

Encore! Encore! 85th Spectacular!

Oh wait, that's how it all ended; let's start from the beginning.

PHOTO: Heinrich de Jongh



BY: Zara Smith

For the audience, the musical started when the curtains opened. But for those backstage, the show had already been alive for months.

To celebrate 85 years of Hermanus High, learners and teachers came together to create a production filled with music, dancing, chaos, excitement and unforgettable memories. While the audience saw polished performances and bright stage lights, backstage, a completely different story was told.

The weeks leading up to the show were packed with rehearsals. Cast members spent afternoons learning choreography, memorising lyrics and running scenes repeatedly until the performances became second nature. The backstage crew worked just as hard, ensuring props were in the right places, microphones worked properly, costumes were organised and scene changes happened smoothly. Although everything looked effortless to the audience, behind the scenes everyone was constantly moving.

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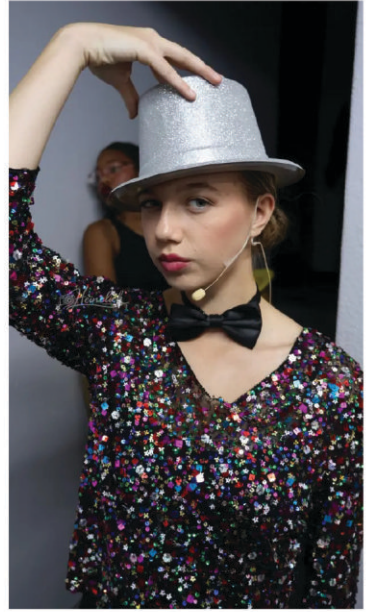
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CONTACT LOURIE @ 028 313 2195





PHOTOS: Heinrich de Jongh

**From P1**

One moment, someone would be fixing a costume zip and the next, another person would rush onto the stage with only seconds to spare. There were whispered pep talks before scenes, last-minute vocal warm-ups and moments when everyone stood silently in the wings, waiting for the music to begin. Despite the missing skirts and backstage chaos, everything

eventually came together.

What made the production truly special was the atmosphere. Learners from different grades, friend groups and activities became one team. Whether someone had a lead role, danced in the ensemble, played in the band or helped backstage, every person contributed to making the show a success. Long rehearsals turned into inside jokes, shared snacks and memories

that will probably be talked about long after this year. Learners had the opportunity to get tangled up in games of Twister, show off their moves in Just Dance and learn more about their teachers, while teachers also got to know their learners better.

For the Grade 8s, this was just a taste of the wonderful opportunities and experiences Hermanus High has to offer. For the Grade

12s, this was not a goodbye, but simply a "see you later". You will always have a place at Hermanus High.

The musical was more than just a performance celebrating 85 years of Hermanus High. It was proof of the talent, dedication and spirit within the school. The audience saw the final product, but backstage was where the real magic happened.



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'N AAND VAN ENGEL-MUSIEK

Die Paassangfees - Glimlag in die NG Kerk Hermanus

BY: Lin-Màri Slabbert

Daar is min dinge wat die siel so diep roer soos die samesmelting van jong stemme; gevul met passie en die boodskap van Paasfees. Onlangs het die geskiedkundige NG Kerk Hermanus sy deure geopen vir 'n uitsonderlike Paassangfees wat die hele gemeenskap in totale bewondering gelaat het.

Dit was nie sommer net nog 'n skoolkonsert nie; dit was 'n re-use-samewerking waar Hoërskool Hermanus se koor hande geneem het met die Promusica-koor, Curro Hermanus en Laerskool Hermanus. Die resultaat? 'n Hemelse klankefees wat die kerk gevul het.

DIE KRAG VAN SAMEWERKING

Die afwagting in die kerk was tasbaar toe die kore hul plekke inneem. Om soveel verskillende skole en ouderdomsgroepe op een verhoog, voor een kansel te sien, was 'n pragtige simbool van eenheid in ons kusstreek. Van die kleinste koorlede van die laerskole met hul blink oë, tot die senior hoërskoolleerders en die gesofistikeerde stemme van Promusica, het almal dieselfde doel voor oë gehad: om die ware gees van Paasfees deur musiek te vier.

Die akoestiek van die NG Kerk het elke noot perfek gedra. Toe die kore saamgesmelt het vir die masang, het die magtige klank die



Harmonizing like angels. PHOTO: Pierre Van Niekerk

historiese gebou gevul en byna die vensters uit hul nate laat bars. Dit was hoendervleis-oomblikke wat gehore gelyktydig met trane en diep vreugde gelaat het.

