ST PAULUS NEWSFLASH

11 Aug. 2026

Gross Busters – What a Show!

amazing

What an incredible few evenings! Gross Busters – The Musical was an overwhelming success, and I think we can all agree that we have some exceptionally talented children at St Paulus.

A heartfelt thank you to all our parents for your wonderful support. Thank you for attending each evening, for embracing our costume requests, and for helping your child prepare so enthusiastically for the performances. Your encouragement behind the scenes made all the difference.

To our children – thank you for your confidence, commitment and energy on stage. You made us all incredibly proud!



Notification of the intention to withdraw

If you already know that your child will not be returning in 2027, we ask that you please notify the school of your intention to withdraw your child, by 1 September. Letters of Notice should be addressed to the Principal and should be received by no later than 1 September 2026. principal-pa@stpaulus.co.za

Mandela Food Parcel Drive

To celebrate Mandela Day, which honours the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela, we will be running our # Mandela Food Parcel Drive, which will run from 11 August - 18 September.

We would like to collect and pack at least 67 food parcels this year. The food parcels will be distributed by the Knights of da Gama to families in need, in and around Pretoria.

The list of items requested per grade is given below. This year our Staff have also pledged to support the drive and donate an item to each parcel!

Grade 00 - R:	400 g tin baked beans and 500 g bag red speckled beans
Grade 1:	400 g tin pilchards and pack of 12 Knorr stock cubes
Grade 2:	750 ml sunflower oil
Grade 3:	450 g peanut butter or jam
Grade 4:	1 kg sugar
Grade 5:	2,5 kg maize meal
Grade 6:	2,5 kg samp
Grade 7:	500 g Cremora coffee creamer
Staff:	250 g tin Ricoffy



St Dominic's Day and Interhouse Athletics

A reminder that on 14 August we will be celebrating the Feast of St Dominic. Mass will start at 07:45, followed by Interhouse Athletics.

Children must come dressed in full school tracksuit, house shirts and white tekkies. No school bags or books need to be brought to school on that day.

The school day will end at 13:30 and there will be no afternoon activities, or supervision provided that afternoon (Aftercare will run until 17:30 for those children enrolled).

STP Annual Potjiekos Competition

This year, the annual STP Potjiekos Competition will be coupled with the Springwalk on Saturday, 5 September.

So... Fancy your chances? Have you entered your winning recipe into the Potjiekos Competition? Do so by scanning the code below:



NewsFlash Sports Page - The Final Whistle

Fixtures

12 August:

- U10 to U13 Girls Hockey Match vs Danie Malan at St Alban's Astro
- U10 to U12 Boys Hockey Match vs Midstream Ridge at Midstream Ridge Astro

13 August:

- U13 Boys Hockey Match vs Woodhill at St Paulus

14 August:

- Cross Country at Loreto School Queenswood
- St Dominic's Day

15 August:

- Mini-Hockey at Hatfield Christian School – Grade 1 to 3

Highlight of the Week

We would like to congratulate our WRO Teams who participated at Woodhill on 31 July. First place was won by Joshua Bettesworth and Daniel van den Bergh. Tshimologo Setshedi and Stella Semere achieved second place and Khloe Johnson and Mbali Hlophe, third place.

Well done to all our players. We are proud of you!



"Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up – figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it."
– Michael Jordan

IMPORTANT TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Buses will depart St Paulus at **13:45** to various venues. We are scheduled to be back at school at **17:00**. If for any reason there is a delay, or we are to return early, a message will be sent out to the relevant parties. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

THE PLAYFUL TIMES

RAISING CHILDREN TOGETHER

Don't teach them to read...
Teach them to be ready!

One of the biggest misconceptions about Pre-School and "school readiness" is that children need to know how to read before they start Grade 1.

Of course, recognising letters, sounds and words is wonderful, but there are other skills that matter so much more in helping your little one feel confident and ready for big school.

So, instead of worrying about whether your child can read, let's focus on the things that really matter:

- Can they use the bathroom independently?
- Can they open their own lunchbox and water bottle?
- Can they put on their own shoes – and perhaps even tie them?
- Can they follow a few instructions in sequence?
- Can they take turns and wait patiently?
- Can they follow directions?
- Can they ask for help and wait while someone else is being helped?
- Can they play happily and appropriately with other children?
- Can they put their feelings into words?

These are the everyday skills that help children navigate the busy world of big school.

The reading and writing will come in its own time.
Children don't need to start Grade 1 knowing more.
They need to start Grade 1
feeling confident, capable and ready to learn.
And that is something we can all help them build –
one little step at a time.