



**KINGFISHER PRIVATE SCHOOL
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

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INTEGRITY, LOYALTY, KINDNESS AND RESPECT.

**13 March
2024
EDITION 09**

FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

This is our final newsletter of the term. It is difficult to believe that we have only one week of the first term left before school closes on Wednesday the 20th of March. Thank you to all parents for their involvement and support this term. We wish all parents a good break from the school routine, and if you are going away, please travel safely. A reminder that school will close at 10:00 and the Aftercare will run from 10:15 until 17:00.

School reopens on Tuesday the 09th of April.

Several academic staff attended workshops and courses last week. I was part of an online forum for principals of independent schools, which are affiliated to ISASA (Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa). The topic was "The loneliness of the head's position". It was most worthwhile. It is reassuring to hear that other heads of schools have similar experiences and sharing these experiences by talking about them in a designated, safe space, is helpful. Heads have numerous stakeholders' interests to consider. However, the consensus is that it is a lonely position.

Mrs Vundla, who is the FET HOD and the senior Geography teacher in the college, was part of a two-day online workshop on Geographic Information Systems (GIS), presented by SAEON. GIS is a spatial system that creates, manages, analyses and maps all types of data. Mrs Vundla will register for further training in GIS and attend the IEB GIS later this year.

The (SMT) School Management Team was part of an online training workshop presented by OISESA (Office of Independent Schools Evaluations Southern Africa) officials last Thursday. Affiliation to ISASA is a privilege, as the criteria to join is rigorous and only the top independent schools in Southern Africa are considered for membership. To ensure that schools continue to operate at the level required by ISASA, they have appointed a body (OISESA) to evaluate all areas of schools affiliated to them. OISESA's mission statement is as follows:

In the rapidly changing world of 21st century education, it is more important than ever for agile leaders to evaluate and reflect on how their schools operate, and to seek innovative ways of strengthening and adapting their governance structures and their teaching and learning programmes, to meet the expectations of their stakeholders.

OISESA aims to establish positive partnerships with independent schools across Southern Africa, using a set of globally aligned standards and indicators to facilitate institutional reflection for continuous improvement.

OISESA officials will be visiting our school from the 21st to the 23rd of May. Prior to their visit, they will require all stakeholders to fill in online questionnaires. We are appealing to all parents to participate in the relevant parent survey, so that we can identify our strengths and weaknesses, with a view to improving where we need to and celebrating our strengths. Some parents will be asked to participate in focus groups, when the onsite visit is conducted.

We are pleased to announce that Mr Ntthe successfully completed his teaching degree and Mrs Mangere her PGSE. Congratulations to both, we are very proud of them. All Kingfisher Private School teachers have a teaching qualification. However, some of them are studying to align their qualifications with the phase in which they are teaching.

Our Grade 12 pupils will be holding their matric farewell on the evening of the 19th of March at Cajori Hotel. We wish them a memorable evening, which exceeds all their expectations.

All parents are invited to final assembly at 07:15 on Tuesday the 19th of March.

I will be leaving school, after assembly, on Tuesday the 19th of March. Mrs van Rensburg will be acting as head in my absence.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Theme of the week: Swimming