VAN LAERSKOOLO-ENERGIE TOT HOËRSKOOLO-PASSIE

Elke koor het sy eie unieke kleur aan die dag gebring:

- Laerskool Hermanus en Curro Laerskool het almal se harte gesteel met hul suiwer, onskuldige klanke en absolute dissipline. Hul energie het vrolikheid en opgewinding gebring wat perfek pas by die Paasboodskap van hoop.
- Hoërskool Hermanus se koor en Curro Hoërskool het gewys waarom die jeug van ons dorp

op nasionale vlak raakgesien word. Hul ryk harmonieë, diep emosie en tegniek het getuig van ure se harde werk en absolute toewyding onder leiding van hul koreleiers.

- Promusica het met hul kenmerkende professionaliteit en ryk klankgehalte die hele produksie na 'n hoër vlak van musiekale uitnemendheid geneem.

'N BOODSKAP VAN HOOP EN EENHEID

Die repertoire het gewissel van tradisionele, plegtige Paashimnes wat mense diep in die oë laat kyk het, tot magtige, besielende musiek. Die wyse waarop die laer- en hoërskole mekaar ondersteun het - waar die ouer leerders met

trots na die jongeres gekyk het en die kleintjies met groot oë opgekyk het na die seniors - was dalk die mooiste skildery van die hele dag.

Toe die laaste akkoorde wegsterf en die applous losbars, was dit duidelik dat hierdie Paassangfees nog lank in die Hermanus-gemeenskap se harte sal eggo. Dit was 'n dag waar skool-wedywering heeltemal vergeet is en net die musiek en die gemeenskaplike liefde vir die kunste oorgebly het. Baie geluk aan elke koorlid, dirigent en organiseerder wat hierdie onvergeetlike aand moontlik gemaak het!

Encore!!

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Miranda's Double?

BY: Heinrich de Jongh

The fashion industry has always thrived on juicy secrets, however, few stories are as intriguing as the one behind Miranda Priestly. In *The Devil Wears Prada* sequel, she runs the magazine world with her intimidation and dirty looks: "Emily? ... That is all" But is she simply fictional or someone's reality?

The Devil Wears Prada introduces Miranda as a powerful editor-in-chief of *Runway*. A woman who can look you up and down and leave you speechless. She oversees her world, although in the sequel, it reveals her more human side as she faces a threat from a collapsing print industry. Her character rapidly became one of the most iconic figures in modern film, representing the intense side and perfectionist expectations in the fashion industry.

Anna Wintour an impeccable woman often described as "the Ice Queen" and is famous for her legendary long-standing run (37 years) as the Global Editorial Director of *Vogue* and chief content officer at Condé. Wintour's reputation is one of demanding perfection, an untouchable fashion tastemaker and the ultimate umpire of style. People think Miranda is based on Wintour because the book's author lived the story firsthand. Lauren Weisberger (the author of *The Devil Wears Prada*) worked as Anna's direct assistant at *Vogue* for a year before authoring the book. The book also includes hyper-specific details from Wintour's real life, such as her office décor, her specific breakfast orders and her two children. Some other similarities between Priestly and Wintour are their professional power, exact executive operations and iconic appearances and styles.

The similarities have led to constant speculation about how much of the film reflects reality. Both films have exaggerations for the dramatic effect, which makes it more intriguing. You may know these captivating moments, such as the coat slings and the coffee orders. The line between reality and hyperactive imagination can be deceiving when comparing their lives. Movies often turn genuine people into something they are not. It's then difficult to differentiate them.

So, is Anna Wintour Miranda's double? Ultimately, Miranda may not be real, but her power and side eyes do the trick. Nevertheless, she is a creation, yet she will remain a symbol of fashion's most prevailing icons. Fortunately, these things never end; so who'll be the next Miranda?

