



EASTER TERM 2024

From the
Senior Deputy

Dear St John's College Community

There is no doubt that Easter Term 2024 has been very busy. It has been filled with ups and downs, successes and some sadnesses.

The overwhelming tone of the term, however, has been a celebration of our students and their remarkable accomplishments.

This edition of College Life hopes to celebrate a snapshot of the achievements of our Johannians.

Looking back on the term, I am hard-pressed to find my personal favourite moment; but I have managed to get my own shortlist: the Matric Results, the Summer Sports excellence (the Basketball Tournament and the 1st XI winning the Johnny Waite) and the Community Mass.

I hope you find your own personal favourites in the next few pages. I am sure you will be able to relive several wonderful memories.

Kind regards,
Peter Wright, Deputy Head

*Community Mass*

The start of the year is marked by the wonderful tradition of Community Mass on Burger Field, presided over by The Visitor, The Right Revd Dr Steve Moreo, Bishop of Johannesburg. This annual gathering holds a special place in our hearts as students from across our schools, the Academy leadership, Council members, staff, and parents come together under the gaze of our school's magnificent northern facade and the sounds of the St John's Choir.

"We live in times of great turbulence and extremes. Violence, war and escalating inflation bring suffering to those who are comfortable and misery to those who are already poor. We see destructive and dangerous weather extremes. A deadly pandemic has raced across the planet. Warmongering political leaders seem to have taken the stage. Resurgent hunger threatens billions of people. We are entering a time of great testing. The future will be difficult. But Friends, life continues

in its ordinariness. A friend of mine shared some reflection at the beginning of the year by quoting someone else who had said: "It is not what happens that determines the major part of your future. What happens happens to all of us. It is what you do about what happens that counts." We need to view all these events from an eternal perspective, knowing that God will keep us. [Read more](#)



Celebrating remarkable matric results



“We salute the Matric Class of 2023 on their truly outstanding results, and while we celebrate our many top achievers, we also recognise and applaud every matric who worked incredibly hard to achieve their personal best,” says Stuart West, Executive Headmaster, St John’s College. “This speaks to the resilience, habits of excellence and structured academic confidence that each of our matrics embraced to achieve these remarkable

results.” “Credit must go to our world-class academic staff - from the Bridge Nursery School to the College - for their dedication to their students. They have nurtured these young men through their personal and academic development and contributed significantly to these results. They have instilled in their students a culture of curiosity and critical thinking that is commendable.”

Highlights of #ClassOf2023 Matric Results

- 100% Pass Rate: All 138 students who wrote the matric exams have passed, reflecting the dedication of our students and teachers at St John’s College, with 137 students achieving a Bachelor’s Degree pass.
- Top Achievers: Of the 138 matriculants, 17 boys achieved an average of 90% and above, showcasing the commitment to excellence within the student body.
- Outstanding Achievements: Nine students, namely Julian Kuni, Nicholas Meyer, Alexander Tafur, Ayyad Gardee-Eshak, Krishay Patel, Sebastian Prinsloo, Caleb van Loggerenberg, Christian Venter, and Luke Yazbek, have been recognised on the IEB Outstanding Achievements List.
- Commendable Achievements: Seven students, namely Scott Blackburn, Calvin Brooks, Udo Elleh, Thandolwethu Kambule, David King, Stuart Prentice, and Matthew Prinsloo, have earned a place on the IEB Commendable Achievement List.
- IEB Recognition: 12 % of the year group has been acknowledged as top achievers by the IEB, with 54 students achieving subject results placed in the top 1% of all IEB candidates.
- 100%: Stuart Prentice achieved 100% for Mathematics, and Luke Robinson achieved 100% for Dramatic Arts.
- 99%: Krishay Patel, Alexander Tafur, David King, Alex Meyer for Mathematics; Thandolwethu Kambule for Dramatic Arts.
- Total Distinctions (NSC & ISC): 571 distinctions (80%+) Including 185 A+ (90%+)
- Average of 4.14 distinctions per student
- 10 distinctions: 1 student
- 9 distinctions: 2 students
- 8 distinctions: 22 students
- 7 distinctions: 14 students
- 6 distinctions: 13 students
- 38% of students achieved 6 or more distinctions

[Read more](#)

#CLASSOF2023 SIXTH FORM RESULTS

St John’s Sixth Form presented another exceptional set of Cambridge AS and A Level results and congratulated our top achievers in the November 2023 examinations.

“We celebrate the remarkable academic performance of our Sixth Form students whose journey has been championed

by an expert team of devoted teachers,” said Paul Emant, Head of St John’s Sixth Form. “The accomplishments of these young men and women are a source of great pride for themselves, their parents, their teachers and the greater St John’s community.”

Top Achievers: A Levels

Zacharias Onyejiaka 3 x A* / 96%
Jianqiao Song 4 x A* / 93%
James Barret 3 x A* / 1 x A / 92%
Ya Qi Wang 2 x A* / 2 x A / 92%
Yu Tang Shan 2 x A* / 2 x A / 90%
Berlynn Williams 1 x A* / 2 x A / 88%
JunHao Chen 1 x A* / 3 x A / 87%
Emma Bothner 1 x A* / 2 x A / 1 x A / 86%
Jessica Curtis 3 x A / 82%

Top Achievers: AS Levels

Noah Jacobsen 1 x A* / 2 x a / 93%
Hewei Huang 3 x a / 88%
Maryam Bux 4 x a / 87%
Eben van der Merwe 4 x a / 87%
Aedan Osler 4 x a / 86%
Lenita Jacobs 3 x a / 84%
Nikayla Pillay 3 x a / 84%
Raquel Madley 3 x a / 82%



SIXTH FORM TOP ACHIEVERS AWARDS

During the April holidays, St John’s Sixth Form received confirmation of the exceptional achievements of our AS and A Level students in the 2023 Cambridge International Education Examinations.

Top in South Africa:

Zach Onyejiaka: A Level Mathematics

Top A Level Student in South Africa:
Zach Onyejiaka

High Achievement Awards:

Tiana Rader: IGCSE Level Italian

Zach Onyejiaka: IGCSE Level Latin
Hayden Huang: AS Level Chinese
Emma Bothner: AS Level German
Anna Wang: A Level Chinese
Zach Onyejiaka: A Level Further Mathematics

“Congratulations to our Sixth Form Top Achievers. Your dedication, passion, and excellence have not only brought pride to St John’s Sixth Form but have also set a shining example for current Sixth Formers to follow “ said Head of Sixth Form, Mr Paul Emant.

