

VG News

Celebrating 129 years of excellence!

08 August 2026, Volume 5

Message From The Principal



Dear VG Community

It is hard to believe that we are already three weeks into the term. Although it has been a relatively short period, it has certainly been a full one, with the school operating at a tremendous pace from the very first day. The enthusiasm, commitment and energy shown by our learners and staff have been remarkable, and there is much to celebrate already.

As we continue through what promises to be another extremely busy few weeks, I encourage everyone to remain focused while also remembering the importance of finding time to rest and recharge. Thank you to our parents for your continued support, and to our learners for embracing every opportunity that school life has to offer.

I wish everyone a productive and rewarding term ahead.

Sincerely

Mr Schmidt



HOCKEY REPORT



VGHS wishes Tatum Jacobs well as she embarks on a once in lifetime opportunity. Tatum has been selected as part of The Eastern Cape Department of Sports and Recreation Hockey Team that departs for Germany on Sunday.

She forms part of a group that will embark for Germany to play against international competition and get some international exposure for the next 2 weeks. We are incredibly proud of her hockey journey and how she maximised her opportunities and received some amazing achievements.

Goodluck Tatum!



Our VG Hockey Team took on Kingswood in an exciting fixture on 30 June, showing determination, teamwork, and resilience from the first whistle to the last. Every player gave their all, proudly representing VG with passion and sportsmanship.

On Saturday 1st August, the Hockey Team hit the road to Graaff-Reinet for an exciting fixture against Union High School. From the early departure to the final whistle, our players gave their all, supported one another, and wore the VG badge with honour. A huge thank you to everyone who made the trip possible and to Union High School for hosting us.

HOCKEY REPORT



NATIONAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to Tatum Jacobs for winning bronze as part of the EP U18A squad in Hilton, Pietermaritzburg



Provincial Hockey Player.

Congratulations to Mr Jason and our top hockey players on their successful National Hockey Tournament in Pietermaritzburg.

HOCKEY REPORT



SPORT

HOCKEY REPORT



SPORT

INTERHOUSE NETBALL

Our annual interhouse netball was held this afternoon, and what a thrilling event! Houses played round robin style, split into junior and netball teams. This afternoon was filled with passion, resilience and an excellent display of netball skills and sportsmanship! We ended off the afternoon with our staff netball team vs Matrics. The match was absolutely thrilling, but above all, it was FUN! The Matrics claimed victory with a 8-5 win, but most importantly, everyone on court had a great time! Thank you to our umpires of the day, participants and everyone who came to support.



SPORT



SQUASH REPORT

Our squash girls have had a positive and rewarding season so far. While the results haven't always reflected the effort they've put in, the team has continued to play with determination, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship. Every match has been an opportunity to grow, learn, and improve, and it has been wonderful to see the girls supporting one another both on and off the court. We are incredibly proud of their commitment and look forward to seeing them finish the season strong.



SOCCKER REPORT

On the 25 July 2025, the VG soccer team played DSG at the DSG field. It was a tough, competitive game against DSG but the girls dug deep and came back with a 2:1 win. I am proud of the fight and discipline the girls showed. We created chances, scored at important moments, and didn't panic. 2:1 win vs DSG is a big result and we take a lot of confidence from it and our success. We took part in the tournament hosted by DSG on the 1st of August 2026. It was a tough day of football with 4 competitive games. Unfortunately, things didn't go our way, and we got knocked out.

Despite the results, I am incredibly proud of how the girls played. They gave everything,, supported each other, and held their heads up high right until the final whistle, and that's what matters most. We take the lessons from DSG with us. I'm proud of this group. Thank you to DSG for hosting a great tournament, and thank you to the parents and supporters who were there.

Next up is the tournament in East London at Hamilton Crescent in September. We'll go back to training, keep building, and come back even stronger.



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

MUSIC SCHOOL

The Music School successfully hosted its annual Victoria in Concert, bringing together learners, teachers, parents, and guests for an enjoyable evening of musical performances. The event showcased the hard work and talent of students through a variety of vocal and instrumental presentations.

The concert began on time with a welcome address by Dr Wynne, followed by performances from the beginner, intermediate, and advanced music classes. Learners demonstrated excellent skills and confidence while performing classical, contemporary, and traditional pieces. The audience responded enthusiastically, applauding each performance.