Becoming, Not Arriving

BY: Cassidy Capes

*Matric feels like sitting
On the edge of something you can't name yet -
Still wearing the same uniform
But not feeling like the same person inside it.*

*Some days you're laughing in the corridors,
Other days you're carrying thoughts
You don't know how to put into words,
Just quietly asking God
If you're going to be okay.*

*And still,
Life keeps moving.
Tests. Deadlines. Pressure.
As if becoming someone
Should happen neatly on a timetable.*

But I think younger grades forget something important:

*No one actually feels ready
While they're becoming.*

*We all just learn in pieces -
How to fail without losing ourselves,
How to start again after things fall apart,
How to hold hope
When things feel uncertain.*

*There's something deeply human
About not having it all figured out yet.*

*And something even more beautiful
About still choosing to try.*

*So if you're watching matric from further back in the story -
Don't rush it.*

*One day you'll understand
That growing up was never about arriving quickly.*

*It was about becoming slowly,
With God still holding all the parts
You haven't learned to carry yet.*



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What you didn't know about our female icons: Audrey Hepburn

BY: Rachel Hague

Audrey Hepburn - it is practically a household name. This Belgian-born British actress starred in over twenty films in her lifetime, including 'My Fair Lady', 'Sabrina' and 'Breakfast at Tiffany's'. She is widely regarded to be on the same level of fame as Marilyn Monroe and won around twenty-five competitive awards, including an Oscar and a Grammy. Before her early death in 1993 at the age of 63 from appendiceal cancer, she spent many years of her life doing humanitarian work, including being a dedicated UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) Goodwill Ambassador. She went on over fifty field missions to poverty-stricken countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The dedication and passion she had for this work is reflected in a quote from her long time partner Robert Wolders regarding him asking her if she regretted travelling so much for her humanitarian work towards the end of her life, "Because she had, had a very busy period for UNICEF prior to her illness, in fact, I said to her once, 'Would it have been better if we hadn't exhausted ourselves to this extent traveling as much for UNICEF as we did?' And she was slightly perturbed and she said, 'Robbie, think of all we would've missed.' So I know that in her last days she regretted that she could not carry on the work because she was very passionate about it."

However, Hepburn's humanitarian work did not start there, in her early years as a teenager, she lived in Nazi-occupied Netherlands and helped the resistance. This was difficult since her father was a Nazi agent, however, he abandoned the family in 1935 and spent much of the war imprisoned in Britain as an enemy of the state. Her mother was a Nazi sympathizer for the first few years of Hitler's terror, even meeting Adolf Hitler in 1935. Much of Hepburn's secret life was unknown before her death, but it was finally revealed in Robert Matzen's biography *Dutch Girl: Audrey Hepburn and World War II* (2019).

She raised funds for the resistance through her passion for dance in 'Black Evenings', which were illegal dance performances. It was called this because the windows were blacked out and at the end of each of the performances, the audience was not allowed to make a sound. Hepburn also delivered a Resistance newspaper on her bicycle, which she hid in her socks. The paper,



Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*

Later on in life she recounted an instance of seeing Jews board a train to a concentration camp, "I remember, very sharply, one little boy standing with his parents on the platform, very pale, very blond, wearing a coat that was much too big for him, and he stepped on the train," Audrey Hepburn told a reporter in 1991. "I was a child observing a child ... Then I realized what would have happened to him."

In times of war children often suffer the most, but their innocence gives them hope and sometimes a little hope and a lot of effort is all that is needed to start a resistance. Audrey Hepburn was not just an actress, she was a woman who had a little flame of hope and fought to keep it burning.



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BY: Cassidy Capes

07:15

"Was it you who did it?"

The question lingered in the air longer than it should have. She didn't sound angry. If anything, that made it worse. Guilt tightened around my throat, closing in with every second. My heart stuttered against my ribs as I stood there, knowing I could end it all in that moment. I knew the truth. I just didn't say it.

"No."

You only live once, but you die every day. I didn't understand what that meant at first, not until the morning refused to move on.

At 07:15, I woke to the same dull light slipping through the gap in my curtains. The same ache settled in my chest, familiar yet impossible to name. And before the day had even begun, the same question waited for me. I moved through the house as if nothing was wrong, as if I hadn't already lived this moment. In the kitchen, syrup pooled slowly over my pancakes, untouched.

"Honey, what really happened?"

Why don't they believe me?

"Nothing happened."

The next morning, I woke expecting something to feel different. But the moment I opened my eyes, I knew it wasn't. 07:15. Again. The same light. The same ache. The same question. Only this time, something had shifted. The silence at breakfast felt tighter, more deliberate, as though it carried meaning I could no longer ignore.

"Honey, did you tell the truth?"

My throat tightened. I already knew my answer.

"Yes, Mom. I've always told the truth. I promise."

Because no matter how many times the day reset, I didn't.

By the third morning, the change was impossible to ignore. It wasn't the time or the light or even the question - it was something else. Something quieter. Something heavier.

