



MICHAELMAS TERM 2024

From the
Senior Deputy

Dear St John's College Community,

In Michaelmas Term, we celebrated several milestones that highlight the spirit and success of our students and community. The Matric Class of 2024 completed their final exams on 25 November, with a heartfelt send-off from parents.

Newly inducted School and House Prefects, led by Head of School Siza Gule, were recognised for their leadership, with special mention of the Heads of Service for their role in shaping the school culture.

UVI and UV students were honoured at their respective Prize-Givings and Valedictory Masses, which reflected upon their growth and achievements. Another highlight was the UV Visual Arts Exhibition *Truth and Fiction* captivating us with works blending reality and imagination, while the other forms also displayed their creative talents at the same time. The LIVs held a successful Market Day, which also raised funds for the St John's College Academy.

This term, one highlight of our academic excellence was Xiaoyuan Li's bronze at the Junior International Mathematics Competition, and Noah Jacobson and Aidan Leech's top-10 finishes in the South African Mathematics Olympiad.

The Victory Bell rang in celebration of the 1st XI Cricket, Water Polo, and Basketball teams' victories in the summer derbies against King Edward VII School.

The *Habits of the Heart* IV conference, inspired by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, ran over four days, beginning with the Archbishop Tutu Memorial Mass on Thursday, 3 October, the *Habits of the Heart* Student Forum on Friday and Saturday, 5–6 October, and the Tutu Memorial Walk on Sunday, 6 October.

Other highlights included the unveiling of the *Beyond 125 Donor Wall* and a moving Remembrance Day Mass to honour those who served in wars.

St John's College remains a place of growth, leadership, and service within our community.

Kind regards,
Peter Wright, Deputy Head

MATRIC CLASS OF 2024: CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR FINAL EXAM

On Monday 25 November, the Matric Class of 2024 completed their final examination and were warmly welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd of parents as they emerged from the exam venue, the Rene England Auditorium.

Gentlemen, as you close this unforgettable chapter and complete your journey through St John's College, we reflect on the timeless words of our school hymn:

*"Lord, for its sons may its purpose remain,
Their minds, bodies, characters rightly to train –
That all true Johannians go forth from its gate,
Equipped well to serve Thee in Church and in State."*

As you prepare to walk through these gates for the last time as students, you do so as true Johannians—equipped with the knowledge, values, and strength to make a meaningful impact on the world. Cherish the friendships you've formed and the lessons you've learned, and let them guide you as you embrace the opportunities and challenges ahead.

May you carry the light, life, and love of St John's in all that you do.



Watch Final Exam video



Matric Dance video



Matric Final Wacry

Credit: Tom Dewar (LV Hodgson)

News

SCHOOL PREFECTS

Congratulations to the inducted School and House Prefects on this significant milestone in their leadership journey.

“You are now recognised and accepted as School and House Prefects of St John’s College before the members of this School and in the sight of God, to whose grace and faithfulness we commend you as you seek to fulfil the responsibilities entrusted to you.”

We wish you wisdom, courage, and success as you serve the St John’s community with dedication and integrity.

School Prefects:

Head of School: Siza Gule
Second Prefect: Menzi Bongwe
Custos: Kamogelo Thobejane
Head of Nash: Mila Xego
Head of Hill: Owethu Sishuba
Head of Clayton: Olethinala Mgeyane
Head of Thomson: Tumelo Bopape
Head of Alston: Atlegang Seboni
Head of Clarke: Sebastian Bruinders
Head of Hodgson: Gerald van Wyk
Head of Fleming: Michael van Heerden
Head of Runge: Sean Li
Deputy Head of Runge: Morongoa Monale



Photo: Bradley Anderson (LIV Fleming)

We were pleased to announce the appointment of our new Heads of Service, each of whom plays a vital role in leading their respective teams to support the St John’s College community.

Head of Chapel: Joshua House (LV Hill)
Head of Environment: Joshua Nyakoe (LV Clarke)
Head of First Aid: Zachary Petersen (LV Clayton)
Head of PR: David Hemphill (LV Clayton)
Head of Spirit: Warona Sotia (LV Hodgson)
Head of Choir: Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke)



Photo: Josh Busa (LV Clayton)



Photo: Bradley Anderson (LIV Fleming)

Johannesburg Junior Council

Oliver Bouilliant (UIV Clake) and Litha Tuku (UIV Thomson) have been appointed as the 2025 Johannesburg Junior Councillors. We also extend our gratitude to the outgoing JJC Councillors, Siza Gule (Head of School) and Boris Dailey (LVI Runge), for their invaluable contributions to the greater community.

Considering Cambridge International A Levels?



Watch our video

St John’s Sixth Form in Johannesburg, South Africa, has produced exceptional AS and A Levels since 1972. Young men and women from all over the world join us to study through Cambridge Assessment International Education and leave with an internationally accredited qualification that opens doors worldwide.



