

STIRLING HIGH SCHOOL

Newsletter



2025 – Edition 02

DEAR PARENTS, STAFF AND PUPILS

Since the previous Newsletter (17 February), many activities have taken place and we find ourselves in the final week of the First Term.

Last week, we collected the 2024 Matric re-marks from the Department and can add another 15 subject distinctions to our previous tally, bringing the number of subject distinctions (80% or more) for our 2024 Grade 12s to 257.

The re-mark results also meant that the number of pupils who achieved distinctions in all of their subjects now increases to 6.

The sports and cultural results are regularly posted on our social media pages, so I will not address all of our accomplishments in newsletters, however, I will mention a few highlights.

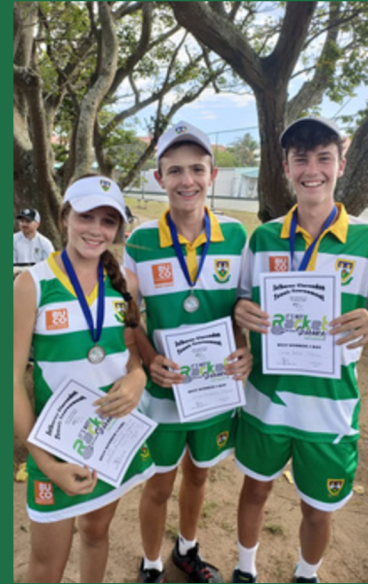
Sport

- 12 of our athletes were selected for the **BCM Athletics Team**. Our athletes have been very involved and successful this term and the number selected for the BCM Athletics Team is very pleasing.
- Our **Netball** Teams played numerous games in the Ooskus Festival – winning 9, losing 9 and drawing 1.
- **Stirling cricketers** had a successful season, winning 21 matches (14 losses).
- **Stirling golfers** were placed 4th overall at the Selborne Festival.
- One of our golfers, Luke Moore, placed second in the East London Golf Championships this past weekend.
- **Stirling swimmers** competed successfully in the Inter Districts Gala, winning 5 Golds, a Silver and 2 Bronzes. At the Hudson Park Sprint Gala, 2 girls and 5 boys placed in the top 7 swimmers.

congratulations

to our 22 staff members who were awarded Achievement Awards on the 6th of March for excelling in their various subject areas and achieving the lion's share of the Buffalo City Schools' subject awards for top results in East London.





Sport

- Stirling **Tennis First Teams** competed at Tjaart Vorster Tournament in Cradock, winning 7 of their 10 matches, including a 16/13 victory over Paul Roos and a 15/0 victory against Clarendon.
- At the Selborne/Clarendon Tennis Tournament, they took second place, beating Selborne /Clarendon 12/3, Grey/Collegiate 23/13 and SAC/DSG 29/8.
- Stirling **water polo players** competed in the numerous tournaments: Brian Baker, Grey Bloem, Alexander Road, Jason Murray, Vides, Rob Charlton, Shaun Fuchs and Old Petrians, winning a total of 26 games and losing 41 against strong competition.
- Our **rugby** competed well at both the Ooskus Festival and the Border Schools' Rugby Day at Dale. This past weekend we travelled to Makhanda to participate in the Graeme College Rugby Festival, where our First Rugby Team made us proud. They won their first game against Hangklip 38/15 and then came up against a strong Pearson side on Saturday, where they played a brilliant first half and were ahead from the beginning of the game until two minutes before half time. They continued strongly in the second half and eventually went down to a team that beat Queens College recently. Our score was 38/26.
- Our **hockey teams** played in the Tony Godding /Greg Beling Hockey Festival. Boys lost 3 and won 2, while the girls lost 3, won 2 and drew 1.

We are looking forward to a successful Derby season and will hopefully see some action on the new astro later in the season.

External Sport

A number of our sportsmen and women were very successful in outside sports and these include excellent achievements in Cycling, Angling, Surf Life-Saving, Artistic Swimming and Majorettes to name a few.

1st Team Sponsorship

We were delighted to have a formal session with our valued sponsor, BUCO, represented by Mr. Vaughn Meecham. Our teams take great pride in stepping onto the field looking professional – this would not be possible without BUCO's sponsorship.

Their continued support plays a vital role in uplifting our sports teams, and we are incredibly grateful for their commitment to our school and for investing in the success of our athletes and staff.



MR PRIOR, MR MEECHAM (BUCO), MR WARNER

Culture

A new **Cultural System** has been introduced at Stirling by Mr Du Plessis (our new Head of Culture), which supports general attendance and treats all areas of culture equally with well-defined expectations.

During the past term, the Culture Department has been very active with our many new offerings at Stirling High. The **Drama Department** staged a very successful production of "Checking in..." and the Jazz Band and Choir participated in the "Music in the Park" collaboration and were very well received, even though the rain once again limited our performance.

This past Thursday, many of us supported the **Big Band Concert** – "Groove Junction" in the auditorium which was slick and professional. Our Culture Department is raising the bar in all areas and the parents and children are loving the improvements that have already taken place.

The Big Band, has already held performances at Gonubie Primary, Stirling Primary, and Kennersley Park. Well done Mr Du Preez – we appreciate your efforts with the band and wish you well as the Band flies to Durban on Thursday, to perform at the KZN School Jazz Festival.

This year we will be hosting the first of our annual art exhibitions, which will showcase our pupils' work to staff and fellow pupils at Stirling and this is another exciting addition to our Cultural offerings at Stirling High.

As mentioned in a previous news-letter, the number of academic music students alone, has grown exponentially to 135 and we have a new level of enthusiasm and excitement in the Music Department that is palpable.

Our **chess** players have already competed successfully in National competitions and they are excited about the 16 professional chess clocks that have been purchased to further stimulate chess at Stirling.

Public Speaking and Debating is another area of excellence at Stirling High and our pupils have proved to be a force to be reckoned with in the Eastern Cape. Our debating team competed in Port Elizabeth this past weekend and will be hosting the All Girls National Debating Competition in May.

The annual **Ubuntu Production** is being planned and rehearsed and will take place in April this year. Due to the size of the event, and the number of audience members that the event attracts, it will once again take place in the Guild Theatre.

During the holidays we have a rugby tour to Graaff-Reinet, a netball tour to Margate, a hockey Festival in Cape Town and another one at Woodridge in addition to our band tour to Durban.

Some of the activities planned for the last week of term are a Grade 8 and 9 social, a Grade 12 social, a sports meeting, **S-Factor, a Night Market (Strides and Stalls)** and a beach clean-up.

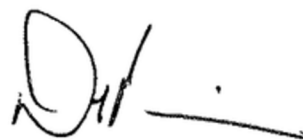
All in all, it has been a busy term up until the very last day – that's the way we like it at Stirling. **(keep posted on all the above on our social media)**

Our new astro is nearing completion fast, as is our 3-storey project. We are now starting to look towards the starting date of our next large-scale project, namely our sports' pavilion which should get under way early in the new term.

School closes on Friday at 10.30 after the final Assembly and re-opens on Tuesday 8th April.

We wish the staff and pupils (and parents) a safe and enjoyable holiday as we finish another term on a high note.

Kind Regards



Doug Prior

