



FATIMA FOCUS

The official newsletter of Our Lady of Fatima Dominican Convent School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It has been lovely to welcome back our girls to another year here at Fatima. The cheerful, vibey atmosphere created by our prefects and mentors on Wednesday morning continued to reverberate through the hallways and classrooms for the rest of the week as we settled back into the routines and rhythms of a school day. I am hopeful that, as parents, we are all finding our feet again too with the making of school lunches, organising calendars filled with the varied activities our girls participate in, and setting alarms once more for early morning wake-ups.

There is something deeply grounding about returning to routine. Research consistently shows that predictable daily structures support emotional regulation, reduce anxiety, and improve focus and academic engagement in children and adolescents. Clear routines provide a sense of safety and stability, allowing young people to approach challenges with greater confidence and resilience. As families re-establish regular sleep patterns, homework times, sport practices, and co-curricular commitments, these repeated rhythms quietly nurture wellbeing and create the conditions for growth.

As we move into the year ahead, our theme COURAGE, FORWARD invites us to step into each day with faith and confidence. In Joshua 1:9 we are reminded: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Courage is not always found in grand gestures; often it is revealed in steady perseverance, in choosing faith over fear, and in taking the next right step even when the way ahead feels uncertain. As a Fatima family, we walk this year trusting that God goes before us, walks beside us, and holds us firmly, and so, with courage, we move forward together.

C.Lourens

FAITH AND FLOURISH

The Fragrance of the Cross

In the Gospel of John, Mary anoints the feet of Jesus with costly perfume, and we are told that “the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.” It is a tender moment of love and worship, but it also reveals something deeper about how intentional our God is. In Jewish tradition, anointing was a sign of welcome and honour — and the oil Mary uses, pure nard, was extravagantly costly, often reserved for kings.

John tells us this happens six days before Passover, just before Jesus begins His journey to the cross. Long before suffering begins, God ensures His Son is anointed and marked as King. As Jesus walked toward betrayal and death, He carried with Him the fragrance of that anointing.

Everyone He encountered — the broken, the fearful, even the soldiers — would be met with the scent of the Chosen One. God does the same for us and for our daughters. We are not sent into the challenges of life unmarked or alone. The crosses we carry may stretch us, but they also remind us that we are chosen, strengthened, and deeply loved. As Scripture tells us, “We are the aroma of Christ to God” (2 Corinthians 2:15). May we carry that fragrance with courage and faith into all that lies ahead this year.

Love and faith,

Miss T. Nanak

STAFF NEWS



Our staff were buzzing with excitement to start the new year, embracing the theme and looking forward to the journey ahead seeing the year through rose-coloured glasses!

PARENT'S CORNER

**PTA (Parent Teacher Association) AGM
Monday 2 February 2026.
Invitation extended to all parents.**

FOUNDATION PHASE

Our new **Grade One** stars are ready to shine! With big smiles, bright eyes, and proud families by their side, our students snapped their first school photo of the year capturing excitement, love, and a whole lot of first-day magic.



SENIOR PRIMARY

GRADE 7 LEADERSHIP FOR 2026

We were delighted to announce our Grade 7 leadership roles this morning. It was a special moment as we celebrated each girl's willingness to step forward into leadership.



Our Grade 7s had a fantastic bonding session early last week! Working in teams with their Matric mentors, the girls tackled fun and challenging activities that encouraged communication, self-discovery, and connection.

A wonderful start to building friendships and teamwork.



HIGH SCHOOL

2025 MATRIC RESULTS

Class of 2025, we are so proud of you!

We wish you every success as you make your mark on the world

GRADE
1-12

Our Lady of Fatima
DOMINICAN CONVENT SCHOOL | Est 1954

We celebrate the success of the
CLASS of 2025

66 FULL-TIME CANDIDATES
2025 Independent Examinations Board (IEB) National Senior Certificate

- 100% Matric Pass
- 100% Bachelor's Degree Pass
- 28 A aggregates
- 26 B aggregates
- 200 subject As
- Group average of 76,46%

Giselle Gould
9 distinctions

Danielle Newmarch
9 distinctions
Top 1% in Geography

Reese Beart
7 distinctions

Chloe Olivier
7 distinctions

Cheyenne van Kerken
7 distinctions

**Emily Hughes,
Caitlin Elton &
Amy Coward**
Top 1% in
Mathematical
Literacy

We are guided by the four pillars of the Dominican way of life
STUDY • PRAYER • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

INDEPENDENT GIRLS CATHOLIC-CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL
155 Kenneth Kaunda/Northway Durban North • www.fatima.co.za

VERITAS



Congratulation to Riddhi Dayaram Last year, she was one of the Grade 11s that wrote the IEB Mathematics IBT examination, which is written voluntarily. Riddhi's result of 92,5% put her in the top 1% of Grade 11 learners who wrote the examination in the entire country.

INDOOR HOCKEY MATCHES

TEAM	OPPONENT	SCORE	RESULT
U14A	vs Ashton vs Reddam	5 - 2 17 - 0	Won Won
U14B	vs St Mary's vs Ashton	1 - 1 7 - 0	Drew Won
U14C	vs TMC vs St Mary's U16C	1 - 1 1 - 4	Drew Lost
U16A	vs Ashton vs Reddam	4 - 0 6 - 0	Won Won
U16B	vs St Mary's vs Ashton	2 - 3 2 - 2	Lost Drew
U16C	vs TMC vs St Mary's U16C	13 - 0 3 - 4	Won Lost
1 st Team	vs Ashton vs Reddam	5 - 1 7 - 0	Won Won
2 nd Team	vs St Mary's vs Ashton	3 - 3 1 - 1	Drew Drew
3 rd Team	vs TMC vs Danville	3 - 2 7 - 0	Won Won



CRICKET



Well done to Kayla Driver, who at 16 years old, was selected for the KZN U19 Dolphins Girls Cricket team.

She competed at the CSA National Week which was held in Potchefstroom over the December holidays.

Her Team played exceptionally well winning their gold in their division

Kayla was the KZN U19 Dolphins top run scorer in the T20 format during the Tournament.

HOCKEY

We are incredibly proud of our Fatima girls who were selected for PSI teams over the December holidays. Their performances were outstanding, and their results speak for themselves:

- U13A Panthers: Lexi Weller & Camryn Howarth – Finished 2nd overall
- U13B Tigers: Courtney Becker, Aimee Kingsley, Sophie Campbell, Karo Groenewald, and Mr Smith (Coach) – Finished 1st overall
- U14A Panthers: Sienna Pema, Shriya Nadrajah, Layla-Grace Hibbertt, Sophia Da Costa & Olivia Barrett – Finished 1st overall
- U14B Tigers: Olivia Reuning – Finished 1st overall
- U16A Panthers: Becca Short & Zoey Seppings – Finished 7th overall
- U16B Tigers: Zoey Quigley – Finished 1st overall
- U18A Panthers: Gabi Howarth and Mr Smith (Coach) – Finished 1st overall

A further congratulation to Sophia Da Costa and Sienna Pema who were selected in the Africa All Stars team!



NEWS

With big smiles and happy hearts, the Grade 1s and Grade 8s rang the school bell, celebrating the beginning of their wonderful journey at Fatima!