ST JOHN’S SIXTH FORM

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

www.stjohnscollege.co.za/sixth-form  [stjohnscollegeSA](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnscollegeSA)  [stjohns_college](https://www.instagram.com/stjohns_college)

School Events

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

On Sunday, 10 November 2024, the historic Cathedral of St Mary the Virgin, the birthplace of St John's College, hosted the much-anticipated service of Nine Lessons and Carols. This annual tradition marks a significant moment in the College's musical calendar, combining scripture, poetry, reflections, and carols to unfold the profound story of humanity's separation from God and His plan for redemption through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Set against the inspiring backdrop of the Cathedral, with its deep ties to the College's foundation and South Africa's history, the service featured a spectacular musical programme. The Chapel Choir of St John's College, the Brass Ensemble, the String Ensemble, and percussionists delivered an extraordinary performance. Highlights included *Adam Lay Ybounden* by Warlock,

The Crown of Roses by Tchaikovsky, *O Thou, the Central Orb* by Wood, *Ave Maria* by Arcadelt, *Sir Christemas* by Mathias, *O Magnum Mysterium* by Pinkham, excerpts from Vivaldi's *Gloria in D*, Los Reyes from Ramirez's *Navidad Nuestra*, and *Come, Colours Rise* by McLachlan.

The Chapel Choir was conducted by Mr Cameron Upchurch, Head of Chapel Music, and by Mr Sidumo Nyamezele, Head of African Music. Mr Upchurch also provided organ accompaniment on the cathedral's magnificent instrument. The communal singing was inspiring, and the size of the congregation, the largest to date, is testimony to the value that the community places on this event. This was a magnificent showcase of our St John's College Music Department and a wonderful anticipation of the Christmas season.



SIXTH FORM VALEDICTORY AND PRIZE-GIVING

St John's Sixth Form celebrated its annual Valedictory Service and Prize-Giving on Thursday, 19 September 2024, with an evening that honoured the remarkable journey and achievements of our students.

The Memorial Chapel was filled with warmth and pride as Mr Paul Emant, Head of Sixth Form, welcomed parents, students,

staff and special guests, followed by Gregory Bradley, Head Boy, and Milla Maud, Deputy Head, sharing reflections on their time in Sixth Form.

Beautiful hymns, accompanied by Mr Cameron Upchurch on the organ, resonated through the Memorial Chapel and The Revd Fr Thapelo.



HABITS OF THE HEART IV

Habits of the Heart IV, anchored in the teachings of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, took place over four days and featured several key events. The Archbishop Tutu Memorial Mass on 3 October honoured his legacy, with The Rt Revd Brian Germond leading a service focused on Tutu's values of justice, reconciliation, and peace. The Student Forum from 4 to 5 October brought student leaders together to discuss social issues, particularly sustainability, with guest speakers addressing community engagement,

education equity, and youth empowerment. The Tutu Memorial Walk on 6 October celebrated Tutu's contributions to social justice, with participants reflecting on Ubuntu, community, and justice while visiting landmarks across Johannesburg. The conference emphasised the continued importance of Tutu's work in addressing social challenges and fostering shared humanity. The conference highlighted the importance of continuing Tutu's work by engaging with social issues and fostering a sense of shared humanity. [Read more...](#)



Upper V Speech Day And Valedictory Mass

On Thursday, 10 October, our Matric students and their parents gathered in the Memorial Chapel for their Valedictory Mass—a time for reflection, gratitude, and celebration of their journey at St John's College. The mass was presided over by The Revd Fr Matthew Wright as Celebrant, with The Revd Fr Thapelo Masemola preaching a heartfelt homily that highlighted the significance of this pivotal moment in their lives.

The Head of School, Ross Rovelli, addressed his peers and the congregation for the final time, sharing these words: "We have come here today to give thanks to God for all that we have

received and enjoyed at St John's College. For the friends who have supported us in times of laughter and sadness, for the opportunities to grow spiritually, intellectually, and socially, and for our parents who chose this school for us, enabling us to thrive in this exceptional community."

Cameron Upchurch, Organist and Head of Chapel Music delivered a stirring performance, while Sidumo Nyamezele, Head of African Music and Choral Conductor, led the congregation in magnificent song, filling the chapel with a spirit of unity and joy. [Read more...](#)



School Events

DONOR WALL UNVEILING

St John's College, founded on the generosity and vision of its community more than 125 years ago, unveiled the "Beyond 125 Donor Wall" at an elegant celebration in the Rene England Auditorium on Thursday, 17 October.

Executive Headmaster Stuart West described the beautifully crafted donor wall as a "rich tapestry" that honours not only financial contributions but also the deep sense of care and commitment from the Johannian community.

Mickey Mashego, Head of Community Engagement, highlighted how this support has transformed the lives of many young men, enabling the St John's College Academy and Centenary Scholarship programme to thrive.

A toast was raised by Shelley Roberts, Head of Advancement, to the more than 800 donors whose names now grace the wall, acknowledging their crucial role in shaping the future of St John's and creating opportunities for generations to come.

The "Beyond 125 Donor Wall" stands as a powerful reminder of the strength of community. St John's College extends its heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed and continue to contribute to this enduring legacy of generosity and opportunity. [Read more...](#)



The Bridge And Pre-Prep Survivors

St John's Pre-Preparatory recently hosted its annual Survivors Cocktail Evening, celebrating our matric and Sixth Form students who began their school journey at The Bridge and Pre-Prep. It was a truly memorable occasion, bringing together staff, parents, and, most importantly, the boys as they reminisced about cherished moments shared over the years. "The journey at St John's College is a collective one, with parents, teachers, and our young men growing together. We are in awe of how these boys have matured—time truly flies! Congratulations to them for embodying our motto, *Lux Vita Caritas*—Light, Life, and Love—throughout their time at St John's." - Mrs Jane Lane, Pre-Preparatory Headmistress.



