchment areas and visiting Karkloof Falls. On 14 August 2026, 45 grade 11 learners journeyed to Grey Mare Falls at Shawswood, completing a 6 km hike through dense indigenous forest to observe valley topographies, deep river gorges and rock-face structures first-hand.

Guided by our school's motto, "Cheerfulness with Industry", we extend sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff and resilient learners. Looking ahead to the coming year, our goal is to continue nurturing curious, innovative and socially responsible geographers who are fully equipped to contribute meaningfully to society and achieve even greater heights.

Consumer Studies

The 2025 grade 12 results were very pleasing and we look forward to a similar high standard from our 2026 learners this year. Our current matrics have applied themselves well to complete the theory component of the curriculum, working hard also to produce excellent dishes and achieving commemorable results in their practical assessment.

The grade 11 learners were very busy during the third term, where they catered for the school's Reunion Day and also did their novelty cakes as part of their practical skills development. Sophia Wüst and Metia Naicker attended the National All Girls' Festival in Stellenbosch hosted by Rhenish Girls' High School during the second term; they attended food-based workshops and participated in a novelty cake competition.

The grade 10 learners have embraced this subject with commitment and enthusiasm. They completed all the practical tasks for the year, which aim to develop their basic skills to produce and sell quality food products as part of the entrepreneurship component of the curriculum.

We had our fourth annual consumer studies cooking competition: The Great GHS Cook-Off. It is a competition between the best of the best from each grade. The top four students were identified in terms of their cooking skills; the girls then competed against one another. We were honoured to have Jackie Cameron (from Jackie Cameron's School of Food and Wine), Catherine Steyn (social media food influencer) and Renzo Hamblin (from Hamblin's Catering) judge the dishes; it was truly an evening to remember. We look forward to welcoming the grade 10s of 2027 and wish the grade 12s of 2026 all the best for the future.

Technology

Technology at GHS is about more than gadgets, screens and digital tools. It is about thinking creatively, solving real-world problems and designing solutions for the future. Technology equips learners with the knowledge, skills and values they need to respond confidently to the changing world around them.

Our learners do not just learn about technology; they experience, design, build and evaluate. Through the technological design process, learners identify problems, investigate possibilities, generate ideas, construct models and evaluate their designs with a strong emphasis on sustainability and environmental impact. These projects also foster essential 21st-century skills by encouraging learners to collaborate, communicate, think critically, manage resources and adapt through feedback, developing vital capabilities for future study and the modern workplace.

Our grade 8 learners explored inventions and innovations, developing their understanding of how technology responds to human needs. They also investigated packaging materials and environmental sustainability, culminating in the design of eco-friendly biscuit packaging for a Women's Day theme. These activities encouraged creativity while highlighting the importance of responsible and sustainable design.

Our grade 9 learners engaged with food technology, mechanics and graphic drawing, applying technical knowledge and design skills to practical challenges. Through the GEC programme, they have taken this learning further by developing models and prototypes that combine planning, construction, electronics and problem-solving to create functional solutions.

A significant development in 2026 has been the integration of GEC projects and models, creating opportunities for learners to apply knowledge across technology, mathematics and natural sciences. Through this interdisciplinary approach, learners are encouraged not only to demonstrate what they know but also to explore how they can use their knowledge to solve real-life problems. From electronic alarm systems and structures to practical models and prototypes, learners are developing solutions that connect classroom learning to the world beyond the classroom.

History

Our grade 12 learners of 2025 achieved outstanding results, attaining a 100% pass rate, with 31 of the 52 candidates earning distinctions in their final examinations. These exceptional results placed GHS as the top government school in the country for history. We are confident that our current grade 12 learners will continue this proud tradition of excellence as they have worked diligently throughout the year.

In September, the grade 11 learners embarked on a Gauteng history tour to Soweto. The tour complemented their CAPS syllabus on apartheid and resistance to apartheid, providing them with an opportunity to engage with the history they had studied in the classroom.

The grade 10 learners also had the opportunity to take their learning beyond the classroom on a history tour to Elandsheim and Dundee. They explored significant historical sites, including Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, as well as other important battle sites associated with the South African War and the Anglo-Zulu War.

This year, our grade 8 and 9 learners explored the history of South Africa as well as significant events and developments from around the world. The First and Second World Wars have consistently emerged as highlights, with learners displaying particular enthusiasm and interest when studying these periods.

Across all grades, our girls have developed a range of valuable skills, including empathy, source analysis, critical thinking and the ability to write well-structured essays. These skills extend far beyond the history classroom and will serve them well in their future studies and lives.

History reminds us that the past continues to shape the present. By understanding both the mistakes and achievements of humanity, we hope to equip our learners with the knowledge, insight and empathy necessary to make informed choices and contribute towards creating a better world.

Physical Education

Physical education at our school offers students diverse opportunities to engage in various sporting activities, fostering a lifelong appreciation for healthy, active lifestyles. The curriculum is meticulously designed to cultivate fundamental skills, knowledge and positive attitudes, encouraging learners to boost their fitness while building essential character traits like teamwork, emotional intelligence, sportsmanship, self-confidence and resilience. Following Department of Education requirements, assessment is based on active participation, movement and performance skills.

Throughout the year, students across all grades explore a wide range of disciplines. Grade 8 learners are introduced to various sporting codes, including swimming, water polo, netball, hockey and fitness testing, helping them discover new interests. Grade 9 students build on this foundation by balancing sporting skills with a focus on measuring personal physical progress through activities such as swimming, basketball, fitness testing and soccer.

As students progress to the senior grades, the curriculum shifts to foster creativity and balance. Grade 10 learners engage in water lifesaving, traditional games and gym routines, with the Inter-Class Gym Competition serving as a highlight that showcases their teamwork and energetic spirit. Grade 11 activities encourage learners to explore different approaches to well-being, featuring water aerobics, yoga, Super Circuit training and healthy lifestyle workshops. Finally, the grade 12 programme provides a challenging conclusion to their physical education journey, combining synchronised swimming, agility and functional training and high-energy sessions like kickboxing and aerobic dance to enhance coordination, strength and cardiovascular fitness.

Through these varied and engaging experiences, students continue to grow in skill, confidence and enthusiasm. The goal is that the lessons and positive habits formed during these years will inspire learners to prioritise physical activity and make healthy lifestyle choices long after they leave the school gates.

Life Orientation

The Life Orientation team remains immensely proud of our 2025 learners, who achieved an outstanding 100% pass rate in the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations. As we move through 2026, we remain committed to maintaining these excellent results while continuing to equip our learners with the knowledge, skills and values required to navigate life beyond the classroom.

Life Orientation plays an important role in preparing learners for the world around them. We encourage learners to remain informed about current affairs, engage in meaningful discussions and develop the confidence to become responsible and active agents of change in society. We also focus on preparing learners for the world of work, tertiary education and life beyond school.

Career guidance remains a key focus. Throughout the first and second terms, institutions from across the country visited GHS to provide grade 11 and grade 12 learners with valuable information about available courses, admission requirements and career opportunities. In February, we hosted a career fair, with more than 25 tertiary institutions invited to engage with our learners, where learners were given opportunities to participate in question-and-answer sessions, allowing them to make informed decisions about their future studies and careers.

Our educators have also prioritised their professional development. Capacity-building workshops on "Empowering Educators in a Changing World – Embracing AI in the Classroom", as well as workshops on online safety for learners and educators and career development, were attended. The knowledge and resources gained were shared with the broader Life Orientation team.

Looking ahead, one of our key aspirations is to involve grade 9 learners in the subject fair, as this is a crucial stage when learners make important decisions about not only their subject choice but also about their future careers.

Life Sciences

This past year, the life sciences department was filled with deep curiosity, rigorous inquiry and remarkable resilience across all grade levels.

Our grade 12 students demonstrated extraordinary perseverance and focus throughout a demanding academic year. Driven by an enduring dedication to excellence and a positive mindset, they tackled complex biological concepts and intensive revision. Building on the outstanding 98% pass rate achieved in 2025, their dedicated study habits and self-motivation leave us fully confident in even higher achievements this year. The matric class frequently noted how relatable the curriculum felt, connecting core biological theories directly to real-world applications and modern medical science.

Meanwhile, the grade 11 cohort navigated their syllabus with enthusiasm and agility. A highlight of their year was an immersive hands-on laboratory session where students dissected lamb kidneys, offering them an invaluable comparative look at mammalian anatomy and human renal function. Furthermore, an engaging unit on environmental studies ignited vibrant classroom discussions and inspired several students to consider future tertiary studies in ecology and environmental science.

Our grade 10 students successfully adapted to the increased pace and analytical depth of the subject. Although mastering extensive terminology and foundational concepts was initially challenging, their steady preparation and collaborative spirit ensured impressive progress. As Steve Maraboli wisely observed, “Life doesn’t get easier or more forgiving; we get stronger and more resilient.” This sentiment perfectly captures the spirit and growth of our life sciences students this year.

Physical Science

Physical science at GHS continues to foster curiosity, discovery and analytical thinking through the study of physics and chemistry. The dedicated staff employ innovative teaching methods, practical demonstrations and hands-on experiments to help learners develop a profound understanding of scientific concepts and apply them to real-world situations. Teaching this application-based subject under the complex CAPS curriculum requires consistent effort, commitment and resilience from both students and educators. Despite these challenges, the GHS science department continues to thrive, with staff and learners demonstrating remarkable determination and enthusiasm.

Recent years have seen a significant increase in enrolment, reflecting a growing appreciation for the diverse career pathways physical science opens. The department prioritises practical activities that make abstract concepts more accessible, meaningful and relevant. Learners are encouraged not only to master theoretical foundations but also to engage actively in scientific inquiry beyond the traditional classroom setting. Highlights include participating in UKZN’s “Be a Scientist for a Week” holiday programme and conducting engaging science demonstrations for information sessions, grade 9 subject-choice evenings and the annual STEM fair. These experiences empower students to share their passion while inspiring younger peers to explore STEM-related disciplines.

The department takes immense pride in the achievements and dedication shown across all grade levels. In keeping with the GHS motto, “Cheerfulness with Industry”, we strive to nurture inquisitive, critical thinkers who possess strong academic foundations and the confidence to contribute meaningfully to an increasingly technological world. Through ongoing innovation, hands-on learning and enthusiasm, GHS remains committed to equipping empowered young women to shape the future of science.

Natural Sciences

Science surrounds us in every aspect of daily life, from household electricity to fundamental chemical reactions. In the natural sciences department, our mission is to spark curiosity, inspire critical thinking and build confidence by encouraging learners to investigate the world around them through hands-on, practical learning experiences.

We started the year with our dynamic STEM fair, introducing grade 7 learners to the subject through interactive demonstrations, activities and games. This energetic start showcased the practical side of science and set an engaging tone for the senior primary phase. Building on this enthusiasm, our new grade 8 cohort dived straight into experimental learning. They constructed their own electrical circuits and experienced memorable static electricity demonstrations using the Van de Graaff generator, directly bridging classroom theory with real-world application.

In grade 9, the curriculum deepens to lay a solid foundation for grade 10 life sciences and physical science. Students observed vivid chemical reactions first-hand, such as burning various metals in oxygen, bringing key abstract concepts to life. These practical explorations equip students with valuable insights, empowering them to make informed subject choices for their future academic journeys.

Across all grades, our dedicated educators work to foster an environment where girls are driven to solve problems, think analytically and apply scientific principles to everyday life. Looking ahead, we aim to expand our experimental and collaborative offerings even further. By nurturing a lasting passion for discovery, we hope to inspire our students to embrace STEM-related fields with confidence and ambition.



Mathematics

As a passionate and very capable department, we wish for every learner to reach their full potential in mathematics and live their dream in whatever career they want to follow.

Grade 8 and 9 learners attended nine mathematics lessons per 10-day cycle. For grades 10 and 11, the increase to eleven lessons per cycle significantly improved syllabus completion and consolidation. Grade 12 learners were allocated ten lessons per cycle, which provided teachers with valuable revision time prior to the learners' trial examinations.

It has been a remarkably busy year. We began with the STEM fair, where our mathematics table attracted significant engagement as we showcased our skills and interactive games. Once again, our learners entered the South African Mathematics Olympiad, with 59 girls competing in Round 1 and 13 advancing to Round 2. We are exceptionally proud of grade 12 learner Iysti Sewram, who will represent GHS in the third round of the South African Mathematics Foundation (SAMF) Olympiad for another year, which is a prestigious achievement and a remarkable honour.

While mathematics may not be easy for everyone, at GHS we firmly believe that anyone who is dedicated to the subject can succeed. We take immense pride in watching our learners thrive. Our mission remains focused on cultivating a supportive learning environment that instils accountability, fosters perseverance and celebrates the joy of achieving personal goals. We look forward to a successful and fruitful 2027.

Mathematical Literacy

The mathematical literacy department emphasises practical numeric competency and critical problem-solving skills. By integrating real-world scenarios such as personal financial management, taxation, map work and data interpretation, educators ensure learners grasp functional applications alongside theoretical concepts. This approach, supported by structured, scaffolded revision, effectively prepares students for multi-faceted assessments.

Although some people mistakenly perceive mathematical literacy as 'easy maths', it remains a rigorous subject that demands practical, analytical and context-driven thinking. The success of our programme lies in this real-world relevance, which shows that mathematics is a dynamic, powerful tool for navigating modern life, rather than a subject confined to textbooks.

Our 2025 National Senior Certificate (NSC) results clearly reflected this dedication to excellence. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication shown by our students, particularly three candidates who ranked in the top three in the district, with Kamilah Hassim placing first in uMgungundlovu. Overall, the Class of 2025, consisting of 72 learners, achieved 22 A-distinctions, with six learners scoring 90% or higher. In recognition of these exceptional results, which placed Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School third nationally, the department's educators were honoured with a laptop, trophy and certificates of achievement, confirming that our students are leaving with a solid foundation for a successful future.

