



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 about two alumni of girls' schools who were honoured with Nobel Prizes, a reminder of the lifelong impact of environments that nurture curiosity, confidence, and persistence.

Carolyn R. Bertozzi, an alumna of Dana Hall School in Massachusetts, received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for her groundbreaking work in biorthogonal chemistry, research that has transformed how scientists' study and treat diseases. Dr. Katalin Karikó, a graduate of St. Mary's Academy in Hungary, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for her pioneering contributions to mRNA technology, the foundation of the COVID-19 vaccines that saved millions of lives.

Both women began their journeys in all-girls learning environments that believed in the potential of young women, schools that encouraged them to ask questions, take risks, and persist when answers didn't come easily. Their stories affirm the truth that when girls are empowered to think boldly and believe in their own voices, they can and do change the world.

For me, reading of these ladies' achievements was a reminder that the lessons our girls learn here, resilience, compassion, intellectual curiosity, and service, are the same qualities that carry women into leadership and discovery across the world. Each girl in our classrooms today holds the potential to shape the future, whether through science, the arts, innovation, or community.

I hope these Nobel laureates remind our Fatima family that greatness begins in places just like ours, classrooms filled with questions, teachers who believe, and girls who dare to dream. May today's Fatima girls be tomorrow's global innovators.

C.Lourens

FAITH AND FLOURISH

Dancing with David

During this exam season, something truly special happened in assembly on Friday — thanks to our head of high school and her executive body, who initiated it, we saw so many of you dancing before your exams! It was such a joyful sight, and it reminded me of the promise that one day, in heaven, we will dance with David in God's presence (Psalm 149:3):

"Let them praise his name with dancing "
Even in the busiest, most stressful moments — like exams — we can still find joy and lift our hearts to God. Seeing you all move, laugh, and celebrate reminded me that our school is not just a place of learning, but a place that nurtures our hearts too. God calls us to rejoice always, and to trust that His love surrounds us, even in challenging times. So as you study, pray, and take your exams, remember to carry that joy with you. Dance in His presence, even in small ways, and let His peace and strength fill your heart.

We are blessed to be part of a community where faith, joy, and learning meet. challenge this week - find time to dance in His presence with your family & friends

Miss Nanak

STAFF NEWS



We would like to congratulate Mrs. Robberts, who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl last week. We wish her all the best as she embarks on this wonderful journey of motherhood.

PARENTS' CORNER



It was a perfect day to "percolate and ponder" during our termly information event for our primary school. Mrs Fuller, our dedicated learner support teacher who specialises in dyslexia, shared both the challenges and advantages of navigating the education system with learners who have different needs. Thank you to the parents who joined us and to Mrs Fuller for educating us on this vitally important subject.

FOUNDATION PHASE

GRADE 3 EXCURSION TO WESSA TREASURE BEACH

Our Grade 3 girls could not have asked for a better day. The cool weather and stunning Supermoon created the lowest tide we've ever experienced, making it perfect for exploring the rocky shore. The girls discovered a fantastic variety of sea life, including sea cucumbers, fish, crabs, sea urchins, and snails. Afterwards, they got creative and made their own mini sea creatures using playdough! It was a day filled with learning, laughter, and adventure.

Grade 3 Excursion WESSA Treasure Beach



GRADE ONE EXCURSION TO USHAKA MARINE WORLD

Our Grade 1 girls had an exciting and educational outing to uShaka Marine World. They enjoyed a puppet show on sea conservation, explored marine life through a hands-on fish dissection and a fascinating dirty water experiment. The aquarium tour was captivating, but the undeniable highlight of the day was the incredible dolphin show, which left everyone smiling and inspired to care for our oceans.



SWIMMING GALA

Grade 1 to 3 girls taking part in three different galas. Well done to all our girls for braving the rain and swimming so beautifully



ALL SAINTS DAY

We celebrate the Feast of All Saints. To honour this special occasion on Friday the 31st of October our Foundation Phase girls dressed as saints. From St Francis of Assisi to St Mary, and Mother Teresa to St Carlo Acutis, "God's Influencer."

Our Grade 3 girls celebrated the occasion by creating beautiful rosaries to recognise the Month of the Rosary.



SENIOR PRIMARY

GRADE 6 GET GORY!

As part of our study of the History of Medicine, the Grade 6 girls rolled up their sleeves and got creative by crafting realistic “fake wounds” using everyday materials. The activity brought to life the challenges faced by early doctors and nurses, helping the girls understand just how far medical treatment has come.



GRADE 6 AND 7 SACCE ASSESSMENT

Our Grade 6 and 7 girls recently participated in an assessment conducted by the South African Council for English Education (SACEE). SACEE is dedicated to promoting the English language, encouraging education through English, and improving the standards of both written and spoken English in South Africa. We would like to congratulate the top five girls in each grade who achieved scores of 90% or higher.