Grade 1 - Xolani Mnisi

Grade 2 - Tlhalefo Mokgalaka

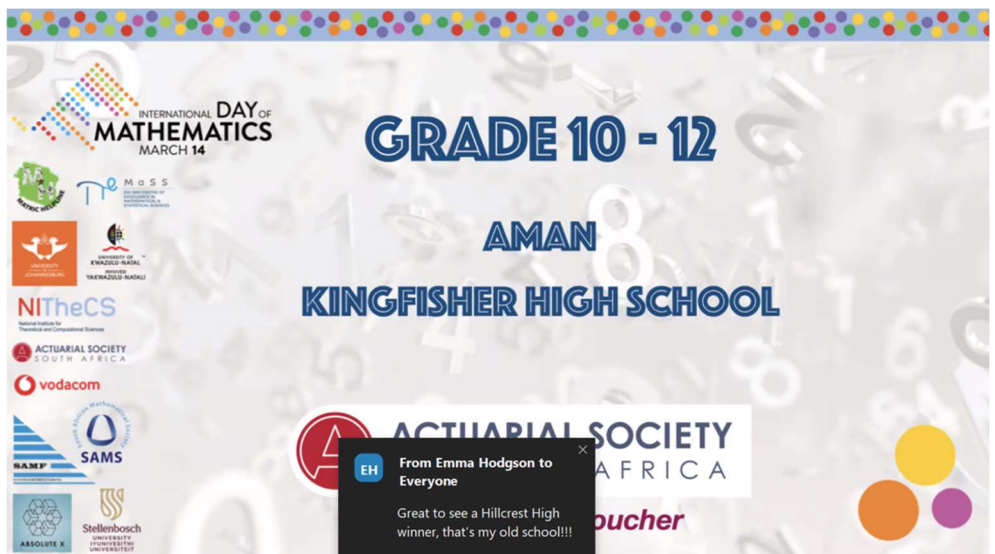
Grade 3 - Shua Ndhlovu

Next Week: Minus

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MATHEMATICS WEBINAR



Aman Pati, in Grade 11, attended an International Day of Mathematics Webinar on Saturday 9 March, hosted by the University of Kwa Zulu Natal. Aman says the Webinar was very informative. He participated in a quiz for pupils from Grade 8 up to undergraduates. He achieved first place in the quiz and won a R500 Takealot voucher. Well done, Aman. We are very proud of you.



CYCLING

Our 3 cycling boys demonstrated remarkable skill and determination over the weekend in Vaalbos, with Aron securing first position in the Sprog Boy's race. Congratulations, Aron, on your outstanding performance! Your hard work and dedication paid off.



CHARITY DONATIONS BY THE FLEDGLINGS AND GRADE R

On Friday 08 March, Mr Nechombo handed over donations of mealie meal and tinned fish to Tumelong Drop-in Centre. These donations were from the Fledglings and Grade R at Kingfisher Private School, as well as from the SW Hlungwani Foundation. Tumelong Drop-in Centre gratefully received the donation. Thank you to the Kingfisher family for your donations.

The Grade 1s will be donating rice and mealie-meal in March. We encourage parents to please include a packet of rice or mealie meal to donate when you go shopping. We thank the Kingfisher family for your continued support.

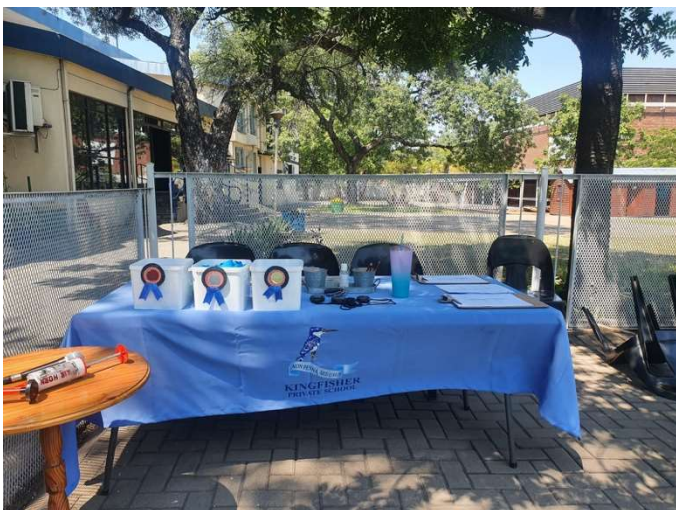


GRADE 7 TO 9 CAKE SALE

We are pleased to announce that we have raised R3 771. Thank to our Grade 7 to 9 parents for sending cake and treats. Thank you to all the teachers and pupils for your support.

