

THE Saints Weekly

ROUND-UP



OUR 2024 TERM DATES CAN BE FOUND ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE NEWSLETTER.

OLD BOYS WEEKEND '24

I cannot commend our estate management team, hospitality team, security, cleaning team, staff, boys, and parents highly enough for an extraordinary Old Boys' weekend. There is something wholesome about a day of community and sport where even the youngest boys are one hundred percent part of the story. Their infectious enthusiasm explains the concept of brotherhood in ways that words could not do justice and pausing the competition of games to cheer the mini-rugby swarms before the First XV game just reminds us that memories of being together last much longer than the elation or disappointment of victory or defeat.



I do not recall being as proud of this community and our boys, their coaches, and the staff of the College, as I was this weekend – they worked so hard, and I am so grateful to be part of one hundred and fifty years of attempting to achieve what many may have considered to be impossible. – Mr Allen van Blerk (Principal)

1ST XV RUGBY VS CLIFTON

The Saints 1st XV rugby team took on Clifton College in front of an electric crowd on Old Boys Day. The conditions for running rugby were perfect, and the field was in great nick which set the scene for an exciting game of running rugby between two teams who were full of confidence heading into the fixture.



From the kick-off, the Saints were in a rampant mood. An early mistake from Clifton set us up for an attacking opportunity deep in their territory. The first try came through a beautifully worked line-out move, which saw the forwards and backs link up well. Okuhle Peti went on a destructive run which put the Saints on the front foot. Raphael Ajibade then took the ball on a well waited short line and crashed over for the first try.



The second score came through a botched kick receipt from Clifton. This again gave the boys in *Blue & Gold* an opportunity to pull out a tap move which was perfected on the Friday afternoon at Captain's run. Okuhle Peti finished off the move by scoring under the posts. It must be noted that there was some beautiful play between Christian Allardice and Matthew Fick in the lead up to this try. The Saints continued to apply pressure on Clifton as the first half continued, despite playing with 13 men for most of the first half. The home team showed tremendous spirit as Clifton hammered away at our line. After securing a crucial turn-over, Raphael Ajibade ran another beautiful short line off Matthew Fick and ran in a 95 metre try.

Clifton came out re-energised in the second half. Despite being down 31 – 3 at the break, they managed to put some good phases together and keep St Charles College pinned in their half for long periods. The locals struggled with their exits at times which kept Clifton in the hunt. They eventually took their opportunity and crashed over for their first try in the 52nd minute. Through the course of the second half, the Saints continued to build phases and put a great deal of pressure on Clifton.

The forwards and backs persisted with their great interplay and high tempo approach which saw them move into a commanding 50 – 10 lead with eight minutes to go. Clifton then hit back with a well-worked try at the death with the final score ending up as 50 – 15.



Thank you to Clifton for making the trip and for a fantastic day of rugby, we look forward to meeting them again later on in the season at Riverside. – Mr Craig Dwyer (Head Coach)

1ST XI HOCKEY VS CLIFTON

Our Saints 1st hockey team took on Clifton in front of an electric crowd on the St Charles College Astro on Old Boys Day. It was an exciting game of hockey where both teams impressed.

From the first whistle, Clifton was ready to go as they caught the SCC boys on their heels, resulting in a short corner within the first two minutes. Nothing came of the opportunity, but it was the wake-up call the home team needed, and they quickly changed gears, creating a few opportunities at the other end. One of these opportunities led to a short corner, which was a well-executed penalty corner that resulted in a good flick and goal from 50th capped player, Marcel Wellmann.



The whistle for the restart seemed to catch the SCC players on the back foot as Clifton found themselves pushing hard and getting behind the *Blue & Gold* midfield. A quick pass infield found one of their strikers unmarked in the circle with time to unleash a strong shot at goal, and the ball found itself in the back of the net. Two goals within a minute of each other, and the score was 1 - 1. It was set up for an enthralling encounter. The remainder of the first half had SCC on the front foot, winning numerous short corners and several opportunities to score from open play. However, they failed to convert which would come back to haunt them in the end. The first half ended with SCC on top, but the scores level at one apiece.