ACADEMY #CLASSOF2023 RESULTS

On Monday 5 February, we toasted to our Academy Class of 2023, who managed to amass 12 distinctions and 29 B symbols among the 22 students who wrote the matric examinations.

The St John’s College Academy, an after-school enrichment programme offering supplementary teaching to promising young men, is a partnership between St John’s College, Barnato Park and Highlands North Boys’ High. The Academy students join us on campus from Grade 10 to 12 in the afternoons for extension lessons as well as extra-curricular activities.

Special congratulations go to

Daniel Mboyo and Abraham Kazadi who both achieved a distinction in Mathematics and Geography. Daniel narrowly missed a further two distinctions, with 79% for Life Sciences and Physical Sciences, and Abraham achieved 78% for Further Studies Mathematics. Tendai Kwapata achieved two distinctions in Business Studies and isiZulu and pulled off a 100% attendance record during his three years at the Academy, never missing a day of school. He was also the Academy Soccer Captain during his matric year.

Lennox Phofu achieved a distinction for isiZulu and 78% for

Mathematics and Geography. He was the 2023 Academy Dux Scholar and was awarded the prestigious St John’s Sixth Form Scholarship, where he is currently reading his Cambridge International A Levels.

“I am extremely proud of what you have all achieved. Well done for enduring what you have faced and embracing what was in front of you. I hope you will continue in that spirit throughout your lives! Be good friends, be good sons and be good husbands. You have learned all you need to be good men,” said Mickey Mashego, Head of Community Engagement and the St John’s College Academy.



READ THE LATEST ADVANCEMENT NEWSLETTER

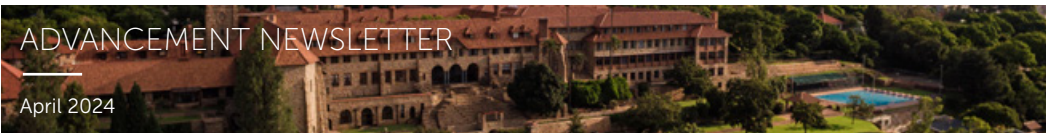
We are excited to share the latest Advancement Newsletter, which focuses on the first-ever St John’s College Giving Day, held over 36 hours on 9 and 10 November 2023. The results of the Giving Day were truly remarkable, showing what can be achieved when a community of passionate supporters comes

together with a united vision.

We also share inspiring stories that illustrate the impact of the generosity of our donors. Your contributions are the lifeblood of our institution, and we are truly grateful for your dedication to our shared vision of education, enlightenment, and empowerment.

We thank you again for your unwavering support. Your involvement makes all the difference, and together, we can continue to make St John’s College a beacon of excellence.

— Shelley Roberts,
Head of Advancement
[Read here](#)



School Events

LINES AND SHADOWS

This year's major production "Lines and Shadows" by Dr Craig Higginson delved into themes of identity and relationships. It was showcased from March 18 to 19 and received acclaim for its exploration of the courage required to speak one's truth.

"Using the game of tennis as an extended metaphor, it explores a world in which we are trying to find our identity as we stand alone and enter relationships with others. What do we gain when we love someone, and what do we lose? Can we be loved for who we are?"

Lead actor Siza Gule (LV Nash), who portrayed the character Obi, shared a lesson

from his role: "love should not exist within societal norms but the way people view it and feel about it."

Director Frances Slabolepszy expressed her appreciation for directing the play, describing it as a "privilege and pleasure." She noted, "Watching the story unfold in rehearsals and weaving in the elements of music and dance has been truly rewarding and inspiring for me. The piece that you will see is an original work in every sense of the word and captures the nuance of this specific group of performances and collaborators in a way that can never be repeated."



GROBS

GROBS has been a St John's College calendar feature since the late 1950s. It has always been a variety show that combines musical items and short comedy sketches to give students and staff a platform to showcase their writing, singing, dance and performance. The term GROBS seems to reference the work of cartoonist Don Martin, who wrote for *MAD Magazine*, but many of its origins are now lost in time.

It has set the stage for the revelation of magnificent hidden talents and jaw-dropping guest

appearances that leave the audience speechless, and this year's edition was no different.

Masibambane started the vibe with their wonderful Marimba players in Tutu Quad. Big School was packed, and the show was led by hilarious MCs Jack Crosse (UV Nash), Riley Elliott (UV Hodgson), Tom Roux (UV Fleming) and Giuseppe Stravino (UV Nash). The students wowed the audience as they danced, sang and played their way into our hearts.

[Read more](#)



Pictures: Travis Stewart (UV Fleming)

SIXTH HUGH LEWIN MEMORIAL HUMAN RIGHTS LECTURE: DR SIZWE MPOFU WALSH

We were privileged to host Old Johannian, Dr Sizwe Mpofo-Walsh (Nash 2006), as the special guest speaker at the 6th Hugh Lewin Memorial Human Rights Lecture on Tuesday 26 March.

The annual Hugh Lewin Memorial Human Rights Lecture pays tribute to Hugh Lewin, acknowledging not only his literary and journalistic achievements but also his unwavering commitment to

justice, freedom and human rights during apartheid. It is a call to action to learn from history and continue advocating for a just and equitable society.

[Read more](#)



Picture: Kamo Thobejane (LV Nash)



School Events

OPSKOP!

The Afrikaans Department hosted Roedeans for “Opskop” on Friday, 8 March. Our two schools celebrated an evening of Afrikaans, with students singing, dancing to, and dramatising Afrikaans songs and poems.

Our Removes staged the poem “Ons nuwe juffrou” with our two Juffrouens Zonderkop, Nasir Osman and Liam Barendrecht. They impressed us with their breakdancing and karate katas as the new teacher flouting convention.

Roedeans Glee Club, along with Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson), Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke) and Lila van Reenen, rendered beautiful versions of Afrikaans songs,

and the Roedeans junior girls danced to a crowd-pleasing Afrikaans ditty.

Ethan Wilcocks (LV Hill), Kamogelo Thobejane (LV Nash), Michael van Heerden (LV Fleming), and William Jones (LV Clayton) had the audience in stitches, performing a tongue-in-cheek version of “Rooikappie” and the Roedeans Matrics treated us to an interpretation of one of the prescribed poems, “Daarom”.

Ons het die aand afgesluit met Afrikaanse karaoke en met die gehoor wat spontaan begin saamdans het, moes almal saamstem dat ons Opskop 2024 ‘n heerlike aand van samesyn en pret was.



