



EASTER TERM 2025

From the
Senior Deputy

Dear St John's College Community,

The Easter Term of 2025 was one of energy, purpose, and growth. It has been filled with proud milestones, spirited moments, and the unmistakable rhythm of school life in full flow. Whether in classrooms, on sports fields, on stage, or in service to others, our Johannians have made the most of every opportunity.

There have been standout moments from academic excellence and sporting victories to heartfelt Chapel services and vibrant cultural showcases. While each person will have their own memorable highlights, what ties them all together is the shared commitment to community, character, and excellence.

This edition of College Life captures just a few of these moments. As you turn the pages, I hope you're reminded of what makes this school so special: the people, the spirit, and the stories we create together.

Kind regards,
Peter Wright, Deputy Head



Photo: Rod MacDonald

Community Mass: A Great Start to the Year

St John's College commenced the year with the annual Community Mass on Burger Field, framed by the iconic northern facade of the school. The Right Revd Dr Steve Moreo, Bishop of Johannesburg, presided as Celebrant, continuing a much-loved tradition that sets the tone for the academic year. This year's Mass carried a bittersweet note, as it marked the final Community Mass for both Bishop Steve and Stuart West ahead of their retirements later this year.

The Mass was attended by students from the Pre-Prep to Sixth Form and the St John's College Academy, staff, and parents.

The Council of St John's and School Prefects were

commissioned for their year of duty, and students and staff received blessings. The music and singing on Burger Field were magnificent, with Mr Cameron Upchurch on piano and Mr Sidumo Nyamazele leading the St John's choir and community in song. Chapel Choir membership has burgeoned this year, and the choir should be commended for their leadership of the worship at this Mass, despite not having had a full rehearsal ahead of the event. The choir members especially enjoyed Bishop Steve spontaneously leaving the altar to join them for some of the community favourites, such as *Modimo*. The support of a quartet of brass players was also appreciated. [Read more...](#)



Exceptional Achievements by St John's College Matric Class

St John's College celebrated the exceptional achievements of its Matric Class of 2024 in the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) examinations. All 125 students contributed to our 100% tertiary pass rate, with 124 securing Bachelor's Degree passes.

"The Class of 2024 holds a special place in my heart, as we began our journeys at St John's

together five years ago," said Stuart West, Executive Headmaster.

"Through challenges and triumphs, including the shadow of the pandemic, the Class of 2024 reclaimed the fullness of College life with spirit, tenacity, and joy while striving for the highest academic standards. It has been an honour to witness their growth and leadership.

[Read more...](#)



Congratulations to our **Top Achievers** who attained an average of **89% or more**



Zac Erasmus
95% | 9 Distinctions



Gregory Pryce
92% | 8 Distinctions



Liam Jung
92% | 8 Distinctions



Ashil Bhagwandas
92% | 8 Distinctions



Rahul Fakira
91% | 8 Distinctions



Dominic Wrigley
91% | 8 Distinctions



Ronaldo Teixeira
91% | 8 Distinctions



Muhammad Moosa
90% | 8 Distinctions



Tristan Rhodes
90% | 8 Distinctions



Daniel Bruwer
90% | 7 Distinctions



Matthew Venter-Clelland
89% | 9 Distinctions



Jordan Cooper
89% | 7 Distinctions

South Africa's top boys' school with over three distinctions per matriculant

St John's College in Johannesburg is the top-performing boys' school in South Africa, outperforming St David's Marist, Michaelhouse, and Hilton College.

St John's College is a Christian African school that accepts boys from Grade 0 to Grade 12 into the pre-preparatory, preparatory and college. It was established in 1898

as a parish school of St Mary's Anglican Church in Eloff Street in downtown Johannesburg.

[Read more...](#)

2024 Cambridge AS and A Level Results

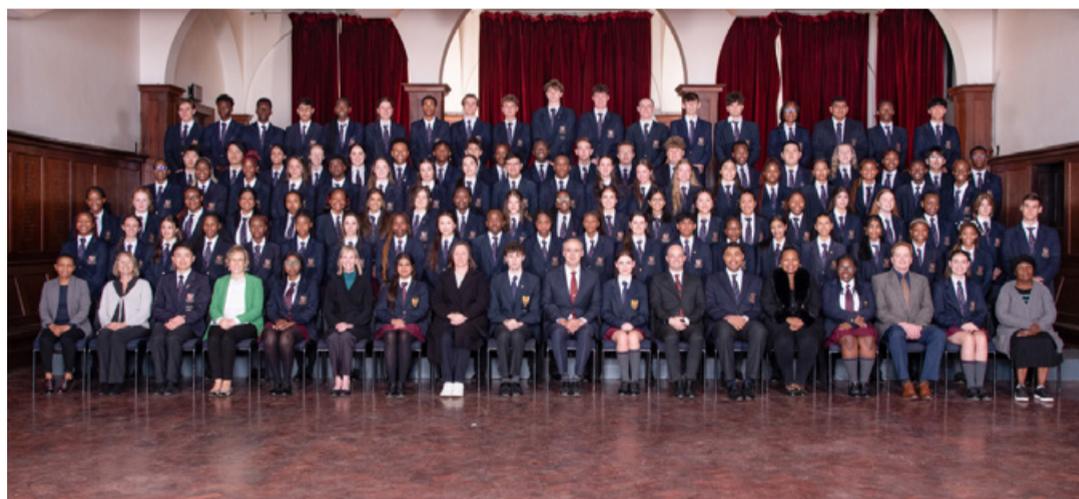
These outstanding results reflect the dedication and hard work of St John's Sixth Form students, thriving in a learning environment that combines rigorous academics with personal growth.

"These outstanding results are

a testament to the diligence and perseverance of our students and the expertise of our teaching staff," said Mr Paul Emant, Head of St John's Sixth Form. "Our demanding AS and A Level program challenges and inspires top academics seeking

a deeper understanding of their chosen subjects. At St John's, we foster a supportive and challenging environment for students to excel academically and personally."

[Read more...](#)



Cambridge Recognises Outstanding St John's Students

Each year, Cambridge International Education (CIE) honours exceptional academic performance by awarding top achievers from around the world, including South Africa. St John's Sixth

Form was proud to announce that several of our students have received these esteemed awards in 2024. Roxanna Kerdachi (AS Level Drama), Kabir Budlender (AS Level Music), and Noah Jacobsen (A Level Further

Mathematics) were each awarded a High Achievement award. We are also thrilled to share that Maryam Bux was recognised as Top in South Africa for A Level Geography.

Academy Class of 2024

"Our Academy students have responded well, staying the course and giving a commendable account of their talents," said Mr Mickey Mashego, Head of the Academy and Community Engagement at St John's College.

A total of 23 Academy students wrote the National Senior Certificate (NSC) exams, with 22 passing and 21 achieving a Bachelor's Degree pass. The cohort collectively earned 21 distinctions and 30 B symbols. [Read more...](#)



Our first-ever Student Head of Transformation and Diversity

Tsiamo Mabiletsa (UV Clarke) was appointed as the Student Head of Transformation and Diversity. In this role, he will collaborate with Ms Thabisile Mkhize, Deputy Head: Transformation and Diversity in the College, and the campus-wide T&D Committee.