Clifton came out firing in the second half. Their man-on-man defense in the midfield made it difficult for the Saints to get it out the back, which led to them trying to carry it out. With the limited exit options, Clifton started to control the territory and created a few opportunities for themselves, including a penalty flick which was well saved by the Saints goalkeeper, Thando Zama. The missed penalty flick didn't get to the boys from the coast and going into the final 10 minutes of the game, they managed to create another opportunity, which they managed to convert to go into the lead 2 - 1. Not long to go and the SCC players showed a little frustration and panic as they pushed hard to try equalize in the final minutes of the game. This, however, led to open spaces at the back and allowed Clifton too much room in behind. A well-timed pass positioned a Clifton forward in the circle with no one around. He struck the ball well to beat the Saints keeper once again to make the score 3 - 1 to the visitors as the game came to a close two minutes later.

Thank you to Clifton for making it a fantastic day of hockey and we look forward to the next encounter later on in the season. – Mr Matthew Coombes (Head Coach)

GRADE 1 AND 2 CURTAIN RAISER

The SCC Old Boys Day curtain-raiser is a very special and unmissable tradition. It is incredibly difficult to replicate the opportunity for our Grade 1s and 2s to play in front of the entire St Charles College community. Our boys duly delivered with a silky display of handling and footwork to ignite the crowd, which set an incredible tone for the first team match to follow. – Mr Joel Barron (Junior Primary Sport)



FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Our campus was a buzz with Old Boys and Friends of the College on Saturday for the hockey and rugby vs Clifton Durban. The Coach House was heaving with supporters, Old Boys and friends, and was made very festive by the live music from our up-and-coming SCC artists and bands.

All supporters of the weekend left with full hearts, renewed connections, and a sense of belonging to a very special community. The weekend was a resounding success with everyone already looking forward to our 2025 reunion and 150th celebrations!



FRIDAY EVENING OLD BOYS FUNCTION

Our Old Boys' Weekend began with a warm "Meet and Greet" reception on Friday evening, where attendees were welcomed with a cocktail sponsored by Sugar Baron. Classmates mingled and caught up with each other over drinks and a finger supper at The Coach House, reminiscing over their years at St Charles College.

It is always special to acknowledge our international guests who have travelled to join us, and this year was no exception. We thank them for making the journey to be with us and we appreciate their dedication and enthusiasm!

A quiet auction was held where Wayne Fourie and Manual Gonsalves (Class of 1995) bought the "Auction Glass" – thank you, gentlemen!

Thank you to all those who attended the evening - we acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to St Charles College.
– Mr Gill Sheppard (Old Boys Liaison)



PREP Rugby

There was much excitement and energy, both on and off the field, as our Prep School boys began their rugby season against Ridge and Pelham.

The boys played extremely well and gave of their best in the *Blue & Gold*, making their coaches and parents so proud. The honours were even in the results which added to the fantastic morning enjoyed by all.

We congratulate Pelham on winning the 1st XV match with a try in the final minute and thank them for hosting us so well. We look forward to our first home match of the season on Saturday against Cordwalles.

– Mr Gregg Cole-Edwardes (Head of Prep Sport)



PREP Squash

We congratulate Ryan Hawkins, who continues to play excellent Squash and won the recently held KZN Closed Tournament. Well done Ryan and keep up the great work. – Mr Gregg Cole-Edwardes (Head of Prep Sport)



KZN MIDLANDS YOUTH CHOIR SELECTION

Phoenix Mzulwini (Grade 9) has been selected to sing in the KZN Midlands Youth Choir for 2024. The KZN Midlands Youth Choir performs in and around KwaZulu-Natal throughout the year and will be touring Pretoria in August to participate in the Enharmonic Choir Festival.

Phoenix is a committed member of the St Charles College Senior Choir and the St Charles College Chamber Choir, and we look forward to seeing him blossom in the KZN Midlands Youth Choir too. Well done, Phoenix!
– Ms Kristen Wepener (Music Teacher)



MUSIC Honours



Yuxuan Liu, one of our Grade 11 boys, who is an exceptional pianist and drummer, has received Music Honours.

Last year, he completed his Grade 8 Piano Examination making him eligible for this prestigious award. Yuxuan has been part of the High School String Ensemble and Orchestra since Grade 9, performing as pianist and percussionist. He is a regular solo performer, participating in local and regional eisteddfods, as well as school performances.

