



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

As we continue to explore our theme of Courage Forward through the daily ups and downs, Catie Padoa, our Student Executive Head of Ethos, shared an insightful assembly on God in the ordinary, everyday moments, that I wanted to share:

"You know when your grandparents or family friends are coming over for lunch or tea and your mum decides that the whole entire house has to be spotless. She makes you clean your room, tidy your desk and pick up all your clothes off the floor even though there is zero chance your grandparents are going to walk into your room and inspect it. I always used to complain and say why I should put effort into something nobody is going to see. Be honest, would you still study for a test if it wasn't for marks, would you still make your bed if no one ever walked into your room, would you still go to hockey or netball training if there were no matches coming up.

Colossians 3 v 23 says 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters'. This verse challenges us to stop working for recognition or a reward, but for God. The real test of character is during the ordinary moments when no one is watching. It's easy to put in effort when there's a prize involved, but this verse tells us to put our best effort into everything we do.

It gets so easy to measure our worth by how many people notice us or like our Instagram posts. We start to post the highlights of our lives and our achievements just to get validation from the people we want to impress. Colossians reminds us to 'work for the Lord' and honour God through the way we love and to not become motivated by attention.

Another thing that stood out to me in this verse was to find joy in the ordinary things we do every day. I know I'm guilty of sitting at my desk, taking out my books and thinking why am I doing this. I start feeling like everything I do is so forced and becomes something I have to do instead of something I want to do. I often lose sight of what's important but this verse tells us that even small tasks that seem meaningless have purpose. Having discipline when no one is checking is what shapes who we are."

May we continue to find joy in ordinary moments and give ourselves wholeheartedly to whatever it is we put our hands to.

C. Lourens

FAITH AND FLOURISH

This past week in the RE classroom, I challenged the Grade 9s to think about their “why” — the questions sitting heavily on their hearts that they do not yet understand. Why is this happening? Why this season? Why this struggle?

Of course, I shared some of my own “whys,” and in return, the learners courageously shared theirs. In our deep desire to understand what God is doing, I played a scene from “The Chosen” where Little James asks Jesus, “Why would You ask me to go out and heal others, but not heal me?” Jesus responds by saying that while it would make a wonderful story if He healed him immediately, there was a greater purpose in his suffering — to show the world that even in pain, there can still be faith, patience, and praise for our Father.

That moment stayed with me all week. Yes, things could change instantly, but sometimes God needs our story exactly as it is. Through our lives, His glory is revealed and His greater story is told.

One very special young lady then said, “Miss Nanak, do you know the verse: ‘God’s power is made perfect in our weakness?’” In that moment, my heart stopped in realisation. That was it! it is in our weakness that He writes our story. God is the Author, and we are the ink in His pen.

what a special place to be in, constantly learning together.

Challenge for the Week:

Take a moment to reflect on your own “why.” Instead of asking only “Why is this happening to me?”, try asking, “What could God be teaching me through this?” You may discover that even your weakness can become part of a beautiful story of faith, growth, and purpose.

With love and faith

Miss Nanak

STAFF NEWS



Congratulations to Mr. Smith and Mrs. Smith on getting married over the holidays! Wishing them a lifetime filled with love, happiness, and beautiful memories together. May their marriage be blessed with joy, peace, and endless laughter.

PARENTS’ CORNER



A huge thank you to our PTA and a generous Fatima family for their support in purchasing a new base marimba to expand our ensemble.

FOUNDATION PHASE

GRADE 2 AND 3 NETBALL FIXTURES



Northlands Under the Lights Festival U9 Fatima A		
vs Northlands A	Won	6-3
vs Chelsea A	Lost	1-2
vs Westville A	Draw	6-6
vs Ashton A	Won	6-3

Northlands Under the Lights Festival U9 Fatima B		
vs Chelsea B	Draw	1 - 1
vs Westville B	Won	2-0
vs Northlands B	Won	3-1
vs Glenwood B	Won	6-3



Fixtures vs Westville JP		
vs Westville U9 A	Won	14 - 7
vs Westville U9 B	Won	5 - 1
vs Westville U9 C	Won	10 - 1

Glenashley Netball Festival Fatima U9 A		
vs Glenashley A	Won	8 - 0
vs DNC A	Won	6 - 0
vs Northlands A	Won	5 - 4