07:15.

When I entered the kitchen, my mother didn't greet me the way she usually did. No hug, no warmth, just a restrained smile that never quite reached her eyes.

"I asked you a question," she said. "I need the truth this time."

I stared at the tiled floor, tracing the thin cracks with the tip of my shoe. I could say something different. I should say something different. The truth was there, close enough to reach, but I had buried it under so many lies that it no longer felt like mine.

Lying had become easier. Familiar. Safe.

"I didn't break it, Mom."

The words came out automatically, as if they no longer belonged to me.

And each time I repeated them, something changed.

My mother grew more distant, her disappointment settling into something quieter and harder to face. At school, people began to shift

around me. Conversations ended too quickly. Eyes lingered too long. It was subtle, but unmistakable.

Something had changed.

Or maybe something had been revealed.

Deep down, I knew the truth. I just kept choosing against it.

"For what I want to do, I do not do..."

The words surfaced in my mind, uninvited but undeniable. Romans 7:15. I let out a quiet breath, almost a laugh, though there was nothing humorous about it.

I understood now. I knew what was right, yet I continued in the opposite direction.

07:15.

"Honey, this is the last time I'm asking. What happened?"

The room seemed smaller somehow, as if the silence itself had weight. My hands trembled at my sides as the answer pressed forward, demanding to be spoken. This was the moment, the one where I could choose differently, where I could step out of the cycle I had created.

But I hesitated.

Because even now, what I hated, I still chose.

The silence stretched between us. This time, there was no lie ready to take its place. No easy escape. Only the weight of everything I had already said, pressing down harder than before.

And for the first time, it felt heavier than the truth.

"Mom..."

My voice barely held.

"I lied."

The room fell completely still.

And in that moment, I understood.

It was never the day repeating. It was me, standing in the same place, making the same choice, over and over again.

You only live once, but you die every day you refuse to change.

And this time, that version of me didn't come back.

'n Brief

BY: Singe Lessing

*Tyd glip weg
Lyne word gesmeer
Liefde word vergete
'n Brief, nie veel meer*

*Tyd is lank terug
Lyne nog nuut
Liefde word gevorm
'n Brief, baie meer*

*Tyd tik verby
Lyne word deurmekaar
Liefde verstik
'n Brief, die oorlogskoot*

*Tyd is die historikus
Lyne die rigtingwyser
Liefde verbroke
'n Brief, alles vergete*

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World Book Day Characters. PHOTO: Sita Hoegenboezem



Much effort put into world book day. PHOTO: Elke Keulder



Our own Hermie Mini Mouse. PHOTO: Elke Keulder

World Book Day

BY: Charlize Matinka

strengthen family bonds.

World Book Day is not just about reading or simply celebrating the existence of books. It is a special day where we celebrate books, readers, authors and storytelling. It encourages people to discover the joy of reading.

This day reminds us that books can teach us important lessons and help us understand other people better. It also encourages us to appreciate the happiness that books bring into our lives.

Books make us smarter, help us dream bigger and allow us to explore ideas beyond our own lives. Reading books with family and friends can also create special moments together and

At Hermanus High School, we celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters and enjoying the excitement of the day. Everyone looked wonderful in their creative costumes. We saw smiles and joy everywhere, which is exactly what books bring to people. Whenever we visit the library to borrow books, we feel excited to discover new stories, characters and adventures.

World Book Day will always bring back memories of a day where everyone looked spectacular and, most importantly, learned something new. SO PICK UP THAT BOOK AND START YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!



Dressing as the famous dalmations. PHOTO: Elke Keulder

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Engraved on paper

BY: Kaitlyn Oliver

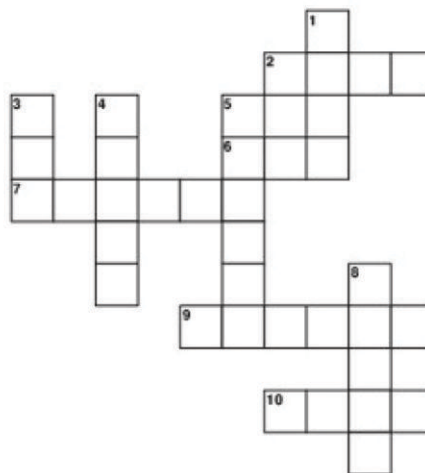
A pencil once stood tall
fresh, unbroken,
its point sharp with possibility.
It didn't know the weight of pages yet,
or how much of itself it would give away
just to leave something behind.

