

VG News

Celebrating 129 years of excellence!

30 April 2026, Volume 3

Message From The Principal



Dear VG Community

What a full and productive second term it has been so far! Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making the term such a success, and congratulations to those who have embraced the many opportunities available.

A sincere thank you as well to everyone who has committed themselves to giving their best this term – your efforts have certainly been noticed and appreciated.

The year is not expected to slow down, and if anything, the pace will increase as we move forward.

I trust that our learners and staff will make good use of the coming days to unwind, recharge, and enjoy time with loved ones before the busy examination season begins.

Sincerely

Mr Schmidt



STAFF NEWS



It is with deep sadness that we share the untimely passing of Mr Cyril Niewoudt. Mr Niewoudt worked at VG for many years as the Estate Manager. During his time at VG, he was a cherished member of our VG family and we are deeply devastated by his passing.



DISTRICT JUNIOR COMMISSIONER COMPETITION



On Wednesday the 22nd of April 2026, Sanelisiwe Mbete travelled to Humansdorp to participate in the District Junior Commissioner competition representing Makhanda. At the competition there were 21 other participants from places like Uitenhage, Kenton on Sea, Port Alfred, and more. There were judges from the education and social services department & the prosecutor [Precadere]. Each learner represented a town & a police station.

During this competition they had to present speeches about school safety, vandalism, drug use at school, and other illegal activities, while presenting ways on how to fix or prevent the issue. Sanelisiwe Mbete was honoured to place 1st in the district competition, thereby winning the title of Junior Commissioner. In the next round of the competition she will be representing the Sarah Baartman district at the provincial competition. Sanelisiwe Mbete is now the district Ambassador for the Police, the Education department, and the Social Services Department

Netball REPORT

The netball season is officially underway, and even though it has been a somewhat slow start to the season for our teams, there has been a great deal of momentum building up at every practice. With several players taking on new positions, we are working hard on communication and strengthening our teamwork.

A few of our players participated in Makana Netball Trials, with the following players making it through to Sarah Baartman Trials:

U14: Lwange Kika, Iminathi Ndilele, and Liyabona Benyane

U15: Zaydiah Adler

U17: Luchulumanco Veliti and Enkosi Mbhadeko

U18: Owam Ncita

Congratulations to Chulu Veliti, who has made it through to EP Trials, taking place on the 2nd of May. We are proud of you, and we wish you all the best!

On the 25th of May, our 1st team participated in the Ntsika Festival. They won all four of their matches, making it through to the semi-final of the tournament. What made our team stand out on the day was the discipline and respect they have for the game. We would like to extend our gratitude to Ms Denston for cultivating our players into the seasoned players that they are. A big thank you goes to all our coaches for their ongoing encouragement and dedication. We look forward to good results and the betterment of our teams' performance!



SPORT



Hockey REPORT

As Term 1 came to an end, for some it meant holidays but for the 1st Team Hockey, it meant travelling to Graaff-Reinet to participate in the Union High School Sports Festival.

The young 1st Team, under the leadership of Tatum Jacobs got off to a red hot start. Scoring 13 goals in their opening game against Zastron, with Megan Peinke bagging 5 goals. Immediately after their first game, they went up against Pearson Invitational and went down in a narrow 4-2 defeat - arguably their best performance of the weekend with Tatum Jacobs and Dimpho Ramusi leading from the front and getting on the scorecard.

Day 2 brought a revived VG side, eager to bounce back and prove that Day 1 was no flash in the pan. Coming up against a Clarendon Invitational side, the young VG Team showed their class and recorded a comfortable 4-0 victory. Sitting pretty in their pool, there was everything to play for on Day 3.

Day 3 came and a playoff position was on the cards. However, already playing through immense adversity and fatigue, we suffered heavy defeats to Oranje Meisies and Volkskool respectively. This meant that we were relegated to 7th and 8th position playoffs on the final day.

As the tournament came to a close, the final day was a representation of the hockey we played. Started off in red hot form by taking a 3-0 lead into halftime against Nico Malan. Only for Nico to put on a fight back and get 2 goals. We managed to hang on and win the match, to end our tournament in 7th place.

Overall, the girls proved to themselves that they can play. That their brand of hockey is exciting and entertaining. Lessons were learnt and progress was made but importantly, fun was had.

As Term 2 started, we kicked off our season with our annual fixture against Cambridge High School. For the first time in a long time, the fixture felt a lot closer than it was in previous years. Cambridge, however, came out on top. Collecting victories across all age groups.

