



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

A Year of Arising & Shining

As we draw this year to a close, I find myself grateful for the way our girls and staff have embraced Isaiah 61, to ARISE & SHINE, wherever they find themselves. When I reflect on 2025 this for me are the parts of our story:

S — Sisters

Fatima is known as “the school of sisters,” and this year has shown exactly why. Our girls have continued to form bonds grounded in genuine care, welcoming, supporting, and celebrating one another with an instinctive sense of belonging. The sisterhood has been alive in every corner of our campus.

H — Hallways

With a fourth Grade 8 class joining us for the first time and a significant increase in our primary school numbers, our hallways have been busier than ever and fuller, louder, livelier. And yet, despite the increased numbers, every girl has remained known, seen, and valued. The sea of blue has widened, but our family spirit has only grown deeper.

I — Ice Cream

Freddo ice creams have once again become the unofficial symbol of Fatima life. From cross country, athletics and galas to sleepovers and bonding nights, these simple moments of shared joy have knitted our girls together. Ice cream may be small, but the memories it attaches to it are significant.

N — Devotion

I cannot reflect on this year without recognising the depth of our devotion. Our spiritual life, from Masses to Wellness Wednesdays and Thoughtful Thursdays, worship nights, gratitude journaling, and whole-school gatherings, has remained a source of strength. The sincerity of our girls' faith continues to humble me.

E — Early Mornings

Fatima days begin before sunrise. Whether on the astro, in rehearsals, at leadership duties, or in early lessons, our girls continue to show unwavering commitment. These mornings set the tone for purposeful, joy-filled days that often end long after the final bell, a testament to their passion and heart.

As we look back, I am proud of the school we are becoming. And as we look ahead, may we continue to carry our light, into the holidays, into the new year, and into every space where God calls us next.

Arise, and continue to shine Fatima. You have done us proud!

Growing MINDS • Growing FAITH • Growing HEART • Growing FAMILY

FAITH AND FLOURISH

Let your light shine

As we come to the end of another busy year, we are invited once more into the quiet beauty of Christmas. In the middle of all the rushing, planning, and preparing, the Lord gently whispers the same message He spoke on that first holy night: "Do not be afraid." Into a world that was tired and waiting, He came as Light - small, steady, and full of promise.

This season reminds us that God often works not through noise, but through stillness. Rest is not a pause from holiness; it is a place where holiness grows. When we slow down, even for a moment, we give God room to speak, to comfort, and to renew. And after a year of learning, striving, stretching, and becoming, how deeply we need that renewal.

Christmas calls each of us to remember that the light Christ gives is meant to be shared. Your kindness, your courage, your compassion - these are reflections of His Light in our school, in your families, and in your friendships.

So as we enter this sacred season, may you find rest for your heart, peace for your spirit, and joy that runs deeper than the busyness around you. Let Christ shine in you and through you -because the world needs the light you carry.

May your Christmas be blessed and your new year filled with grace.

And remember to let His light shine through you
love and faith
Miss Nanak

STAFF NEWS



We warmly bid farewell to Ms Smith and Ms Stannard as they retire from teaching at our school. We thank them for their dedication and wish them a peaceful, and joyful retirement.

PARENTS' CORNER



Our Parents Committee marked a successful year with a Christmas breakfast. Thank you to all the parents on this committee, we truly appreciate your unwavering commitment and service to our school.

FOUNDATION PHASE



NIPPERS

U9: Indigo Gunther placed 3rd in the Surf Swim, 2nd in Body Board, 1st in Soft Mali, and 1st in the Beach Sprint. Kira Govender finished 6th in the Surf Swim. Amy Herselman placed 9th in the Surf Swim, 6th in Body Board, 4th in Soft Mali, and 8th in the Beach Sprints.

U10: Ruby Kitto placed 2nd in the Run Swim Run and 2nd in Body Board. Ruby Mendonidis finished 4th in the Beach Sprints. Nayomi Hansjee placed 12th in the Run Swim Run and 13th in Body Board. Kyla Massey finished 11th in the Run Swim Run.

