



ST JOHN'S D.S.G.
PIETERMARITZBURG
growing girls with heart

the yellow pages

Edition Seven



Some of the exciting things in this edition...

- ♥ Building Updates
- ♥ 100 Days and Counting
- ♥ SA Representatives
- ♥ Bloemfontein Hockey Tour

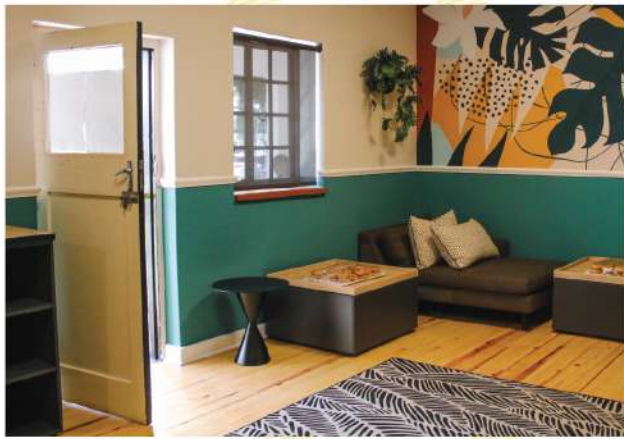


General News



Building Updates

Exciting things are happening at St John's D.S.G., and we can't wait to share them with you! Our school is undergoing some wonderful renovations that will make our spaces even more special for our girls.



Our Common Rooms, for both boarders and day girls, have been given a fresh new look, while the dining room has been transformed with new doors opening directly onto the lawn, creating a lighter, brighter, and more spacious environment for the girls to enjoy their mealtimes together.

Meanwhile, the T-Block classrooms are being completely refurbished, including the installation of a brand-new roof, to create bright, modern learning spaces that our girls will love.

Watch this space, great things are coming!



Junior School News

100 Days and Counting!

In the first week of term, our Junior School girls celebrated a very special milestone – 100 days at school!

To mark the occasion, we welcomed our Eaglets for a magical morning as they arrived dressed as princesses to enjoy "Tea with the Queen." With Ms Laatz stepping into the royal role, the girls were delighted with story time before decorating cupcakes and enjoying a beautifully set picnic together.

Our Grade 1s also celebrated with biscuit decorating and a variety of exciting 100-day themed activities.

Meanwhile, you may have mistaken the playground for a retirement village if you spotted our Grade 2s! Complete with walking sticks, oversized glasses and plenty of grey wigs, the girls embraced the fun as they imagined what life might be like at 100 years old.

It was a joyful celebration of how much our girls have learnt, grown and achieved in just 100 days. Here's to many more milestones together!



Celebrating a Mathematical Milestone

Every Grade 6 Maths lesson begins with a Mental Maths exercise, helping the girls build confidence and sharpen their skills each day. To celebrate completing their 100th Mental Maths score, the Grade 6s enjoyed a special tea party with their Maths teachers, where each girl received a beautifully decorated biscuit. The celebrations also included a variety of fun activities, such as a lively "Maths Dance", discovering the fascinating mystery of Kaprekar's Constant (6174), and choosing a number between 0 and 100 to wear and explain to the class.

It was a wonderful way to mark this milestone while celebrating the joy and wonder of Mathematics.



Senior School News



uHambo 2026

Our Grade 9 girls will soon be embarking on their exciting uHambo adventure in the mountains – a journey that promises to challenge, inspire, and strengthen them in so many ways.

As they step out of their comfort zones, we hope they embrace every moment with courage and resilience.

We wish each of our Grade 9 girls a safe and unforgettable journey. We can't wait to hear their stories and celebrate all that they achieve along the way!



Sports News

Spar KZN Schoolgirls' Hockey Challenge

Well done to our 1st Team "Yellow Sticks", who competed in the SPAR KZN Schoolgirls' Hockey Challenge Grand Finals this weekend. Our girls not only produced outstanding Hockey on the turf but also represented the school with pride and sportsmanship off the turf.

The team topped their pool without conceding a single goal before facing Durban Girls' College in a thrilling semi-final. A goal in the dying seconds of the match secured their place in the final against Our Lady of Fatima.

The final was a closely contested battle, with our girls narrowly missing out on the title to finish as runners-up in this year's tournament. Congratulations to Our Lady of Fatima on a well-deserved victory!

A BIG "thank you" to SPAR and Les Galloway for hosting another fantastic tournament.

Hockey Caps

Thank you to the following players for their service and contribution to St John's D.S.G. hockey as members of the 1st team during the last few years.