School Events

2024 Upper V Art Exhibition: Truth And Fiction

The annual UV Visual Arts Exhibition was a glittering evening that beautifully captured the theme of *Truth and Fiction*. Giant silver balls and shimmering decor made attendees feel like they had, like Alice, stepped through the looking glass into another world where reality and imagination intertwined. Each piece of student work on display was breathtaking, the music unforgettable, and the food exquisite, turning the entire evening into a masterpiece in its own right—a testament to the immense talent of every child involved. [Read more...](#)



Academy Valedictory Service and Prize-Giving

St John's College hosted the Valedictory Service for the St John's College Academy in the Memorial Chapel on 31 October. This annual event brought 120 young men from Barnato Park and Highlands North Boys' High School and 40 Prep boys from Asteri Primary, Yeoville Boys' Primary, and Yeoville Community School to recognise and celebrate the Academy students' achievements. The ceremony began with a welcome from Mr Stuart West, Executive Head of St John's College and Lennox Phofu's (UVI Runge) reflections about his time at the Academy. He was followed Jenovic Ilunga (Academy Head Boy 2025), who, despite his youth, shared insights that resonated with students and adults alike. Ms Lucia Mukhari, Head of Prep Academy, celebrated the achievements of the Grade 7 boys. Mr Mickey Mashego, Head of Community Engagement, addressed his matric boys and offered them words of encouragement ahead of their final examinations. He also announced the Head of Academy 2025, Jenovic Lumu, and Deputy Head, Sphesihle Khubeka, which was met with admiration and applause by their peers. [Read more...](#)



UPPER V'S RITE OF PASSAGE

Our Upper Vs and Upper VIs embarked on an exciting new chapter, officially joining the Old Johannian Association! They celebrated this significant milestone with a pizza feast at The Johannian Club, surrounded by the promise of a global network of support and mentorship. Joining them was Old Johannian Karabo Radebe (Hodgson 2005), who reminded them that their St John's journey continues beyond the school gates, enriched by a worldwide community of Old Johannians and lasting camaraderie.



LEST WE FORGET

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them."*

St John's College students, staff, and Old Johannians gathered in the Memorial Chapel for our annual Remembrance Day Mass, honouring the lives and sacrifices of those who have served in wars past and present.

The haunting sounds of *"The Last Post"*, performed by Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke), filled the chapel from the choir gallery, followed by the laying of the wreath by Siza Gule (Head of School) in memory of those who gave their lives for greater peace. After a moment's silence, *"The Rouse"*, also performed by Aspoas, brought the solemn tribute to a close. [Read more...](#)



Photo: Travis Stewart (UIV Fleming)

School Events

Heritage Day Public Speaking Competition

The 7th St John's College Youth Speaking Festival took place on Saturday, 21 September, just ahead of Heritage Day.

As South Africans, we take great pride in our heritage, no matter how diverse or varied it may be. Sharing and embracing our differences

enables us to appreciate and celebrate the richness of our cultural heritage. As a world-class Christian African school, we are committed to understanding and engaging with the broader community in which we are rooted.

The youth of South Africa have

long played a pivotal role in shaping national conversations, with their voices significantly contributing to our democracy. At St John's, we encourage our boys to hone their public speaking skills and engage in debates on pressing social issues.



VICTORY BELL

Siza Gule (Head of School), along with team captains Alec Loveland (Cricket), Nkosana Sibaya (Cricket captain on the day), Nick Seale (Water Polo), and Kuda Tebeila (Basketball), had the honour of ringing the Victory Bell to celebrate the outstanding summer derby successes at Amphi on Friday 8 November. This celebration stemmed from their

exceptional performances on Saturday, 2 November, when our first teams secured victories against King Edward VII School (KES). The 1st XI Cricket team claimed a remarkable win by 59 runs, scoring an impressive 306 on a challenging pitch. The 1st Water Polo team delivered a dominant 14–5 victory, while the 1st Basketball team secured a hard-fought 64–54 win.

Not only did these three Blue Army teams achieve decisive victories, but their exemplary behaviour, sportsmanship, and humility in victory were truly commendable. In the spirit of the Victory Bell tradition—celebrating significant St John's College victories at a high level, particularly against our most traditional rivals—the occasion was marked with pride.



INSPIRING CHEMISTRY LECTURE FOR LV STUDENTS

Our Lower V Physical Sciences boys had the privilege of attending an inspiring lecture by Professor Charles de Koning, Head of the School of Chemistry at Wits University. He shared his groundbreaking research on transforming cashew nutshell waste into valuable chemical building blocks. The lecture highlighted three exciting patented projects, including

a collaboration with the WHO on novel mRNA delivery systems, the development of UV absorbers for sunscreens in partnership with a German cosmetics company, and the creation of FDA-approved cannabinoid-based drugs. This eye-opening presentation showcased innovative solutions shaping the future of science and sustainability



A Night in France: Soirée Française

The College French Department hosted yet another spectacular 'Soirée Française' on Thursday, 3 October. Our parents and students indulged in a delicious feast of French cuisine on the David Quad lawns before gathering in Big School for the evening's performances. Our talented French students captivated

their audience with exceptional renditions of works by Debussy, Chopin, Saint-Saëns, Elgar, and a few lighter pieces. The highlight of the evening was the Removes singing "Aux Champs-Élysées." This unforgettable event remains a highlight on our French calendar.



