

VICTORIAN



85 YEARS
1940-2025



2025

Art



Sibulele Mayedwa



Erin Bartlett



Declan Hogg



Sibulele Mayedwa



Sibulele Mayedwa



Kayla Brown



Iphelele Ngwenze



Erin Bartlett



Kendra Webster



Giselle van den Heever



Danielle Oosthuizen



Madison Ryan

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Compilation: Karen Ferreira
Photography: Ms Laura Smith

GOVERNANCE



From the Principal's Desk



As we draw the curtain on 2025, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of pride and gratitude. This year—our school's 85th birthday—has been an extraordinary journey in the relentless pursuit of excellence, our guiding vision for the year. And what a journey it has been!

From the outset, 2025 was always destined to be a landmark year in the life of VP, and we marked it with celebrations that were as meaningful as they were memorable. Our biannual school musical, *Bonnie and Clyde*, set the tone in March, showcasing the exceptional talent of our learners and staff. Our Reunion Weekend was another highlight, as we welcomed Old Vics from far and wide to celebrate 85 years of tradition, excellence, and unity. Two spectacular Jazz Band evenings filled our halls with music, memories, and joy, while the ceremonial Flying of the 85th Edition of our school flag, along with the symbolic Cake Cutting on Friday, 8 August, reminded us of just how far we have come.

At VP, we build on five foundational pillars: Academic, Cultural, Sport, Pastoral, and Leadership. These pillars have been shaped and strengthened over 85 years by the unwavering commitment of our parents, learners, and staff—and never have they stood stronger than they do today.

Sport at VP has grown exponentially

in 2025. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to all our teams, with special mention of our U14A Boys Hockey team, who completed an unbeaten season—a phenomenal achievement. Our junior boys and girls continue to impress across multiple disciplines. We have seen significant success in netball, swimming, rugby, cricket, soccer, and hockey, and the energy and sportsmanship of our learners is something we can all be proud of.

This year, our cultural life has truly flourished. The vibrancy, creativity, and depth shown by our learners across various platforms has reminded us once again of the power of the arts to unite, inspire, and uplift. From drama, dance, public speaking, visual arts, and choir to inter-house and inter-school cultural events, our learners have continued to show courage and creativity, taking every stage with confidence and authenticity.

Our learners have shown resilience, curiosity, and a strong commitment to their studies, supported at every step by an exceptional academic staff. Congratulations must go to the top twenty learners in each grade, who formed the prestigious Top 100 Club. We are immensely proud of you and your achievements in every learning area.

A huge thank you to our support staff, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure our grounds and facilities remain first-class—both on campus and at the Dave Weinronk fields. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. Special thanks to Mr Brien van der Watt, Mr Jafta, and Mr Coetzee for the pride and excellence you bring to your work.

To our parents—thank you for believing in the vision of VP and for standing by us in every sphere of school life. Your support fuels our momentum and makes everything we do possible.

To our learners—your energy,

dedication, and responsiveness have been inspiring. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or on stage, you have embraced every opportunity to grow and excel.

To our staff—words fail to capture the depth of my appreciation. You are, quite honestly, every principal's dream. Your passionate enthusiasm, professionalism, and wholehearted dedication to our learners continue to set this school apart. Thank you for being mentors, caregivers, and role models in the lives of so many. As a colleague and a parent, I stand in awe of each and every one of you.

To our governing body, under the outstanding leadership of Mr Colin Sylvester, thank you for your wisdom, support, and unwavering commitment to VP. A special thank-you to Mrs Heidi Brown (eight years of service), Mr Jacques Visser (five years of service), and Mr Enzo Brazzale (four years of service), who will be stepping down at the end of the year. Your legacy will long be remembered.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Old Vics for their unwavering support of Victoria Park High School, its learners, and staff. Their generous sponsorship of numerous initiatives and continuous efforts to improve our school's facilities have made a lasting and meaningful impact. We are truly grateful for your dedication and commitment to the growth and success of our school community.

As we near the end of what has been an exciting, demanding, and deeply rewarding year, I encourage each of us to pause, rest, and reflect. Let us intentionally create space for stillness amid the rush. Let us give thanks for all that we have, and for all that we have been privileged to experience.

To the VP Matrics of 2025: may you go forth boldly and confidently, equipped with the values and vision

that VP has instilled in you. I pray God's richest blessings upon each of you and upon the entire VP family as we close this celebratory chapter and look ahead to the future.

VIVITE FORTES – LIVE, CHALLENGE & DARE

Warmest regards,
Mr Garreth Jacobson
Principal



Back: Mr Ian Whittal

Middle: Mr Andrew Thompson, Ms Joelene Adams, Mrs Delia Southern, Mr Conrad Ferreira, Mrs Elmien du Preez, Mrs Tracy Jessop, Mrs Sharon Williamson, Ms Laura Smith

Front: Mr. Enzo Brazzale, Mrs Heidi Brown, Mr Garreth Jacobson, Mr Jacques Visser, Mr Colin Sylvester (Chairman)



Back: Madison Binning, Rachel Woods, Oyintanda Zetu, Nasi Gqotana

Front: Stephen Southern, Mbali Ngada (Vice- President), Mrs C Conradie, Nande Tengela (President), Mbasa Ngabase (Secretary)

A message from the SGB chairman

As we reflect on the year that has passed, it fills me with great pride and gratitude to acknowledge the many people who have contributed to making it a successful and memorable one for our school community.

First and foremost, I wish to extend heartfelt thanks to our Principal, Mr Jacobsen, and all his dedicated deputies and teachers. Your tireless commitment to educating, mentoring, and inspiring our learners is the foundation of every success we celebrate.

To our administrative and ground staff, we are equally grateful – your behind-the-scenes efforts ensure that the school runs smoothly and that our environment remains safe, welcoming, and conducive to learning.

To our coaches across all sporting codes and activities, thank you for your leadership, passion, and for

instilling the values of discipline and teamwork in our learners. The achievements, growth, and character-building that take place on the fields, courts, and stages are a testament to your dedication.

To our learners, you are the heartbeat of the school. We applaud your efforts, achievements, and the positive spirit you bring into every classroom and activity – not to mention how viral our 'Warcry' went on YouTube! A special word to our matriculants: as you approach your final examinations, we wish you strength, focus, and confidence. This marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter, and we trust you will carry forward the lessons, friendships, and values gained here at Victoria Park High School.

A sincere word of thanks must also go to the valuable members of the School Governing Body whose terms have come to an end this year. Mrs

Heidi Brown, Mr Enzo Brazzale, and Mr Jacques Visser, your dedication, time, and wisdom have left a lasting impact on the school, and your contributions will not be forgotten. We are deeply grateful for your service and commitment to the growth and well-being of our learners.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow continuing members of the SGB. Your support and commitment to the success of Victoria Park remain invaluable. Together, we continue to strive for excellence in all areas of school life.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I wish every member of our school family continued success, joy, and fulfilment in the year ahead.

Warm regards,

Mr Colin F. Sylvester
Chairman, School Governing Body



Psychological and Guidance Services

Psychological and Guidance Services

From exploring career possibilities and navigating subject choices to seeking support for wellbeing and safety, this year has shown how our learners are taking ownership of their growth and stepping boldly towards the future.

Career Guidance

Our matric learners had the exciting opportunity to attend the Working Worlds Expo at the Feather Market Centre, where they explored over 48 exhibiting institutions, organisations, and public services.

Another highlight for our school was the Grade 10-12 Career Evening – a dynamic and interactive event where professionals from a wide range of fields, from medicine and engineering to the trades, engaged directly with learners in an open dialogue format. These conversations offered invaluable real-world insights and allowed learners to envisage their own career paths in a more tangible way.

In addition to external exhibitions,

our school also hosted over 20 tertiary institutions and training organisations on campus this year. These sessions provided learners with firsthand access to information about programmes, qualifications, and scholarships.

Subject Choice

Making subject choices can be a daunting process. To support our learners, we enhanced our digital career guidance resources with on-line assessments and a comprehensive guidance booklet, encouraging learners to consider their academic performance, assessment results, and personal preferences together in a balanced and thoughtful way.

Counselling and Wellbeing

At the start of the year, I introduced myself to the learners with the reminder that “therapy is too good to just be kept for the sick.” The message was simple – anyone, at any stage, can benefit from therapy and self-reflection. It has been inspiring to see how many learners embraced this message, seeking support and engaging in the process of personal

growth.

As the school psychologist, I have been deeply moved by the courage and determination of our learners – their willingness to face challenges head-on, place trust in others, and believe in their own capacity for a brighter tomorrow.

This same courage and care extends to school safety. Our partnership with Humewood SAPS introduced a process for learners and staff to report incidents safely and privately on school grounds, ensuring that everyone feels supported and heard.

With curiosity, courage, and support guiding the way, our learners are not just moving forward – they are truly being prepared for life.

Written by School Psychologist – Mr Conway-Cleaves



STAFF





Mr. G Jacobson
Principal
B.A. (Ed), HMS



Mr. C Ferreira
Deputy Principal, Chief Admin
Officer, Head of Academics,
BCom (HMS), PGCE



Mrs. E du Preez
Deputy Principal,
Head of Afrikaans & Girl's discipline,
BA (Hons), HDE



Mr. E Boshoff
Head of Department,
BEd (FET)



Mr. J de Beer
Head of Department,
BCom, PGCE



Mr. R Leander
Head of Department,
Head of Discipline,
BSc (Ed)



Ms. P Meyer
Head of Department,
Head of English,
BA, HDE



Mr. R van der Merwe
Head of Department,
Head of Sport,
BEd (Hons)



Mr. M Louis
Head of Department,
Head of Culture and Music, ABRSM
(Grade 8)



Mrs. A Monteith
Head of Department,
Head of Life Sciences,
BHMS, PGCE



Mrs. L Moodaley
Head of Department,
Head of Physical Sciences,
BSc, PGCE



Mrs. J Nel
Head of Department,
Head of GET Mathematics,
HDC, BEd (FET)



Mr. W O'Connell
Head of Department,
Head of Mathematical Literacy,
BSc, PGCE



Mr. J Ross
Head of Department,
BA, PGCE



Mrs. S van Niekerk
Head of Department,
Head of Consumer Studies,
BHhk (Ed)



Mr. C van Rooyen
Head of Department,
Head of Social Sciences,
BEd (FET)



Mrs. T Wood
Head of Department,
Head of History
BA (Ed), HMS



Mr. L Alexander
BMus



Mr. N Anderson
BA, PGCE, MDiv



Mr. R Angelbeck
BSc, PGCE,
BEd (FET)



Mrs. S Assam
BEd (Hons)



Mrs. C Conradie
BSc, M Env. Sci., PGCE



Mrs. A de Beer
Head of Life Orientation,
BA, Eng (Hons), PGCE



Mrs. S de Beer
BA, Eng (Hons), PGCE



Mrs. M du Toit
BA, PGCE



Mr. S Dunderdale
Head of Geography
BSc, PGCE



Ms. M Engelbrecht
BSc (Hons), MSc, PGCE



Mr. T Frans
BMus



Mr. R Fynn
Head of Technology
BA, BHMS, PGCE



Mrs. W Gilbert
BMus, LTCL, UPLM



Mrs. L Gravett
BMus, Violin



Mr. C Griessel
BEd (FET)



Mr. S Gwija
Head of IT
NDip (IT), PGCE



Mrs. V Gwija
BCom, PGCE



Mrs. C Hayward
BEd (FET)



Mrs. S Hayward
BA (Hons), HDE, ABET (UNISA)



Mr. J Hutchinson
BA (Ed), HDE



Mrs. K Jacobson
Head of Natural Sciences
BSc (Hons), PGCE



Ms. K Kloppers
BSc (Hons), PGCE



Ms. N Mafeke
Head of isiXhosa
BA (Ed)



Mrs. N Maqanda
Head of isiXhosa
BA (Ed), BA(Hons)
isiXhosa



Ms. L Marks
BA (Hons), PGCE



Mr. M. Mbhele
Drum and Percussion



Mrs. J McGrath
Head of Visual Art & Design
NHD (Art & Design)



Mr. T Mzimane
BCom, PGCE
Business Studies



Mrs. M Rademeyer
BHMS, PGCE



Ms. K Scheepers
BA, PGCE
Head of Drama



Ms. L Smith
BEd (FET)



Mrs. C Spangenberg
BEd (FET)
Head of Accounting



Mrs. R Swart
Head of Computer Application
Technology, Hcert (IT), NDip (IT),
AdvDip (IT)



Mrs. L Truter
Guidance Counsellor
BPsych (Hons), BA, HDE, DSE



Mrs. W van der Merwe
BA (HDE)



Mrs. S Venter
Head of Creative Arts,
BEd (Senior Phase)



Mrs. T Verrall
Head of Tourism
NDip (Fine Art), PGCE



Mrs. K von Wildemann
Head of EMS,
BCom, PGCE



Mrs. C Wait
BCom, PGCE
Head of Business Studies



Mrs. J Wessels
Head of Music
BMus, Dip ABRSM



Mr. S Wilson
BEd
English



Mr. R Wynford
Head of FET Mathematics
BSc (Hons), HDE



Mr. B Zlovich
BEd (FET and Senior Phase)



Mr. M Conway-Cleaves
MSocSC, BA(Hons), BA(Psych)
Counselling Psychologist



Mrs. M Bambrough
Assistant Bursar



Mrs. B Blignaut
SASAMS



Ms. Sharne Feinauer
Clothing Shop



Mrs. K Ferreira
Music Administration



Mrs. T Jessop
Bursar



Mrs. T Minnie
Administration & Public Relations



Mrs. D Odendaal
Librarian



Mrs. C van der Sande
Secretary



Mrs. J van Greunen
Assistant Bursar



Ms. S Williamson
Principal's Secretary



Mr. V Coetzee
Estate Manager (Dave Weinronk
Sport's Complex)



Mr. T Mayimayi
Dave Weinronk Sport's Fields



Mr. S Mnyatheli
Dave Weinronk Sport's Fields



Mr. S Peter
Dave Weinronk Sport's Fields



Ms. S Ruiters
Dave Weinronk Sport's Fields



Mr. B van der Watt
Estate Manager (School buildings)



Mr. S Jafta
Assistant Estate Manager
(School buildings)



Mrs. D Brockman
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. A Calaza
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mrs N Dingana
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mrs. L Gavanga
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. M Gwebani
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. K Makabela
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mrs. A Matodlana
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. E Marali
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. K Mtana
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. L Totoyi
Housekeeping and Maintenance



Mr. K Geldenhuys
Head of Hockey



Mr. R Gerber
Exercise Specialist & Personal Trainer



Mrs. Y Stone
Head of Netball



Ms. K Moore
The Vicky Tuckshop Manager



Mrs. V Jafta
The Vicky



Mr. C Stevens
The Vicky



Staff Report

2025 welcomed another exhilarating year celebrating our school's 85th anniversary, with the common green-blazered goal of seeking a Relentless Pursuit of Excellence. Victoria Park High dominated across the cultural board in our city with an outstanding theatrical production of 'Bonnie and Clyde' that left crowds swooning with a standing ovation. We also celebrated a Spring Festival that chimed in an overflowing hall, and impressed our community with the launch of our Cultural Experience, that honed our rich heritage, and welcomed many spectators onto our immaculate school campus!

The cultural drums were beating into the hearts of our sporting cries this year, which transpired into a powerful Ingonyama warcry in our North Quad, echoing a battle cry that left our entire school in an impassioned stillness between the four walls of our North Quad. The digitally streamed warcry hit local headlines across multiple media outlets - that lead our warcry into becoming a chilling, viral sensation. At the heart of a very busy and successful year stood our Victoria Park High School family, who pioneered the Relentless Pursuit of Excellence.

We were delighted to have officially welcomed a "bombsquad" to our VP family at the beginning of 2025. Mr Scotland Wilson joined the English Department in January. He is a graduate from Nelson Mandela University, and graduated Cum Laude and ranked 2nd in the Faculty of Humanities. He is passionate about sports, having been actively involved in Waterpolo, Rugby, and Cricket at Victoria Park for two years. Mr Wilson recently got engaged to his lovely girlfriend, Annie Jankovich. Mr Tando Mzimane also joined our VP family this year. Mr Mzimane completed his PGCE qualification and joined our Business Studies department. Mr Mzimane is a skilled Eastern Province rugby coach and has played a valuable part in our

rugby programme. He also recently got engaged to his long-time girlfriend, Kayla Owen. Congratulations to Mr Wilson and Mr Mzimane! We welcomed Mrs Maqanda as a permanent member of our VP staff. She has been an incredible asset to the IsiXhosa Department, as well as a dedicated contributor to the Cultural Society and Cultural Choir. Her enthusiasm and passion for culture and language have made a lasting impression on our learners and staff alike.

Mrs Benita Blignaut joined our administrative team after previously working at Handhaaf Primary School in Uitenhage. She has taken on her administrative role with excellence, performing her duties with efficiency and warmth. Her friendly demeanour and professionalism have made her a valued member of the administration and office team. We welcomed Mrs Karen Ferreira, who has long been involved in photography, online teaching, and design work for our school magazine, who took up a permanent full-time position in the Music Department this year. Her creativity and commitment to excellence have made a significant contribution to the smooth running of the department and the broader cultural life of the school. We also congratulate Mrs Jenna van Greunen, who was appointed to a permanent full-time position in our Administration Department this year. Her reliability, organisational skills, and positive spirit continue to make a difference daily in our school's operations. Mr Matthew Conway-Cleaves joined our School Counselling Department, bringing with him extensive experience as a School Counsellor at Alexander Road High School. Holding a Masters degree in Psychology, Mr Conway-Cleaves is qualified to administer psychometric testing, a valuable addition that enhances the support we can offer our learners. His professionalism and insight have already added immense value to our school community.

We welcomed Ms Lynette Gravett, a talented graduate with a Bachelor of Music degree. Lynette specializes in violin ensemble, violin quartet, and mass choir, and she has already begun inspiring our students with her musical expertise and passion for the arts. Her dedication to fostering musical growth and her collaborative spirit added a new harmony to our VP community this year. We congratulate Mr Mpho Mbhele, who now serves in a full-time position in our Music Department. He plays an active role in coordinating musical events and performances and is also a dedicated contributor to Boys' Soccer. His passion for both music and sport continues to enrich the lives of our students. Not only are Ms Lynette Gravett and Mr Mpho Mbhele now permanent members of our VP staff, but they are also proud VP alumni - their blood truly runs green.

Love was truly in the air this year as a few of our staff members tied the knot and began exciting new chapters in their lives. Mr Christopher van Rooyen married his long-time girlfriend, Natasha, on 28 June 2025. We also extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr Sive Gwija and Mrs Vuyokazi Gwija, who celebrated their marriage towards the end of last year. At their beautiful traditional isiXhosa ceremony, Vuyokazi was honoured with a new name by the Gwija family - "Licebo", meaning "God's plan." Mr Stuart Dunderdale also celebrated his special day, marrying his lovely partner, Amy, at the beautiful Charihandra Game Lodge on 24 May 2025. Warm congratulations to the happy VP couples on their marriage!

We celebrated some very special new additions to our VP family this year!

Mrs Ashley de Beer and her husband, Morné, joyfully welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Olivia Leiza de Beer, on 28 January 2025. We wish them all the love and happiness as they embark on this wonderful new

chapter of parenthood. Mrs Carlene van de Sande became a proud grandmother on 6 February 2025, with the arrival of her gorgeous grandchild, Joshua. Congratulations to her children, Chris and Ashleigh van de Sande, who welcomed their little one in Australia. Mr Mathew Conway-Cleaves and his wife, Michelle, welcomed a beautiful baby girl to their lovely family on the 30th September this year. Welcome to the world, Jodie Conway-Cleaves! From our administration department, Mrs Jenna van Greunen and her family welcomed an adorable baby boy, Liam, on 5 August 2025. We share in their joy and send warm wishes to the whole Minnie and van Greunen family during this precious time.

While we celebrate the new little lives of 2025 - Our VP family continues to grow!

We are delighted to share the wonderful news that Mrs. Sarah-Jane de Beer is expecting her second child with Mr. Johann de Beer. They look forward to welcoming a beautiful baby girl in early January 2026. As Mrs de Beer gets ready to welcome her second baby girl into the world from the early start to the new year, we sincerely thank Mrs Donnell Goldberg, a highly experienced past VP teacher, for steering her English classes and taking up the maternity post until May 2026. Additionally, Mrs. Michelle Rademeyer and her husband, Wiele, will be welcoming their second lovely baby boy to their family in March 2026. We wish our valued VP family members all the best as they navigate their maternity period as a soon-to-be family of four!

It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to valued members of our VP staff.

We say farewell to Mr. Travis Frans in our Music department as he embarks on a new journey, and we thank him for his dedication and commitment during his time spent with us, and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours. An additional bittersweet goodbye, Ms. Kelsey Scheepers will be taking up the position of Head of Dramatic

Arts at Collegiate High School. Congratulations on this well-deserved opportunity, Kelsey! We also bid farewell to Ms. Melindi Engelbrecht, who is joining Pearson High School's Geography Department. We are grateful for her contributions and wish her success in her new role.

Tribute to Mr. Ryan Fynn - 9 Years Not Out

After many years of dedicated service to Victoria Park, we say goodbye to Mr. Ryan Fynn who served in our English department. Mr. Fynn's honesty has always been his hallmark – direct, yet driven by great intentions. Mr. Fynn's dedication over the past 9 years at VP has showcased his steady commitment to Victoria Park High School. He was never shy to dedicate himself to cricket's demanding hours, and made a difference in the lives of many Victorians.

Cricket is known as a gentleman's game, and Mr. Fynn carried himself incredibly well to represent this. His lunch in the staffroom will be fondly remembered- eloquently prepared and always presented as a fine-dining culinary choice. Off the pitch, Mr. Fynn dedicated himself to the English department, a teacher that had the compassion to lead a classroom and facilitate Literature sessions, while investing many hours into the Extra English Tutorial Programme. Mr. Fynn brought many years of cricket skills and expertise to the pitch. Yet the honour he continued to wear with the most pride is being a proud husband to his wife, Fae, and father to his daughter, Elizabeth. This shows the depth of his character and moral value. Our Victoria Park High School family wishes you all the best in your next chapter in Australia– you will be missed.

As we bid a sad few goodbyes, we rejoice in welcoming an outstanding academic and pastoral team to our VP family in 2026. Victoria Park High School is delighted to welcome several new members to our staff as we continue to grow and strengthen our team of dedicated educators and pastoral influences.