Dramatic Arts

Dramatic arts continues to be a space where learners are encouraged to find their voices, take creative risks and discover the power of storytelling through performance. 2026 has been a year of creativity and courage.

One of the highlights of the year was welcoming our new grade 10 learners to the subject. Their enthusiasm, curiosity and willingness to embrace something new reminded us once again of the unique energy that this subject brings to the school. The subject fair was another exciting opportunity to showcase the subject and the strong interest from learners was encouraging for the department's future.

When our grade 11 learners attended the grade 12 final practical performances, they received a valuable glimpse into their future. Watching the matrics bring their characters, concepts and theatrical worlds to life provided the grade 11s with inspiration and a practical understanding of what awaits them next year.

The achievements of our matrics were a particular highlight. Their dedication and commitment produced exceptional results in both their trial practical examinations and final practical examinations. These results are a testament to the hard work of the learners and the passion and perseverance that define the dramatic arts classroom.

No year would be complete without our much-anticipated visit to the Hilton Arts Festival – the most important excursion on the drama calendar. Learners had the opportunity to experience an incredible variety of professional performances, engage with the arts community and, of course, enjoy a day filled with laughter, excitement and unforgettable memories.

As we look ahead, our goal is to continue growing dramatic arts as a vibrant and respected subject, while creating even more opportunities for our learners to perform, create, connect and shine.

Music

It has been a vibrant, bustling year for our music department, filled with resonant melodies and standing ovations. From premier ensembles to brilliant solo performances, our musicians have embodied dedication and passion in every note.

Our core ensembles achieved remarkable artistic excellence. The wind band brought incredible energy and precision to their repertoire, while the string ensemble captivated audiences with nuanced phrasing and rich tone. Together with the soaring harmonies of the choir, these ensembles provided a powerful foundation for our thriving culture.

Individual excellence shone at the SASMT Eisteddfod, where pupils delivered outstanding instrumental and vocal performances. Several students earned the distinct honour of performing at the prestigious Best of Eisteddfod Concert, a wonderful recognition of their hard work and artistic maturity.

Beyond campus, our musicians joined forces with St Charles College for a series of memorable joint concerts, fostering great camaraderie and musical synergy. Learners also brought magic to the stage through their participation in the spectacular production of *Aladdin*, showcasing their versatility in musical theatre.

We extend our warmest congratulations to the dedicated learners who completed external practical and theoretical music examinations, achieving outstanding results in all areas.

Finally, the annual grades 10, 11 and 12 Autumn Concert series served as a magnificent showcase of our senior students' growth. These evenings were particularly special as the girls took full ownership of the events, handling everything from stage management and hosting to delivering captivating performances, highlighting both their musical talents and leadership skills.

Thank you to the staff, parents and audiences whose ongoing support makes our department thrive. We look forward to keeping the music playing in the months ahead.

Visual Arts

What happens when artists are challenged to see the ordinary in extraordinary ways? In 2026, our visual arts learners embraced experimentation, discovery and creative growth across every grade.

Grade 12s explored themes of light, place and social issues and were frequently seen around campus with cameras, studying composition and light. Meanwhile, afternoon studio sessions vibrated with energy: grade 8s mastered food drawing, grade 9s created portraits, grade 10s tried clay vase-making and still-life food painting, grade 11s completed oil paintings and floral mosaics and grade 12s tackled intricate lino printing. Early hesitation quickly turned into confidence and pride.

An inspirational highlight for grade 11 and 12 learners was visiting the Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg to view the 2025 district matric exhibition. Seeing familiar works from former learners alongside pieces by renowned artists like Picasso, Walter Battiss and Siyabonga Sikosana motivated the girls to strive for future inclusion in this prestigious space.

The crowning moment was the annual grade 12 matric art exhibition, featuring guest speaker Dr Kathy Patrick from UKZN's Centre for Visual Arts. Her address celebrated our artists' dedication. The display ranged from paintings on plates, charcoal drawings and embroidery, to landscapes and envelope drawings. Reflecting personal themes of family, nature and animals, the exceptional talent of our girls left parents and guests thoroughly impressed.

Here's to another year of seeing the world differently, one masterpiece at a time.

Creative Writing

Nakhu Okumele Kufundwe Ezikoleni Ukuze Kuthuthukiswe Isimo Somnotho

Eqinisweni akusiwo wonke umuntu odalelwe isikole. Singabantu sinamakhono namathalente ahlukahlukene. Isimo somnotho sezwe silawulwa imikhakha esingena kuyo emva kokuqeda isikole. Ingakho kubalulekile ukuthi sense into ezosicebisa iphinde ikhulise nomnotho wezwe. Ezikoleni kumele kube impoqo ukuthi abafundi benze isifundo esisodwa sezandla nezifundo zokuphatha imali ukuze kuqiniseke ukuthi ikusasa lezwe lisezandleni eziphephile.

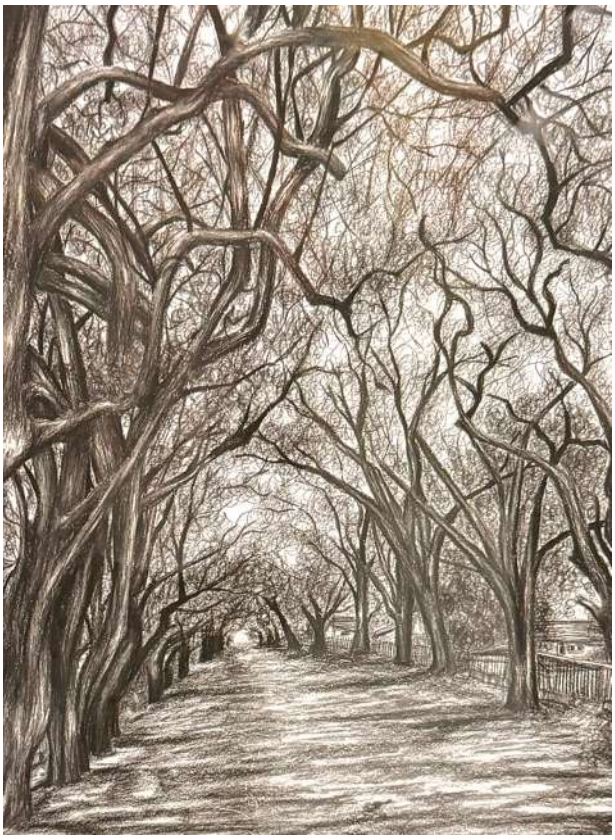
Ezikoleni kumele kube impoqo ukuthi abafundi bakhethe izifundo ezigxile ezandleni ezizophinde zikhuthaze namathalente abo njengezifundo zokupheka nokuthunga. Lokhu kuzosiza nokuthi noma umfundi esafunda akwazi ukuzivulela ibhizinisi lakhe. Uma umfundi eselivulile ibhizinisi lakhe kuzomele akhokhe intela ezoya kuHulumeni ezosiza ekuthuthukisweni komnotho wezwe. Umfundi uzophinde akwazi ukuphatha imali ngoba kuzodingeka ukuthi athenge i-stock aphinde enze nenzuzo kuyo le mali ayenzayo. Kuzomcebisa ngezomnotho kanti futhi uzokwazi ukudlondlobalisa ithalente lakhe.

Abafundi kumele bafundiswe umsebenzi wezandla ohambiselana nezincwadi ofana nokulungiswa kwamapayipi amanzi, ukulungisa ugesi kanye nokwakha izinto ngensimbi. Lokhu kuzobanika ikhono elimqoka futhi bazophinde bakwazi ukuqaphela bengayanga enyuvesi. Kuyoba kumfundi ukuthi uyathanda yini ukuya enyuvesi ayothweswa iziqu zalokhu akufundelile ukuze aqasheke kalula ezimbonini. Uma-ke engaqhubekanga, uyokwazi ukuthola umsebenzi ozomholela. Umholo wakhe kuyoba iwona ayokhokha ngawo intela yabasebenzi ezosiza ukuthuthukisa umnotho wezwe.

Ezikoleni kumele kube khona izifundo ezizofundisa abafundi ukuphathwa kwemali kanye nokusombulula izinkinga ezimayelana nokuphathwa kwamabhizinisi. Lezi zifundo zizobasiza ekubacebiseni ngokuthi imuphi umkhakha wamabhizinisi okumele bangene kuwo maqondana namathalente namakhono abo. Lezi zifundo kuzomele ziphinde zibafundise ukusetshenziswa kwemali kanye nokuphathwa kwabasebenzi uma sebenabo ebhizinisini. Lokhu kuzosiza ukuthi izwe libe namabhizinisi amaningi aphumelelayo futhi alekelela ukuthi isimo somnotho singawi kepha siqhubeke sidlondlobale. Bonke abafundi kumele banikwe ithuba lokusungula ibhizinisi besakhula befunda isikole.

Inkunzi isematholeni. Uma sifuna ikusasa lezwe eliqhakazile kumele siqale entsheni siyithuthukise isakhula. Phela sikhumbule ukuthi ugotshwa usemanzi. Libunjwa liseva. Ngaleyo ndlela siyobona ukuthi umthente uhlaba usamila. Ngakho-ke uma ezikoleni kunezifundo ezahlukene ezibhekene nemisebenzi yezandla nokuphathwa kwezimali, iningi liyophumelela kuthuthuke nesimo somnotho ezweni.

– Sibongakonke Kunene, grade 11



Anneleen Kruger

My Familie, My Lewe!

My familie is my lewe – letterlik; regtig. Hulle is broodnodig vir my liggaam om gesond te wees. Brein, asem, hart – watter mens kan hiersonder leef?

My pa is my brein, hy maak die besluite. As daar 'n probleem is, hoor ek sy stem: "Jy weet wat die antwoord is. Jy moet net diep soek." Hy het my intelligensie soos 'n boom laat groei. Hy het my geleer om stories in boeke te lees en om wetenskap in ons wêreld te sien. Elke oomblik saam met hom het 'n herinnering gevorm, 'n nuwe straat in my dorp van gedagtes.

My suster is my asem. Haar lag is 'n sagte klank wat op 'n rukwind dans en deur groen bome fluister. Sy gee my 'n kalm, tevrede gevoel. Sonder haar is vrees 'n ysige hand wat my keel vashou. Maar as ek die klokke van haar lag hoor, volg asemhaling en vreugde maklik.

My ma is my hart. Die een wat klop binne my bors en die bloed deur my liggaam laat vloei. Sy is die ritme in my lewe en my lewe word 'n liedjie. Net haar drukkie is genoeg om my te troos en energie te gee. Met die klop, klop binne my, kan ek alles doen. Watter mens kan sonder hulle brein gedagtes vorm, sonder hulle asem sing, of sonder hulle hart liefde voel? Brein. Asem. Hart. Julle laat my nie net oorleef nie. Julle laat my LEEF! Ek sal julle beskerm tot die einde van dae. Ek is lief vir julle nes ek vir die lewe lief is.

My familie is my lewe. My familie, my lewe!

– Zara Hove, grade 12

“Not all storms come to destroy your life; some come to clear your path.” – Unknown

When most people picture a storm, they imagine a great, black cumulonimbus cloud looming over them. It pours out rain and sends hot flashes of electricity to the ground. However, what they fail to see is the renewal of life that the storm brings. Its rain washes away the pollution and quenches the plants’ thirst, paving the way for life to thrive. The same can be said for us during times of hardship. We need to look beyond the grief and sadness and see the rainbow of hope and newfound strength that lies over the horizon.

When my grandfather passed away, it left my family in shambles. Our pillar of strength was no longer there and our spirit cracked under the weight of the immense grief we felt.

My mother distracted herself from the pain by mindlessly consuming social media all day. My father busied himself with heaps of work for months, even picking up extra shifts at his workplace. I chose to hide away in my room, using it as a sanctuary to shield myself from the tears and pain that threatened to attack me. We chose to sit and mope in the ice-cold rain that washed despair over us.

One fateful evening, we assumed our depressive positions in the house. I sat in my room, my mother on the couch and my father in the study. Then, lightning struck.

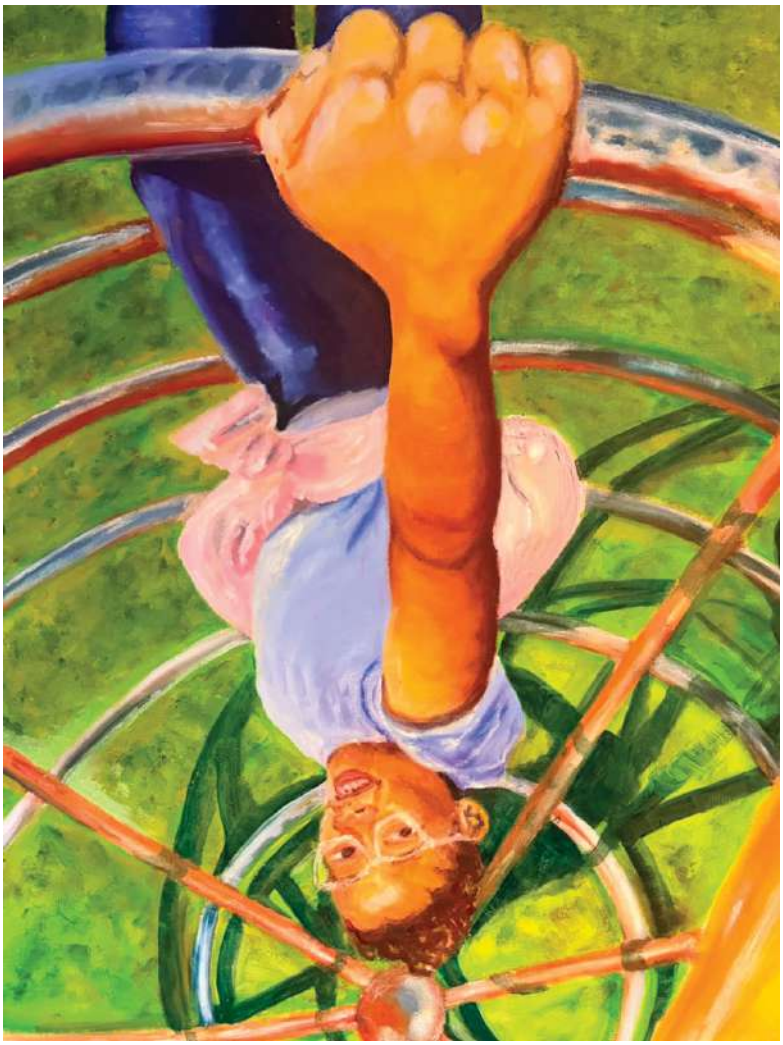
I jolted upright at the sound of the crack of electricity that struck the house. The strike had disabled our electricity and left us in darkness. I sat and listened to the pitter-patter of rain before I made my way to check on my parents. When I reached the dining room, they were already there – waiting for me in silence. I took a seat and we all simply looked at one another.

