



Our Lady of Fatima
Dominican Convent School
EST. 1954

FATIMA FOCUS

The official newsletter of Our Lady of Fatima Dominican Convent School



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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I recently read an interesting fact that the Bible is still the most downloaded book on Kindle. In looking into it further, I discovered that it also appears at numbers 4, 6, 11, 16 and 18 on the list, simply because different versions of it are counted separately. It is also noted that across three of these versions, the most highlighted verse is the same, Philippians 4:6–7.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

I find that particularly meaningful as we enter exam season from Grades 7 to 12, when words like stress, nervous and anxious are used often in conversations with our girls. This final push before the long-awaited December holidays can feel heavy, and if the Kindle statistics are anything to go by, the world often feels the same way. It is important to remember though, that while anxiety and mental health challenges are more prevalent today, not all nerves are bad. Feeling butterflies before a big mathematics exam or an important waterpolo final, for example, is your body's way of preparing you, reminding you that it matters.

As we often remind our girls, reframing our mindset makes all the difference. So as we move into the busiest stretch of the term, with staff, girls and parents juggling exams, events and year-end activities, I hope you find small moments to pause, to breathe, to notice and to give thanks.

May you find peace in the fullness of this season, and may the God of all understanding guard your hearts and minds as we journey toward the year's end.

Chantal Lourens

FAITH AND FLOURISH

Finding God's Presence in Everything
Inspired by Hebrews 4:12

This week, I've been holding close the words from
Hebrews 4:12:

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper
than any two-edged sword..."

I love how this verse reminds us that God isn't
distant or silent. His Word is alive—moving,
working, and shaping our hearts each day. He is
present not just in the quiet moments of prayer,
but in our classrooms, our friendships, and even
in the challenges that test our patience and faith.
As our school begins to shift into a quieter space
with exams approaching, the hallways feel a little
more focused, a little more still. It's a time when
stress can easily take over, but also a time when
God gently invites us to pause and lean into His
presence.

God's Word cuts through the noise (and even the
silence) of our days to remind us that He is right
here—active, alive, and always working for our
good. My prayer for all of us as we close the year
is that we may find Him in the study sessions, the
exams, the laughter, and the quiet—trusting that
His living Word continues to shape us into the
women of faith we're called to be.

In love and faith
Miss Nanak

STAFF NEWS



Congratulations to Mrs. Mdolomba!
We're delighted to hear about the arrival of
her baby last week. Wishing her all the best
as she embarks on this wonderful new journey
of motherhood. May this time be filled with
love, joy, and precious moments with your
little one, Zamo.

PARENTS' CORNER

**GRADE 1
ORIENTATION DAY
1 NOVEMBER
2025
IN THE SCHOOL
HALL**

FOUNDATION PHASE

The Grade 3 girls have been learning about the Bushveld. They have finished off this theme by using what they have learnt to explore their own sense of wonder. The girls worked with a partner to create a Bushveld themed project led by their own curiosity. They have created board games, Top trumps card games, field guides, posters, storybooks and poems. They so enjoyed presenting their projects to their classmate and Mrs Beegte. .



Grade 1 - 3 girls enjoying their galas and ball skills



SENIOR PRIMARY

SENIOR PRIMARY ACADEMIC AWARDS

We congratulate the following learners on their marked academic improvement from Term 2 to Term 3.

GRADE 4

Asimbonge Qwabe

GRADE 5

Lily Cooke
Olivia de Lange
Grace de Sousa
Simrin Munsamy
Olivia Peens
Riley Marais

GRADE 6

Annie Davis
Willow Gunther
Tekoa Nyman
Jessica Reilly

GRADE 7

Courtney Becker
Sophie Campbell
Alexis Challenor
Leah de Billot
Taia Hendra
Stella Johnston
Olivia Keyter
Odelia Madurai
Torah Marais
Phumela Mbele
Lesedi Mohlafuno
Davania Naidoo
Amelie Ozoux
Mikayla Perumal
Natalie Speirs

We congratulate the following learners on achieving an aggregate of 80% or above in Term 3.