GRADE 1 - 3 SWIMMING

Our Grade 1–3 girls have been participating in various galas this term and have performed exceptionally well, showing fantastic progress and confidence. Their hard work, determination, and team spirit have truly shone through. Well done, girls!



KZN ATHLETICS

A huge congratulations to Grade 1 Ashleigh Muchauraya for making the provincial athletics team! Ashleigh competed in two events leading up to her selection, winning gold in both, and will now be representing in the U7 age group in the 60m and 80m sprints. Well done, Ashleigh!



Grade 1 girls ended off the year with a Fairy Day to celebrate. There was a fairy scavenger hunt, craft activity, bingo and treats to share. We are very proud of how our little girls have grown this year.



SENIOR PRIMARY

Our Senior Primary celebrated excellence, effort and growth across academics, sport and culture. From top achievers to those who reached personal bests, showed grit, or discovered new strengths along the way, we are immensely proud of every girl who stood tall on stage and every girl who worked hard day by day.

Congratulations to all our award recipients!

Your dedication, talent and spirit continue to make Fatima shine.



Our Grade 6 girls allocate part of the funds raised during their Market Days to charity. This year, they provided treats for Canaan Crèche in Quarry Heights for their Christmas celebration.



SP INDOOR HOCKEY ST MARYS LEAGUE

U10A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DGC	LOST	3-0
ST MARYS	LOST	1-0

U11A

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DGC	WON	2-0
ST MARYS	WON	2-1

U12A VIRGINIA INDOOR HOCKEY FESTIVAL

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
NORTHLANDS	LOST	1-0
DGC	WON	1-0
CHELSEA	LOST	1-0
VIRGINIA	LOST	1-0
ASHTON	LOST	4-0

Madison Wallis won the 'RISING STAR' award

U13A VIRGINIA INDOOR HOCKEY FESTIVAL

TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
VIRGINIA	LOST	3-1
NORTHLANDS	WON	4-0
UMHLALI	WON	5-0
ST MARYS	WON	4-0
SEMI-FINAL VS ASHTON	WON	1-0
FINALS VS DGC	WON	3-2

PLACING THEM 1ST OVERALL



INTER HOUSE INDOOR HOCKEY RESULTS			
U10			
TEAM	TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST PATRICKS	ST ANTHONYS	ST ANTHONYS	1-0
ST ANTHONYS	ST STEPHENS	ST STEPHENS	1-0
ST PATRICKS	ST STEPHENS	DREW	0-0

INTER HOUSE INDOOR HOCKEY RESULTS			
U11			
TEAM	TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST PATRICKS	ST ANTHONYS	DREW	1-1
ST ANTHONYS	ST STEPHENS	ST STEPHENS	3-2
ST PATRICKS	ST STEPHENS	ST PATRICKS	2-1

INTER HOUSE INDOOR HOCKEY RESULTS			
U13			
TEAM	TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST PATRICKS	ST ANTHONYS	ST PATRICKS	1-0
ST ANTHONYS	ST STEPHENS	ST STEPHENS	2-0
ST PATRICKS	ST STEPHENS	ST STEPHENS	3-1

SP WATER POLO LEAGUE		
U11A		
TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ASHTON A	DREW	4-4
UMHLALI A	LOST	6-0
DGC A	LOST	6-3
U11B		
TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
UMHLALI B	LOST	6-1
THOMAS MORE B	WON	5-1
ST MARYS B	LOST	6-1
DGC B	LOST	3-2

SP WATER POLO LEAGUE		
U13A		
TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
DGC	WON	5-1
CHELSEA	LOST	3-1
NORTHLANDS	WON	5-1
VIRGINIA	WON	5-0

