

*Saints*

TERM 2 WEEK 1

# WEEKLY ROUNDUP



# SCRUMMIES

## OPEN MORNING

WHERE LITTLE BOYS BEGIN BIG ADVENTURES!  
DISCOVER SCRUMMIES PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL AT ST CHARLES COLLEGE.

WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2026  
9AM - 10:30AM

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE, PLEASE COMPLETE THE RSVP FORM BY FRIDAY, 8 MAY.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS OR FAMILY WITH YOUNG BOYS WHO ARE LOOKING TO START PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL?** Invite them to our upcoming Open Morning by sharing this invitation and RSVP link with them!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ScrummiesOpenMorning>

*These early years are full of wonder, growth, and big little moments. Our approach is all about sparking curiosity, building confidence, and making sure learning is as joyful as it is meaningful.*

# Outstanding Cambridge

## Awards

St Charles College has once again affirmed its position as a powerhouse of academic excellence, delivering an exceptional performance in the prestigious, Outstanding Cambridge Awards for 2025.

The College's continued success highlights its unwavering commitment to world-class education, and this achievement is also a testament to the dedication and expertise of its teachers, whose passion, guidance, and tireless support continue to inspire students to reach their highest potential.

In the 2025 AS Cambridge examinations, five boys achieved remarkable distinctions, being placed either first in South Africa or earning High Achievement honours; an extraordinary testament to both their dedication and the College's academic strength. Divaar Pillay secured the top position in South Africa for AS Mathematics (99%), while Rico Honiball achieved first place nationally for AS Geography (87%). Leo Jules Beullier and Tuahir Aribu Tuahir were each recognised with High Achievement awards for French and Portuguese respectively.



In an outstanding display of academic brilliance, Shahil Maharaj was not only placed first in South Africa for both AS Chemistry (94%) and AS Physics (95%) but also achieved the highest overall results in the country across four AS Level subjects – an exceptional accomplishment.

In recognition of their achievements, the learners and their proud families have been invited to attend the official Cambridge awards ceremonies, to be held in Cape Town and Johannesburg. These remarkable accomplishments reflect the culture of excellence that defines St Charles College. The College extends its heartfelt congratulations to these outstanding young men, whose achievements have brought immense pride and distinction to the entire school community. – Mrs Charlotte Pillay (Deputy Head of the Sixth Form College)

## Old Boy News

It was fantastic to welcome back Sanele Mdingi (2020 Head Boy) to the *Blue & Gold* earlier today before he returns to the USA.

Sanele continues to make us incredibly proud, currently pursuing his postgraduate studies while competing at a high level in rugby.

Moments like these remind us of the strength of the Saints brotherhood and the impact our Old Boys continue to make both on and off the field.

Safe travels, Sanele – we'll be cheering you on all the way!



# Easter Festival Wrap

Following an action-packed first quarter, the Saints headed off to various Easter festivals. We had 180 boys and 32 staff representing us, as 11 teams performed across four different provinces in rugby, hockey, and prep tennis. The boys in *Blue & Gold* tested themselves against 30 different schools and 3 academies, with some top results.



Our U14A rugby side showed real grit over the Easter Festival. There seems to be a strong sense of togetherness developing in the group, and it's encouraging to see how they are beginning to grow as a unit. There's definitely a lot to look forward to with this team as the season progresses.



The U15As delivered another set of excellent performances, winning all 3 games. They are clearly a well-balanced and cohesive side, and it's great to see them consistently reflecting the values and standards associated with St Charles College.

The U16As and First XV also had positive festivals. Both teams continue to develop, and there's a growing sense of momentum and belief within these groups. There's plenty of excitement building as they prepare for their upcoming trip to the Grey High School Rugby Festival.

On the hockey front, the programme continues to show strong progress across all age groups. There were excellent results across the board during the holiday period. The U14A team is beginning to take shape nicely, while the U16s and 1<sup>st</sup> Team are showing real quality and composure in their performances. One of the standout performances by the 1<sup>st</sup> team was the 3 – 0 victory against Dale College. The full set of results for all our Easter festivals is available on the app. It's an exciting time for both rugby and hockey as we launch into some highly anticipated Game Days. – Mr Rowan Irons (Director of Sport)

**We also had some spectacular individual performances and noteworthy achievements by our *Blue & Gold* sportsmen during the holidays. Congratulations to the following boys:**

- Jayden Saville (Form 5 – Conway) has been selected to represent the Switzerland U19 National Cricket team.



- Aiden McNeill (Form 5 – Conway) recently received his Honours for squash, and we are proud to announce that he is currently ranked in the Top 3 in South Africa.
- Rayhan Khonat and Shane van der Linde (both Form 6 – Delalle) competed for KZN at the Senior National Swimming Championships.
- MZ Vather (Year 4 – Smith) continues to excel in golf, contesting the leaderboards at Provincial, National, and International events. We are proud of MZ for winning The Big 5 South African Open during the holiday.