The first team then had the opportunity to participate in the Kingswood College Co-Ed Hockey Festival, a festival that brings opportunity and excitement and where we get to play teams we don't usually get the opportunity to play.

Day 1 of the festival brought the VG side two 1-1 draws against Oakhill and Glenwood House respectively. Opportunities were created and we couldn't convert.

Day 2 saw a change in attitude and play. In their first game, the first team put on a great display and came out with a 3-1 victory against a York XI side. In arguably their biggest match of the weekend, the young 1st Team put in a spirited effort against Woodridge College. Going down 2-0 but playing with grit and determination.



SPORT

Hockey REPORT

The last game saw us go down 4-0 to Volkskool.

The school's next fixture is on Saturday 2nd May against KHS and DSG. And the girls are eager to get back to winning ways.

We would also like to congratulate and wish the following students goodluck, as they participate in the Final Round of EP Trials:

Tatum Jacobs
Dimpho Ramusi
Mbali Maxhaulana
Layla Crous
Kea Shogole



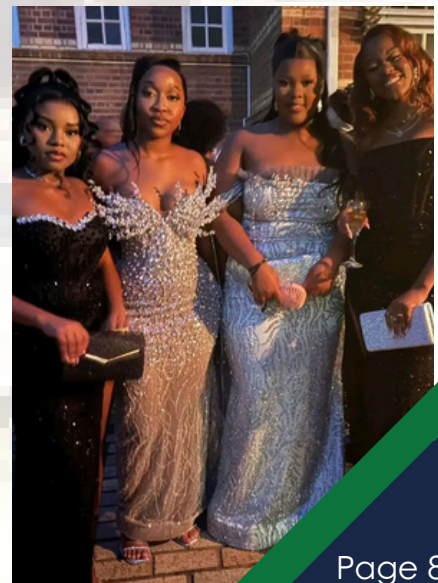
MATRIC DANCE 2026

VG Matric Dance 2026

Looking back at our Matric Dance, our girls arrived in beautifully styled dresses, with hair and make-up perfectly done, reflecting confidence and elegance. It was filled with laughter and dancing, creating memories that the Class of 2026 will cherish for years to come. A big thank you to Mr Jasson and his team for organising it.



MATRIC DANCE 2026



GRADE 8 OUTING

Grade 8 Outing to Fairewood Adventure Centre:

On the 17th of April, our Grade 8s headed off to Fairewood for a day packed with adventure, laughter, and a little bit of chaos. The day kicked off with learners being split up into different groups, where they quickly realised that they would not be "hanging out with their friends the whole day".

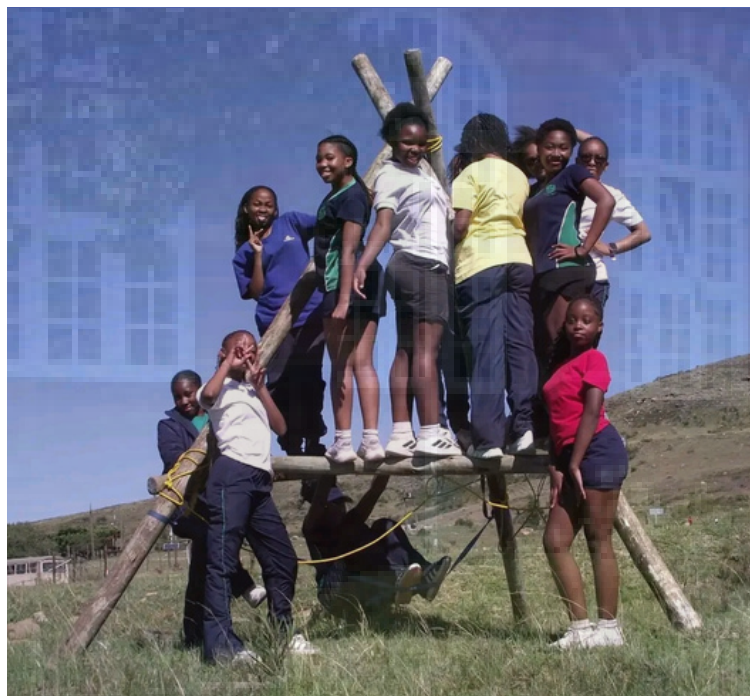
For one of the groups, the first adventure was a refreshing hike through the beautiful natural surroundings. They embraced the views and were excited to see some zebras and springboks - some more enthusiastic than others. It was later on in the day when the sun was up and the wind was blowing where they were glad they went on the hike first.