Picture: Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson)

SUPPER AND SONG

Supper and Song is of the musical highlights of the year, and this year’s event was no exception. Combining performances of all the larger ensembles in the College with a three-course meal provides the perfect opportunity for College students to perform large-scale works in a friendly setting.

The choir, led by Mr Cameron Upchurch and Mr Sidumo Nyamezele, started proceedings with a nuanced performance of *Thy Knowest Lord* by Purcell, sung from the gallery of Darragh Hall. The choir then made their way to the stage for a performance of an *African Wedding* medley, and *Can You Feel the Love Tonight* from *The Lion King*.

After starters, the String Ensemble conducted by Mr Lwazi Mkula, played Brian Balmage’s *You Are Amazing* and Michael Jackson’s *Thriller*. This was followed by Mr Jonathan Thorburn’s SKA and Rock bands, with *Food for Thought*

(UB40) and *Where is My Mind?* (The Pixies) respectively.

The main course was followed by The Wind Band, conducted by Dr Allan Thompson and Mr Alexander Urban. Matthew Johnston (UIV Thomson) was the bagpipe soloist in Highland Cathedral, which was followed by a medley of themes from the hit musical *Chicago*. The Brass Ensemble then performed John Lennon’s *Imagine*, followed by the Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mr Hendri Liebenberg who delighted the audience with great Western movie themes, and a medley of Pata-Pata and Meadowlands.

To end the evening after dessert, various staff members performed some jazz ensemble items, including Affirmation, Ntyilo Ntyilo, and Spain, receiving great acclaim from the audience. It was the perfect ending to a brilliant evening of musical performances.



Picture: Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson)

MASTERCLASSES IN MUSIC

On Friday, 16 February, the Music Department hosted two internationally acclaimed musicians who presented masterclasses to our College musicians.

Prof Norbert Salvenmoser, acclaimed professor in trombone and didactics at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg and director of the Musikschule Wattens in the Tyrol, presented a brass masterclass to Daniel Teeling Smith (LV Nash), Liam Batley (LV Clayton) and

Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke) with all of our senior College brass players attending as spectators.

He gave them valuable advice on how to enhance the expressive aspects of their playing, and his main focus points were centred around good breathing and breath support, producing a smoother, more sensitive articulation and how good posture supports sound production and overall musical expression. All three participants were reminded about how

important it is to have a relaxed, upright posture and to bring the instrument to them rather than contorting their necks/shoulders to accommodate the instrument. Two Austrian colleagues accompanied Prof Salvenmoser, and together, they demonstrated the baroque trombones (modern-day copies of 16th-century instruments) and gave a short performance and a mini-lecture and the performance practice associated with these instruments. [Read more](#)



Prof Norbert Salvenmoser and Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke)

Picture: Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson)

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public Speaking had an exceptional Easter term, beginning with the Chilvers Cup Senior Impromptu evening on 22 January, where Matthew Venter-Clelland (Custos) secured first place, and Boris Daley (LVI Runge) and Luca Van Tonder (LV Clarke) tied for second place.

The Junior Prepared Public Speaking Competition on 29 January saw Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming) claim first position, followed by Samuel Clogg (Remove Thomson) in second and Noah Rana (Remove Clayton) in third.

On 1 February, the O’Dowd

Senior Prepared Speaking Competition saw Jessica Robus (UVI Runge) take the top spot, with Matthew Venter-Clelland (Custos) in second place and Boris Daley (LVI Runge) in third.

The Inter-Schools High School Public Speaking Festival on 14 February highlighted impressive performances from our Lower IV Prepared teams. Reza Mudaly (LIV Clarke), Siya Dloomo (LIV Clarke), Sakhile Nhlapo (LIV Clarke), and Jerry Li (LIV Hill) achieved an A+. Lungile Mqoqi (LIV Thomson), Haseeb Malik (LIV Clarke), Ginter Shakantu (LIV Hodgson), and

Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming) secured an A.

At the Speech and Drama College of South Africa’s Public Speaking Festival on 29 February, Lwandle Phakathi (UIV Hodgson), Rudolf van der Merwe (UIV Clayton), Sahurin Naidu (UIV Thomson), and Tobi Gbadebo (UIV Alston) delivered a compelling speech on ‘Heroic dissatisfaction,’ earning them the top mark of the evening.

Congratulations to all our public speakers for their outstanding performances.



Chilvers Cup winners & adjudicators: Matthew Venter-Clelland, Ms Ana Pather, Fr Kabelo Motlhakane, Luc Van Tonder and Boris Daley

School Events

REMOVE AND NEW BOYS INDUCTION

St John's College formally welcomed new students and their families at the New Students' Induction Service in the Memorial Chapel on Friday 19 January. This service is a special rite of passage for all new boys entering the College.

"Your blazer identifies you as a member of this College and an ambassador of the values of the school, now entering its 126th year. Etched onto your blazer badge is a powerful Eagle with our bold values of Lux Vita Caritas - representing the Light, the Life and the Love of

God - which we daily seek to live out here at St John's College. We ask that you uphold these values here at St John's College and help us build a strong school community of Lux Vita Caritas for all." - Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster.



THE ACADEMY WELCOME AND INDUCTION

Mr Mickey Mashego, Head of Community Engagement, extended a heartfelt welcome to the newest members of St John's College Academy during the Welcome and Induction Service in the Memorial Chapel on Tuesday 26 February. It was a special occasion as we embraced our incoming Grade 6 students to the Prep Academy and celebrated the arrival of the Grade 10 Class of 2026 to the College Academy. [Read more](#)



ACADEMY LEADERSHIP AND ORIENTATION CAMP

The Academy students camped at Camp Discovery in Dinokeng for their Grade 7 Leadership and Grade 10 Orientation Camps. Excitement

filled the air as they enthusiastically strategised their recipes for the potjiekos competition on the first night, with the young Master Chefs eager to display their culinary

talents. The boys demonstrated teamwork, creativity, and leadership in the process, and their efforts were rewarded with a delicious potjie for supper.



PI DAY

The Maths Department embraced the spirit of International Pi Day as our students and staff explored the significance of the mathematical

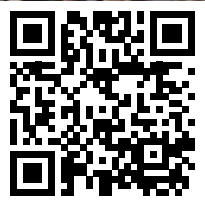
constant π ! They had loads of fun reciting digits of pi from memory and used pi digits to make a Pi skyline along the cloisters of Pelican Quad.



PREFECTS' VISIT THE PRE-PREP

The College Prefects joined the Pre-Prep assembly this morning, where they shared

some spirited College war cries, much to the delight of our little Johannians!