## Prep Rugby

Our Prep 1<sup>st</sup> rugby squad enjoyed a productive tour to the St Stithians College Festival during the Easter holidays.

Our boys delivered an impressive series of performances across their four matches and truly embodied the spirit of the game with their sportsmanship, determination and effort. Apart from rugby, there was much camaraderie amongst the boys.

Our tennis and rugby boys supported each other enthusiastically during their respective matches. This mutual encouragement helped to develop a positive culture within the touring group as a whole.

We are very grateful to the parents, brothers, sisters, and other supporters who offered positive encouragement and support from the sidelines.

Over the course of the tour, our boys were great ambassadors for St Charles College, both on and off the field of play, and have been enriched in many ways through this experience.

– Mr Martin and Mr Mduyana



## Prep Tennis

The prep tennis team toured to Johannesburg, along with the rugby, and took part in the St Stithians Sports Festival.

Our athletes delivered a standout performance during their three-day tour, demonstrating exceptional skill and endurance in both mixed and standard doubles.

Day 1 (Mixed Doubles): A strong start saw the team go undefeated in the opening round, ultimately finishing with 11 wins, 5 draws, and 5 losses.

Day 2 (Doubles): Our most clinical performance featured excellent communication and a clean sweep of all odd-numbered rounds, totalling 9 wins, 3 draws, and 3 losses.

Day 3 (Mixed Doubles): The squad saved their best for last, finding a "second wind" to sweep the final two rounds and finish the day with 19 wins, 2 draws, and 3 losses.

Out of 60 matches, the team secured 39 victories. This successful outing is a testament to the hard work put in over the holiday period. – Mr Janrich Viljoen



## Cycling News

The Peschl Sports Cane Challenger, hosted in April in partnership with Cycle Lab - Cornubia Megastore, brought an exciting new mountain biking event to Durban's North Coast.

Held on 12 April at Cornubia Mall, the event attracted riders from across KwaZulu-Natal for a day of challenging routes through sugarcane fields, forest sections and the Ethekewini Mountain Bike Association trail network. The event featured 20km, 40km and 60km mountain bike races, catering for both beginner and experienced riders. The unique route combined fast single track, scenic cane fields and forest riding between Cornubia and uMdloti, making it a memorable experience for all competitors.

A few cycling boys from St Charles College participated in the event and produced some excellent results. Blake Wright finished 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 136 riders in the 40km race, while Michael Brown placed 10<sup>th</sup> out of 136 riders in the same event. Nicholas Deysel competed in the 60km race and finished 61<sup>st</sup> out of 129 riders. Congratulations to these boys. – Mr Jacques Richter



## SA Junior Nationals

Congratulations to Wihan Slabber, Connor Crutchley, Dax Herbst, Ziya Jasat and Jayson Smit who all took part in the SA Junior Nationals Swimming competition during the holidays.

They swam exceptionally well, flying the Saints flag high with their impeccable manners and behaviour. Well done, gents!



## Sound of Freedom

On Wednesday evening, the St Charles College Chapel came alive with music as it hosted the annual Sound of Freedom Concert.

The programme featured the St Charles College High School Choir and Chamber Choir, the Epworth High School Choir, and the KZN Midlands Youth Choir, and was enjoyed by a full and appreciative audience.

The St Charles College High School Choir opened the evening, setting a strong tone, followed by the Epworth High School Choir, who brought a fresh and engaging dynamic to the programme. The Chamber Choir then presented a well-prepared and varied programme, performing *Rock This Town*, *Gebed*, *Die Donker*, and *Inkosi Namandla*, showing both versatility and musical maturity.

After the interval, the ever impressive KZN Midlands Youth Choir closed the concert with a confident and highly impactful performance. It was a memorable evening of music, marked by energy, variety, and performances that left a strong and lasting impression on the audience. – Mr Pierre Frenxel (Head of Music)



# Live Music Performance

During the holidays, the band 'Glass Hearts', comprising current St Charles College boys James Isaac and Daniel Morkel, Old Boy Hayden Eilers, and teacher Mr Skippy Kubheka, performed at the world-renowned Splashy Fen Music Festival.



They appeared on the acoustic stage, presenting a set that included *Yellow* by Coldplay, an original composition *Colour of My Life*, *Girls Like You*, and *End of Beginning*.