School Events

Lower IV Market Day

This year, the Lower IVs learned how to build a business as part of their Financial Literacy Perspectives Module. They began developing their business plans in June, conducting market research, exploring funding options, and planning their products and pricing. Their learning culminated in an exciting inaugural Market Day, hosted in Pelican Quad on 15 October from 14h00 to 15h00. Registered businesses rented one or two desks, set up their stalls, and prepared for the hustle. All profits were donated to the St John's College Academy programme. An enticing array of wares was available—

from food to candles, lemonade, and various sweet treats and candy. Pelican Quad was abuzz with excitement as the College community arrived, ready to shop. The LIVs celebrated their sales, reflected on their product selection, and realised that a bit of marketing might have helped create more 'hype' around their products and services. Customers commented on the impressive selection, and many wished they had brought more cash. This Market Day was the first of what will hopefully become an annual event on the Perspectives calendar. Thank you to all the students, parents, teachers, and everyone who contributed to its success.



Credit: Khotsofalu Mokoka (Remove Hodgson)



OLYMPIADS

Mathematics Olympiad

Xiaoyuan Li's Remarkable Maths Achievements
Xiaoyuan Li (LIV Alston) has enjoyed an exceptional year in mathematics. He represented South Africa at the Junior International Mathematics Competition in India, where he secured a bronze medal and also earned himself an impressive 5th place nationally in the Junior Division of the South African Maths Olympiad. These are brilliant achievements, Xiaoyuan.

Noah Jacobson and Aidan Leech Reach Top 10 in SA Mathematics Olympiad
Noah Jacobson (UVI Runge) and Aidan Leech (UV Alston) demonstrated exceptional mathematical and problem-solving skills, securing spots in the Top 10 of the Senior Division in the South African Mathematics Olympiad.

isiZulu Olympiad

The IsiZulu Department was proud to announce that our students achieved exceptional results, advancing to the final and third rounds of the prestigious IsiZulu Olympiad.

In the Remove category, three students earned a place in the Top 20 nationally: Lwazi Ngwenya (Remove Hodgson), Lukisa Shirindi (Remove Nash), and Khotsofalo Mokoka (Remove Hodgson).

In the Lower IV category, five students achieved Top 15 national rankings. Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming) secured second place nationally, while Junior Zuma (LIV Clayton) and Lwazi Ncube (LIV Hodgson) ranked in the Top 10. Zizi Kheswa (LIV Fleming) and Mihlali Tabane (LIV Hodgson) also distinguished themselves in the Top 15.

The following students received certificates of participation for their commendable performances in the third round:

Remove
Kenzo Mupalala (Remove Hodgson), Kairav Panday (Remove Alston), Suleiman Cassimjee (Remove Alston), Nuzayh Sarang (Remove Thomson) and Thandokuhle Nkosi (Remove Clarke).

Lower IV
Mekgalo Mashigo (LIV Nash), Lesego Makwane (LIV Clayton), Ginter Shakantu (LIV Hodgson), Kgosi Molapisi (LIV Hodgson), Raphael Blount (LIV Clarke), Abeku Hinson (LIV Nash), Zachariah Mtine (LIV Alston) and Siya Dlomo (LIV Clarke)

Afrikaans Olympiad
Tristan Vos (Remove Clayton) was selected to represent Gauteng in the prestigious A-T-K-V Afrikaans best speaker's competition in

August, which took place at the Klein Kariba resort. We are very proud of Tristan, who placed third in his category nationally, with a very entertaining speech. We congratulate him on this fine achievement.

Two senior students earned spots in the **Top 20 in Gauteng of A-T-K-V Senior Olympiad. Zac Erasmus (Head of Alston)**, achieved 93% and was placed third in Gauteng & fourth in SA, and **Estian Jordaan (UV Fleming)**, achieved 92% and was placed fifth in Gauteng and sixth in SA.

English Olympiad
Matthew Venter-Clelland (Custos) earned a prestigious Gold Award, placing 32nd nationally. Silver Awards were conferred to Luke Brickhill (LV Thomson), Zac Erasmus (Head of Alston), Liam Jung (UV Clarke), Grant Wensley (UV Hill), Ethan Wilcocks, (LV Hill) and Luca van Tonder (LV Clarke) for their outstanding performance.

Michaelmas Term Awards

Community Service

Half Colours
Isa Gani (LV Hill)
Olethinala Mgeyane (LV Clayton)

Drama

Half Colours
Joshua House (LV Hill)

Football

Honours
Chifunilo Chakwawa (UV Nash)
Ntsebeng Mosia (UV Hodgson)
Dominic Wrigley (UV Hill)

Colours
Leholohnolo Molwantoa (LV Hodgson)
Gerald van Wyk (Head of Hodgson)

Team Blazers
Fife Diviani (UIV Clarke)
Lwandile Khupe (UIV Hodgson)
Kwandiwe Ngcobo (UIV Hodgson)
Luzuko Zithulele (UIV Hill)
Leruo Molobi (LV Hodgson)
Kuhle Simela (LV Nash)
Mali Masekwameng (LV Fleming)

Matthew Bekker Captains Trophy
Chifunilo Chikwawa (UV Nash)

The Alexander Bekker Football Players Trophy
Dominic Wrigley (UV Hill)

Golden Eagle Awards

The Golden Eagle Awards recognise the dedication and hard work of students who engage in impactful community projects. The following students participated in the Golden Eagle project camp, contributing to various residential community initiatives, including a sports day with the students of Tumahole district, a visit to the Fezile Dabi Stadium, and volunteering in Vredefort.