SOUTHERN CROSS GALA

To all the swimmers who represented us at the Southern Cross friendly gala, we are very proud of you. Your sportsmanship and dedication reflect positively on our school. Special thanks to our teachers for their coaching efforts and to the Dolphins Swimming Club for their invaluable support in nurturing our swimmers' talents.





COASTAL HIRE PHALABORWA

Thank you for sponsoring the portable toilets for the swimming gala on March the 07th. Your contribution helped make the event a success!

WATER AT THE GALA

Thank you to Mr Bryan Smith from *Bill Smith Plant Hire* for supplying water for us for the gala on March the 7th. You helped us out of a 'sticky situation.' We really appreciate your assistance.

CHESS MATCH FEEDBACK

The Foundation, Intersen and College phase chess pupils enjoyed an afternoon of friendly chess matches on Tuesday, the 05th of March.

The Foundation and Intersen phases were hosted by Phalaborwa Academy and both phases won their matches.

The College hosted a friendly match against Francolin College and won their match.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the matches a success.



PAST PUPIL: JANI JORDAAN



Past pupil, Jani, burning the tar at the Cape Town Cycle Tour.

2nd under 23 ladies and 18 overall in her first Elite Race. This is a huge achievement as she is not a pro. We are very proud of you, Jani!

CAREER EXPO AT FRANS DU TOIT

The Grade 12 class attended the career exposition at Frans du Toit last week. The pupils found the excursion to be most valuable, even though most of the main universities weren't there. There were mostly colleges represented. This was an eye opener for them, as they realised one can study elsewhere and that it isn't always necessary to study at a university. Success and Aubrey were very excited to talk to colleges that specialised in fitness.



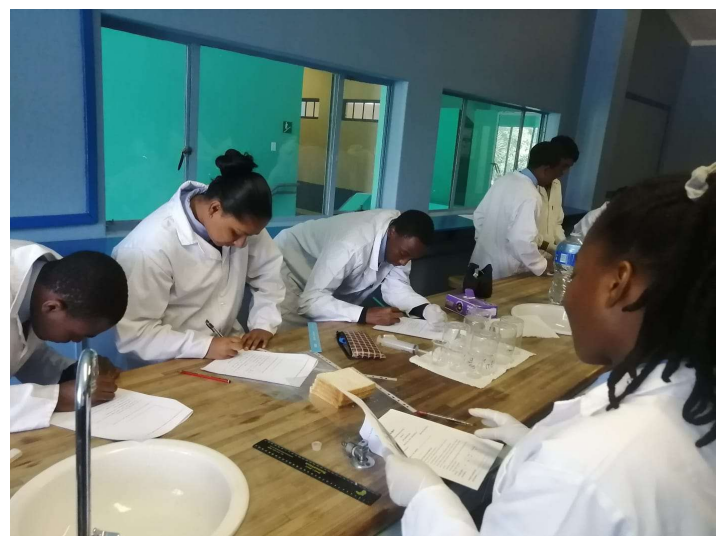
SPUR EVENING

Thank you to everyone who supported the school last night at the Spur evening. A special thank you to the Grade 9s who were the waitrons for the evening. The amount raised will be announced later when we receive it.



LIFE SCIENCES PRACTICAL

The Grade 11 Life Sciences conducting their micro-organisms practical (growth of fungus on the bread).





KINGFISHER PRIVATE SCHOOL – ROBOTICS AND CODING CENTRE

In 2022 our Grade one and Grade seven classes were introduced to Robotics and Coding, as a school subject. This, after extensive research and visits to other schools' centres. In 2023, the entire Preparatory School from Grade one to Grade seven took Robotics and Coding as one of their subjects. This year, the teaching of Robotics and Coding has been extended to include our Grade eight and nine classes. With the increasing use of AI in all spheres of life, this subject is essential for all pupils, if they are to be equipped with the necessary skills for the future.