We extend a warm welcome to Mrs Jucinta McVitty Brown, who joins our English Department. Mrs McVitty Brown is currently teaching at Alexander Road High School, where she has served for the past four years. She brings with her a wealth of experience, having also taught at Pearson High School, Clarendon High School for Girls, and Hudson Park High School in East London. We look forward to the expertise and enthusiasm she will bring to our English team. Congratulations to Mrs Caitlin Wiggill on her appointment as the new Head of Dramatic Arts at VP from January 2026. Mrs Wiggill is currently employed at Think and Grow Education, where she has worked since 2024. She holds a BA degree majoring in English and a Masters in Drama and Theatre (Cum Laude). We are excited about the creativity and leadership she will bring to our Drama Department and the broader cultural life of our school. We also congratulate Ms Avril van Neel on her appointment to our English Department. Ms van Neel is currently teaching at Willow Academy, where she has spent the past two years inspiring learners through her passion for literature and language. We are thrilled to have her join the VP family and look forward to the contributions she will make in the classroom and beyond. Finally, we are proud to announce the appointment of Miss Apiwe Bongo as Victoria Park High School's newly appointed Social Worker - a brand-new position at our school. Miss Bongo currently serves at Heatherbank School in Port Elizabeth, where she has spent the past four and a half years providing valuable support to learners, parents, and staff. She will officially join our VP family on 1 January 2026, working alongside our school psychologist, Mr Matthew Conway-Cleaves, to strengthen the pastoral care pillar of our school. We are confident that her compassion and professionalism will make a meaningful difference to our school community.

Staff Achievements and Professional Excellence

We are exceptionally proud of several of our staff members who have

gone above and beyond in their professional development and sporting achievements this year. Their dedication to both their personal growth and to the success of our learners reflects the true spirit of Victoria Park High School.

Congratulations to Mr Keanon Geldenhuys, Head of Hockey, who successfully completed his Sports and Recreation Management degree. In addition, he obtained his FIH Level 2 Coaching Qualification and excelled in the SAHA Goalkeeping Course (Level 0) for Hockey. His passion for the sport and continuous pursuit of excellence have greatly benefited our hockey programme.

A huge well done to Mr Johann de Beer, Head of Cricket, who, despite his demanding schedule balancing teaching, school management, and a full operative cricket programme, successfully completed and excelled in his Level 2 Cricket Coaching Course through Cricket South Africa! His commitment to high performance, player development and the growth of cricket at VP is truly inspiring.

Congratulations to Ms Yolandi Stone, Head of Netball, whose achievements this year have been truly outstanding. She was appointed as Coach of the Eastern Cape U17 team, selected as Coach for the Penguins Netball Dubai Tour, and appointed as the Nelson Mandela Metro Convenor of Coaches in the schools' structure. Under her leadership, players from the Eastern Cape U17 team progressed to the Top SA 35 Squad, with one exceptional player earning selection for the South African U17 Team.

We are immensely proud of these dedicated coaches, and our educators who continue to raise the bar - both in their professional achievements and in the opportunities they create for our learners.

Staff Long Service Awards

We are proud to celebrate the dedication and loyalty of several of our staff members who have reached

remarkable milestones in their service to Victoria Park High School this year.

Mr de Beer - 10 Years of Service

Congratulations to Mr de Beer, who celebrates a decade of service to Victoria Park High School. His hearty commitment to school management, his many commitments and the selfless hours invested into our school community are greatly valued.

Mr Gwebani - 20 Years of Service

We also honour Mr Gwebani for his incredible 20 years of service as an impeccable ground staff member. His dedication and steadfast presence have left a lasting impact on the school and all who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Mr Louis - 25 Years of Service

A special congratulations to Mr Louis, who has achieved an outstanding 25 years of service to Victoria Park High. His many years of service, passion, and excellence to Culture, Soccer and our Music are truly commendable and deeply appreciated.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these long-serving staff members for their loyalty, professionalism, and invaluable contributions to the VP family.

State Departmental Head

Congratulations to Mr Johann de Beer on his well-deserved promotion to State Departmental Head! Mr de Beer has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership through his work in our school's discipline structures, sporting programmes, and school leadership initiatives at Victoria Park High School. His professionalism, dedication, positive influence and drive for our VP culture have made a lasting impact on both learners and colleagues alike. We are incredibly proud of this achievement and wish him continued success as he takes on this exciting new chapter in his career.

In Loving Memory of our Former VP Staff Members

As we close the year, we pause to remember, commemorate and honour our cherished members of the Vic-

toria Park High School family who sadly passed away during the course of the year. Each of them played a special role in shaping the spirit of VP, and their legacy continues to live on in our hearts and memories. We remember Mrs Lorraine Gow, a beloved former staff member, who passed away at the beginning of the year. She was deeply respected and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of working alongside her.

We celebrate the life of Mr Siya Peter, a dedicated and hardworking member of our grounds staff. Mr Peter's commitment and quiet strength made him a valued part of the VP team, and he will be greatly missed by colleagues and learners alike.

We also remember Mrs Marintha du Preez, affectionately known as "Tannie Doep", a former Vice Principal and treasured member of the Afrikaans Department. Her warmth and devotion to her learners left a lasting impression on the VP community.

Lastly, we honour Mrs Stephanie Russell, a much-loved former Life Sciences teacher, whose gentle nature and kind ways touched the lives of so many learners and colleagues. Our deepest sympathies go to the families and friends of these remarkable individuals. Their contributions to Victoria Park High School will never be forgotten, and their memory will remain a part of our school's story forever.

2025 was an unforgettable year. From the Cultural Awards Evening, where the dazzling flair of Jungle Glam celebrated creativity and sophistication, to the Sports Dinner, where charisma met accomplishment, our learners and staff have continued to climb higher, conquering challenges and achieving success against formidable competition across Gqeberha and beyond. As the curtain falls on 2025, we look back on a year that truly embodied our theme - "The Relentless Pursuit of Excellence." It has been a year defined by drive, dedication, and the unmistakable heartbeat of the VP

spirit.

The David Blake Hall lit alive with the unforgettable 'Bonnie and Clyde' production, musical accolades that left a resonating impression, moments of shared VP pride, and a deepened sense of unity that left a viral sensation - a

reminder that the strength of Victoria Park lies not only in achievement, but in community. 2025 will be remembered as a year where excellence was not just a goal but a way of life, lived out daily through commitment, creativity, and courage. As we close this chapter, we celebrate every victory, every lesson, and every heartbeat that made this year extraordinary.

Here's to the VP family- ever growing, ever striving, and ever relentless in our pursuit of excellence. Our Victoria Park High School motto has never been Excellence itself - this year, it was the pursuit of it. We do not chase perfection; we pursue progress - and in that pursuit, we find our excellence.

Sarah-Jane de Beer



Long Service

Johann de Beer • Morris Gwebani • Marlon Louis

Johann de Beer – 10 Years



Celebrating a Decade of Dedication: Johann de Beer's 10 Years of Service at Victoria Park High School

Sixteen years ago, Mr Johann de Beer matriculated from Victoria Park High School. A councillor and captain of both the First Team Rugby and First Team Cricket sides in 2009, he returned to his alma mater immediately after beginning his BCom in Business Management at Nelson Mandela University. While still studying, he coached both rugby and cricket externally at VP, and officially joined the teaching staff in January 2015—a proud green blazer that he never truly removed.

As Head of Boys Cricket and First Boys Cricket Coach for numerous

years, Mr de Beer has played a pivotal role in elevating the school's cricket programme, bringing it to new heights through his dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment.

Beyond sport, Mr de Beer is actively involved in many discipline and leadership programmes at Victoria Park. He serves as Head of the Late Comers Committee, participates as a Councillor Teacher, oversees the VP Monitor System, and fulfils the role of Grade Head. Through these responsibilities, he cultivates and upholds the school's traditions and spirit, shaping generations of learners along the way.

Outside of his professional commitments, Mr de Beer is known for

being a devoted family man and the ultimate braai master. While he places his family firmly as his number one priority, perfectly cooking a T-bone steak is a close contender for his attention.

Mr de Beer's many contributions have significantly enriched Victoria Park High School. His leadership, his willingness to go above and beyond, and his genuine heart for the school truly embody the spirit of VP. As he celebrates ten years of dedicated service, we honour not just a teacher and coach, but a remarkable individual whose legacy will continue to inspire.

Mrs S de Beer

Morris Gwebani – 20 Years



Mr M. Gwebani – 20 Years of Dedicated Service

Mr Morris Gwebani began his career at Victoria Park High School on 1 February 2005. Fondly known as **Morris, Gazza, Mr G, or simply Supervisor**, he has been a loyal and hardworking member of our team

for two decades.

Morris serves as one of our general workers, responsible for maintaining the gardens and ensuring the school's perimeter is clean and tidy. He takes great pride in his work and can be quite protective of his areas. As he often says, there is a deep sense of satisfaction in seeing a hard day's work reflected in the beauty of the school grounds, knowing he has contributed to their upkeep.

Beyond his duties, Morris is blessed with a beautiful baritone voice, which he reveals only on special occasions – most notably when singing 'Happy Birthday' to his colleagues. He is a dedicated member of the **New Apostolic Church in Walmer Township**, and despite not attending regularly, he remains committed to his faith.

Morris has a life partner but no children of his own. As he humorously

puts it, "I have a school full of children; I do not need any more." Born in Grahamstown and a matriculate of Nambulele High School, he has a lifelong passion for soccer. He previously played as a striker and proudly considers himself a co-founder of the **Young Ideas Football Club** in Grahamstown. A memorable moment came in 2019 when a staff team faced the second team boys' soccer squad – Gazza scored a goal, helping the staff team secure a 2-1 victory.

Morris's unwavering dedication, strong work ethic, and cheerful presence have made him a cherished member of the Victoria Park High School family. We congratulate him on 20 years of service and thank him for his commitment, care, and pride in our school.

– Mr B. van der Watt

Marlon Louis – 25 Years



Mr Marlon Louis – 25 Years of Exceptional Service

Mr Marlon Louis joined Victoria Park High School in 1997 on a music scholarship. As an ex-Victorian, his talent was evident from the very

beginning. Recognised early by Mr Shawn Lyon, the music director at Grey High who also taught at VP, Mr Lyon saw immense promise in him and strongly recommended a music bursary. That decision proved to be one of the best the school ever



made, as Mr Louis has since evolved into a world-class musician, enriching our school community with his extraordinary talent and leadership.

A gifted and respected musician, Mr Louis is a renowned trumpeter

who has performed alongside international artists during their tours across South Africa. His passion for music has inspired countless students and elevated our cultural programmes to exceptional heights. As the head of the music department, he has expertly coordinated approximately 30 clubs, societies, and activities, fostering a vibrant and inclusive culture of artistic expression.

Beyond his musical mastery, Mr Louis is a consummate technical expert. He manages all sound and lighting requirements for assemblies, concerts, musicals, and special events such as the Mr & Miss VP extravaganzas. He also records exams for concession learners and ensures that our sound infrastructure runs seamlessly. His versatility as a "jack of all trades" in technical support is

truly unmatched.

In addition to his musical contributions, Mr Louis has made significant strides in sport. He is a passionate soccer coach, co-managing and coaching our teams alongside Mr Leander. He also served as PEFA Head of Girls' Football, Vice President, and founded the Mustangs Sports Academy. Under his leadership, our school teams progressed from regional to provincial leagues, exemplifying his dedication to fostering athletic excellence. He has even coached the NMB regional ladies' team in competitions at Somerset East, demonstrating his commitment to developing female athletes.

A well-loved and respected figure, Mr Louis's relationships with stu-

dents and colleagues are a testament to his warmth, humility, and genuine care. Many former students remain in touch, and some are now colleagues and friends, always willing to lend a hand at a moment's notice. His legacy is firmly embedded in the fabric of our school – a true legend, admired and adored by all.

Congratulations, Mr Louis, on 25 years of service and outstanding contributions. Your legacy of leadership, talent, and kindness has left an indelible mark on our school community, and we are deeply grateful for your unwavering dedication.

– Ms P. Meyer



VP ARCHIVE



Old Scholars Tea

OLD SCHOLAR'S TEA (1940 - 1975)

The Old Scholar's Tea marked the opening of the school's 85th birthday reunion weekend, and this year it was truly memorable. A record-breaking 86 old scholars attended, making it the highest turnout since Mrs Du Preez began this annual event 15 years ago. We were delighted to be joined by our two Deputy Principals, Mrs Elmien du Preez and Mr Conrad Ferreira.

The class of '75 was officially inducted and welcomed, making them the "youngest" group to attend. Class representative Gaynor Smith did a sterling job in rounding up her fellow classmates, and, besides being the youngest, they were also the liveliest! The class of '65, led by Ian Scott, was a formidable presence in numbers, celebrating their 60th school reunion with 25 past Victorians in attendance. It was also wonderful to see Rae Wallis, class of '56, looking as youthful as ever.

The morning began with tea and snacks, accompanied by the storytelling of Mr Marius Potgieter, a past teacher whose tales captured everyone's attention. Geoff Evans, class of '75, added further entertainment with anecdotes from the past, prompting laughter and fond memories of teachers such as Locky Lokotsch (years '57-'92), Mr Pearson (GAC, years '65-'82) and Bob (Pepe) Pretorius – legends in the minds of many.

A highlight of the morning was a photobooth designed like a 70s Kombi. Scholars embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly, with laughter ringing out as they posed and joked. The Kombi, needless to say, required repairs after all the fun, though many attempted to convince themselves it could actually drive!

The musical talent of current learn-

ers from the Music Department brought additional joy to the event, infusing movement and energy into the room. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their performance, and a special thank you is extended to Mr Louis and his phenomenal team.

Throughout the morning, there was much laughter, conversation, and celebration. In true Victorian spirit, the class of '75 continued their festivities elsewhere, followed by the class of '65. A heartfelt thank you goes to Mr Jacobson, our Principal, who personally greeted everyone and made the morning even more special.

Guests left with lasting memories, laughter in their hearts, and a deep sense of pride – truly "Proudly Victorian."

Sharon Williamson & Tania Minnie



Reunion 2025

This year's reunion was truly special, as Victoria Park High School celebrated its 85th birthday! The festivities began with the annual Old Scholars Tea on Thursday, and what a crowd it was!

Friday morning was filled with excitement as the entire school demonstrated the war cry, sending goosebumps down many arms. The "meet and greet" in Thorp Hall brought further joy, as some former Victorians reunited for the first time since leaving school. This was followed by an emotional entrance into Blake Hall, met with thunderous applause from pupils and staff.

Reflections from past learners captured the spirit of the weekend:

"Thank you so much for arranging such a wonderful reunion weekend. We were all blown away by the specialness of each function. The speeches at the tea, the war cry, and the deafening welcome from the students as we entered the hall gave us all goosebumps. Our Saturday function is one that will be remembered forever."

Gaynor Smith '75

"The assembly!!!! WOW!! Words cannot express how amazing that was. The roar from the pupils when we entered the hall was overwhelming. Every aspect of the assembly was perfect and meaningful, and I know, without exception, every one of the '1965 Legends' will carry the memory of that morning in our hearts forever. To the pupils, you ROCK, thank you!

Victoria Park High School was, is, and always will be the best high school."

Dot Gibbs '65

"Firstly, congratulations to Victoria Park High School on the wonderful milestone of its 85th birthday! What a milestone to celebrate – and you and your team certainly celebrated well! Many thanks for making what was my 50th reunion so special. The Reunion Tea and Assembly were thoughtfully curated, and may I compliment the outstanding Music Department at the school! You can be most proud of your talented learners. While I was unable to attend the sports events on Saturday, the enthusiasm evident by the end of school on Friday was palpable. It is an accolade indeed that so many alumni follow the progress of our Alma Mater and return for such a reunion weekend."

Sandie Parker (Marsh) '75

"1985 had an absolute blast and we know that there is a lot of work that goes on in the background. It was fabulous! It might take 10 years for us to recover!"

Sharon White (Hall) '85

"Assembly on Friday was the pinnacle! I've never felt such a mix of nerves, pride, joy, and nostalgia all at once."

Sam Bownless '00

The programme continued with Donovan Adams (class of 2000), who entertained the school with memories of the past and an encouraging message for the future. Following tradition, the atmosphere became nostalgic as "Oh for a Thousand Tongues" was

sung. The school song brought tears to many eyes, and it was remarkable how easily the words flowed, even after so many years.

Friday night saw the festivities move to Chicky's Yard, where dancing, chatter, and laughter continued late into the evening. Alumni from different years mingled and caught up, while some stayed late to prepare for the Derby Day on Saturday.

On Saturday, Victoria Park hosted longtime rivals Alexander High School at the Derby Day fixture, with players enthusiastically cheered on by the Old Scholars in attendance. The day concluded with an Old Scholars hockey match, which, amid groans and laughter, reminded many that some skills fade with time – several players lasted only five minutes on the field, vowing never to play again!

Saturday night saw each group arranging their own gatherings, and if rumours are to be believed, it was a night where "whatever happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas!"

Friendships were renewed, laughter shared, and memories created, leaving everyone feeling "Proudly Victorian."

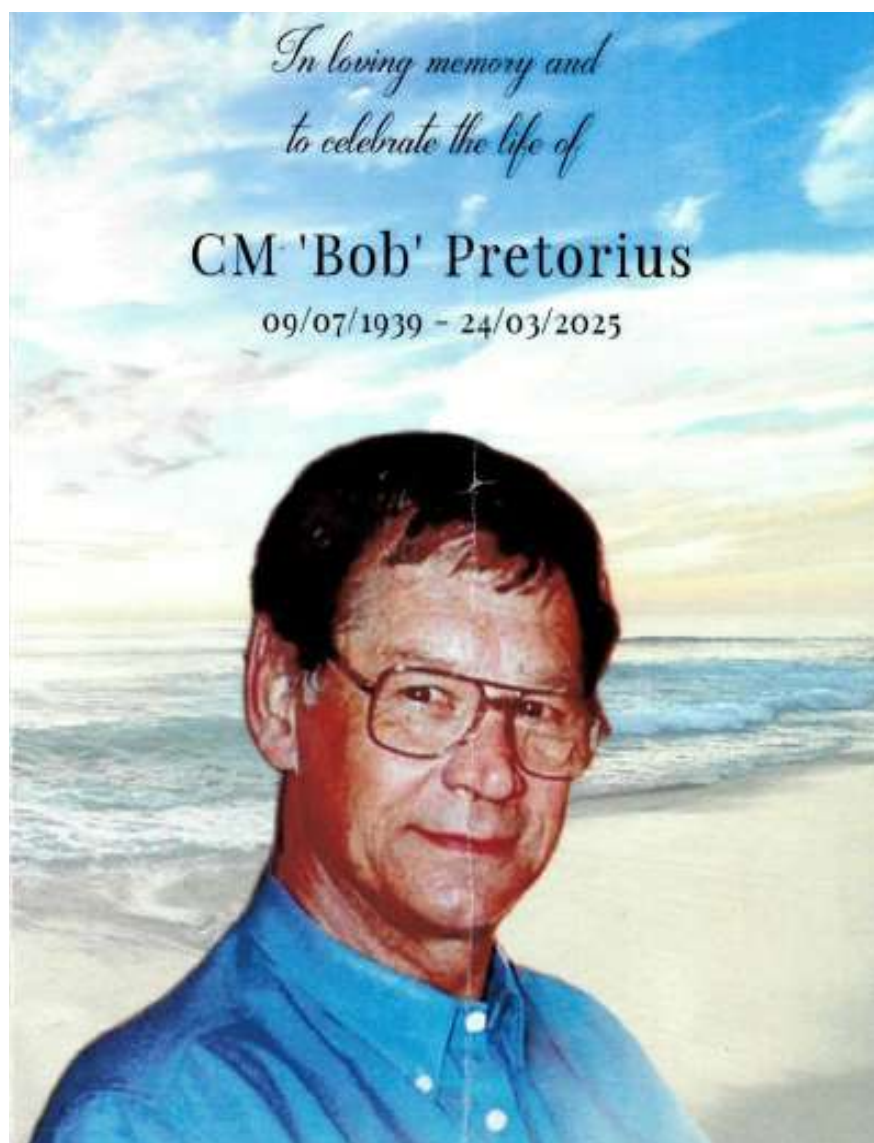
A special thank you is extended to the Class Reps for their hard work and dedication in making this reunion one to remember.

'Till next year!

Sharon Williamson & Tania Minnie



News from Old Scholars



TRIBUTE TO ROBERT "PEPE" PRETORIUS (09/7/1939 - 24/03/2025)
(Member of Staff 1962 – 1974)

Mr Bob Pretorius started at Victoria Park High School in January 1962 as a Secondary Assistant. In 1962, he introduced and organised the Matric Farewell Dance, a function which has become an annual one. He then left to take up a position at Dale College for two years and, unable to resist the lure of VPHS, he returned in October 1966.

He was instrumental in the formation of our first Interact Club and took great pleasure in organising

the first Variety Show, which became an annual event for many years. He devoted many hours to ensuring that the computerisation of reports was perfected and was an active member of the PTA.

Mr Pretorius started schoolboy hockey in 1962 and the school soon realised that he was a man of many talents! It was not an uncommon sight to see him perched on a tractor trimming the sports fields before school. He organised and accompanied the hockey team on their first tours to East London and Cape Town respectively. Affectionately known as "Pepe" for his jovial manner and endearment, he was

loved and respected by both pupils and staff.

It would be impossible to mention all the numerous activities in which he took an active part. From cricket coaching to fund-raising, no task was too big for him to conquer.

In January 1975, Mr Pretorius was appointed in the position of Vice Principal of Bergvliet High School in Cape Town and VPHS bid a sad farewell to him in December 1974.

Mr Pretorius will always be fondly remembered as a valuable and enthusiastic member of the VPHS family.

RIP

Management and Staff
VPHS

TRIBUTE FROM PAST PUPILS (1960s – 1970s)

We as pupils at Victoria Park High School of the 1960's and 1970's, were privileged to have had Bob as our Geography teacher. He was an extraordinary educator who left an indelible mark on all those who were fortunate enough to have had him as a teacher. Not only was he the schoolmaster, but he became more of a friend who took immense interest in the well-being of past pupils years, after completing their education.

As the coach of boys hockey, he took pride in the fact that many of the players from his era progressed on to represent South African schools, as well as senior provincial players.

Bob may be gone, but his legacy lives on through the countless number of people who were fortunate to have had him as an educator, coach and friend.