Khumo Mapaya (LV Hodgson)
Alec Psillos (UIV Fleming)
Nicholas Morrell (LV Nash)
Khotsofalo Mokoka (Remove Hodgson)
Yonga Mabizela (LIV Hodgson)
Nevan Naidoo (LIV Fleming)
Luke Scott (UIV Fleming)
Luke Summerton (UIV Hodgson)
Matthew Johnston (UIV Thomson)
Raphael Blount (LIV Clarke)
Sizwe Makhubu (UIV Fleming)
Charlie Yin (UIV Clarke)
Lehakoe Matlala (UIV Nash)
Madimetja Tema (UIV Fleming)
Zhirhui Li (UIV Fleming)



Sports

BASKETBALL

The final basketball weekend of 2024 saw an eagerly anticipated derby against friendly rivals King Edward VII School on Saturday 2 November. Across 19 games, St John's teams showcased exceptional talent, with the 1st team securing a 64-54 victory. Highlights included a 48-32 win for the U15A team, while the U14A narrowly lost 26-32. Other teams, including the 4ths, U15C, and U14B-E squads, delivered commendable performances.

At the Inanda Hoops Classic Challenge (24-27 October), hosted by St David's Marist Inanda, the 1st team clinched silver after a closely contested 25-35 final against St Stithians College. Captain Kuda Tebeila (LV Hill) was named Assist Leader of the tournament, and vice-captain Yanda Peter (LV Clayton) earned a spot on the All-Star team. The U15A team showed great determination, reaching the quarterfinals but narrowly losing 51-54 to Saints, finishing 8th overall.

The U14A team triumphed at the AISJ Basketball Tournament (25-26 October), winning every game and securing the title. In a thrilling final, Leano Leepile (Remove Nash) hit a decisive 3-pointer in the last five seconds, sealing a 19-17 victory over Maru-a-Pula of Botswana.

Mpendulo Buthelezi (Remove Alston) was named MVP of the tournament.

David Tirkaso (LV Thomson) was honoured as an All-Star at the Inaugural Basket National League School Challenge on 20 October for his outstanding performance.

Earlier in the season, the 1st team impressed at the Kearsney College Stayers Basketball Tournament (27-29 September), advancing unbeaten in the group stage but narrowly losing 36-39 to ESCA Wanderers in the quarterfinals, finishing 6th overall. At the U15 Northwood School Tournament in Durban (27-28 September), the U15As demonstrated strong growth, reaching the quarterfinals before a close 31-37 loss to St David's Marist Inanda.

On 12 October, St John's travelled to St Alban's College in Pretoria for a packed day of 12 games. The 1st team narrowly lost 45-44 in a tense encounter, while the U15A and U14A teams secured impressive wins. St John's celebrated 8 victories, with the U14A and D teams achieving a clean sweep.

A remarkable end to the season, showcasing skill, teamwork, and the enduring spirit of St John's basketball.



FOOTBALL

The football season began on 16 July, with our U16A and U15 mixed teams facing the Piggott School from the UK. Both teams narrowly lost, 0-1 and 3-4, respectively. The following fixtures against St Benedict's College saw the 1st XI secure a 2-1 victory, with the U16B and U14A teams also claiming wins.

On 27 July, we faced CBC Boksburg. Despite the 1st XI taking an early lead, they ultimately lost 3-1. However, the 2nd XI put in an outstanding performance, winning 6-0, while the U15B and U14B teams also triumphed. The U16A team drew 3-3 in a thrilling match.

The team then travelled to Parktown Boys' High School on 3 August. The 1st XI bounced back with a last-minute 2-1 win. There were also victories for the 2nd XI, U16B, and U15B teams, while the U16A and U15A teams played to 1-1 draws.

The season concluded on 28 September with a match against St Alban's College. The 1st XI fought hard but lost 2-1, despite a late surge that saw the ball strike the post three times. The U16A and U15A teams drew 1-1 and 2-2, while the U14A team lost 4-0.



CRICKET

October saw an exciting and competitive summer sports season get underway. On Wednesday, 2 October, our 3rd XI, U15B, and U14B cricketers claimed victories in midweek action against St Stithians, setting the tone for an action-packed weekend ahead. On Saturday, 5 October, our First XI faced our friendly rivals at Saints, where the game went down to the wire, with the hosts clinching a nail-biting 2-wicket victory off the last ball. James Yuill (LV Hodgson) and Ethan Robinson (U1V Thomson) led the batting with impressive 60 and 73 runs, respectively. Our Second XI, competing on Mitchell Field, secured a convincing 74-run win, thanks to Aidan Barberini (LV Fleming), who scored a remarkable 135*, and Tim Hewat (LV Alston), who added 88 runs. Unfortunately, our U15A and U14A teams fell short in their fixtures. Our Michaelmas term cricket season wrapped up on Saturday, 2 November, with matches against our friendly rivals and neighbours, King Edward VII School.

The 1st XI delivered a remarkable performance, winning the toss and choosing to bat first on the John Hurry Field at KES. Nkosana Sibiyi (U1V Hill) was on top form, guiding the team to 306 runs with his impressive 153-run innings. In response, the hosts were held to 247 runs, with Malan Du Plessis (LV Alston) standing out among the bowlers, claiming 3/46 and leading the side to a 59-run victory.

Our 2nd XI fought hard on Mitchell Field but fell short by 38 runs. The U15As lost their clash on Rice Field, while the U14As were defeated by 6 wickets. A special mention goes to Jared Gilmour (Remove Thomson) for his commendable 50 runs in the U14A game.

Joe MacRobert (UV Nash) on playing his 100th game for the 1st XI Cricket team. This milestone was achieved against the CSA Invitational team at the Michaelmas Cricket Festival at Maritzburg College on Monday, 23 September. Well done, Joe!



