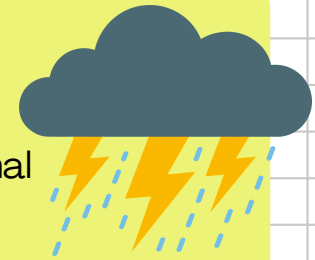
ST PAULUS NEWSFLASH

30 Oct. 2026

Rainy Days and Lightning Safety



We again find ourselves entering the rainy season, and there is nothing quite like a rainy afternoon at school to upset the normal day-to-day running of things!

By law, the School is required to follow strict Lightning Safety Protocols. We use an early lightning detection system (Afri-Weather), linked to the South African Weather Service, which detects lightning within a 15 km radius (extreme risk). When lightning is detected within 15 km, the lightning alarm is activated, and children are moved to designated safe areas.

I know that, for some parents, these protocols may seem a little over the top. But lightning striking is not a problem – until it does! Parents may not always see lightning, even when the alarm is active. However, it may still be close enough to pose a risk, and the School is obliged to act in the interest of everyone's safety.

When a lightning alarm is activated and children are safely sheltered, we will communicate collection arrangements via the Grade WhatsApp Groups, where possible. Parents are also welcome to walk up to the school building, where an HOD and staff members will be on duty to assist you in locating your child.

We would like to thank our parents for their patience and understanding on rainy days, particularly when weather conditions cause delays during collection. We appreciate your support and respectful interactions with staff when coming up to the school building to collect your child.

Please remember – we do not place orders for inclement weather; it arrives unannounced and very much beyond our control! What is within our control, however, is keeping your child safe, and that will always be our priority.

Newsflash!

Please make sure that you have received, read (and in some cases completed) the following:

- ☑ Stationery List 2027
- ☑ Textbook and Workbooks 2027
- ☑ Registration and Withdrawal from Aftercare 2027
- ☑ Debit Order Form 2027



Second-Hand Book Sales

We strongly encourage all parents to make use of our Second Hand Book Store when purchasing textbooks for Grade 4 – 7. The textbooks available are in a good condition and at a GREATLY reduced cost of R70 per textbook. The Second-hand Textbook Sales for Grade 4 – 7 2027 will take place on 16 and 17 November from 14:00 – 16:00, in the Second–Hand Book Store.

Min Tyd!



A week to go until our Grade 7 examinations begin, and a week and a half for Grades 5 and 6! Min Tyd!

As our children prepare for their upcoming examinations, please support them by ensuring that they have a quiet, structured space in which to study. A little encouragement, a good routine and a calm environment can make all the difference.

A reminder that children are required to remain at school until 13:30 each day for the duration of the examination period. Children may not leave once they have completed their examination. We do, however, encourage parents to collect their children at 13:30, allowing them to return home and continue studying in a calm and familiar environment.

We wish all our Grade 5, 6 and 7 children well as they prepare for this important final stretch of the year. You've got this!

Traffic Congestion Woes



As many of our parents will be aware, there is a significant amount of traffic congestion that is caused by motorists illegally bypassing the traffic by using the slip road just before the Boekenhout/Watermeyer intersection.

Although this problem is by no means caused by vehicles headed to STP only, I ask that all STP Parents adhere to the traffic rules to ensure that traffic flows safely and at the correct speed to alleviate unnecessary congestion and frustration.

"We aren't stuck in traffic - we are the traffic".

Congratulations

At the SA U/15 Open and Inter-Provincial Badminton Championships 2026 held from 27 September to 3 October 2026, Yutong Ren (Grade 7S) achieved some excellent results:



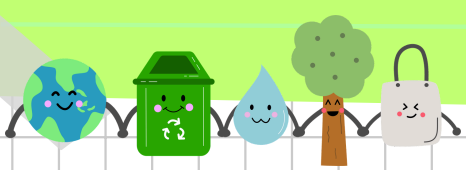
- Women's Singles – 2nd Place
- Women's Doubles – 1st Place
- Mixed Doubles – 1st Place

Congratulations, Yutong! We are very proud of you!

Recycling Results

Congratulations to our weekly winners:

Foundation Phase:	3H
Intersen Phase:	4S
Winning House:	Dominicus



A reminder that 4 November is Voting Day. School will be closed.



You may learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance.

~ Franklin P Adams



Newsflash Sports Page
The Final Whistle

Fixtures

Cricket:
02 November
U10A vs Prestige at Prestige

Cricket:
05 November
U13A vs Hatfield at Hatfield Christian School
U10B vs Woodhill at Woodhill
U9A vs TVC at TVC
U9B vs WHPS at STP

Swimming:
06 November
Gala at Woodhill College

> **"Grassroots sport is the lifeblood of all sports. It is where everything begins—where the passion is born, where the talent is found, and where communities come together."**



Highlight of the Week

As we approach the end of another busy sporting year, we can't overlook the 'grassroots' of it all. The Pre-School continue to be involved on the sports field, participating in a number of mini-tournaments too. This is the lifeblood that feeds into the rest of the school and keeps our standards year in, year out. Thank you to the Pre-School team for all their long hours, as well as to all our young sporting stars. Keep it up!

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

Setting Our Toes Free For the Leave Your Print Campaign!

Last week, our little feet had the chance to wiggle, stretch and explore as we set our toes free in support of our Leave Your Print Campaign!

Going barefoot is about so much more than feeling the grass beneath our feet. It allows children to connect with the world around them, experience different textures, and sensations, but most importantly it also strengthens the little muscles in their feet. Additionally, being barefoot supports balance, co-ordination, and the development of body awareness as they move, play and explore.





There is something truly special about slowing down, feeling the earth beneath our feet and enjoying the simple joys of being outdoors. These moments of grounding encourage children to engage their senses, connect with nature, and feel more present in their surroundings.



As our little ones left their footprints behind, they reminded us that even the smallest feet can leave a meaningful mark!



Little feet, big footprints, lasting impact!