



Fatima Focus

The official newsletter of **Our Lady of Fatima** Dominican Convent School | Est 1954

Principal's Message

There is something about the final term of a school year that has us living in two years at once. While our days are still firmly rooted in 2026, much of our thinking has already moved into 2027. Timetables, teaching loads, calendars and staffing all need careful consideration as we prepare for the year ahead. This planning also gives us an opportunity to pause and review our practices and procedures. What has worked well? What needs adjusting? What do we continue simply because it is familiar, and where might a different approach serve our school community better?

At the heart of these conversations is a bigger question: how do we position our staff and girls to flourish and thrive? We are thinking carefully about the nature of our school, the rhythm of our days and the expectations we place on one another. We want to create space for meaningful learning, for challenge and growth, and for the relationships that make Fatima feel like Fatima. We want our girls to be stretched and supported, and our staff to have the time and energy to bring their best to the work they do. These questions swirl in our heads as we look towards 2027. There are no quick answers to all of them, but there is value in asking them honestly and being willing to listen, reflect and make thoughtful changes.

But before we turn the page to 2027, we still have a chapter of 2026 to complete. My hope is that we will give these remaining weeks our full attention and effort, so that we can look back with the quiet satisfaction expressed in 2 Timothy 4:7: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

There will be time to welcome a new year and all its possibilities. For now, let us finish this one well, together, with gratitude for how far we have come and the determination to give our best right to the end.

C.Lourens

Faith and Flourish

The Words We Leave Behind

As we move through these final weeks of the school year, I am reminded of how much we carry in our hearts and minds. Sometimes, without realising it, what we are carrying finds its way into the words we speak to one another.

In Ephesians 4, St Paul reminds us to speak only what is helpful for building others up, according to their needs. What a beautiful, but challenging invitation. Not simply to speak kindly when life is easy, but to choose words that bring life, even when we are tired, frustrated or overwhelmed.

I often wonder how many moments in someone's day are changed by something we say. A word of encouragement, a gentle response, an apology, or simply choosing not to join a conversation that tears another person down.

God calls us to be kind and compassionate, forgiving one another as He has forgiven us. And perhaps this begins with recognising that the person standing in front of us is carrying things we may never see.

Our words have the power to make someone feel seen, loved and valued. What a gift, and what a responsibility.

My challenge to you this week is simple: before you speak, ask yourself, will these words build someone up? Choose to leave people feeling a little more loved than when you found them.

Miss T. Nanak

Confirmation

We congratulate our two confirmands, Gabi Jamieson and Rachel De Sousa who completed their Sacrament of Confirmation on 9th of October 2026.

Let us keep them in our prayers, that the Holy Spirit may grant them wisdom, courage, and fortitude, and guide them to live as faithful witnesses of Christ in the world.



Foundation Phase

Grade 1 - 3 girls are enjoying the opportunity to swim at galas and develop their hockey skills at Saturday Sport!



Senior Primary

S.P. ACADEMIC AWARDS

We congratulate the following learners on their marked academic improvement from Term 2 to Term 3.

Grade 5

Gianna Farinha
Zahiya Tayob

Grade 6

Brooklyn Artz
Francesca Coetzee
Dylan Halstead
Mahi Manick
Huirong Shen
Madison Sinclair
Tatum Janse van Rensburg

Grade 7

Aairah Bhayat
Indiana Chapman
Mila De Robillard
Madison Girdhari
Amaya Gomez-Cuadrado
Samara Heffer
Ryleigh Moir

We congratulate the following learners on achieving an aggregate of 80% or above in Term 3.