ROWING

At the Standard Bank South African Schools' Boat Race on 6 to 7 December, St John's College rowers delivered an outstanding performance on the Kowie River, securing an impressive 3rd place and a well-earned bronze medal. In the thrilling B Final, they faced St Stithians Boys' School, improving from last year's fifth-place finish with determination and teamwork.

At the Gauteng Schools Rowing Championships held at Roodeplaat Dam, St John's rowers achieved fantastic results, finishing second overall among Gauteng boys' schools. The U16 team dominated their category, clinching first place. The senior teams also performed brilliantly, with the 1st VIII securing a bronze medal in 3rd place, while the 2nd VIII triumphed with a first-place finish in a nail-biting final. The weekend was filled with exciting moments both on and off the water, with family and friends supporting the rowers.



WATER POLO

Our Water Polo boys ended their 2024 season with a splash, winning three of the four games played against King Edward VII School on 2 November.

The first team continued its good run of form, claiming a comfortable 14-5 win over KES. The second team lost out in their match against a well-polished side. The U15As powered through with a 12-4 win, and the U14As delivered a thrilling 9-8 nail-biter to edge out their rivals.

First Team Water Polo on an impressive 3rd-place finish at the 2024 Saints Water Polo Invitational, hosted by St Stithians College from 24 to 27 October.

Our boys advanced to the knockout rounds after winning three of their four group-stage matches. Although they narrowly missed the final after a hard-fought semifinal against Kearsney College, finishing 8-7, they rallied to edge out Hilton College 6-5 in the 3rd/4th place playoff, securing a well-earned spot on the podium.

Congratulations go to our U14A Water Polo team for winning gold at the Inanda Cup, held at St David's Marist Inanda from 24 to 26 October. The team had an impressive run, drawing 5-5 with St Benedict's College Bedfordview, defeating St Alban's College 11-0, and securing a 10-2 win over Pretoria Boys High School. They went on to triumph 12-0 against Jeppe High School for Boys in the quarter-finals, followed by a close 4-3 victory over St David's in the semi-finals, and ultimately emerged victorious with a 5-1 win against Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool - Affies in the final.

A special mention to James Simpson (Remove Hill) for being named Most Valuable Player, Christopher O'Brien (Remove Fleming) for being named Goalkeeper of the Tournament, and Leo Bruinders (Remove Clarke) for being named Best Defender of the Tournament.

Our water polo teams joined St Stithians for a great day in the pool on Saturday, 5 October. The First team secured a decisive 9-6 win, with the U14A team returning a strong 10-2 result. And lastly, 4 to 6 October, our U14A and U14B basketball teams represented St John's College at the Michaelhouse Basketball Festival. The U14A team excelled, winning all six matches against strong competition from KwaZulu Natal, including victories over Michaelhouse A, Durban High School, Hilton College, Northwood School, Kearsney College, and St Charles College. The U14B team showed resilience, winning two of five games against A teams.

Our First Team Water Polo players for reaching the finals of the Clifton School Centenary Water Polo Tournament in Durban from September 26 to 29!

Our boys showed remarkable skill and determination, finishing the tournament unbeaten and securing their place in the final. They achieved impressive victories over Kearsney College and Paul Roos in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively.

The final was a thrilling contest, with the South African College High School (SACS) narrowly winning 8-7.

A special shout-out to Ross Rovelli (Head of School 2024) for being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player and to Gregory Pryce (Head of Fleming 2024) for receiving the award for Best Defender.



TENNIS

On Friday, 4 October, our senior tennis teams faced St Benedict's College. The First team narrowly lost 4-5, while the Second team achieved a dominant 8-1 victory. Unfortunately, the Thirds could not secure a win, going down 0-6.

Our First Team Tennis players participated in the Sun City Tennis Tournament and the St Anne's Diocesan School and Hilton College mixed doubles tournaments between 26 August and 11 October 2024. .

At Sun City, our young men enjoyed good wins over St Alban's College and Rondebosch Boys' High School, ultimately finishing in sixth place. The boys achieved a seventh-place finish at the St Anne's and Hilton tournament, teaming up with Roedeane for fifth place in the mixed doubles category.



Summer Sports Capping

Basketball First Team
Kuda Tebeila (LV Hill) was named the First Team Basketball Captain, and Yanda Peter (LV Clayton) was the Vice-Captain. They were joined by teammates Ama Ntubane (UIV Nash), Ahlumile Mbundu (UIV Fleming), Allan Njanfang Patu (LIV Nash), Aniel Nuttall-Mbembe (UIV Thomson), David Tirkaso (LV Thomson), Lwandle Hlongwane (LV Nash), Lesego Legoete (UIV Hill), Menzi Bongwe (LV Nash), Mila Xego (LV Nash), Ofentse Motaung (LV Clayton) and Xolisa Motlhabani (LV Thomson).

Cricket First XI Team
Alec Loveland (LV Nash) was announced as the First XI Cricket Captain and Nkosana Sibiyi (UIV Hill) his Vice Captain. Their teammates included Aiden Barberini (LV Fleming), Connor van der Walt (UIV Hill), Daniel Chemaly (LV Thomson), Darshik Lutchman (UIV Alston), Ethan Robinson (UIV Thomson), David Ireland (UIV Thomson), James Yuill (LV Hodgson), Lwazi Khupe (UIV Hodgson), Malan du Plessis (LV Alston), Michael Stubbs (UIV Alston), Nkosana Sibiyi (UIV Hill), and Tim Jewel (LV Hodgson).

