



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

We intentionally discuss and reinforce our school's culture with both our staff and our girls. We remain conscious of who we are becoming as a community as our girl's journey through school. It is a message we return to often - while accolades are memorable and always a delight to receive, the character built through weeks of full academic, humanities and sporting commitments will always matter more. Over these past few weeks, within a demanding school schedule, I have witnessed moments of character that have made me pause and reflect on how true it is that our students can teach us too.

It began with our High School D&D swimmers. Having previously enjoyed a seven-year winning streak at this event, and this year, being the top placed KZN school at the National Aquatics Gala and winning the KZN Regional Gala, placed second at an exceptionally tight D&D gala, Yet they showed that success isn't always about the win. This was not an easy loss for our girls to accept and yet, when first place was announced, my eyes filled with tears as our girls automatically, without prompting from their coaches, stood to applaud the winners.

I was equally proud of our U14 netball girls who had secured a place in the gold final against the only team they had lost to during the season, and that loss had been significant. Watching these girls arrive early and stay much later for practices leading up to that final, even adding extra sessions of their own initiative, made them winners to me before they had even stepped onto the court. Then came one of the most thrilling finals I have watched with a 14 -13 loss, with the ball in our hands in the final seconds. They played with courage, grit and determination. For me, there were no losers on that court.

In our Primary School, girls navigated an incredibly busy Humanities week. For some, it was their first time performing in front of a large audience. The nerves were visible and some openly shared that they did not believe they could do it. Yet they showed up. They sang their hearts out, performed their poetry, and shone, even when it was frightening.

These are the moments that matter. These are the moments where character is formed and neural pathways are strengthened that say, "I can do hard things." The past weeks have reminded me that our girls carry this strength in abundance. And never has the phrase rung truer, we are truly BLESSED IN BLUE.

Chantal Lourens

Growing MINDS • Growing FAITH • Growing HEART • Growing FAMILY

FAITH AND FLOURISH

Childlike Faith

Last week I had the honour of beginning RE lessons with the Grade R classes, and I was reminded of the beautiful joy of childlike faith. There is something truly special about the way young children step into a space with no boundaries besides love and joy. Their faith is bold, their imagination limitless, and their hearts wonderfully open.

During our lesson, the girls eagerly shared what they already knew about Jesus. One little voice excitedly explained that Jesus "Jesus did magic" and another little voice " I know what he did He turned water into wine!" Their words were simple, yet full of awe and wonder. It was a beautiful reminder that the story of Jesus still captures hearts more than 2,000 years later.

Their excitement to hear more stories and learn new songs reminded me of something important: perhaps we all need to hear more of those stories and sing more of those songs. In their enthusiasm, I was reminded that faith is not meant to become complicated, it is meant to be lived with joy, curiosity, and expectation.

Jesus Himself invites us to come to Him with this same childlike trust. As it says in Matthew 18:3, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Watching the girls listen, imagine, and delight in learning about Jesus was a gentle reminder that, no matter our age, our hearts still long to know Him. And perhaps that longing, the simple excitement to know more of Jesus; is exactly where true faith begins.

Reflection Challenge for the Week:

Take a moment this week to approach your faith with the curiosity and joy of a child. Read or listen to a Bible story you haven't thought about in a while, sing a worship song you love, or simply ask God to help you rediscover the wonder of knowing Him.

With Love and Faith
Miss T Nanak

STAFF NEWS



As we approach the end of the term, we bid a fond farewell to Miss Cupido. We thank her for her dedication and contribution to the Fatima community, and wish her every success and happiness in her future endeavours.

PARENTS' CORNER

The PTA invites you
to our annual

COLOUR RUN!

VERITAS

20 MARCH | 5PM

RIVERSIDE SPORTS, DURBAN NORTH

COST: R160 PER PERSON

Tickets available on the Karri app

FOUNDATION PHASE

Last week, on the 12th of March, our Grade 3 classes visited our brother school, DPHS, for a day filled with fun and games. Both girls and boys participated in activities together, including zorbing (Zorb balls), hip-hop dancing, board games, and arts and crafts. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and would like to extend a huge thank you to Prep for hosting us.



Both our U9 A and U9 B Action Netball teams competed in the 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th playoffs. Our U9 A team achieved an outstanding result, placing 2nd overall, while our U9 B team finished 4th overall. A fantastic effort from both teams!

2nd



u9 A team 2nd place

4th



u9 B team 4th place

FATIMA FOUNDATION PHASE GALA



The Grade 3s had a fun filled day with lots of smiles, excitement, and great swimming at Northlands and Umhlali Galas.



Well Done!

SENIOR PRIMARY

Congratulations on the following North Durban Netball Selections

U11	U12	U13
Anna Fabian	Joey Gregory	Dhiya Shukraj
Mia Ludlow	Hayley Bonnin	
Gianna Farinha	Mufaro Kachisi	
Brooklyn Ramsay		

DURBAN & DISTRICTS' B&C GALA

Congratulations to our B squad on placing 8th in the B League Gala, which comprised of eight A teams and two B teams, and our C Squad on placing 4th at the D League Gala, which comprised of seven A teams and two B teams. Excellent achievement girls!