At first, it danced.
Light strokes, careless sketches,
lines that didn't need to mean anything.
It laughed in graphite whispers,
unafraid of mistakes
because there was always more of it left.

And so it drew.
It drew sunsets it would never see,
faces it would never meet,
dreams too big for paper to hold.
With every mark,
it became a little smaller
but a little more meaningful too.
Time passed quietly.
The pencil didn't notice
how often it was sharpened,
how pieces of it fell away,
curled like forgotten memories
on the floor below.
Its body shortened.
Its grip tightened.
The lines it made grew heavier
less playful, more certain,
as if it understood
that space was running out.

Still, it drew.
It poured itself into every last stroke,
into every shadow and highlight,
until the page was no longer empty
but alive
filled with everything it had ever been.
And then,
it was almost gone.
Too small to hold comfortably,
too worn to sharpen again.
It paused
for the first time
and looked at the page.
Only then did it see it.
The beauty.
The chaos.
The story it had written
without ever stepping back to read.
Every sacrifice,
every lost fragment of itself
had become something more
something lasting.
And in that quiet moment,
at the very edge of its existence,
the pencil understood:
It was never about how long it stayed whole
but about what it left behind
when it was finally gone.

Gen Z Slang Crossword



Across

- [2] Charm or flirting ability
[6] Did something perfectly or really well
..A
[7] not looking good or in trouble
[9] Used to strongly emphasize truth or agreement(word) ehh(word)uhh
[10] To do something amazingly- hint
..what do you do to a dragon?

Down

- [1] The mood or energy of a person or place
[3] A person who's not a main character
[4] To suddenly stop replying to someone
[5] A confident, stylish, attractive person
..B
[8] Means "no lie" or completely true

MUSICAL SPECTACULAR!

H	E	G	U	O	R	N	I	L	U	O	M	M	F	C	A	T	S	U	I	D	S	K
I	B	A	R	E	P	O	E	H	T	F	O	M	O	T	N	A	H	P	T	I	W	C
Z	V	D	C	I	S	U	M	F	O	D	N	U	O	S	E	H	T	P	F	A	O	J
D	I	R	T	Y	D	A	N	C	I	N	G	A	O	N	X	H	K	J	G	M	H	V
B	W	Y	G	R	E	A	S	E	C	R	N	J	A	L	B	Q	J	R	N	R	S	U
I	R	N	E	V	I	T	A	B	A	X	N	L	X	K	Q	C	U	S	I	E	R	M
T	T	S	A	E	B	E	H	T	D	N	A	Y	T	U	A	E	B	I	N	M	O	M
O	O	V	W	W	Z	T	I	G	Z	E	I	D	H	L	S	A	A	S	E	E	R	L
R	A	K	Y	V	I	L	L	I	Z	R	W	U	E	I	N	N	A	T	T	L	R	T
K	J	J	N	I	D	D	A	L	A	C	E	N	A	I	C	H	Z	E	O	T	O	T
T	H	E	G	R	E	A	T	E	S	T	S	H	O	W	M	A	N	R	F	T	H	E
K	C	X	E	N	A	O	G	G	F	O	G	A	C	I	H	C	I	A	I	I	Y	R
C	A	V	H	G	W	H	P	I	T	D	G	W	Y	H	W	P	L	C	V	L	K	A
J	S	L	Q	A	C	H	O	R	U	S	L	I	N	E	E	T	K	T	E	E	C	B
J	O	S	E	P	H	A	N	D	T	H	E	C	O	A	T	S	P	A	G	H	O	A
Y	A	H	Q	D	R	T	M	O	P	M	C	A	Y	A	V	F	B	Q	G	T	R	C

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden ↑ and ↓ and → and ← and ↘

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
THE LITTLE MERMAID
JOSEPH AND THE COAT
THE SOUND OF MUSIC
ROCKY HORROR SHOW
DIRTY DANCING

A CHORUS LINE
MOULIN ROUGE
NINE TO FIVE
SISTER ACT
ALADDIN
CHICAGO
CABARET
GREASE

ANNIE
EVITA
CATS

2026 Eisteddfod

DEUR: Lana Barnard

Dit was definitief die moeite werd om aan die kuns-eisteddfod deel te neem wat op 16 April 2026 plaasgevind het.

Dit was 'n vreedsame drie ure van teken en ontspan.

