

Saints

TERM 1 WEEK 11

WEEKLY ROUNDUP



Saints Sport News

1st XV Rugby

St Charles College travelled to Riverside on Saturday afternoon to take on Clifton in what promised to be a competitive early-season clash. Both teams entered the fixture with differing motivations. Clifton came into the match with confidence after recording two strong wins in their opening games of the season, while the Saints were determined to secure their first victory after a challenging start to our campaign.



Preparation during the week centered heavily around improving defensive organisation, system accuracy and overall shape – the key focus areas identified following the opening fixtures. The squad showed strong intent throughout the week, and there was a clear sense of purpose heading into the match.

As anticipated, Clifton started the match with intensity, applying early pressure and testing the Saints' defence. The first half was a tightly contested affair, with both sides working hard for momentum. St Charles College managed to maintain composure and discipline, edging ahead to take a narrow 10 – 7 lead into the halftime break.

Following the interval, we made several adjustments to our attacking approach, particularly in identifying where best to apply pressure. The response from the players was outstanding. St Charles College came out firing in the second half, scoring two quick tries shortly after the restart to establish a healthy lead. This momentum allowed the team to settle into their brand of rugby, characterised by strong ball movement, width in attack, and the ability to consistently challenge the defensive edges.

The defensive effort remained a standout feature of the performance, with the team demonstrating improved alignment, work rate, and physical intent. Sustained pressure eventually translated into further points, allowing Saints to take control of the match.

The final score saw St Charles College secure a convincing 38 – 7 victory, a pleasing reward for the hard work and focus shown throughout the week.

St Charles College would like to thank Clifton School for hosting a fantastic day of rugby and for the hospitality shown to players and staff. We look forward to welcoming Clifton for the return fixture later in the season. Based on the quality and spirit displayed, Clifton is undoubtedly a side capable of enjoying a strong season ahead.

Credit must also go to the Saints players and staff for their commitment, preparation, and willingness to respond positively to the challenges faced in the opening weeks of the season. – Mr Craig Dwyer (Head Coach)

1st XI Hockey

On a cool, rain-swept morning, the stage was set for a gripping 1st team hockey clash as St Charles College travelled to Durban to face Clifton at their Riverside home ground. Both sides rose to the occasion, delivering a match brimming with intensity, skill, and late drama.

From the first whistle, the contest proved evenly balanced. Clifton's reputation for speed and technical excellence was evident, but the Saints matched them stride for stride, showing composure and defensive resilience. The visitors worked tirelessly to contain Clifton's attacking threats, while also carving out promising opportunities of their own. A series of short corners offered St Charles College a chance to take control, but clinical finishing eluded them. As the first half drew to a close, the scoreboard remained unchanged at 0 – 0, a fair reflection of a tightly contested opening period in which neither side could assert clear dominance.

The second half, however, brought a shift in momentum. Clifton struck first, capitalising on an opening to edge ahead and ignite the home crowd. The Saints responded with determination, demonstrating excellent teamwork and attacking precision, they produced a superb field goal to restore parity, setting up a tense finale. With the scores level and time ticking away, the match hung delicately in the balance. It was only in the final four minutes that Clifton managed to break through once more, seizing a crucial 2 – 1 lead. Forced into chasing the game, St Charles College pushed numbers forward in search of an equaliser. That urgency, however, left gaps at the back and Clifton took full advantage, adding a third goal to seal the contest. While the 3 – 1 scoreline may suggest a comfortable victory, it told only part of the story.

St Charles College will feel unfortunate not to have taken something from a match in which they competed fiercely throughout. Their defensive organisation, work rate, and moments of attacking quality kept them firmly in contention until the closing stages. Ultimately, Clifton's sharpness and skill in the dying moments proved decisive, as they pulled away to claim victory in a match that remained fiercely contested until the very end. Despite the result, the Saints can take pride in a performance that showcased their character and competitiveness, and one that, on another day, might well have yielded a different outcome. – Mr Matthew Coombes (Head Coach)



Prep Rugby

This past weekend saw our rugby boys embrace true rugby weather... cold, wet, and muddy conditions that brought out the very best in the spirit of the game. A number of festivals took place across the region, providing valuable opportunities for players of all age groups to gain match experience and grow in confidence.

Our U9s were at home at St Charles College, the U10s to Cowan House, the U11s competed at Clifton Nottingham Road, and our Open sides took part in the festival at Howick Prep.