FLEDGLINGS AND GRADE R SWIMMING CLASSES



THE GRADE 9 CLASS TESTING THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF VARIOUS FOODS



DATES TO REMEMBER

Butterfly Day	14 March	
International Day of Mathematics	14 March	
Mathematics Olympiad	14 March	14:00 – 15:20
Swimathon	15 March	18:00
College Detention	15 March	14:15 – 16:15
Eagle's Nest – Sport Day	16 March	
Mopani District Chess Tournament @ Hans Merensky School	16 March	
Preparatory Detention	18 March	14:15 – 16:15
Fun Afternoon – Foundation Phase	18 March	14:15 – 15:15
Brage Evening	18 March	17:00 – 18:00
Final Assembly	19 March	07:15
Matric Farewell	19 March	18:00
Grade 8 & 9 Entrepreneur's Day	20 March	08:30 – 09:30
School Closes	20 March	10:00
World Poetry Day	21 March	
Human Rights Day	21 March	
International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	21 March	
World Water Day	22 March	
Good Friday	29 March	
Family Day	01 April	
School Opens for Term 2	09 April	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Staff:	Murehwa Mangere (BOG)	16 March
	Granny Mlahleki	17 March
	Kim van Heerden (Aftercare)	21 March
	Moonyeen Dawson	30 March
Grade R:	Varhsa Pauly	20 March
	Ndzalama Mathebula	26 March
	Oratilwe Sesthothela	09 April
	Uyafhulufhedzea Nekhambele	04 April
Grade 1:	Ntila Mgiba	21 March
	Muponisi Zitha	29 March
	Kaelo Sekgobela	07 April
	Kutloano Diholo	04 April
Grade 2:	Hope Mhelembe	01 April
	Nhlamulo Shabangu	04 April
Grade 3:	Masentle Mampane	17 March
	Kopano Sentsho	24 March
	Zabilon Inama	10 April
Grade 4:	Thapelo Monawe	16 March
	Kgadi Mamaila	26 March
	Thorisho Mogale	27 March
Grade 5:	Ritonde Mukwevho	30 March
	Onratile Madji	10 April
Grade 6:	Keamohetse Ngoae	28 March
	Seshothela Seshothela	02 April
Grade 7:	Kabelo Mohale	07 April

HAPPY BIRTHDAY (continued)

Grade 8:	Boitumelo Shayi	14 March
	Lulama Shingange	15 March
	Motlanalo Mononela	28 March
Grade 9:	Naledi Makgopa	24 March
	Rorisang Ledwaba	08 March
Grade 10:	Kegoratile Moleya	20 March
	Mothapa Moraba	30 March
	Sharon Joseph	01 April
Grade 11:	Sibongiseni Macie	19 March
Grade 12:	Tanyaradzwa Mahenye	02 April

SPUR EVENING DATES

Term	Date (Tuesday)	Grade
2	14 May	Grade 8
3	13 August	Grade 9
4	05 November	Grade 7

IMPORTANT CHESS DATES:

16 March - Mopani District Chess Tournament held at Merensky Agricultural Academy

16 March 2024 - Mopani District Chess Tournament at Merensky

20 May 2024 - Mopani District Chess Tournament @ Ben Vorster

MOPANI DISTRICT CHESS TOURNAMENT

There will be a chess tournament on Saturday, the 16th of March hosted by Merensky Agricultural Academy. Participation letters were issued last week.

ISASA TEACHER'S TRAINING COURSE DATES

Children Protection: Enabling Safer Schools 13 March 14:00 – 16:30

- Mrs Dawson and Ms Ntimane will be attending this course online.

Anxiety in Maths 18 April 14:00 – 16:30

- Mrs Mangere and Mrs Koekemoer will be attending this course online.

Get Them Reading 18 May 08:30 – 12:00

- Mrs van Rensburg, Mrs Jordaan, Ms Mlahleki, Ms Deacon and Ms Hlungwani will be attending the course online.

FUN AFTERNOON

A reminder for our Foundation Phase pupils: mark your calendars for Monday, the 18th of March, for our fun-filled Fun Afternoon. Join us for an enjoyable time for free!