ISIZULU ORAL COMPETITION

Congratulations to Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming), Samkelo Mbatha (UIV Clayton), Tyler Khumalo (UIV Clayton) and Zhy Raj-vee (UIV Clarke) for their outstanding performance in the isiZulu Oral competition held at St Stithians Boys' College on Friday 1 March.

Nevan Naidoo and Tyler Khumalo secured 1st in the same speech category, Samkelo Mbatha achieved 3rd place and Zhy Rajvee was awarded the most promising student.



Samkelo Mbatha (UIV Clayton)



Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming)



Zhy Raj-vee (UIV Clarke)

School Events

27th Easter Rugby Festival

St John's College hosted its 27th Easter Rugby Festival, which was proudly brought to you by Standard Bank between 28 March, 30 March, and 1 April. The three-day rugby extravaganza saw all the U19 fixtures played on Burger Field, with the U13 age group featuring on the main rugby field each day, while the bulk of the junior matches took place on the C Rugby Field.

Day one took place on a Thursday, when the U13 teams got the festival underway with some thrilling clashes on Burger Field, before the U19 age group took centre stage, leading to the unique feature of the traditional 'Thursday Night Lights', where a host of games were played

under lights on Burger Field. Amongst the clashes was our St John's College 1st XV playing out to a 17-all draw against Kingswood College in front of an impressive crowd.

Saturday 30 March ushered in an exciting day two, hosting the opening ceremony of the festival, where both age groups assembled on Burger Field for the national anthem. Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster, and Mr Luvuyo Masinda, CE Corporate and Investment Banking at Standard Bank, our headline sponsor, welcomed guests and players to the festival.

The final day of the festival took place on Monday 1 April, when the U19 age group saw the first time inclusion of

Hoërskool Hans Moore, who took the place of SACS, who had to depart the festival after day two. Yeoville Boys Primary School boys claimed a last-gasp 17-12 victory over The Ridge School U13 team. The curtain fell on the 27th Easter Festival, with Hoërskool Noordheuwel powering to an emphatic win over Bethlehem Voortrekker Hoërskool.

The festival proudly partnered with SuperSport Schools as the broadcast partner, delivering livestreams on the SuperSport Schools app.

For more information on the festival, photos and results, please visit www.stjohnscollege.co.za/rugbyfestival.



19th St John's College Basketball Tournament

The 19th St John's College Basketball Tournament, brought to you by Standard Bank in association with Avis, took place from 22 to 25 February.

The tournament showcased 62 teams hailing from Gauteng, Eastern Cape, Free State KwaZulu-Natal, as well as eSwatini and Zimbabwe, making it the biggest boys' school basketball tournament in Southern Africa.

The competition was intense as the U15 and U19 age group categories made their way through the group stages while the U13s played a festival format, with no winners or

losers, just enjoying lots of play.

"As the juniors look at the giants of the U19s, we hope that this one day inspires them to become giants themselves," said Tony Johnson, MIC Basketball at St John's Preparatory.

The finals saw another Gauteng vs Kwazulu Natal clash. St John's College went down to Hilton in the U15 final with a score of 36 - 47, and Northwood School faced King Edward VII School in the U19 age group, yielding an 85 - 43 result.

[Read more](#)



Sports

JOHNNY WAITE T20 CHAMPIONS

Our 1st XI Cricket team emerged victorious as the 2024 Johnny Waite T20 Champions after a thrilling battle against St Stithians College at Wits on Sunday.

Joe MacRobert (UV Nash) and Alec Loveland (LV Nash) were our top batters, scoring 42 and 38 runs, helping set a challenging target of 125. Our boys showed great composure and determination on the field, with Cole Francis (UV Nash) excelling with the ball, taking 4 wickets for 23 runs, while Alec Loveland (LV Nash) picked up figures of 4 for 16 in his 4-over spell. Alec

was also named Man of the Match for his performance.

Mboniseni ‘Mishak’ Ngcongwane, who meticulously maintains and cares for our cricket pitches at St John’s, was there to share in the excitement of the game and the joy of victory with Mr Bongani Ntini, Mr Gilbert De Villiers, Mr Adi Norris and the team at the Wits Oval on Sunday. The boys also received a surprise congratulatory message from #OldJohannian Devon Conway (Nash 2009), who was in the First XI when St John’s last won the Johnny Waite in 2008.



WATER POLO

Our First Team Water Polo claimed a silver medal in the King Edward VII School Water Polo Tournament after losing 7-11 to Rondebosch Boys’ High School in the final on Sunday 3 March. The team put on a hard-fought display, picking up wins in all their group-stage games. They then enjoyed a nail-biting 12-11 quarter-final win over St Stithians College before the semis saw another tough encounter against SACS, in which our players rose to an 11-8 win. Nicholas Searle (LV Hill) was named in the Tournament Team. Gregory Pryce (Head of Fleming) received the Player of the Tournament award and was named in the Tournament Team. Ross Rovelli (Head of

School) was Player of the Tournament and also named in the Tournament Team.

On Saturday 17 February, our First Team picked up two victories at the Pretoria Boys High School Water Polo Festival. They secured 14-5 win over Jeppe in the first game and a 16-6 victory against the hosts, Boys’ High.

The rest of our teams played fixtures against St Benedict’s College, where our boys managed to produce an exceptional set of results. There were wins for our 2nd, U16A, U15A, and U14B teams. The U14As played to a 4-4 draw, while there were narrow losses for our 3rds and U15B teams.



AISJ Basketball Tournament

Our basketball players put on a great show at the 2024 American International School Johannesburg (AISJ) Basketball Tournament that took place from 25 to 27 January. The U16 As were crowned the champions after claiming an emphatic 57-41 win over ESCA Wanderers, and our first team secured second place after a hard-fought final against St Benedict’s College. Thank you to AISJ for hosting a fantastic tournament, and well done to our boys and coaches for a great performance.



St Stithians U16 Basketball Tournament

Congratulations to Ama Ntubane (UV Nash) who made the All-Star Team at the St Stithians College U16 Basketball Tournament that took place from 16 to 18 February. Our U16 As finished 4th after missing out on a bronze finish against St George’s College, Harare.