GRADE 4

Ava Blom
Lily Fouché
Daniella Govender
Sophie Grossberg
Elizabeth Hampton
Stella Harper
Mia Ludlow
Allegra Sessions

Grade 5

Hayley Bonnin
Grace de Robillard
Morgan Elliott
Rosetta Evans
Sophia Govender
Mia Govender
Joey Gregory
Isla Shaw
Mackenzie Judge
Stella Lewis
Nateya Naidoo
Nqobile Nhassengo
Rheya Pillay
Ivy Power
Leila Salmon
Elizabeth Synders
Irrim Tayob
Rachel Vermaak
Lily Walker

GRADE 6

Lara Britz
Hanna Cassim
Erin Childs
Sophie De Bufanos
Kate Hاديaris
Samara Heffer
Liya Jugath PTO
Annabel Kruger
Nyakallo Lecheko
Aarya Maharaj
Emma Morgan
Ava Shotland
Charley Springate
Dhiya Sukhraj
Emily Van Laun
Karien Van Schalkwyk
Mila Warther

GRADE 7

Alexandra Akal
Courtney Becker
Gehna Behary
Sophie Campbell
Karo Groenewald
Taia Hendra
Stella Johnston
Yueng-Tong Lien
Peyton Matthews
Layla Miller
Isabella Munsamy
Sanam Munsamy
Cara Paulus
Bianca Salmon
Madison Shaw
Natalie Speirs
Grace York

SPEECH AND DRAMA ASSOCIATION SHOWCASE

Congratulations to the following Grade 5 girls: Lily Walker, Elizabeth Snyder, Jessica Winstanley, Donna Mack and Nateya Naidoo who were selected to present their individual poems at the annual Speech and Drama Association Showcase. They participated this past Saturday at Westville Senior Primary and showcased their talents along with many other local Ethekwini schools, including boys from our brother school, DPHS.

Each girl performed confidently and thoroughly enjoyed her experience.



Smiles, skills and great hockey. Our Senior Primary girls are loving the indoor leagues this term. Fatima have also hosted a friendly gr 3 - 7 co-ed gala this term. Well done to all the swimmers and hockey players.



INDOOR HOCKEY DURBAN LEAGUE		
U10A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
DGC A	LOST	3-2
CHELSEA A	LOST	3-0
UMHLALI A	DREW	0-0
PENZANCE A	DREW	1-1
NORTHLANDS A	DREW	1-1
VIRGINIA A	LOST	1-0
U10B		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
GLENWOOD A	LOST	4-0
CHELSEA B	LOST	1-0
UMHLALI B	DREW	0-0
PENZANCE B	DREW	1-1
NORTHLANDS B	LOST	3-2
VIRGINIA B	LOST	3-2
U11A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
PENZANCE A	WON	3-0
UMHLALI A	DREW	2-2
DGC A	LOST	2-0
CHELSEA A	WON	2-0
NORTHLANDS A	WON	2-0
VIRGINIA A	WON	2-1
U11B		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
REDDAM HOUSE UMHLANGA A	WON	6-0
UMHLALI B	WON	2-1
DGC B	WON	3-0
ST HENRYS A	WON	4-0
NORTHLANDS B	WON	3-1
VIRGINIA B	LOST	1-0

U13A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
UMHLALI A	WON	1-0
GLENWOOD A	WON	10-0
DGC A	LOST	2-0
U13B		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
UMHLALI B	WON	3-2
ATHOLTON A	WON	5-0
ASHTON B	LOST	3-0
U13C		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
DGC C	WON	2-0
MARIS STELLA C	WON	3-0
ASHTON C	LOST	7-0
ST HENRYS B	WON	3-0
U13D		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
VIRGINIA D	LOST	2-0
UMHLALI D	LOST	4-0
VIRGINIA D	LOST	3-0
INDOOR HOCKEY ST MARYS LEAGUE		
U10A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
HILLCREST A	WON	1-0
WESTVILLE A	WON	1-0

U11A INDOOR		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
HILLCREST A	WON	5-0
WESTVILLE A	WON	4-0
U13A INDOOR		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
DGC A	LOST	2-0
ASHTON A	LOST	2-0
ST MARYS A	WON	4-0
DGC A	DREW	6-6

U13A MARIS STELLA INDOOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
PENZANCE	DREW	0-0
GLENWOOD	WON	1-0
NROTHLANDS	WON	1-0
ASHTON	WON	3-0
VIRGINIA	WON	1-0
MARIS STELLA	WON	5-0

U13A KZN TOP SCHOOLS WATER POLO TOURNAMENT		
U11A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
ASHTON	WON	10-0
VIRGINIA	WON	6-1
CHELSEA	LOST	4-1
REDDAM HOUSE UMHLANGA	WON	6-4
NORTHLANDS	WON	5-0
SEMI FINALS VS UMHLALI	LOST	5-1
3 RD AND 4 TH PLAYOFFS VS DGC	LOST	5-3
4 TH OVERALL OUT OF 10 SCHOOL		