RIP " PEPE "

AWARDS + ACHIEVEMENTS



Academic Prize Giving Grade 8 - 11

Grade 8

Khazimla Gxotani

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Life Orientation, English, EMS & Afrikaans

1st in Afrikaans

Top 10 in Grade

Mihlali Mente

Silver Award for isiXhosa, Technology, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

1st in isiXhosa

1st in EMS

Top 10 in Grade

Hluma Nhantsi

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Dilan Khoosal

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English & EMS

1st in EMS

Top 10 in Grade

Levi Verryenne

Silver Award for Technology, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life

Orientation, English, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Sibabalwe Ketse

Silver Award Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, English, EMS & Afrikaans

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Liam van der Westhuizen

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS & Creative Arts

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Rachael Glass

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Jordin Scholtz

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Max Pietersen

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Cameron Jones

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS & Creative Arts

1st in Life Orientation

Shield for Highest Achievement in Life Orientation Grade 8

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Katya Steyn

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

1st in Social Science

1st in Mathematics

1st in English

Academic Scroll

1st in Grade 8



Oyintanda Zetu



Liam van der Westhuizen, Mr. Griessel, Max Pietersen and Cameron Jones

Grade 9

Lidwala Sodlala

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Andile Ncata

Silver Award for Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Myrisca van Jaarsveld

Silver Award for Technology, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Isabelle Momberg

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Mbali Siwa

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Kaitlyn Breytenbach

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation,

English, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Lusanele Ngamlana

Silver Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

Top 10 in Grade

Jaelon Beaton

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Tara-Leigh Nel

Silver Award for Technology, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Joint 1st in Technology

The Labuschagne Trophy for Highest Achievement in Technology Grade 9

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Mmangaliso Lottering

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

1st in Natural Science

Academic Scroll

Top 10 in Grade

Zuphaphe Mamase

Gold Award for isiXhosa, Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, EMS & Creative Arts

1st in isiXhosa

1st in EMS

Top 10 in Grade

Academic Scroll

Iman Liberty

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

Joint 1st in Technology

The Labuschagne Trophy for Highest Achievement in Technology Grade 9

1st in Life Orientation

Shield for Highest Achievement in Life Orientation Grade 9

1st in English

Top 10 in Grade

Academic Scroll

Nasi Gqotana

Gold Award for Technology, Social Science, Natural Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, EMS, Afrikaans & Creative Arts

1st in Social Science

1st in Mathematics

1st in Afrikaans

Academic Scroll

1st in Grade 9



Myrisca van Jaarsveld and
Tara-Leigh Nel



Stephen Southern and Ipfi Tshivhase



Iman Liberty

Grade 10

Caitlin Goosen

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Life Orientation, English, Afrikaans & Accounting

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Elijah Coetzee

Merit Certificate Physical Science, Mathematics & Information Technology

1st in Physical Science

1st in Mathematics

1st in Information Technology

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Karli Badenhorst

Merit Certificate for Mathematics, Life Orientation, Dramatic Arts & Afrikaans

1st in Life Orientation

1st in Dramatic Arts

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Cayden Willis

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation & Information Technology

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Sarah Schunemann

Merit Certificate for Visual Art, Music, Mathematics, Life Orientation, Dramatic Arts & Afrikaans

1st in Visual Art

The VPHS Trophy for Most Promising Visual Art Student

1st in Music

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Kyle Swart

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, Information Technology, Afrikaans & Accounting

1st in Accounting

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Khanya Mkhonza

Merit Certificate for isiXhosa, Mathematics, Life Orientation, Computer Application Technology, Business Studies & Accounting

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Rachel Woods

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Life Science, Life Orientation, Computer Application Technology, Afrikaans & Accounting

1st in Life Science

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Millah Human

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Music, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English. Business Studies & Afrikaans

1st in Business Studies

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Alexia Grubic

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Life Orientation, English, Computer Application Technology & Afrikaans

1st in English

1st in Computer Application Technology

1st in Afrikaans

Academic Full Colours

1st in Grade 10



Odin Goba



Sarah Schunemann



David Thomson

Grade 11

Camden Clark

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Information Technology & Life Orientation

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Rebecca Brazzale

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Computer Application Technology, Afrikaans, English & Life Orientation

1st in English

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Charlynn Fredericks

Merit Certificate for Design, Dramatic Arts, Business Studies, Afrikaans & English

1st in Design

Joint 1st in Afrikaans

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Emma Claydon

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Accounting, Business Studies, Afrikaans & English

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Sinabo Busakwe

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Life Science, Business Studies, Afrikaans & Life Orientation

1st in Life Science

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Shona Ketchemin

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Accounting, Computer Application Technology, Business Studies, Afrikaans, English & Life Orientation

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Joag Olivier

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Geography, Afrikaans & English

Joint 1st in Afrikaans

1st in Geography

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Danielle Oosthuizen

Merit Certificate for Visual Art, Business Studies, Afrikaans, English & Life Orientation

1st in Visual Art

1st in Life Orientation

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Lakeisha Baatjies

Merit Certificate for Mathematics, Information Technology, Accounting, Business Studies, Afrikaans, English & Life Orientation

1st in Information Technology

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Ryan Warren

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Information Technology, Accounting, Afrikaans & English

1st in Mathematics

1st in Accounting

Academic Full Colours

Top 10 in Grade

Nathan Sylvester

Merit Certificate for Physical Science, Mathematics, Information Technology, Business Studies, Afrikaans, English & Life Orientation

1st in Physical Science

1st in Information Technology

1st in Business Studies

Academic Full Colours

1st in Grade 11



Joshua Sebba and Nande Tengela



Erin Bartlett and Sibulele Mayedwa



Rachel Brown



Nathan Sylvester and Ryan Warren

Matric Prize Giving

Camden Clark

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Physical Science & Mathematics

Joint 1st in Physical Science

The VPHS Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in Science (shared)

Half Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Daniëlle Oosthuizen

Language Proficiency in English & Afrikaans, Outstanding Practical Work in Visual Arts,

Merit Certificates for Visual Art, Life Orientation, Afrikaans, Business Studies & English

Full Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Rachel Brown

Outstanding Practical Work in Dramatic Arts,

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Dramatic Arts, Mathematical Literacy, English & Music

1st in Dramatic Arts

The VPHS Trophy Drama for Best Dramatic Arts Student

Full Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Emma Claydon

Merit Certificates for Life Orientation, Afrikaans, Business Studies & English

Full Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Juliette Horn

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Afrikaans, Mathematics, English

& Computer Application Technology

Full Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Nande Tengela

Language Proficiency in English & isiXhosa

Merit Certificates for Life Orientation, Mathematics, Accounting & isiXhosa

Full Colours

Joint 9th in Grade

Rebecca Brazzale

Language Proficiency in English & Afrikaans,

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Life Science, Afrikaans, English & Computer Application Technology

1st in Life Orientation

1st in English

The Janis Webb Trophy for Best English Student

Full Colours

8th in Grade

Declan Hogg

Merit Certificate for Visual Art, Life Orientation, Physical Science, Mathematics, English & Computer Application Technology

Full Colours

Joint 6th in Grade

Charlynn Fredericks

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Dramatic Arts, Afrikaans, Business Studies, English & Design

1st in Design

The VPHS Trophy Design for Best Design Student

Full Colours

Joint 6th in Grade

Phillipa De Vos

Outstanding Practical Work in Design,

Merit Certificate for Geography, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy, English, Design & Computer Application Technology

1st in Mathematical Literacy

The VPHS Trophy Mathematical Literacy for Best Mathematical Literacy Student

1st in Computer Application Technology

The Brauteseth/Taylor Trophy for Best Computer Application Technology Student

Full Colours

5th in Grade

Ryan Warren

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Information Technology, Physical Science, Mathematics, English & Accounting.

1st in Mathematics

The David Harper Memorial Trophy for Best Mathematics Student

1st in Accounting

The VPHS Trophy for Best Accounting Student.

Full Colours

Joint 3rd in Grade

Joag Olivier

Merit Certificate for Geography, Life Orientation, Life Science, Afrikaans, Physical Science, Mathematics & English

The Kruger Trophy for Outstanding Talent in the field



Lakeisha Baatjies & Nathan Sylvester



Ryan Warren



Phillipa De Vos



Charlynn Fredericks

of Afrikaans Literature

1st in Geography

The VPHS Trophy for best Geography student

Joint 1st in Afrikaans

The VPHS Trophy for Best Afrikaans Student (shared)

Joint 1st in Physical Science

The VPHS Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in Science (shared)

Full Colours

Joint 3rd in Grade

Nathan Sylvester

Merit Certificate for Life Orientation, Information Technology, Afrikaans, Physical Science, Mathematics, Business Studies & English

1st in Information Technology

The Baard & Hoffman Trophy for Outstanding Achievement in Information Technology

Full Colours

Joint 1st in Grade

Lakeisha Baatjies

Language Proficiency in English & Afrikaans,

Merit Certificates for Life Orientation, Afrikaans, Mathematics, Business Studies, English & Accounting

Joint 1st in Afrikaans

The VPHS Trophy for Best Afrikaans Student (shared)

Full Colours

Joint 1st in Grade



Rachel Brown



Camden Clark



Joag Olivier



Rebecca Brazzale



Nande Tengela



Juliette Horn



Emma Claydon

Prize-Giving Address

Head Girl

Good morning Mr Jacobson, staff, invited guests, parents, and above all, our matric prize winners of 2025. Matrics, welcome to your final Prize Giving as a Victoria Park learner.

I want to offer heartfelt congratulations to everyone being honoured with an award today. This recognition truly reflects your dedication, countless hours of effort, and perseverance through the many challenges faced this year. Your commitment and hard work have paid off, and this moment is a well-deserved celebration of your achievements.

As we reflect on these achievements and the journey that brought you here, consider this: imagine your brain as a finely crafted instrument, like a saxophone or a flute. Just like an instrument, our brain has the potential to create beautiful melodies, solve complex problems, and inspire great ideas. But no matter how valuable the instrument, if it is out of tune, the music sounds off, even if the musician is highly skilled.

Tuning your instrument and creating a clear tone takes patience and care—and, as Miss Wessels says, "Practice, practice, practice." As a musician, you take the time and energy to ensure your instrument is in tune: listening carefully, adjusting if it is sharp or flat, all so you can perform to the best of your abilities. Similarly, tuning your brain requires attention, learning, consistent effort, and practice. It means sharpening your focus, feeding your mind with knowledge, and nurturing your emotional wellbeing.

When you 'tune' your brain through attentive listening, diligent studying, and self-discipline, you allow yourself to perform at your best. The clearer your mental 'notes', the more beautifully you can express your talents and ideas—just like a perfectly tuned instrument producing a beautiful melody.

Just like in an orchestra, every instrument matters, whether it is the loud trumpet or the quiet French horn. Every instrument plays an important role. The awards presented today recognise some outstanding performances, but that does not mean those without awards are any less important. Tuning your brain is a lifelong process and sometimes it involves practising quietly behind the scenes, supporting others, or preparing for your own moment to shine. Every one of you has unique talents and potential, and together, whether recognised today or not, you create the beautiful harmony that makes your school and community special. So, whether you hold an award in your hand or not, remember that your contribution is a vital note in the symphony of life. Keep tuning your mind and spirit.

Matrics, as we reach our 'final performances'—our final exams—I want to encourage everyone to continue pushing forward. The journey is not over yet. This is the most important time to stay focused and determined. Every note you play, every hour you study, brings you closer to the future you have been building.

So no matter where you are in

your journey, keep going. Keep tuning. Your music, your unique contribution, is valuable, and the world is waiting to hear it.

Thank you, Mr Jacobson, and thank you to Victoria Park for giving me the space to perform to the best of my abilities.

Rachel Brown



Cultural and Service Awards

Society Awards

Chanel Watson Trophy for Outstanding Service to Inter-act

Mbali Ngada

Rotary Club of SA Youth Merit Award for service

Nande Tengela

Club Awards

Floating Trophy for Exceptional Service and Dedication to RMD Book Club

Rebecca Brazzale

Exceptional Service to the Library and Media Center

Phoenix Inch

Lisakhanya Ndeleleni

The Sarah Rautenbach Award – Most Outstanding Service to the Environmental Club

Sinabo Busakwe

Activity Awards

Pringle Trophy for Chess Player of the Year

Hailey Bruintjies

VP Trophy for Best Afrikaans Junior Orator

Mathapelo Maile

VP Trophy for Best Afrikaans Senior Orator

Toané Gouws

VP Trophy for Best Xhosa Junior Orator

Kuhle Ndyumbuza

VP Trophy for Best Xhosa Senior Orator

Nande Tengela

Daphne Ffolliot trophy for Best English Junior Orator

Max Pietersen

Theresa Waldek Trophy for Best English Senior Orator

Gaia-Teria Govender

Beena Johnson First Aid Trophy

Hannah Frost

VP Trophy for Exceptional Performance in Debating

Mbali Siwa

Trophy for Exceptional commitment to Ballroom Dancing

Bryn-Lee van Vuuren and Sophie Edwards

Quizz League Champions

William Udemans, Chad Muller, David Thomson, Liam Case
special mention of Zuphaphe Mamase (Herald Quizz)

Avryl Cheetham Trophy for Best Pianist

Joshua Wiehahn

Tracey Kendall Awards for Most Progressed Saxophonist

Siyasanga Sanqela

Most Improved Senior Steel-



Rebecca Brazzale



Lisakhanya Ndeleleni and
Phoenix Inch



Hailey Bruintjies



Mathapelo Maile



Nande Tengela



Mbali Ngada



Max Pietersen



Bryn-Lee van Vuuren and
Sophie Edwards



Gaia-Teria Govender



Shona Ketchemin and Joshua Sebba



Genevieve Mitchell



Chad Muller, Liam Case, David Thomson and William Udemans

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Band Player Joshua Sebba and Shona Ketchemin | Outstanding Service to the Music Department Joshua Sebba | Best Actor Siphesihle Mali |
| Most Improved Junior Steel-Band Player Genevieve Mitchell | Most Outstanding Saxophonist Amahle Gotyana | Most Improved Pianist Cameron Jones |
| Outstanding Contribution to Brass Emily Burley | Most Improved Clarinetist Siphesihle Mali | Most Outstanding Guitarist Stephen Southern |
| Award for Most Outstanding Flute Player Joshua Sebba | Drummer of the Year Khanyisa Menta | Most Outstanding Junior Vocalist Sisakhanye Ngqisha |
| Award for Most Outstanding Clarinetist Lakeisha Baatjies | Most Improved Junior Vocalist Mbalentle Tame | Most Outstanding Senior Vocalist Siphesihle Mali |
| Most Improved Vocalist Rachel Brown | Most Outstanding Violinist Shona Ketchemin | Best Actor Runner Up Jordan Saal |
| | Excellence in Music Performance | Best Actress Runner Up Milani Mankonkwana |



Joshua Wiehahn



Mbalentle Tame



Ethan Menta



Lakeisha Baatjies



Emily Burley



Rachel Brown



Joshua Sebba



Amahle Gotyana



Siphesihle Mali



Shona Ketchemin



Sinabo Busakwe



Cameron Jones



Stephen Southern



Ayden Brown



Owam Leonard



Karli Badenhorst and
Kayden Wright



Talitha Dorfling and Toane
Gouws



Karli Badenhorst

Best Actor

Ayden Brown

Best Actress

Owam Leonard

Best Director

Kayden Wright & Karli Badenhorst (A Dollar)

Best Play

The Empty Chair (Talitha Dorfling and Toane Gouws)

Triple Threat Award

Karli Badenhorst

Van der Walt Trophy for All Round Performance in the Arts

Rachel Brown

Most Promising Thespian

Sibablwe Mtshingila

The Sarah Rautenbach Award – Most Outstanding Service to the Environmental Club

Sinabo Busakwe



Sports Awards

Athletics

Highest achievement in Athletics

Gabrielle Schönfeldt

Female field athlete of the year

Ifa Tshivhase

Senior Victrix Ludorum

Gabrielle Schönfeldt

Cricket Boys

Service to Cricket award

Jordan Hickman & Joshua Grobler

Most improved cricketer

Duncan Whittal

Junior Player of the year

Blake Nelson

Daniel Oberholzer

Most improved junior cricketer

Sinaye Jonas

Cricketer of the year

Cayden Willis

Cricket Girls

Cricket player of the year

Kim Davids and Edina Matyuda

Most improved player

Inganathi Jawula

Equestrian

Equestrian of the year

Tai Ryan

Hockey Boys

Player of the year

Chase Wilson

Most improved senior player

Shiloh Liesering

Service to boys hockey

Cayden Willis

Most promising u16 player

Vuyo Mazwai

Best senior defender

Jaydon Mabie & Cayden Willis

u14 player of the year

Duke Meyer

Sportsmanship

Aaron Hoppe & Joshua Wiehahn

Hockey Girls

Girls hockey player of the year

Lauren Oberholzer

Service to girls hockey

Kirstyn Kennedy & Megan Kennedy

Most promising u16 player

Kaitlyn Breytenbach

Most improved senior player

Caylin Minnaar

Netball

Sandra van Schalkwyk Trophy -

Junior player of the year

Casey Guri

Most versatile junior player

Achumile Mkoba

u16 player of the year

Mila Ludaka

u14 player of the year

Madison Binning

Most improved senior player

Sibabalwe Betela

Most versatile senior player

Jennevive Mabie & Vuyo Ncata

Best senior shooter of the year

Gugulethemba Mushangi

Best defensive senior player

Emihle Raba & Caylin Marsh

Best senior centre court player

Buhle Manentsa & Kwakhanya

Mahlanza

Senior player of the year

Caryn Barnes



Duncan Whittal



Caryn Barnes



Joshua Grobler



Casey Guri



Declan Hogg



Sibabalwe Betela



Antonia De Souza



Aaron Hoppe



Ami-Leigh Immerman



Inganathi Jawula



Sangiwe Jonas



Jaydon Mabie



Lithe-Thaa Lindiso



Mila Ludaka



Kudakwashe Kambudzi



Shiloh Liesering



Liyabona Mabeqa



Jennevive Mabie

Rugby

Junior player of the year

Uchenna Oguekwe

Senior player of the year

Joshua Wabanie

Sportsmanship

Kyle Swart

Most improved senior player

Seth Scheepers

Perseverance

Josh Nortje

Most improved junior player

Limyoli Myeki

Soccer Boys

Botes Trophy - u14 Player of the year

Singaloni Ngwendu

Kapsalis Trophy - u14 Most improved player

Taylon Felkers

Jennings Trophy - u15 Player of the year

Seth Rennick

Marlon Louis Trophy - u15 Most improved player

Antonio De Souza

Thoba Trophy - u16 Player of the year

Liyabona Mabeqa

Arnshell Hydraulics Trophy - u16 Most improved player

Kylan Meek

1st Team player of the year

Fuma Mbewu

1st Team most improved player

Kudakwashe Kambudzi

Joan Clarke trophy - 1st

Team service to soccer

Lithe-Thaa Lindiso

Leander Trophy - 1st Team

Sportsmanship

Hlonela Sibhengile

Soccer Girls

Perseverance

Dementieva Stellenberg

Most improved player

Gabriella Rizzo

Most valuable player

Kwakhanya Mahlanza



Kwakhanya Mahlanza



Buhle Manentsa



Edina Matyuda



Fuma Mbewu



Kylan Meek



Lethabo Masiza



Caylin Marsh



Caylen Minnaar



Achumile Mkoba



Gugulethemba Mushangi



Limyoli Myeki



Vuyo Ncata



Singaloni Ngwendu



Josh Nortje



Jaden Nel



Blake Nelson



Uchenna Oguekwe



Seth Rennick

Top goal scorer

Tacianna Stallenberg

Most dedicated player

Edina Matyuda

Squash

Most improved squash player

Cody Julyan

Senior squash champion

Declan Hogg

Swimming

Female swimmer of the year

Ami-Leigh Immerman

Male swimmer of the year

Chad Thyse

Most Improved Swimmer of the Year

Jaden Nel

Waterpolo

Junior player of the year

Lethabo Masiza

Senior Player of the Year

Ath'enkosi Madwe

Special Awards

All round sportsman of the year

Chase Wilson and Cayden Willis

All round sportswoman of the year

Kwakhanya Mahlanza & Edina

Matyuda

Sportsman of the year

Ath'enkosi Madwe

Sportswoman of the year

Caitlyn Louis, Gabrielle Schönfeldt & Kim Davids



Ath'enkosi Madwe



Chase Wilson and Cayden Willis



Kwakhanya Mahlanza & Edina Matyuda



Dementieva & Tacianna Stallenberg



Caitlyn Louis, Gabrielle Schönfeldt & Kim Davids

1st Team Sports Dinner



SA and EP Representatives



Back: Levi Blandu(Chess), Cayden Willis(U18B EP Hockey), Joel Hector(EP Hockey), Musa Matross(ECYC), Chase Wilson(EP Hockey), Duncan Whittal(EP Hockey), Stuart MacKenzie(EP Hockey), Uchenna Oguekwe (EP Rugby), Kieran Stuurman(EP Hockey), Jaydon Mabie (EP Hockey), Omhle Mngoma(ECYC)
Third Row: Ath'enkosi Madwe (EP Waterpolo), Emily Burley(ECYC), Zara Dantu(ECYC), Amy Kock(EP Gymnastics), Kim Davids(EP Cricket), Isabella Bosh(EP Debating), Inga Jawala(EP Cricket), Joshua Sebba(EC Wind Orchestra), Caitlyn Lovis(EP Cricket), Lusanela Ngamlana(EP Hockey), Caydin Davids(ECYC)
Second Row: Layra Zealand (EP Hockey), Zanda Mtshemla (ECYC), Vuyo Mazwai (EP Hockey), Kian Slabbert (EP Hockey), Kaitlyn Breytenbach (EP Hockey), Odin Goba (ECWO), Entle Sodladla (ECYC), Duke Meyer (EP Hockey), Sibulele Rala (EP Hockey), Anothando Nyati (ECYC), Mbali Siwa (EP Debating)
First Row: Asanathi Thoba (EC Choir), Milani Mankonkwana (Choir), Daelon Mabie (EP Hockey), Timothy Mucka (EP Tennis), Nqaba Madlokazi (EP Hockey), Gemma Bonnage (EP Cricket), Conner Mackenzie (EP Hockey), Gabrielle Kramer (ECYC and ECJWO), Zubenathi Ndyambo (ECYC), Cade Stokes (EP Hockey)
Front: Gabrielle Schonefeldt (SA Athletics), Leighhlon Afrika (ECWO and SA Trombone), Mr R. Gerber, Mr G. Jacobson, Mr K. Geldenuys, Asisipho Hotata (SA Vocals), Siphesihle Mali (EP Youth Choir and SA Vocals)

Competitions

English Olympiad

2025 English Olympiad & Grahamstown Experience

Every year, Victoria Park High School encourages its learners to take part in the prestigious National English Olympiad.

The theme of this year's anthology was "Let Us Celebrate: Life, Love, Land" – an uplifting shift from the more serious and reflective tones of previous editions, making the 2025 Olympiad especially memorable.

Several Victorians seized this enriching opportunity, exploring new literary genres and engaging with thought-provoking philosophical ideas. To support their preparation, Victoria Park provided learners with additional study materials and reference resources. To sweeten the

experience, the school tuckshop generously provided each participant with a treat and a drink on the day of the Olympiad examination.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National English Olympiad, Ms Meyer arranged a magical trip to Grahamstown. Learners and supervising staff – Mr Wilson, Ms Meyer, and Mrs A. de Beer – explored the vibrant Village Green market, buying souvenirs and soaking up the festive atmosphere. We stayed in residence on the Rhodes University campus and enjoyed our meals in the Rhodes cafeteria, adding to the authentic university experience.

Throughout the trip, learners attended a range of engaging workshops led by industry professionals

– from clowning and stage combat to directing and more. Each day was filled with inspiring performances hosted by the National Arts Festival, featuring Rhodes students and renowned guest artists.

We also attended the 2025 English Olympiad Awards Ceremony, where we celebrated the achievements of our peers from across the country.

The experience left a lasting impression on all who attended. From the knowledge gained to the friendships formed, it was truly a journey to remember. We are deeply grateful to Victoria Park – and especially to Ms Meyer – for making it all possible.

Rebecca Brazzale (Grade 12)



Back: : Kadan Spykerman, Isabella Lavin, Katya Steyn, Ameer Davids, Hayley Claydon
Middle: Emma Claydon, Liyabona Xango, Tshivhase, Kelly Macgzoma, Liam Vosloo
Front: Asemahle Thoba, Kayla Brown, Ms P Meyer, Rebecca Brazzale, Jordan Ludik

English Alive

The Earth Dies, the Poor Suffer, and the Rich Thrive

Maybe when the last tree is cut, the last fish is caught, and our rivers have been poisoned; we will realize that we cannot eat money. Our planet is dying – a slow, suffocating, and gruelling death. She cries out to us, but we collect her tears to fill our swimming pools. Her screams are muffled by the raucous sound of your Porsche. We drained her of colour so you could have high-definition television.