NIPPERS

Fatima girls from Durban Surf who took part in the first Comp of the season. The club (Durban Surf) Strongly represented by Fatima won the inter-club carnival by far.

U9 GIRLS				
	RUN SWIM RUN	BEACH FLAGS	SURF SWIM	BODY BOARD
INDIGO GUNTHER	2 ND	1 ST	2 ND	1 ST
KIRA GOVENDER	4 TH	12 TH	5 TH	5 TH
AMY HERSELMAN	5 TH	11 TH	6 TH	
U10 GIRLS				
	RUN SWIM RUN	BEACH FLAGS	SURF SWIM	BODY BOARD
RUBY KITTO	2 ND	3 RD	2 ND	2 ND
RUBY MENDONIDIS		6 TH		14 TH
NAYOMI HANSJEE	11 TH	19 TH	12 TH	11 TH
KYLA MASSEY		14 TH		14 TH
GABRELA CHEDZEY		22 ND		13 TH
U11 GIRLS				
	RUN SWIM RUN	SPRINT	SURF SWIM	BOARD RACE
HARRIS GUNTHER	2 ND	3 RD	2 ND	1 ST
JOANNA HERSELMAN	9 TH	7 TH	9 TH	
HAYLA STAEBE	3 RD		4 TH	
U12 GIRLS				
	RUN SWIM RUN	SPRINT	SURF SWIM	BOARD RACE
BROOKE GREENWOOD	7 TH	7 TH	10 TH	
CHARLEY SPRINGATE			8 TH	5 TH
U13 GIRLS				
	IRON NIPPER	SURF SWIM	BOARD RACE	U14 BEACH FLAG
WILLOW GUNTHER	2 ND	6 TH	2 ND	4 TH
MAREILLE STAEBE	4 TH	5 TH	7 TH	8 TH



SP INDOOR HOCKEY DURBAN LEAGUE**U13A**

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
CHELSEA	DREW	1-1

U13B

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
VIRGINIA B	WON	1-0
DGC B	WON	6-0

SP INDOOR HOCKEY ST MARYS LEAGUE**U10A**

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST MARYS A	LOST	2-1
DGC A	LOST	3-1
ST MARYS A	LOST	2-0
WINSTON PARK A	LOST	1-0
HILLCREST A	LOST	1-0

U10B

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST MARYS A	DREW	0-0
DGC A	DREW	1-1
ST MARYS A	WON	2-1
WINSTON PARK A	WON	4-0
HILLCREST A	WON	6-0

U13A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST MARYS A	WON	4-0
DGC A	DREW	6-6
WINSTON PARK A	WON	6-1
WESTVILLE A	WON	5-0

SP WATER POLO RESULTS

U11A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DGC A	LOST	1-0
ASHTON A	WON	2-1
ST MARYS A	LOST	2-0
NORTHLANDS A	WON	4-1
ST MARYS B	WON	5-1
ST MARYS A	LOST	3-1
UMHLALI A	LOST	6-1
THOMA MORE COLLEGE A	LOST	5-3
DGC A	LOST	6-2

U11B

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
UMHLALI B	LOST	7-0
ST MARYS B	LOST	4-1
DGC B	LOST	3-0
REDDAM HOUSE UMHLANGA A	WON	4-3
UMHLALI A	LOST	11-0
ST MARYS A	LOST	6-0
UMHLALI U10	LOST	4-0
ST MARYS B	LOST	5-0
ST MARYS U10	WON	4-3

U13A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DGC A	LOST	3-1
ASHTON A	WON	3-0
ST MARYS A	WON	3-2

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS PENZANCE NETBALL TOURNAMENT

U11A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DURBAN NORTH COLLEGE	WON	33-0
VIRGINIA (1 ST AND 2 ND PLAYOFFS)	WON	6-7

PLACING OUR TEAM 1ST OVERALL

A SPECIAL MENTION GOES TO ROSETTA EVANS WHO WON MOST PROMISING PLAYER

U12A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
PENZANCE A	LOST	17-3
TBD	WON	23-4

PLACING OUR TEAM 5TH OVERALL



CULTURAL

RAISE THE ROOF FUNDRAISER

"Let's Raise The Roof" campaign from the Beats & Blankets music event in March came to fruition. All funds raised went towards the Domino Foundation's building project for the Baby Home's roof. The 2025 Band Captains, Krisha Reddy and Havaria Pillay, attended the Roof Wetting celebrations today.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to Ava Blom, Olivia Clayton, Gianna Farinha, Jemma Reilly, Jenna lee Atkinson and Reese Van Vreden who recently made their First Holy Communion. This sacrament is a significant milestone in their faith journey, and we celebrate their commitment with joy and pride. We pray that they continue to grow in faith, grace and love.

