

STIRLING HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter



2026 – Edition 03

DEAR PARENTS, STAFF AND PUPILS

Welcome to Term 3 – it's hard to believe that we are already past the half-way mark for 2026.

I trust that you all enjoyed a well-deserved break or at the very least, quality time with your children. We are excited to start the busiest term after a relaxing holiday and we are looking forward to another spectacular term at Stirling High.

Staff News

We are very excited to welcome 3 new members of staff and we are confident that they will add great value to our school and we know that they will appreciate and support the ethos and values that we incorporate in everything we do at Stirling High.

Mr Sparg joins us from Selborne College where he has held a management position and he joins us as an HOD. We look forward to the contribution and value he will add to our School Management Team. Mr Sparg is an experienced and highly respected Mathematics and Accounting educator, whose wife is already a staunch Stirling supporter and an educator at Stirling Primary.

Ms Xana hails from Umtata High and is an experienced Life Sciences educator, while Ms Griffin has experience teaching English at Clarendon High and Internationally. They both come highly recommended and we are very excited about their appointments.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Kemp and Mr Muir for their contribution to Stirling High over many years of dedicated service.

Mrs Kemp joined us as an experienced Life Sciences educator and she proved not only to be a star in the classroom, but also encouraged hundreds of learners to love and appreciate the environment and nature. Mrs Kemp was the educator who founded our Environmental Club (Eco Club) which has become one of our most active clubs, and which has regularly won awards relating to environmental issues including numerous WESA and Recycling Awards. Mrs Kemp also encouraged children to participate in the EXPO's and a number of her learners achieved at National level. She has been a valued member of staff for 20 years and will be missed as she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.



Mr Muir, who is a past pupil of the school, has been a dedicated English teacher and has also been involved with our very successful Debating Teams during his more than 9 years at Stirling. During his time at Stirling High, he has also served as a Grade Assistant for the Grade 12s and we wish him well as he takes up a new position in the U.S.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Ms Meecham** and Mr Storm Siebert (past pupil and staff member) on their recent engagement.

Mr Dettmer was appointed as a match official for the African Hockey Federation u/18, 5's Qualifying Tournament in August to be held in Kenya. Congratulations Mr Dettmer we are very proud – you have made your mark Nationally and now you are umpiring on the International stage too.

Academics

The following learners have excelled academically during Term 2 and we are very proud of their efforts and achievements:

- Jessica Kahts (Gr 8) – 90,8%
- Asisipho Vanda (Gr 9) – 94,9%
- Amy Barnes (Gr 9) – 94,6%
- Bhakti Vassan (Gr 9) – 93,9%
- Codi Marchetti (Gr 9) – 91,3%
- Masivuye Dyosini (Gr 9) – 91%
- Faye Putzier (Gr 9) – 90,4%
- Shivam Vassan (Gr 11) – 91,3%
- Julia Kockott (Gr 11) – 90,6%
- Michael Dowie (Gr 12) – 92,3%

We are very proud of our Academic Achievers and we will celebrate academic achievements of 93 learners at the annual Academic Achievers' Dinner which will be held on the 5th of August.

Term 3 is a term full of projects and tests and we encourage learners to ensure they produce work that reflects their best efforts. We wish our Grade 12s all the best as they start preparing for the Prelim exams which start in a month's time.

Sport

Exciting news during the holiday was that **Sinothando Lujabe** had the privilege of representing the Border u/18 Hockey Team in Pietermaritzburg. Sinothando had a fantastic tournament and was rewarded for her effort with a spot in the South African u/17A Hockey team. The team will be touring Zimbabwe to play a series of matches in August.

Amyoli Mgibi made it through to the Final squad of 21 netball players for selection for the SA u18 Team after the national tournament. We congratulate these two sportswomen on their achievements at a National level.

Over **40 learners** proudly represented Border and the Eastern Cape in a variety of sporting codes across South Africa during the past school holidays. We congratulate them on their selection at Provincial level and as they represent our school with pride.

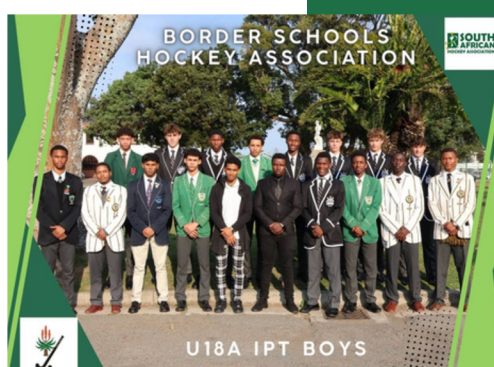
Congratulations to all our teams on their outstanding performances at the Derby Days.