REPORT PROCESS

Parents can expect a letter regarding Grades F to 3's reporting process on Wednesday. Please ensure that you sign the reply slip and return it to school.

TERM 2 TEST TIMETABLE AND MID-YEAR TIMETABLE

The timetable will be issued to all college pupils on Wednesday 20 March. Please note that there will be some tests to be written on the opening week of school so you are all encouraged to study during the holiday.

The Mid-year timetable will be issued to pupils when schools open. Term 2 is a shorter term than normal so prepare for the examinations.



MATRIC FAREWELL

The grade 12 pupils are getting ready for their matric farewell, and it promises to be a night to remember! All parents, teachers, and pupils are welcome to come and watch the procession.

Date: Tuesday 19th March 2024

Venue: Cajori hotel

Time: 16:30- 17:50

PRESCHOOL AND FOUNDATION PHASE BRAG EVENING

Brag Evening at 17:00 on Monday evening.

SOUTH AFRICAN MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

The Mathematics Olympiad, SAMO, will be written on Thursday 14 March, starting at 14:00 and ending at 15:20. Participating pupils are expected to make the necessary transport arrangements for the day.

SWIMATHON DONATIONS & LUCKY PACKETS

Let's make a splash! Please remember to collect Swimathon donations and bring lucky packet items to school. Your support will make this event unforgettable!

In the event of a lost form, a fee of R100 will be invoiced. All proceeds will contribute to the maintenance and enhancement of our pool facilities.

COLLEGE TRIP TO EAGLE'S' NEST

The College trip to Eagle's Nest on Saturday 16 March 2024 will cost R240, payable to the school through the register teachers. This money should be paid on or before Thursday 14 March 2024. All pupils travelling to Eagle's Nest College must be dressed in their correct sport uniform.

COLLEGE TOUR

As stated in the College Tour letter, the tour will take place from the 6th to the 10th of May 2024. We will be going to Mankele Mountain Biking Park and Resort. The due date for payment is the 12th of April 2024. Parents are encouraged to start paying for this. When making a payment please make use of the following reference - College Tour and the name which you use for your child's school account. e.g., College Tour - THEKISO022. We hope to have most of the College pupils going on tour.

INTERSEN PHASE TOUR

The Intersen Phase Tour will take place at the Blyde Adventure Camp in Hoedspruit. The Grade 7 pupils attend from 7-10 May 2024 and the Grade 4-6 pupils from 8-10 May. The due date for all money to be paid in is 29 March 2024. Payments are to be made using your personal **school account number** (on your school statements)- E.g. '**025TE - Tour**'.

If you have indicated that your child will be attending the tour and there is a change in your planning, you must please inform us before the end of February 2024. Failure to do so will mean that you will still be invoiced for the tour, as we have already made the booking for your child with the tour venue.

Below is a list of things to take to the camp:

- Pillow and sleeping bag
- Torch
- Sunscreen and hat
- Toiletries and mosquito repellent
- Three sets of clothing which can get dirty (preferably old clothes)
- Warm jacket
- Proper walking shoes (worn shoes as new will cause blisters)
- Costume and towels
- Camera (optional) and any birding or insect books if you have any
- Any medication that your child is on that is lifesaving i.e. asthma pump
- A black plastic bag for any wet clothes
- Pocket money R50-R100
- Crockery, cutlery and safety equipment are provided by Blyde Adventure Camp.

Please note that no cell phones, smart phones, smart watches, I-pods or PSPs will be allowed. These items will be confiscated. The pupils are welcome to bring binoculars and cameras at their own risk. Please ensure that these items are clearly marked with their name, along with their torch.

Pupils who are not attending will still be required to attend school during this period.

Tour payments are due by 29 March 2024. This is in 2 weeks.

Tour amounts – Grade 4 - 6 = R2,200 per child
Grade 7 = R2,500 per child

IP FEEDBACK FORMS

The Intersen Phase pupils were given parent feedback forms to paste into their books today. Parents must please look through their children's books and sign these forms. The feedback given should be aimed at how your children have worked in their workbooks.