Reflecting on the experience, James Isaac noted that the performance was met with an enthusiastic response, with a packed audience singing along. He also remarked on the band's growth over the past year, particularly in terms of sound quality and stage presence, highlighting the added depth brought by including both a drummer and a bassist. – Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)

# Networking Event

On 21 April, five of our Form 6 boys were invited to attend the University of the Free State's (UFS) annual Networking Breakfast. Justin Cook, Thandokuhle Nyawo, Dane Harrison, Arav Laloo and Daniel Gurney represented the school at this informative event.



The boys were welcomed and introduced to UFS, with a particular focus on the academic and personal support structures available to students.

They were given the opportunity to ask questions and engage directly with representatives from the university.

The morning concluded with a delicious breakfast, providing a relaxed setting for conversation and networking. This annual event helps learners gain valuable insight into UFS and highlights the many benefits and opportunities available to high-achieving students. - Mrs Claire Beckedahl (Head of Form 6)

# Pietermaritzburg *Aeroclub*

On 20 March, our boys had the exciting opportunity to attend a talk presented by the Pietermaritzburg Aeroclub and Flight School. The presentation was both engaging and highly informative, giving boys valuable insight into how a pilot's licence can be achieved in an affordable and realistic manner. The presenters explained the various pathways into aviation and outlined a range of flying-related careers that learners could pursue. There was also great interest in the different types of aircrafts, with boys eagerly asking questions about which planes can be flown and the qualifications required for each.



The session concluded with a lucky draw, in which Ngcwaliso Mncwango won a free flight. During the holidays, Ngcwaliso had the unforgettable experience of taking to the skies over Pietermaritzburg. Under the guidance of an instructor, he assisted with the take-off and landing and was able to fly the aircraft around the area.

This opportunity has been an invaluable experience for Ngcwaliso and has undoubtedly inspired him as he considers his future career possibilities.

– Mrs Claire Beckedahl (Head of Form 6)

## *Blood* Donation

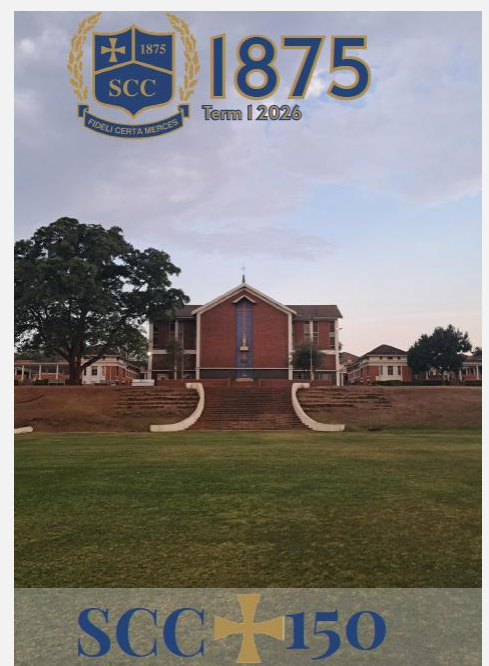
Our first Blood Drive for 2026 was held on the last day of the term, with us having a total of 66 donations from the boys and staff. We reached a record of 27 new donors, which we can be proud of!



Our Head Boy James Dickason was joined by his mom, Larika, and it was wonderful to see them donate together. – Sr Morag van Deventer (Head of Nursing)

**Click on the image below to read the latest edition of the 1875.**

**Designed and written by the boys of SCC, this edition of the newspaper is not one to be missed!**



# World Book Day

World Book Day at **Scrummies** truly brought the magic of storytelling to life.

From a clever little ladybird saving her farmyard friends, to a kind-hearted witch who always finds room on her broom, our boys stepped into the wonderful world of Julia Donaldson with imagination and flair. The creativity from both boys and parents was something special to see!

Our Form 1 boys spent a heartwarming morning connecting with our Scrummies boys – sharing stories, laughter, playtime, and of course, cups of hot chocolate.

Moments like these remind us of the joy books bring and the bonds they help create.

– Mrs Lauren Smythe



**On Thursday, our Junior Primary School celebrated World Book Day**, bringing our community together to honour the joy and importance of reading.

Along with dressing up as a book character, a highlight of the day was when boys from our Senior Primary visited our younger boys to read aloud to them.



This meaningful interaction allowed our younger boys to be exposed to reading at a higher skill level, while also inspiring a love of books and storytelling. It was equally rewarding for the older boys, who developed confidence, leadership, and a sense of responsibility as reading role models.

Books play a vital role in our communities, opening doors to imagination, knowledge, and understanding. In a school environment especially, reading builds strong language skills, encourages critical thinking, and nurtures empathy. A culture of reading helps children grow into curious, informed, and capable individuals who are prepared to engage with the world around them.