HORSE RIDING

Charlotte Goble represented Our Lady of Fatima at the 2nd SANESA horseriding competition of 2026 from the 13-15 March.

Her results are as follow -

1st place in her class for:

- Working Hunter
- Working Riding
- Dressage Test 2 (Prelim level 2)
- Equitation
- Show Jumping A2 competition (60 cm class)
- 2nd in Dressage test 1 (Prelim 1)

SPEECH AND DRAMA FESTIVAL

Every Senior Primary girl was given the opportunity to participate in a class choral for the recent Speech and Drama Festival. We had an external adjudicator from SADASA, who was extremely complimentary of our girls excellent level of performance.

65 girls performed individual poems and monologues, and it was incredible that 25 girls received a distinction (A+).

They are as follows:

Grade 4

Bailey Chetty
Nayomi Hansjee
Payton Snelling
Aurora Wegerle

Grade 6

Mackenzie Barrie-Smith
Lily Cooke
Grace De Robillard
Georgia Dunlop
Brooke Ellis
Mia Govender
Donna Mack
Nateya Naidoo
Olivia Peens
Ivy Power
Madison Sinclair
Elizabeth Snyders
Charlotte Wallis
Jessica Winstanley

Grade 7

Hanna Cassim
Sophie De Bufanos
Emma Morgan
Charley Springate

Grade 5

Grace Walker

A special mention goes to the following two grade 6 girls, who presented both an individual poem and monologue:

Alexandra Glock achieved a certificate of excellence for her monologue and distinction for her poem.

Sienna Dell achieved 2 distinctions.

Well done girls!

Aurora Wegerle and **Grace Walker** are also to be congratulated, as they have been invited to attend and perform their poems at the SADASA Showcase in October, later this year.



HIGH SCHOOL

The grade 10 Geographers delivered brilliant Climate Speeches as part of their assessment this term. They focused on the impact of climate Change in Africa.



Pi DAY

Our learners had a fantastic time celebrating Pi Day through fun, hands on measuring activities.

They explored real life maths by measuring different objects and discovering how numbers connect to the world around them. It was a joyful and engaging lesson that brought maths to life



CRAFT CLUB



COASTAL HOCKEY FESTIVAL

The inaugural Fatima Coastal Hockey Festival proved to be an outstanding success, bringing together some of the top hockey schools from around the country for a thrilling weekend of sport. With 11 schools and 32 teams taking part, the festival saw an incredible 81 matches played. Each team competed in five high-intensity games, with the fields filled with exceptional skill, passion, and competitive spirit throughout the weekend.

Our Fatima girls represented the school with pride, demonstrating exceptional skill and we are incredibly proud of the effort and commitment shown by all our players.

A heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, parents, PTA, staff, and girls whose support and hard work behind the scenes helped make the festival such a memorable and successful event. The wonderful atmosphere around the fields truly captured the spirit of school sport and community.



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ACTION NETBALL

Our netball teams played their final Action Netball matches of the season, bringing an exciting and competitive season to a close. We are incredibly proud of the strength of our programme, with five teams qualifying for Gold Finals, four teams competing in Bronze Finals, and one team playing for 5th and 6th place.

A special shout out to our 1st Team, who delivered an outstanding performance to secure the Gold medal in a hard-fought final. We are also exceptionally proud of our U14A, U14B, U15A and U15B teams on their excellent performances in the finals, finishing with Silver medals, and to our U16A and U16B teams, who achieved Bronze.

We are extremely proud of all our netball girls. Well done!



TOUCH RUGBY

Our Touch Rugby girls wrapped up their season on Friday with an exciting final day of the Touch League. Both our 1st and 2nd Teams competing in the Gold Final of their respective leagues, while our 3rd Team battled it out in the Bronze Final.