Our money multiplies while wages stagnate. We consume and destroy until our flesh rots and our bones grow brittle. Our mother can survive without us; in fact, she will flourish. But we cannot survive without her, for we are parasites leeching on her for sustenance. Without the oxygen you take for granted, will you breathe the money you have printed? One day, she will cleanse herself of the sins committed upon her body. But when she leaves us, will we mourn her absence? Or will we treat her like a model—starving and belittling her, cherishing her beauty only when it fits our standards?

As she chokes on the food we force upon her, no longer as slim and beautiful as we demand, we will seek another. Someone younger, skinnier, prettier. Someone who will not complain. Someone who will

do the job better. We kiss the hand that feeds us, only to break her fingers when our food seems bitter.

We are all children of our mother. We are all equal, but some are more equal than others. We worship struggle as if it makes us holy, setting everything on fire just to prove we can survive the smoke. We inhale deeply, shaming those who choke, convincing them that suffering is strength. Perhaps, one day, they will learn to live with the smoke. We watch as they writhe on their knees, begging for mercy—words falling on deaf ears. Because in the end, if your pleas are not aesthetically pleasing, if your pain is not trending, nobody listens. We glorify suffering not because we understand it, but because we have the privilege of watching it from a distance. Survival is only valuable when it is beautiful enough to be shared.

We build our havens on our dying mother, on the scarred and broken backs of our people, yet we have the audacity to reject and segregate them. We reject the hands that built our empires because it is stained with struggle—calloused and bloody from survival. They are denied a seat at the very table they built. But we do not care. We feel sad for a moment, telling ourselves the world is cruel. Then we will move on—because it is easier than caring. Be-

cause caring demands sacrifice, and sacrifice is for the poor. We do not touch their hands because they are unpolished and dirty. Complaints are not tolerated; they should be grateful and build themselves another table. They are just lazy.

We protest and pray, none of us will die for our mother and her children. So we continue to whip them, leaving scars on their backs, then have the audacity to call them ugly. We watch them build heaven on our dying Earth, promising them that one day, if they are good enough, they will experience it too. We assure our mother that she will rest—that when our buildings are tall enough and our cars are fast enough, she will rest, and we will fix everything. All the pain we have caused her will be worth it, because then we will have evolved. And she will be proud of how far we have come, even if it was at her expense.

But we all know it is a lie. Heaven is only reserved for those who are clean and polished, whose hands are soft and whose backs are unscarred. And our mother will never rest until we are all in heaven—when she is finally free from the burden of carrying us. But one cannot reach heaven alive.

Our mother and her children will never know heaven. We killed them and you watched.

Zingce Piliso
Victoria Park High School

My Dad

My dad has broad shoulders
that carry the weight of the world.
His hands are calloused
from putting food on our table
and providing a home.
His soles are cracked
dried up of all water springs for
himself
as his water is leeches by the cacti
in his desert garden.

My dad is strong
But is breaking under
the weight of the world upon his

broad shoulders
the dry springs of the desert gar-
den.

My dad
tries
sweats
and bleeds
But who am I to know that?

Rebecca Brazzale
Victoria Park High School

A sinner against sin

Everybody's blood reeks of evil.
One just has to decide when to let
it loose.
One just has to bleed.

And the vile nature of humanity
seeps.
Through the cracks of my now bro-
ken skin.
And my rogue angel's rage will as-
sume
Human form as my son,

Whom I must love.
And my mirror will now reflect an
image of my son,
Whom I must hate.
Thus my damnation is sealed,
For I am a sinner against my own
sin.

Liyabona Xango
Victoria Park High School



Back: Hilah Olivier, Mrs A de Beer, Sarah Schunemann
Front: Gaia-Teria Govender, Rebecca Brazzale



MATRICES





ADAMS Brandon



ADAMS Chloe



ADESEMOWO
Oluwapelumi



AL-QUDAH
Omar



AMBLER Andrea



ANTHONY Ceera



ARNOLDS Lerah



BAATJIES
Lakeisha



BAKUMENI
Sixolile



BARENDSE
Nathan



BARNES Caryn



BARTLETT Erin



BERNDT Cole



BETELA
Sibabalwe



BEYI Abongile



BLOUW Okuhle



BOTA Masibulele



BOUW Kendra



BOUWER Hayley



BRAZZALE
Rebecca



BROWN Kayla



BROWN Qiyaam



BROWN Rachel



BRUINTJIES
Hailey



BURGER Isabella



BUSAKWE
Sinabo



BUSH Dominic



CASE Liam



CHRISTIAN
Zukhanye



CLARK Camden



CLAYDON Emma



CONNING
Keagan



CORNELIUS
Duwayne



COSTA Sophia



DANIELS
Lyndsay



DAVIDS Caydin



DAVIDS Kelly



DE VOS Phillipa



EDWARDS
Sophie



ERASMUS Kaden



ESTERHUIZEN
Cameron



ESZTERGOMI
Cayden



EVERS Nathan



EVERY Keagan



FALCHI Mikah



FALL Abdou



FENNER Jordyn



FERREIRA
Maleesa



FILEN Emily



FREDERICKS
Charlynn



FROST Hannah



GALLAGHER
Stuart



GOTYANA
Amahle



GOVENDER
Gaia-Teria



GOVENDER
Kayleigh



GOVINDEN
Jonathan



GRIEVE Thomas



GRIFFITHS
Morgan



GROBLER Joshua



HADLEY Jody



HANISE Athe-
Nkosi



HARRISON
Adaya



HENDRICKS Cleo



HOGG Declan



HOPPE Aaron



HORN Juliette



HOTATA
Asisipho



HUGGARD
Kendra



HUMAN Lucia



IMMERMAN
Ami-Leigh



INCH Phoenix



JACOBS
Angelique



JANUARY
Liyabona



JONGWANA
Khazimla



KAKANGU Lihle



KANDIWA
Kudzai



KETCHEMIN
Shona



KHOLWANE
Yanga



KLAAS Lesley-
Ann



KOPS Ethan



KRUGER Kaylee



KUSELO
Inganathi



LEE Erin



LINDISO Lithe-
Thaa



LUDIK Jordan



MABIE Jaydon



MABUSELA Lihle



MACKENZIE
Stuart



MACOZOMA
Kelly



MADIKANE
Temitayo



MADLINGOZI
Langaletu



MAFANI
Uyinqobo



MAFUTA Olwam



MAGXWALISA
Andile



MAHLANZA
Kwakhanya



MALI
Sangesonke



MALI Siphesihle



MANENTSA
Buhle



MANQINDI
Milisa



MARSH Caylin



MARTIN Hayden



MATEBESE
Lazola



MATTHEWS Luke



MATYUDA Edina



MATZKE Ethan



MAYEDWA
Sibulele



MAZUNGULA
Endinako



MBEWU Fuma



MC BRYNE
Phallen



MENA Lisa



METSHE
Akhanya



MEYER
Moegamat



MILLER Lindsey-
Rose



MINNAAR
Caylen



MOSE
Lukhanyiso



MOSS Stephanie



MTSHEMLA
Zanda



MTSHINGILA
Sibabalwe



MULDER
Benjamin



MULLER Aidan



MULLER Melissa



MUSHANGI
Gugulethemba



MXUBE
Liphwokuhle



NADER Scott



NAMA Esona



NATHOO Shayna



NAZER Giano



NCATA Vuyo



NDIMBA Emihle



NDLELENI
Linomtha



NDLELENI
Lisakhanya



NEL Jaden



NELL Jessica



NGADA Mbali



NGCOBO
Thandolwethu



NGOMA
Beyoncé



NGONYAMA
Inathi



NGQABAYI Aléra



NGWENZE
Iphelele



NJEMLA
Kuqhamilexaisa



NOHASHE
Yonwaba



NOJOKO Oyama



NONTSHINGA
Lungelo



NORTH René



NORTJE Josh



NYANGWA
Zizipho



NYATI
Anothando



NYONGO Amyoli



O'DONOGHUE
Cian



OBERHOLZER
Lauren



OLIVIER Joag



OOSTHUIZEN
Daniëlle



PACE Kayley



PAPAMICHAEL
Georgia



PASCAL
Ahlumile



PASSET Nathan



PATTERSON
Chayleigh



PATTINSON
Riley



PETERS Neleah



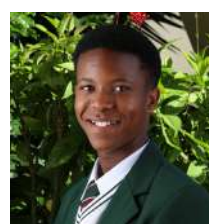
PETERSEN Liam



PLAATJIES Jade



POTE Kelly



PRINCE Will



QUANTOI
Phoebe



ROBERTS Tatiana



RYAN Madison



SAAL Jordan



SAAYMAN
Hannah



SCANLEN Sarah



SCHOLTZ Lisa



SEBBA Joshua



SENGANE
Senamile



SLINGER Reece



SOETLAND
Jordin



SONGONGO
Qhama



STUURMAN
Kieran



SWART Lincoln



SYLVESTER
Nathan



TENGELA Nande



THOBA
Asemahle



THOBA Asenathi



TIFLIN Stormé



TSHANGA
Enzokuhle



TSHIVHASE Ifa



TYALISI
Luyahluma



VAN DEN
HEEVER Giselle



VAN DER
WESTHUIZEN
Ross-James



VAN VUUREN
Bryn-Lee



VAN WYK
Brandon



VERMEULEN
Holly



VOKWANA
Qhama



VOKWANA
Usithandile



VOSLOO Liam



WABANIE Joshua



WARREN Ryan



WEBSTER Kendra



WHITEBOOI
Sameerah



WIEHAHN
Joshua



WILLIAMS
Joseph



WILLIAMS Kiran



WITBOOI Riley



XANGO
Liyabona



YASO Khazimla



YOUNG Sophie



ZENGETHWA
Lwandile



Councillors



"Cohesion in Diversity" – that was the heartbeat of the 2025 councillor body. From the very first day we stepped into these roles, we knew our mission was to make every Victorian feel at home, no matter their background, talents, or the part they played in the life of our school. We wanted to show that strength lies in unity, and that our differences were never barriers but threads that wove us into one family.

The foundation of our year was laid at councillor camp, where we discovered not just teammates, but a second family. Those few days brought us closer in ways we could never have expected – late-night conversations, shared challenges, and moments of laughter that turned strangers into brothers and sisters. That sense of family carried us through the rest of the year.

One of the highlights of our journey was welcoming the new Grade 8s at Addo Adrenaline Park. There, we

weren't just leaders; we were older siblings, guides, and friends. Seeing the Grade 8s' nervousness melt into smiles and laughter reminded us why we do what we do: to make every Victorian feel that they belong.

We are proud to have brought new energy to school spirit, most notably through our derby days. This year, our sports committee heads, Jordyn Fenner and Joshua Grobler, introduced the Grade 8 Supporters' Cards – a simple yet brilliant initiative that rewarded our youngest Victorians for showing up and cheering on our teams. This small idea became a powerful tradition that brought new life to our sidelines, reminding us that unity starts with showing up for one another.

We owe so much of our growth as a councillor body to our four guiding lights: Mrs Nel, Mrs Monteith, Mr van Rooyen, and Mr de Beer. Their wisdom, encouragement, and

occasionally necessary stern words kept us grounded and focused. Thank you for believing in us and shaping us into leaders capable of carrying the torch for this school.

As Head Boy, I am incredibly proud of this group of young leaders. It has been one of the greatest honours of my life to serve Victoria Park High alongside them. They have challenged me, supported me, and inspired me to grow not only as a leader but as a person. For that, I am eternally grateful.

This year was about more than just the title of councillor – it was about building bridges, lifting others up, and finding strength in our differences. To every Victorian who stood with us, cheered with us, and believed in what we set out to do, thank you for making "Cohesion in Diversity" more than just a motto – you made it our reality.

– Liam Case



Back: Nathan Sylvester, Declan hogg, Dominic Bush, Nande Tengela, Joshua Grobler, Jordan Fenner, Ethan Kops
Third Row: Yonwaba Notashe, Usithandile Vokwana, Kendra Webster, Joshua Sebba, Sophie Edwards, Juliette Horn, Hannah Frost, Shona Ketchemin
Second Row: Buhle Manentse, Amahle Gotyana, Sinabo Busakwe, Kelly Davids, Rebecca Brazzale, Emihle Ndimba, Bryn-Lee van Vuuren, Gaia-Teria Govender, Kwakhanya Mahlanza
Front: Mrs A. Monteith, Lithe-Thaa Lindiso, Mrs J. Nel, Mr G. Jacobson, Liam Case, Mr C. van Rooyen, Lakeisha Baatjies, Mr de Beer

Matric Dance





VP NEWCOMERS



Grade 8 Addo Excursion



CULTURE



Art Department



Olivia Tredoux - Grade 10



Toane Gouws - Grade 11



David Thomson
Grade 11



Gabrielle Kramer
Grade 11



Tamryn Fisher - Grade 11



Arynn Meyer - Grade 11



Grade 10 Design



Cody Terblanche - Grade 11

Art Department – A Year of Creativity and Inspiration

Our Art Department has enjoyed a most fulfilling, creative, and productive year!

Gallery Outings

The GFI Gallery in Park Drive provided many inspirational exhibitions for our gallery outings:

"Creative Block" showcased a collection of colourful artworks by more than 250 artists, offering a rich and unique expression of South African culture.

Maureen Quin's exhibition of bronze sculptures displayed eloquent voids and visually striking, harmonious volumes, encouraging pupils to ponder over her works. At the age of 91, Maureen Quin continues to be a passionate and inspiring artist.

The Standard Bank Corporate Art Exhibition, which travels to top gal-

leries across South Africa, offered insight and commentary on the physical, social, and cultural landscapes of African societies. Following this gallery visit, pupils enjoyed the visual feast of plants in the beautifully renovated St George's Park Pearson Conservatory, originally built in 1882.

"Seeds are Sown as Time Unravels" presented a collaboration with floral arrangements by the E.C. Floral Association. The exhibition used the metaphor of seeds to explore themes of time, memory, and transformation, reflecting growth, change, and the interconnectedness of past, present, and future. Artists employed contemplative techniques such as stitching and weaving to investigate personal truths and the experience of time.

Spring School of Art Workshop

The annual Spring School of Art workshop at the GFI Gallery is open

to all Grade 10-12 art pupils from schools across Port Elizabeth. This year's brief, "My Story in Clay", will be undertaken by Grade 12 pupils Sibulele Mayedwa, Erin Bartlett, Kendra Webster, and Kayla Brown, as well as Grade 11 pupil Deenah Abdulla.

Participants will create a clay self-portrait bust, visually communicating their chosen traits through form, facial expression, texture, and detail. They will also craft a small ceramic vessel inspired by an animal, exploring carving, smoothing, and painting techniques. The workshop facilitators, renowned clay artists Billie McNaughton and Aya Mji, will provide mentorship, demonstrations, and artistic guidance throughout. The final creations will be displayed at a group exhibition in November.

Mrs Jeni McGrath
Head of Visual Art and Design

Drama

Dramatic Arts 2025

This year has been one of energy, passion, and remarkable growth for the Dramatic Arts Department as I took up the helm. Encouraging my "Chickens" to share their passion with the world has been an absolute joy, and they have done so exceptionally well.

The year's headliners were, of course, the Matrics of 2025. Eight talented ladies embraced the challenge of creating and perfecting their final performances, presented on 15 November. Three solo performers—Sibabalwe Mtshingila, Shayna Nahtoo, and Kendra Webster—tackled themes of broken dreams, inner clowns, and the importance of identity with confidence and conviction. Two groups also shone: Rachel Brown and Madison Ryan explored What is art without the artist?, earning 100% in their trial examination, while Uyinqobo Mafani, Charlynn Fredericks, and Sibabalwe Betela investigated the idea of home, finding it in team-

work and shared hearts. These Matrics have formed an incredible bond over the past three years, and I will miss them dearly.

Our Grade 11s also rose to the occasion with the annual One Act Plays on 22 August. The entire class collaborated as directors, stage managers, costume managers, and crew to produce three outstanding plays. A Dollar, directed by Kayden Wright and Karli Badenhorst, won Best Directors and Best Costume Design. The Empty Chair, directed by Talitha Dorfling and Toane Gouw, swept Best Play, Best Actor (Aiden Brown) and Best Supporting Actor (Jordan Saal). Bad Auditions by Bad Actors, directed by Siphosetu Namba and Sarah Shunemann, had the audience in stitches, earning Best Actress (Owam Njoka) and Best Supporting Actress (Milani Mankonwana). The dedication and creativity of these casts and crews was truly inspiring.

Beyond our own productions, the

department supported other musicals, attending The Wiz at Alexander Road High School, Annie by the Impact Community Theatre, and VP's very own Bonnie & Clyde, which marked my debut as director in collaboration with our exceptional music department.

Dramatic Arts continues to be one of the happiest departments in the school. This year, it ranked among the top three subjects at VP, with a significant improvement in the matric pass rate. Drama is far more than a subject—it is a journey of self-discovery, empathy, and finding one's voice.

As I hand over the department to Mrs Wiggle for 2026, I take with me fond memories and immense pride in my "Chickens." I am confident that this department will continue to grow, inspire, and share its passion with the world.

With love,
Miss Kelsey Scheepers



Musical

Bonnie and Clyde

You're sitting in the Blake Hall on 19 March 2025 at 18:30. The overture begins to play, and the stage before you lights up. The tragic love story of the infamous criminals Bonnie and Clyde unfolds, complete with dazzling lights, beautiful voices, hilarious characters, unforgettable music, and brilliant performers. The moment the show begins, you wish it would never end.

Bonnie and Clyde: The Musical follows the story of two American criminals who shocked the United States in the early 1930s. The couple notoriously robbed banks and stores, causing chaos for a short while before being caught and killed in a brutal shootout. The musical not only retells their story, but also explores the strong love between them, how they reacted to their sudden rise to fame, and how their actions affected their loved ones and those around them.

Victoria Park High School is fortunate to have such creative minds who worked together to produce a performance that continues to be talked about. **Kelsey Scheepers**, new to directing a show of this scale, captured the audience's hearts with her vision, determination, and creative staging, often leaving spectators in tears, disbelief, and awe. **Marlon Louis**, Musical Director, is

no stranger to the world of music, having performed in multiple Victoria Park productions. The music in Bonnie and Clyde was executed to perfection in every show, enhancing the story beautifully. **Travis Frans**, Vocal Director, worked tirelessly with the cast to build a strong ensemble and ensure the leads were well-prepared to impress with their exceptional talent. Together, these three creatives poured their hearts into a performance that stole the audience's hearts.

Choreography was expertly handled by **Darren Rockman**, a seasoned professional who studied at Waterfront Theatre School and has choreographed shows such as Matilda, Hairspray, and Press to Start. His choreography was fun, technical, and infused with jazz, perfectly complementing the story. Darren ensured the cast expressed the emotions required in their dance moves, creating a polished and captivating performance.

A special mention goes to **Aiden Syce**, who portrayed Clyde Barrow. Already well-known in the theatre community for his 2023 performance in Hairspray, Aiden excelled as a "triple threat" – singing, dancing, and acting with exceptional skill. Each night, he fully became Clyde, captivating audiences with charm, a beautiful voice, and raw vulnerability. The cast appreciated

his humility and dedication, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to him.

The remainder of the lead roles were portrayed by Victoria Park's own brilliant talent:

- Bonnie Parker** – Karli Badenhorst
- Blanche Barrow** – Rachel Brown
- Buck Barrow** – Jordan Saal
- The Preacher** – Siphesihle Mali
- Ted Hinton** – Liyabona Xango

Victoria Park is exceptionally proud of all the students who contributed to such a challenging and impressive production. Retelling a true historical story is no easy task, and we applaud every individual involved – from **Heidi Brown**, who managed costuming, to the actors and the dedicated backstage team led by Stage Manager **Danielle Cloete**.

Bonnie and Clyde will forever be remembered as a phenomenal production that left audiences in tears, had them laughing throughout, and touched many hearts. The combination of a hilarious script, beautiful music, crisp choreography, and the vulnerability displayed by the actors made this show a truly special experience for everyone involved. It will always hold a cherished place in our memories.

From the ravishing redhead herself, **Bonnie Parker (Karli Badenhorst)**





One Act Plays

Dramatic Arts 2025

This year has been one of energy, passion, and remarkable growth for the Dramatic Arts Department as I took up the helm. Encouraging my “Chickens” to share their passion with the world has been an absolute joy, and they have done so exceptionally well.

The year’s headliners were, of course, the Matrics of 2025. Eight talented ladies embraced the challenge of creating and perfecting their final performances, presented on 15 November. Three solo performers—Sibabalwe Mtshingila, Shayna Nahtoo, and Kendra Webster—tackled themes of broken dreams, inner clowns, and the importance of identity with confidence and conviction. Two groups also shone: Rachel Brown and Madison Ryan explored What is art without the artist?, earning 100% in their trial examination, while Uyingqobo Mafani, Charlynn Fredericks, and Sibabalwe Betela investigated the idea of home, finding it in team-

work and shared hearts. These Matrics have formed an incredible bond over the past three years, and I will miss them dearly.

Our Grade 11s also rose to the occasion with the annual One Act Plays on 22 August. The entire class collaborated as directors, stage managers, costume managers, and crew to produce three outstanding plays. A Dollar, directed by Kayden Wright and Karli Badenhorst, won Best Directors and Best Costume Design. The Empty Chair, directed by Talitha Dorfling and Toane Gouws, swept Best Play, Best Actor (Aiden Brown) and Best Supporting Actor (Jordan Saal). Bad Auditions by Bad Actors, directed by Siphosetu Namba and Sarah Shunemann, had the audience in stitches, earning Best Actress (Owam Njoka) and Best Supporting Actress (Milani Mankonkwana). The dedication and creativity of these casts and crews was truly inspiring.

Beyond our own productions, the

department supported other musicals, attending The Wiz at Alexander Road High School, Annie by the Impact Community Theatre, and VP’s very own Bonnie & Clyde, which marked my debut as director in collaboration with our exceptional music department.

Dramatic Arts continues to be one of the happiest departments in the school. This year, it ranked among the top three subjects at VP, with a significant improvement in the matric pass rate. Drama is far more than a subject—it is a journey of self-discovery, empathy, and finding one’s voice.

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With love,
Miss Kelsey Scheepers



Music

A Celebration of Musical Excellence

As the final notes of the year echo through the halls, the Victoria Park High School Music Department proudly reflects on a year filled with rhythm, creativity, and outstanding achievement. It has been a remarkable journey for our young musicians – one marked by dedication, passion, and a shared love for music.

This year, we bid farewell to Mr Frans, who leaves an indelible mark on our department. His enthusiasm for nurturing young talent has inspired countless students to explore their musical potential. The entire school music community extends heartfelt thanks for his invaluable service, and we wish him every success as he embarks on a new chapter.

We also welcomed Miss L. Gravett (Voice) and Mr N. Pretorius (Strings) to our department. We look forward to seeing their talents and expertise enrich our musical family in the years to come.