He is a tremendous asset to music at St Charles College. – Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)

SOUND OF Freedom

The annual Sound of Freedom Choir Concert was held on Wednesday evening and was hosted in the beautiful St Charles College Chapel. The evening, celebrating the 30 years of freedom in South Africa, was filled with beautiful performances from the St Charles College Choir and Chamber Choir, as well as The Wykeham Collegiate, and the Midlands Youth Choir.



The evening started with the St Charles College Choir performing three items: *Nguwe* (soloist Okwakho Mzileni), *Going Home*, and *Now Let Me Fly*. These were performed with excellence and confidence and ended with a flourish as Calem Prigge lifted Covhan Baatjies in spectacular fashion to end their programme with wholehearted applause.



This performance was followed by the outstanding Chamber Choir, who will be competing in the ATKV National Choir Competition next week. They performed the songs *God Be In My Head* (soloist Alwande Buthelezi) and *Joshua Fit The Battle of Jericho* with incredible precision and wonderful balance of the voice groups producing beautiful harmonies.



The Wykeham Collegiate followed, performing four wonderful items of their own, with *Golden Hour* being a crowd favourite. The evening ended with an excellent display of choral singing by the Midlands Youth Choir, performing a wide range of music, and ending with their African programme.
– Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)

TEAM OF THE WEEK

Old Boys' Day holds a special place on the calendar, filled with cherished memories and nostalgic reflections. It's a day that bridges generations, bringing together both young and old.



While hockey and rugby often take centre stage, the true essence of the day transcends mere results. It's about the shared experiences and lasting connections that endure long after the final whistle.

Among the various teams that contribute to the day's magic, let's shine a spotlight on the Music Team this week. Their outstanding performances added an extra layer of extravagance to the festivities. The inclusion of both juniors and seniors in the same team heightened the sense of camaraderie and made the celebrations all the more meaningful.

Congratulations to our Old Boys' Day Team of the Week – our Music Team.
– Mr Divan van Wyk (Sports Marketing)

Art AND DESIGN

This week several promising Art and Design students had their work exhibited as part of the Freedom Day display at the chapel entrance. The display featured both large and small-scale works in a variety of media.

Stephen Pech's watercolour and graphite weaver is a colourful evocation of the

freedom to sing. Joel Kempthorne's large charcoal drawing of a mysterious stairwell on campus reminded us of the freedom we have to explore, while the delicate plant studies of Connor Vogt and Locke Lloys-Ellis speak of the freedom we have to enjoy nature. The freedom to change is celebrated through Samuel Edkins's innovative mixed medial collage of a butterfly emerging from a chrysalis. – Dr Faye Spencer



MATHS OLYMPIAD Round 1

Round 1 of the South African Mathematics Olympiad was written on the 14th of March 2024, and our SCC boys produced excellent results. Over 70 boys qualified to write the second round.

Top in Grade 8 was Bailey Peters and Matthew Reynolds, with 90% and 80% respectively. Top in Grade 9 was Kaden Govindasamy, Kaidan Pillay, James Isaac with 95% each and Daniel Morkel with 90%. Top in Grade 12 was Connor Riley and Cameron Beesley with 90% each, Sebastien Le Roux and

Sanjay Tallapaneni with 85% each. Top in Grade 11 was Divaar Pillay with 80%, and in Grade 10 Daniel Gurney, Azai Vally, Hayden Crutchley and Arav Lallo achieved 65% each.



In addition, all our Grade 12 boys who wrote the first round qualified for the second round: Nicholas Oldfield, Nathan Raubenheimer, Ethan De Wet, Cameron Paul-English, Joel Reynard, Tynin Sampson, Thomas Brown and Sebastian Smith.

We would like to congratulate these boys on their excellent achievement and wish them all the best for the second round, which will be written on the 9th of May 2024. – Mrs Charlotte Pillay (Head of Mathematics Faculty)

World BOOK DAY

READING IN THE JUNIOR PRIMARY WITH THE GRADE 8s

Promoting literacy and a love for reading, are essential for personal development, education, and lifelong learning. Books have the ability to transcend boundaries, allowing our boys to explore different cultures and perspectives, foster empathy and cultivate their imagination.

Books serve as guardians of our cultural heritage and anchors of wisdom amidst the rapid changes of modern life. In today's digital age, where our attention is often diverted to screens and social media, World Book Day encourages our boys to appreciate, and perhaps rediscover the joy of reading physical books.