Battle Boards Chess Champions

Our chess team made history by emerging victorious in the inaugural AlexForbes Battle Boards Chess Competition on Saturday, 24th February. This online chess tournament revolutionises school competitions by allowing teams to compete regardless of their geographical locations. The unique format of 10 players adds

to the challenge and highlights the skill and depth of each participating school. In an extraordinary display of strategy and teamwork, the team claimed the championship title, reinforcing St John’s reputation as a formidable contender in the chess world. “Chess continues to captivate with its intricate and tactical gameplay. The intensity of

the competition that unfolded on Saturday showcased the strategic brilliance and resilience of the St John’s team, comprising players from the College and Sixth Form. I am incredibly proud of how our young team navigated challenges with grace and skill,” said Mr PW Niemann, Master in Charge of Chess at St John’s College. [Read more](#)



THE ANNUAL HEADMASTERS CUP

Our 1st and 2nd Golf teams took on St Stithians Boys’ College in the annual Headmasters Cup at the Royal Johannesburg Golf Club on 19 January. Our 1st team lost 3-1 in a Matchplay, while the

2nd team shared the spoils with a 2-2 draw. It was a great day out on the greens that saw Saints walking away as the victors with a 5-3 finish.



INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

Fleming House were the victors in the 117th Inter-House Swimming Gala which took place from Monday 29 January to Thursday 1 February.

The winners in each category were as announced as follows:

U14 Medley Relay Medal: *Fleming*
U15 Medley Relay Medal: *Clayton*
U16 Medley Relay Medal: *Hodgson*
U17 Medley Relay Medal: *Clayton*
Open Medley Relay Cup: *Clayton*
U14 Freestyle Relay Medal: *Clarke*
U15 Freestyle Relay Medal: *Alston*
U16 Freestyle Relay Medal: *Hodgson*
U17 Freestyle Relay Medal: *Clayton*
Open Freestyle Relay Medal: *Fleming*

Junior Individual U14 Medal:
Christopher O'Brien, Fleming

Best U15 Swimmer:
Jake Taylor, Clayton
Junior Individual Medal:
Fu-Nam Chen, Fleming
Best U17 Swimmer Medal:
Michael van Heerden, Fleming
Senior Individual Medal:
Ross Rovelli, Clayton
Proteas Medal for Individual Medley:
Nicholas Vogelzang, Junior and Michael van Heerden, Senior.

Broken Records:
U15
Nicholas Volgezang
100m Breaststroke – 1:11.53
100m Individual Medley – 1:06.17
50m Breaststroke – 32.58
U17
Michael van Heerden

200m Freestyle – 1:58.22 [Open]
100m Butterfly – 59.35
100m Individual Medley – 1:03.87
100m Freestyle – 53.59
100m Backstroke – 1:00.84
50m Butterfly – 25.79
50m Backstroke – 27:67
50m Freestyle – 23.80

Le Sueur Cup
House Scores
1 Fleming 392
2 Clayton 356
3 Hill 301
4 Thomson 290
5 Clarke 285
6 Alston 282
7 Nash 264
8 Hodgson 258
9 Runge - 112



ROWING

The St John's College Rowers wrapped their season impressively at the SA Schools Rowing Championships at Roodeplaats Dam from March 1 to 3.

The Friday kicked off an action-packed weekend on the water with 1x and 2- races.

The U15 scullers all reached the finals, with Matthew Keus (LIV Clayton) winning bronze in the J15 A1x Final.

Saturday saw the commencement of the big boat racing, with our athletes demonstrating exceptional skill and teamwork.

In the J19 A 4+ final, Liam Batley (LV Clayton), Zain Newman (UV Clayton), Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke), and Billy Cronje (LV Clayton) secured silver, with Liam Duvenage (LV Hodgson), Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash), Mikhail Sadovnik (LV Hodgson), and Liam van der Westhuizen (UV Fleming) placing 4th.

The J15 A 4x+ final saw Matthew Keus (LIV Clayton), Gregory Hood (LIV Hodgson), James Veitch (LIV Fleming), Finn Backes (LIV Thomson), and Aiden Boesch (LIV Alston) winning silver, with Sandile Gwamanda (LIV Alston), William Miller (LIV

Clayton), Matthew Herman (LIV Clayton), Jayden Li (LIV Clarke), and Rorisang Modiselle (LIV Thomson) placing 6th.

In the J14A 8x final, Jonathan House (Remove Hill), Zhicheng Liu (Remove Hodgson), Jack Patricios (Remove Clayton), Aidan Jacobs (Remove Clarke), Alasdair Wadley (Remove Clarke), Nicholas Band (LIV Fleming), Nkosinathi Moyo (Remove Hodgson), Sean Finnemore (Remove Hill), and Nikhilan Vandeyar (Remove Clarke) placed 6th.

The championship drew to a close on the Sunday while our young men continued to impress out on the water.

The J19 A 8+ team with Liam Duvenage (LV Hodgson), Liam Batley (LV Clayton), Zain Newman (UV Clayton), Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke), Billy Cronje (LV Clayton), Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash), Mikhail Sadovnik (LV Hodgson), Liam van der Westhuizen (UV Fleming), and Nick Lewin (UV Nash) won bronze.

In the J19 2nd 8+, James Burger (LV Alston), Willem Cronje (LV Clayton), Pietro Carnelli (LV Thomson), Andre Friedman (UV Thomson), Ethan Greyling (UV Clarke), St

John Jacobs (LV Clarke), David Giltrow (LV Hill), Sean Li (LIV Runge), and Sameer Kanjee (LV Clarke) secured silver.

The J16A 4x + Final had James Redshaw (UIV Nash), Bradley Stead (UIV Alston), Matteo Cullinan (UIV Nash), Vuyo Remba (UIV Alston), and Menzi Sokhela (UIV Thomson) placing 4th.

The J15 A 8x Final returned bronze for Matthew Keus (LIV Clayton), Sandile Gwamanda (LIV Alston), Gregory Hood (LIV Hodgson), William Miller (LIV Clayton), James Veitch (LIV Fleming), Matthew Herman (LIV Clayton), Jayden Li (LIV Clarke), Finn Backes (LIV Thomson), and Rorisang Modiselle (LIV Thomson).

The J14 A 4x + Final saw Jonathan House (Remove Hill), Zhicheng Liu (Remove Hodgson), Jack Patricios (Remove Clayton), Aidan Jacobs (Remove Clarke), and Nikhilan Vandeyar (Remove Clarke) placing 4th.

Well done to our rowers on a fantastic season. Your hard work and determination have made us all proud! Thank you to our coaches and the greater rowing community for your support and assistance throughout the season.