Rowing First Eight
Billy Cronje (LV Clayton) was named Captain of the 1st 8 Rowing Squad, and Liam Batley (LV Clayton) Vice Captain. Their team included Liam Duvenage (LV Hodgson), James Burger (LV Alston), Jason Aspoas (LV Clarke), Willem Cronje (LV Clayton), Mikhail Sadovnik (LV Hodgson), Daniel Teeling-Smith (LV Nash), and Menzi Sokhela (UIV Thomson).

Football First Team
Chifunilo Chakwawa (UV Nash) was announced as Captain, Dominic Wrigley (UV Hill) as Vice-Captain. Fife Diviani (UIV Clarke), Luzuko Zithulele (UIV Hill), Kelebogile Molwantoa (LV Hodgson), Ntsebeng Mosia (UV Hodgson), Misha Gumede (UV Hodgson), Kwandiwe Ngcobo (UV Hodgson), Gerald Van Wyk (LV Hodgson),

Kuhle Simela (LV Nash), Lwandile Khupe (UIV Hodgson), Menzi Mdleko (LV Nash), Amahle Mbele (UV Clayton), Leruo Molobi (LV Hodgson) Mali Masekwameng (LV Fleming), Ben Westaway (LV Thomson) and Kwena Mouhtiseb (UIV Thomson)

Golf First Team
Jayden Hoskins (LV Hill) was named the First Team Golf Captain, and Luke Brooks (LV Nash) is Vice-Captain. They were joined by first-team golfers Matthew Tresling (UIV Clarke) and Scott Bray (UIV Clarke).

Tennis First Team
Enrique da Naia (LV Hodgson) and Aiden Barberini (LV Fleming) were announced as Co-Captains. Team members were Adam Peer (LIV Clayton), Azeem Peer (Remove Clayton), Faizaan Ghoor (LIV Thomson), Michael Meyer (LV Nash) and Tapiwanashe Mutetwa (LVI Runge).

Water Polo First Team Squad
Nicholas Searle (LV Hill) was named the Captain of the First Water Polo Team. He was joined by teammates Apostoli Apostoleris (UIV Hodgson), Christopher Chapman (UIV Nash), Connor Cooper (UIV Hill), Ethan Wilcocks (LV Hill), Fedor Sadovnik (LIV Hodgson), Fu-Nam Chen (UIV Fleming), Kamogelo Thobejane (Custos), Luke Shipway (UIV Hodgson), Luke Towell (LV Clayton), Michael van Heerden (Head of Fleming), Oskar Stahljans (UIV Nash), Rupert Schonborn (LIV Clarke), Peter-Phillip Zigiriadis (UIV Hodgson), Samuel Gomes (UIV Clayton), Sebastian Bruinders (Head of Clarke), and Simon Mussett (UIV Nash).

Swimming First Team
Captain Michael van Heerden (Head of Fleming), joined by Nic Searle (LV Hill), William Jones (LV Clayton), Simon Mussett (UIV Nash), Christopher Chapman (UIV Nash), and Sam Gomes (UIV Clayton).

Individual Achievements

Team Project CEO Achieves Top 10 in Africa & Asia, Top 50 Globally at HCGCC

Michael Costa (LIV Fleming), Krish Vaswani (LIV Fleming), and Ginter Shakantu (LIV Hodgson) recently competed in the prestigious Harvard Crimson Global Case Competition (HCGCC) as “Team Project CEO.”

They managed the entire project independently, from research and data analysis to business projections and video presentations. Their teamwork, resourcefulness, and skill resulted in an outstanding performance, placing them in the Top 10 in Africa and Asia and the Top 50 internationally.

U15 rugby players received awards at the Pirates Junior Rugby Club end-of-season prize-giving on Sunday, 6 October. Edward Jones (LIV Clayton) was awarded the Most Improved U15 Backline Player award, Titus Mhlongo (LIV Hodgson) walked away as the Best U15 Forward, and Glenn Greyling (LIV Clarke) was awarded the Best Overall U15 Player.

Azeem Peer Selected for Central Gauteng U15A Tennis Team

Azeem Peer (Remove Clayton) has been selected to represent the Central Gauteng U15A team at the 2025 Inter-Provincial Schools Tennis Tournament in January next year, an outstanding achievement, as he is one of only six players chosen for the team.

Kenneth Acquah to Represent South Africa at World Kurash Championships

Kenneth Acquah will travel to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, in December to represent South Africa at the IX World Kurash Championships.

Kenneth’s remarkable martial arts achievements were recognised at an end-of-season ceremony in November, where he was awarded Full District Colours, Judo South Africa Colours, and the International Participation Award.

Bonnet and Molapisi Impress at Ride Joburg

Christiaan Bonnet (UVI Runge) and Kgosi Molapisi (LIV Hodgson) showcased remarkable endurance and skill at the Virgin Active Ride Joburg Cycle Race. Christiaan completed the race in an impressive 3 hours, 37 minutes, and 13 seconds, while Kgosi powered through the 97-kilometre course in 4 hours, 12 minutes, and 4 seconds.

Our Cricketers Earn Spots in Provincial Teams

Our cricketers were selected for various provincial teams this December.