Each of these festivals followed a shortened, one-way match format, designed to maximise game time and exposure for every player. While the results in these formats are not the primary focus, the true value lies in the experience gained. These fixtures often present challenging matchups, particularly for our developing teams, placing players against opposition of varying strengths.



This creates an environment where boys are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones, test their resilience, and refine their skills under pressure. Whether facing stronger opposition or learning to lead in more evenly matched contests, each player benefits from the opportunity to grow. Well done to all the boys who took part, as well as the coaches and staff who continue to invest their time and energy into creating these meaningful experiences.

Looking ahead, we wish our 1st team rugby and tennis players all the very best as they travel to St Stithians in Johannesburg this coming weekend. This tour is a fantastic opportunity to showcase not only your sporting ability, but also your character and sportsmanship. Travel safely, play with courage and commitment, respect your opposition and officials, and most importantly, wear your school colours with pride. Make the most of every moment, support one another, and return not only as better players, but as stronger teammates and young men. We are behind you all the way. Good luck and enjoy every second of the journey. – Mr Matthew Coombes (Head of Prep Sport)

Junior Primary *Swim Skills*

Our Swim Skills Exhibition offered a wonderful glimpse into the boys' growing confidence and competence in the water.

In our Junior Primary, we value swimming as an essential life skill, and it was encouraging to share how the boys are learning to master this complex coordination of arms, legs, breathing, rhythm, and buoyancy.

Beyond simply reaching the other side of the pool, our focus is on developing thoughtful swimmers



who listen carefully, apply their coaching, and build the automaticity and efficiency that underpin strong technique. From building water confidence to refining technique, every boy showed focus and determination. It was particularly special for our Year 3 boys to showcase their skills in the new Aquapark pool. – Mrs Lauren Riley (Head of Junior Primary)

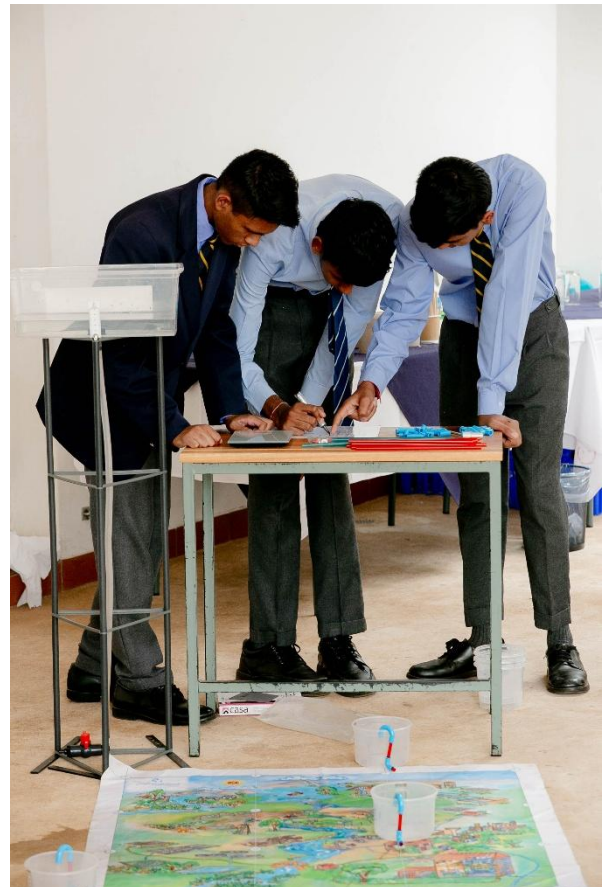


Aqualibrium Competition

Recently, the regional Aqualibrium Water Competition, hosted by the PMB SAICE branch, took place at St Charles College. The event drew strong participation from schools across the Pietermaritzburg region, highlighting both innovation and environmental awareness.

The competition consisted of two components. The first was a poster presentation, where teams showcased the water conservation and harvesting methods implemented at their schools. The second, and most anticipated event, was the Aqualibrium water distribution challenge.

Representing St Charles College were Kaidan Pillay, Tàen Govender and Jashan Chetty. Their task was to design and construct a system capable of distributing exactly three litres of water evenly into three containers, using only the provided materials. With just one hour to complete the challenge, the task required careful planning, precision, and strong engineering insight.



With 14 teams competing across two sessions, the standard was exceptionally high. The SCC team approached the challenge with enthusiasm and demonstrated excellent teamwork throughout. Although the results were closely contested and did not fall in their favour, the experience proved highly rewarding.