NEW BOAT HOUSE

The brand new Rowing Boat House at Roodeplaats Dam was officially opened by Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster on Sunday, 3 March, following a thrilling three days on the water at the SA Schools Rowing

Championships. The Revd Fr Thapelo Masemola was there to bless the new home of our St John's Rowers in the presence of our greater Rowing Community.



Sports

THE START OF THE DERBY SEASON

St David's Marist Inanda

The rugby team started their winter season at St David's Marist Inanda with grappling fixtures. The 1st XV secured a hard-fought 29-21 win against a strong St David's team. Other open teams also won, down to the 5th team.

In U16, the A team won 19-12, while the B team lost 25-7. U16C fought back for a 24-17 victory. U15B, C, and D teams won, but U15A lost 22-12. U14A narrowly lost 15-12, and U14B lost 12-5 in their college debut.

Hockey teams also began at St David's, with the 1st XI losing 1-0, the 2nd XI won 1-0, and 3rd team lost 3-0. U16As drew 1-1, U16Bs won 3-0. U15A lost 4-1, U15B won 1-0, U15Cs won 7-0. U14As won 4-3, U14Bs drew 0-0.

Overall, both teams had a promising start to the season with mixed results across different age groups.

King Edward School

Our winter derby season resumed on Saturday, 6 April, with our hockey and rugby boys travelling the short distance to our neighbour, King Edward VII School.

It was a tough day out on the field for all our young men. Our 1st XI Hockey team narrowly lost 3-2 in an exciting match. The 2nd XI also lost to our hosts with a 3-1 score, while our U16A and U15As played out to stalemates.

It was no easier for our rugby teams as the First XV lost 61-18 on Reds Field. The U15Cs managed a win, and the U14Bs managed a 12-all draw.



Pictures: Joss Busa (LV Clayton)

Easter Term Awards

Basketball

Colours

Kuda Tebeila (LV Hill)
Nkosinathi Maseko (UV Hill)

Team Blazer

Lwandle Hlongwane (LV Nash)
Ofentse Motaung (LV Clayton)
Yanda Peter (LV Clayton)
Vusi Mahlasela (UV Hill)
Matthew Bradley (LVI Runge)
Mila Xego (LV Nash)
David Tirkaso (LV Thomson)
Menzi Bongwe (LV Nash).

Water Polo

Honours

Nicholas Searle (LV Hill)
Michael van Heerden (LV Fleming)

Colours

Kamogelo Thobejane (LV Nash)
Ethan Wilcox (LV Hill)
Sebastian Bruinders (LV Clarke)
Luke Towell (LV Clayton)

Team Blazer

Luke Shipway (UIV Hodgson)
Oskar Stahljans (UIV Nash)
Samuel Gomes (UIV Clayton)

Academic Awards

Honours

Ronaldo Teixeira (UV Nash)
Estian Jordaan (UV Fleming)
Ashil Bhagwandas (UV Fleming)
Dominic Wrigley (UV Hill)
Ross Rovelli (Head of School)

Colours

Jethro Mazhande (UV Alston)
Christian Nieuwoudt (UV Thomson)
Daniel Meyer (UV Clayton)
Jordan Cooper (UV Hill)
Nelson Hope (UV Nash)
Thomas Ievers (UV Thomson)
Joe MacRobert (UV Nash)
Motlhomli Ramokgopa (UV Alston)

Public Speaking

Full Colours

Zac Erasmus (UV Alston)
Kheyan Vallabh (LV Clayton)

Half Colours

Luca van Tonder (LV Clarke)
Dirk Jacobs (UIV Hodgson)
Menzi Bongwe (LV Nash)
Kali Selepe (UV Hill)
Tristan Rhodes (UV Nash)
Boris Daley (LVI Runge)

Merit

Rudolf van der Merwe (UIV Clayton)
Ginter Shakane (LIV Hodgson)
Vashiv Naidoo (LV Nash)
Sakhile Nhlapo (LIV Clarke)
Reza Mudaly (LIV Clarke)
Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming)
Rayan Moodley (UIV Clayton)
Kgosi Lesenyeho (LV Hill)

Debating

Half Colours

Vashiv Naidoo (LV Nash)

Rowing

Colours

Liam van der Westhuizen (UV Fleming)
Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke)
Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash)
Mikhail Sadovnik (LV Hodgson)
Billy Cronje (LV Clayton)
Liam Duvenage (LV Hodgson)
Nick Lewin (UV Nash)
Liam Batley (LV Clayton)

Team Blazer

Andre Friedman (UV Thomson)

Swimming

Honours

Greg Pryce (UV Fleming)

Colours

Nicholas Searl (LV Hill)
Ross Rovelli (UV Clayton)

Team Blazer

Ethan Wilcocks (LV Hill)
William Jones (LV Clayton)
Samuel Gomes (UIV Clayton)
Simon Mussett (UIV Nash)
Giuseppe Stravino (UV Nash)

Chess

Honours

William Jones (LV Clayton)

Colours

Lenita Jacobs (UVI Runge)

Team Blazer

Vian Ziegenhagen (UIV Clarke)
Nhlanhla Kheswa (LV Hodgson)

Music

Honours

Kabir Budlender (LVI Runge)

Colours

Luca van Tonder (LV Clarke)
Leo Chen (LV Clayton)
Tsiamo Mabiletsa (LV Clarke)
Liam Batley (LV Clayton)
Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash)
Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson)
Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke)
Michael Jeong (LVI Runge)

Tennis

Honours

James Hart (UV Fleming)

Colours

Enrique da Naia (LV Hodgson)
Aiden Barberini (LV Fleming)

Team Blazer

Michael Meyer (LV Nash)
Zaydaan Ghoor (LV Thomson)

Athletics

Honours

Lethabo Mokoka (UV Hodgson)

Visual Arts

Full Colours

Alessio Cimato (UV Clayton)
Joe Rosmarin (UV Clarke)

Half Colours

Davrin Gillot (LV Alston)
Jaden Paxton (LV Fleming)
Robbie Hund (LV Alston)
Bruno Cochrane (LV Thomson)
Jamil Metz (LV Clarke)
Aidan Leech (UV Alston)
Connor Leech (UV Alston)

Golf

Honours

Jayden Hoskins (LV Hill)

Colours

Jayden Hoskins (LV Hill)

Team Blazer

Tino Munyurwa (UV Hill)
Bryson Walker (UV Nash)
Michael Stubbs (UIV Alston)
Luke Brooks (LV Nash)

Cricket

Honours

Joe MacRobert (UV Nash)
Cole Francis (UV Nash)

Colours

Jacob Smith (Head of Thomson)
Alec Loveland (LV Nash)
Oliver Tait (UV Clayton)

Team Blazer

Nkosana Sibiyi (UIV Hill)
Thomas Ievers (UV Thomson)
Malan du Plessis (UV Nash)
James Yuill (LV Hodgson)
Daniel Bruwer (UV Clarke)
David Ireland (UIV Thomson)

Drama Performance

Honours

Siza Gule (LV Nash)
Menzi Bongwe (LV Nash)
Sean Li (LVI Runge)
Kali Selepe (UV Hill)

Half Colours

Andile Nkumane (LV Clayton)
Edith de Beer (UVI Runge)

Full Colours

Atlegang Seboni (LV Alston)
Elliott Cross (LV Alston)
Unathi Ngwenya (UVI Runge)

Community Service Leaders

Congratulations to the newly announced 2024 Community Service Leaders: Tiana Serandos (UVI Runge), Head of Community Engagement and Kakuhle Tungata (UV Hill), Deputy Head of Community Engagement.

