



ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL, WELKOM

Educating for Life

16 September 2024

Dear Parents

RE: PARENTS CIRCULAR 4 / 2024

As always, at the end of a term, we need to communicate some matters and events that took place during the term gone by, but also we need to remind our parents of those important aspects that are always relevant to the well-being of the school and thirdly we need to communicate important dates and events planned for the term ahead.

1. Academics

We wish our Grade 12 learners, and obviously their parents, all of the best as they embark on this all-important journey of writing their final examinations. Their whole school career culminates in this final examinations and we pray that they will receive the strength and determination to commit themselves to get the best results possible. The rest of the school is also approaching the end of the year examinations and we as teachers and parents, must always encourage our learners to do their utmost best. We have a growing concern that some of the learners are distracted from their studies in many ways and that they have assumed a laid-back attitude to their academic performance. It is important that we, as teachers and parents, emphasize the fact that success is achieved through hard work and a positive attitude. Although the marks of the previous 3 terms have already accumulated into quite a portion of the final mark, learners must know that the final examinations can still be decisive.



2. Some highlights

By reflecting on the 3rd term in general, it reveals quite a number of achievements of which we can rightfully be proud of. Without getting too much into detail, it is still important to shine some light on these achievements! In the first place, to acknowledge and recognise our learners, as well as their teachers / coaches, who are working hard to realise our learners' potential. Secondly, we, as the St Andrew's community, need to appreciate the fact that irrespective of the size of our school, that we are competitive and visible across the board.

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Soccer: Despite having only 48 boys in the High School, the U/19 soccer team achieved the following results: 0 – 0 vs St Dominic's; 1 – 0 vs Curro Klerksdorp; 2 – 2 vs Unitas; 1 – 0 vs St Andrew's Bloemfontein. The U/16 soccer team competed in a league consisting of 8 local teams and they ended second in the league! Unbeaten! Our U/8 soccer team managed to reach the ¼ finals in their league.

Chess: Our senior boys' team progressed to the play-offs to determine the winner of the league after finishing 1st in their group. Eight chess players of the school have been invited to the regional trials.



Cricket: Ricardo Santos was appointed as a Coach for the U/11B Lejweleputswa Cricket Team, congratulations.

Cross-Country: Lerato Molepo was invited to Free State trials.

Afrikaans Olympiads: Alexis Hefer and Lesego Mosiane were respectively placed 1st and 2nd in Welkom Region, 2nd and 8th in the Free State province and Alexis placed 5th in South Africa.

Science Olympiad: Alexis Hefer and Lesego Mosiane invited to attend the Science Convention in Potchefstroom after been placed in the top 30 in the Free State province.

Regional Expo: Our learners achieved Bronze (4); Silver (11); Gold (3).
Micaela Sardinha: Gold + Category winner + invited to ISF.
Mphe Moloto: Gold + Category winner + Best Project
Oreratile Mokhathi: Gold
Alexis Hefer: Silver + invited to ISF.



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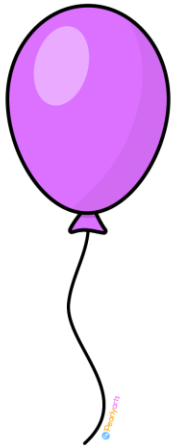


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Regional Expo Life Science Quiz: Team St Andrew's (Moji Segalo and Tshepi Thabana) came second.

Goudveld Eisteddfod: Category winners: Marimba's; Junior Primary Choir; Hlompho Mohlatsane – piano; Naledi Tsotetsi – Dance
Poems / Drama - Number of A++: 7 A+: 11 A's: 10
B+: 11 B: 4

St Dominic's Festival: Honours: Junior Primary Choir; Gr 4 Choral Verse Group; 13 Individual Drama / Poems;
Gold Awards: 5 Individual Drama / Poems; Senior Primary Choir
Silver: 3 Individual Drama

Tennis: It is worth mentioning that our tennis results have improved remarkably and that winning of games, sets and matches are recorded on a regular basis. We need to commend Mr Ricardo Santos for his continuous effort as the sport master, as well as Mr Victor Zozi for his contribution and intervention as an outside coach.



Social responsibility: St Andrew's has been awarded for our participation at the Medi-Clinic Night race for Cancer awareness. We won the open race category for the school with the most participants. The school has contributed an amount of R3700-00 to Amari School during the most recent Casual Day. Interact has visited "House of Hope", "Restoring Hope", "St Helena Orphanage" and has given food to the homeless in the CBD. The school has also held a collection towards "Blessings" (previously SPCA) and donated stationery / books to our Anglican Church congregation for distribution.