Joe MacRobert (UV Nash), Cole Francis (UV Nash) and Kago Masote (UV Nash) will represent the U19 Lions Invitation team to take on the Lions Academy and university teams. Alec Loveland (LV Nash) and Malan Du Plessis (LV Alston) will feature in the Gauteng U17 Regional side. Nkosana Sibiya (UIV Hill) will be representing the Gauteng U16A side at the National U16 week.

Joe MacRobert (UV Nash) and Nkosana Sibiya (UIV Hill) will also showcase their skills at the prestigious Khaya Majola Week, representing the CSA Invitation team.

At the U15 level, Luke Hartman (Remove Fleming), Joshua Hall (LIV Nash), Joshua Nyamaropa (LIV Fleming), and Herman Basson (LIV Hill) have all made the Gauteng Regional U15 team.

Jayden Li Prepares for National Youth Music Competition

Jayden Li (LIV Clarke), featured in the Rosebank Killarney Gazette this week, is setting the stage for success as he prepares to compete in the prestigious National Youth Music Competition in Stellenbosch this December. Guided by internationally renowned cellist and conductor Carel Henn, Jayden recently showcased a captivating solo recital, sharing his musical talent.

St John’s Water Polo Players Bring Home Gold from IPT Triumph

Our Water Polo players have made us incredibly proud with their achievements at the Schools Water Polo South African Inter-Provincial Tournament (IPT) held in East London from 7 to 11 December. The Gauteng U19A team, coached by our very own Mr Jon-Marc De Carvalho, secured a gold medal with an outstanding performance. Congratulations to Ross Rovelli, Greg Pryce, Sebastian Bruinders, and Nicolas Searle for their exceptional contributions to the team’s success.

The Gauteng U16A team also delivered a fantastic performance, winning gold with teamwork and determination. Special mentions go to Luke Shipway and Fu-Nam Chen, who played key roles in the team’s victory.

Additionally, congratulations to Chris Chapman (UIV Nash), Simon Musset (UIV Nash), and Kamogelo Thobejane (Custos), who were part of the U19B team and also played integral roles in representing their province.

Rovelli and Pryce Earn SA National Water Polo Blazers

Ross Rovelli (Head of School) and Greg Pryce (Head of Fleming), who received their South African National Blazers for Water Polo for representing South Africa at the U18 World Championships in Argentina in July.



Ross Rovelli (Head of School) and Greg Pryce (Head of Fleming)

Old Johannian News

2024 GQ Men of the Year

Congratulations to Dr Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh (Nash 2006), OJ and member of the Council of St John's, on his nomination as one of the 2024 GQ Men of the Year. As an academic, author, musician,

podcaster, and broadcaster, Sizwe is a leading voice in South African political discourse, inspiring critical thought, conscientious action, and a vision for a brighter, more equitable future.



John David Hadfield (Hill 1944)

13 May 1927 – 5 November 2024

St John's College announces with great sadness the passing of our oldest Old Johannian.

John David (Jack) Hadfield passed away early on Tuesday morning, 5 November 2024, eighty years after he had matriculated from the College.

Jack Hadfield was at school during the tough World War II years when South African society became aware of social problems in Johannesburg and the rest of the country.

After Trevor Huddleston visited St John's and addressed the boys, Jack heard the CR priest's call for help. Together with three other boys, he took over teaching at the 'Native Night School', teaching English and Mathematics. Jack Hadfield was the last surviving member of this 1940s venture, which provided education for township boys who were unable to attend school. [Read more...](#)



John Fiske Wilder (Clayton 1964)

8 November 1945 – 20 September 2024

It is with deep sadness that the sudden passing of John Wilder, an exemplary Old Johannian, is recorded. The St John's College Community has lost a stalwart advocate for the cohesion and communication of Old Johannians in the cause of a better world, particularly in the United States of America.

John entered the College in 1959 and was in Hill House until he moved to Clayton for his Sixth Form year. During that year, he was appointed a Monitor. John participated in sports and played for the Sixth Rugby team. John's Wilder was named as an individualist and original thinker by a former teacher who remembers him well. John became the founder chairman of the College Film Society, which he served for many years. He filled several roles in the annual Shakespeare plays. He also served as an assistant librarian for several years. [Read more...](#)



Staff News

Staff Farewell

The College bid farewell to valued members of staff who are moving on to new opportunities. Their hard work and dedication have made a lasting impact, and they will be missed.

We thank them for their contributions and wish them success and happiness in the future. Their presence has been appreciated by colleagues and students. We celebrate their time with us and send them off with warmest wishes.

Lené Botha - Ten years
Derik Botha - Ten years
Raymond Barrow - Five years
Thuli Mkhize - Michaelmas Term 2024
Hend Sroor (locum) - Trinity to Michaelmas Term 2024
Lesley Macintyre - Two years
Anja Gooijer (locum) - Michaelmas Term 2024
Banele Boo - Five years
Dominic Lund - Two years
Kate Lowings - Four years

Blues Coaches Selected for SA U17 Rugby Camp

Our Blues Head Coach, Mr Katleho Lynch, and Strength and Conditioning Coach, Mr Sihle Ndlovu, were selected to attend the SA U17 Rugby Camp in Cape Town from 28 November to 5 December to join some of the country's leading schoolboy rugby coaches for this enriching experience.



*St John's College—a proud
bastion against the storms
for more than 125 years.*



Photo: Rod Macdonald, HOD Physical Sciences

20TH ST JOHN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



20 TO 23 FEBRUARY 2025



◀ MORE INFO COMING SOON...

FOUR DAYS
THREE AGE GROUPS
64 TEAMS
6 COURTS
764 PLAYERS
176 GAMES



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



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