Grade 4

Charlotte Adams
Ava Akal
Alexis Amos
Tiana Brink
Sophia De Lange
Nayomi Hansjee
Milena Luizinho
Sadie Mason
Kyla Massey
Mahi Roopchund
Elyssa Young

Grade 6

Hayley Bonnin
Grace de Robillard
Georgia Dunlop
Morgan Elliot
Rosetta Evans
Mia Govender
Sophia Govender
Joey Gregory
Stella Lewis
Nateya Naidoo
Nqobile Nhassengo
Rheya Pillay
Ivy Power
Leila Salmon
Elizabeth Snyders
Irrim Tayob
Lily Walker

Grade 7

Lara Britz
Hanna Cassim
Indiana Chapman
Erin Childs
Ivy Diffenthal
Amaya Gomez-Cuadrado
Kate Hadiaris
Mila Hariparsad
Samara Heffer
Liya Jugath
Annabel Kruger
Nyakallo Lecheko
Emma Morgan
Ava Shortland
Charley Springate
Merrielle Staebe
Dhiya Sukhraj
Emily Van Laun
Karien Van Schalkwyk
Mila Warther

Grade 5

Nia Dhanrathan
Lily Fouche
Daniella Govender
Mia Ludlow
Gia Scott
Allegra Sessions
Grace van Niekerk

Senior Primary



Senior Primary

SP INDOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
U10A		
Virginia	Won	1-0
Ashton	Drew	2-2
Umhlali A	Lost	1-3
Matis Stella A	Won	5-2
U10B		
St Henrys	Drew	1-1
Virginia	Lost	0-1
Umhlali B	Won	2-0
Matis Stella B	Lost	0-6
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
U11A		
Virginia	Won	2-1
Maris Stella	Won	2-1
U11B		
St Henrys	Drew	0-0
Virginia	Lost	0-2



OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
U13A		
Northlands A	Won	3-0
Penzance A	Lost	2-4
Chelsea	Won	2-1
Glenwood	Won	2-0
U13B		
Northlands B	Won	6-0
Penzance B	Won	11-2
Chelsea	Lost	3-5
Glenwood	Won	2-0
U13C		
Penzance C	Won	4-0
St Henrys C	Won	3-0
Chelsea	Won	3-0
Crawford	Lost	2-3
U13D		
Umhlali D	Lost	0-5
Atholton A	Lost	0-5
Penzance D	Lost	1-3
Chelsea	Lost	0-2
Crawford	Lost	0-2

ST MARYS LEAGUE

U10A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Winston Park A	Drew	1-1
St Marys A	Drew	1-1
U11A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Winston Park A	Won	1-0
St Marys A	Lost	1-4
U13A		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
DGC A	Won	6-0
St Marys A	Lost	2-3

Senior Primary

U13A ST STITHIANS WATER POLO TOURNAMENT

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
St Dominics	Lost	5-8
St Mary's Waverley	Lost	6-8
Herschel	Lost	1-7
St Marys Kloof	Won	8-2
Wynberg	Lost	0-6
Roedean	Won	5-5 (won on penalties)

Placing us 11 out of 16 schools

U13B WATER POLO LEAGUE

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Ashton	Lost	1-9
Westville	Won	9-0
Virginia	Lost	3-5
Maris Stella B	Drew	2-2
DGC A	Won	3-4

PENZANCE NETBALL NIGHT LIGHTS

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
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U11 FATIMA 1

Glenmore	Won	8-5
Orient 1	Lost	2-8
Penzance 2	Won	9-5
Port Natal	Won	12-1

U11 FATIMA 2

Curro 2	Lost	2-11
Glenmore	Lost	3-12
Curro 1	Lost	0-18
Port Natal	Won	3-9
Penzance 2	Lost	1-19

U11A OLDIES WATER POLO FESTIVAL

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Maris Stella	Won	4-1
Ashton	Won	4-0
St Marys	Lost	2-3
Umhlali	Lost	1-7
DGC	Lost	1-5

U11B WATER POLO LEAGUE

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Chelsea	Won	4-0
Umhlali	Lost	1-4
St Marys	Lost	1-4



PENZANCE NETBALL NIGHT LIGHTS

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
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U12 FATIMA 1