We finally understood each other. We understood each other’s grief and heartache. Each of us took turns expressing how defeated and torn we felt at the loss of my grandfather. We held hands, cried and supported each other as we had that much-needed conversation in the candlelight.

That evening taught me that not all storms come to destroy our lives; some come to clear our paths. The passing of my grandfather should have fostered an opportunity for support and growth but instead divided my family. We chose to sit in the rain and wallow in our grief. The lightning that struck our house was a catalyst for change and fostered empathy and support in my family. It forced us to learn to dance in the rain and accept what life had thrown at us.

The storm cleared our path and it washed away our sorrow and taught us to keep moving forward.

– Nwabuaku Uzodike, grade 12



Ndalo Mkhize



Unathi Jele

Under the Orange Streetlight

The soles of my boots squish against the rain-soaked tar as I walk along the dusky street. Above me, the sky has begun to darken and clouds have swallowed the last golden hues of sunset. Streetlights flicker on and the road becomes bathed in their warm, artificial orange glow. Their light spills onto the pavement like melted honey and clings to puddles that reflect broken versions of the world above.

Benches line the pavement, one under every lamppost. I collapse onto a vacant seat and sigh as my back melts against the soft oak. My gaze wanders to the young couple occupying the bench opposite me. The girl's blonde hair spills over her shoulder like liquid gold as she shakes with laughter. The man beside her offers her his hand and pulls her up when she accepts it. They began swaying to music only they could hear, their steps synchronised with the soft hum of the autumn breeze. Laughter echoes through the street as they spin clumsily and dip in and out of the orange glow above them. The light paints them gold and I watch in awe as I admire their ineffable love for one another.

Further down the street, an old man sits beside his granddaughter. He listens intently to her endless chatter as she points at puddles and stares up at him with love and admiration in her bright hazel eyes. The corners of my mouth lift and my focus shifts to another bench, where a young man sits with his dog. The lucent glow coats them in a blanket of amber as they lean against each other, the beauty of their unspoken bond radiating outward as if carried by the soft light.

Then I notice a light seemingly dimmer than the others. Beneath it lies an old man, his weary body curled inward as a thin sheet of yesterday's *Witness* covers his worn jacket and oversized pants. The orange light casts shadows across his face, highlighting every line of worry etched into it. A wave of melancholy washes over me and the atmosphere grows sombre as I watch him shiver. As people begin to leave, the street, once filled with laughter and joyous moments, becomes quiet and desolate.

I leave my seat, the benches lingering in my mind as I walk away. The comfort, joy and loneliness of life had revealed itself in pieces through the mellow glow of the orange streetlights.

– Darshini Reddy, grade 12

Ek het ’n Fout Gemaak...

Daar was ’n tyd in my lewe waar alles uitmekaar geval het. Dit was in graad tien. Ek het na ’n nuwe land, Amerika, getrek en ek was stoksielalleen. Ek het niemand daar geken nie en ek was doodbang dat niemand van my sou hou nie. Ek het nie ’n keuse gehad nie; my eensaamheid was my nuwe lewe.

Die eerste paar maande was die slegste. Ek het nie vriende gemaak nie, want niemand wou met die ‘nuwe meisie’ praat nie. My hart was swaar, vol van onsekerheid en hartseer. Elke dag was ’n stryd om aan te hou. Daar was ’n stem in my kop wat ek nie kon uitkry nie: “Wat is fout met jou? Jy gaan nooit vriende hê nie. Kyk hoe lyk jy. Dit sou beter wees as jy verdwyn.” Elke dag, dieselfde stem. Ek het selfs begin wonder of daar regtig iets fout was met my.

Een Saterdagaand het ek ’n baie interessante video gevind. Die titel van die video was: ‘Die stryd van vandag ontwikkel die krag wat jy môre nodig het.’ Daardie video het alles verander. Ek het besef dat ek ’n groot fout gemaak het; dalk was dit die grootste fout van my lewe. My probleem was dat ek probeer het om blydskap in ander mense te vind. Ek het gedink dat egte vrede en geluk beteken om baie vriende te hê, maar dit kom eintlik van binne jouself.

Ek het ’n fout gemaak, een wat ek nooit sal vergeet nie. Dit het my ’n belangrike les geleer. Om jou foute te erken is nie swakheid nie, maar ’n kans om te groei. Ek het vrede binne myself gevind en elke dag onthou ek dat blydskap nie finaal is nie en hartseer nie die einde is nie. Dit is die moed om aan te hou, wat belangrik is.

– Malebo Molete, grade 12

Leli Iqhawekazi Lami

Ngabe yini iqhawekazi? Owesifazane ongusaziwayo noma olwele amalungelo nenkululeko? Iqhawekazi lami, umuntu owadela impumelelo yakhe ukuze angihlenge ogibeni lokufa.

Ngonyaka odlule, isimo sami sempilo sasintengantenga. Ngathola ukuthi ngidinga ukunikelelwa ngomnkantsha. Amathambo ami ayeqaqamba. Wawungafunga ukuthi kwakukhala amathambo angenanyama uma useduze kwami. Odokotela nomndeni wami bamthungatha yonke indawo umuntu owayenganginikelela, kodwa do. Ukube ngelusa amadada, umama wayezosala nodadewethu uNoluthando kuphela emhlabeni.

Umama ngamdonsa ngendlebe ukuthi angayithi vu eyokugula kwami kuNoluthando. Ngangazi ukuthi le ndaba izomthunuka enhlizweni. UNoluthando wayethole umfundaze wobunjiniyela eMelika. Ngicishe ngifa nje, yena wayesebhala izivivinyo zokuphothula izifundo zakhe. Umama wayesethembile ukuthi impumelelo kaNoluthando izolixosha ikati eziko.

Kwaphela izinyanga ezimbili ingaqhamukile inhlansi yethemba lokuthi ngiyosinda. Ngangibona ukuthi odokotela base beliphonsile ithawula. Umbalane ngase ngingawuphonsa noma nini. Ngase ngilobe nencwajana yokuvalelisa kumama nodade. Ngangibona kahle ukuthi ngilibuka ngiyaligcina.

Ngathuka ngoma uma ngivuka ngosuku olulandelayo. Umhlengikazi wangihlebela ukuthi udadewethu uthushuke ngomzuzu wokugcina ezonginikelela ngomnkantsha. Akagcinanga lapho, wangibhadalela nezindleko zesibhedlela ezazimba eqolo, ngemali ayebamba ngayo amatoho uma engayile esikoleni.

Hawu Madoda! Ubani nje owayengabeka izifundo zakhe engcupheni ngenxa yami? Amehlo ami ahlengezela izinyembezi. Ngabonga nganconcoza kudadewethu, iqhawekazi lami, ngokusindisa impilo yami.

– Sinakekele Dlamini, grade 10



Anneleen Kruger

Kubalulekile Ukwamukela Lokho Oyikho

Wonke umuntu udalwe wahluka kwabanye ngokwakhe. Ubuhle bomuntu abukho ekufaneni kwakhe nabanye. Busenhliziweni yakhe nokwamukela kwakhe ukuthi lokhu ayikona kwanele.

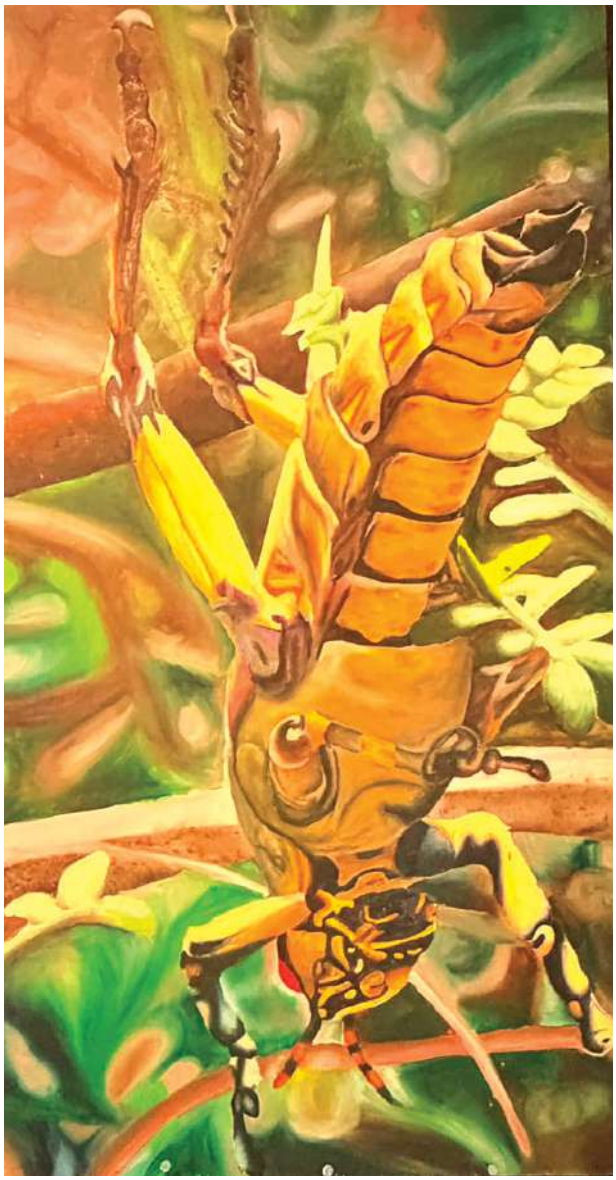
Akusamangazi kakhulu ukukhuluma nabantu abangazimukeli ngokugcwele. Yinto eyejwayelekile kepha engeyinhle neze. Abantu abaningi kabi abazama ukuzishintsha ukuze bezoqandana nalokhu okulindelwe abanye abantu. Yebo umuntu ungumuntu ngabantu, kodwa okushiwoyo nezenzo zabanye abantu akumele kwenze umuntu azishintshe ubuyena.

Emhlabeni uhlangana nabantu abaziqhathanisa nabanye abantu. Ubezwa bethi bafuna ukuzenza “ngcono” kunalokhu abayikona, bagcine sebelahlekelwa ububona endleleni. Akukho soka elingenasici. Wonke umuntu unezinkinga zakhe. Ngakho-ke, nawe ungazibukeli phansi ngenxa yamaphutha nokuhluka kwabanye. Zimele futhi uzithande namaphutha akho, hhayi abanye abantu.

Abantu bahlezi bekhuluma futhi amazwi abo abuhlungu. Akumele uzizonde ngenxa yamazwi abantu abangenandaba nawe. Kungcono ukukhetha ukuzithanda ngoba ekugcineni nguwe ophila nawe nsuku zonke. Ukuzazi ukuzakha, ngakho funda ukuzithanda.

Zirhande, zikhandle, zamukele. Ukuba khona kwakho emhlabeni akulona iphutha. Ngakho-ke, ungayimoshi impilo uzama ukuba umuntu ongeyena.

– Phiwokuhle Kubheka, grade 10



Ella Hyde

Ek het ’n Fout Gemaak...

Yslike druppels sweet en trane loop by my gesig af. My oë is bloedrooi, wange glinsterend pienk. My mond, my tong, my keel, my lippe, my neus... alles is seer! Maar al wat ek kan wonder, is of daar enige verligting aan hierdie ellende sal wees?

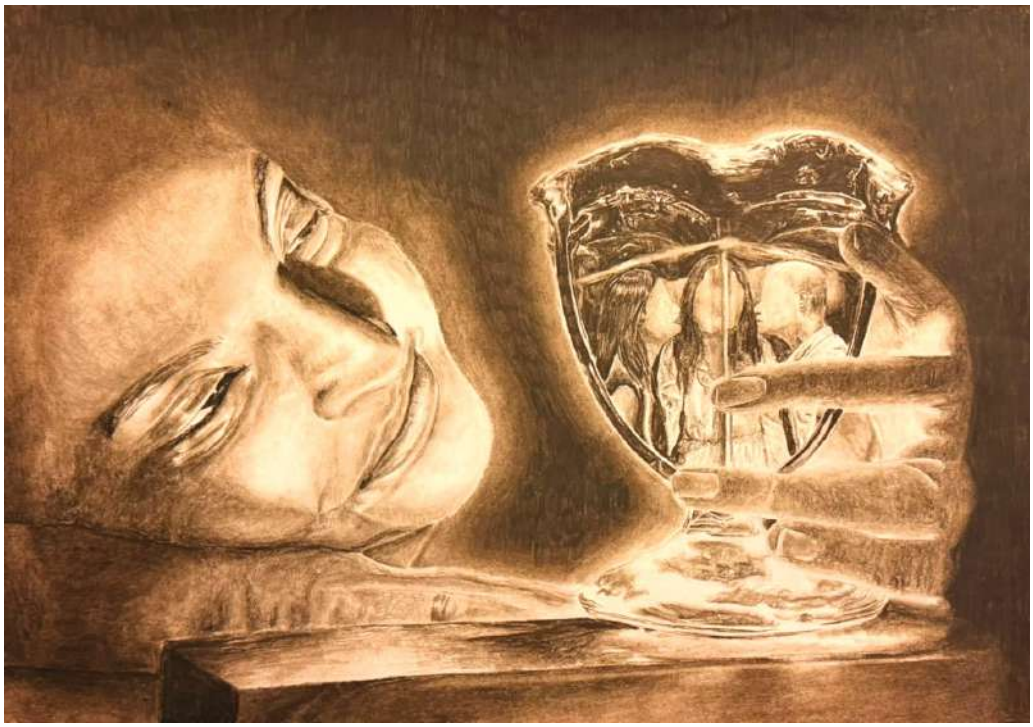
Toe ek en Mikeala in die sonverligte venster van Mug ’n Bean gaan sit het, was ons grootste probleem geld. Tweehonderd-en-sewentig rand moes genoeg wees vir twee ontbyte en twee Rolo Mugachinos. Ná pynlike Wiskunde het ons betaal nog voordat ons kos gekom het, sodat ons in vrede kon eet. ’n Ding wat jy moet weet van Mikeala is dat sy enige brand kos – Tabasco, Chillies, Jalapeños, enigiets – kan eet sonder om ’n oog te knip.