Drama Backstage

Half Colours

Andile Nkumane (LV Clayton)
Lesego Legoete (UIV Hill)
Finn Li (UIV Clayton)
Ntsako Chauke (UIV Nash)
Vikeshlyn Govender (LIV Hill)

Remove To LV Prize-Giving

The 2023 Remove to LV Prize-Giving in the Rene England Auditorium on Friday, 2 February 2024, to honour the academic achievements of our students who excelled in 2023. Congratulations to all our young men, not only those who received awards but everyone who did their very best last year. [Read more](#)

Best Junior Instrumentalist

Kabir Budlender (LVI Runge)

Walter MacFarlane Junior Chorister Award

Liam Batley (LV Clayton)
Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash)

Junior Public Speaking Cup for Prepared Speech

Liam Batley (LV Clayton)
Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash)

Coulter Award UIV

Elliot Cross (LV Alston)

Coulter Award LV

Kali Selepe (UV Hill)

Bruce Currin Memorial Junior Scholarship

Rudolf van der Merwe (UV Clayton)

Bruce Currin Memorial Senior Scholarship

Aidan Leech (Olympaid, UV Alston)

Junior Public Speaking Cup for Impromptu Speech

Dirk Jacobs (UIV Hodgson)

Chilvers Cup

Matthew Venter-Clelland (Custos)

Bruce Currin Memorial Senior Scholarship

Jordan Cooper (FS Stats, UV Hill)

Sir Henry Strakosch Scholarship

Greg Pryce (Head of Fleming)

The Virtus Award

The Virtus Award was presented to two deserving young men, St John Jacobs (LV Clarke) and Michael van Heerden (LV Fleming).

The Virtus Award is presented to the student who proves to be a young man of character, as evaluated by his peers, in his UIV year.

It recognises a young Johannian who displays the most noble character traits, who has seized every opportunity, and who has identified best with the philosophy of the College.

The Virtus Award carries connotations of valour, excellence, courage, character and worth. Above all, it describes a good person who can be relied upon to do the right thing despite circumstances or consequences, reflecting his moral strength and sound code of conduct.

External Achievements

Junior International Championship

Congratulations to Jayden Hoskins (LV Hill) who represented South Africa in the Junior International championship at the Rondebosch Golf Club, where he placed 10th out of 155 with the field consisting of players from 17 different countries.

He also represented South Africa in the Matchplayseries against The Scottish national team

at the Renaissance Club in Scotland, where he won all 4 of his Matchplay games beating Scotland's number 1,2,4, and 6th ranked players.

Jayden has now been selected to represent South Africa in the Congaree Global Golf Championship in August, which will be hosted at the Archer field links in Scotland.

Jayden has been selected

to represent South Africa next year at the Migros Golf cardInternational in Oberkirch, Switzerland which will take place from 5 to 9 January 2025.

He will also play in the upcoming Nedbank Junior Open, which will take place from the 22 to the 25th of April at Gary Player Country Club.



SA Regional Level 2 and Level 3 Swimming Championships

Aadhavan Kallan (UIV Thomson) and Christopher O'Brien (Remove Feming) competed in the SA Regional Level 2 and Level 3 Swimming Championships at Delville in Germiston that took place from 24 to 27 March 2024.

Aadhavan swam in eight races in the Level 2 competition reaching the finals in 50m and 100m

breaststroke, where he improved his personal best times and helped his team secure a silver medal in the Men's 15-19 4X50m Free Relay.

Christopher put out an incredible swimming display in the Leve 3 competition, also improving his personal bests and making it through to the finals. He won silver in the U14 200m Breaststroke.



Water Polo Currie Cup Tournament

Ross Rovelli (Head of School), Greg Pryce (Head of Fleming), Sebastian Bruinders (LV Clarke), and Nicholas Searle (LV Hill) represented the U18 Gauteng Schools Water Polo, which took part in the Water Polo Currie Cup tournament hosted in East London from 14 to 16 March.

It was a great outing for our polo boys, who helped the U18 Central

Gauteng team earn gold in an exciting final.

"It took two unbelievable performances from the guys, and they pulled it off," Coach Jon-Marc de Carvalho told SuperSport Schools "They were hard-fought games, but I'm happy we were the ones who came out on top."

[Read more](#)



Commonwealth Judo Championships

Kenneth Acquah (Remove Hodgson) represented SA in his Junior Protea Colours participated at the Commonwealth Judo Championships in Malta, from 4 to 7 April 2024.

He won a gold medal and is to be congratulated on this outstanding achievement.



South African Protea Bass Angling

Alessio Cimato and Max Merritt, both in UV Clayton, were selected to represent the South African Protea Bass Angling Team scheduled for December this year. Alessio and Max were awarded Protea SA Colours 2024 at the Awards ceremony on Sunday 24 March.

During the tournament, Alessio Cimato ranked 7th out of 40 anglers, while Max Merritt ranked 9th out of the same group.

To participate in the National

Tournament, which spanned three days, participants had to qualify through divisional competitions held over the previous year. Alessio earned his Southern Division Gauteng Provincial colours, while Max Merritt earned his Northern Division Gauteng Provincial colours, which granted them entry to the National tournament.

Being in the top 13 out of 40 anglers allowed them to be selected for the Protea South African Team.



Conrad Challenge

Kali Selepe (UV Hill) and Kheyan Vallabh (LV Clayton) were named the 2024 Conrad Innovators in the international Conrad Challenge. This purpose-driven innovation competition fosters the next generation of entrepreneurs who will make a lasting impact in the world.