Curro 1	Won	15-3
Glenmore	Won	23-0
Port Natal	Won	24-0

U12 FATIMA 2

Glenmore	Won	9-5
Port Natal	Lost	5-11
Curro 2	Won	11-4
Orient	Lost	10-5
Glenwood	Lost	0-15

Senior Primary

60KM CROSS COUNTRY MILEAGES

Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7
	Ava Blom		Liya Jugath
	Elizabeth Hampton		
	Mia Ludlow		

100KM CROSS COUNTRY MILEAGES

Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7
Payton Snelling		Hariis Gunther	Willow Gunther



Natal Festival of Dance results:

Georgia Dunlop

Two gold medals for her group pieces.

She performed her own solo and achieved a mark of 78%.

Mackenzie Judge

Achieved a 2nd for her Musical Theatre



Alexis Amos competed in Integrated Artistic Acrobatic Association of South Africa Champs and achieved:

- 1st place Intermediate Quartet 13 and under
- 1st place Intermediate Quartet 16 and under
- 1st place Pre-Intermediate Interpretation solo 12 and under
- 2nd place Pre-Intermediate Improvisation solo 12 and under
- 2nd place Intermediate group 16 and under
- 3rd place Intermediate Duet 10 years and under
- Awarded the 'Most outstanding contortionist.'



Kiera Dell attended the National Gymnastics Championships where she represented KZN. She did incredibly well and achieved a personal best score on her floor routine.



Georgia Dunlop participated in a KZN trail running race and placed 2nd in the 5km course. Well done Georgia.

High School

Congratulations to our U18 Stayers Indoor Hockey team on winning the Maris Stella 1st Team Indoor Hockey Tournament this weekend.

We are incredibly proud of the team's hard work, determination and teamwork throughout the tournament. What a fantastic achievement.

Special congratulations to Charly-Rose Boyall, who was named Attacker of the Tournament. An outstanding individual achievement.

1 st Team Indoor Hockey Tournament		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
vs Ashton	Won	7 - 0
vs DGC	Won	4 - 0
vs Reddam	Won	4 - 0
vs Danville	Won	3 - 0
vs Curro Hillcrest	Won	4 - 1
vs Maris Stella (Semi Final)	Won	1 - 0
vs St Mary's (Final)	Won	1 - 0
Finished 1 st out of 11 Schools		



High School

Our 1st Team Water Polo squad achieved an outstanding 3rd-place finish out of 13 schools!

The girls delivered an impressive performance throughout the tournament, demonstrating exceptional skill, determination and teamwork as they competed against some of the strongest school teams in the country. Their resilience, commitment and fighting spirit were evident in the pool, and they can be incredibly proud of securing a podium finish.

A special well done to Lara McQueen, Rebecca Grendele and Kingsley Jones who were selected into the tournament team.

1 st Team Stayers Water Polo Tournament		
OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
vs Steyn City	Won	9 - 2
vs St Mary's Kloof	Lost	3 - 4
vs Oakhill	Won	18 - 2
vs Roedean 2 nd	Won	18 - 2
vs St Stithians 2 nd	Won	12 - 5
vs Affies	Won	11 - 0
vs Rhenish (Semi Final)	Lost	6 - 7
vs St Mary's Kloof (3 rd / 4 th)	Won	6 - 2
Finished 3 rd out of 13 Schools		



High School

Our U14A Water Polo team achieved an outstanding 5th-place finish out of 24 schools at the biggest U14A Water Polo Tournament in the country!

The girls showcased exceptional skill, determination and teamwork throughout the tournament, competing against some of the strongest schools in the country. Their commitment, resilience and fighting spirit were evident in every match, and they can be incredibly proud of this achievement.