NETBALL PENZANCE LEAGUE		
U11A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
ORIENT 2	WON	17-0
ORIENT 1	WON	27-6
PENZANCE 2	WON	24-4
PENZANCE 1	WON	14-9
VIRGINIA	WON	11-10
PORT NATAL	WON	25-1
U12A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
PORT NATAL	WON	15-5
ORIENT	WON	20-2
PENZANCE 2	LOST	24-4
VIRGINIA 1	LOST	13-9
GLENMORE	LOST	13-11



KZN TENNIS



Congratulations to Rosetta Evans on her selection into the U13B KZN Tennis team for 2026. Rosetta will represent KwaZulu-Natal at the Tennis South Africa (TSA) Inter-Provincial Tournament (IPT) to be held from 7–11 January. Well done Rosetta!

HORSE RIDING



Amelie Ozoux & King represented in numerous events and placed:

1st & 2nd place in in PS prelim dressage

Provincial 4th place team placing for Working Hunter 60cm PS

Savana Terreblanche & Montana represented in numerous events and placed:

3rd place individual PS showjumping 60cm

3rd place KZN provincial team 60cm showjumping

4th place KZN provincial team working Hunter 60cm



Charlotte Goble and Legend represented for Dressage, Equitation, Show jumping, Working Hunter and Working Riding.

HIGH SCHOOL

Well done to our 1st Team and 2nd team netball girls who competed in the DGC Stayers tournament over the weekend.

Well done to Langa Mabanga and Emma Schoombie who were selected into the All Stars Team (Top 10 Players)

DGC STAYERS TOURNAMENT							
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE	TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
OLOF 2	vs St Anne's 1st	Lost	11 - 12	OLOF 1	vs Danville 2 nd	Won	23 - 5
OLOF 2	vs Luthayi 1st	Lost	4 - 12	OLOF 1	vs St Mary's 1 st	Won	27 - 3
OLOF 2	vs Ashton 1st	Lost	6 - 15	OLOF 1	vs St Anne's 2 nd	Won	21 - 5
OLOF 2	vs DGHS 1st	Won	15 - 9	OLOF 1	vs TMC 1 st	Won	21 - 5
OLOF 2	vs Curro 1st	Won	13 - 11	OLOF 1	vs DGC 1 st	Won	16 - 6
OLOF 2	vs Danville 1st	Lost	2 - 17	OLOF 1	vs Luthayi (Final)	Lost	8 - 10
Finished 11 th Overall				Finished 2 nd Overall			



Well done to all of our hockey girls who went up to Thomas More to play some friendly indoor games.

FRIENDLY INDOOR MATCHES			
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Junior 1	vs TMC U16A	Won	9 - 0
Senior 1	vs TMC 1 st	Won	9 - 1
Senior 2	vs TMC 2 nd	Won	3 - 0

1ST TEAM WATER POLO

Our 1st Team Water Polo girls participated in the Reddam Bedfordview Stayers Tournament. The girls demonstrated incredible determination and true Fatima spirit throughout the weekend, finishing in 11th place overall. We are immensely proud of their effort and teamwork and look forward to seeing what they will achieve next year.

We were also encouraged to witness their support for our U14A team, as they travelled by bus to different venues to watch them play. This reflects the strong sense of sisterhood at our school, which is well-known and sets us apart.

REDDAM BEDFORDVIEW STAYERS TOURNAMENT			
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
1st Team	vs Stithian's 2 nd	Lost	5 - 7
1st Team	vs St Mary's Kloof 1 st	Won	8 - 1
1st Team	vs Steyn City	Lost	1 - 6
1st Team	vs Roedean Invitational	Lost	6 - 8
1st Team	vs Affies 1 st	Won	10 - 2
Finished 11 th Overall			

U14 WATER POLO TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

The U14A Water Polo girls delivered an exceptional performance at the Roedean U14A Tournament, winning all eight matches, including a thrilling 5-4 victory over Reddam Constantia in the final. Their triumph makes them the first Durban school to win this prestigious event. The team completed a flawless season, remaining undefeated and winning both tournaments they entered.