Through their participation, the boys gained valuable insight into real-world engineering applications while developing their problem-solving, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. We commend them for their dedication and participation in the event.

Their involvement reflects St Charles College's ongoing commitment to fostering curiosity, innovation, and resilience – qualities that extend far beyond the classroom.

– Ms Sandipa Bhikraj

Mathematics Olympiad

Round 1 of the South African Mathematics Olympiad was written on 12 March 2026.

Our St Charles College boys produced excellent results in this round, with almost 70 boys qualifying to write in the second round.

Top in Form 2 was Harry Matthews with 80%, and Sebastiaan Jordaan, Tyler Rajah and Azariah Saka with 70% each.

Top in Form 3 was Joshua Drew and Keagan Hewer with 85% each, and Veer Bhagwan, Thomas Martindale and Tharun Naidoo with 75% each.

Top in Form 4, was Matthew Reynolds who achieved 70%. Top in Form 5 was, Yisun NG-Yang with 85%, James Isaac with 80%, and Lwandile Gwala with 70%. Top in Form 6 was Dane Harrison with 80%, Hayden Crutchley and Matthew Hardman with 75% each, and Daniel Gurney with 70%.

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 14 May 2026.

– Mrs Charlotte Pillay (Head of Mathematics Faculty)



Outreach Trip to WESSA

On Friday, 20 March, a group of St Charles College boys made their way to WESSA, situated at the Umgeni Valley in Howick.

WESSA is an organisation that was founded in 1926 as the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa. They have a long history of conservation and champion South Africa's rich natural heritage. WESSA'S strategic focus areas include climate action, biodiversity and habitat integrity, and pollution reduction which reflects their commitment to comprehensive and impactful conservation work.

The SCC boys were able to help by giving graciously of their time and energy. They loaded some magazines and wastepaper up onto a bakkie where it was sent it to the recycling depot. They were also able to help in the workshop with some small tasks and then went on a scenic hike with one of the rangers observing the biodiversity in the reserve. It is important to develop new custodians for our wildlife and natural heritage, and the SCC boys did themselves proud by being able to learn new things and volunteer to participate in recycling initiatives. – Mrs Debby Joubert



MIC Night

On Wednesday evening, St Charles College hosted Mic Night in the SKA, providing a vibrant setting on a warm summer's evening. The programme featured a range of contemporary music, headlined by the three High School bands, and included solo performances from St Charles College, St John's D.S.G., The Wykeham Collegiate, and Epworth High School.

The evening was marked by a high standard of performance and an appreciative audience. The Senior Band brought the programme to a close with energetic renditions of *There's Nothing Holding Me Back* by Shawn Mendez and *Classic* by MTKO, ending the evening on a high note. – Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)



Book Your *Tickets*

Hosted by St Charles College and featuring the Choirs from St Charles College, Epworth High School and Midlands Youth Choir, this annual Choir Concert is one not to be missed.

The concert will be held in the acoustically pleasing St Charles College Chapel on Wednesday, 22 April from 18:30 - 20:30. Refreshments will be served from 18:00.

Tickets can be purchased on the Karri App by **CLICKING HERE** or Card Payments at the door.

ST CHARLES COLLEGE
PRESENTS

SOUND OF FREEDOM

Choir Concert

22 APRIL
Wednesday

6.30PM — 8.30PM
SCC CHAPEL

ENTRANCE FEE
R60 /ADULTS
R30 /SCHOLARS & PENSIONERS

TOGETHER WITH
KZN MIDLANDS YOUTH CHOIR,
EPWORTH HIGH SCHOOL,

Educate and Fascinate

Our Junior Primary boys had an unforgettable, hands-on experience learning all about bees and their incredible value to our world. Through an engaging and interactive presentation, the boys explored the fascinating life of bees, their role in pollination, and why they are so important to our environment.

The highlight of the session included dressing up and getting an up-close look at a real hive and smoker - bringing the learning to life in the most exciting way!

A truly enriching experience that sparked curiosity and appreciation for these tiny but mighty creatures. - Mrs Debbie Sorour



Art Blast in the Senior Primary

This week, the Senior Primary was filled with excitement as the boys participated in Art Blast. The theme for this year centres on landscape imagery and the boys explored various art mediums, learning from different teachers while creating pieces they can be proud of.