U14A Roedean Water Polo Tournament

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
vs Rhenish	Won	8 - 5
vs St Mary's Waverley	Won	11 - 1
vs Kingswood	Won	7 - 5
vs St Stithians	Won	6 - 5
vs Herschel	Lost	5 - 7
vs Reddam Bedfordview	Won	9 - 8
vs DSG (Quarter Final)	Lost	5 - 6
vs St Stithians	Won	7 - 6
vs St Mary's Kloof	Won	8 - 0
Finished 5 th out of 24 Schools		



High School

Congratulations to our Fatima girls on their selection for the KZN Indoor Hockey teams across their respective age groups.

We wish them every success as they represent our province. We know they will make us proud.

KZN U14A

Lexi Weller

KZN U14B

Skye Barnes

Ziva Poona

KZN U14C

Aimee Kinsley

KZN U16A

Charly-Rose Boyall

Zoey Seppings

KZN U16B

Olivia Barrett

Chloe Reeves

Sophia Da Costa

KZN U18A

Mia Lopes

KZN U18B

Isabella Slater

Kayla Driver

KZN U18C

Gabriella Hall

Congratulations to our talented Fatima girls who have been selected to represent KZN Water Polo across their respective age groups.

We are so proud of your hard work and commitment to the sport. Wishing you all the very best as you represent our province.

KZN U14A

Karo Groenewald

Alexa Engelbrecht

KZN U14B

Grace York

Nkazimulo Mbongwa

Sophie Campbell

Kiara De Rose

KZN U15A

Lucy Harker

Kingsley Jones

Lara Macqueen

Sophia Da Costa

Eva Berichon

Rebecca Grendele

Justina Pellandini

KZN U15B

Olivia Reuning

Isabella Lorton

Farren Armour

Sage Moodie

KZN U15 Non Traveling Reserve

Sienna Croxford

KZN U19 Non Traveling Reserve

Rachel De Sousa

High School

Indoor vs St John's

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Junior 1 vs St John's U14A	Won	5 - 1
Junior 1 vs St John's U16A	Won	3 - 2
Junior 2 vs St John's U14B	Drew	0 - 0
Junior 2 vs St John's U16B	Lost	1 - 7
Senior 1 vs St John's 1 st	Lost	1 - 4
Senior 2 vs St John's 2 nd	Lost	2 - 3



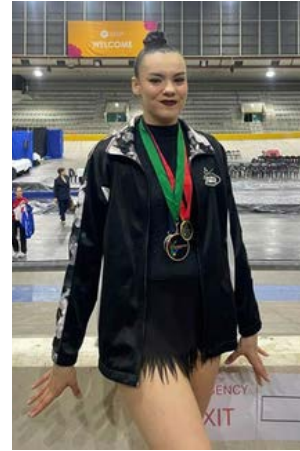
Touch Rugby League

OPPONENT	RESULT	SCORE
Team 1 vs Reddam	Won	4 - 2
Team 1 vs Port Shepstone	Won	3 - 0
Team 2 vs St Henry's	Won	5 - 0
Team 3 vs Danville	Lost	5 - 3



High School

Congratulations to Riley Gouws on an outstanding performance at the South African National Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships. Competing in the Level 9, Over-15 age group, she achieved an impressive 3rd place overall at national level. She also earned a silver medal for her ball routine, finishing 2nd in this discipline, and a gold medal in the Open Dance Group.



Evelyn Amos recently represented the GDLFA U20 Girls team at the GDLFA Football Tournament. The team comprises of selected players from clubs across Durban, bringing together some of the area's talented young footballers. Evelyn and her teammates had an outstanding tournament, finishing as tournament champions! Congratulations to Evelyn on this fantastic achievement!

Well done to Lily Bean McMahon, who has been selected for the KZN Diving Team! Lily will proudly represent Fatima at the SA Schools Championships in Johannesburg at the end of November. Congratulations. We wish you all the best for the championships!



Humanities

Congratulations to Kajol on her wonderful achievements in tap dancing! At the Natal Festival of Dance, she earned three gold medals and one silver medal for her group performances, as well as a bronze medal and an A grading (80%) for her solo. She continued her success at the AArts competition, achieving two A++ gradings for her group dances and an A+ for her solo. These impressive results have qualified her for the regional competition next year. Well done, Kajol!