The commitment, sportsmanship, and determination displayed by our learners are a testament to the hard work of our players, coaches, and support staff.

We are excited about the completion and official opening of our new Astro Turf and Pavilion. These world-class facilities mark a significant milestone for the school and will provide exceptional opportunities for our learners to train, compete, and grow for many years to come.

We will be officially opening our Indoor Cricket Nets at the start of the summer season.

As we look forward to our final four Derbies of the season, we appreciate the positive impact of our coaches and managers on our teams and players as well as the positive support received from our parents.





Culture

The Music Department once again enjoyed an outstanding year at the annual **Port Rex Lions Eisteddfod**, with our learners achieving exceptional results across a wide range of disciplines. We were especially proud to receive the awards for Most Outstanding Senior Pianist, Most Outstanding Senior Piano Ensemble, and Most Outstanding Senior Vocalist.

Our **marimba ensembles** continued their tradition of excellence, achieving excellent results at the Eisteddfod. They also entertained the school community with break-time performances and were invited to perform at the inaugural BKCOB Africa Agricultural & Agro-processing Indaba. We look forward to a combined performance with Stirling Primary School in the third term.

This term also saw the debut of **Woodwind Serenade**, a first-of-its-kind concert showcasing our flute, clarinet and saxophone students, together with the Clarinet and Saxophone Ensembles. The concert highlighted the depth of talent within our woodwind programme.

We were also delighted to collaborate with the music departments of Selborne College, Clarendon High School and Hudson Park High School during the annual derby fixtures. These performances not only showcased the exceptional musical talent across our schools, but also fostered collaboration and created a positive, non-competitive environment for young musicians.

Our dancers treated the school to two outstanding break-time performances during the term. Audiences enjoyed an exceptionally high standard of dancing across a wide variety of styles. Congratulations to Mrs Jones on another highly successful **Dance Extravaganza**. We look forward to the evening performance in the third term.

Congratulations to **Lelona Botha**, who was selected to represent South Africa at the Asia Youth Model United Nations (AYIMUN) in Bangkok, Thailand, from 26–29 July. As a special honour, Lelona was also selected to participate in the opening Parade of Nations ceremony. We congratulate her for representing both our school and our country on the international stage.

General

The **Matric Dance** was held in the last week of term and as always, the venue was beautiful, the Matrics looked spectacular and the evening was memorable.

The Winter Games, a National Sports Event, was hosted by BCM during the June/July holidays and Stirling High was chosen as the Central Hub for the event due to the availability of sports facilities and associated venues which included our two astros, three rugby fields, Long Room and Pavilion. The event was successful and proved to be a good fundraising and marketing tool for the school.



During the holiday, a number of staff and learners travelled to **Clarens on the Geo Tour**. Ably led by ex-Stirling teacher, Mr Charl Wessels, the learners learned about rock formations from volcanic activity millions of years ago and stepped into the past with a visit to a fossil museum in the Golden Gate National Park. A visit to the Ash River outfall (a part of the Lesotho Highlands Water Scheme) and walks to caves carved by water movement and used as hideouts during the Boer Wars were also on the programme.

Adopt-a-School, through Optima Trust Project Advocacy has **donated a substantial Solar System** which will be installed before Exams start in mid-August. We thank Optima Trust for the many years of support to Stirling High in the Mathematics area and for this Legacy Project which will be invaluable to our school in the future.

Please join us on the **14th of August for our Founders' Day** Celebration and support the sport and activities against Cambridge over the weekend.

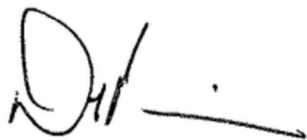
At the end of this term, I will have spent **10 years** at Stirling, which I have always believed is the ideal time at a school.

Although I am looking forward to my retirement, I will miss this amazing school and the incredible learners as well as the special people whom I have had the privilege of working with for the past 10 years.

My SMT and I will make sure that the school is in a very good position before the next Principal arrives. We have worked very hard and been successful at ensuring the very best staff are employed and important projects have been completed and there are still one or two loose ends that need attention before my exit. I will definitely need to find a time-consuming hobby when I leave.

Wishing you all a successful 3rd term.

Kind Regards



Doug Prior

**STIRLING HIGH SCHOOL -
WHERE HAPPINESS &
EXCELLENCE MEET.**



SAVE the DATE
FOUNDERS' & REUNION WEEKEND
14-15 AUGUST 2026

5 / 10 / 20 / 30 / 40+
YEAR REUNION

BAY COLLECTIVE