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Heritage Day contributions will go to Virginia SPCA

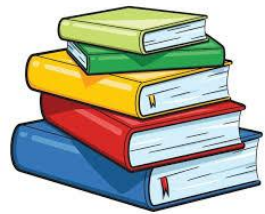
Hockey: Jabu Tsepiso represented NFS (U/13); Balu Bolana and Owame Sentle represented NFS (U/14)

Excursions: Grade 12s accompanied by Mrs L van den Berg, Ms A Nel and Mr K Lenong and went to St Lucia in KZN.



3. Textbook / Stationery packs orders

Parents already received mentioned order lists. It is important that our parents adhere to the due date to enable the school to place the order shortly after the 4th of November 2024. We want to have the school's order delivered before the start of the new academic year to ensure a smooth start. Parents must also please make sure that they familiarise themselves with the content of the separate order lists to distinguish between what should be ordered through the school and what should be bought directly from the supplier. As said earlier, we want to avoid the disruption at the start of the new academic year, caused by the fact that learners don't have the necessary textbooks / stationery.



4. Matric farewell / last official school day / Valedictory service

One of the highlights on the social calendar is surely the matric farewell scheduled for the 20th of September 2024 at Diggers Inn. Please support our Grade 12s as they make their fancy arrival at the venue. Their last official school day will be on the 11th of October 2024 with the Valedictory Service following on the Sunday. These special days in the lives of our Grade 12s are accompanied with the proud traditions fostered by our school.



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5. Carnival

The PTA has managed to secure a date for our annual Carnival, which is dependent on the availability of the inflatables. The Carnival will take place on the 19th of October 2024, and we are looking forward to a fun-filled family day! Please be reminded that, as in the past, our parents will be billed to the amount of R150-00 per learner to recover the costs.



6. Marketing

As we prepare for the new year already, we have to remind ourselves that our financial sustainability relies on mainly two factors, namely the number of enrolments and the collection of school fees. We have taken note of numerous “new arrivals” in terms of service providers who are taking advantage of Grade R becoming compulsory and also the public education system failing our learners in many ways. We rely heavily on our parents to promote OUR school with a proven track record of providing quality teaching for the past 61 years!

7. Finances

A word of appreciation to our parents who have been faithful and consistent in the payment of school fees, ensuring the school's sustainability. Currently we stand at 95% of the projected / budgeted fee income and we are awaiting the outstanding 5%, which was delayed due to financial constraints. We trust that those parents who asked for postponements due to problems, will soon honour their obligations and promises made.

The Board of Governors will discuss the fee structure for 2025 during the month of October and we will inform our parents accordingly.

School
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8. Dates to remember

17 September
18 + 19 September
20 September
20 September
23 – 24 September
23 – 27 September
30 Sept – 3 Oct
4 – 6 October
7 October (Monday)
10 October
11 October
11 October
11 October
12 October
13 October
15 October
16 October
16 October
19 October
22 October
23 October
24 October
5 December

Board of Governors meeting (Term 3)
Gr 1 – 12 Photo Days
End of Term 3 at 09:30!
Matric Farewell at Diggers Inn
Gr 12 Extra Holiday classes
ISF Expo at Birchwood
Gr 12 IEB Art Practical
Gr 12 Sesotho outing to Laverne Retreat Centre
Start of Term 4
Gr 12 IEB Sesotho Oral Moderation
Gr 1 – 12 receive Academic Reports (Term 3 results)
Gr 12 Last school day, tea, speeches and shirt signing
Gr 7, 8 + 9 Entrepreneurs Day
School exhibition at Goldfields mall
Valedictory Church Service at St Matthias Church (18:00)
Gr 1 – 11 Parents' evening
Formal Assembly (07:30) at 1 Toronto
Start of Gr 12 IEB examinations
PTA Carnival
Prize Giving Grades 8 – 12 at 1 Toronto
Prize Giving Grades 1 – 3 at 1 Toronto
Prize Giving Grades 4 – 7 at 1 Toronto
End of Term 4!



Important Dates
and INFORMATION

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9. St Andrew's School term dates for 2025

Terms	Start Date	Closing Date	No school days	Number of school days
Term 1	(13 + 14) 15 January (Wednesday)	20 March (Thursday)		48 days
Term 2	(7) 8 April (Tuesday)	27 June (Friday)	Friday, 18 April (Good Friday) Monday, 21 April (Family Day) Sunday, 27 April (Freedom Day) Monday, 28 April (Freedom Day Observed) Tuesday, 29 April (Special School Holiday) Wednesday, 30 April (Special School Holiday) Thursday, 1 May (Worker's Day) Friday, 2 May (Special School Holiday) Monday, 16 June (Youth Day)	51 days
Term 3	(21) 22 July (Tuesday)	26 September (Friday)	Saturday , 9 August (Women's Day) Wednesday, 24 September (Heritage Day)	48 days
Term 4	(13) 14 October (Tuesday)	03 December (Wednesday)		37 days
184 Teaching Days				

Kind regards!

Mr G HINRICHS
Principal



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