Congratulations, Tsiamo, on this significant appointment. We wish you every success as you lead with purpose and impact.



School Events

Chapel Organ Turns 60

St John's College recently celebrated the ongoing contribution of its liturgical musicians and the enduring legacy of the Noel Iverson Memorial Organ in honour of its 60th birthday.

On Thursday 27 February, a Solemn Eucharist during the weekly College Mass marked this special occasion, recognising the dedication of liturgical musicians. Guests from the city's choral and organist community joined the service, with the

chapel and surrounding quadrangles filled with beautiful harmonies, led by Mr Cameron Upchurch, Head of Chapel Music, at the organ and Mr Sidumo Nyamezele, Head of African Music, guiding the voices.

Executive Headmaster Mr Stuart West spoke about the organ's six-decade role in enriching the spiritual journey of Johannians, quoting Psalm 145 to reflect on the legacy of music that has inspired and united generations. [Read more...](#)



Major Production 2025 - *That's Life*

That's Life was a spectacular production that saw our St John's Drama Department teaming up with renowned industry professionals Gina Shmukler and David Cousins to create an uplifting, original musical for the stage that brought stories from the lives of our students to life.

Drawing from world famous musicals such as *Hamilton*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* and *Wicked* as well as from contemporary music like Lady Gaga and Bruno Mars' *Die with a Smile* and classics like Queen's *Under Pressure* this production had our audiences laughing, crying and dancing in their seats.

Supported by a fantastic live band as well as professional lighting and sound equipment the show had the look, feel and talent of a

full-scale musical. Our cast was made up of sixteen students from both the College and the Sixth Form and their commitment, dedication and sincere belief in and love for what they were doing shone through not once or even twice but THREE times! Not only did they raise the roof with their performances at the end of March, they also had the pleasure of performing an excerpt from *That's Life* for the Africa Children's Summit Opening Ceremony in April, as well as at RedFest in June.

For all of those who took part in or saw the show, this will be remembered as a moment where the energy, charisma and confidence of our students took our breath away and we are immensely proud of this very special major production.



GROBS 2025: A Night of Laughter, Talent and Unforgettable Moments

On Wednesday, 19 February, St John's College was buzzing with excitement as we hosted the highly anticipated GROBS 2025. GROBS is a beloved annual tradition at the school, showcasing the immense creative talents of both students and staff. This vibrant variety show features a mix of music, comedy, and skits, offering students the opportunity to perform and celebrate their artistic abilities.

Luke Brooks (UV Nash), one of the MCs for the event, shared his experience:

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time as the MC for Grobs 2025. Having always admired South African comedian Alan Committie for his charisma and stage presence, I found myself inspired by the energy he brought to the stage. Although I was

initially nervous, the experience quickly became a lot of fun, and I found myself enjoying every moment of it. I would highly recommend younger drama students take the opportunity to participate in Grobs."

Connor MacKenzie (UV Thomson), who co-hosted the event, reflected on his own experience:

"Grobs was undoubtedly one of the best and most fun experiences of my life. Preparing for it was a blast, and when Luke and I finally stepped onto the stage, I was blown away. I started off nervous, but the moment I hit the stage, I felt an incredible rush. It was an experience I will treasure forever, and I encourage everyone to either participate or watch Grobs at least once—it's something you'll talk about for years to come."



Photo: Tom Dewar (UV Hodgson)

A Night to Remember: Supper & Song 2025

Our annual Supper & Song dinner and concert took place in Darragh Hall on Saturday, 15 March 2025. This special event combined performances by all the major College ensembles with a three-course meal, making it a highlight on the College music calendar.

Guests were welcomed to the evening with vibrant entertainment by the College Marimba Band in David Quad. The formal proceedings began with the Brass Ensemble's performance of *Fanfare for a Dignified Occasion* by Arthur Bliss.

As per tradition, the choir opened the concert

with a beautiful rendition of *Cantate Domino* by Pitoni. This was followed by the traditional song *Thuma Mina We Baba*, and they concluded their performance with a spirited version of Starship's *We Built This City*.

After starters, the String Ensemble performed a varied programme of Pachelbel's Canon in D, Shostakovich's *Waltz No 2* and a traditional song, *eMarabini*, arranged by Mr Lwazi Mkula, Violin and Viola Teacher. This was followed by the Rock Band's lively, and well-received, rendition of *505* by the Arctic Monkeys. Following the main course, the Wind Band dazzled the audience with an arrangement of the traditional Dixieland tune *Oh, When the Saints*, featuring a number of instrumental soloists. They were followed by a performance of *Selections from The Greatest Showman*, inspired by the 2017 film starring Hugh Jackman. The Brass Ensemble continued the programme with Irving Berlin's *Puttin' on the Ritz* and Neil Diamond's *I'm a Believer*. The evening's performances concluded with the Symphony Orchestra presenting a medley from *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* and the hauntingly beautiful *Appalachian Morning* by Robert Sheldon.

Carrying on with the tradition started last year, various music staff members performed an item, Norah Jones' *Don't Know Why*, with a special guest appearance by Mrs Joyanne West on vocals. This received thunderous applause from the audience, and the evening concluded with the Big Band playing a selection of songs, including Survivor's *Eye of the Tiger*, Bread's *If*, and Maniac from the film *Flashdance*.



School Events

Inspiring Notes: A Masterclass Day with Yosuke Matsui

The St John's College Music Department had the privilege of hosting Mr Yosuke Matsui, a Yamaha Artist and the newly appointed principal trumpeter of the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra, in collaboration with Yamaha Music South Africa. Our talented young

brass players were also joined by their peers from Pretoria Boys High School. The day began with a captivating recital by Mr Matsui, featuring works by Bach, Haydn, Bellstedt, and Hisaishi. In the afternoon, the boys participated in public masterclasses, during

which Mr Matsui generously shared a wealth of practice tips and techniques. Additionally, five lucky boys were gifted new mouthpieces from Yamaha. What an enriching day that left everyone in attendance inspired.



118TH ANNUAL INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

The 118th Annual Inter-House Swimming Gala took place in the Aquatics Centre over three days — Monday, 27 January, Tuesday, 28 January, and Thursday, 30 January — bringing together our students from across the College and Sixth Form to show off their swimming talent and House spirit.

Overall Results

House Champions: Hill House (374 points)
Runner-up: Clayton House (358 points)
Third Place: Fleming House (350 points)

Cup Winners

Senior Cup (U16 to Open): Fleming House (242 points)
Junior Cup (U14 and U15): Clarke House (156 points)

[Read more...](#)



Photo: Joss Busa (UV Clayton)



7th Hugh Lewin Memorial Human Rights Lecture

Human Rights Day marks a profoundly important moment in our history. It calls us forward to continue cherishing and growing our human rights culture in South Africa and, poignantly, here at St John's.