The event was well organised. The sound system, stage decorations, and programme schedule contributed to the smooth running of the concert. Teachers and helpers ensured that performers were prepared and that guests were comfortably accommodated.

Overall, the concert was a great success. It highlighted the school's commitment to developing musical talent and provided students with valuable performance experience. The event also strengthened the relationship between VG and VP as well as the community. VG music school will continue to organise similar concerts annually to encourage learners and celebrate their achievements.

CHOIR

On the 14th of August 2026, the Lawson Brown High School choir visited Victoria Girls' High School for our music extravaganza. Both choirs sang their hearts out and gave it their all. They sang a range of songs, from classical music to traditional songs. Each choir displayed extreme vigour in their singing. There was also an array of musical instruments like marimba, violin and piano.

A thank you must be extended to the music department and the choir conductors, Mr Mkhize and Mr Jonathan for joining forces and arranging this once in a lifetime experience. A beautiful night was had. To many more successful concerts to come!



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

MUSIC SCHOOL



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MUSIC SCHOOL



Mr Mokoena is invited to Vienna, the capital city of Austria in Europe, to take part in a strings quartet workshop organised by the pForte music organisation. He will be studying and performing works by Joseph Haydn, who is considered to be the father of String quartet composition and inspired generations of composers to continue the tradition of composing string quartets. He will also be studying and performing along with internationally renowned instrumentalists and professors, music by Shostakovich who wrote music reflecting historical wars in Russia and music by Brahms. During this workshop they will be doing a musical exchange, musicians from across the world will be randomly placed into multiple small ensembles within which they will be required to perform pieces from different cultures, and Mr. Mokoena will be performing some traditional music from Iran, South Africa and Austria.



VICTORIA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

PRESENTS

Gospel Goes Classical

15 AUGUST 2026 | 16:00 | R50

RHODES THEATRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE VG OFFICE

CHESS

Chess learners participated in multiple chess matches at PJO, St Andrews and in Jeffrey's Bay, at which they qualified for different positions and made it the Sarah- Bartmaan Chess team. The journey was not easy, but bearable as they enjoy the game and love the adventure and everything in between.

Congratulations to the following learners for making it to the Sarah-Baartman Chess team:

Liqalo Gora

Nomalanga Lufu

Amhara Dayimani

Ifeoma Nnandozie

Alibongwe Mthembu



GOING NOWHERE SLOWLY 2026

From the 25th of September to 01 October, nine pupils will be joining Mr Stoloff and Dr Hanton on the Going Nowhere Slowly Camping trip. Six nights of camping in tents and cooking on fire is bound to be an experience that these pupils will not forget.

We will be staying on two working farms as well as Mountain Zebra National Park. Pupils are reminded to bring their indemnity forms back next week.



GEEnet



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

On Thursday, 06 August, the Grade 11 Geography class enjoyed their field trip to Port Alfred and Kenton on sea. The weather played its part and much was learnt about marine and coastal processes while having fun at the same time. The walk to Shelley's cove (where we had lunch) also became a boulder hopping, bundu-bashing experience, as the tides were high. Field trips provide a wonderful opportunity for pupils to learn in a practical and outdoor context.



CONSUMER STUDIES

On 31 July, the Grade 11 Consumer Studies group attended an Open Day at Stenden South Africa, a university located in Port Alfred. During the visit, the learners were introduced to the wide range of academic programmes offered by the university. They also gained insight into the learning environment, including the classrooms, lecturer-student relationships, internship opportunities, and the valuable skills students develop during their studies.

The Open Day broadened the learners' understanding of the many career paths available to them and gave them a glimpse into campus life and student accommodation.

We would like to sincerely thank Stenden South Africa for this wonderful opportunity and for the warm hospitality shown to our learners. We truly appreciate the effort that went into preparing the informative presentations, providing delicious meals, and hosting us throughout the day.

Our learners thoroughly enjoyed the experience and returned with valuable knowledge, new perspectives, and greater inspiration for their future careers.



DEBATING

This morning the first team debaters as well as both junior teams left for the Eastern Cape Debating Championship hosted at Victoria Park in Gqeberha. There they will compete against the best teams in the province for a spot at the National Championship in December.

