

Blessing of our new Bell Arch

This past Friday was a special day for St Paulus, seeing our newly built Bell Arch being blessed by Fr Hugh O'Conner.

The building of this bell arch would not have been possible without the amazing fundraising efforts of our Grade 7s of 2025 and 2026! We are so grateful for what they made possible, and we know they will feel a sense of pride in knowing that they have left something special behind for St Paulus.

At the top of the arch are two sayings: "Let your light shine before others" and "In gratitude for the years that shaped us."

Our hope is that, for many years to come, these words will be read and carried in the hearts of every child who passes beneath this arch, as a reminder of their years spent at St Paulus, and the faith that has grounded them.



Well Done Grade 7s of 2025 and 2026! May this bell and its arch be a lasting part of our school and a reminder of the generations of children who have called St Paulus home.

Holiday Club - A Little More Flexibility

We have received one or two requests from parents to extend our Holiday Club and to make a full-day option available. We understand that for working parents, school holidays can be a bit of a challenge, particularly when it comes to arranging care for the children and having to use annual leave.

We have taken this into consideration and will be extending our Holiday Club during the December/January and June holidays to cover a full two-week period. We will also be offering a full-day option, until 17:00. We hope that this will help our families and make the holiday period a little easier to manage.

Now, on the subject of school holidays! We know there is sometimes a feeling that school holidays seem to get longer every year, and that schools perhaps close earlier and earlier. So, just to clarify:

As an ISASA school, St Paulus follows the four-term school calendar and is required to meet a prescribed number of school days each year. We actually exceed this number annually. We also try to align our calendar with the GDE calendar, as we know that many of our families have older children attending GDE high schools.

There is also a misconception that GDE schools continue well into December. While the official calendar may indicate that schools remain open until later in December, these final days are generally for staff administration, with most schools closing their doors to children in late November. So, while it may look as though the holidays are getting longer, there is a little more to the story!

Sometimes it is hard to imagine, but children actually need a break from the routine of the school term. Holidays give them time to be at home, play outside and enjoy a change of pace. Not every day needs to be planned or filled with activities. Children even need to be bored - it is good for them! Unstructured time is an important part of growing up and is just as valuable as the more structured activities that fill their school days.



We understand that this needs to be balanced with the realities many of our parents face, and we will continue to look at ways in which we can assist where possible. Our extended Holiday Club is one way of doing this, while still recognising the importance of time away from the school environment.



Term 4 - A Hive of Activity!

We are thrilled to see that the campus is a hive of activity with all the sport taking place in Term 4! It is wonderful to see the children so involved, engaged and making the most of the sporting opportunities available to them.

With so much happening on campus in the afternoons, we ask for parents' support in collecting children from the designated collection areas in the Main Car Park, at the designated times.

For the safety of our children, and in line with the School's procedures, children may not wait for parents in either the Main Car Park or the Tuckshop Car Park while sessions are taking place. Children who have not been collected at 14:00 or 15:00 will be sent up to wait safely in a supervised venue.

We understand that this may sometimes be inconvenient for parents. However, with so many children on our campus in the afternoons, these procedures are in place to safeguard the children and we ask that parents support us in respecting them.

Thank you for your co-operation and for helping us keep our children safe.

Uniform Shop

A quick reminder of the delays experienced with boys' swimming costumes and cricket shirts in certain sizes. We know this can be frustrating when your child needs the correct kit for school and sport.

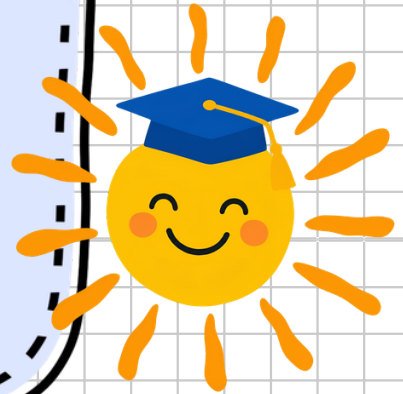
If you are still waiting for an order and your child needs either of these items, please let your child's Teacher know by email. We will do our best to assist in the interim while we wait for the outstanding orders to arrive.

Please do reach out if we can help in any way. We can only help out if we know. 😊



Pre-School Graduation

How time has flown! Grade 1 is loading for our Grade R children! We wish our Grade R graduates all the very best as they celebrate their graduation on 27 October and get ready for the exciting next step into Grade 1 in 2027. What a milestone! Please make sure to see the details for the evening on the Pre-School WhatsApp group.



Music Soiree

A reminder that our annual Music Soirée takes place on Thursday, 29 October, showcasing the talents of our Choirs, Whack!, Marimba and Music Jam.

Parents of children performing are invited to join us for light refreshments in the School Foyer at 17:30. All children performing must assemble in the Quad at 17:30.

We look forward to an enjoyable evening celebrating the wonderful musical talents of our children!

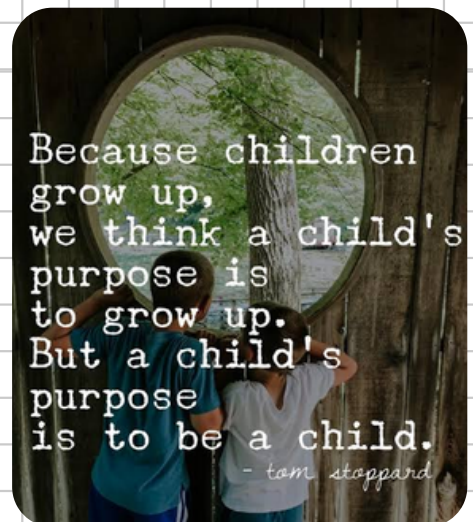
Recycling results

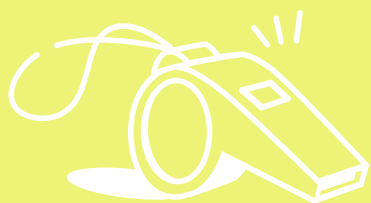
Congratulations to our Winners:

Foundation Phase:	2A
Intersen Phase:	4S
Winning House:	Maria

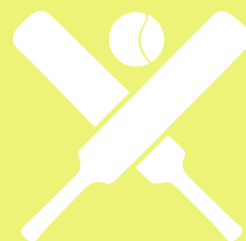


Because children
grow up,
we think a child's
purpose is
to grow up.
But a child's
purpose
is to be a child.
- tom stoppard





NewsFlash Sports Page - The Final Whistle



Fixtures

Cricket:

27 October

U13A vs CHC at STP

U12A vs Waterkloof at STP

28 October

U10A vs Waterkloof at Waterkloof

U10B vs WHPS at STP

U11A vs CHC at STP

29 October

U9A vs Woodhill at Woodhill

U9B vs WHPS at STP

"Children become the messages they hear most. Our athlete's parents are the voice they hear most."

Swimming:

30 October

Gala at St Paulus



THANK YOU!

Highlight of the Week:

This week's highlight is an important one – and it goes out to all of you. The late afternoons, the driving, the forgotten water bottles and lost kit; without you, our school sport would grind to a halt. Thank you to the countless hours you have spent cheering the school on, you are part of this culture and part of the wider St Paulus community. Here's to the next match!



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.