So, toe Mikeala die kelnerin vra: “Het julle enige Tabasco-sous?”, moes ek die rooi ligte al gesien het. En toe die kelnerin sê: “Nee, maar ons het ons eie brandsousie as julle dit wil probeer?”, moes ek die sirenes al begin hoor het. Maar ek is blind en doof, en ek wou nie pieperig voor almal lyk nie. En so gooi ek Mug ’n Bean se ou brandsousie oor my stomende slaptjips.

Die eerste paar minute, tot my verligting, was alles nog reg. Maar toe die klok tienuur slaan, styg die vertrek se humiditeit drasties. Duisende rooimierbytjies het in my mond verskyn, my ore het gesmeul, my neus het geloop en my oë het getraan. Ek kyk op na Mikeala; haar oë is so groot soos pierings en sy staar tranend na my. Toe weet ek, ek het ’n groot fout gemaak. Maar ons het al ons geld op hierdie kos spandeer, so toe hou ons maar aan met eet...

’n Uur later – mae omgekrap, gesigte bloedrooi, en ons eens mooi, platgemaakte hare nou in wilde krulle – is ons borde skoon geëet. Ek lig stadig my horlosie... nog drie ure voordat ons ouers ons by die winkelsentrum kan kom haal...

– Anneleen Kruger, grade 12



Aadya Sarupen

My Grandmother's Recipe Book

The mellow creak of the honey-brown floorboard underfoot in this kitchen had gone stale, mourning the loss of its beloved owner. She was the sun, her radiant presence lighting up every room she graced. Even lacklustre cooking ingredients couldn't help but bend to her will. Her cooking lingered in my memory, stirring my stomach to growl in remembrance.

With an ease of practised familiarity, I drifted to the windowsill and plucked her partner in crime – her recipe book – from its rightful place. Its pages had turned yellow with time, but the recipes were still the same. In a trance-like movement, I let the pages flutter to that dog-eared page. The page pulled me in and I was taken back to that special day.

That day, the way I felt still sears in my mind. I will never forget the way she looked at me. Her hazel eyes sparkled like the sun and her melodious voice kissed my ears. Her tone was as sweet as honey – the tone all grandmothers use when speaking to their beloved grandchildren.

"My angel, let's make your favourite today."

That day was one of the treasured moments of my youth. With her recipe book in hand, she floated through the kitchen. The crackling sizzle of garlic in the pan, the intoxicating smell of cumin through the air and the way the bubbling heat from the boiling mixture tantalised my senses – it was a truly euphoric experience.

When she had worked her magic, she would lift up my small frame onto that wooden stool and hold a spoonful of the finished curry to my mouth. These flavours danced on my tongue that day, in a way they haven't since she passed away. But, now that I think about it, she didn't only use the recipe book back in the kitchen.

Memories of her delicate frame sinking into the couch, book in hand, flashed before me. One day I'd ask her what use a recipe book could have outside the kitchen. She gave me a small smile and said, "When you're older, you'll understand."

As I look at the book now, my eyes latch onto the handwritten text scrawled in the margins.

"A lovely pick-me-up for a rainy day."

"A cold soup to soothe the mind."

"A dash of happiness for my angel."

It was then that I began to understand. This book did not just house a plethora of recipes but the recipe for life.

This single book contained her wisdom, her experiences and her legacy. This book was a reflection of the way she lived her life – come rain or shine, we can all live as joyously as the sun.

I left that house reborn, not because I'd physically changed, but because I had a new mantra engraved on my heart. I left with my grandmother's ultimate gift: the recipe for life.

– Oluchukwu Eke, grade 12

Sports Department

The sports department at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School continues to thrive as a dynamic hub of activity, energy and excellence. Supported by six full-time staff members, a strength and conditioning coach and over 45 dedicated coaches and officials, the department excels by leveraging outstanding facilities. These include a versatile indoor centre, an upgraded artificial hockey surface, multiple fields and courts, a fully equipped gymnasium and a heated swimming pool.

The year was marked by significant achievements, including hosting the annual Senior Relay Gala at the new aquapark and the inaugural Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival. The school also celebrated winning the U16 section of the 34th Val Fowler Tournament. A major highlight was the April tour to Stellenbosch for the National All Girls' Festival, a trip made possible through months of creative fundraising. This experience offered many learners their first opportunity to travel by air and immerse themselves in the culture of the Western Cape while competing in netball, squash, cross-country and MasterChef.

During the course of the year, the school hosted four successful Derby Days against Durban Girls' High School, Danville Park Girls' High School and Westville Girls' High School, where learners consistently demonstrated determination and sportsmanship. Beyond these major events, the department saw steady progress across several disciplines. The swimming team improved significantly at major galas, while the Midlands Soccer Cup saw individual players achieve provincial recognition. Basketball and table tennis continue to experience steady growth and the water polo teams have enjoyed increased tour exposure. Additionally,



the successful hosting of junior sport festivals and the participation of athletes in the aQuellé Series and Trevi-Track events further highlight a robust year of development.

Looking ahead, the department remains committed to its mission of fostering a sustainable training culture. By pairing athletes with skilled mentors, the school aims to cultivate disciplined, well-rounded individuals.



SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Mr K Naidoo, Miss N Hodi, Mrs A-M Snyman (Head of Sports), Mr T Stellenberg, Miss P Sikhosana, Mr L Mudimeli

2026 Sports and Cultural Awards Ceremony

Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School proudly celebrated the exceptional achievements, commitment and talents of its learners at the annual Sports and Cultural Awards Ceremony, recognising excellence across a diverse range of sporting codes, cultural activities, leadership initiatives and service portfolios.

A highlight of the occasion was the return of distinguished alumna Julia Trodd (Class of 2014), who joined the GHS community as our guest speaker. Now a teacher and Matric Head of Department at St Anne's and an international Hyrox competitor, Julia shared an inspiring message encouraging learners to embrace opportunities, face challenges courageously and pursue their dreams with determination.

Congratulations to all recipients whose dedication and commitment have enriched the life of the school and inspired those around them. Their achievements stand as a testament to the energy, determination and excellence that continue to define the GHS experience.



Siyamethemba Khumalo

Sports Awards 2026

Athletics

Bailey Hugo: Pechey Premier Athletics Award for Ability and Service

Basketball

Ezenkosi Tembe: Outstanding Junior Player
Simelokuhle Gamede: Outstanding Senior Player

Cross-country

Citrine: Interhouse Junior Champion
Tanzanite: Interhouse Senior Trophy
Philasande Ngcongo: Michelle McDonald Trophy for Most Improved Runner
Daniella Job: Junior Champion
Hannah Sewlal: Senior Champion

Hockey

Citrine: Interhouse Junior Champion Bowness Cup
Tanzanite: Interhouse Senior Champion McKenzie Shield
Jade Gobey: Eloise Miskey Trophy for Top Goal Scorer
Tashlyn van Wyk: Kerry McKenzie Cup for Most Improved U16 Player
Sbongakonke Ngubane: Most Improved Senior Player
Siyamethemba Khumalo: Bonsma McGrath Trophy for Best Player in the Open Category

Indoor Hockey

Jade Gobey: Best Junior Player
Siyamethemba Khumalo: Best Senior Player

Netball

Garnet: Interhouse Oribi Military Hospital Cup
Topaz: Interhouse Junior Champion
Esethu Zimu: Ingrid Binder Trophy for Most Improved Player
Ndimenhle Khanyile: Best Junior Player
Nkazimulo Thenjwayo: Best Senior Player

Rugby

Shy-Hannah Nichols: Juliann Davis Rugby Spirit Award

Soccer

Sphumelele Zondi: Most Improved Junior Player
Zothando Chonco: Best Junior Player
Bayathandwa Ntshingila: Most Improved Senior Player
Athi Radebe: Top Scoring Senior Player
Akhona Hlophe: Best Senior Player

Squash

Morganite: Interhouse Junior Champion
Amethyst: Interhouse Senior Champion Willcocks Trophy
Amila Mahlangeni: Jenny Lowe Trophy (U14 Champion)
Sandiselwe Hlengwa: J Edwards Trophy (U16 Champion)
Mareth Roestorf: Sheena Heard Cup (Open Champion)
Amile Zimu: Tanielle McGregor Trophy for Most Improved Player
Mareth Roestorf: Ingrid Schreiber Trophy for Best Player and Sportsmanship

Swimming

Citrine: Hai Leslie-Smith Spirit Cup
Tanzanite: J A de Graaf Interhouse Swimming Cup
Zekhethelo Radebe: Victrix Ludorum U14
May-ra Singh: Victrix Ludorum U15
Cailyn Clowes: Victrix Ludorum U16
Kristen Burt: Victrix Ludorum U17
Megan Neizel: Victrix Ludorum U19

Table Tennis

Sapphire: Junior Interhouse Champion
Citrine: Senior Interhouse Champion
Aria Moneyvalu: Most Improved Player
Kritika Totaram: Best Player and Sportsmanship
Vee-yah Pillay: Junior Champion
Kritika Totaram: Senior Champion

Tennis

Andisiwe Bhebhe: U15 Singles Champion
Yukta Singh: Open Singles Champion

Water Polo

Jeslyn Coetzer: Most Improved Beginner
Jemimah Naicker: Most Improved Player
Anele Mdlalose: Player Showing Great Potential
Kristen Burt: Speirs Trophy for Best Senior Player
Isabella Naicker: Best Junior Player

House Awards

Garnet: Tinus de Jongh Academic Picture
Tanzanite: Robbins Trophy 1943 for Champion House

Special Sport Awards

Tristan Lewis: Junior All-Round Award
Anelisa Ndlela and **Marisca van der Berg:** Phumzile Gumede Award for Committed and Unassuming Sportswoman
Grace Shwala: Gia Cousins Trophy for Sportsmanship, Achievement and Service
Sbongakonke Ngubane: Taryn de Winnaar Trophy for Perseverance and Commitment
Siyamethemba Khumalo: Valerie Fowler Trophy for Outstanding Senior Sportswoman

Cultural Awards 2026

Half Colours

Choir and Gospel Choir

Brogan Reddy
Kuhle Khanyile
Sisanda Msimang
Nomlando Hlongwane

Jazz Band and Wind Band

Lindo Sikhosana
Kwenza Khanyile
Unathi Manyoni

Performance Company and Dance

Zebeddiyah Khan
Andiswa Ndlovu
Khethelo Gumbi
Mvelwenhle Ngubane
Alwande Shazi

Table Officials

Sphumelele Sibiya
Londeka Zithutha
Khanyisa Mdima
Lumka Mazibuko

Library Monitors

Sophia Wüst
Thando Myeni
Ella Hyde
Ndalo Mkhize
Trinelle Parasuraman
Darshini Reddy

Marketing

Karabo Bapela
Sharon Mangundu
Keoagile Mahlangu

Full Colours

Choir and Gospel Choir

Adunyiswe Mazibuko
Usiphile Mthembu
Ntokozo Nxumalo
Sasa Sibisi

Wind Band

Philasande Dlamini

Performance Company

Nkhesani Brown

Dance

Asanele Ngcobo
Ndondo Msomi

Table Officials

Lunathi Zondi
Oluhle Chamane
Buhle Mfeka
Palesa Mthembu
Onethando Ngejane
Avela Majozi
Sibahle Gwala
Siphelele Vusani
Ndalo Shabalala
Inathi Madikizela

First Aid

Olona Duze
Lindelwa Chirwa

Recycling Society

Kiara Reddy
Keziah Naidoo
Sbongakonke Sithebe
Nwabuaku Uzodike
Marissa Vezasie
Serena Nganbeu Fonou
Ariande Ramjatan

Honours and Special Recognition

Wind Band Honours

Unami Buthelezi
Anele Sokhela

Special Recognition Awards

Alwande Shazi for her outstanding contribution to Pietermaritzburg debating and service as an ambassador for GHS.
Inathi Madikizela for achieving gold level in the Pietermaritzburg Debating League and contributing to the wider debating community.
Iminathi Bacela for exceptional international debating achievements, including Protea Colours, representation of South Africa at international tournaments and recognition as the 10th-best speaker in Africa.



Iminathi Bacela

Val Fowler Basketball Tournament







Hosted by Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, the 34th annual Val Fowler Basketball Tournament was a resounding celebration of athleticism, teamwork and school spirit. Expanding this year to include an U16 division alongside its traditional U19 competition, the event welcomed 40 teams from South Africa and Zimbabwe. Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School claimed top honours in the newly introduced U16 division, followed by St John's Diocesan School for Girls and Thomas More College. In the U19 B section, ATS Select finished first ahead of LIV Village and St Mary's Diocesan School for Girls (Pretoria). The elite U19 A section saw St Stithians take top honours, with The Heritage School securing second place and Sacred Heart College finishing third ahead of Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School.