A special round of applause goes to the Matric Class of 2025, whose leadership, creativity, and perseverance have set a high standard for future musicians. Their performances, both on stage and behind the scenes, have showcased not only skill but also teamwork and resilience. The department is immensely proud of what this group has accomplished and eagerly anticipates seeing their talents flourish beyond the school gates.

Our sincere congratulations go to every student who participated in music this year. Your dedication, commitment, and growth deserve recognition. Whether performing in

ensembles, choirs, or solo recitals, each of you contributed to the vibrant heartbeat of our school's cultural life. Your hard work and passion have truly made this year one to remember.

We extend special mention to those who excelled in external examinations and eisteddfods, representing our school with distinction and artistry. Your success is a reflection of countless hours of practice and a deep love for your craft.

A heartfelt congratulations to Joshua Sebba and Siphesihle Mali for their extraordinary contributions to the Music Department this year. Their leadership, talent, and dedication have elevated our performances and inspired their peers. Both have embodied what it truly means to be ambassadors of music – combining excellence with humility and a genuine passion for the art.

Jazz Festival

During the July holidays, ten Victoria Park learners attended the annual Jazz Festival with Miss Wessels. Each day they participated in a series of workshops and attended concerts presented by national and international jazz professionals. They also performed in various bands and choirs formed during the festival.

Three of our talented learners – Siphesihle Mali (for the second time), Asisipho Hotata, and Leighthon Afrika – advanced to the second round of auditions for the National Schools' Jazz Band. They were among 45 selected learners chosen from hundreds of candidates, with only seven ultimately earning a place in the national ensemble.

Although the schedule was demanding, our students returned home enriched by new friendships, invaluable lessons, and a renewed sense of inspiration for the art of jazz.

Annual Mass Choir Festival

After a challenging start to the year, the Victoria Park Choir successfully hosted its second annual Choir Festival – a two-day celebration held on the 7th and 8th of August. The event brought together primary and high school choirs, all of whom delivered inspiring performances of an exceptionally high standard.

The success of this event was made possible through the support of our neighbouring schools, choir directors, and, of course, our wonderful audience of parents, friends, and families. Your enthusiasm and encouragement are deeply appreciated.

We look forward to building on this success and hosting an even bigger and better Choir Festival next year.

In Harmony for the Future

As we close this chapter, we celebrate not only our many musical achievements but also the harmony, friendship, and lasting memories created through music. The Music Department extends its warmest gratitude to every learner, teacher, and supporter who has contributed to another inspiring year of melody and shared success.

By Mr M Louis, Miss Wessels and Mr L Alexander



STRING ENSEMBLE
Back: Lunathi Mbanga, Alupheli Kula, Eve van Rensburg, Skye Viviers
Second Row: Loyzell Klinck, Raine Welcome, Stephanie Moss, Matshezi-Amahle Ludidi, Lené Smith
First Row: Genevieve Mitchell, Lusekho Mkumla, Zingce Piliso, Emma Sawyer, Lenique Classen
Front: Aviwe Goduka, Isabella Bosch, Ms L Gravett, Kristen Elliott, Shona Ketchemin

Afrikaans

AFRIKAANS IS 100!!

In 2025 het die pragtige Afrikaans haar 100ste verjaarsdag gevier. By Victoria Park het ons 'n heerlike tyd gehad om hierdie lieflike dame se verjaarsdag te vier.

Die Ontwerp 'n T-hemp-kompetisie wat in Mei afgeskop het, was baie gewild en amper 'n 100 inskrywings is ontvang. Leerders moes hul liefde vir en die betekenis van Afrikaans op 'n kreatiewe manier uitdruk. Die Woord-van-die-dag wat vir 'n week

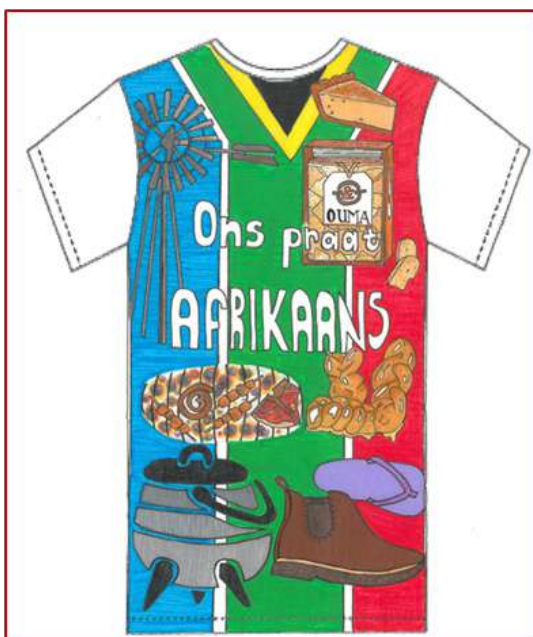
vroeg in Mei gehou is, het die leerders blootgestel aan die interessante en ryke woordeskat van Afrikaans. Woorde soos **poenankies**, **hold-erstebolder** en **skorriemorrie** is gereeld in die gange van die skool gehoor.

Die wenner van die T-hemp-kompetisie is op 14 Augustus aangekonding. Baie geluk aan Leila Searle (Junior Kompetisie) en Olivia Tredoux (Senior Kompetisie).

Mag Afrikaans nog vir baie jare in

die gange van Victoria Park gehoor word!

Elmien du Preez



Leila Searle (Junior Kompetisie)



Olivia Tredoux (Senior Kompetisie)

Activities

Ballroom

As another year of dancing comes to an end, our Ballroom Dance family has much to celebrate. This year has been filled with growth and unforgettable memories, all bound together by our shared love of dance.

One of the standout highlights was our participation in testing the brand-new dance scoring system at a competition hosted by SADTA. Taking part in this exciting initiative not only sharpened our competitive spirit but also placed our dancers at the forefront of shaping the future of ballroom.

We have also been thrilled to welcome many new members into our club. Each new face brought fresh energy and passion, helping our numbers grow and transforming ballroom into an even bigger, more vibrant family.

This year saw the announcement of our newly selected Dare 2 Dance Squad Members and Dare 2 Be Dancers for next year. Their commitment and dedication inspire us all, and we eagerly anticipate the heights they will reach as they step

into their new roles. The current Squad shone particularly brightly during our 'Christmas in July' show, bringing festive sparkle and polished performances. Beyond the spotlight, our socials throughout the year offered joyful evenings where dancers could relax, connect, and simply enjoy the magic of ballroom together.

Another exciting milestone was the election of a brand-new Dare 2 Dance EXCO board, the first since 2022, and we are proud to announce that three of Victoria Park High School's dancers were selected to serve. Of course, no year would be complete without the Annual Grand Ball, and this year's 'Addams Family' theme was one to remember. With spooky elegance, dramatic flair, and plenty of creativity, the ballroom floor was transformed into a world where glamour met playfulness, proving once again that ballroom is as much about expression and fun as it is about discipline and technique.

Looking back, it is clear that this has been a year of growth and ball-

room spirit. We carry forward not just the success of our events and performances, but also the laughter, friendships, and memories that make our Ballroom Dancing Club truly special. A heartfelt thank you goes to our dedicated Dance Committee for another successful year, to our wonderful teacher in charge, Mrs Jacobson, and to our talented instructors for making this yet another marvellous year of dancing.

Sophie Edwards



BALLROOM BOARD
Back: Bryn-Lee van Vuuren, Mrs K Jacobson, Cody Terblanche
Front: Sophie Edwards, Talitha Dorfling, Stephanie Moss



BALLROOM DANCING SOCIETY

Back: Hayden Need, Matthew Sebba, Leila Searle, Ryan Fairley, David Thomson, Ayden Brown, Rachel Woods

Third Row: Liam Vosloo, Madison Ryan, Isabella Goosen, Isabella Bosch, René North, Juliette Horn, Madyson Windvogel, Mackenzie Binning, Nina Hemsley

Second Row: Cara Bailey, Gabriella Jonson, Jaime Swart, Phoenix Inch, Gabrielle Erasmus, Emma van der Walt, Holly Fisher, Surika van Schalkwyk, Rylee Binning

First Row: Danielle Meyer, Gabrielle Kramer, Sisakhanya Ngqisha, Amyoli Dyosi, Rayah Dorfling, Joele Hoole, Nikita Doyle, Carla Joshua, Sabrina Nyathi

Front: Bryn-Lee van Vuuren, Talitha Dorfling, Mrs K Jacobson, Sophie Edwards, Stephanie Moss, Cody Terblanche



Concert Band

The Concert Band has enjoyed a truly memorable year. The highlight was undoubtedly our tour to East London, where we performed at Hemmingways Mall as well as Cambridge and Hudson High Schools. Considering that we lost a significant amount of rehearsal time due to the school musical, the tour was quite an undertaking – but the band was absolutely phenomenal and rose to the occasion with confidence and flair.

We also performed at the annual Big Bands Bash, where we shared

the stage with the concert bands of Alexander Road High School, Grey High School, Collegiate High School, and Pearson High School. Each performance was a celebration of talent, collaboration, and the shared joy of making music together.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Matric Class of 2025. They have been exceptional this year – not only in their musical performances, but also through their dedication and involvement. A special word of appreciation goes

to my wonderful band leader, Joshua Sebba, for his leadership and commitment. Thank you all for your hard work, not just this year but throughout your high school musical journeys.

We bid a fond farewell to Joshua Sebba, Lakeisha Baatjies, Melissa Muller, Siphesihle Mali, Amahle Gotyana, Rachel Brown, Gaia-Teria Govender, and Asisipho Hotata. May the music continue to live in your hearts wherever life takes you.

Written by Miss J. Wessels



CONCERT BAND

Back: Madyson Windvogel, Musa Matross, Ethan Menta, Stephen Southern, Leighthon Afrika

Second Row: Unanjongo Ngwadla, Hannah Nawdish, Emily Burley Anakho Zantsi, Odin Goba, Bukho Maqanda, Siyasanga Sanqela

First Row: Gabrielle Kramer, Oyama Bleki, Milani Mankonkwana, Abigail Sikwebu, Elijah Frans, Alissa van Aswegen, Rachel Colborne, Amyoli Lubambo, Zintle Fodi, Cicley Thalla

Front: Siphesihle Mali, Gaia-Teria Govender, Melissa Muller, Amahle Gotyana, Ms J Wessels, Joshua Sebba, Rachel Brown, Lakeisha Baatjies, Asisipho Hotata



Jazz Band

This year, we celebrate the incredible contributions of Rachel Brown, Amahle Gotyana, Asisipho Hotata, Sibabalwe Mtshingila, Qhama Vokwana, Emihle Ndimba, and Joshua Sebba. Their commitment and teamwork have been instrumental in shaping the band's unique sound and dynamic stage presence. Each member brought their own spark, creating music that was filled with joy and truly resonated with audiences.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Old Vics Tuan Thalla and Aimee Mitchley for their valued contributions to the Jazz Band in 2025. Their continued support and musicianship have enriched our performances and inspired the next generation of young jazz artists.

The Jazz Band delivered show-stopping performances at this year's Annual Jazz Evening, the vibrant Jazz

Spectacular, and the lively Spring Concert. Each event brought a fresh burst of creativity and energy, highlighting the band's versatility and growing artistry.

We wish all our musicians a well-deserved rest and every success in their future musical endeavours.

Written by Mr M Louis



JAZZ BAND

Back: Anakho Zantsi, Leighthon Afrika, Ethan Menta, Stephen Southern, Madyson Windvogel

Middle: Cicley Thalla, Abigail Sikwebu, Madison Binning, Odin Goba, Siyasanga Sanqela, Joel Hoole, Zintle Fodi, Faith Kretzmann

Front: Sibabalwe Mtshingila, Emihle Ndimba, Qhama Vokwana, Mr M Louis, Joshua Sebba, Ms J Wessels, Rachel Brown, Asisipho Hotata, Amahle Gotyana



Steel Band

The first performance of the year took place at the annual VP Open Day in February. In Term 2, we hosted the exciting "Chillin' on the Grass 2" – a steelband and marimba festival that was a resounding success, with numerous bands joining us for performances in the Grass Quad.

In August, the Senior Band performed at the Annual Pannival at

NMU. The band participated in a workshop and followed it with a very successful performance. Just two days later, both the Senior and Junior Bands took part in the Pearson High School Preludium, where both groups were awarded Double Gold Certificates – a fantastic achievement!

We say goodbye to our Matrics

Emihle Ndimba, Shona Ketchemin, Dolly Sengane, and Joshua Sebba, who arranged many of our songs this year – thank you, Joshua! A special thanks also goes to Odin Goba, our talented drummer, for his dedication and energy throughout the year.

Written by Mrs W. Gilbert



SENIOR STEEL BAND

Back: Emihle Ndimba, Senamile Sengane, Odin Goba

Middle: Zintle Fodi, Jana Marx, Sibabalo Mqokozo, Cicley Thalla

Front: Shona Ketchemin, Sarah Schunemann, Mrs W Gilbert, Joshua Sebba, Oyintanda Zetu



JUNIOR STEEL BAND

Back: Ahlumile Monki, Leona Mketo, Ayama Singqoto

Middle: Drénick Munnick, Qhawekazi Jacobs, Khanyisa Brown, Genevieve Mitchell

Front: Linothando Moni, Nande Kakangu, Mrs W Gilbert, Reghardt Joubert, Alupheli Kula

Wind Band

The Wind Band has once again proven to be the perfect introduction to the world of high school music – a space where young musicians take their first steps into ensemble playing, teamwork, and the joy of performance. This year, the band has grown in both confidence and skill, showing tremendous promise for the future of our school's music programme.

Your enthusiasm, dedication, and willingness to learn have made ev-

ery rehearsal and performance a joy. You have laid a strong foundation for your musical journey, and we are excited to see how you will continue to grow and shine in your future endeavours throughout high school.

The band delivered outstanding performances at this year's Studio Concerts and the Wind Band and Friends Celebration hosted at Alexander Road High School. Each event showcased the band's de-

veloping talent and the excitement that comes with making music together. Audiences were thoroughly impressed by the group's musicality – a true testament to the students' hard work and commitment.

Congratulations on a remarkable year!

Written by Mr M Louis



WIND BAND

Back: Gabriella Jonson, Emma van der Walt, Isabella Goosen, Liam Gelderblom, Kristen Thomas
Second Row: Siba Tongo, Layla Zealand, Sage Thomson, Madison Binning, Rylee Binning, Nina Jefftha, Jayme Uithaler, Onwaba Lubambo
First Row: Neeco Basterman, Luminathi Mpalala, Libongo Foki, Raziya Messiahs, Michaela Searle, Jana Marx, Ashleigh Petersen, Ingamihle Bam, Faith Kretzmann
Front Row: Annabelle Bennett, Johnathan Klopper, Mr M Louis, Fionnlagh Webber, Daneeka Potgieter

Chess

The year 2025 was a season of growth for our chess team. The team has proven that strategy, patience, and dedication are a winning combination. Players have grown tremendously, not just in skill but also in confidence. Every match is a mental marathon, and the learners have shown incredible discipline throughout the season.

The pre-season began with some exciting challenges against our educators. Our learners first faced the formidable Mr Van der Merwe, known for his mastermind strategies, followed by Mr Dunderdale, who surprised us with a win. The highlight of pre-season was a match against our headmaster, Mr Jacobson, in the Hollely Quad—a very challenging and memorable game.

This season saw a few stars emerge, with standout performances from several players. We also welcomed new members who brought fresh playing styles, calm demeanours, and deeper strategic calculations to the team, enriching the squad as a whole.

The highlight of the season was the victory against Alexander Road High School during our home Derby Day. It was a bittersweet moment, however, as they narrowly defeated us in the league game. We faced tough opponents throughout the year, but every game was played with immense determination, grit, and passion.

Chess is more than just a game. Beyond victories and losses, what sets this team apart is their camaraderie and resilience. This season was not just about winning; it was about growing together, learning from setbacks, and pushing each other to improve every day.

I look forward to the next season of chess and hope that even more eager learners will join our team at Victoria Park High School.

S. Assam

Manager



CHESS

Back: Iman Ndlela, Rogan Oates, William Udemans

Middle: Hlelokuhle Nkohla, Liam Vosloo, Linoyolo Jakavula, Liam van der Westhuizen, Siyolise Heugh, Tiago Pereira Da Silva, Hailey Bruintjies

Front: Tumelo Skweyiya, Levi Chrisochos-Blandy (Vice-Captain), Mrs S Assam, Christopher Olsen (Captain), Zoë Franks

Choir

Although I only had the opportunity to work with the choir from the middle of the third term until the end of the school year, it has been a truly rewarding experience. In a short space of time, we built a strong sense of teamwork, focus, and musical growth—and I am proud of what we accomplished together.

Our main goal this term was preparing for the final concert, and the students rose to the challenge. Despite limited rehearsal time, they worked diligently to learn a new piece, and their dedication to mastering it was inspiring.

A highlight of the term was a special workshop with Monique Hellenberg, the Jazz and Contemporary Voice Lecturer from Nelson Mandela University. Her visit

provided an incredible opportunity for our students to learn from a professional in the industry, and they walked away with valuable insights and renewed inspiration.

We ended the year with a warm and joyful choir party—an afternoon filled with laughter, delicious food, and heartfelt goodbyes. It was also a time to celebrate our matric students as they prepare for the next chapter in their lives. We wish them every success and thank them for the role they have played at the heart of our choir.

The choir committee members worked tirelessly to keep the choir going despite the challenges faced this year, and they deserve an extra special mention. In particular, Siphesihle Mali, Asisipho Hotata,

and Rachel Brown went above and beyond in their service to the choir.

Grade 12 Choir Committee

Members: Rachel Brown, Keagan Every, Amahle Gotyana, Asisipho Hotata, Shona Ketchemin, Kelly Macozoma, Temitayo Madikane, Siphesihle Mali.

Though our time together was short, it was filled with music, growth, and meaningful memories. I look forward to seeing how the choir continues to flourish in the future—and I have no doubt they will continue to lift their voices with pride.

– Miss Gravett



CHAMBER CHOIR

Back: Leighthon Afrika, Musa Matross Liyabona Xango

Second Row: Mihle Koko, Caydin Davids, Akholiwe Nomana, Karli Badenhorst

First Row: Cicley Thalla, Lusekho Mkumilana, Odin Goba, Anothando Nyati, Sisakhanya Nqisha, Mbali Matoto

Front: Amahle Gotyana, Shona Ketchemin, Siphesihle Mali, Mr T Frans, Asisipho hotata, Rachel Brown, Temitayo Madikane



CHOIR

Back: Libongiwe Ndimba, Khazimla Yaso, Sarah Schunemann, Olivia Massey-Hicks, Channele Sawyer, Leighthon Afrika, Millah Human, Linathi Baartman, Lisasa Nombombo, Amyoli Nyamakazi

Third Row: Ahlumile Monki, Thatohatsi Letlatsa, McKenzie Kilroe, Karli Badenhorst, Akholiwe Nomana, Hayley Bouwer, Ntsikayomzi Sifanele, Mihle Koko, Mmangaliso Lottering, Emihle Sibeko, Usisipho Tom

Second Row: Drénick Munnick, Palesa Olivier, Gaia-Teria Govender Sisakhanya Nqisha, Alissa van Aswegen, Owam Mkrakra, Bokamoso Pebane, Ngazibini Tshitshi, Lusekho Mkumla, Asemahle Thoba, Taryn-Leigh Bosch

First Row: Mbalentle Tame, Thato Dwaza, Liminathi Mpalala, Cicley Thalla, Avuyile Mncoco, Sarafina September, Inam Nonkonyana, Inganathi Kuselo Sabrina Nyathi, Mbali Matoto, Hlonela Goqo, Ingamihle Bam, Siphe-Okuhle Mayi

Front: Temitayo Madikane, Rachel Brown, Siphesihle Mali, Odin Goba, Mr L Alexander, Amahle Gotyana, Mr T Frans, Keagan Every, Kelly Macozoma, Asisipho Hotata, Shona Ketchemin

Debating

Junior Debating

The Junior A League proudly welcomed new members this year, from seasoned speakers to those just beginning their public speaking journey. This diversity brought energy and enthusiasm, allowing experienced debaters to share their knowledge while newcomers contributed fresh perspectives. Each debate became not just a competition but an opportunity to learn, grow, and build confidence.

Teams faced a variety of motions that challenged their critical thinking, persuasive skills, and collaboration. Debaters quickly learned the importance of research, teamwork, time management, and staying calm under pressure. Lessons from both victories and defeats became stepping stones for improvement.

VP 1 and VP 2 were season highlights, winning all their matches. VP 1 ranked 8th overall and VP 2 19th – a remarkable performance, setting the bar high for the next season. The league fostered camaraderie, with participants supporting one another and celebrating each

other's progress.

Next year, Victoria Park will host the provincial debating tournament, an exciting opportunity that reflects the school's growing reputation in the debating community. The Junior A League of 2025 leaves behind a legacy of growth, teamwork, and a love of debating.

– Zingce Piliso

Senior Debating

Victoria Park High School's senior debaters have continued to uphold the school's outstanding debating reputation. Our two Senior A League teams participated in multiple competitions, with some debaters also adjudicating debates as qualified judges.

This year, Mbali Siwa, Isabella Bosch, Oluwapelumi Adesemowo, and Gaia-Teria Govender represented VP at the prestigious Aurora All Girls Debating Festival, placing fourth overall. Mbali Siwa was ranked 4th in the Best Speaker category. A special thanks to Miss Marks for her unwavering support as coach, driver, and cheerleader.

In August, VP 1 (Mbali Siwa, Isabella Bosch, Aviwe Goduka, Mmangaliso Lottering, and Gaia-Teria Govender) competed at the EP Debating Provincial Trials in East London. Mbali Siwa was selected for the EP team and will participate in national training.

Congratulations also go to Grade 11 debaters Paige Holdstock, Bonolo Madkwane, and Dineo Mokake for receiving their Silver Adjudication Certifications, and our Matrics, Oluwapelumi Adesemowo and Gaia-Teria Govender, who earned Gold Adjudication Certifications.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of Miss Marks and Mr Ross. Debating has instilled invaluable skills, resilience, and confidence in all participants. As graduating debaters, we are grateful for the opportunities, challenges, and memories that these past five years have provided.

– Gaia-Teria Govender



DEBATING SENIORS

Back: Aviwe Goduka, Gareth Gower, Ipfi Tshivhase

Middle: Paige Holdstock, Mmangaliso Lottering, Dineo Mokake, Bonolo Mochekwane

Front: Isabella Bosch, Gaia-Teria Govender, Miss L Marks, Mr J Ross, Oluwapelumi Adesemowo, Mbali Siwa



DEBATING JUNIORS

Back: Minenathhi Landu, Sphosihle Zantsi, Max Pietersen, Elomso Somlata, Miluhlume Magxagxa

Middle: Gemma Huddleston, Mihle Msezeni, Laviwa Ralo, Rachel Coetzee, Skye Viviers, Lilah Claassen

Front: Raziya Messiahs, Isiphile Bawa, Miss L Marks, Mr J Ross, Onesimo Makhamba, Zingce Piliso

First Aid and Peer Promoters

The First Aid Club had a busy and successful year, attending numerous derby days and sports practices throughout 2025.