Grade 2 Chelsea Netball Festival U8 A		
Glenwood A	Won	3 - 2
Umhlali A	Won	5 - 0
Northlands A	Won	7 - 4
Chelsea A	Lost	1 - 2

Grade 2 Chelsea Netball Festival U8 B		
Northlands B	Lost	0-2
Glenwood B	Lost	0-2
Umhlali B	Lost	0-1
Ashton B	Won	2 - 0

Glenashley Netball Festival Fatima U9 B		
vs Glenashley B	Won	7 - 0
vs DNC B	Won	8 - 0
vs Northlands B	Lost	1-0



SENIOR PRIMARY

Service and Outreach, one of our four Dominican Pillars, continues to unite our school community through meaningful acts of compassion. This term, learners created knitted and crocheted squares that will become warm blankets for those in need, while our younger girls added thoughtful handmade cards.

All funds and initiatives this year support Oziweni Primary School and Amoati Crèche, and later this term the squares will be joined together to complete the blankets.



HORSE RIDING

Charlotte Goble and her pony, King, competed in SANESA Q3 from 10-12 April. She achieved the following results

- 1st: Working Hunter 60cm
- 1st: Working Riding level 3
- 1st: Equitation level 3
- 1st: Dressage 2 prelim
- 1st: Dressage 3 prelim
- 2nd: Jumping 60cm accumulator
- 2nd: Jumping Normal Competition



Charlotte Goble and her Pony King competed in SANESA Q4 at Shongweni club. She achieved the following results in a very competitive field of up to 16 Riders per class:

- 1st for Dressage Prelim 2
- 2nd for Dressage Prelim 3
- 1st for Working Riding
- 2nd for Working Hunter
- 2nd for Jumping 2 phase 60cm
- 3rd for Equitation 60cm
- 5th for Jumping A2 60cm



Congratulations to the following girls on their various **hockey** selections!

	U12	U13
Durban North	Mufaro Kachisi Brooke Ellis	Emma Morgan
Umlazi	Ivy Power Grace De Sousa Dylan Halstead	Willow Gunther Charley Springate
KZN	Joey Gregory Chloe Swanepoel Rosetta Evans	Amaya Gomez-Cuadrado Dhiya Sukhraj Emily Van Laun

SP CROSS COUNTRY MILEAGE

60km	Mackenzie Barrie-Smith	Grade 6
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On Friday 15 May our U13A traveled to Johansberg to participate in the St Annes netball tournament, which took place on Saturday 16 May. Our girls showed a lot of heart and determination and played some great netball.

Team	Result	Score
vs Woodlands	Won	10-6
vs Roedean	Lost	5-19
vs Assumption	Won	11-1
vs St Marys Waverley	Won	14-10
5-8 playoffs vs St Terea's	Lost	10-11
7-8 playoffs vs St Stithians	Won	8-5 placing us 7 th overall out of 20 schools. Well done to Emily Van Laun who was selected for the Rising star team



U10A AGE GROUP TOURNAMENT

vs Reddam	Won	1-0
vs Hamptons	Won	6-0
vs Atholton	Won	5-0
vs Virginia	Won	2-1
Semi Final	Lost	0-4
3 rd and 4 th	Won	3-0

U11A AGE GROUP TOURNAMENT

vs Virginia	Won	5-2
vs Atholton	Won	2-1
vs Northcrest	Drew	3-3
vs Redwood	Won	4-0
vs Reddam	Lost	2-3
Semi Final	Lost	1-10

U12A AGE GROUP TOURNAMENT

vs Reddam	Won	6-2
vs Hamptons	Won	9-0
vs Atholton	Won	8-3
vs Virginia	Drew	5-5
Semi-Final	Lost	2-12

U13A AGE GROUP TOURNAMENT

vs Hamptons	Won	10-1
vs Reddam	Drew	5-5
vs Virginia	Lost	1-4
vs Atholton	Won	8-0
Semi-Final	Lost	3-11
3 rd and 4 th	Lost	5-8



HIGH SCHOOL



Congratulations to the following girls on their **KZN Hockey** selections!