Die leerders het van 08:00 tot 11:00 in die skoolsaal gesit en teken, almal in hul eie element. Die kalm atmosfeer het bygedra tot die leerders se kreatiwiteit en inspirasie.

Met die suiwer note van musiek en die sterk reuk van koffie in die lug was almal gefokus en hard aan die werk. Die breuk van skoolwerk was verfrissend en die perfekte manier om af te skakel.

Hierdie byeenkoms bied 'n uitstekende geleen-

theid vir leerders om hul kreatiwiteit en artistieke talente oor 'n verskeidenheid kunsdisciplines te vertoon. Die kuns-eisteddfod poog om selfuitdrukking te bevorder, deelname aan die visuele kunste aan te moedig en die kreatiewe prestasies van ons leerders te vier.

Ons is baie trots op die volgende leerders wat Cum Laude behaal het:

- Imke van Wageningen
- Heinrich Louw

Ek dink ek praat namens almal wanneer ek sê dat ons definitief volgende jaar weer sal wil deelneem.

Die drama-eisteddfod het op 23 April plaasgevind en dit was 'n waardevolle leerervaring vir almal wat betrokke was.

Nadat die senuwees bedaar het, was daar 'n

baie gesellige atmosfeer. Een van ons leerders het gesê: "Die terugvoering het baie gehelp en ek dink ek het baie gebaat by die deelname."

Die leerders het aangrypende, ononderbroke monoloë gelewer en die dialoë was vol humor, konflik en glimlagte.

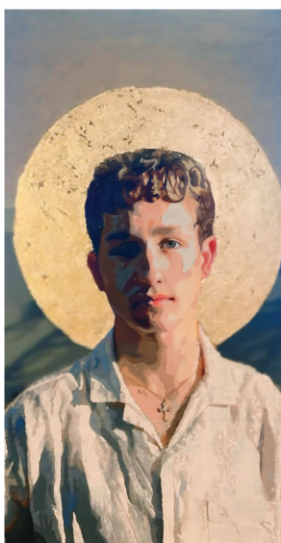
Drama is een van die dinge wat 'n mens baie in die toekoms kan help, veral wanneer jy 'n aanbieding of toespraak moet lewer.

Hierdie geleentheid versterk selfvertroue, empatie en kommunikasievaardighede. Deur deel te neem aan toneelspel, rolspel en opvoerings ontwikkel leerders se sterker emosionele intelligensie, verbeter hul vokale projeksie en leer hulle hoe om effektief in 'n span saam te werk.

Ek moedig almal aan om volgende jaar deel te neem.



Hein our talented grade 11 artist.
PHOTO: Supplied



Hein's incredible art piece.
PHOTO: Heinrich Louw



Imke the talented artist.
PHOTO: Supplied



Imke's art piece she showcased.
PHOTO: Imke van Wageningen

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DEUR: Liya-Sophia van Wyk

Drie van ons leerders het op 5 Mei die geleentheid gekry om hul menings te lug tydens die eerste rondte van die jaarlikse ATKV-redenaarskompetisie by Hoër Tegniese Skool Drostyd. Ons skool se deelnemers het die volgende interessante onderwerpe aangepak:

- Mareli du Toit — “Die leerstyl-tendens is onwetenskaplik.”
- Steff Soekoe — “Wes-Kaap-vissies leef eenvoudig net lekkerder.”
- Liya-Sophia van Wyk — “Tieners het nie meer hul eie kreatiewe denke nie.”

Redenaars word dikwels verkeerdlik beskou as bloot 'n mondelinge aanbieding, maar dit is soveel meer as dit. Redenaars is 'n vorm van voordrag waar 'n

spreker 'n toespraak aanbied om die gehoor te oortuig om met sy of haar standpunt saam te stem. Dit verg ure se navorsing om betroubare bronne te vind wat jou argument ondersteun. Deelnemers ontwikkel ook waardevolle vaardighede soos selfvertroue, navorsingsvaardighede en die vermoë om hul opinies professioneel uit te druk.

Die ATKV is in 1930 gestig en fokus op die bevordering van Afrikaans, kultuur en jeugontwikkeling deur projekte soos redenaars, toneel en skryfkompetisies.

Ons is trots op al die deelnemers wat hard gewerk het en hul skool met selfvertroue verteenwoordig het. Met die groei van redenaars by die skool hoop ons om volgende jaar nóg meer stemme op die verhoog te hoor.