PANEL MEETING

Pupils who are required to attend either the Panel Meeting on Tuesday 19 March or have a meeting with their register teachers, were issued with letters today. The reply slips must please be returned by Friday.

INTERSEN PHASE UNIFORM, HAT AND STATIONERY CHECK

There will be a uniform, hat and stationery for all Intersen Phase pupils on Monday 18 March. Parents must please make sure that their children have the correct stationery and their hats at school every day.

SCHOOL HATS - FOUNDATION PHASE

Please remember, **NO HAT NO PLAY**. Please write your name on your hat and do not share hats.

ENTREPRENEUR'S DAY GRADE 8 AND 9

It is that time of the year again when the Grade 8s and 9s will be hosting Entrepreneur's Day on the 20th of March 2024. Pupils may wear civvies. The grade 8s will be selling all kinds of delicious food while the grade 9s will keep you entertained with their fun activities.

Kindly bring plenty of money to support the Grade 8s and 9s.

CO CURRICULARS

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – TERM 2, 2024

All co-curricular activities will commence at 14:15 and conclude at 16:15 in Term 2. Please make the necessary transport arrangements.

CO-CURRICULARS DRESS CODE

Blue boxer shorts, school golf shirt or alternatively the house T-shirt, white socks and tackies.

HOUSE T-SHIRT ORDERS

To order a House T-shirt, please write the name of the pupil on an envelope and send it to Reception with an amount of R150.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

AFTERCARE FEES 2024

Aftercare fees for 2024 are R468.77 per month. Children can also attend aftercare on a casual basis, which must be arranged with Mrs Dawson at reception, in advance. Daily rate: R 29,74.

ITEMS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Parents, please take note that no items such as food, stationery, clothes, sports equipment and money may be brought to school during school hours. Please ensure that your child/ren has all they need for the school day. Items will not be taken in at Reception and please do not ask a groundsman or worker to give the items to your child/ren.

PARENTS - YOUR STATEMENTS

Please remember the statements are sent out on the 25th of each month. If you haven't received one, please email Mrs van Zyl to request one. We have parents with email addresses that are no longer working, and who have not responded to the request to supply us with a new email address. Use this email to request your statement: finance@kingfisherschool.co.za

PARENTS CONTACT INFORMATION AND OTHER DETAILS

Please inform the school of any changes in your contact information, names, addresses, phone numbers, etc.

Should an emergency occur, and you have not informed us of your new contact details, we will not be able to get hold of you. While your WhatsApp number can change on the group chat, the office does not have access to these groups and they only work with the details that you supplied to the school when you enrolled your child/ren.

MARKED BELONGINGS/LOST PROPERTY

Please make sure that all your belongings (stationery, clothes, shoes, lunch box) are clearly marked with your name and that you look after them carefully. The procedure for lost property is as follows. **Pupils will be allowed to look in the box on Wednesdays and Fridays from 07:00 – 07:10.**

Please mark all items with the full names and surnames. If an item has been passed down to the younger sibling, please re-mark the item with the full name and surname.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE NEWSLETTER

Parents can advertise in the newsletter, as too can their businesses be advertised. One advertisement for one newsletter costs R25. Payment can be made to Mrs Dawson at Reception. The advertisement must be emailed to reception@kingfisherschool.co.za in Word and this must be emailed the Friday before the Wednesday when the newsletter goes out.

Timetable for the last day of Term 1: 20 March 2024

- 07:10 School starts
- 07:29 Register period and Grade 8 and 9 pupils will set up their stalls
- 08:00-09:30 Grade 8 and 9 Entrepreneur's Day
- 09:30 Register period Grade 8 and 9 pupils pack up
- 10:00 School closes – pupils leave
- 11:00 Teachers leave

Aftercare starts at 10:15 and ends at 17:00.



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Mrs Renée Rudolph
Headmistress