We extend our sincere thanks to the First Aid Committee and, in particular, Hannah Frost (President) for the dedication and hard work they contributed this year.

Hannah is the recipient of the Beena Johnson Trophy for First Aid and has certainly left very big shoes to fill.

Mrs A. Monteith



Back: Linathi Baartman, Matthew Sebba, Rachel Woods, Amy Hadley, Jody Cloete, Mia Deacon, Natalie van de Merwe, Tina Dayimani, Maria Udemans, Erin Raw, Maylin Muller
Fourth Row: Skylar Gouws, Virthony Arnolds, Oyintanda Zetu, Isabella Goosen, Zahra Venter, Ndadiwanashe Okafor, Aviwe Goduka, Micah Dippenaar, Sofia Meyer, Ella Mackenzie, Dakota Roberts
Third Row: Rebecca Burgess, Myriska van Jaarsveld, Jordin Scholtz, Jamie Swart, Rachel Glass, Keziah Anderson, Emma Claydon, Andrea Ambler, Zuphaphe Mamase, Minenathi Landu, Libongiwe Ndimba, Kristen Thomas, Heylé Fisher, Mbali Zigoxo, Caylie Rogers
Second Row: Palesa Olivier, Zubenathi Ndyambo, Asemahle Thoba, Zizi Nduna, Matshezi-Amahle Ludidi, Lyla Paulson, Leah Seale, Hannah Burgess, Mbali Siwa, Beyoncé Ngoma, Nicole Arthur, Amahle Tafeni, Chayleigh Patterson
First Row: Thandolwethu Ngcobo, Alexia Grubic, David Thomson, Juliette Horn, Hannah Frost, Mrs A Monteith, William Udemans, Hannah Ferreira, Linothando Moni, Bryn-Lee van Vuuren
Front: Liah Nazer, Tara-Leigh Nel, Asenathi Thoba, Sasha-Lee Paulse, Amani O'Brien

Quiz

This year has been a truly special one for the Victoria Park Quiz Team. It took dedicated practice and relentless effort to achieve the success that paid off, and we are proud to have finished at the top of the league. While we secured most of our victories, every match – win or lose – offered valuable lessons that helped us grow. Facing tougher challenges in some games only strengthened our team spirit, as collaborating and supporting one another enabled us to overcome obstacles and continue striving for success.

We are also incredibly pleased with all the new members who joined the Quiz Team this year. It has been inspiring to see fresh faces bring their unique energy and ideas, fuelling our enthusiasm for the future of Quiz at Victoria Park.

Additionally, this was the final year for our captain, Liam Case. Achieving the league victory as he concludes his time on the team made the win even more special. It felt like the perfect way to thank Liam for his leadership and dedication, and to celebrate the positive impact he has

made on our team.

A special message from Miss Meyer: she will miss Liam's years of commitment and passion, which greatly helped her in mentoring new quiz members. Miss Meyer wishes him every success in his upcoming examinations and all the best for the future that awaits him.

Another memorable highlight of the year was our participation in the annual Herald ISUZU Schools Quiz, a highly anticipated competition among schools in Nelson Mandela Bay and Kouga. This year, over 200 learners from 52 schools showcased their general knowledge in a quest to earn the coveted title of champions. We were determined to give our best, aiming to claim the one title that has eluded us since the Herald Schools Quiz was reintroduced in 2021 – having come close in previous years. Our goal was to surpass our 2023 performance, where we finished as runners-up to Paterson High. Unfortunately, we narrowly missed out again, finishing second behind Theodor Herzl. Despite this, we are proud that out of 52 school teams,

we secured a podium position. It's back to the drawing board, and next year presents another opportunity for us to claim this prestigious title.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mr Jacobson for his continued support, and to Miss Smith for her enthusiastic encouragement and for capturing memorable moments through her photography during the semi-finals and final round of the competition.

We would also like to extend a big thank you to our quiz teacher, Miss Meyer, for her guidance and support throughout the year. None of this would have been possible without her encouragement, and we are grateful for everything she does for the team.

Ending the season as league champions for a second consecutive year is something we will always be proud of, and it serves as a reminder of how far we have come. Representing Victoria Park in this way means a great deal to us, and we look forward to what lies ahead for the team.

William Udemans (Vice-Captain)



HERALD QUIZ TEAM

Back: Chad Muller, Ms P Meyer, Zuphaphé Mamase
Front: William Udemans, Liam Case



QUIZ

Back: Jaelan Beaton, Chad Muller, Nikita Leibach
Middle: Zuphaphé Mamase, Mmangaliso Lottering, Hilah Olivier, Naeemah Swartz
Front: Maria Udemans, William Udemans, Ms P Meyer, Liam Case, David Thomson



Sound and Lighting



Back: Mr M Mbhele, Odin Goba, Lukhanyo Notyena, Owam Leonard, Mr M Louis
Front: Ava Iverson, David Thomson, Amile Mama

Young Entrepreneurs Project

YEP – Youth Entrepreneurial Project

The year 2025 has been an exciting one for the Youth Entrepreneurial Project (YEP). Our members embraced opportunities to showcase their creativity, business skills, and entrepreneurial spirit throughout the year.

We successfully hosted two school markets, both of which were well supported by learners. These events gave our members the chance to put their business ideas into practice, building confidence and developing practical skills.

A highlight of the year was our collaboration with the GQ Thrift Market, which specialises in preloved clothing. By joining forces, our YEP members were able to sell their products at the Saturday markets

in our very own Thorp Hall, gaining invaluable real-world experience in customer service and trading as young professionals.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to Neleah Peters, our dedicated YEP President, for her leadership and invaluable contributions to the club. As she completes her matric year and leaves Victoria Park, we wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Looking ahead, we are excited to reinvent YEP for the year to come, creating fresh opportunities for our learners to grow as young entrepreneurs and continue making their mark.

Claire Wait



Back: Shona Ketchemin, Neleah Peters (President), Mrs C Wait, Jaden Nel
Front: Isabella Bosch, Siyolise Heugh, Jessica Nell

Clubs

Environmental Caring Organisation

Our Motto: "Loving the green earth"

We extend heartfelt thanks to the diligent and dedicated E.C.O. Board and members for a truly enjoyable year. The year began with our Valentine's Day rose sale, which raised R3 100 to support environmental initiatives.

This year, we opened our annual Addo Elephant National Park outing to all club members, not just the board. The trip was both educational and inspiring, allowing members to experience nature undisturbed. Highlights included sightings of zebras, elephants, and lions, followed by a satisfying braai after our mini-safari.

Our activities continued with various workshops. Members first tackled cleaning milk cartons for recycling. Though initially challenging due to the smell, the members "divided and conquered," ensuring every carton was properly cleaned. Additionally, the club ran a bottle-top drive, encouraging the school to fill 5-litre water bottles with plastic tops and bread tags. Mr Griessel's class emerged victorious at the end of Term 3.

In July, we hosted the renowned 'Snake Man' Mark Marshall of Sandula Conservation, who

presented a variety of snakes, including the Cape Cobra, Puffadders, and Rinkhals. Pupils had the thrilling opportunity to handle a Ball Python, a Corn Snake, and House Snakes. We look forward to inviting Mark and his slithery friends again next year.

Our members also enjoyed several 'Nature Appreciation Walks' along the Guinea Fowl Trail in Baakens Valley. These outings provided a wonderful way to experience the natural beauty on our doorstep while engaging in healthy exercise.

Towards the end of Term 3, E.C.O. visited SANCCOB, a registered non-profit organisation dedicated to reversing the rapid decline of seabird populations through rescue, rehabilitation, and release. This year, E.C.O. funds contributed to SANCCOB's efforts. We purchased four technologically designed penguin nests to be monitored by environmental experts and adopted a female penguin named Poncho, who has been at SANCCOB since 2015 due to a leg injury. Members participated in a guided tour and an interactive educational session, and some even made penguin promises, pledging to protect both the environment and its wildlife.

Paper recycling continues regularly,

with E.C.O. members clearing the contents of cardboard bins into the school's 'dome'. This initiative saves trees and also generates funds for the school.

The 2025-26 board comprises Matthew Sebba (President), Ipfi Tshivhase (Vice-President), Sibabalwe Xola, Chad Muller, and Mtombozolo Sobantu. We wish them an exciting year filled with innovative ideas and enthusiasm.

We sincerely thank the outgoing board for their hard work and dedication, particularly Sinabo Busakwe and Liphwiwe Mxube, whose leadership and diligence have been central to the club's success. Their contributions will be greatly missed.

E.C.O. thrives on the dedicated, caring, and service-minded spirit shared by all at Victoria Park High School. All our projects are open to any member of the school community, providing opportunities to make a positive impact on the environment while having fun with like-minded, eco-conscious peers.

Finally, always remember: "If we don't save the environment, who will?"

Ipfi Tshivhase

E.C.O. Vice-President



ECO BOARD

Back: Matthew Sebba, Mrs J McGrath, Ipfi Tshivhase
Front: Liphwiwe Mxube, Sinabo Busakwe



ECO
 Back: Luhle Sandi, Sibabalwe Xola, Chad Miller, Tina Dayimani, Hannah Langson
 Second Row: Oyintanda Zetu, Ipfi Tshivhase, Matthew Sebba, Aphelele Xhego, Kwandiwe Changi
 First Row: Joele Hoole, Sinabo Busakwe, Mtomboyo Sobantu, Iman Liberty, Jorja-Sue Miller, Liphwiwe Mxube, Hope Mudimbu
 Front: Nasi Gqotana, Olotando Ndima, Mrs J McGrath, Zizi Nduna, Emihle Makwenkwe

Hiking

This year, the Hiking Club truly embraced the great outdoors. We kicked off the year with a hike at Cape Recife, followed by a visit to the Van Stadens Flower Reserve to admire its beautiful flowers and birdlife. We also spent an afternoon climbing Lady Slipper, where we

were treated to stunning views of the ocean and the flowers in bloom. Learners also discovered how Lady Slipper got its name—from a rock formation resembling an upside-down slipper.

We enjoyed further coastal hikes

at Kini Bay and Sacramento, where everyone took a refreshing dip in the sea to cool off.

What a wonderful year it has been exploring the outdoors!

Miss L. Smith



Impulse

Walking into the drama room on a Monday afternoon at 14:30 might seem unusual for most, but for members of Impulse Drama, it is undoubtedly the highlight of the week. At Impulse, learners from all grades are welcome to express themselves in every possible way.

Impulse is a club that uses improvisational acting not only for fun, but also to teach beginner actors how to think quickly on their feet. Activities include games that test your alphabet skills, physicality, creativity, foreign accents, and even detective skills with a game of Mafia – more commonly known as Town of Salem at Impulse. Occasionally, our sales skills are put to the test in a prop game, where members must promote and try to sell a variety of props to their fellow participants.

Impulse 2025 would not be the top-tier club it is without our three leaders: Declan Hogg, Kendra Webster, and Lyndsay Daniels. Together, they have created a

caring and safe environment in which everyone feels welcome. We must also acknowledge the teacher in charge of Impulse Drama, Miss Scheepers. In her two years at Victoria Park, she has continuously supported Impulse, often joining in the fun with her hilarious jokes and impressive accents.

Although Impulse is an excellent foundation for beginner actors, the club welcomes anyone willing to step on stage and be a little silly for an hour – whether they wish to act or simply have fun. Impulse is a safe space for all, and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Karli Badenhorst



IMPULSE

Back: Nathan Bolland, Gareth Gower, Dillon Jacobs, Inakho Makalima, Luniko Lugongolo

Third Row: Surika Van Schalkwyk, Madison Hambides, Ntsikayomzi Sifanele, Christopher Plaatjies, Oyintanda Zetu, Simbonile Venske, Talitha Dorfling

Second Row: Rayah Dorfling, Dayanna Renze, Simenawe Festile, Karli Badenhorst, Leigh Bridger, Morgan-Lee

First Row: Drénick Munnick, Gemma Huddleston, Jessica Good, Kelly Mugozori, Mihle Msezeni, Skye Viviers, Toané Gouws

Front Row: Lyndsay Daniels, Declan Hogg, Mr J Ross, Max Pietersen, Kendra Webster

Junior Art Club

Grade 8 and 9 learners joined afternoon sessions throughout the year, engaging in a variety of creative projects, ranging from quick experimental tasks to more complex projects completed over several weeks:

- An experimental piece using string dragged through acrylic paint created striking flower-like impressions.

- Fun finger paintings allowed pupils to dab paint with their fingers, producing imaginative imagery.

- Another innovative project

involved laying sheets of clingfilm over watery coloured ink 'splotches', resulting in fascinating shapes. The pupils then drew impressions from these patterns, producing highly imaginative works.

- Fabric was prepared with fabric paint and sprinkled with coarse materials to create starburst effects, which were then enhanced with stencilled designs.

- The major project of the year involved creating clay vessels. Pupils explored the tactile qualities of this ceramic craft, later painting their

vessels with underglazes after they were bisque fired.

These club sessions were ably led by a Grade 12 committee, including Erin Bartlett, Philippa de Vos, Kendra Webster, Sibulele Mayedwa, and Gaia-Teria Govender. This matric group are all top Design/Art pupils this year. A huge "thank you" to them for their time and commitment to this club, inspiring young creatives coming up the ranks. Well done!

Mrs Jeni McGrath

Art Department Subject Head



JUNIOR ART CLUB BOARD
Back: Erin Bartlett, Mrs J McGrath, Gaia-Teria Govender
Front: Phillipa de Vos, Sibulele Mayedwa, Kendra Webster



JUNIOR ART CLUB
Back: Paige Beneke, Dean Brown, Annabelle Bennett
Middle: Neeco Basterman, Lilah Claasen, Nina Hemsley, Ryan Brooks, Lilly-Maé Bossert, Isabella Copoosamy

Photography Society

This year, the Photography Club focused on becoming more confident and creative with our cameras. All members were encouraged to move away from Auto mode and explore the world of Manual settings! Mastering the balance between ISO, aperture, and exposure can be quite a challenge in different lighting conditions.

We also spent time editing and becoming comfortable with programmes such as Lightroom and Google Photo Editor. We were fortunate to have several special guests visit us, including Dr Conradie from Bayworld, who

brought along Mocha the snake and Number 43 the baboon spider. Photographer Jeff Latham also joined us to share how he takes, edits, and sets up his photos. His talk was both informative and inspiring, covering how he began his photography journey and how he stays passionate about his craft.

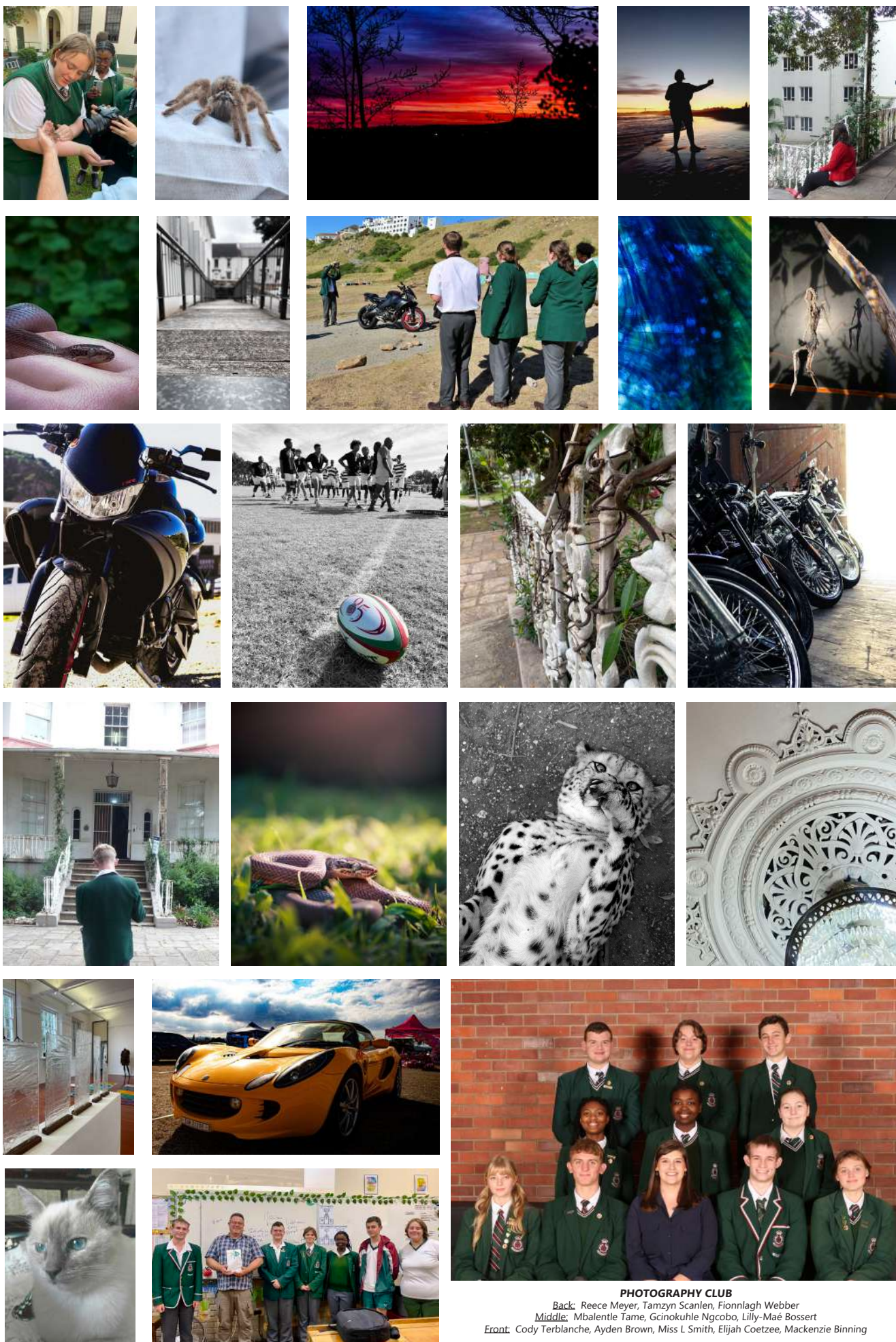
We enjoyed several outings this year, with Valley Motorcycles proving to be a firm favourite among members, as well as a visit to the NMU Art Gallery. Some of our projects focused on monochrome photography and editing, silhouettes, and depth-

of-field-based assignments.

What an incredible year spent behind the camera – and sometimes in front of it!

Miss L. Smith





PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB
Back: Reece Meyer, Tamzyn Scanlen, Fionnlagh Webber
Middle: Mbalentle Tame, Gcinokuhle Ngcobo, Lilly-Mae Bossert
Front: Cody Terblanche, Ayden Brown, Miss L Smith, Elijah Coetzee, Mackenzie Binning

RMD Book Club

RMD Book Club is a magical extra-mural activity that takes place every Thursday afternoon after school. RMD, standing for Read, Meet and Discuss, is so much more than a book club; it is a place of belonging. The club has built a nurturing community, filled with diverse members who share a love of literature.

This year, the annual World Book Day donation supported the Children's Feeding Trust. Our members were honoured with a tour of the

organisation's office and bookshop – which we highly recommend visiting! All learners who supported the donation were entered into a lucky draw. Hayley Claydon, the fortunate winner, received a delicious tuck-shop voucher.

The club's 'angel', Mrs Odendaal, arranged for guest speaker Mrs Nicky Scrooby, a journalist from The Herald, to spend time with us. She shared insights into her journalism work and explained the differences between books before and after

publication, providing a fascinating behind-the-scenes perspective.

The end-of-year celebration doubled as a farewell for our matric members, and the club enjoyed debuting the revamped version of the special RMD board game.

RMD Book Club will forever remain engraved on my heart, as it will continue to be in the hearts of many.

– Rebecca Brazzale, RMD Book Club President



RMD BOOK CLUB

Back: Nikita Leibach, Liyabona Xango, Katya Steyn, Isabella Lavin

Middle: Jessica Good, Hayley Claydon, Madison Hambides, Olivia Massey-Hicks, Avaleigh Erasmus, Morgan-Lee Stander, Danielle Meyer

Front Row: Will Prince, Phoenix Inch (Administrator), Mrs D Odendaal, Rebecca Brazzale (President), Emma Claydon (Secretary)

Best wishes from the Brazzale family

Robotics and Coding



Back: Gabriel Meiring, Kyle Inch, Inakho Makalima
Second Row: Linomtha Nonjola, Skylar Gouws, Zarann Soni, Ntsikayomzi Sifanele, Abigail, Sikwebu
First Row: Neece Basterman, Limikahaya Mgxashe, Cara Bailey, Kelly Magozori, Mihle Msenzeni, Leila Issa, Isabella Cooposamy
Front: Avuyile Mncono, Zingce Piliso, Mr S Gwija, Mrs L Moodaley, Skye Viviers, Lutho Cekisani



CULTURAL SOCIETY

Societies

Cultural Society

Victoria Park High School Cultural Society Shines in 2025

The Victoria Park High School Cultural Society has enjoyed an exceptional year, marked by creativity, unity, and vibrant celebration. The society successfully hosted two major events – Baskets and Blankets and the highly anticipated Cultural Experience – both of which showcased the diverse talents and cultural pride of the VP family.

The Baskets and Blankets event, the first of its kind at the school, brought together students and guests for an afternoon of music, poetry, and dance under the open sky. The occasion was made even more special by the participation of the Collegiate Girls' High School Cultural Society, marking the start of a promising inter-school cultural exchange. The event was filled with laughter, rhythm, and heartfelt performances celebrating the beauty of artistic expression.

Later in the year, the Cultural Society hosted its annual Cultural Experience, drawing the largest audience

in the event's history. The day was alive with energy as attendees enjoyed performances by the Cultural Choir, Soulful Harmony, The Soul, the Zulu Dancing and Amagwijo Group, and many more talented acts. The highlight of the evening was the breathtaking Walk of Culture, where learners proudly represented different cultures and traditions with style, confidence, and pride.

These events not only entertained but also reminded everyone of the power of culture to unite and inspire. The Victoria Park High School Cultural Society continues to grow stronger each year, giving students a platform to express themselves and celebrate the diversity that makes our school community truly special.

Victoria Park High School Cultural Choir Makes History in 2025
The Victoria Park High School Cultural Choir has had a remarkable year, filled with music, achievement, and unforgettable moments. Throughout 2025, the choir performed at several major school

events, including Baskets and Blankets, the VP Choir Festival, and the Annual Cultural Experience, captivating audiences with their powerful harmonies and soulful performances.

The highlight of the year was the choir's tour to George, Western Cape – the first-ever cultural choir tour in Victoria Park High School's history. The choir represented the school at the National Cantamus Choir Competition, delivering an outstanding performance that earned them 1st place in their category and the title of Best High School Choir for 2025.

This historic victory not only showcased the choir's talent and dedication but also marked a proud moment for the entire Victoria Park High School community. The Cultural Choir continues to inspire with its passion, discipline, and commitment to excellence, proving that when harmony meets hard work, greatness follows.