Congratulations to sisters Harper and Mackenzie Judge, who participated in the KZN Dance Festival from 1–4 October 2026, competing across various dance disciplines. Mackenzie (Grade 6B) achieved 2nd place in Musical Theatre, while Harper (Grade 2R) earned 1st place in Classical Ballet and 2nd place in Lyrical Dance. Well done to both girls on their wonderful achievements!



Humanities

ETHEKWINI EISTEDDFOD

We are very proud of these girls who performed in the EtheKwini Eisteddfod during the holidays (from left to right): Chloe Georghiou GR5 Piano, 80% (Silver), Anele Mtshali u16 Vocals 88% (Gold), Kaerah Govender GR4 Violin 94% (Diamond), Dhivera Govender GR4 Violin 92% (Violin). Well done for your continued commitment to your instrument! You are reaping the rewards and going from strength to strength.



ANNAUL SADASA SHOWCASE

We are incredibly proud of Grace Walker and Aurora Wegerle, who represented our school at the annual SADASA Primary School Showcase held at Westville Senior Primary two weekends ago.

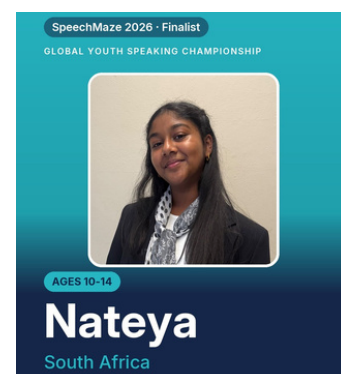
Following their outstanding performances at the Speech Festival in Term 1, Grace and Aurora were selected from all the girls in our Senior Primary to perform their individual poems at this prestigious event.

Both girls represented our school with distinction and showcased the talent, commitment, and excellence that we value so highly. We congratulate them on this wonderful achievement and thank them for being such excellent ambassadors for our school.

Well done, Grace and Aurora. We are extremely proud of you both!

SPEECH MAZE COMPETITION

Nateya Naidoo participated in an international speech competition called speech maze over 33 countries were involved and there were 106 participants she has been selected for the live finals on the 7th of November wishing her best of luck for the 7th.



Humanities

MUSIC CAFE'

With exams just around the corner, our High School learners took a well-deserved break to enjoy the final Music Café of the year. A huge well done to everyone who took to the stage and shared their talent.



News

The grade 6 girls put compassion and appreciation in to practise by blessing a granny through the Robinhood Foundation's Christmas Campaign.



SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED

Each year, as a school, we raise money to support those in need. There are various ways in which we do this: some classes collect money each week, others take part in our Grow Your R50 initiative during Lent, and throughout the year we hold civvies days, when the money paid by pupils to dress out of uniform is added to the school's charity fund.

You may wonder where this money goes. It helps fund outreach projects undertaken during grade excursions and supports our adopted, less privileged Catholic schools, among other initiatives.

It is also a tradition at Our Lady of Fatima Dominican Convent School to contribute annually to a number of established charities. These include: Girls and Boys Town; Streetwise KZN; Lifeline SA; Reach for a Dream; Red Cross Children's Hospital; Little Eden Society; St Martin's Home; St Theresa's Home; St Philomena's Home; KZN Cystic Fibrosis Association; 1000 Hills Community Help; TAFTA; Highway Hospice; Tape Aids for the Blind; SA Guide-Dogs Association; SPCA Durban; CROW; Pontifical Mission Societies; and the Leprosy Mission.

We are grateful for the work these organisations do to support vulnerable people and communities. Through our contributions, we put our Catholic, Christian and Dominican ethos into practice, living out our commitment to service and outreach and recognising the importance of reaching beyond our own school community to make a difference in the lives of others.