It was with great pleasure that we welcomed Mr Wandile Mthiyane to deliver the keynote address at this

year's Hugh Lewin Memorial Human Rights Lecture. Mr Mthiyane is an award-winning, world-renowned architect, Obama Leader, TEDx Fellow, and global social entrepreneur who has built his career on the belief that architecture is more than just buildings. It's about creating homes, both physically and psychologically.

[Read more...](#)

School Events

Reflections on Hosting the 2025 Africa Children's Summit

In a world increasingly defined by complex, borderless challenges, creating space for children to engage in meaningful dialogue with policymakers is not just visionary, it's essential. At the end of Easter term, St John's College and Roedeans School SA were privileged to co-host the Africa Children's Summit from 4 to 7 April. Organised by the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and the Department of Social Development,

the Summit brought together young people from across the continent in a child-led forum to tackle some of the most pressing issues of our time: educational access, climate change, technology and AI, and ethical leadership in Africa.

This was no ordinary conference. The Summit was alive with youthful energy, cultural diversity, and serious purpose. Children from across the continent, from South

Sudan to Rwanda and Ghana to Zambia, arrived the night before the opening. By the next morning, our Pre-Prep campus was transformed into a bustling hub of media, translation booths, VIP guests, and, most importantly, the young changemakers. Delegates donned headphones to hear translations in their own languages, an immediate reminder that this was a truly pan-African dialogue. [Read more...](#)



World Read Aloud Day Brings Stories and Studies to Life

World Read Aloud Day kicked off with Head of School, Siza Gule, and the talented College and Sixth Form Drama students visiting the Prep assembly, captivating everyone with their rhyming rendition of Cinderella. Their performance filled

the room with laughter and applause, showcasing the magic of storytelling.

Later, Sixth Form students put a creative twist on the day by reading aloud from their textbooks during tutor time. This simple yet effective approach not only reinforced key concepts but also boosted

comprehension and retention, turning study time into an engaging learning experience.

It was a day filled with learning, laughter, and inspiration — a powerful reminder that reading can ignite the imagination, sharpen the mind, and connect communities.



ADVENTURE AND CONNECTION AT ACADEMY ORIENTATION CAMP

Twenty-five Grade 10 boys from Barnato Park High and Highlands North Boys' High hopped on the bus and travelled to Camp Discovery from 24 to 26 January for their St John's College Academy Orientation Camp. The weekend was filled with team-building activities, nature hikes, arts and crafts, and plenty of outdoor adventures, allowing the boys to get to know each other and learn more about the Academy and St John's. This annual experience provides new challenges and unforgettable memories for the boys.



Marked by Ashes, Renewed in Spirit

The College gathered for a ferial Lenten Mass on Thursday, followed by the Sixth Form on Friday, where they received ashes blessed during the Ash Wednesday liturgy.

"We pray that this Holy Season of Lent may be a time of great renewal and transformation in Christ, who is our Light, Life, and Love," said The Revd Fr Thapelo Masemola, Chaplain.



Photo: Bradley Anderson (UIV Fleming)

School Events

St John's Shines at Speech and Drama College High School's Public Speaking Festival



A total of 12 St John's Public Speaking Teams and an Individual Best Speaker participated in the Speech and Drama College High School's Public Speaking Festival held during February and March. While we received mixed feedback from the adjudicators, each team represented the College with pride. We were particularly impressed by the insightfulness and confidence displayed by our speakers, especially considering the challenge of balancing their busy extra-curricular activities with academic responsibilities.

The Trophy Team, consisting of Siza Gule (Head of School), Luca van Tonder (UV Clarke), and William Jones (UV Clayton), presented on the topic "Freedom is the power to choose our own chains" by Jean-Jacques Rousseau on 17 March at St John's. Their

performance earned them an A+. Menzi Bongwe (Second Prefect), who represented the College in the Individual Best Speaker category, was awarded an A. He delivered both an impromptu speech and a prepared speech titled "AI: The Artificial Issue".

We look forward to hearing whether Menzi or the Trophy Team will be invited to the Finals Evening in May.

The results of the other teams are as follows:

Prepared 1: B+
Adam Trethewey (Remove Thomson), Abdur-Rahman Noorodien (Remove Alston), Aphiwe Nwaoshai (Remove Clarke), and Siva Ramanundh (Remove Clayton)

Prepared 2: B

Jordan Sithole (Remove Nash), Sabelo Moyo (Remove Hodgson), Thomas Vaughan (Remove Clarke), and Uzayr Khan (Remove Clarke)

LIV Prepared 1: B+

Tristan Vos (LIV Clayton), Sebastian Daley (LIV Clayton), Areez Akoodie (LIV Clayton), and Thebe Noko (LIV Thomson)

LIV Prepared 2: B

Khotso Nkoko (LIV Hodgson), Lwazi Ngwenya (LIV Hodgson), Teague Arjunan (LIV Clayton), and Wandile Zikalala (LIV Hill)

UIV Prepared: B

Nevan Naidoo (UIV Fleming), Sechaba Masithela (UIV Thomson), Sakhile Nhlapo (UIV Nash), and Reza Mudaly (UIV Clarke)

UIV Impromptu: B

Ginter Shakantu (UIV Hodgson), Zizi Kheswa (UIV Fleming), Botaki Matsoku (UIV Hodgson), and Krish Vaswani (UIV Fleming)

LV Prepared: A

Dirk Jacobs (LV Hodgson), Sahurin Naidu (LV Thomson), Oliver Bouilliant (LV Clarke), and Thyilelo Mabandla (LV Hill)

LV Impromptu: B

Rayan Moodley (LV Clayton), Apostoli Apostoleris (LV Hill), Ezra Mazhande (LV Hill), and Hope Ntuli (LV Clayton)

UV Prepared: A+

Sameer Kanjee (UV Clarke), Kgosi Lesenyehlo (UV Hill), Kheyani Vallabh (UV Clayton), and Atli Chipu (UV Clayton)

UV Impromptu: A

Cayde Bricknell (UV Clarke), Boris Daley (UV Runge), Owethu Sithuba (UV Hill), and Vashiv Naidoo (UV Nash)

DEL FRENCH

Félicitations to our French students on their outstanding achievement in the DELF French Examination, an internationally recognised qualification awarded by the French Ministry of Education, that assesses proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

We are proud to announce that a B2 Level Certificate was awarded to Sean Li (Head of Runge).

B1 Level Certificates were awarded to Atli Chipu (UV Clayton), Kabir Budlender (UVI Runge), Siza Gule (Head of School), Nuhaa Mahomed (UVI Runge), Jamil Metz (UV Clarke), Liso Siswana (LV Hill), Uzayr Timol (UV Fleming), and Mila Xego (Head of Nash).

A2 Level Certificates were awarded to Oliver Bouilliant (LV Clarke), Rohan Bray (LV Clarke), Shyaam Jogi (LV Hodgson), Jayden Li (UIV Clarke), and Michael Sambaza (LVI Runge).