Stand-out individual performances were celebrated with the selection of the 2026 Val Fowler All-Stars Team, featuring N Cele from Sacred Heart College, J Garbini from St Stithians, T Jimerson from St Stithians, P Mabotja from St Peter's College and R Mutevera from The Heritage School. N Cele was named the Tournament Most Valuable Player, while J Garbini earned the Finals Most Valuable Player award.

The seamless execution of this prestigious event was made possible through the generous support of sponsors, including aQuellé, Fairfield Dairy, RedAlert, Standard Bank and North-West University, whose unwavering partnership was especially invaluable. Essential contributions were also made behind the scenes by GHS learners who managed logistics, first aid, marketing and officiating, alongside the dedicated referees and the GHS sports department, whose tireless preparation ensured another memorable edition of the tournament.

Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival

The inaugural Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival was a significant milestone for girls' rugby in South Africa, being the country's first full 15-a-side U18 girls' rugby festival. Bringing together teams from across KwaZulu-Natal, the event delivered a memorable day of competition, camaraderie and celebration, while also creating an important platform for the growth of the game. More than simply providing fixtures, the festival aims to establish a meaningful pathway for talented young women in rugby and, in time, to become a flagship event on the South African schools' rugby calendar.

For GHS, seeing rugby flourish as part of our sporting programme is particularly fitting. For 106 years, GHS has encouraged young women to participate fully, compete courageously and challenge limitations. Rugby sits comfortably within this proud tradition of determination, resilience and ambition. Equally fitting is the festival's name. The green elly has long been a cherished symbol of GHS, representing the strength, pride and spirit of generations of Girls' High learners.

With ten teams competing, the festival showcased the remarkable depth of talent emerging in schoolgirl rugby and offered an exciting glimpse into the future of the sport. The GHS team secured a well-deserved victory in one match and narrowly missed out in their second, delivering spirited performances throughout the day. Congratulations to N Ximba, who was selected for the prestigious All-Stars Team, a fitting reward for an outstanding festival performance.

A heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors for helping turn this vision into reality, with special appreciation to title sponsor Nashua for their invaluable support. The inaugural Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival was a resounding success and an exciting step forward for girls' rugby in South Africa.

Derby Days

This year's Derby Days once again delivered thrilling competition, memorable performances and exceptional school spirit across every sporting code. Our learners represented GHS with immense pride, while enthusiastic supporters created an electric atmosphere from the sidelines during a remarkable season of inter-school rivalry.

The action kicked off on 9 May against Durban Girls' High School, where GHS set a high standard across the board. On the field and court, our hockey U14A and first teams secured hard-fought victories, while netball U14A and U15A triumphed in spirited matches. Tennis delivered a dominant performance to win comfortably and our cross-country runners shone brightly as both junior and senior teams claimed top honours, led by outstanding individual wins from Amahle Ngcobo and Neliah Ssekayita.

On 23 May, GHS welcomed Westville Girls' High School for what turned out to be another sensational display of athletic prowess. GHS mounted an almost clean sweep in hockey, winning five matches across all age groups, alongside an equally dominant performance in netball, where five teams sealed impressive wins. Squash continued its sterling form with a decisive overall victory, while our first team water polo squad fought courageously to earn a hard-won draw.

The home clash against Danville Park Girls' High School on 30 May was another intensely competitive fixture. Highlights of the day included a spectacular performance by our squash team, who defeated their opponents in a flawless victory. Netball U14A continued their winning streak, while our chess players demonstrated remarkable resilience by launching a strong second-round comeback to edge out Danville overall.

The season concluded on 22 August with the return Derby Day at Westville. GHS athletes rose to the occasion in stunning fashion, completely dominating the basketball courts by winning all six fixtures, highlighted by a breathtaking 62–2 victory from the U15A team. The soccer and water polo teams added to the success with critical wins, the fast five netball team secured a thrilling draw and the squash team capped off an unforgettable campaign with an incredible flawless victory.

Beyond the impressive scores, these Derby Days showcased the resilience, sportsmanship and camaraderie that define GHS. We congratulate all participants and express our sincere gratitude to the coaches, staff and supporters who made this season unforgettable.





National All Girls' Festival

This year, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School once again had the privilege of flying to the Western Cape to participate in the National All Girls' Festival, hosted by Rhenish Girls' High School in Stellenbosch. For many learners, this was their first flight and first visit to the province. The return journey was especially memorable, as the GHS touring group had the entire aeroplane to themselves.

A smaller contingent represented GHS in netball, squash, cross-country and MasterChef. Moving between Rhenish and the surrounding sporting and educational facilities also gave learners a glimpse of student life in Stellenbosch. Our squash players competed confidently against experienced opposition. Their progress was particularly inspiring, as some had only picked up a racket after joining GHS. The MasterChef team displayed creativity, teamwork and composure under pressure, finishing joint fifth with C&N Sekondêre Meisieskool Oranje out of 12 schools. Cross-country featured individual and team races and concluded with a relay. Our runners showed determination and teamwork to finish ninth overall. The netball team played 11 matches, recording wins against St Stithians, Clarendon and Penryn, as well as a draw against Reddam House Constantia. They finished 24th out of 32 teams and gained valuable experience against strong national opposition.

The festival helped learners develop independence, resilience and confidence, while also creating lasting memories and friendships. We congratulate every learner who represented GHS with pride and thank the staff, parents and supporters whose hours of planning, fundraising and preparation made this memorable tour possible.

National and Provincial Representatives

Provincial Selections



PROVINCIAL SCHOOL SPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Back Row: B Ntshingila, A Mnguni, A Radebe, S-H Nichols, L Manning, B Dlamini, E Zimu
Fourth Row: M Breda, M Ntshalintshali, L Hlongwane, T Ndlovu, A Magutshwa, N Shangase
Third Row: A Mncwabe, S Madikizela, A Hlophe, G Shwala, S Zwane, L Rajah, Y Sarupen
Second Row: S Khumalo, A Mdakane, L Mlotshwa, S Shange, J Gobey, N Thenjwayo
Front Row: I Madikizela, T van Wyk, I Bacela, Mrs A-M Snyman, S Khumalo, V Pillay, K Pillay

Athletics, KZN
B Hugo

Basketball, KZN
U16: Z Kubheka

Badminton, KZN
Y Sarupen

Hockey, KZN Inland
U14 (Reserve): U Kunene
U14C: Z Chonco, A Magutshwa, S Zwane
U14B: T Ndlovu, Z Magwenyane
U14A: M Breda
U16C: M Ntshalintshali
U16C (Reserve): S Ndlovu
U16B: A Mnguni
U16A: J Gobey, T van Wyk
U18C: B Ntshingila
U18B: A Hlophe, S Ngubane, L Rajah, G Shwala
U18A: S Khumalo, A Radebe

Karate, KZN
S Maharaj, Y Maharaj, M Naicker, M Pillay

Netball, KZN
U14: S Khumalo
U16: L Mlotshwa
U17: S Madikizela, A Mdakane, E Zimu
U18: N Thenjwayo

Rugby, KZN
U15 Club IPT: T Lewis, Z Sibeko, Z Gumede
U16: R Bodhlyera, S-H Nichols
U18: L Manning, A Mncwabe

Shooting, KZN SAARA
D Naidoo

Soccer, KZN Midlands
U15: S Sukram
U16: A Mahomed
U19: S Singh, A Hlophe

Swimming
KZN Team: G George
Level 1 Regional Championships: T Luridsamy
Level 2 Regional Championships: T Grantham, M Singh
Level 3 Regional Championships: K Burt, C Clowes, Z Radebe
South African Junior Championships: C Hauptfleisch

Table Tennis
ETK Selected Team 2026, SA Regional and Open Championships (Juniors, Seniors and Masters), U19A Girls: A Heeralal

UMGTTA Selected Team 2026, SA Regional and Open Championships (Juniors, Seniors and Masters), U15 Girls: A Parbhoodeen, V Pillay, L Ramchurran

UMGTTA Selected Team 2026, SA Regional and Open Championships (Juniors, Seniors and Masters), U19A Girls: K Totaram, N Totaram

UMGTTA Selected Team 2026, SA Regional and Open Championships (Juniors, Seniors and Masters), U19B Girls: K Pillay, N Rampersad, S Sivnannan

Summer Games KZN Team U14 (2025): V Pillay

Summer Games KZN Team U18 (2025): K Pillay, K Totaram, N Totaram

Water Polo: KZN U16 Squad
C Clowes, A Mdlalose

National Selections



NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORT REPRESENTATIVES
J Gobey, T van Wyk, I Bacela, Mrs A-M Snyman,
K Totaram, V Pillay

Hockey 5s: South African U17 Team
S Khumalo

Hockey: South Africa U16 Squad
T van Wyk

Karate
National Championship: M Pillay
UFAK Region South Team: S Maharaj

Table Tennis: ITTF Africa Youth Championships Accra 2026
U15: V Pillay
U19: K Totaram

Rugby: SA Nationals U16
S-H Nichols



SPORTS HONOURS
Mrs A-M Snyman, S Khumalo



NATIONAL NON-SCHOOL SPORT REPS
S Maharaj, M Pillay, Y Maharaj



PROVINCIAL NON-SCHOOL SPORT REPS
Back Row: M Msimang, O Molefe, N Mthombeni, A Mafuleka, K Totaram
Front Row: S Maharaj, M Pillay, Y Maharaj



SPORT CAPTAINS

Back Row: M Naicker, S Gamede, G Barnardo, L Walker
Second Row: R Pillay, G Phoko, M van der Berg, K Bapela, M Neizel, S Dlamini
Front Row: Y Gangaram, S Khumalo, Mrs A-M Snyman, Z Paterson, S Singh

Sport Captains

Code	Captain	Code	Captain
Athletics	N/A	Rugby	Karabo Bapela
Basketball – Captain	Gabriella Barnardo	Table Tennis	Metia Naicker
Basketball – Vice Captain	Sharon Mangundu	Tennis – Captain	Gomo Phoko
Badminton	N/A	Tennis – Vice Captain	Lebo Phoko
Chess	Zarah Paterson	Soccer	Shaahira Singh
Canoeing	S'phesihle Dlamini	Squash	Yuvna Gangaram
Cross-country	Lucy Walker	Swimming – Captain	Megan Neizel
Netball – Captain	Simelokuhle Gamede	Swimming – Vice Captain	Grace George
Netball – Vice Captain	Anelisa Ndlela	Volleyball	Rhiannon Pillay
Hockey/Indoor Hockey – Captain	Siyamethemba Khumalo	Water polo	Marisca van der Berg
Hockey/Indoor Hockey – Vice Captain	Gabby Hamblin	Table Official – Head	Lunathi Zondi

HOUSE CAPTAINS

House	Captains
Tanzanite	G Hamblin
Morganite	I Madikizela
Topaz	N Uzodike
Amethyst	A Ndlela
Sapphire	L Zondi
Ruby	S Gamede
Garnet	M Neizel
Citrine	I Bacela



HOUSE CAPTAINS

Back Row: L Zondi, M Neizel
Second Row: A Ndlela, I Madikizela, N Uzodike, I Bacela
Front Row: G Hamblin, Miss N Hodi, S Gamede



GAME SECRETARIES
Back Row: L Draai, T Sifo, N Mbona, N Mhlongo
Front Row: P Vorster, Miss P Sikhosana, T Dunlop

Interhouse Competition

TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss N Hodi

Interhouse events at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School brought an explosion of colour, energy and unmatched camaraderie to our highly anticipated interhouse competitions throughout the year. Spanning multiple disciplines, these dynamic events did far more than test athletic abilities; they truly succeeded in bringing together the spirit of sisterhood and friendly competition across a wide variety of sporting codes and across all eight houses. From the swimming pool to the courts and fields, learners threw themselves into every match with dedication and pride.

The swimming gala saw intense energy in the pool, with swimmers diving into their races to claim crucial leaderboard points for their respective houses. On the courts and turf, netball and hockey matches were ablaze with fast-paced tactical plays that showcased excellent teamwork alongside fierce house rivalries. Cross-country was a real test of grit and endurance as runners pushed themselves, cheered on loudly by housemates lining the course. Meanwhile, indoor facilities hummed with focus and precision as table tennis and squash players went head-to-head in thrilling racquet matchups.

While the interhouse matches kept house rankings shifting, the absolute highlight of the season was the highly anticipated Staff versus First Team Hockey match. The entire school community gathered around the astroturf to witness a spectacular exhibition of skill, laughter and light-hearted drama. Before the main showdown kicked off, a lively curtain-raiser feature had everyone excited as our Principal, Mr Marwick, took on first team goalkeeper Siyamethemba Khumalo in a penalty shootout. Mr Marwick managed to slip the ball past her to score, sending the spectator stands into a frenzy of cheers. Ultimately, every girl and staff member gave their all to make the year an unforgettable success.



CHEER SQUAD
Back Row: S Vusani, O Chamane, Z Sithole, L Dlamini
Third Row: E Khanyile, A Manzi, S Bhengu, L Ntuli
Second Row: T Dlamini, A Nzimande, Mrs A-M Snyman, N Msomi, N Brown
Front Row: N Thenjwayo, A Juta, P-F Cebekhulu



TABLE OFFICIALS

Back Row: L Mazibuko, O Ngejane, I Madikizela, O Chamane
Third Row: K Mdima, K Sithole, L Hodi, S Gwala, N Ndlovu
Second Row: N Mhlongo, S Nkabinde, S Vusani, A Majozi, N Shabalala, M Ngubane
Front Row: B Mfeka, L Zondi, Mrs A-M Snyman, P Mthembu, Z Ntshangase

Table Officials

COMMITTEE: B Mfeka, P Mthembu, L Zondi
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs A-M Snyman

This year, our table officials society has continued to grow, with over 60 dedicated learners actively involved. Collectively, they have accumulated an impressive 2 574 officiating hours throughout the year, which is a testament to their commitment, reliability and passion for sport. We are immensely proud of their dedication and the exceptional standard they continue to uphold.