Another group had to channel their inner da Vinci's when they had to draw their own maps and use them to find letters at various points as part of the orienteering activity. To their disappointment, there was no treasure to find. The scavenger hunt, on the other hand, proved to make up for it, with collecting different types of animal dung being the most exciting thing to find for some.

The ropes course and fun dynamics tested both courage and balance, with learners stepping out of their comfort zones. Their climbs started off very wobbly, but ended in confident finishes filled with pride. It was inspiring to see everyone encouraging one another and celebrating each small victory - some fears were overcome here. The day was filled with laughter, quick thinking, and a few "creative interpretations" of the rules along the way!

The take home message was that success comes from supporting one another, listening more than speaking, and working together—even when you are led by the most shy member of your group.

Most will agree that the highlight of the day was the bus ride back to school because even the most energetic girls were exhausted. Thank you to all staff members who drove us there and back, and to Ms Waka and the grade 8 register teachers for organising our outing.



GRADE 8 OUTING



ARTS AT VG

At Victoria Girls' High School we pride ourselves on our commitment to the arts: Drama, Design, Visual Arts, and Music are offered as subject choices to take through to Grade 12.

The study of Drama can help develop many qualities and life skills: enthusiasm, confidence, self esteem, conversational competence, and social skills. Furthermore, drama lessons stimulate learners to be motivated and involved.

Visual Arts and Design are enormously rewarding and enjoyable subjects, which develop learners' ability to manage their time and to manage processes from the start, through to the final product.

To do Music in Grade 10, learners should have demonstrated consistent work and progress in Grade 8 and 9, in both the theoretical and practical components of Music. Learners have to practice their instruments daily.

Highly trained educators have been appointed in each of the subjects, with specialist musicians in the Music Department.

While these subjects are offered in the school curriculum, aspects of them can be pursued on a more social level: learners can join the Drama, Dance or Arts Societies and the musical learners can be members of the School Choir, Marimba Band, String Ensemble, or the full Orchestra.



MASICULE FESTIVAL

This term the VG Choir took part in the Masicule Concert. For those of you who are wondering what Masicule is, Masicule is a concert whereby all schools in Makhanda come together and perform musical items. The VG choir performed a piece called " Human Nature" by Michael Jackson.

The Matrics worked hand-in-hand with Mr Mkhize to ensure that the choir performed at its utmost best. Being part of the Masicule concert was a great experience for all the choir girls. They had a chance to express their love for music with other schools and the guest artists, Zwai and Pinky Bala. It was an opportunity for the girls to socialize with the community and shine a light on our talent. The VG choir is known to be very musical and optimistic about music, this was a great chance to maintain our reputation. Thank you to Mr Mkhize for giving us this great experience!



2026 CO-CURRICULAR COLOURS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded Colours or Half Colours. We commend them on their achievement, as well as their behaviour!



Rachel Wilhelmi
Cultural Colours



Sarah Moller
Chess Colours



Daniella McLean
Swimming Half Colours



Sally Kadye
Athletics Half Colours
Cultural Half Colours



Aphiwe Bota
Cultural Half Colours



Samke Someketa
Cultural Half Colours



Sinalo Sati
Cultural Half Colours



Onje Bacela
Cultural Half Colours



Nqobile Gxashe
Cultural Half Colours

2026 CO-CURRICULAR COLOURS AWARDS

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded Colours or Half Colours. We commend them on their achievement, as well as their behaviour!



Esihle Ndibaza
Cultural Half Colours



Viola Stoloff
Cultural Half Colours



Joylin Chikiwa
Cultural Half Colours



Yanga Tapi
Cultural Half Colours



GEEnet



ACHIEVEMENTS

VG Girdle

We are proud to award a girdle to:



Yakhanani Yapi



Olwethu Nojoko



Asiyolise Tshete



Kwakhanya Nongubo



Aphiwe Botha



Somto Nnadozie



Kimberly Oosthuizen



Itumeleng Thobothobo



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Care of textbooks

Please check whether textbooks signed out to your daughter need recovering. If you are unable to assist in this regard, instruct your daughter to recover her textbooks at the Book Room at school next term. Textbooks are very expensive, and we all need to take extra care of them to prolong the lifespan of the books we have.

Textbooks

Our textbooks are vital to assist us in the learning process. Learners are to ensure their books are covered in plastic. We also have plastic available at the Book Room. Learners may ask to come and recover/cover their textbooks. At the end of every academic year, all school property should be returned. Items not returned need to be paid for. Textbook replacement cost is R250 per textbook. Please ensure that all textbooks are taken care of. Any problems or queries regarding textbooks should be directed to Ms Retief.