Well done to all on this impressive accomplishment of mastering the French language — bravo!



Photo: Bradley Anderson (UIV Fleming)

French Spelling Bee

The French Department held its second internal Spelling Bee competition on 27 March, which was our term's highlight. The boys loved spelling French words out loud, and the competition was fierce. In the end, the winners who won gift vouchers from the Rosebank Mall were:

Remove

Connor Brown (Remove Fleming), Kyalo Kasimu (Remove Clarke) and Zaheer Angamia (Remove Fleming)

LIV

Jack Patricios (LIV Clayton), Paul Tebeila (LIV Hill) and Thato Phatudi (LIV Nash).

UIV

Amaan Mohamed (UIV Hodgson), Kyama Kasimu (UIV Clarke) and Nevan Naidoo (UIV Hodgson).

LV

Oliver Bouilliant (LV Clarke), Rohan Bray (LV Clarke) and Shyaam Jogi (LV Hodgson).

Francophone (French-speaking students)

Amani Masuku (Remove Nash, a non-francophone student), Alexandre Lyle (Remove Fleming) and Jayden Li (UIV Clarke).



School Events

Bridging the Gap: A Tradition of Connection at St John's College

Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster, joined by the College and Sixth Form leadership, took a walk down the hill to visit our little boys in the Pre-Preparatory. This annual tradition saw our older Johannians introducing themselves to the youngest members of the St John's College family, teaching them College war cries and bridging the gap between the oldest and youngest members of our community.

This moment beautifully illustrated that St

John's College is more than just a school—it's a journey. It began in the Bridge or Pre-Prep, where our youngest boys took their first steps into the brotherhood, and continued through to the College and Sixth Form, where they grew into young men rightly trained in body, mind, and character. This visit was a powerful reminder to the little boys that they were part of something greater—a legacy that spanned generations and a path that many had walked before them.



Pi Day Fun

Pi Day at St John's College was a celebration of mathematical wonder, discovery, and hands-on problem-solving for our students and staff.

The boys enjoyed their pi-themed cupcakes, a sweet tribute to the world's most famous irrational number. In the classrooms, creativity met arithmetic as students used the digits 3, 1, and 4 — along with mathematical operations — to generate every number from 1 to 30, proudly displaying their calculations on the classroom windows.

The Matric Further Studies Mathematics

students explored the profound connections between pi, sums to infinity, and Newton's integration of the binomial expansion of the equation of a circle — methods that have propelled the computation of pi to trillions of decimal places. Xiaoyuan Li (UIV Alston) managed to calculate pi to 206 digits, with Daniel Teeling-Smith (UV Nash) extending it to 214 digits.

It was a day filled with challenge, curiosity, and a true appreciation of the infinite beauty of pi.



2024 Remove to Lower V Prize-Giving

The Remove to LV Prize-Giving took place in the Rene England Auditorium on Friday 31 January 2025, celebrating the outstanding academic achievements of our students in 2024.

Best Junior Instrumentalist: **Jayden Li (UIV Clarke)**
The Walter MacFarlane Junior Chorister Award: **Dirk Jacobs (LV Hodgson)**
The Junior Public Speaking Cup for Prepared Speech: **Nevan Naidoo (UIV Fleming)**
The Junior Public Speaking Cup for Impromptu Speech: **Sakhile Nhlapo (UIV Nash)**
The Virtus award: **Oliver Bouilliant (LV Clarke)**

[Read more...](#)



Photo: Bradley Anderson (UIV Hodgson)

Welcoming our new boys to College

The New Boys' Induction Service on Friday 7 January 2025 was a special occasion for our new boys and their families. In his address, Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster, extended a warm welcome to the boys.

"It is an honour to have you here as our new Johannians to begin your exciting journey at St John's College. Parents – thank you for joining us this evening to mark this important rite of passage.

Entering the College is a significant step in a young boy's life. Tonight marks the beginning of an extraordinary chapter—a new start for each of

you. Your St John's journey is a bold opportunity to discover your passions, explore new interests, and begin shaping the remarkable young man you aspire to be.

St John's College is uniquely designed for boys like you—a place where you will thrive across our rich academic, sporting, cultural, leadership, and service programmes. These years ahead are about becoming a Johannian, a young man rightly trained in body, mind, and character, ready to step confidently into the world beyond our gates.

[Read more...](#)



St John's hosts MIT Africa/ISASA Mathematics & Science Seminar

St John's College proudly hosted the MIT Africa/ISASA Mathematics & Science Seminar from 5 to 10 January, welcoming 106 students from 44 schools across South Africa and Eswatini. This flagship programme, themed Technical Topics in Quantum Mechanics, was enriched by the presence of nine MIT students, who brought their expertise to inspire the next generation of scientists and mathematicians.

The seminar delved into advanced topics such as Nuclear Physics, Particle Physics, Quantum Theory, and Quantum Technology. Students also explored complex mathematical concepts like matrices, integrals, and differentiation through engaging lectures and workshops. The week culminated in a final presentation, where students showcased their newfound knowledge and insights. [Read more...](#)



Easter Term Awards

Debating

Honours

Boris Daley (UVI Runge)

Full Colours

Siza Gule (Head of School)

Half Colours

Ezra Mazhande (LV Hill)
Finn Li (LVI Runge)
Thyilelo Mabandla (LV Hill)

First Aid

Colours

Akani Baloyi (UV Fleming)
Khumo Mapaya (UV Hodgson)
Luke Summerton (LV Hodgson)
Luyanda Xaba (UV Hill)
Siza Gule (UV Nash)
Travis Stewart (LV Fleming)

Half Colours

Nevin Naidoo (UIV Fleming)

Ties

Femi Nhlapo (LIV Hill)
Lungile Kekana (LIV Hodgson)
Nevan Naidoo (UIV Fleming)

Community Service

Colours

Liam Finnemore (UV Hill)
Akani Baloyi (UV Fleming)
Siza Gule (UV Nash)

Half Colours

Luyanda Xaba (UV Hill)
Luke Morris (UV Hill)

Half Colours

Leo Chen (UV Clayton)
Liso Siswana (UV Hill)
Joshua Nyakoe (UV Clarke)
Khumo Mapaya (UV Hodgson)

Dramatic Arts

Honours

Atlegang Seboni (UV Alston)
Litha Tuku (LVI Runge)

Colours

Dirk Jacobs (LV Hodgson)
Joshua House (UV Hill)
Masana Tshabalala (UVI Runge)
Morongoa Monale (UVI Runge)

Backstage Dramatic Arts

Honours

Lesego Legoete (LV Hill)

Colours

Finn Li (LVI Runge)
Kellen Petersen (UV Fleming)

Music

Honours

Eric Han (LV Alston)
Jason Aspoas (UV Clarke)
Matthew Johnston (LV Thomson)
Michael Jeong (UVI Runge)
Tom Dewar (UV Hodgson)
Ziben Zhang (LVI Runge)