Congratulations:

Jessica H – 44 Caps

Danika F – 52 Caps

Samantha C – 77 Caps

Emma W – 108 Caps

Sienna S – 124 Caps

Mia H – 124 Caps

Kate vB – 125 Caps

Lamia A – 133 Caps

Annabelle B – 138 Caps





South African Representatives

We are incredibly proud of the following St John's D.S.G. girls who have recently represented South Africa or have been selected to represent our country at recent and upcoming events. We are cheering you on every step of the way and wish you every success as you continue to make us proud!

Hockey

Deborah L on has been selected for the South African U16A Hockey Team! She will proudly represent South Africa at the U16 Hockey Tournament in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 12–17 August.

Biathle, Triathle and Laser Run

Neliza O, Julia R and Kaitlyn R have been selected to represent South Africa at the World Biathle, Triathle and Laser Run Championships in Portugal in October. Their selection follows their successful performance at the SA Biathle Championships held in Pietermaritzburg during the July holidays.

Polo

Rebecca O has been selected as a reserve for the South African Junior Girls Polo Team who will be participating against Zambia in October.

Golf

Christelle vT had a phenomenal performance at the recent World Junior Championships Invitational in Ireland, where she finished an outstanding 8th overall against some of the best young golfers from around the world.

Squash

Makayla N is currently representing South Africa at the World Junior Squash Championships in Canada. We are looking forward to hearing all her highlights when she gets home!



KwaZulu-Natal Representatives

We are incredibly proud of the following St John's D.S.G. girls who represented KwaZulu-Natal in sporting events during the holidays.

Squash

U13B

Khwezi M

U15A (Bronze Medal)

Madison B

Kyra S

U17A (Silver Medal)

Storme H

U19A (Gold Medal)

Makayla N (Missing from photo)

U19B (Silver Medal)

Bella H

Rebecca J

Rebecca Z



Mountain Biking

Lucy B was selected to represent KZN at the SA National XCC and XCO Championships, held in Bloemfontein during the holidays. Lucy delivered strong performances on a demanding and highly technical course. She finished:

- ★ 7th place in the XCC (Short Course) race
- ★ 6th place in the XCO (Cross-Country) race

Well done on these outstanding performances, Lucy.



Bloemfontein Tour

Our Junior Open A "Yellow Sticks" recently took part in the Nika Coertzen Hockey Festival in Bloemfontein, an event that brought together 32 of the country's top Junior School Hockey teams.

With separate U12 and U13 sections, the standard of Hockey was exceptionally high, providing our girls with a wonderful opportunity to test themselves against strong opposition. As one of only a few schools to field a combined U12 and U13 team, they faced some tough competition. Throughout the festival, our girls showed great courage, determination, and sportsmanship, taking on older, more experienced players with confidence and enthusiasm.

We are incredibly proud of the way our girls represented the school. Their teamwork, resilience, and positive attitude made for a memorable weekend of Hockey and invaluable learning experiences against some of the best young players in the country. Well done, girls!



Music News



South African National Schools Marimba Competition

What an unforgettable July holiday it was for our Performance Marimba Band!

After two terms of dedicated preparation, the girls travelled to the National Marimba Competition for two action-packed days of music, friendship and unforgettable memories. Competing against more than thirty bands from across the country, they had the opportunity to listen to outstanding performances and, most importantly, to perform with passion, confidence and heart.

Their commitment and dedication shone through as they presented four challenging pieces across a variety of competition categories. The celebrations began when the band was announced as one of the top six bands to qualify for the Grand Finale, earning the opportunity to perform two pieces before the eagerly anticipated prize-giving ceremony.

The awards that followed made the experience even more memorable. The Performance Marimba Band was awarded first place in the All Girls Division, second place in the Rhythm Fusion category for "Fallin" by Alicia Keys, featuring soloist Mhlali H, and, to top it all off, an outstanding third place overall.

Congratulations to our incredible girls on these remarkable achievements and on the hard work, dedication and teamwork that made them possible.



SJS Mini-Eisteddfod

Last week, we hosted our annual SJS Mini-Eisteddfod, a highlight in our Music calendar. We were privileged to welcome Mr Jaco Dippenaar as our adjudicator, whose insightful and encouraging feedback provided each performer with valuable guidance for their musical journey.

This year marked an exciting milestone as we extended the Mini-Eisteddfod to include our Senior School girls, giving even more musicians the opportunity to develop their performance skills in a supportive environment. Throughout the week, our girls performed with enthusiasm, confidence, and heart, demonstrating not only their musical abilities but also their creativity, resilience, and willingness to grow.

The Mini-Eisteddfod provides an invaluable platform for young performers to experience the art of performance while building confidence and refining their craft. Congratulations to every girl who participated, and sincere thanks to our adjudicator, staff, accompanists, parents, and everyone who contributed to making the event such a memorable success.