ACADEMIC REPORT

This academic term has already been a very busy one. We had a highly successful meeting at the start of the term with our Grade 9 learners and their parents, during which we discussed subject choices for Grade 10. We also highlighted how learners' current marks may either enable or limit their subject options.

Clear guidance was provided on the required performance levels, and it was encouraging to see such a strong turnout of both parents and learners. We trust that this engagement will support our learners in making well-informed decisions for the remainder of the year.

With exams fast approaching the Grade 8s are starting to learn about study timetables and strategies in their critical thinking lessons. I'm sure exams will soon be on everyone's mind, not least our matric learners who will face the first of three sets of exams this year.

While this may be a somewhat stressful time, we are confident that they are well prepared. Following their memorable matric dance, we hope they feel refreshed and ready to focus on the academic demands of the year ahead.



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY SCHOOL CAPTAIN



Dear VG community

I can't believe we're almost halfway through the year, when it feels like the year just started. The first half of this term has gone by so fast and before we know it we'll be in term 3.

Before I get ahead of myself, I want to remind everyone of the upcoming exams that plague the existence of every high school learner. Buckle down and put the work in now so you can reap the rewards at the end of the term, and more importantly, at the end of the year.

I wish each and every one of you the best of luck with your studying and preparing for the exams. Back yourself and your work.

Lots of love

Lusa

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN



Dearest VG community,

The first half of Term 2 has been filled with excitement, achievement, and a strong display of school pride. Learners have continued to represent the school with dedication across sports, cultural activities, and major events, making this term both productive and memorable.

The hockey and netball seasons were key highlights during this period. Our teams showed great determination, discipline, and commitment in every match. Their performances reflected hard work and preparation, while the support from the school created an energetic and motivating atmosphere on the sidelines.

The spirit of the school has truly been outstanding, with learners consistently showing pride and encouragement during every game.

Cultural activities also played an important role this term. The choir's participation in Masicule was a huge success, showcasing exceptional talent and dedication. Their performance reflected the effort and practice that went into preparing for such a prestigious event, and they represented the school with excellence.

Another major highlight was the matric dance, one of the most important milestones in a matric learner's journey. The event was a beautiful and well-organised celebration, where learners marked a significant moment in their final year. It was a night that reflected growth, confidence, and the progress they have made throughout their school career.

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN

Various cultural and school activities throughout the term continued to give learners opportunities to develop their skills and showcase their abilities. These experiences contribute to personal growth and encourage learners to strive for excellence in different areas.

As we move into the next phase of the term, we focus on our theme, DIY – Do It Yourself. This theme encourages independence, responsibility, and self-discipline. With the exam season approaching, we wish all learners the very best. May everyone work hard, put in their best effort, stay focused, and motivate one another to achieve success.

“Success doesn't come from what others do for you, but from what you are willing to do for yourself.” — Unknown

With love and kindness
Lilitha

NEWS FROM OUR BOARDING HOUSES

Eleanor Brown and Renfrew House

This term started on a busy note with a long weekend and leave out weekend! The girls enjoyed a very relaxing time which allowed for friendships to be strengthened and spending time with others. Our weekends were filled with enjoyable activities like hide and seek, rap battle showdown, a movie night and dance battle which brought out some fierce competition.

The girls also enjoyed the various roles they played during the weekend activities e.g. participants, including judges, choreographers, and videographers, giving them the opportunity to take on meaningful responsibilities and contribute to the success of the activity in different ways. It was clear that the girls especially enjoyed having a sense of control and leadership—it gave them a chance to express themselves creatively while also practicing teamwork and accountability.

The energy throughout the event was incredibly positive, and it was heartening to see most of the girls fully engaged and actively participating. To help with the exam stress, we hosted weekend activities on the field outside and our EB quad.

The purpose of the activities was to give everyone a chance to relax, have fun, and take a break from school work in a light-hearted and energetic way. The games were filled with a lot of running (and a little bit of sweating!), but most importantly, a lot of fun. The girls were actively engaged throughout, with high levels of participation and enthusiasm. Well done to everyone for your strength, commitment and your ability to conquer any obstacle as you studied for the exams.

Wishing you all the best as you spend time with family and friends. May you have a restful holiday.

NEWS FROM OUR BOARDING HOUSES

Barnard House

For this term the girls at BH had a evening of building Ice cream toppings which they enjoyed. The matrics attended their matric farewell. It was a stunning evening that was truly enjoyed by the matrics. Last Saturday night the girls had a games evening with some snacks it was truly enjoyed by all of them.

We will continue to have more weekend activities in hostel.

May the girls enjoy the time with their families this long weekend.