Colours

Misizwe Khumalo (LV Alston)
William Boland (LV Clayton)

Half Colours

Aiden Boesch (UIV Alston)
David Webb (UIV Hill)
Christian Lotz (UIV Alston)
Raphael Blount (UIV Clarke)
Jayden Li (UIV Clarke)
Jay Pugh (UIV Clarke)
Jason Shi (UIV Alston)
Kian Patel (UIV Clayton)
Kyama Kasimu (UIV Clarke)
James Papperitz (UIV Thomson)
Legae Tsotsotso (UIV Fleming)
Matthew Keus (UIV Clayton)
Manqoba Ndlovu (UIV Hodgson)
Nevan Naidoo (UIV Fleming)
Oliver Batley (UIV Clayton)
Preston Seethal (UIV Hill)
Reza Mudaly (UIV Clarke)
Rorisang Modiselle (UIV Thomson)
Ross Wiedemann (UIV Nash)
Sandile Gwamanda (UIV Alston)
Tai Lizamore (UIV Clarke)
Tiri Pasipanodya (UIV Nash)
Zach Mtine (UIV Alston)
Zhirui Li (UIV Hill)

Public Relations

Colours

Atli Chipu (UV Clayton)
Akani Baloyi (UV Fleming)
David Hemphill (UV Clayton)
Nahum Gerbermariam (UV Alston)
Isa Gani (UV Hill)
Khumo Mapaya (UV Hodgson)
Phenyo Mulaudzi (UV Nash)
Tim Jewell (UV Hodgson)
Warona Sotia (UV Hodgson)

Half Colours

Khumo Mapaya (UV Hodgson)
Tsiamo Mabiletsa (UV Clarke)

Public Speaking

Honours

Menzi Bongwe (UV Nash)
Kheyen Vallabh (UV Clayton)
Luca Van Tonder (UV Clarke)

Colours

Boris Daley (UVI Runge)
Dirk Jacobs (LV Hodgson)
Siza Gule (UV Nash)

Half Colours

Apostoli Apostoleris (LV Hodgson)
Kgosi Lesenyeho (UV Hill)
Nevan Naidoo (UIV Fleming)
Rayan Moodley (LV Clayton)
Sahurin Naidu (LV Thomson)
Sakhile Nhlapo (UIV Nash)
Vashiv Naidoo (UV Nash)

Visual Arts

Honours

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

Presidents Award

Areez Akoodie (LIV Clayton)
Gui-Nam Chen (LV Fleming)

Academic

Honours

Billy Cronje (UV Clayton)
Leo Chen (UV Clayton)
Owethu Sishuba (UV Hill)
Uzayr Timol (UV Fleming)

Colours

Arif Osman (UV Fleming)
Connor McKenzie (UV Thomson)
David Giltrow (UV Hill)
Ethan Ramsbotham (UV Thomson)
Matthew Kaplan (UV Alston)
Nicholas Morrell (UV Nash)
Thomas Van Der Poel (UV Thomson)
Tumelo Bopape (UV Thomson)
Veer Chhagan (UV Fleming)
Victor Mashile (UV Thomson)

Basketball

Honours

Peter Yanda (UV Clayton)
Tebeila Kuda (UV Hill)

Colours

Ama Ntsubane (LV Nash)
David Tirkaso (UV Thomson)
Mila Xego (UV Nash)
Ofentse Motaung (UV Clayton)

Team Blazers

Allan Njangfang Patu (UIV Nash)
Aniel Nuttal-Mbembe (LV Thomson)
Lesego Legoete (LV Hill)

Cricket

Honours

Alex Loveland (UV Clayton)

Colours

Aiden Barberini (UV Fleming)
Ethan Robinson (LV Thomson)
Malan du Plessis (UV Alston)
Nkosana Sibiya (LV Hill)

Team Blazers

Darshik Lutchman (LV Alston)
Herman Basson (UIV Hill)
Lwazi Khupe (UIV Hodgson)
Michael Stubbs (LV Alston)

Chess

Colours

Vian Ziegenhagen (LV Clarke)

Team Blazer

Edward Jones (UIV Clayton)

Golf

Team Blazer

Scott Bray (LV Clarke)

Rowing

Honours

Billy Cronje (UV Clayton)
Daniel Teeling-Smith (UV Nash)
Liam Duvenage (UV Hodgson)
Liam Batley (UV Clayton)
Mikhail Sadovnik (UV Hodgson)

Colours

James Burger (UV Alston)
Menzi Sokhela (LV Thomson)
Willem Cronje (UV Clayton)

Swimming

Honours

Christopher Chapman (LV Nash)
Simon Mussett (LV Nash)

Colours

Fu-Nam Chen (LV Fleming)
Luke Shipway (LV Hodgson)
Nicholas Searle (UV Hill)
Simon Mussett (LV Nash)

Team Blazers

Apostoli Apostoleris (LV Hodgson)
Christopher Chapman (LV Nash)
Gui-Nam Chen (LV Fleming)
Justin Schoeman (LV Alston)
Peter-Phillip Zigiriadis (LV Hodgson)

Tennis

Colours

Michael Meyer (UV Nash)
Tapiwanashe Mutetwa (UVI Runge)

Team Blazers

Adam Barberini (UV Fleming)
Cayde Bricknell (UV Clarke)
Faizaan Ghoor (UIV Thomson)
Leon de Kock (UV Hill)
Zachary Petersen (UV Clayton)

Water Polo

Honours

Christopher Chapman (LV Nash)
Simon Mussett (LV Nash)

Colours

Christopher Chapman (LV Nash)
Fu-Nam Chen (LV Fleming)
Luke Shipway (LV Hodgson)
Simon Mussett (LV Nash)

Team Blazers

Fedor Sadovnik (UIV Hodgson)
Fu-Nam Chen (LV Fleming)
Rupert Schonborn (UIV Clarke)

Sports

The Curtain Closes on the 28th St John's College Easter Rugby Festival

The curtain has closed on the 28th St John's College Easter Rugby Festival, brought to you by Standard Bank, after a thrilling weekend showcasing the best in schoolboy rugby, sportsmanship, and community spirit.

With more than 40 schools from across South Africa, this year's Festival introduced a fresh twist to the format as U16s made their debut on Burger Field on Monday, complementing the traditional U19 and U13 fixtures. There are no league tables, trophies, or medals at the Easter Rugby Festival — it is all about the love of rugby, school spirit, and community.

"We are proud to once again host this prestigious celebration of schoolboy rugby, where skill, sportsmanship, and camaraderie take centre stage," said Mr Stuart West, Executive Headmaster of St John's College.