The tournament takes place over 3 days concluding with the finals and selection debates on Sunday. We wish all the girls well and are confident that their efforts and preparation throughout this year will pay off.



VG GIRDLE

The VG Girdle is voted for by the staff.

The girdle is an award presented to acknowledge that the VG values; passion, integrity and excellence, are evident in a learner's behaviour, dress and interactions. She has embraced servant leadership, shows academic rigour and upholds the Code of Conduct.

We are proud to award a girdle to:



Nonxuba Asayamkela



Charde Grobbelaar

MAKHANDA REGION ESKOM EXPO

MAKHANDA REGION ESKOM EXPO - where young minds ignite great futures!!

Our learners showcased incredible talent and dedication at the region Eskom Science Expo, bringing home an array of awards! From merit, bronze, silver certificates, gold as well as special awards!

2026 ESKOM Expo for Young Scientists, Grahamstown/Makhanda Region Results:

Participation:

Leah Olifant

Merit/Highly Commended

Siyolisi Dywili

Mahle Duda

Nolwandle Zuma

Bronze

Mvelo Nqondela

Okusha Dingani

Joylyn Chikiwa

Kholosa Waka

Nomalanga Lufu

Kwenzu Tishela

Darissa Mushid

Ifeoma Nnadozie

Vela Goqwana

Silver

Liyabona Njenje

Taylor Arries

Mercy Chidakwa

Mivuyo Ntlabathi

Alwande Mthembu

Zozi Gamlashe

Gold

Rachel de la Mare

Ovayo Gcwabe

Special Prizes

EKOM Best Energy

Darissa and Ifeoma

Chemistry Dept prize

Rachel Wilhelmi

MAKHANDA REGION ESKOM EXPO

SAIAB book prizes:

Ovayo and Mvelo

Biochemistry prize and Senior Royal Society of Chemists prize:

Mercy Chidakwa

Statistics Dept gift voucher:

Taylor Arries

Rhodes Bursary Grade 10, 11 or 12 recipients only. One of the top scoring projects at the Expo.

Ovayo Gcwabe

School Prizes

Highest number of participants at District Expo Level:

Victoria Girls High School

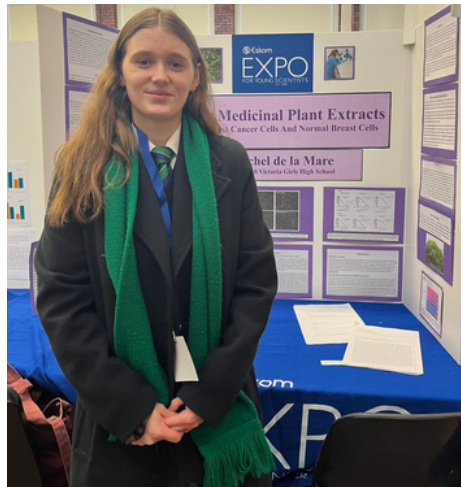
Top performing school at regional level:

Victoria Girls High School

Photos: Steven Lang



MAKHANDA REGION ESKOM EXPO



STAFF NEWS

The National Teacher Award is a prestigious recognition given to outstanding teachers in South Africa. Well done to Ms Czeredrecki-Schmidt for making it through to the provincial round as the Sarah Baartman representative for secondary teacher in national teacher awards. She presents again on Tuesday. We are so proud of you!

Congratulations!

Nadia
Czeredrecki - Schmidt

**NATIONAL
TEACHER
AWARDS:**
Winner
of
**EXCELLENCE IN
SECONDARY SCHOOL
TEACHING
CATEGORY**

 **SARAH BAARTMAN
DISTRICT** & **NMPTDI**
NELSON MANDELA
PROVINCIAL TEACHER
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

PROCEEDING TO
Provincial Level!
Your dedication, passion and commitment to excellence
in education continue to inspire!
We are proud of you!



Welcome to Ms Kabane

We would like to introduce our substitute teacher, Ms. Kabane, who will be joining us while Ms. Rogers is on maternity leave.

Ms. Kabane is a qualified and experienced teacher, and we are delighted to have her join our school during this period. We are confident that she will provide our learners with excellent guidance and support in our learning.