Mrs Gwija



CULTURAL CHOIR COMMITTEE
Back: Odin Goba, Mrs V Gwija, Qhama Vokwanan
Front: Siphesihle Mali, Temitayo Madikane



CULTURAL CHOIR
Back: Asisipho Hotata, Sarah Schunemann, Sibabalwe Goduka, Luphumlo Rafani, Iyazi Mabandla
Second Row: Emihle Sibeko, Mihle Koko, Caydin Davids, Sinaye Jonas, Entle Sodladla, Anothando Nyati, Thatohatsi Letlatsa
First Row: Mbalentle Tame, Mbali Matoto, Milani Mankonkwana, Siphosethu Namba, Libhongo Dayile, Amahle Gotyana, Inam Nonkonyana, Zubenathi Ndyambo
Front: Qhama Songongo, Leighthon Afrika, Temitayo Madikane, Siphesihle Mali, Mrs V Gwija, Qhama Vokwana, Odin Goba, Musa Matross, Mbulelo Khathi

Interact

Under the dedicated leadership of Nande Tengela (President) and Zizipho Nyangwa (Vice President), the Interact Society has truly embodied the spirit of "Service Above Self" during the 2024-25 year. With energy, vision, and compassion, we have stood as a beacon of service within our school and beyond, proving that when young people unite for a greater cause, the ripple effect of kindness can touch countless lives.

Our journey began with projects rooted in gratitude and care. The Annual Grannies Tea gave us the privilege of welcoming the elderly from Buffelsfontein, where laughter, stories, and warm conversations reminded us that their wisdom is a gift we cannot take for granted. The Yokhusela Donation Drive allowed us to deliver nearly 20 bags to women in need, while gifting knitted beanies to children – proving that even the simplest items can carry the warmth of love. At home, we celebrated those who sustain our school with our Annual Grocery Collection for the maintenance staff, reminding them that their dedication does not go unnoticed. Each of these initiatives wove a

story of compassion, dignity, and appreciation.

As 2025 unfolded, our efforts grew even more colourful and creative. From hosting the Grade 8 Movie Night to brighten the start of high school life for our Future Victorians, to our Valentine's Cupcakes, where we spread love in the most delicious way possible, our projects carried both purpose and joy. The Cancer Sprayathon stood as a symbol of awareness and solidarity, while the Aurora Collection extended a helping hand through games, clothes, and essentials for families in need. Once again, we returned to Buffelsfontein, this time armed with Bingo cards and a mission to entertain, laugh, and bond with the elderly.

Our reach extended further through meaningful collaborations and consistent service. With Bay FM, we ran an Easter Egg Collection, ensuring that even the less privileged experienced the sweetness of Easter. Through the Khazimla Project, every second Wednesday became an act of dignity as we packed sanitary pads for women. Partnering with Rotaract, we also launched the

Crochet Knitting Project, weaving care into every stitch to prepare for winter's cold. And with the In Safe Hands Visits, we invested in the future – offering educational tours and academic support to children in homes, helping them dream bigger and achieve more.

At the heart of it all remains our mission: to live "Service Above Self" not only in words, but in action – whether through a cupcake, a knitted beanie, or a bag of groceries. Each project reminded us that true service is not measured by scale, but by sincerity. As this year closes, we celebrate the friendships we have built, the lives we have touched, and the lessons we have learned. Most importantly, we look forward with courage, knowing that the spirit of Interact will continue to inspire, uplift, and lead with love.

Thank you to the board of 2024-25 for your outstanding service. We wish the new board of 2025-26 every success in the year ahead.

Sandra van Niekerk



INTERACT BOARD

Back: Okuhle Blouw, Aviwe Goduka, Lwandile Zengethwa
Middle: Mihle Koko, Mrs du Toit, Dineo Mokake

Front: Mbali Ngada, Mrs C Hayward, Nande Tengela, Mrs S van Niekerk, Zizipho Nyangwa



LIFE



LIFE CHRISTIAN SOCIETY BOARD
Back: Elo Sikiti, Mrs K Jacobson, Lidwala Sodladla
Front: Neleah Peters, Stephanie Moss

LIFE Christian Society

2025 has been an impactful and inspiring year for the LIFE Christian Society. Not only have we grown in numbers, but we have also matured spiritually as individuals, continuing to develop in our personal journeys with Christ.

Every Tuesday before school, we gathered for a prayer meeting led by Lidwala Sodladla. These meetings provided a space to pray for one another, our school, and our community. We also reintroduced the prayer request box to encourage members to share personal burdens, especially those they may not feel comfortable voicing aloud.

During first break on Tuesdays, the LIFE Society meets in Mrs Jacobson's classroom to share encouraging messages, testimonies, and enjoy

exciting games. These moments have become a blessing for many, as we celebrate faith and fellowship together.

This year, we continued with our discipleship sessions on Wednesday mornings, led by Seth Verreyne. Sadly, these impactful sessions ended when Seth and his family relocated to Australia to further their mission of sharing the Word of God. The LIFE Society extends its sincere gratitude to Seth, Demi, and their family for their immense support and dedication in advancing God's Kingdom at Victoria Park High.

The LIFE Society has been blessed to welcome three new, regular visitors: Neil and Rebekah Brand from Oxygen Life, and Mrs Ferreira. Their presence has brought immense encouragement and support, uplifting all who attend LIFE regularly.

Looking ahead, the Society has appointed a new Board for 2026, led by Chairperson Elo Sikiti and Vice Chairperson Lidwala Sodladla. The new leadership team has already begun prayerfully planning for the year ahead, trusting in God for fresh ideas and growth.

We remain deeply grateful to Mrs Jacobson for her continued support and for allowing us to use her classroom to host our meetings. Her encouragement has been a vital blessing to our society.

Above all, we give thanks to God for His everlasting love, faithfulness, and favour throughout this year. We look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us in 2026!

Elo Sikiti

PAW

PAW – Protecting Animals Worldwide

The year 2025 was another meaningful one for the PAW Society, filled with passion, teamwork, and love for animals. Our members worked tirelessly to support animals in need through a variety of raffles and creative fundraising events. Each initiative demonstrated the commitment of our learners and the generosity of the wider VP family.

A special highlight was our memorable visit to Animal Welfare. Learners not only gained valuable insight into animal care and welfare but also enjoyed the joyful opportunity to spend time with the energetic puppies in their play area. Laughter, wagging tails, and plenty of cuddles made this visit truly unforgettable.

This year, we also said a warm farewell to our matric PAW members as they

move on to new adventures, while we look forward with excitement to the fresh ideas and energy that our new 2026 PAW board will bring.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to every PAW member, our dedicated board, and all Victorians who supported us in making a difference.

PAW Board



PAW BOARD

Back: Mrs K Von Wildemann, Joshua Sebba
Front: Oluwapelumi Adesemowo, Morgan Griffiths

TADA

The members of TADA (Teenagers Against Drugs) continued in their pursuit of meaningful efforts to positively impact the wider community. Through our bake sale fundraisers and participation in Open Day, members worked together to spread awareness and raise funds to support external organisations and healthy, positive choices among students. While our activities may have been modest, the

enthusiasm and heart behind them have laid the groundwork for something truly exciting.

As we look toward 2026, big changes are on the horizon for TADA. The society is evolving and growing into something broader, more inclusive, and more connected to the everyday well-being of students. Though we can't reveal too much just yet, next year will see TADA stepping into a new era, one focused not

only on saying no to harmful choices, but also on saying yes to balance, connection, and student wellness.

Watch this space, TADA is getting ready for a fresh start, and it's going to be something every student will want to be part of.

Written by School Psychologist
- Mr Conway-Cleaves



TADA BOARD

Back: Khanyisa Brown, Gaia-Teira Govender, Mbali Tshanga, Zubenathi Ndyambo
Middle: Temitayo Madikane, Lisakhanya Ndlaleni (President), Mr M Conway-Cleaves, Zizipho Nyangwa (Vice-President), Aviwe Goduka



Teenage Action Group

The 2025 TAG Board comprised a group of passionate and committed Victorians who brought energy, determination, and a shared sense of purpose to everything they did. Throughout the year, each member consistently demonstrated a willingness to go above and beyond, not only fulfilling the responsibilities entrusted to them but also actively seeking new ways to contribute and make a meaningful impact. Their collaborative spirit, dedication to excellence, and drive to see our goals through to completion played a vital role in the success of every initiative. It was a year defined by teamwork, growth, and a deep commitment to making a positive difference.

As always, our annual Pizza Day was a tremendous success and remains one of the most anticipated fundraising events among VP learners. This year, the enthusiasm was as high as ever, with over 150 boxes of delicious pizza sold. The proceeds not only helped fund upcoming events but also supported fellow learners in financial need.

Donut Day has quickly become a favourite tradition at VP, and this year was no exception. Learners enjoyed irresistible Bae One and white chocolate-flavoured donuts, and the excitement and positive feedback confirmed that Donut Day remains a sweet highlight on our fundraising calendar.

Our main and most anticipated event of the year, Mr and Miss VP, was an overwhelming success and exceeded all expectations, making it our most successful event to date. The theme for this year was "Around the World". The hall and foyer were transformed into a

thrilling, immersive space, thanks to the creativity of our amazing TAG team and the incredible Ms. Marks. Attendees were transported into a whole new realm the moment they stepped through the doors.

Twenty talented contestants lit up the stage with incredible performances, making it an unforgettable night of entertainment. The energy, excitement, and community spirit were truly unmatched. On the night, our beautiful contestants walked with confidence, captivating the audience. However, only one King and one Queen could be crowned. A special congratulations to all our contest winners:

TAG Choice Award: Kieran Stuurman

Miss Congeniality: Lerah Arnolds

Mr Personality: Iviwe Tata

1st Princess: Anothando Nyathi

1st Prince: Josh Nortjé

Miss Victoria Park: Kwakhanya Mahlanza

Mr Victoria Park: Olwam Oscar Sopheni

As a proud member of the TAG team, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the 2025 TAG Board for their unwavering dedication, hard work, and the countless hours they invested in making this year's events such a resounding success. Your commitment to excellence has truly set a high standard for what TAG represents.

A special note of gratitude must go to Mrs. De Beer and Ms. Marks, who have been the backbone of this society. Your constant support,

guidance, and belief in us have inspired each member of TAG to push beyond our limits and strive for greatness. Your leadership has not only empowered us but also helped shape the success of every initiative we undertook.

We are also deeply grateful to our Principal, Mr. Jacobson, whose support made everything possible. Your belief in TAG provided the foundation we needed to grow and succeed.

The TAG Board would also like to thank all our sponsors: Jam and Cheese, Luggage Company, Raggy Charters, Something Good Roadhouse, Bridge Street Brewery, Hello! Beach, The Garden Club, Hello! It's Me, Chingada's Mexican Cantina, Meags and Mads, and Nails by Robyn.

It has truly been an honour to work alongside such passionate and dedicated peers. The memories we have created together this year are ones I will carry with me for a lifetime.

To the next TAG Board, I wish you nothing but the best. May your year be filled with growth, success, and unforgettable moments. Continue to serve with heart, passion, and purpose—TAG is in your hands now, and I have no doubt you will take it to even greater heights.

TAG President 2025:

Lakeisha Baatjies



TAG

Back: Hannah Frost, Dominic Bush, Declan Hogg

Second Row: Dineo Mokake, Hilah Olivier, Khanyisa Brown, Zuphapho Mamase

First Row: Live Nqunqa, Mbali Siwa, Elo Sikiti, Nasi Gqotana

Front Row: Ms L Marks, Karli Badenhorst (Vice-President), Lakeisha Baatjies (President), Chanelle Sawyer (Secretary), Mrs A de Beer

German School Exchange

Twelve learners were chosen to take part in the 5th bi-annual German African Partnership Programme (GAPP), an exchange that encourages stepping out of comfort zones, making new friends, and, for many, travelling abroad for the first time. In April, VP welcomed learners and teachers from Theodor-Heuss Gymnasium in Wolfenbüttel, Germany. What began as shy smiles at the airport quickly turned into laughter, adventure, and lifelong memories.

Over 17 days, our visitors experienced the best of South Africa – spotting wildlife on game drives, walking with giraffes, exploring the Garden Route, enjoying our beaches, sampling local cuisine, embracing cultural differences, and learning the art of the braai. Together, both groups also gave back by volunteering at a children's home, an experience that left a lasting impression on everyone involved.

The German learners embraced every moment, learning local slang, trying isiXhosa and Afrikaans, and proudly wearing the VP uniform. The farewell potjie dinner was filled with laughter, tears, and heartfelt promises to meet again.

One participant shared, "Before the exchange, we barely knew each other, but we bonded so much during the experience, and I'm really happy about the friendships I've made." Another reflected, "The exchange opened my eyes to German culture, but it also helped me see South Africa in new ways. I discovered places I'd never known and learnt more about my own country and culture."

This year's group also fundraised to support the trip, hosting events such as a Music Trivia Night, a Ladies' Tea, and a Colour Run & Market. Beyond raising money, these activities encouraged teamwork,

leadership, and a strong GAPP spirit. Watching the learners grow in confidence and independence has been one of the true highlights of the programme.

Now, the countdown begins for December 2025, when our learners will travel to Wolfenbüttel, Germany for three weeks. They look forward to experiencing school life abroad, meeting their host families, exploring Christmas markets, trying new foods, and, hopefully, seeing snow for the very first time. GAPP has already proven to be more than an exchange – it is a journey of growth, stepping outside one's comfort zone, and forming friendships with people you might not otherwise have met, both at VP and abroad.

– Written by Ms K. Kloppers,
Teacher-in-Charge



GERMAN AFRICAN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (GAPP)

Back: Zizipho Nyangwa, Rachel Woods, Nikita Leibach, Aidan Muller, Sonwabise Nkumanda
Middle: Lené Smith, Talitha Dorfling, Iman Liberty, Emily Burley, Mikah Falchi
Front: Reece Meyer, Miss L Smith, Miss K Kloppers, Mrs A de Beer, David Thomson



Junior Chef

Junior Chef is an extra-mural cooking programme available to Grade 8 and 9 learners.

It takes place on Wednesday afternoons in the Consumer Studies room. Each course consists of five two-hour lessons during which learners are taught how to prepare and serve a variety of delicious dishes.

We started the year with a course titled Treats, and due to popular demand, it was repeated in the

second term. This course focused on sweet and savoury eats that learners could pack in their lunchboxes or serve as snacks. The heart-shaped iced biscuits were especially suitable as Valentine's Day or Mother's Day gifts!

In the third term, a new course centred around chocolate was introduced. We made chocolate oat clusters, choc-chip cookies, cupcakes and even chocolate doughnuts. To prevent "death by

chocolate", I decided to include one savoury dish – flatbreads!

I started this activity because I believe cooking is an essential life skill that encourages creativity. It is always rewarding to hear that learners have recreated one of the recipes at home and that their families enjoyed it.

Mrs S. van Niekerk

(Consumer Studies Teacher)



Back: Amila Sigadi, Zizi Nduna, Rylee Binning, Mila Petersen, Alizwa Bona, Lilah Claassen
Front: Madison Binning, Isabella Goosen, Mrs S van Niekerk, Mia van Biljon, Sofia Meyer

Junior City Council



Back: Kuqhamilexolisa Njemla
Front: Sinesona Qdrose, Aviwe Goduka

Lab Assistants

Science Laboratory Assistants

Our three well-equipped Science laboratories are a point of pride at Victoria Park High School, providing students with the opportunity to explore, experiment, and discover the wonders of Science in a practical way. Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of Laboratory Assistants supports the teachers, ensuring that these spaces remain safe and organised. They assist with setting up before, and packing away after, practicals are conducted, allowing lessons to run smoothly and efficiently.

In addition, our Laboratory Assistants play an important role in representing the Science

Department at key events, including the Grade 9 Subject Choice Evening and our Grade 8 Open Days.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Laboratory Assistants for their hard work, attention to detail, and

quiet commitment. Their service not only supports teaching but also inspires curiosity and a love of learning among our students.

Mrs K. Jacobson



Back: Oluwapelumi Adesemowo, Mbali Ngada, Kwakhanya Mahlanza, Mrs K Jacobson
Front: Ethan Matzke, Nande Tengela, Juliette Horn

Library Monitors

VPHS Library and Media Centre

I have been a library monitor since Grade 9 in 2022, and becoming a library monitor has truly been a life-changing experience. From the very beginning, the library felt like a safe and welcoming space. Over my four years as a library monitor, I have drawn inspiration from past heads to help shape the library monitor team of today.

A particularly special part of this role has been forming new friendships with fellow monitors—friendships I might never have made otherwise. The team has always offered incredible support and worked together to uplift every member.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Odendaal.

Ma'am has always made the library feel like a safe haven during challenging times, offering a shoulder to lean on and guidance when needed. She also treats the team to end-of-year parties, boosting morale and ensuring everyone feels appreciated.

Phoenix Inch, 12V
Head Library Monitor



LIBRARY MONITORS

Back: Zuphaphé Mamase, Liyabona Xango, Aviwe Goduka

Middle: Palesa Olivier, Mbasa Ngabase, Naeemah Swartz, Lidwala Sodladla, Mbali Matoto

Front: Will Prince, Lisakhanya Ndlaleni (Deputy Monitor), Mrs D Odendaal, Phoenix Inch (Head Monitor), Virthony Arnolds (Deputy Monitor)

Oratory

Tri-Lingual Oratory Contest 2025
The tri-lingual Oratory Contest at Victoria Park was once again a highlight in 2025. Learners eagerly ask, well in advance, when the contest will take place, as they are keen to compete. Preliminary rounds are often held to determine the final six or seven speakers per group who will present their speeches in the main contest.

This enthusiasm is evident throughout the evening, as learners deliver their speeches with intelligence, confidence, and poise. Many audience members were heard murmuring in agreement at the insights offered in the speeches.

The adjudicators for the evening

were Ms Barnett from Pearson High School (English), Mrs Jennings, former VP teacher (Afrikaans), and Mrs Mahola, retired teacher (isiXhosa). They were ably assisted by members of the Toastmasters group.

The winners in each category were:

Junior

- English: Max Pietersen
- Afrikaans: Mathepele Maile
- isiXhosa: Kuhle Ndyumbuza

Senior

- English: Gaia-Teria Govender
- Afrikaans: Toané Gouws
- isiXhosa: Nande Tengela

The three winners in the Senior category were also given the opportunity to present their speech-

es at a whole-school assembly. Despite the nerves that come with speaking to such a large audience, they impressed everyone, speaking to dead silence before receiving resounding applause.

Earlier in the year, Victoria Park entered two interschool contests – the Alex Speaking Festival and the SACCEE Public Speaking Challenge. Our entrants, Elo Sikiti (Grade 11), Khanyisa Brown (Grade 11), and Lisenathi Manyika (Grade 9), acquitted themselves admirably, demonstrating that Victoria Park's public speakers can hold their own against any school.

Mrs S. Hayward



Toastmasters

Toastmasters Youth Leadership Course 2025

From the moment the dates for the following year's Toastmasters course are announced in November, excitement fills the air. With limited spaces available each year, the drive to be one of the chosen 22 learners is intense.

The Toastmasters Youth Leadership Course is an intensive 25-hour

programme that challenges learners in new and sometimes nerve-racking ways. Each week, learners are encouraged to volunteer for various leadership positions, while also delivering three formal and four impromptu speeches over the nine-week course. The guidance offered by the mentors, led by Ms Glenis Whitehead, equips learners with skills that will prepare them for

life. Beyond public speaking, participants gain experience in running meetings, assessing peer speeches, providing constructive feedback, and taking major roles in organising the Graduation Dinner.

The Graduation Dinner is the culmination of the course, showcasing these newly acquired skills to parents, VPHS staff, and local Toastmasters leaders.

Every learner has a speaking role—some greater, some lesser—and it is remarkable to see how accomplished these 17-year-olds have become. They are able to run a glamorous event with minimal nerves and almost no operational hiccups. This year’s guest speaker was Mr Gareth Burley, a well-known radio and publicity personality, whose daughter, Emily, was a participant in the 2025 course.

A highlight of the course is the Speech Contest. Ten speakers are nominated by their peers and adjudicated by a panel of four qualified adult Toastmasters. The winners of the 2025 Speech Contest are:

- **First:** Elo Sikiti
- **Second:** Alexia Grubic
- **Third:** Dineo Mokake
- **Fourth:** Khanyisa Brown
- **Most Improved:** Reece Meyer and Lara Garden

In the fourth term, Elo Sikiti represented VPHS in the Toastmasters Interschools Contest, competing against winners from other schools in the Metro. She achieved an impressive fifth place out of thirteen school champions.

Mrs S. Hayward
Teacher-in-Charge



TOASTMASTERS
Back: Hannah Ferreira, Melina Gansert, Virthony Arnolds, Leonelle Wilson
Second Row: Holly Fisher, Alexia Grubic, Kirstyn Kennedy, Hannah Nawardish, Emily Burley
First Row: Dineo Mokake, Khanyisa Brown, Usesam Gangca, Emihle Sibeko, Mbalentle Tshanga, Usiphile Mente, Mbasa Ngabase
Front: Elo Sikiti, Khazimla Ngcoza, Chanelle Sawyer, Mrs S Hayward, Reece Meyer, Lara Garden, Toané Gouws



SPORT



Interhouse Sports Day

Arnott House



Blake House



Pearson House



Thorp House



Athletics

It was an incredible year for Athletics at Victoria Park High School. We saw an increased number of learners participating at the Metro Athletics Meeting of 2025. We were fortunate to secure the services of three professional coaches: David Teyise, Luviwe Jali, and Melissa Heyman. Thanks to their expertise, our athletes have been able to develop their skills and demonstrate their abilities.

Several athletes truly proved their worth this year.

Eastern Province Representatives:

•Seth Rademeyer (U15): 100 m and 200 m

•Gabriella Schönfeldt (U18): 100 m Hurdles and 4 × 400 m relay

Gabriella Schönfeldt placed 2nd in the 4 × 100 m relay (U19) at the South African High Schools Championships. Seth Rademeyer secured 1st place in the 100 m and 2nd place in the 200 m at the same championships. He also represented South African Schools Athletics at the COSAASA Games in Eswatini in August.

In less than a year, Ifa Tshivase has

emerged as a very competitive athlete in shot put, discus, and hammer throw. She is certainly the most improved field athlete of 2025. By September, she was already achieving Eastern Province qualifying distances in the Hammer Throw!

To all the athletes who participated, won medals, or improved their personal times and distances – well done!

– Charl Griessel

Head of Athletics



Back: Christopher Sawyer, Gabriel Swinford-Meyer, Kaden Erasmus, Sophia Costa
Second Row: Amy Kock, Kelly Macozoma, Matthew Jeule, Siyolise Heugh, Sophie Edwards, Christopher Plaatjies, Eve van Rensburg
First Row: Tacianna Stallenberg, Micha Derman, Mikah Falchi, Ameer Davids, Jaimie Thyse, Dementieva Stallenberg
Front: Mr L. Jali, Lindokuhle Songxaba, Mr C. Griessel, Gabrielle Schonfeldt, Mr G. Jacobson, Ifa Tshivase, Mrs M. Heyman

Boy's Cricket

1st Team • 2nd Team • 3rd Team • U/15 A Team • U/14 A Team

VPHS Boys Cricket has enjoyed an exhilarating season, marked by perseverance, dedication, and success. With a total of 120 matches played and participation in six different festivals, our Cricket Department has certainly kept busy!