They took time to observe the diverse landscapes which are everywhere, from the city skyline to patchwork farms and stunning seascapes. Kerry Peckham and Carrie Bennet contributed their artistic expertise, enriching the experience. We look forward to showcasing the artwork at our exhibition later in the year. – Mrs Kelli Howells



Incredible Dog Show

Our Prep School was treated to a memorable experience today with a visit from The Incredible Dog Show. The talented dogs captivated boys from our Pre-Primary through to Form 1, holding their attention effortlessly as they demonstrated an impressive range of tricks, agility and obedience.



From daring jumps to clever problem-solving tasks, the dogs showcased their athleticism and their remarkable intelligence.

Beyond the entertainment, the show carried valuable messages. Lloyd highlighted the importance of love, patience, consistent training, and responsible pet ownership. Boys were reminded that animals learn best through play, positive reinforcement and trust, lessons that apply just as meaningfully to their own learning journeys.

Lloyds passion for his dogs is tangible. We are grateful to The Incredible Dog Show team for inspiring our boys while reminding us of the special bond between humans and animals. – Mrs Lauren Riley (Head of Junior Primary)



Easter Celebrations in Scrummies

Our Scrummies boys ended off the term with a special Easter assembly, taking time to reflect on the true meaning of Easter and learning about Jesus' incredible sacrifice on the cross.

Later in the morning, excitement filled the playground as the boys set off on a delightful Easter hunt, searching for tokens to exchange for delicious treats. It was a special and memorable morning, celebrating the hope, joy, and beauty of the season. – Mrs Bronwyn Kusel (Head of Pre-Primary)



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

GOLF & Padel DAY 2026

FRIDAY, 24 JULY 2026

MARITZBURG GOLF CLUB

SPACES ARE LIMITED AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE!

Contact us at sportsmarketing@scc.co.za to find out more.

Are you *Following*
us online?

Give us a like... Click on any of the icons to be directed to our respective social media page.



SCRUMMIES

 Scrummies
Facebook page

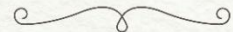
 Scrummies
Instagram page

Mothers Who Care
2026



PSALMS 138:1

[1] I WILL PRAISE YOU, LORD,
WITH ALL MY HEART: BEFORE
THE "GODS"
I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE.



MWC is a Christian Group who pray for our staff, boys & their families.

We meet weekly in the Gr 8 Boarding lounge on a Wednesday at 7:30 am.

Please join us in person, privately or on a WhatsApp call.

For more information please contact

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ST CHARLES COLLEGE

S O U T H A F R I C A

TERM DATES 2026

TERM 1	
Administration, Managers, Housemasters and Support Staff Return	07 January (Wednesday)
Teaching and Boarding Staff Return (Staff Development)	08 January (Thursday)
Boarders Return (Grade 4 - Grade 12)	13 January (Tuesday)
Lessons Commence (Grade 000 - Grade 12)	14 January (Wednesday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	20 February - 23 February
Human Rights Day (21 March)	21 March (Saturday)
End of Term	27 March (Friday)
TERM 2	
Easter Weekend 03 April - 06 April (Friday - Monday)	
Staff and Boarders Return	20 April (Monday)
Lessons Commence	21 April (Tuesday)
Freedom Day Public Holiday (27 April)	27 April (Monday) School Day
Workers' Day (01 May)	01 May (Friday) School Day
OLD BOYS' REUNION WEEKEND	15 May - 16 May (Friday and Saturday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	22 May - 25 May
Youth Day (16 June)	16 June (Tuesday) School Day
End of Term	26 June (Friday)
TERM 3	
Staff and Boarders Return	20 July (Monday)
Lessons Commence	21 July (Tuesday)
FAMILY DAY	25 July (Saturday)
FOUNDERS DAY	26 July (Sunday)
Women's Day (09 August)	10 August (Monday) School Day
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	21 August - 24 August
Senior School Speech Night (6pm)	17 September (Thursday)
End of Term	17 September (Thursday)
TERM 4	
Staff and Boarders Return	28 September (Monday)
Lessons Commence	29 September (Tuesday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	30 October - 02 November
End of Term (Pre-Primary, Junior Primary and Senior Primary)	26 November (Thursday)
End of Term (Middle School and Upper School)	27 November (Friday)
Grade 6 Open Weekend	27 - 28 November (Friday and Saturday)
Teaching Staff Leave	02 December (Wednesday)
Management and Support Staff Conclude	11 December (Friday)

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