Hemelvaartdag

BY: Ayola Mqu

Christene regoor die wêreld herdenk Jesus se hemelvaart. Hemelvaartdag is 'n belangrike Christelike feesdag wat elke jaar gevier word. Op hierdie dag word Christene herinner hoe Jesus Christus na die hemel opgevaar het, veertig dae nadat hy uit die dood opgestaan het.



Baie mense woon spesiale kerkdienste by om saam te bid, Bybel te lees en God te eer. By die skool het ons Hemelvaartdag gevier deur spesiale byeenkomste en gebede. Leerders en onderwysers het saamgekom om te luister na Bybelverse en boodskappe oor Jesus se hemelvaart.

Die dag het baie leerders gehelp om meer oor die betekenis van hemelvaart te leer en om saam hierdie belangrike gebeurtenis te herdenk. Hemelvaart is spesiaal vir almal, want dit leer ons om 'n verhouding te bou met God en nader aan Hom te leef.



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Mother's Day Outreach

BY: Chaylin Tobias

Mother's Day is a special day set aside each year to honour and celebrate all mothers for their love, sacrifices and the important role that they play in our lives and communities. To our school, this day holds deep meaning because we recognise that many of our learners' success and well-being start with the support of a caring mother at home. It is important to our Interact Club and the whole school to give back and show appreciation to the women who shape our future.

Unfortunately, Mother's Day wasn't on a school day this year therefore, our Interact members decided to host a belated Mother's Day outreach on the 15th of May in the Checkers centre in town. This goal was simple: To make sure that no mother felt forgotten.

With the help of one of our teacher, Mrs Geldenhuys, who arranged this outreach, our Interact members spent the afternoon handing out pampering gifts in the store to every mother in town. The products in the gifts were donated by our students, teachers and parents.

This initiative was about more than just gifts. It was our way as a school to celebrate all mothers



Nothing compares to a mother's love. PHOTO: Pinterest

and remind them that they are cherished and loved. The reaction was overwhelming. Many mothers were moved to tears and said that it was the first time they received a Mother's Day gift. The mothers were overjoyed and insisted on taking photos with the learners to show appreciation for what the Interact Club did.

For our Interact members, the experience was just as special for us as it was to our mothers. We hope that these pampering gifts brought joy and that every mother who received one will always know how special they truly are. Our school is committed to serving our community and teaching our learners that appreciation is best shown through action.

Thank you to every learner, teacher and parent who donated or helped make this outreach possible.

Easter Blessings Two Ways



Interactors always get the job done at the end of the day!
PHOTO: Ms Raath

BY: Jamila Kombe

Easter, the heart of the Christian faith, is an important time of the year that reminds us of God's promises. It represents rebirth, togetherness and hope that shines even during the most challenging times. This year, our Interact Club decided to take that message beyond the classroom and carry it directly into the heart of our community.

On the 16th of April, we arrived at Saint's Soup Kitchen in Mount Pleasant with one goal in mind: Bring the community together through service and compassion. The room quickly buzzed with energy as our students rolled up their sleeves to serve steaming meals of macaroni, chicken and vegetables that they had prepared. The air was filled with joy as our learners handed out the meals to many children and the elderly.

By the end of the day, 160 people had received warm meals and an Easter egg.

However, the afternoon meant more than full tummies. The experience beautifully showed how small, yet unintentional acts of kindness weave tighter bonds within a community. For the students involved, the reward was meaningful and deeply memorable.

Kaitlyn Oliver, one of our students involved, described the afternoon as deeply moving: "It was truly a heartwarming experience. I felt fulfilled knowing that we were part of the reason for the smiles on many families' faces." As we looked around the full room and the shared smiles, we felt fulfilled. Our school once again managed to deliver the spirit of Easter with joy and blessings in abundance.

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HAWS

Spending the day with four-legged friends

BY: Lin-Mari Slabbert

Animals have always been a comfort place for me and spending my afternoon petting the cats and playing with the dogs feels like a vacation.

Giving a voice to those animals that are already broken from being separated from their families is something I would do time and time again. Despite it being for our Service Pillar, I do not do it because I want the points; I do it because I genuinely care. In a world where there is animal abuse and dog-fighting rings, we should protect and love these animals.

They are the purest, kindest souls, and we shouldn't take that for granted. Don't shop, adopt! Give shelter animals a home, and love them

unconditionally.

Our afternoon at HAWS wasn't just about playing with the animals, but also about helping to organise the storeroom where they keep the dog and cat food. We made sure the area is accessible and organised so the workers can feed the animals easily according to their needs.