U14	U16	U18
<p>U14A Alexa Engelbrecht Camryn Howarth Lexi Weller Olivia Staphorst Skye Barnes Ziva Poona</p> <p>U14B Sophie Campbell Courtney Becker</p> <p>U14C Karo Groenewald Aimee Kinsley</p>	<p>U16A Charley-Rose Boyall Olivia Barrett Sophia Da Costa</p> <p>U16B Layla-Grace Hibbert Shriya Nadrajah Zoey Seppings</p> <p>U16C Chloe Reeves Becca Short Bella Akal Gabi Mkize</p>	<p>U18A Gaby Howarth Mia Lopes</p> <p>U18B Angelina Hall Kayla Driver Isabella Slater</p>



Congratulations to the following girls on their **KZN Netball** selections!



U14	U15	U16	U18
<p>Kacey-Lee Roberts Grace Stephen Mihlali Tshobisa Payson Hunter</p>	<p>Ayabonga Dlamini Makhamahle Langa</p>	<p>Mika Gouws Nomaswazi Vilakazi Avela Ngubane</p>	<p>Kenia Grote Khanya Mkhize Emma Schoombee</p>

Congratulations to our U14A, U15A and 1st team netball competing in the Umlazi Netball Challenge for their age groups. Well done to the 15A and 1st team for making it through to the KZN Netball challenge.



This week we hosted two compulsory netball fixtures against Durban Girls' College (DGC) and St. Anne's Diocesan College. It was a truly lovely afternoon on campus, filled with energy and school pride. What made the day even more special was seeing the whole school come out to support our netball teams. The atmosphere was incredibly viby, and the spirit across the courts was fantastic. A huge thank-you to our Spirit Team for bringing so much fun, noise and enthusiasm to the event.



SPORTS RESULTS

Senior Primary Netball vs Umhlali

U10A	Lost	3-9	U12B	Won	8-6
U10B	Lost	2-9	U12C	Won	6-5
U10C vs Umhlali U10C	Won	2-1	U12C vs Umhlali U12E	Won	8-1
U10D vs Umhlali U10D	Lost	0-3	U12D	Lost	1-8
U10D vs Umhlali U10E	Won	1-0	U12D vs Umhlali U12F	Lost	0-1
U11A	Drew	5-5	U13A	Lost	7-18
U11B	Lost	0-5	U13B	Lost	7-12
U11B vs Umhlali U11D	Lost	1-4	U13C	Lost	5-13
U11C vs Umhlali U11C	Lost	1-5	U13C vs Umhlali U13E	Won	10-4
U11C vs Umhlali U11E	Won	4-1	U13D	Lost	4-9
U12A	Won	6-3	U13D vs Umhlali U13F	Lost	6-9

Senior Primary Netball vs Northlands

U10A	Lost	0-7	U11A	Lost	5-7
U10B	Lost	1-5	U11B	Lost	4-12
U10C	Won	2-1	U11C	Lost	4-6
U10D	Won	4-1			

High School Hockey vs St Anne's

1 st Team	Drew	1 - 1
2 nd Team	Lost	0 - 4
3 rd Team	Lost	0 - 4
U16A	Drew	2 - 2
U16B	Won	1 - 0
U16C	Lost	0 - 2
U14A	Won	2 - 1
U14B	Lost	0 - 1
U14C	Lost	0 - 1

Hockey vs St Mary's

1 st Team	Lost	1 - 3
2 nd Team	Won	8 - 0
U16A	Drew	1 - 1
U16B	Won	2 - 1
U14A	Won	1 - 0
U14B	Lost	0 - 1

Hockey vs Thomas More

1 st Team	Won	7 - 0
2 nd Team	Lost	1 - 2
U16A	Won	6 - 1
U16B	Drew	0 - 0
U16C	Lost	0 - 1
U14A	Won	2 - 0
U14B	Won	1 - 0

BE
COURAGEOUS



NEWS

CLASH OF THE CHOIR

Well done to our Senior Primary Choir on achieving 2nd place in the **Clash of the Choirs** competition! A big congratulations as well to our brother school, DPHS, on placing 3rd. We are incredibly proud of both schools and their outstanding performances.



COURAGE FOWARD COMBINED MUSIC EVENING- GRADE 3-12

“Courage, Forward!” – our 2026 school theme as well as the theme for our annual combined music evenings held this past week. An absolute feast for the ears and eyes of musical performance through our choirs, marimba bands and bands from across the school. GR3 through to Matric had us mesmerized throughout the night, either clapping and jiving to the beat, or sitting still through poignant lyrics, reaching us through 4-part harmony; quiet messages for our souls. A beautiful evening of celebration and sisterhood.