In addition to officiating at our daily school sports fixtures, we entrusted our learners with responsibilities at several major events. These included the Junior Schools' Basketball Championship, the Junior Schools' Hockey and Netball Festival, the Jenny Orchard Invitational Basketball Tournament, the Junior Jenny Orchard Basketball Tournament and the 34th annual Val Fowler Basketball Tournament. Our learners' professionalism at these events resulted in another invitation to officiate at the PeacePlayers Tournament.

This year marked an exciting milestone for the society, as our learners officiated at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School's very first rugby matches and inaugural girls' rugby festival. Their versatility and dedication are evident in their willingness to learn the requirements of a new sporting code and take on these responsibilities. Through their involvement in the society, our learners have developed valuable lifelong skills, including time management, concentration, teamwork, responsibility and confidence. They have also learnt the importance of serving sport, even when they are not active participants on the field or court. Their contribution is essential to the smooth and professional running of every fixture and tournament.

Half Colours

K Mahlangu, S Majola, L Mazibuko, L Mazibuko, K Mdima, P Mncube, O Msimang, N Mtshali, A Ndaba, L Ndlovu, U Ngcobo, A Radebe, S Sibiya, E Sithole, L Zithutha

Colours

O Chamane, S Gwala, L Hodi, I Madikizela, A Majozi, B Mfeka, N Mhlongo, P Mthembu, O Ngejane, N Shabalala, F Sibisi, K Sithole, S Vusani, L Zondi

Athletics

TEACHER ASSISTANTS: L Manning, R Sheosunker
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss P Sikhosana

Athletics is gaining popularity at our school and it has been wonderful to see more learners getting involved and enjoying the sport. Our athletes train with an external coach, giving them the opportunity to develop their skills and fitness while preparing for competition. In the first and third terms our athletes participated in the aQuellé Summer and Spring Series, which provided valuable experience and exposure while competing against athletes from other schools.

To provide our athletes with more competing opportunities, we joined the KwaZulu-Natal Christian Schools' Sports Association this year. From that membership, eleven athletes participated in the zonal trials, with three progressing to the provincial trials. One of our athletes, B Hugo, was selected for the provincial team and competed in the National Track and Field Championships of South African Christian Schools' Sport Association (SACSSA) over the September holidays.

This is a fantastic accomplishment and a testament to the fact that our athletics programme is gaining momentum.

We intend to revive interhouse athletics for the upcoming season and attract more girls to join the team, with an emphasis on track events. We are excited to build on this year's achievements and to see even more of our learners realise their athletic potential.



ATHLETICS
N Ssekayita, B Hugo, Miss P Sikhosana, N Ssekayita

Provincial Selection

KZN: B Hugo

Badminton

TEACHER ASSISTANT: U Bhengu
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss P Sikhosana
COACH: Miss S Maharaj

Badminton continued as a non-competitive school sport this year, primarily because there are no neighbouring schools in the region that participate in competitive fixtures. Despite the lack of local inter-school matches, our players remained dedicated to honing their craft on the court. That lack of local competition certainly did not stop one of our exceptional learners, Yuvana Sarupen, from taking her passion for the sport to the next level through sheer grit and individual initiative.

Demonstrating incredible drive, she attended the provincial trials and successfully earned a coveted selection for the U17 provincial team. This outstanding milestone gave her the opportunity to represent KwaZulu-Natal on a national stage at the prestigious South African Championships and Inter-Provincial Tournament, which took place in Cape Town during the July holidays. Her national-level performance is a wonderful example of what can happen when determination, skill and genuine passion come together. She has truly proven to the entire school community that where there is a will, there is always a way.

Looking ahead to the upcoming season, there is plenty of momentum and excitement building for badminton at our school. To foster greater participation, we are thrilled to announce the introduction of an internal school badminton league. Additionally, we plan to broaden our competitive horizons by offering our players the valuable opportunity to enter and compete in the Durban league. We look forward to seeing many more learners get involved, embrace the sport and continuously develop their agility and skills on the court next year.



BADMINTON
S Naidu, Y Sarupen, Miss S Maharaj, A Sarupen

Half Colours

Y Sarupen

Provincial Selection

KZN U17C: Y Sarupen

Basketball

CAPTAIN: G Barnardo
VICE CAPTAIN: S Mangundu
COACHES: Mr M Chonco, Mr W Duma, Mr A Majozi, Mr L Miya, Mr S Mkhize, Miss A Mthethwa, Mr S Nsele, Mr P Nyembe
REFEREES: Mr A Mdladla, Mr M Siwila
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss N Hodi

The 2026 basketball season was nothing short of action-packed, filled with competition, learning and plenty of memorable moments.

The season had a slow start, with our teams having to find their rhythm and build confidence as the competition progressed. However, the players showed determination and resilience, steadily improving as the season went on and ultimately finishing strongly.

All age groups had the opportunity to attend the All Ages Festivals hosted by the uMgungundlovu Girls' Committee, giving our girls valuable opportunities to compete within the district. These festivals allowed players to gain experience, test themselves against different opposition and continue developing their skills on the court.

Another highlight of the season was our Derby Day against Westville, which provided an exciting day of competition and school spirit. The occasion gave our players the opportunity to showcase their growth while enjoying the atmosphere and intensity that comes with a traditional derby.

Our first team also performed well at the 34th edition of the Val Fowler Basketball Tournament, finishing in fourth place. This was a valuable experience for the team and a fitting reflection of the progress they made.

As we reflect on the year, we can be proud of how our teams responded to the challenges they faced. What began as a difficult start developed into a season of growth, improved confidence and stronger performances.



Merit Awards

A Batyisi, E Dlamini, Z Dludla, S Dumakude, A Hlatshwayo, S Khanyile, E Langa, L Luthuli, S Madikizela, S Maphisa, A Memela, U Mkhize, L Mlotshwa, A Mncwabe, A Mnguni, O Moleleki, A Mthethwa, A Muthwa, A Ngobese, M Ngwane, E Ninela, Z Nkomo, T Nondabula, M Nyathi, M Phungula, I Sikutshwa, S Zuma

Half Colours

G Barnardo, S Gamede, Z Khuzwayo, S Mangundu, A Mdakane, L Mkhize, A Mlaba, A Ndlela, S Ngubane, S Nkabinde, B Yobo

Provincial Selection

O-U Chinyelum, Z Kubheka



FIRST TEAM BASKETBALL

Back Row: A Mlaba, S Ngubane, A Mdakane, S Nkabinde, L Mkhize, B Yobo, Z Khuzwayo, R Mohoto, S Gamede
Front Row: Mr L Miya, S Mangundu, G Barnardo, A Ndlela, Mr P Nyembe



CANOEING
Back Row: Z Mthembu, A Minnis, A Msimang, S Buthelezi
Front Row: S Dlamini, Mrs A-M Snyman, K Naidoo

Canoeing

CAPTAIN: S Dlamini
COACH: Mr W Lithuli
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mrs A-M Snyman

Our canoeing season extended throughout the first, second and third terms, providing our paddlers with valuable time to develop their fitness, confidence and technical skills. We were also delighted to welcome several enthusiastic beginners to the canoeing team.

Training began in the safety of the school swimming pool, where we introduced newcomers to the essential health and safety principles of canoeing. From there, they steadily developed the skills and confidence required to take on greater challenges. Four of our learners successfully completed their river proficiency tests, an important milestone in their canoeing journeys.

A particularly memorable achievement came from S'phesihle Dlamini, who competed in and successfully completed her first K1 race. The following day, she teamed up with her K2 partner, Kailah Naidoo, to compete in the KZN U18 Championships. They not only finished the race but also earned their first canoeing medals, an outstanding achievement for both paddlers.

The progress made by our canoeists this season has been truly impressive. Their enthusiasm, courage and commitment have laid a strong foundation for the future. We are excited about teaming up with the Midlands Paddling Club next year to strengthen and further develop our canoeing programme, providing our learners with even greater opportunities to strengthen their skills and take on new challenges.

Half Colours

S Dlamini, K Naidoo



Congratulations to Kailah Naidoo and S'phesihle Dlamini who were crowned U18 K2 champions



CHESS

Back Row: S Dladla, A Ray, E Mbaraga, D Govender
Third Row: A Mahabeer, S Sahadew, S Sibisi, A Mthimkhulu
Second Row: A Konar, S Phewa, A Ntombela, A Majola, M Ngubane, O Dladla
Front Row: S Zondi, Z Paterson, Mr N Sibisi, A Tolibadi, E Singh

Chess

CAPTAIN: Z Paterson
VICE CAPTAIN: A Tolibadi
COACH: Mr M Zondi
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr N Sibisi

The chess season began in a period of transition as the team navigated the departure of several senior players. Fortunately, Zarah Paterson and Alizwa Tolibadi anchored the squad and provided vital continuity. The team is fortunate to have a coach who mentors the students during weekly training sessions. Under his guidance, the players quickly developed their strategic skills and gained confidence.

The team's hard work yielded impressive early results in March when our players dominated the Zone Trials, securing three of the four available qualifying spots in both the junior and senior divisions. A stand-out individual performance came from Svara Sahadew, who achieved a remarkable, perfect 7.0 score in the U15 division across the entire four-day tournament.



Another major highlight came in May at the Alexander Forbes national online tournament. The team displayed incredible tactical precision, placing in the top 10 of their bracket after securing victories against Maritzburg College, Port Shepstone High School and Somfula High School.

Throughout the year, the squad gained invaluable inter-school experience by competing in three derby matches against Danville Park Girls' High School, Durban Girls' High School and Westville Girls' High School. The team claimed a convincing win over Danville Park and fought valiantly in two narrow losses to Durban Girls' and Westville.

In September, Zarah Paterson and Alizwa Tolibadi capped off the season by earning selection for the district team, competing against top players from all across KwaZulu-Natal for a spot in the provincial lineup.

With a remarkably successful year behind us, preparations are already well under way for the upcoming 2027 campaign and we look forward to achieving even greater triumphs in the season ahead.

Half Colours

Z Paterson, A Tolibadi



FIRST TEAM CROSS-COUNTRY
Back Row: B Hugo, D Job, Neliah Ssekayita, K Oldfield
Second Row: S Pannalall, H Sewlal, N Maphanga, Natania Ssekayita
Front Row: L Walker, Mrs G Cocciante, H Job

Cross-country

CAPTAIN: L Walker
COACH: T Joubert
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Naidoo

The 2026 cross-country season at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School was a remarkable journey defined by perseverance, dedication and personal triumph. From early morning practices to high-stakes competitions, our athletes embraced every hurdle with determination and true school pride.

During an energetic pre-season programme, runners prepared for the year by concentrating on endurance and discipline. A key highlight was the introduction of the distance milestone initiative, which motivated athletes to accumulate kilometres and earn bronze (100 km), silver (200 km), gold (300 km), or platinum (400 km+). This challenge fostered consistency and inspired runners of all levels to push beyond their limits.

Competitive action kicked off in the second term as GHS runners represented the school in the interschool league across the Midlands, demonstrating exceptional sportsmanship and achieving numerous personal bests. The excitement peaked with the National All Girls' Festival tour to Stellenbosch, where team members tested their skills against the nation's top schools while forging lasting memories in a vibrant sports community.

Back home, the interhouse cross-country event energised the whole school. Spectators cheered enthusiastically as participants gave their full effort to accumulate house points, showcasing the inclusive nature of the sport. The season culminated in the celebrated Ultimate Runner Challenge, which honoured consistent effort and milestone achievements.

Overall, 2026 celebrated resilience, camaraderie and character. We commend every athlete who laced up their takkies and represented GHS with heart, setting a strong precedent for seasons to come.

Merit Awards

M Boshoff, M Engelbrecht, P Ngcongo, N Ngubane, A Phathwa, Y Zungu

Half Colours

H Job, N Maphanga, K Moshoeshoe, K Nxumalo, Z Nxumalo, S Pannalall, H Sewlal, C Slaughter





MLABALABA
Back Row: U Hlongwane, E Sithole, A Thobela, L Khoza, N Ximba
Front Row: Z Khuzwayo, Mr B Ngcobo, N Mbona

Mlabalaba

COMMITTEE: Z Khuzwayo, N Mbona, N Ximba
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr B Ngcobo

Mlabalaba is a strategic boardgame, somewhat similar to chess or draughts, in which learners play the boardgames against one another in pairs. For the past few years, mlabalaba was a society, but it was converted into a sport earlier this year and placed under the auspices of the sports department. Learners meet in Mr Ngcobo's classroom, where they work on developing their strategic skills.

It has been exciting to see growing interest, particularly from younger grades, with more learners joining the sport. Although mlabalaba does not currently compete against other schools, there is hope that next year the sport will connect with other schools and introduce competitions. With growing participation and dedicated leadership, mlabalaba is steadily becoming a valued part of the school's sporting community.

This year, Zama Khuzwayo had the privilege of being appointed chairperson of the committee. Special recognition goes to the deputy chairperson Nosipho Mbona for ensuring that the society is seen and supported by the school and to the secretary Naledi Ximba for encouraging more learners to join.

Indoor Hockey

COACHES: Mr A Greaves, Mrs G Harvey, Mr S Khanyile, Mr S Shezi, Miss P Sikhosana, Mrs A-M Snyman, Mr T Stellenberg
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss P Sikhosana

The indoor hockey season at our school is traditionally short, as it only starts in the fourth term. Since our examinations begin early, there is not much time for competition. However, even with this short timeframe, we were once again able to field seven teams across different age groups, providing our players with the chance to compete, enhance their skills and enjoy the dynamic nature of the sport.