In the U19 age group, we welcomed strong showings from Bethlehem Voortrekker Hoërskool and Welkom-Gimnasium from the Free State; Graeme College and Kingswood College from the Eastern Cape; Hilton College and Maritzburg College from KwaZulu-Natal; Hoërskool Diamantveld from the Northern Cape; Hoërskool Nelspruit from Mpumalanga; SACS from the Western Cape; and Steiner Pest Golden Lions Invitational XV, Hoërskool Randburg, Pretoria Boys High School, St David's Marist Inanda, and our very own St John's College from Gauteng. [Read more...](#)



2025 Nomads U16 Hockey Festival

The 2025 Nomads U16 Hockey Festival, hosted by St John's College, concluded after an action-packed weekend of high-quality hockey from 29 to 31 March. Schools from across the country showcased exceptional talent, with thrilling matches and outstanding sportsmanship on display.

The festival saw competitive fixtures from start to finish, with teams adapting and improving throughout the event. Day 1 (29 March) featured competitive matchups that set the tone for the festival. Jeppe High School for Boys secured a 2-0 victory over Grey College, while King Edward VII School and Wynberg Boys' High School played to a 1-1 draw. Pretoria Boys High School defeated Hoërskool Monument High 2-0, and St John's College edged out Selborne College 1-0.

Day 2 (30 March) was impacted by weather disruptions, leading to schedule changes. However, teams remained resilient, continuing to showcase their talent and commitment to the game. Jeppe High School for Boys triumphed over Maritzburg College with a 4-1 win. King Edward VII School and Hilton College played

to an exciting 2-2 draw, while Grey College delivered a strong performance, defeating St John's College 3-0. Selborne College and Wynberg Boys' High School battled to a 1-1 draw. Some postponed matches were rescheduled for Day 3, ensuring all teams had the opportunity to compete fully.

Day 3 (31 March) provided a thrilling conclusion, with tightly contested fixtures that kept spectators on the edge of their seats. Jeppe High School for Boys claimed a 5-2 victory over Hilton College, while Selborne College shut out Pretoria Boys High School with a 2-0 win. Maritzburg College edged past Hoërskool Monument High with a 3-2 victory. King Edward VII School secured a narrow 2-1 win over Grey College, and St John's College wrapped up the tournament with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Wynberg Boys' High School.

Well done to all the teams for their dedication and efforts. Your passion and commitment to hockey continue to elevate the sport. We look forward to another exciting tournament in 2026!



20th St John's College Basketball Tournament thrills fans

The highly anticipated 2025 St John's College Basketball Tournament, brought to you by Standard Bank, concluded after an action-packed four days filled with intense competition, energy, and unforgettable moments at the biggest boys' school basketball tournament in Southern Africa.

The tournament, which ran from 20 to 23 February, featured an impressive lineup of 62 teams from Gauteng, Eastern Cape, Free State, and KwaZulu-Natal, as well as from neighbouring Zimbabwe. Despite early challenges posed by heavy summer Highveld rains, forcing some matches to be relocated to indoor venues across Johannesburg, the tournament returned to the St John's College courts on Friday, where the atmosphere

reached fever pitch as the competition progressed.

"It has been a truly exceptional tournament, and while the rain presented us with some logistical hurdles at the start, we were thrilled to bring the action back to our courts," said Stuart West, St John's College Executive Headmaster. "The camaraderie, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit displayed throughout the tournament highlight the power of sport to bring people together. We are incredibly proud of all the teams who participated and congratulate the U15 and U19 winners, Maritzburg College and Northwood School from KwaZulu-Natal." [Read more...](#)



Sports

Basketball

The 2025 basketball season tipped off with a strong showing as St John's travelled to Jeppe High School for Boys. The First Team led the charge with a thrilling 56–45 win, and all our A teams also came out victorious. It was a dominant day overall, with St John's winning 17 of the 19 games played — several of them nail-biters. A special shout-out goes to our U14s, who enjoyed a perfect debut in College colours.

Soon after, our U16A team took part in the AISJ Basketball Tournament on 25 and 26 January. They started well, claiming wins over AISJ and Harare International to reach the quarterfinals. Despite a tough loss to St Stithians and a narrow playoff defeat

to Michael Mount Waldorf School, they showed solid teamwork and finished 6th overall.

The First Team returned to AISJ the following weekend and went on to win the tournament. After losing to Michael Mount in the group stage, they turned things around in the final with a tight 21–19 win. Along the way, they edged Pretoria Boys High in overtime, upset top-ranked Westville Boys' High in the quarterfinals, and earned a 42–30 semifinal victory over St Benedict's. Congratulations to Yanda Peter (UV Clayton), named to the All-Star Team, and David Tirkaso (UV Thomson), who was awarded MVP.



Chess

Our Chess 1st Team had an impressive 4.5 – 1.5 victory over King David Linksfield in the final of the Central Johannesburg Chess League First Division on Monday 17 March.

The First Division featured 16 top teams competing for the highest honour, making this achievement truly exceptional.

We also commend our C and D teams for their strong performances in the Second Division. The C Team secured second place after a hard-fought 6.0 – 6.0 draw in the final against Jeppe High School for Boys C Team, settling for silver on tiebreak.

Meanwhile, the D Team finished third overall, losing just one match all season—to our own C Team in the semifinal.



Golf

Our First Team Golf boys obtained outstanding results at the 25th Dainfern National Golf Tournament held at Dainfern Golf Course from 9 to 11 March.

The boys took to the course with confidence, trusted their talent and abilities, and, most importantly, had fun—a joy to witness.

A special mention goes to Jayden Hoskins (UV Hill), who won the individual competition with an incredible score of -9,

securing a five-shot lead over second place.

Additionally, the First Team, comprising Jayden Hoskins (UV Hill), Luke Brooks (UV Nash), and Scott Bray (LV Clarke), won the team competition, marking the first time St John's has claimed this title since 2009.

We are immensely proud of our young men for their dedication, composure, and sportsmanship.



Hockey

Our 2nd XI and U16B hockey teams claimed bronze and gold medals in their respective tournaments during the April holidays.

The 2nd XI earned their bronze at the Hoërskool Eldoraigh 2nd XI Tournament, held from 28 to 31 March. The boys went unbeaten in the group stage, securing convincing victories over Sutherland High School, Hoërskool Zwartkop, Huguenote High School, and Dr EG Jansen. Their impressive run secured them a semifinal spot against Jeppe High School for Boys, where they narrowly lost 2–3. In the third-place playoff against Hoërskool Garsfontein, the match ended

in a 1–1 draw, with our boys holding their nerve in the shootout to win 2–1 and clinch the bronze.

The U16B boys were in sublime form, earning gold at the Helpmekaar Kollege Hockey Tournament from 1 to 5 April. Despite a narrow 0–1 loss in their opening group game against Hoërskool Waterkloof, they remained unbeaten for the rest of the tournament—culminating in a 2–0 victory over Waterkloof in the final. Wins en route to the final came against Helpmekaar, The King's School, Jeppe High School for Boys, and Die Hoërskool Menlopark.