– Mrs Lauren Riley (head of Junior Primary)



SENIOR PRIMARY



Our Senior Primary boys did not disappoint, arriving at school dressed to impress as their favourite book characters.



GRADE 3s VISIT TO SCRUMMIES

What better way to celebrate World Book Day than by spending the morning reading some of your favourite stories with friends from Grade 3!





FIXTURES 2024

SAINTS

RUGBY

15 March	Milnerton High School
16 March	Maritzburg College Fillers
17 March	Bishops
22-26 March	Michaelhouse Festival
24-28 March	Skonk Nicholson Festival
28-30 March	St Stithians College
20 April	Clifton College (H)
27 April	DHS (A)
2-4 May	Grey High Festival
4 May	Maritzburg Day (A)
11 May	Clifton College (A)
25 May	St Stithians Exchange (H)
1 June	Glenwood (A)
8 June	Hilton College (A)
24-28 June	Clifton College Festival
28 June-3 July	St Alban's College Festival
July and August	Sevens Tournaments

HOCKEY

8-10 March	Inland Tournament
16 March	Glenwood (H)
21-24 March	Bishops ISHF
22-25 March	Michaelhouse Festival
22-25 March	Ken Florens Festival
25-28 March	St Andrews ISHF (U16A)
29-01 April	St Andrews ISHF (U14A)
29-01 April	KES Easter Festival
20 April	Clifton (H)
27 April	DHS (H)
4 May	Maritzburg College (A)
11 May	Clifton (A)
14 May	Michaelhouse (TBC)
25 May	St Stithians (TBC)
1 June	Glenwood (A)
8 June	Hilton (A)



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR YOUR MY SCHOOL CARD?

Swipe your MySchool, MyVillage, MyPlanet or linked Woolworths card at Woolies (or any of the partner stores) to help grow swipes and support St Charles College.

Did you know that MySchool cards are available from reception? Get yours today and start swiping!



Mother's Who Care

MWC is a Christian group who meet weekly to pray for our staff, boys & their families. Please join us in person, privately or on a WhatsApp call every Wednesday at 7:30. Sonja Palframan on Cell: 0823469161



Philippians 4:13
I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.



ST CHARLES COLLEGE
S O U T H A F R I C A



TERM DATES 2024

TERM 1	
Administration, Managers, Housemasters and Support Staff Return	10 January (Wednesday)
Teaching and Boarding Staff Return (Staff Development)	11 January (Thursday)
Senior School Boarders Return (Grade 8 - Grade 12)	16 January (Tuesday)
Senior School Lessons Commence (Grade 8 - Grade 12)	17 January (Wednesday)
Prep School Boarders Return (Grade 4 - Grade 7)	16 January (Tuesday)
Prep School Lessons Commence (Grade 000 - Grade 7)	17 January (Wednesday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	16 February - 19 February
End of Term and Human Rights Day (21 March)	21 March (Thursday) School Day
TERM 2	
Easter Weekend 29 March - 01 April (Friday - Monday)	
Staff and Boarders Return	15 April (Monday)
Lessons Commence	16 April (Tuesday)
Freedom Day (27 April)	27 April (Saturday)
Workers' Day (01 May)	01 May (Wednesday) School Day
OLD BOYS' REUNION WEEKEND	20 April (Saturday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	17 May - 20 May
Youth Day (16 June Sunday)	17 June (Monday) School Day
End of Term	21 June (Friday)
TERM 3	
Staff and Boarders Return	15 July (Monday)
Lessons Commence	16 July (Tuesday)
FOUNDERS DAY (26 July)	26 July (Friday)
Women's Day (09 August)	09 August (Friday) School Day
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	16 August - 19 August
Senior School Speech Night (6pm)	19 September (Thursday)
End of Term	19 September (Thursday)
TERM 4	
Staff and Boarders Return	30 September (Monday)
Lessons Commence	01 October (Tuesday)
GRADE 12 FINAL ASSEMBLY	31 October (Thursday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	01 November - 04 November
End of Term (Pre-Primary and Junior Primary)	28 November (Thursday)
End of Term (Senior Primary and Senior School)	29 November (Friday)
Grade 6 Open Weekend	29 - 30 November (Friday and Saturday)
Teaching Staff Leave	05 December (Thursday)
Management and Support Staff Conclude	13 December (Friday)

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