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN



Term 3 has only just begun, yet it has already proven to be one of the busiest and most exciting terms of the year. Our school has been buzzing with activity as learners have thrown themselves into a variety of sporting fixtures and cultural events, proudly representing the school with enthusiasm, talent, and determination. These opportunities continue to showcase the incredible spirit, teamwork, and dedication that define our school community.

While many learners are enjoying the excitement of extracurricular activities, our Grade 12 learners have entered one of the most important stages of their academic journey. Trial examinations are fast approaching, bringing with them the challenge of balancing studies alongside sporting and cultural commitments.

The weeks ahead will require focus, perseverance, and discipline as the matric class prepares for these crucial assessments.

As we continue through the term, we encourage every learner to make the most of every opportunity, both inside and outside the classroom. Whether competing on the sports field, performing on stage, or preparing for examinations, every effort contributes to personal growth and school pride.



MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN

We wish all our teams success in their upcoming events and extend our very best wishes to the Grade 12 class as they prepare to tackle their trial examinations with confidence and determination. May Term 3 be filled with achievement, resilience, and memorable moments for everyone.

With love and kindness

Lilitha

NEWS FROM OUR BOARDING HOUSES

Eleanor Brown and Renfrew House

The girls returned to hostel in high spirits and well rested. Over the past two weekends, they participated in various weekend activities. During the first weekend, they enjoyed hide and seek and open gates, which involved a lot of running and exercise. Everyone seemingly enjoyed them and were excited to win, even though there was no real prize. They indulged in apple munchies afterwards, which was a pleasant treat after all that running.

This past weekend the girls enjoyed participating in Musical Chairs in the dining hall, which went well. The activity's main goal was to give the boarders a chance to unwind, enjoy themselves, and take a well-earned rest after a hectic week full of extracurricular activities, sports commitments, and academic obligations. Throughout the entire action, there was a vibrant and thrilling mood. Students played the game with great enthusiasm, supporting one another and acting with good sportsmanship. Additionally, the Entertainment Committee led the activity, and throughout the event, they showed great leadership.

Participants showed passion and determination right up until the very end of the final round. Overall, the winner of the Musical Chairs contest was Sibabalwe Hanisi. As a thank you and support for her involvement and outstanding performance, she received a certificate and a treat in acknowledgment of her accomplishment. Eventually, when the game ended and the winner was announced, we had a fun round where those who wanted to play would get the chance to play another round where Luhle Magwevana won the round.

Overall, the activity's goals of encouraging cooperation and social contact among the boarders were achieved. It also reaffirmed how crucial it is to strike a balance between academic obligations and social activities that enhance students' general wellbeing.

The Entertainment Committee's dedication to providing the boarders with entertaining and meaningful experiences is demonstrated by the activity's success. We are also every excited about Ongeziwe Sokanyile's participation in a beauty pageant this weekend. She won and was crowned Miss Rural Development 2026. She will be participating in 3 more beauty pageants during the rest of the year. One pageant will be later in South America.



NEWS FROM OUR BOARDING HOUSES

Barnard House

The girls at BH enjoyed going to the rugby. They also had a bingo evening in hostel with snacks, which they enjoyed.

Last night the girls enjoyed the spoils for Women's Day, they enjoyed being spoilt.

We wish the girls a lovely and enjoyable weekend away with their families and happy Women's Day to all.



WOMEN'S DAY

Decades of empowering the next generation

Mandeline Schoeman was an outstanding principal

at Victoria Girls' High School for nine years. In 2011, she joined Ntsika Secondary School. She consistently

commitment to academic excellence. Through strategic planning, effective management, and a learner-centred approach, she created an environment where both learners and educators were encouraged to achieve their full potential. Under her leadership, both Victoria Girls and Ntsika have experienced significant improvements in academic performance, discipline, staff morale, and stakeholder involvement.

Beyond the school gates, Schoeman has established strong partnerships with parents, local businesses, government departments, and community organisations. These relationships have enabled the schools to access valuable resources, improve infrastructure, and create opportunities that directly benefit learners.

Her open-door policy and approachable leadership style have fostered trust and strengthened the relationship between the school and the community it serves. Community development remains one of Schoeman's defining qualities.