Rowing

The 2025 rowing season was a memorable one for St John's College, highlighted by a series of strong performances both at home and away. The SA Schools Rowing Championships, held at Roodeplaat Dam from 28 February to 2 March, saw our rowers shine across all age groups. St John's secured 2nd place overall in the boys' schools division and was the only boys' school to medal in all the eights and octuple categories. There were standout results throughout the regatta, including gold in the JM16 Pair and JM19 Coxless Four, multiple silvers in the JM16 categories, and bronzes in the JM14 and JM19 Eights. Special congratulations go to Matthew Herman, Matthew Keus, Gregory Hood, Finn Backes, and William Miller, who were selected for

the SASRU Rowing Tour to the UK in May.

Earlier in the season, 42 boys and five staff members travelled to East London for the Buffalo and Selborne Regattas. The Buffalo Regatta featured a strong showing from St John's, with wins in the JM19 and JM16 Pairs and a nail-biting victory in the JM19 Coxless Four. The U16 crews also impressed, with closely contested finishes that reflected the depth of talent in the age group. At the Selborne Sprint Regatta, our rowers continued their success. The 1st Eight placed second, while the 1st Coxed and Coxless Fours secured dominant wins. The U16 A boats consistently placed second behind strong opposition from St Benedict's.



Sports

Rugby

The 2025 rugby season began with an exciting derby against long-standing rivals King Edward VII School on 15 March. It was a spirited day of rugby, with the First XV narrowly losing 15–17 in a dramatic finale on Burger Field. The 2nd XV went down 22–10, and the 4th XV held their opponents to a 7–7 draw in a tightly contested match.

Soon after, the First XV travelled to the Graeme College Rugby Festival in Makhanda from 20 to 22 March. They opened with a hard-fought 24–21 win over Cambridge High School, with Gerald Van Wyk (Head of Hodgson) named Man of the

Match. In their second game, they faced a tough Graeme College side and lost 24–39 in a physical encounter.

Back home, the Blues bounced back with a 34–23 victory over St David's Marist Inanda on 29 March. A surprise jersey presentation by Old Johannian Nicholas Zille (Hodgson 2015) added a special touch. The 2nd XV drew 17–17, while all our open sides — up to the 6th XV — secured wins. Our junior teams also had a strong showing, with wins for the U16A and U14A teams, and only narrow losses for the U16C and U15A.



Tennis

Our first tennis team saw a hard-fought 5-4 victory over St Stithians College on Friday, 7 February. It was a massive win against the defending Central Gauteng League champions.



Water Polo

Our U15 water polo boys claimed bronze at the Indigo National U15 Water Polo Tournament, hosted by Parktown Boys' High School from 27 February to 2 March.

The team put in an impressive showing in the group stages, securing three wins from five matches before edging past Hilton College 6-5 in the quarterfinals. The semifinals were a hard-fought battle, with our boys narrowly falling 7-9

to a formidable Rondebosch Boys' High School side. However, they showed great resilience, bouncing back to defeat St David's Marist Inanda 8-4 in the third-place playoff and secure the bronze medal.

A special shout-out to Amaza Faber (LIV Fleming), named the tournament's Best Defender.

Water Polo Stars Selected for SA Squad

Several of our Water Polo players were selected to represent South Africa at the Africa Aquatics Water Polo Development Tournament in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 10 to 13 April.

U17 Team: Fu-Nam Chen (LIV Fleming) was named in the squad, with Luke Shipway (LIV

Hodgson) selected as a non-traveling reserve.

U15 Gold Team: Amaza Faber (LIV Fleming) and Leo Bruinders (LIV Clarke) earned places in the squad, while Jonah Teeling-Smith (LIV Nash) and Lingfu Hu-Grobelaar (LIV Thomson) were named as non-traveling reserves.



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ST JOHN'S PRE-PREPARATORY

Sports

Cricket

Our 1st, 2nd, U15A, and U14A cricket teams travelled to Bloemfontein over the weekend of Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 January for a series of fixtures. Saturday's matches were hosted by our longstanding friends at Saint Andrew's School, while Sunday's fixtures were played at Grey College.

Saturday brought a clean sweep of victories across all age groups. The 1st XI defeated St Andrew's by six wickets, thanks to commanding batting performances from Nkosana Sibiya (LV Hodgson), who scored 58, and Aiden Barberini (UV Fleming), who contributed 52. The 2nd XI secured a thrilling 2-wicket win, led by an outstanding 76 from Connor Van der Walt (LV Hill). In the U15A encounter, Motheo Mparutsa (LIV Hodgson) impressed with the ball, taking 4 for 34 in a narrow 1-wicket win. The U14A team recorded a commanding 77-run victory, driven by Christopher Kirchman (Remove Clayton) with 73, and a superb unbeaten 115 from Adam Heron (Remove Clarke).

On Sunday, the 1st XI extended their winning form with a 28-run win over

Grey College, spearheaded by Malan du Plessis (UV Alston), who smashed a brisk 68 off 51 balls. The 2nd XI narrowly lost by 2 wickets despite a fine all-round performance from Rohan Bray (LV Clarke), who scored an unbeaten 51 and took 4 for 41. The U15A side clinched another close win, this time by 7 runs, bolstered by a strong 68 from Michael Davidson (LIV Nash). Although the U14A team fell to a 7-wicket defeat, Adam Heron continued his phenomenal form, registering his second consecutive century with 105 runs.

From Friday 21 to Sunday 23 February, our 1st XI participated in the U19 Independent Boys' Schools Cricket Festival, hosted by St Alban's College. It was a testing weekend as the team came up against formidable opposition from St Andrew's School, Michaelhouse, and Helpmekaar Kollege, narrowly missing out in each fixture. Despite the challenges, there were standout individual performances, notably Alec Loveland (UV Nash), who scored 57 against Helpmekaar, and Malan du Plessis (UV Alston), who delivered with the ball, taking 4 for 35.



Photo: Matthew Gill

Swimming

Our swimming season began with weekly galas every Wednesday from 22 January. There were notable improvements, especially among the U15 age group in the A team and the U17s in the B team. A special mention must be made of Michael van Heerden (Head of Fleming), who qualified to compete in both the SA Junior Champs and SA Senior Champs later this term.

We also hosted our annual Inter-House Gala in the Aquatics Centre for the second consecutive

year. Enhancements to the setup this year greatly improved the flow of swimmers and contributed to a well-run event. The atmosphere in the centre was electric, with students enjoying the lively energy and camaraderie throughout the day. Looking ahead, one key area for improvement remains the sound system—while it functions adequately for interschool galas, it struggles against the volume of a full school in the stands.



Photo: Joss Busa (UV Clayton)

Squash

Squash at St John's has continued to grow in 2025, with rising participation and improved performance across all age groups. Our players have competed in a series of high-level tournaments this term and have achieved excellent results, reflecting their hard work and dedication.

The season began with strong performances at the Joburg Junior Open (31 January – 2 February). Thero Motshubi (LV Nash) finished 2nd in the U19 category, while Ponatshego Molefe (Remove Clayton) won the U14 division and placed 7th in U16. Sechaba Masithela (UIV Thomson) came 5th in U16 and Sebastian Parry (LIV Clayton) placed 11th.