Now in its second year, the Indoor Hockey Inter-Provincial Tournament (IPT) was hosted in Durban, offering an exciting opportunity for players throughout the province to compete at a more advanced level. Given the limited timeframe prior to the IPT, the KZN Inland teams were chosen from various age-group festivals rather than through separate trials. We eagerly await the selection news and wish all our players who participated in the festivals the very best.

Even with the brief season, it was wonderful to witness so many girls participating in indoor hockey and fully embracing every chance to play, learn and develop.

Merit Awards (2025)

S Buthelezi, E Khanyile, N Ximba, S Bhengu, J Green, T Easthorpe, S Botha, K Bapela, H Job, M van der Berg

Half Colours (2025)

L Rajah, S Khumalo, G Hamblin

Provincial Selections (2025)

KZN Inland U14B: M Ntshalintshali
KZN Inland U14A: S Mchunu
KZN Inland U16A: T van Wyk, J Gobey
KZN Inland U18B: (non-travelling reserve): G Hamblin
KZN Inland U18B: P Swart
KZN Inland U18A: N Khoza, S Khumalo

National Selection (2025)

SA U16B: J Gobey

Hockey

CAPTAIN: S Khumalo
COACHES: Mr A Greaves, Mrs G Harvey, Mr S Khanyile, Ms K Morgan, Mr B Ngubane, Mr S Shezi, Mr T Stellenberg
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss P Sikhosana

The 2026 hockey season was a period of impressive growth, development and exciting opportunities for our players. Our 1st, U16A and U14A teams each participated in two tours: a pre-season tour to Bethlehem and an age-group tour during the season. These provided invaluable match experience and skill development.

The pre-season trip to Bethlehem proved particularly rewarding, especially for our first team with their new coach. Although severe thunderstorms led to the cancellation of the final day's fixtures, several players were scouted and invited to attend an 11-day clinic tour to Belgium and the Netherlands during the September holidays.

Our first team also competed in the prestigious Standard Bank St Mary's Waverley Festival, facing some of the country's top school teams. They delivered remarkably resilient performances against Oranje Meisies and Bloemhof Meisies, holding both opponents to goalless draws until conceding late in the matches.

A major highlight of the season was the selection of 20 players for various provincial teams. Even more exciting was the selection of two learners for the U16 and U17 National Teams, who represented South Africa on tours to Zimbabwe and Kenya. With school captain Siyamethemba Khumalo in goal, the South African U17 player qualified for the Youth Hockey Fives World Cup, scheduled for December in Egypt.

Looking ahead to 2027, our focus will be on improving overall player fitness, sending our B-teams on tours and hopefully increasing provincial representation across all age groups. We are extremely proud of our players' achievements and look forward to another successful season on the turf.

Merit Awards

S Khanyile, U Makhathini, A Mncwabe, M Ngwane, Z Nkomo, L Ntuli

Half Colours

K Dlamini, J Gobey, G Hamblin (re-award), E Khanyile, A Mnguni, S-H Nichols, B Ntshingila, A Nzimande (re-award)

Colours

S Ngubane (re-award), A Radebe, L Rajah, G Shwala, T van Wyk

Honours

S Khumalo

Provincial Selection

KZN Inland U14C: (non-travelling reserve): U Kunene
KZN Inland U14C: (Regional): Z Chonco, A Magutshwa, S Zwane
KZN Inland U14B: Z Magwenyane, T Ndlovu
KZN Inland U14A: M Breda
KZN Inland U16C: (non-travelling reserve): S Ndlovu
KZN Inland U16C: (Regional): M Ntshalintshali
KZN Inland U16B: A Mnguni
KZN Inland U16A: J Gobey, T van Wyk
KZN Inland U18C: (Regional): B Ntshingila, N Shangase (non-travelling)
KZN Inland U18B: A Hlophe, S Ngubane, L Rajah, G Shwala
KZN Inland U18A: S Khumalo, A Radebe

National Selections

SA U16A: T van Wyk
SA U17 (5s): S Khumalo



FIRST TEAM HOCKEY
Back Row: A Mnguni, S-H Nichols, A Radebe, B Ntshingila
Third Row: A Hlophe, N Shangase, T van Wyk, S Ngubane
Second Row: J Gobey, L Rajah, G Shwala, A Nzimande, E Khanyile, K Dlamini
Front Row: Mr L Mudimeli, S Khumalo, Mr T Stellenberg, G Hamblin, Miss P Sikhosana



FIRST TEAM NETBALL

Back Row: E Zimu, E Ndelu, T Mthethwa, I Sikutshwa
Second Row: A Mdakane, S Madikizela, O Zulu, R Paine, L Mlotshwa, N Thenjwayo
Front Row: M Hlongwane, A Ndlela, Mrs A-M Snyman, S Gamede, N Ndlovu

Netball

CAPTAIN: S Gamede
VICE CAPTAIN: A Ndlela
COACHES: Miss N Dlamini, Miss Z Jali, Mr S Mncube, Mr P Mputhane, Miss V Nxumalo, Miss E Shabangu, Mr S Xulu
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss N Hodi

The 2026 netball season was a time of challenge, resilience and growth. While the season presented its fair share of difficulties, our players continued to show determination, commitment and a willingness to learn throughout the year.

A significant highlight of the season was the selection of six of our netball players for provincial representation, an increase from 2025. This achievement is a testament to the talent within our programme and the hard work demonstrated by our players throughout the season. Their provincial selections are a proud reflection of both individual achievement and the continued development of our netball programme.

The season also provided our players with valuable lessons in teamwork, discipline, perseverance, accountability and supporting one another. These lessons extend beyond the netball court and will continue to contribute to the development of our players as individuals and as teammates.

We ended the season on a particularly positive note at the Maris Stella Tournament, where our team secured an impressive third-place finish.

The First Team enjoyed a competitive season highlighted by decisive victories over local rivals like Carter High and Westville Girls' High, along with impressive triumphs against Riverwood College and The Wykeham Collegiate. Although they suffered a few tough, narrow losses to teams like Epworth and St John's, the players showed remarkable determination and resilience on the court every time they stepped out to compete.

As we reflect on 2026, we recognise that there is still work to be done. We take the lessons learnt from this season and look to build on them. Our focus moving forward will be on strengthening our structures, developing our players, improving our game plans and continuing to build a positive team culture.

Merit Awards

E Dlamini, S Dumakude, N Duma, L Gumede, T Hlongwane, U Mandukwini, L Mfeka, B Mhlongo, P Mncube, A Mshengu, N Mtshali, A Mqadi, L Ndlovu, Y Ndlovu, A Ngcobo, M Nozigqwaba, A Qasha, I Sikutshwa, O Zimu, L Zondo, S Zuma

Half Colours

M Hlongwane, S Madikizela, A Mdakane, L Mlothswa, E Ndelu, A Ndlela, N Ndlovu, R Paine, T Mthethwa, E Zimu, O Zulu

Colours

N Thenjwayo

Provincial Selection

S Khumalo, S Madikizela, A Mdakane, L Mlotshwa, N Thenjwayo, E Zimu



Rugby



CAPTAIN: K Bapela
COACHES: Miss M Cele, Mr B Kutoane, Mr S Mchunu, Miss S Molele, Miss O Zuma
STAFF-IN-CHARGE: Mr L Mudimeli

This year marked a landmark moment at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, as rugby was introduced as our newest sporting code. As one of only a handful of schools in Pietermaritzburg to offer girls' rugby, GHS proudly embraced the opportunity to lead the way.

In the first term, we laid the foundation for an exciting new chapter. Players from all of the grades stepped onto the field, eager to learn the fundamentals of the game. The highlight of the term was undoubtedly the first team's inaugural fixture against Kokstad Rugby Club. More than just a match, it was a historic occasion that celebrated the beginning of a new tradition at Girls' High.

The momentum continued into the second term, as we hosted a mini rugby festival, providing valuable game-time and fostering the growing excitement around girls' rugby in the Midlands. The festival showcased the rapid development of the sport and the enthusiasm of the players.

The highlight of the season was the Nashua Green Elly Rugby Festival, the only all-girls rugby tournament of its kind in South Africa. Bringing together 10 teams from across KZN, the festival created an unforgettable experience for every player involved. The atmosphere was electrifying, driven by intense competitiveness, exceptional sportsmanship and a shared commitment to advancing girls' rugby. This intensity carried over into a 7s event in Newcastle, where our ladies finished second.

As our inaugural season comes to a close, we celebrate far more than results on the scoreboard. We celebrate pioneers who had the courage to try something new, friendships forged on the field and a sporting programme that has already begun to make a lasting impression at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School. With such a remarkable first year behind us, the future of GHS rugby is undoubtedly bright.

Merit Awards

T Ender, K Bapela, S Sibiya, A Dlamini, E Luthuli, C Matheson, C Summersgill, G Kearney, A Rees, U Hlongwane, A Dlamini, K Kessie, Y Sokhela, K Ndongeni, L Shezi

Colours

L Manning, A Mncwabe, S-H Nichols

Provincial Selection

KZN U16: R Bodhlyera, S-H Nichols
KZN U18: L Manning, A Mncwabe

National Selection

S-H Nichols



RUGBY SENIOR SQUAD

Back Row: P Mncube, C Summersgill, Y Sokhela, K Kessie, B Werner, U Dube
Fourth Row: G Kearney, C Matheson, L Shezi, M Nzimande, A Dlamini, U Manyoni, L Manning
Third Row: A Radebe, E Luthuli, A Rees, E Ngxongo, S Sikhakhane, A Dlamini
Second Row: K Ndongeni, L Khoza, U Hlongwane, A Mncube, N Ximba, Z Shange
Front Row: P Sibiya, Mr B Kutoane, K Bapela, Mr L Mudimeli, S-H Nichols, Mr S Mchunu, A Mncwabe



FIRST TEAM SOCCER

Back Row: B Ntshingila, A Radebe, A Deen Mahomed, Z Vilakazi, S-H Nichols, T van Wyk
Third Row: Y Ndlovu, G Shwala, N Mbona, A Hlophe
Second Row: J Gobey, L Ntuli, N Shabalala, M Molete, A Mqadi, A Bunyonyo
Front Row: Mr L Mudimeli, S Singh, Mr T Stellenberg, A Nzimande, Mr N Bhengu

Soccer

CAPTAIN: S Singh
COACH: Ms N Dlamini, Mr P Dumakude, Mr A Greaves, Mr S Khanyile, Ms C Mbuthu, Ms B Mkhize, Mr S Shezi
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr T Stellenberg

The soccer season at GHS remains an undeniable highlight of our sporting calendar, defined by incredible talent, hard work, and an unwavering competitive spirit. Action-packed with back-to-back tournaments, festivals, and fixtures, the year provided our athletes with invaluable opportunities to challenge themselves, hone their skills, and represent the school with pride.

Our first team enjoyed an outstanding campaign, maintaining a remarkably strong record with only three losses across the entire season. Although those few defeats fell at critical knockout stages, narrowly denying the girls gold medals, their consistency and relentless drive made for an inspiring run. They began with a strong win at the aQuellé Riverwood tournament, establishing a high standard for the matches that followed.

At the Midlands Cup, which featured sixteen top schools, GHS defeated St Anne's in a thrilling bronze-medal play-off. Four players earned spots on the Tournament Dream Team. Akhona Hlophe, was named overall Most Valuable Player. The team carried this momentum into the six-school invitational league, finishing as impressive runners-up, with Athi Radebe taking the top goal scorer and Akhona Hlophe claiming another U19 MVP award.

The future of GHS sports shines just as brightly through our junior ranks. On tour at the St Anne's festival, our U15 squad showcased exceptional teamwork to bring home silver medals, with Sharika Sukram named Player of the Festival. Despite narrowly missing top-spot finishes in a few major finals, the collective achievements, individual accolades, and vibrant spirit of all our teams made the season a deeply successful and proud year for Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School.

Merit Awards

L Chalmers, H Dlamini, K Dlamini, N Duma, S Dladla, G Goliath, G Hadebe, M Hadebe, K Kamvelihle, U Makhathini, U Mandukwini, S Maphumulo, M Mpepanduku, Z Mossi, P Naguran, O Peters, A Qasha, T Rothwell, I Sompeta

Half Colours

A Bunyonyo, A Deen Mahomed, N Mbona, M Molete, A Mqadi, Y Ndlovu, S-H Nichols, B Ntshingila, L Ntuli, A Radebe, G Shwala, Z Vilakazi

Colours

A Hlophe

Honours

S Singh

Midlands Selection

U15: S Sukram
U16: A Mahomed
U19: A Hlophe, S Singh



FIRST TEAM SQUASH
S Hlengwa, K Naidoo,
Mr C Marion, Y Gangaram,
K Govender, M Roestorf

Squash

CAPTAIN: Y Gangaram
COACHES: Mr C Marion, Ms J Hardman, Ms K Hardman
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Naidoo

The 2026 squash season at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School has been defined by growth, commitment and memorable achievements. From a strong start in the pre-season leagues to competing on national stages and celebrating internal champions, our players embraced every opportunity to develop their skills and represent the school with pride.

The year began with an exciting pre-season league, providing players with valuable match experience ahead of the main competitive season. This league offered girls across all age groups the chance to sharpen their game, build confidence and strengthen team combinations. It was encouraging to see new players stepping onto the court alongside experienced competitors, creating a positive atmosphere that laid a solid foundation for the year.

The second term brought a busy and rewarding competitive calendar. Our teams competed in the interschool league, facing strong opposition from schools across the region. Throughout this period, the girls displayed resilience, sportsmanship and determination, producing impressive performances while continuing to grow both as individuals and as a team. The interschool tournament provided further opportunities to test themselves against quality competition, where our players demonstrated excellent tactical awareness and fighting spirit. A stand-out highlight was the National All Girls' Festival in Stellenbosch, which brought together schools from across the country. This prestigious event offered our players exposure to South Africa's strongest squash programmes, forging new friendships and creating unforgettable experiences.