INTER HOUSE WATER POLO RESULTS			
U10 & U11			
TEAM	TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST PATRICKS	ST ANTHONYS	DREW	2-2
ST ANTHONYS	ST STEPHENS	DREW	4-4
ST PATRICKS	ST STEPHENS	ST PATRICKS WON	3-1

INTER HOUSE WATER POLO RESULTS			
U13			
TEAM	TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
ST ANTHONYS	ST STEPHENS	DREW	1-1
ST ANTHONYS	ST PATRICKS	ST PATRICKS WON	3-2
ST PATRICKS	ST STEPHENS	ST PATRICKS WON	4-2

U13A DGC WATER POLO TOURNAMENT		
TEAM	RESULT	SCORE
INVITATIONAL	WON	5-2
ST MARYS KLOOF	WON	5-0
REDDAM BEDFORDVIEW	LOST	7-3
VIRGINIA	WON	8-1
KINGSMEAD	WON	2-1
CHELSEA	LOST	3-2
ROEDEAN	WON	4-1
PLACING THE TEAM 5 TH OVERALL		





TENNIS

KZN Tennis held a capping ceremony in PMB for the KZN U13, Uand U19 tennis teams going to IPT in January 2026 to represent KZN. Congratulations to Rosetta Evans who has made the U13B KZN Tennis team.



DANCE



Elizabeth Roberts; Tekoa Nyman and Cara Paulus auditioned for the KZN dance academy on Sunday 23 November and were selected by the adjudicators for admission as aspirants to the KZN Dance Academy in 2026.

END OF THE YEAR FUN ACTIVITIES

As the term ends, our Grade 4 to 6 ladies celebrated a successful year with various fun-filled activities. It was the perfect way to acknowledge and celebrate a year of growth and accomplishment.



HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC AWARDS

We celebrated our high school students' achievements and personal growth in academics, sport and culture, recognising both top achievers and those who showed resilience and improvement. Congratulations to all award recipients whose hard work continues to make Fatima proud.



TOP IN GRADE 8



TOP IN GRADE 9



TOP IN GRADE 10



TOP IN GRADE 11



Bridget Haynes Ten Brink Memorial

We wish all our sportswomen representing KZN and South Africa the very best for their upcoming competitions during these holidays!



Sasyka Kistnamani - SA Swimming
African Youth Games



Jenna-Lee Atkinson - SA Karate
African Youth Games



Amy Rose George, Almoné Bosch, Nomthandazo Madela - SA Gymnastics
Region 5 Gymnastics Competition



Kayla Driver - KZN U19 Cricket
Cricket IPT Week



Stella Fourie and Alexis Hewitt - Athletics
SALGA Games

CULTURAL

The Fatima Music Department hosted two nights of Soirées last week. Sitting beneath the stars with twinkling café lights (and idyllic weather), parents and family members were treated to our budding musicians in the Primary School; the FP and SP Christmas Soirées on Wednesday and Thursday nights respectively. Hearts were filled and souls were healed as the girls played or sang, sharing their musical journeys with us. What privilege, what joy - what a blessing they were to us all.



DEBATE

Below are representative from the Senior debating team who attended a workshop with other schools. Here they learnt tips and skills that will aid them in the upcoming Pan African debating League.



AUSTEN DAY

The Grade 10 English Department celebrated Austen Day on Monday, 24 November. The girls were invited to step into the elegance of the Regency era. They arrived in period attire and enjoyed a delightful high tea, lively dancing, a themed quiz, and other Jane Austen-inspired activities to enrich their study of the novel *Pride and Prejudice*.



OUTREACH

Our High School ladies spent a morning involved in outreach projects. The Grade 8s brought joy and support to the little ones at Amaoti Crèche, the Grade 9s and 10s lent a helping hand at Osizweni Primary School, and the Grade 11s shared care and compassion with the residents of Nazareth House.

It was beautiful to witness their eagerness to serve, which reflects the very heart of our school.



INTER-CLASS SINGING COMPETITION