In early February, our 1st and 2nd teams travelled to Bloemfontein for the St Andrew's Festival, where they competed against some of the top school teams in the country. This experience provided excellent exposure to elite-level squash and encouraged team development.

March brought more success at national level. At the SA Schools Open and SA Open, Thero Motshubi finished 3rd and Ponatshego Molefe placed 8th. Later that month, our boys continued their strong form at the Joburg Junior Regionals. Ponatshego finished 2nd in U15, Maxwell Erwin (LIV Thomson) 5th in U15, Sechaba 4th in U17, Sebastian 8th in U17, and Rohan Bray (LV Clarke) 10th in U19.

A significant highlight this term was hosting the prestigious SA Closed tournament in April, right here at St John's. The event was a resounding success, drawing top talent from across the country and giving our players the rare chance to perform on home ground. Thero Motshubi placed 2nd, and Ponatshego Molefe finished 6th.

It's been an exceptional season for St John's squash, and our players' growth in skill, strength, and confidence bodes well for the remainder of the year.



Bradley Anderson (UIV Fleming)

Individual Achievements

Nkosana Sibiyi's Selection for CSA U17 Regional Camp

Nkosana Sibiyi (LV Hill) was selected for the CSA U17 Regional Camp, that took place in Pretoria from 4 to 6 April.

Players were chosen for their skill and

potential, with the camp designed to refine their technique and enhance the conditioning required for high-performance cricket.

Aadhavan Kallan Makes Waves at Regional Level 2 Swimming Event

Aadhavan Kallan (LV Thomson) put in a stellar performance at the South African Regional Level 2 Swimming Championships, held at Delville in Germiston from 27 to 30 March. Competing in four races, he reached the finals in the 100m freestyle, 100m

breaststroke, and 200m breaststroke, achieving personal bests across the board. He earned a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke, and he played a pivotal role in his team's gold-medal victory in the Men's 15-19 4x50m Free Relay.

Ponatshego Molefe's Success at the Joburg Junior Squash Open

Ponatshego Molefe (Remove Clayton) had an outstanding performance at the Joburg Junior Squash Open, held at the Parkview Squash Club from 31 January to 2 February.

Competing in both the U14 and U16 age groups, Ponatshego secured an impressive 1st

place in the U14 division and 7th place in the U16 division. This remarkable achievement was accomplished as Ponatshego moved from one court to another, with little rest in between.

Michael van Heerden Breaks Records and Bags Medals at National Champs



Michael van Heerden, Head of Fleming, has continued to shine in the pool, delivering exceptional performances at both the SA Senior and Junior Championships in 2025.

At the SA Senior Championships in Gqeberha from 9 to 13 April 2025, Michael competed in the men's open events, showcasing his talent by securing a bronze medal in the 4x100m freestyle relay as the anchor swimmer for the provincial team. He

also reached the finals in the 100m and 200m Backstroke, finishing 9th overall. Notably, he swam alongside Olympian Pieter Coetzee in the 200m Backstroke, making the experience even more memorable.

In the SA Junior Championships held in Cape Town from 25 to 29 April 2025, Michael further solidified his reputation by claiming two bronze medals and a silver in the 50m, 100m, and 200m Backstroke events.

These achievements followed his remarkable performance at the EGA Provincial Championships in December 2024, where he dominated the pool, winning six gold medals across the 100m and 200m Freestyle, 50m and 100m Backstroke, and 50m and 100m Butterfly events. He also set championship records in both the 50m and 100m Backstroke, cementing his status as one of the province's top swimmers. His impressive results earned him qualification for both the South African National Senior and Junior Championships and the SA Grand Prix.

Michael is no stranger to breaking records at school level, having set 29 new school records, including long-standing inter-house gala records. His most recent achievement was breaking a 40-year-old 200m Freestyle record previously held by S. Finlayson from 1985. He also set new records in the 100m Freestyle and 100m Backstroke, breaking records that had stood since 1993.

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Staff News

Condolences

Thembeke Masondo, French Teacher

It is with deep sadness that we informed our community of the passing of **Thembeke Masondo** on Monday 7 April 2025, following a long illness.

Thembeke joined the St John's College French Department in January 2022. A passionate and dedicated teacher, she embraced every opportunity to deepen her knowledge and share her love of the French language. She was also known for her impeccable style—always dressed in bright, colourful suits—and for the warmth, sincerity, and kindness she brought to our community.

At the time of her passing, Thembeke was pursuing a Master's degree in French Studies, a testament to her lifelong commitment to learning. During her time at the College, she formed close friendships, and we know her loss will be deeply felt by her colleagues and friends.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and loved ones during this difficult time.

May she rest in peace.



Noah Mujang, Kitchen Staff

We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of one of our own, **Mr Noah Mujango**, a beloved member of our Johannian community.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and all our colleagues mourning his loss. In his memory, the flag on the Bell Tower will fly at half-mast today and tomorrow as we honour a wonderful colleague and friend.



Farewells

Mrs Veronica Savage, PA to the Music Department

After 20 years of faithful service to the College and the Music Department, Mrs Savage retired at the end of the Easter Term. She contributed greatly to building the Music Department into the flourishing space it is today. Veronica designed and implemented most of the systems and procedures currently in place and introduced many additional opportunities for our musicians — including external board examinations, concerts, competitions, and festivals.

She leaves an undeniable legacy, having nurtured and supported thousands of St John's musicians over the years. She will be sorely missed by students and colleagues alike.



Mr Barry McNiece, Head of Rowing

At the end of the Easter Term, we also said farewell to Mr Barry McNiece, Head of Rowing. Mr McNiece concluded his tenure at the end of the rowing season, bringing to a close a 17-year association with the Rowing Club — as a student, staff member, rowing coach, and Head of Rowing.

He now turns his focus to completing his pastoral counselling studies and embracing a new chapter in church ministry. We thank Mr McNiece for his profound dedication, expertise, and leadership within the St John's Rowing Club, which he helped grow with warmth and passion. He leaves behind a proud and successful record as Head of Rowing.



Old Johannian News

Giving baby burn victims a reason to smile

Old Johannian Professor Jerome Loveland (Nash 1990), a distinguished Golden Eagle Award recipient in 2020, has once again made us proud with his remarkable contributions to paediatric healthcare.

As the founder and chair of "Surgeons for Little Lives", Prof Loveland recently celebrated the opening of a world-class R26-

million paediatric burns unit at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital.

This groundbreaking facility is a testament to his absolute dedication to transforming the lives of young burn victims, embodying the values of *Lux Vita Caritas* that St John's College holds so dear. [Read more...](#)



The South African who became Europe's top banker

Richard Gnodde (Thomson 1977) is in the global spotlight as Vice-Chairman of Goldman Sachs' international operations. From his time at St John's College to leading the firm's expansion across Asia and Europe, Gnodde's career exemplifies dedication and global

leadership. A passionate philanthropist, he continues to champion education through his work with the University of Cape Town, supporting the next generation of influential leaders. [Read more...](#)