During the third term, the focus shifted to the internal league, which fostered healthy competition and regular match play. The season concluded with the GHS Squash Championships, showcasing the depth of talent within our programme through intense, high-quality matches. As we reflect on this successful season, we are proud of every player's commitment, enthusiasm and school spirit. We look forward to building on these successes and continuing to grow the sport at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School in the future.

Merit Awards

K Chetty, Y Gangaram, O Khumalo, B Khatlisi, G le Roux, T Marion, S Mthembu, I Oosthuizen, R Sheosunker

Half Colours

Y Gangaram, D Govender, K Govender, S Mdlalose, L Moodley, Keren Naidoo, Keziah Naidoo, M Roestorf, A Zimu





SWIMMING A-SQUAD

Back Row: K Duvenhage, Y Radebe, I Naicker, C Willoughby, Z Radebe
Fourth Row: A Lawrence, T Grantham, J Naicker, K Pay, C Clowes, J Coetzer
Third Row: Z Mbambo, C van der Merwe, A Maartens, C Basson, C Hauptfleisch, H Joubert, Hayley Horner
Second Row: L Seethal, T Luridsamy, E Barry, M Singh, K Oldfield, T Beaver
Front Row: P Vorster, K Burt, M Neizel, Mr K Naidoo, G George, M van der Berg, C Wepener

Swimming

CAPTAIN: M Neizel
COACHES: Mr K Mumford, Miss S Subramanian
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Naidoo

The first term was an exciting and action-packed season for the Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School swimming team. Featuring a full gala calendar, our swimmers proudly represented their houses and school while demonstrating remarkable commitment, determination and sportsmanship throughout every competition.

The season launched with the GHS Night Gala on 6 February 2026 at the Bev Shuttleworth Pool at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School. Racing under the floodlights provided a vibrant and thrilling atmosphere, as swimmers competed enthusiastically with poolside supporters cheering them on. This memorable evening set a wonderfully positive tone for the rest of the term.

On 6 March 2026, the school pool hosted the highly anticipated interhouse gala. The event was full of house spirit and friendly rivalries and it highlighted teamwork and pride as athletes gave their best in every race. Shortly after, on 11 March 2026, the team headed to the new aquapark for the interschools gala. Racing in this impressive modern venue allowed our senior swimmers to test their skills against talented athletes from other schools, producing strong performances that made Girls' High proud.

The season culminated on 20 March 2026 with the prestigious GHS Champs, where top swimmers pushed for personal bests and points towards the Victrix Ludorum title, showcasing the depth and talent of the programme. Throughout the first term, our swimmers displayed exceptional resilience and enthusiasm. We congratulate all competitors and express sincere gratitude to our coaches, staff, parents and supporters for their constant encouragement during this unforgettable season.

Merit Awards

E Barry, C Clowes, C Hauptfleisch, A Mdlalose, J Naicker, K Pay, Y Radebe, C van der Merwe, C Willoughby

Half Colours

H Joubert, M van der Berg, P Vorster, C Wepener

Colours

K Burt

Honours

G George

District Selection

K Burt, C Clowes, T Grantham, C Hauptfleisch, Y Radebe, Z Radebe, M Singh

Provincial Selection

G George



Table Tennis

CAPTAIN: M Naicker
COACH: Ms L Moloi
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Naidoo

The 2026 table tennis season at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School has been filled with growth, friendly rivalry and competitive success. From the excitement of our ladder competition in the first term to challenging fixtures against Maritzburg College and the crowning of our GHS champions, our players have continued to develop their skills while representing the school with enthusiasm and determination.

The season began with an internal ladder competition, providing players with the opportunity to challenge one another, improve their rankings and build confidence ahead of the competitive season. The ladder created an exciting atmosphere in the table tennis venue, encouraging regular match play, developing tactical awareness and strengthening squad depth as both experienced and emerging players embraced every chance to improve.

The second term brought a busy schedule, starting with a spirited interhouse competition filled with exciting rallies and enthusiastic support. Our teams also competed in the uMgungundlovu (UMG) League, testing themselves against strong opposition across the district with resilience and sportsmanship. A major highlight was our fixtures against Maritzburg College, which showcased the growing strength of the GHS programme through competitive encounters that pushed our players and continued a proud sporting rivalry.

In the third term, the return of the internal league allowed players to sharpen their skills ahead of the much-anticipated GHS table tennis championships. Players competed passionately for the title of school champion, producing thrilling matches that celebrated the year's hard work. As another successful season ends, we congratulate every player who represented Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School with pride, commitment and sportsmanship and we look forward to building on these successes in the future.

Merit Awards
S Naipal, S Ndlela, N Rampersad, T Valliadum

Half Colours
S Sivnannan

Colours
K Pillay

Honours
K Totaram

Provincial Selection
A Heeralal, L Ramchurran, A Parbhoodeen, K Pillay, N Rampersad, S Sivnannan, N Totaram

National Selection
V Pillay, K Totaram



FIRST TEAM TABLE TENNIS
Back Row: K Totaram, N Rampersad, T Pillay, V Pillay
Second Row: L Ramchurran, A Parbhoodeen, S Naidoo, A Heeralal
Front Row: S Naipal, M Naicker, Ms L Moloi, K Pillay, S Sivnannan



FIRST TEAM TENNIS
A Bhebhe, R Phoko, T Singh,
Miss N Hodi, R Phoko, Y Singh

Tennis

CAPTAIN: Regomoditswe Phoko
VICE CAPTAIN: Realeboga Phoko
COACHES: Miss B Khumalo, Groundstrokes Academy
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Miss N Hodi

The 2026 tennis season at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School was a challenging yet deeply rewarding period of growth, teamwork and resilience. Spanning both the first and third terms, the season brought intense competition that tested the grit, discipline and determination of all our players on the court.

In the highly competitive and fiercely contested Winnie Lowe B League, our first team rose to the occasion with remarkable focus, ultimately securing an impressive second-place finish. This fantastic achievement highlights the dedication, sportsmanship and high standard of excellence inherent in GHS tennis.

Throughout the year, the team delivered impressive performances, claiming decisive victories against The Wykeham Collegiate, St Anne's Diocesan College and Epworth School. Even in tightly fought encounters against formidable opponents such as St John's, Danville Park, Wembley and Howick, the girls showcased incredible fight and determination in every set.

With seasonal success behind us, we celebrate the individual progress of every player who stepped onto the courts, as well as the exemplary leadership shown by our senior players. Though the season had its share of challenges, every match served as a stepping stone, leaving the foundation of GHS tennis stronger than ever. With renewed excitement, we look forward to an even more successful season ahead as we continue to build on this year's momentum and elevate our game to new heights.

Merit Awards

A Mabaso, K Manuel, M Mngomezulu, T Pillay, N Zulu

Half Colours

Realeboga Phoko, Regomoditswe Phoko, Y Singh

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FIRST TEAM WATER POLO
Back Row: J Naicker, K Pay, K Burt, Y Radebe, C Willoughby
Second Row: A Mdlalose, C Hauptfleisch, C Clowes, E Barry
Front Row: P Vorster, M van der Berg, Mrs A-M Snyman, M Neizel, C Wepener

Water Polo

CAPTAIN: M van der Berg
COACHES: Miss J Bishop, Mr J Mumford, Mr A Thompson
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr K Naidoo

The 2026 water polo season at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School was one of the most dynamic and rewarding in recent memory, defined by intense training, competitive growth and historic milestones. The journey began with rigorous pre-season training, where players focused on physical conditioning, skill refinement and tactical awareness. This foundational period sharpened athletic performance and solidified the robust team culture that remains the hallmark of the GHS water polo programme.

The second term transitioned from training to practical application through a series of fixtures against Midlands schools. These matches were instrumental in helping players develop new combinations and build confidence ahead of the league season. A notable highlight was Derby Day, where the team displayed exceptional resilience and school spirit, embodying the passion that GHS is known for during major sporting events.

By the third term, the competitive calendar was well underway. The team engaged in the demanding Durban League and participated in the Winter Aquapark League, ensuring consistent competitive exposure on home soil. A defining moment of the year was the inaugural GHS Co-Ed Water Polo Tournament, hosted alongside St Charles College. This milestone event welcomed 19 teams and approximately 250 players, successfully showcasing both the school's high-quality facilities and its capacity to host major sporting occasions.

The season also featured two unforgettable tours. The U15 squad gained invaluable experience at the St Mary's Kloof Tournament, while the U19 team represented GHS with distinction at the prestigious Top



Schools Tournament, competing against South Africa's premier programmes. Ultimately, 2026 was a celebration of commitment, courage and teamwork. From early morning sessions to historic tournament hosting, every player contributed to an outstanding year. As we look ahead, the GHS water polo community remains dedicated to building on these achievements, inspired by the pride and determination shown throughout the season.

Merit Awards

E Barry, K Gumbi, C Hauptfleisch, J Naicker, K Pay, Y Radebe

Half Colours

K Burt, C Clowes, A Mdlalose, M van der Berg, P Vorster, C Wepener

Volleyball

CAPTAIN: R Pillay
COACHES: Ms J Naidoo, Ms K Pillay, Ms E Rajah
TEACHER-IN-CHARGE: Mr T Stellenberg



At GHS, volleyball has cemented itself as more than just a sport; it is a vibrant, social hub where learners come together to stay active, build new friendships and master a challenging discipline. Year after year, the programme draws an impressive turnout of enthusiastic students, each driven by a unique set of goals, from gaining new skills and maintaining an active lifestyle to simply fostering connections with their peers. This season has been particularly rewarding, marked by significant growth and shared achievements.

Guided by the unwavering support and expertise of our dedicated coaches, our players have navigated a season defined by learning and perseverance. Through consistent practice and a rigorous schedule of competitive games, the girls have deepened their understanding of the game's intricate rules and fundamentals. While the intense derby-day fixtures against Durban Girls' High and Danville proved challenging, with the team facing tough losses, the experience was invaluable. The spirit of the programme was evident during our friendly matches against our brother school, Maritzburg College. These encounters were fiercely competitive, providing a fantastic platform for both institutions to refine their volleyball programmes and strengthen their ties.

Ultimately, the true success of this year lies beyond the scoreboard. We are immensely proud of the infectious enthusiasm, unwavering commitment and stellar sportsmanship displayed by every girl on the court. Their consistent willingness to learn, participate and support one another has made this season a truly enjoyable and memorable chapter for GHS volleyball, setting a high standard for years to come.

Merit Awards

R Augustine, A Bunyonyo, S Gumede, G Kroukam, P Kubheka, R Mncube, A Moodley, K Naidoo, L Ngubane, N Ngubane, R Pillay, T Pillay, A Shange, T Sujpathy, M Yobe



VOLLEYBALL
Back Row: Z Mlangeni, S Tajoodeen, K Janse van Rensburg
Second Row: A Rees, L Ramchurran, L Mabaso, K Abrahams, E Kwanda, S Zulu, A Bunyonyo
Front Row: K Oldfield, R Pillay, Mr T Stellenberg, R Augustine, M Yobe

Power Walking

TEACHERS-IN-CHARGE: Mrs R Diaz, Miss T Naicker

Power walking had another remarkably successful year in 2026, with an enthusiastic wave of new learners keenly committing to this accessible and enjoyable way to stay active. It was particularly encouraging to see such a strong uptake from our incoming grade 8 learners, who were delighted to discover an activity that is both gentle on the body and immensely beneficial to their overall health and well-being.

Our regular sessions take place twice a week on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. To ensure maximum flexibility around busy academic schedules, we give learners the freedom to participate on either day or both. Compared to high-stress team sports, power walking fosters a distinctive, friendly atmosphere where girls feel totally at ease with one another because it is a non-competitive sport. Everyone collaborates, creating a welcoming environment for newcomers and new members are always welcome to join at any time during the academic year.

Our routes are carefully chosen so they are not overly challenging, allowing everyone to step away from their desks, stretch their legs and enjoy being outdoors in nature. However, that does not mean we do not push ourselves! During every outing, our personal challenge is to gradually improve upon our previous distances and finish times, fostering a rewarding sense of personal progress and fitness development.

Thank you once again to all the wonderful girls who joined us this year and brought such energy to our walks. Your commitment and positivity made every session a pleasure. We look forward to building on this momentum and welcoming even more walkers for another fantastic, active season in 2027.



POWER WALKING

Back Row: Z Kok, M Tommy, Z Nkosi, A Glass, L Dlamini, S Naidoo
Third Row: C Martin, A Ngcobo, A Moon, O Naidoo
Second Row: N Gcabashe, F Shandu, L Draai, K Kessie, Z Zungu, S Rampersad
Front Row: L Ngubane, Miss T Naicker, S Panday, Mrs R Diaz, M Ntenza

Grade 10 Inter-class Gym

The grade 10 inter-class gym and movement display remains one of the highlights of the physical education programme at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School. Dating back many years, this much-loved competition has become a proud school tradition that promotes teamwork, creativity, movement and class spirit.

Each class was challenged to create a six-minute movement display involving every learner. While the performances were not intended to be traditional dance routines, classes could incorporate dance elements alongside gymnastics and other forms of movement. The learners demonstrated that memorable performances are created through imagination, commitment and cooperation rather than elaborate costumes.

The preparation process required each class to recognise and use the different strengths of its members. Each class worked together to develop its routines, select appropriate music and ensure that everyone was meaningfully included. Their progress was monitored during PE lessons and learners' participation, attendance and individual contributions were an important part of the assessment.

On the day of the competition, the classes were judged on synchronisation, inclusion, initiative, music selection, variety of movement, use of floor space, energy and overall impression. The performances showcased tremendous enthusiasm and creativity, while the teamwork and class unity displayed by the grade 10 learners made the event particularly special.

Congratulations to 10 G, A and C, who ranked first, second and third respectively, for their stand-out performances.





Astroturf



Pool Before



Pool After



Racquet Club





Racquet Club



Tennis Pavilion



Main Sports Field

General Sports Field Before



General Sports Field After



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