Kali and Kheyan excelled with their TransMerc project, an innovative train system incorporating advanced quantum-

locking technology to enable levitation. They received valuable guidance from Mr Morrow, Dr Douglas, and esteemed professionals at the University of the Witwatersrand, and they are enthusiastic about advancing their project further.

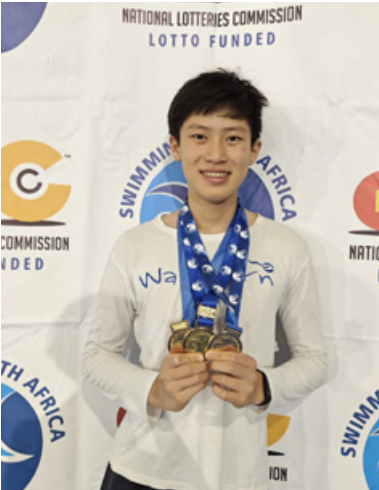
Their victory opens doors to prestigious academic scholarships at leading US universities and access to programmes for emerging entrepreneurs.



South African National Junior Championships

Congratulations to our junior swimmer Leqian Li (Remove Clarke), who claimed three gold medals in the U13 age group at the South African National Junior Championships held in Durban from 15 to 19 March.

Leqian's gold medal achievements came in the 50m breaststroke with a time of 32s,93, the 100m breaststroke with a time of 1m:13s,50, and in the 200m breaststroke in an impressive time of 2m:39s,84.



Zimbabwe U18 Basketball Boys

Nathan Tswatswa (Student Affairs) was selected for the Zimbabwe U18 boys team participating in the FIBA Afro-basket tournament in Zambia at the end of April.



External Achievements

U16 Basketball Inter-Provincial Tournament

Reza Creamer (LIV Clayton) was one of four Gauteng players selected for the South African U16 Basketball team at the U16 Inter-Provincial Tournament in Durban over the weekend of 25 March.

The Gauteng squad clinched victory in the Inter-Provincial Tournament, securing a close 63-56 win against KwaZulu-Natal in the final match.

Zach Ismail (LIV Alston) was among the winning Gauteng team members. Unfortunately, Tumiso Motshegoa (LIV Hill), who was selected, couldn't play due to an injury.

Congratulations to Reza on this fine achievement, we look forward to seeing you play in green and gold. Well done to Zach and Tumiso for their selection to the Gauteng team.



National Eisteddfod Academy Young Performer Awards Competition

College violinist Christopher Roos (UIV Nash) was invited to participate in the First Round of the 21st National Eisteddfod Academy Young Performer Awards Competition taking place from March to May at the Roodepoort Theatre.

It is an incredible honour to be invited to participate in this prestigious event as musicians need to have obtained a 'Diploma' (90%+) for their performance at the previous Eisteddfod. Congratulations, Christopher!



Davis Cup

Well done to our tennis star, James Hart (UV Fleming), who was called up to join the Senior Davis Cup Team as a hitting partner against Vietnam at Hanaka Paris Ocean Park from 1 to 2 February.



Lions U16A Team

Nkosana Sibiya (LIV Hill) put in a stellar performance at the Cricket South Africa National Youth Week in early December, where he represented the Lions U16A Team. He was named man of the match after taking 4 for 23 against KZN Inland on day 3, an outstanding contribution that led the team to win the match by 5 wickets. The Lions team ended third overall in the week.



Staff News

HSS Awards 2024

Dr Craig Higginson, English teacher at St John's College, won Best Fiction Novel for his latest novel, 'The Ghost of Sam Webster', in the #HSSAwards2024.

This prestigious award deservedly acknowledges his creative brilliance and exceptional storytelling. [Read more](#)



All Africa Games

Mr Bongani Ntini, Assistant Coach of the South African Men's Cricket team, and Old Johannian Keagan Lion-Cachet (Fleming 2020) left for the inaugural All Africa Games in Ghana between 7-23 March, where they represented South Africa in the T20 competition.

The South African squad consisted of some of the best University players, competing against some strong national teams. Unfortunately, the South African team did not make it past the group stage, winning against hosts' Ghana, then losing narrowly to the Ugandan team on the last ball, followed by a defeat at the hands of a strong Kenyan outfit.

We are extremely proud of our 1st XI Cricket Head Coach, Mr Bongani Ntini, and Old Johannian Keagan Lion-Cachet (Fleming 2020).



Old Johannian News

U20 Springbok Squad

Congratulations to #OldJohannians Joshua Boulle (Clayton 2022) and Joel Leotlela (Nash 2022) for making the Springbok U20 who will participate in the U20 Rugby Championship in May. Josh and Joel are the first Old Johannians to make the junior Springbok squad, after representing the U18 SA Schools team in 2022. The junior Springbok squad will leave for Australia on Wednesday 24 April and return home on Tuesday 14 May. All games will be played at the Sunshine Coast Stadium in Brisbane.



2024 Junior African Fencing Championships

Old Johannian Alexander Tafur (Head of Fleming 2023) represented South Africa at the 2024 Junior African Fencing Championships held in Cairo from 1 to 7 March. In the U20 Men's Epee Individual Event, he reached the quarter-finals and secured 7th place. In the U20 Men's Epee Team Event, he earned the silver medal with his teammates, fencing against Egypt, the highest-ranked team in the world.



South African Men's Hockey team

Tumelo Ramphele (Hodgson 2018) made his debut for the South African Men's Hockey team in the Olympic preparation series against the formidable Netherlands, currently ranked number one in the world. We look forward to following your journey in green and gold.



Central Gladiators

Christopher Ford (Hodgson 2023) played for the Western Legends, and Cole Francis (UV Nash) and Luke Francis (Nash 2023) for the Central Gladiators in the Cubs Cricket Week which took place from 5 to 9 January.



President's Award

Congratulations to Krishay Patel (Alston 2023), Nico du Preez (Fleming 2023), and Zareef Akoodie (Clayton 2023) for their remarkable achievement in being awarded the prestigious Gold President's Award, the highest distinction within the President's Award programme. The President's Award, also known as the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, stands as a beacon for individuals aged 14 to 24 worldwide. It serves as a catalyst for personal growth beyond conventional classroom boundaries, fostering a holistic development journey through an array of activities. These activities encompass practical experiences, cultivation of life skills, bolstering confidence, promoting

physical well-being, fostering community engagement, and honing soft skills crucial for navigating the complexities beyond the school gates. Upon successful completion of the programme, participants earn a globally recognised certificate and badge, symbolising their participation.