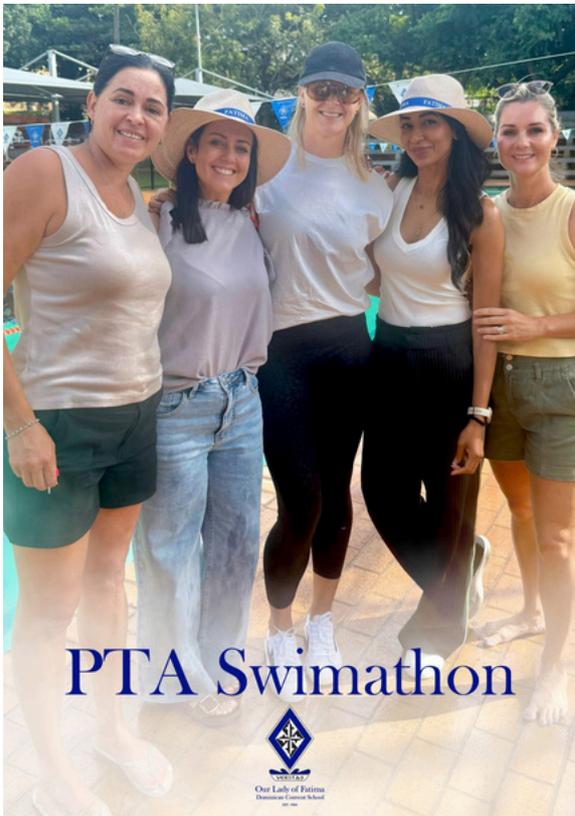
The matches were filled with fast-paced action, great teamwork and plenty of determination as our girls gave their all on the field, right to the last minute. We are incredibly proud of the effort, commitment and enthusiasm shown by every player throughout the season.



PTA SWIMATHON

The PTA Swimathon was a great success, filled with music, fun, and excitement as the whole school, from Grade 1 to 12, took part. Even the Sports Department joined in, and the “gummy bear” stroke helped turn nerves into laughter for our younger girls.

Well done to all for the many laps swum, and thank you to our PTA and parents for their encouragement and generous support.



SPORT RESULTS

Senior Primary Tennis			
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
FATIMA 1	DGC 1	Lost	3-4
	DGC 2	Won	4-1
	DGC 3	Won	4-1
FATIMA 2	DGC 1	Won	3-2
	DGC 2	Won	6-1
	DGC 3	Won	5-0
FATIMA 3	DGC 1	Lost	1-4
	DGC 2	Lost	1-4
	DGC 3	Lost	2-5

Senior Primary Action Netball			
TEAM	OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
U10A	DGC A	Won	8-1
	Virginia A	Won	14-0
U10B	Crawford La Lucia A	Lost	2-13
U11A	Curro Salt Rock A	Lost	3-7
	Ashton B	Won	8-2
U13A	Crawford La Lucia A	Lost	9-10
	Curro Salt Rock A	Won	20-06
	Umhlali B	Won	15-10

U16A Inland Hockey Festival		
U16A		
vs St Anne's U16A won 1 - 0		
vs Epwrth U16A won 4 - 0		
vs St John's U16A won 4 - 0		
High School Tennis		
1 st Team	2 nd Team	3 rd Team
vs DGC 1 lost 15 - 21	vs DGC 2 won 27 - 9	vs RHU won 33 - 7

Fatima Coastal Hockey Festival		
U14A	U16A	1 st Team
vs Waterkloof won 2 - 0	vs Waterkloof drew 0 - 0	vs Waterkloof won 1 - 0
vs Oranje lost 0 - 1	vs Oranje lost 0 - 1	vs Oranje lost 1 - 3
vs Helpmekaar lost 4 - 3	vs Helpmekaar won 5 - 1	vs Helpmekaar won 7 - 0
vs Menlopark drew 1 - 1	vs Menlopark lost 0 - 2	vs Menlopark won 2 - 1
vs Eunice won 1 - 0	vs Eunice won 4 - 0	vs Eunice won 1 - 0

High School Touch Rugby		
1 st Team	2 nd Team	3 rd Team
vs Untouchables lost 4 - 8 (Gold Final)	vs VPS won 5 - 3 (Gold Final)	vs George Campbell won 1 - 0 (Bronze Final)

Action Netball Finals			
U14A	U15A	U16A	1 st Team
vs DGC lost 13 - 14 (Gold Final)	vs DGC lost (Gold Final)	vs Reddam Umh won 17 - 7 (Bronze Final)	vs Danville won 18 - 17 (Gold Final)
U14B	U15B	U16B	2 nd Team
vs DGC lost 9 - 27 (Gold Final)	vs DGC lost (Gold Final)	vs Ashton won 17 - 7 (Bronze Final)	vs DGC (Bronze Final)
U14C	U15C		
vs NGHS U14A lost 8 - 20 (Bronze Final)	vs New Forest lost 5 - 12 (5 th & 6 th)		

Netball Festival Results:			
U14A	U15A	U16A	1 st Team
vs Epworth won 24 - 4 vs St John's won 12 - 6 vs Curro SR won 22 - 1	vs Epworth won 17 - 1 vs St John's won 13 - 1 vs DGC lost 1 - 15	vs St Anne's won 11 - 6 vs St John's lost 5 - 7 vs DGHS lost 7 - 8	vs Cheetah's won 16 - 4 vs Epworth won 27 - 3 vs St Anne's won 20 - 13 vs St Henry's won 23 - 6
	U15B		
	vs Epworth U15A won 10 - 3 vs DGHS U15A won 6 - 3 vs St Anne's U15A lost 6 - 8		

NEWS

The Grade 6s had a wonderful time at their market day, enjoying the bright and sunny morning.