HAWS truly helps the community by providing dog and cat food for those who are in need, ensuring that even if owners are on a budget or financially struggling, their animals will eat.

RIGHT: A cuddle before we go.
PHOTO: Ashleigh Wicomb



LEFT: Leaving with a full heart.
PHOTO: Ashleigh Wicomb

BELOW CENTRE: Zara getting much love and a warm welcome.
PHOTO: Ashleigh Wicomb

BELOW: A hug for all our fellow cat lovers!
PHOTO: Zurika Pienaar



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2026 NETBAL

A Season to Be Proud Of

BY: Louie Barnard

Our 1st Team netball squad (led by captain Surita Lamprecht) is certainly carrying the weight of being the school's top team. The countless fitness drills, early mornings, late nights and one or two tough losses made the great wins possible.

It was a fun and successful season for all our netball teams, even with the cold weather and a few injuries along the way.

This season was a journey and a learning experience for most teams. As Gitte von Wielligh describes it: "Over the years, netball has taught me a lot about teamwork and discipline. As a Grade 12 learner, this last season felt extra special because I realised how fast the time flew. It will always be my favourite sport." Caylin du Plessis adds: "We are a team with lots of different playing techniques and girls who came from different teams. Playing together for the first time was hard to adjust to, but I'm glad we did because now we are stronger than ever. The girls are really the definition of 'teamwork makes the dream work'."

This season was one to remember, but it didn't come without hard work and long hours. We're all excited for next term, for people returning from injuries and, for some Grade 12s, their last Hermie games.



ABOVE: Caylin du Plessis on the court.
RIGHT: Gitte von Wielligh shooting a goal.
PHOTOS: Ms Engelbrecht



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More than just a game



Our first team rugby players never loose their spirit!



HERMIES tackle the day. PHOTOS: Sideline Stories

BY: Klara Schoonraad

Rivalries have always played an important role in school culture. These matches are more than just games. They bring excitement, unity and pride to our learners, players and supporters. Rivalry matches create an atmosphere that strengthens school spirit and gives learners a sense of belonging within their school community.

One of the Biggest reasons rivalries are important is because they bring the 'gees' up throughout the entire school. Mr N. Grobler says, "Inter-schools week brings a different vibe. The kids get involved and want to partake because the pressure is higher." The excitement spreads throughout the school, creating a sense of unity among learners.

On Wednesday, the 29th of April, we played against Overberg High School. The first team won 45-28. This is a perfect example of the power of school gees. The atmosphere on the sidelines was electric as learners packed the pavilion and supported the team with non-stop singing and cheering. The excitement became so intense that the pavilion broke during the game because of all the jumping and celebration from the supporters. Moments like this show how rivalries can unite a school and create unforgettable memories. Obinna Enenchukwu says, "It was wonderful man! The school kids wouldn't stop singing and

every time I ran, I got an adrenaline rush. I wish I could experience it again."

The rivalry also motivates players to perform at their best. Knowing that the entire school is supporting them encourages players to train harder, stay disciplined and give everything on the field. Rivalry matches often become the most exciting games of the season because both teams want to represent their schools with pride. Johandre Kruger says, "We have a point to prove and the people have expectations; the whole school has expectations of us and we have to win for them, not for us." Therefore, the pressure is higher to perform your best.

In addition, rivalry matches create traditions and memories that last for years. Learners may forget ordinary school days, but they will always remember their excitement of standing with their friends on the sidelines supporting their team. These traditions help strengthen the identity of the school and bring generations of learners together.

Although rivalry games can become very intense, they should always remain respectful and positive. Healthy competition between schools helps build spirit, pride and unity. Rivalry is an important part of school life because they bring learners together and creates moments that will never be forgotten.

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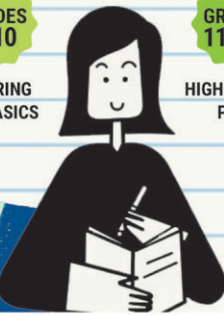


One of our team players ready to turn the game in their favour! PHOTO: Sideline Stories
Read the full story on P19

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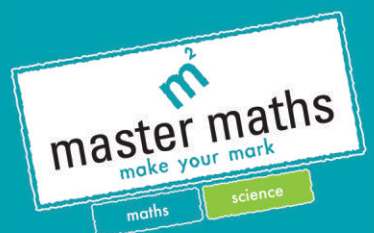
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