In our Junior Primary, this year's theme, "Be Curious," came to life in a creative and memorable way. Teaching staff embraced the theme by dressing up as inventors, inventions, explorers, investigators, and creators. This fun and engaging activity sparked conversations about the power of curiosity and reminded our boys that many great discoveries were made by people who asked questions, persevered through challenges, and learned from their mistakes. - Mrs Lauren Riley (Head of Junior Primary)



# Earth Day In Scrummies

Our Scrummies boys had a wonderful time celebrating Earth Day through a variety of fun and meaningful activities! The Year 0 boys got hands-on as they created their very own seed bombs - shredding paper themselves and mixing it with sunflower seeds to take home and plant. They also got the opportunity to create their own earth art piece using paints and sponges.



It was a day filled with rich sensory experiences, laughter, and learning, as the boys discovered simple but important ways they can help care for our beautiful planet.  
- Mrs Bronwyn Kusel (Head of Pre-Primary)

# Puppet Show in the Junior Primary

As part of our World Book celebration our Junior Primary boys were treated to a delightful puppet show. The tale was set in the African bushveld and through clever storytelling and beautifully crafted puppets the boys saw the rewards of sharing, kindness and perseverance. Our boys needed no encouragement to participate and soon realised the value of working together. Story telling in this unique form offers the opportunity to engage and learn. – Mrs Debbie Sorour



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

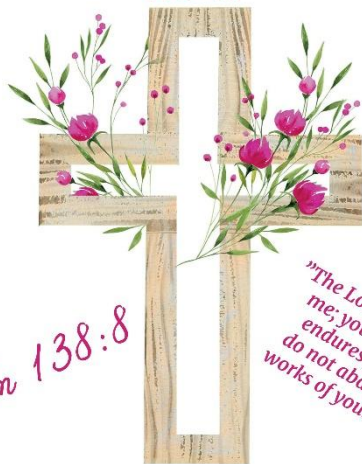
# GOLF & Padel DAY 2026

FRIDAY, 24 JULY 2026  
MARITZBURG GOLF CLUB

SPACES ARE LIMITED AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE!  
Contact us at [sportsmarketing@scc.co.za](mailto:sportsmarketing@scc.co.za) to find out more.

The background of the flyer features a close-up of a golf club head and a white and black golf glove. The scene is set against a backdrop of a lush green golf course under a blue sky with white clouds. A large, faint crest with a cross and the letters 'SC' is visible on the right side, and a banner at the bottom right reads 'FIDELI CERT'.

# Mothers Who Care 2026



*Psalm 138:8*

*"The Lord will vindicate me, your love, Lord, endures forever— do not abandon the works of your hands."*

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 Shannon Simpson  
C: 082 821 7831  
E: farmerarmour@yahoo.com



## YOU'RE INVITED

### MOTHER'S DAY TEA WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

**Trish Flanderio**  
*"The beauty of becoming undone in motherhood"*

&  
**Shelagh Lechmere- Oertel**  
*"Creative Connect"*

MAY | 11TH | 2026

7:30 - 9:30AM

RSVP

Lel: 0729197727  
Tam: 0721278998

St Charles JP  
Pavillion Staffroom

Hosted by  
Mothers Who Care



### MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKER TRISH FIANDERIO

TRISH IS A REGISTERED NURSE, MIDWIFE AND COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGIST, WHO HAS A PASSION FOR SEEING FAMILIES THRIVE AND PARENTS EQUIPPED IN RAISING GROUNDED, EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY CHILDREN. SHE HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN TRAINING LAY COUNSELLORS AS PART OF HOPE COUNSELLING, A NON PROFIT THAT PROVIDES "FREE CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING, OF A HIGH ETHICAL STANDARD, TO THE COMMUNITY". SHE IS MARRIED TO DAN AND THEY HAVE 2 CHILDREN AND HAVE ALSO BEEN FOSTER PARENTS. TRISH WILL BE TALKING ON "THE BEAUTY OF COMING UNDONE IN MOTHERHOOD".



### MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKER SHELAGH LECHMERE - OERTEL

SHELAGH AND HER HUSBAND RICHARD HAVE BEEN IN MINISTRY FOR MANY YEARS. THEY LED NORTH HILLS CHURCH AND WROTE THE PARENTING COURSE CALLED "PARENTING WITH VISION". THEY ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT EQUIPPING PARENTS WITH PRACTICAL PARENTING TOOLS, WHICH ARE INVALUABLE IN ESTABLISHING CHILDREN WHO HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY, BELONGING AND PURPOSE. SHELAGH HAS A PASSION FOR ART AND FACILITATES CREATIVE CONNECTS, WHERE SHE USES CREATIVITY TO ENGAGE WITH GOD AND WITH ONE ANOTHER. WE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO ENJOY HER CREATIVE CONNECT DURING OUR MOTHER'S DAY TEA TOGETHER.



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

Updated 18 September 2025