REDDAM BEDFORDVIEW STAYERS TOURNAMENT			
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
U14A	vs Chisipit Senior School	Won	12 - 0
U14A	vs St Cyprian's	Won	8 - 2
U14A	vs Kingsmead College	Won	8 - 2
U14A	vs Rhenish	Won	6 - 2
U14A	vs DSG	Won	8 - 1
U14A	vs St Anne's (Quarter Final)	Won	10 - 4
U14A	vs DGC (Semi Final)	Won	11 - 4
U14A	vs Reddam Constansia (Final)	Won	5 - 4
Finished 1 st Overall!			



KARATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Last weekend, Jenna-Lee Atkinson represented KZN at the KSA League 2 All Styles Karate Championship in Johannesburg, winning three gold medals (Individual Kata, Team Kumite, and Team/Unison Kata) and one silver (Individual Kumite).

We're incredibly proud to announce that Jenna-Lee has been selected for the SASCOC team to represent South Africa at the 4th African Youth Games in Angola this December.

HIGH SCHOOL

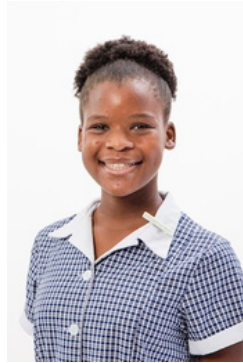
Congratulations to the following girls who made the KZN Indoor Hockey Teams for 2025!



Olivia Barrett
KZN U14A



Shriya Nadrajah
KZN U14A



Gaby Mkize
KZN U14A



Sienna Pema
KZN U14B



Chloe Reeves
KZN U14B



Charly-Rose Boyall
KZN U16A



Zoey Seppings
KZN U16A



Becca Short
KZN U16B



Gabi Howarth
KZN U18A



Mia Lopes
KZN U18B



Angelina Hall
KZN U18B

Congratulations to the following girls who made the KZN Action Netball Teams for 2026!



Mhlali Tshobisa
KZN U14



Isabella Kitching
KZN U15



Mika Gouws
KZN U16



Alexis Ahearne
KZN U16 & U19



Nikita Parsons
KZN U16 & U19



Zoey Quigley
KZN U17



Chloe Geldenhuys
KZN U19

CULTURAL

KZN YOUNG PERFORMERS' CONCERT

We are so proud of our Grade 7 learner, Sophia (Yiling) Lyu for playing in the KZN Young Performers' Concert at the Playhouse this weekend. Performing alongside the cream of KZN's music and vocal students, supported by the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra, Sophia played a movement of a piano concerto. She was one of the youngest performers on stage and played with both passion and poise. A bright future ahead!



OUR LADY OF FATIMA DANCERS SHINE IN COMPETITIONS

Our Fatima dancers achieved outstanding results at recent regional and national competitions, with some preparing to perform internationally next year.

Cailee Adams won two bronze, two silver, and two gold awards at the South African Championships of Performing Arts and was selected to represent South Africa at the World Championships in Los Angeles.

At the Move regional and national competitions in Cape Town:

Erin Baird earned top placements in ballet and contemporary groups and qualified to dance at Disney World, USA.

Amber Barkus achieved two second places for hip hop trios.

Eva Barkus placed second for her contemporary solo.

Rafaela Roche won first place for her contemporary solo.

Sarah Smith earned multiple first and second places across ballet and contemporary categories and also qualified for Disney World, USA.



HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC CAFE

Our high school quad was transformed into a charming piazza for this term's Music Café. Our budding musicians showcased their incredible talent, passion, and creativity, captivating everyone with their performances. From vocals to vibrant instrumentals, each act reminded us of the remarkable talent within our school.



FATIMA FAMILIES



Growing MINDS • Growing FAITH • Growing HEART • Growing FAMILY

CHATTING FOR CHARITY

Last Friday, we held Chatting for Charity, an inspiring impromptu speaking event where girls showcased their quick thinking and shared empowering stories. The evening was filled with laughter and meaningful conversations, raising funds to provide school uniforms and shoes for the children of St Martin's Diocesan Home—a true reminder that great conversation can create real change.



MATRIC VISUAL ART

This year, the IEB presented Matric Visual Art students with the engaging theme of "Secrets and Surprises." Our Matrics explored, experimented, and developed their own interpretations of this theme. Their work addressed various aspects, including censorship, the decolonial displacement of art, the creation of imaginary worlds, and more personal themes such as choices in life partners and the inherited traits that come with their secrets and surprises.

Congratulations to our Matrics and Mrs Smith for a very successful exhibition



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