Through the annual Union High Cricket Festival, the Pearson Cricket Festival, the Cambridge Cricket Festival, the Somerset College Spring Festival for our 1st Team, and the Under-15s and Under-14s' participation in the Cretchley Cricket Series in Knysna, the boys have embraced the long hours and demands of cricket. These tournaments have provided invaluable opportunities for our teams to showcase their skills, develop tactics, and compete against strong opponents.

2025 Cricket Season Highlights

1. Chase Wilson, Cayden Willis, Noah Lloyd, and Timothy Mucka earned a place in the 100 Runs Club.
2. Ben Owen, Liam Stevens, Iviwe Tata, Lihle Mabusela, Duncan Whittall, Chase Wilson, and Somila Totyi all achieved a five-wicket haul during the season, a remarkable testament to their outstanding bowling abilities.
3. Congratulations to Joshua Grobler, Chase Wilson, and Joshua Wabanie for receiving their 100 caps.
4. Congratulations to our Victoria Park High School Cricket Player of the Year, Cayden Willis!

A special thank you to Jade Plaatjies, Brandon Adams, Ethan Kops, Joshua Wabanie, Jayden Mabie, Lihle Mabusela, Joshua Grobler, Stuart

Mackenzie, Aaron Hoppe, Kieran Stuurman, and Iviwe Tata for your dedication and contribution to VP Cricket. Your skill, commitment, and teamwork have set the bar high, and you will be sorely missed.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the VPHS coaches for their continuous efforts in developing our cricketers. Your guidance and commitment have played a significant role in shaping the team's success.

Lastly, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Mr Ryan Fynn for his nine years of service to Boys Cricket. Your dedication, guidance, and friendship have been invaluable. We wish you and your family all the best in Australia—you will be sorely missed as my right-hand and friend.

Mr J. de Beer





Back: Aaron Hoppe, Duncan Whittal, Joshua Grobler
Second Row: Kieran Stuurman, Stuart MacKenzie, Ben Owen, Ethan Kops
First Row: Lihle Mabusela, Cayden Willis, Joshua Wabanie, Sihla Gaga, Shiloh Liesering, Jaudon Mabie
Front: Iviwe Tata, Mr J. de Beer, Chase Wilson(Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Sean Kops(Vice-captain)



2nd Boys Cricket

Back: Ethan Menta, Jan Diego Renkin, Duwayne Cornelius

Second Row: Ovayo Gelese, Mvelo Tshayina, Brandon Adams, Kieran Stuurman

First Row: Jade Plaatjies, Jaydon Mabie, Joshua Wabanie, Sihlangulwe Gaga, Shiloh Liesering, Brandon Jerling

Front: Iviwe Tata, Mr J. Wicks, Ethan Kops(Captain), Mr B. Mirams, Ben Owen(Vice-Captain)

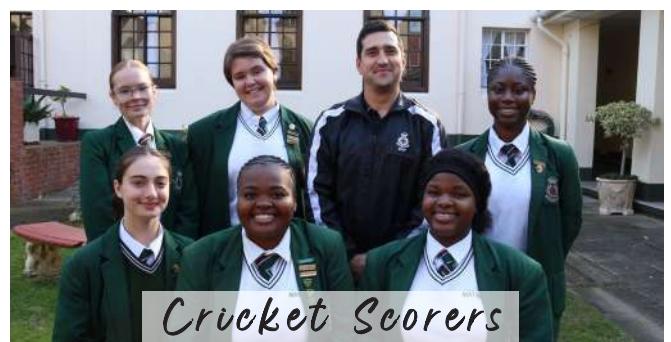


3rd Boys Cricket

Back: Bubelani Jurie, Endinako Mavata, Jade Plaatjies, Khwezi Landella, Sihlangulwe Gaga, Milani Ndimaba, Seth Rennick, Alize Saziwa

Middle: Endinako Mavata, Jade Plaatjies, Khwezi Landella, Sihlangulwe Gaga, Milani Ndimaba, Seth Rennick, Alize Saziwa

Front: Esekhaya Mbanda(Vice-captain), Mr. J. de Beer, Kudzai Kandiwa(Captain), Mr W. O'Connell, Duwayne Cornelius(Vice-captian)



Cricket Scorers

Back: Chayleigh Patterson, Jessica Nell, Mr de Beer, Beyonce Ngoma

Front: Megan Kennedy, Kelly Macozoma, Kuqhamilexolisa Njemla



Back: Salmaan Abrahams, Lubambowelthu Mazomba, Masan Naidoo
Middle: Darian Bouw, Somila Totyi, Salizwa Mali, Blake Nelson, Jordan Gabriel
Front: Alex Wilson, Daniel Oberholzer (Vice-captain), Mr R. Fynn, Vuyo Mazwai (Captain), Tyler Steyn



Back: Jesse Jansen, Avuyile Mtotshelwa, Omhle Mngoma
Middle: Nqaba Madlokazi, Dilan Khoosal, Endinako Movata, Isi Mtintsilana, Konke Nini
Front: Nathan Rieder, Mr S. Wilson, Seth Rennick (Captain), Mr R. Fynn, Vuyani Magoda



U14A Boys Cricket

U14B Boys Cricket

Back: Leo Botha, Joel Hector, Jamie Wooldridge
Third Row: Sage Thompson, Kian Slabbert, Riley Case, Duke Meyer
Second Row: Daelon Mabie, Sangi Jonas, Timothy Mucka, Siyolise Mone
Front Row: Cade Stokes, Bathandwa Saziwa, Mr. J de Beer, Connor MacKenzie (Captain), Liam Stevens

Back: Benathi Mabandla, Zingce Qupe, Riley Case
Middle: Bathandwa Saziwa, Riley Rensburg, Tyler Leo, Wayne Loggenberg, Theo Hiles, Daelon Mabie
Front: Leo Botha, Mr J. Hutchinson, Liam Stevens (Captain), Mr J. De Beer, Siyolise Mone (Vice-captain)

Girl's Cricket

1st Team • 2nd Team

Girls Cricket Team Shines

The Girls Cricket Team has had an exceptional year, demonstrating remarkable talent, teamwork, and determination throughout the season. Their hard work and commitment paid off, as they dominated the competition, winning the majority of their matches and displaying a level of skill that set them apart from their opponents.

A special highlight of the season was the selection of four players for the Eastern Province (EP) Winter Squad, a well-deserved recognition of their outstanding individual performances

and contribution to the team's success.

The team also delivered an outstanding performance at the recent Spring Collegiate Cricket Festival, showcasing skill, determination, and true team spirit throughout the tournament. Facing stiff competition from some of the strongest schools in the region, the players rose to the occasion with exceptional play in every match. Their hard work and collaboration were rewarded as they finished the festival as runners-up, proudly bringing home the silver medal. This

achievement reflects their consistent effort, sportsmanship, and passion for the game.

This incredible season stands as a testament not only to the players' dedication but also to their coaches' guidance and the strong team spirit that defines the squad. Congratulations to the Girls Cricket Team for a truly remarkable year – a season of excellence, achievement, and memories to cherish. We cannot wait to see what the next season brings!

Miss R Swart



Back: Cara Coetzee, Inga Jawula, Caitlyn Louis

Middle: Tacianna Stellenberg, Bokomoso Pebane, Gemma Bonnage, Madison Allen, Dementieva Stellenberg

Front: Kim Davids, Miss R. Swart, Edina Matyuda (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Kelly Davids (Vice-captain)





2nd Girls Cricket

Back: Sarah-Ann Stevens, Tazmyn Scanlen, Daneeka Potgieter, Gabrielle Erasmus
 Middle: Mikaela Lindoor, Mtomboyoolo Sobantu, Aphelele Xhego, Emma van der Walt, Sibabalwe Tongo
 Front: Bonolo Mochekwane, Xyla Baker (Vice-captain), Miss R. Swart, Madison Allen (Captain), Riley Jacobs

Cross Country

The 2025 cross-country season kicked off with the annual catalyst, the Framesby Relay – a competitive race in which each athlete runs two kilometres. The girls' team included A. Menze, J. Thyse, A. Xhego, and J. Fenner. Our team captain, J. Fenner, demonstrated admirable sportsmanship by returning to the course to motivate her teammates. The boys' team consisted of C. Kulidzuwa, E. Mavata, and C. Meyer. They placed 36th out of 62 teams, completing their 8 km in a time of 37:25, which included a second leg run by E. Mavata.

Victoria Park High School (VPHS) was selected by the Port Elizabeth High School Cross-Country Association (PEHSCCA) to host one of the league races during the season. VPHS successfully welcomed over 200 learners from high schools across the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan area. Points are accumulated throughout the season based on athletes' placements in each race, with all athletes running 4 km, while the senior boys run 6 km.

VPHS's season placements were

as follows: junior girls 10th (of 15), junior boys 12th (of 19), senior girls 9th (of 18), and senior boys 16th (of 23).

At the PEHSCCA Annual General Meeting, Miss Engelbrecht was selected as Secretary and looks forward to seeing the VPHS cross-country team participate in Eastern Province qualifying races during the 2026 season.

– Ms M. Engelbrecht



Back: Endinako Mavata, Lisa Khunjuzwa, Aphelele Xhego
Middle: Ayaza Menze, Alexia Grubic, Jaime Thyse, Chisomo Kulidzuwa, Benathi Mabandla
Front: Inelizwi Nonkonyana, Miss M. Engelbrecht, Jordyn Fenner (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Loyzell Klinck

Golf

This year, our VP golfers once again enjoyed a season of exciting development and growth in the sport. Learners were guided through the key fundamentals of the game, including stance, grip, and alignment, before putting their skills to the test on the driving range and putting greens.

A number of new players joined our golf family in 2025, showing remarkable progress in a short space of time. They had the opportunity to hone their abilities on the scenic fairways of Humewood Golf Course, where each round brought fresh challenges and new achievements.

We also extend our heartfelt farewell to our matric golfers as they close this chapter of their school sporting journey, and we warmly welcome the next wave of young golfers who joined us later in the year.

"In golf, every swing is a step closer to success."

Mrs K. von Wildemann



Back: Kristen Elliot, Jody Hadley, Dayyaan Meyer

Middle: Matshezi-Amahle Ludidi, Elijah Bailanis, Nikita Leibach, Paige Beneke

Front: Lindsey-Rose Miller, Mr G. Jacobson, Sophie Edwards, Mrs K. Von Wildemann, Liam Vosloo



Boys Hockey

1st Team ● 2nd Team ● U16 Team ● U14 Team

A year to remember! The hockey fraternity at Victoria Park High School has made a refreshing return to competition in 2025, with a strong hockey culture being established and an exciting brand of hockey on display.

At a first-team level, the school has performed admirably. The First Team ladies have shown immense spirit and skill throughout the season, achieving remarkable results. Attending the York Easter Festival and Oakhill Festival were major highlights, and the team also drew to Alexander Road during our reunion weekend, while securing victories against Westering, St Dominic's Priory, and DF Malherbe, to name a few. Under the leadership of Mr Gerrard Noah, the 1st Team girls have shown significant growth and development.

The First Team boys, a team that has been building over the past few years, also had an incredible season. Led by our Head of Hockey, Mr Geldenhuys, they dominated the league, losing only four games throughout the year, drawing to Stellenberg, and defeating Fairmont. The team achieved a national ranking of 45th – the highest Victoria Park has ever attained. While it was a sad farewell

to many matrices, their legacy leaves a strong foundation for the future.

The U16 girls enjoyed a strong year, losing only two matches. Led by Mr Scholtz, the girls demonstrated resilience and determination, coming from behind in several games to secure victories. They have embraced the values of teamwork, hard work, and commitment.

The U14 ladies' division is full of promise. They maintained a strong winning percentage throughout the season, displaying growth, spirit, and a love for the game. A special thank you goes to the returning Mr Lindoor, who has coached the girls exceptionally well and developed them into a formidable team.

The U14B, U16B, and 2nd Team girls also enjoyed a successful season, playing numerous midweek games and participating in derby days. The depth of our programme is growing, and these teams are steadily improving, step by step.

On the boys' side, both the U16 and U14 teams were impressive. The U14 boys went unbeaten throughout the season, defeating all opponents and dominating the league under the guidance of Mr Scholtz. They learnt the value of

grit, discipline, and winning – truly Victoria Park's Hockey Team of the Year. The U16 boys also performed exceptionally well, dominating their league matches, derby days, and tour games.

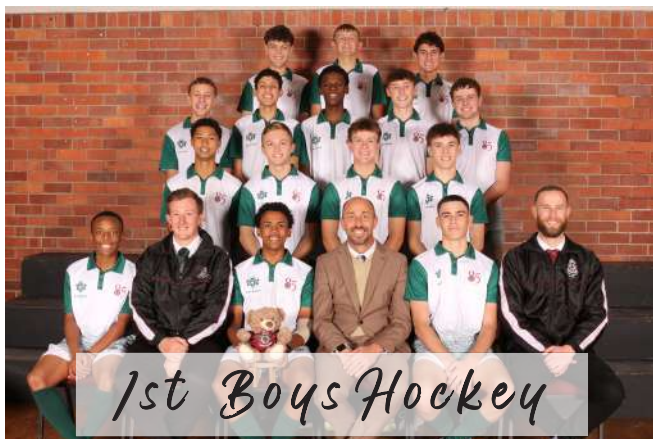
As Mr Geldenhuys reflects:

"Hockey at Victoria Park has grown from strength to strength over the last few years. As we move from a participation stage into a development stage, I look forward to the hard work, growth, and investment that is still to come. Thank you to everyone who has played a part, no matter how big or small, in ensuring the success of this Hockey Culture."

In closing, 2025 has been one of the best years for Victoria Park hockey in recent memory. With fantastic support from parents, state-of-the-art facilities (with further improvements on the horizon), and an enthusiastic, tireless, and knowledgeable Head of Hockey supported by a coaching team par excellence, the future is extremely promising for VP Hockey.

Keanon Geldenhuys





1ST TEAM BOYS HOCKEY

Back: Aaron Hoppe, Duncan Whittal, Luke Matthews

Second Row: Charldrick Vos, Kieran Stuurman, Sibongokuhle Ngumla, Chase Wilson, Joshua Wiehahn

First Row: Shiloh Liesering, Cayden Eszertergomi, Cayden Willis, Aidon Wooldridge

Front: Yonwaba Nohashe, Mr K. Geldenhuys, Jaydon Mabie (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Stuart Maxkenzie (Captain), Mr S. Dunderdale



1ST TEAM BOYS HOCKEY

Back: Joshua Thaw, Fionnlagh Webber, Johnathan Kloppe

Third Row: Yonwaba Nchashes, Lihle Mabusela, Usithandile Vokwana, Luke Coetzee, Ameer Davids

Second Row: Iminathi Ndima, Vuyo Mazwai, Luyolo Manjana, Jade Platjies, Somila Totyi

First Row: Nqaba Madlokazi, Iviwe Tata, Konke Nini, Esekaya Mbonda, Byron Minnie, Iminathi Mbangele

Front: Noah Garden, Jonathan Govinden, Mr T. King, Daniel Corrigan, Griffin Douglas



Back: Luyolo Mlanjana, Owam Gatya, Ameer Davids
Middle: Iminathi Mbangeli, Byron Minnie, Iminathi Ndima, Blake Nelson, Somila Totyi, Konke Nini, Nqaba Madlokazi
Front: Jayden Cornell, Mr R. Angelbeck, Vuyo Mazwai(Captain), Mr K. Geldenhuys, Duncan Whittal



1ST TEAM BOYS HOCKEY

Back: Christian Rhode, Baphelo Malapane, Joel Hector

Second Row: Kian Slabbert, Jamie Wooldridge, Ziyaad Green, Phambili Majezi

First Row: Alex Wilson, Daelon Mabie, Sotha Skosana, Cade Stokes

Front: Tristan Palmer, Mr C. van Rooyen, Duke Meyer, Mr K. Geldenhuys, Conner Mackenzie (Captain)

Girls Hockey

1st Team • 2nd Team • U16 A Team • U16 B Team
U14 A Team • U14 B Team



1st Girls Hockey

1ST GIRLS HOCKEY TEAM

Back: Demi Verreyne, Rachel Woods, Tatum Barth

Second Row: Adaya Harrison, Leonelle Wilson, Megan Kennedy, Paige Lottering

First Row: Leah Seale, Sibulele Rala, Kirstyn Kennedy, Kaitlyn Breytenbach

Front: Miss L. Marks, Mikah Falchi (Vice-captain), Mr G. Noah, Lauren Oberholzer (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Caylen Minnaar (Captain),
Mr K. Geldenhuys





Back: Jaimie Thyse, Leila Searl, Kaylee Reynolds
Third Row: Jana Marx, Morgan Pienaar, McKenzie Tayla Kilroe, Madison Allen
Second Row: Leila Issa, Xyla Baker, Gabrielle Muller, Aryn Meyer
Front: Olivia Tredoux, Mrs T. Verrall, Nicole Arthur(Captain), Ms C. King, Jordyn Fenner



Back: Claire Walsh, Taylor Woods, Zahra Venter
Third Row: Kaamila Venter, Lusanele Ngamlana, Zitha Gongqoba
Second Row: Michaela Searle, Mellodean du Plessis, Eliyah Frans, Shiane Theron
Front: Malika Vos, Mr K. Geldenhuys, Kaitlyn Bretenbach(Captain), Mrs A. de Beer, Sibulele Rala(Vice-captain)

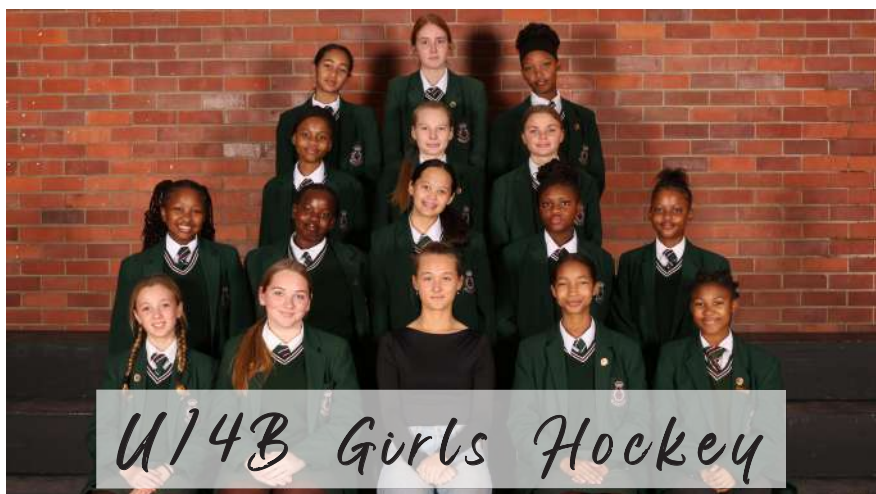


Back: Kaylee Reynolds, Olivia Tredoux, Leila Searle
Second Row: Jordin Scholtz, Taylor Searle, Jamie Swart, Kendal Geyers, Morgan Pienaar, Annebel Stefane
First Row: Ayola Dhlula, Mckenzie Kilroe, Makayla Le Roux, Nikita Doyle, Aphelele Faleni, Hannah Pillans
Front: Gabrielle Muller, Mrs S. Assam, Ella Mackenzie (Captain), Miss P. Prince, Zizi Nduna (Vice-captain)



U14A Girls Hockey

Back: Jordin Jooste, Tai Ryan, Lindokuhle Songxaba
Third Row: Madison Binning, Abigail Fleetwood, Rylee Binning, Layla Zealand
Second Row: Mia Barth, Ava Burton, Jadah Slinger, Xyla Baker, Faith Kretzmann
Front: Alexis Els, Mrs J. Nel, Gemma Bonnage(Captain), Mr M. Lindoor, Micah Kivido(Captain)



Back: Shiloh Freeman, Gianella Costa, Miluhlume Magxayxa

Third Row: Lutho Cekisani, Jana Marx, Madison Allen

Second Row: Ingamihle Bam, Avuyile Mncono, Nina Jeftha, Akheke Nogwebela, Mbalentle Madalane

Front: Micha Hope Derman, Madyson-Anne Everard-Malan(Vice-captain), Ms C. King, Eve van Rensburg(Captain)

Netball

1st Team ● 2nd Team ● U16 Teams ● U15 Teams U14 Teams

U19 A

Our season started strongly with the First Team netball tour to Cape Town. The team played eight games, winning six and losing only two. In 2023, our team finished 11th in the tournament, but this year they achieved an impressive 5th place out of 14 teams – what an achievement! This tour set the tone for the rest of the season, and the team's performance, attitude, and experiences gained were exceptional.

The highlight of the season was our home victories against Westering and Alexander Road. During these matches, the team showed remarkable camaraderie, supporting each other throughout, resulting in victories of 25-17 against Westering and 24-17 against Alexander Road. Their unity was evident in the celebratory high-fives following each win.

Other standout performances included wins against Andrew Rabie, Knysna, and Cillie. Against these strong rivals, the team's defence and shooting were solid, reflecting their hard work, dedication, and teamwork. This year has been amazing both on and off the court, and as we celebrate this unforgettable season, we look forward to the next one.

Ms Y. Stone

U19 B – Second Team

Our second team had a fantastic season, marked by growth, teamwork, and passion for the game. The squad recorded strong wins against Westering, Otto du Plessis, DF Malherbe, and Cillie, showing their progress and commitment. Although

they narrowly missed victories against Paul Sauer, Alexander Road, and Woodridge, the team's fighting spirit never wavered.

A special highlight was seeing Sibabalwe selected for the First Team squad – a proud moment for the entire team. The players have not only improved their netball skills this year but have also deepened their love for the game. Well done, Second Team – your hard work is paying off, and the future looks bright!

Ms M. Mohammad

U16 A & B

The U16 netball season began slowly, as the team took time to find its rhythm and build momentum. Despite early challenges, the players remained committed, steadily improving and forging strong connections on the court.

As the season progressed, their performances lifted, reflected in tighter matches and improved teamwork. The highlight came at the end of the season with a fantastic victory against Alexander Road – a well-deserved win that showcased the team's growth. Overall, it was a positive and rewarding season, laying a strong foundation for next year.

Mrs S. Venter

U15 A & B

This season was a wonderful experience for our Under-15 netball girls. Despite joining the season a little late, I have been privileged to work with an amazing team full of talent, dedication, and love for the

sport.

A special mention goes to Achumile, who displayed extraordinary zeal, effort, and discipline. She was named Player of the Year for the Under-15s and was selected at trials to play in the First Team. The team continues to grow, and their passion, persistence, and willingness to learn will only make them stronger players in the future.

The team had a successful Derby season, remaining victorious in most matches, with their only defeat coming against Alexander High School.

L. Tshemese & S. Mfikile

U14 A & B

Coaching the U14 netball squad comes with unique challenges, as the girls join from a variety of junior schools. However, this season has been a very successful one.

Our U14 players displayed skill, enthusiasm, and determination. We celebrated several wins and draws, faced tough opponents, and learned from the losses encountered. The improvement shown by each player has been remarkable, and we look forward to watching them develop further throughout their netball careers.

Mrs L. Spangenberg (Coach) & Mrs C. Hayward (Coach)



1ST NETBALL TEAM

Back: Akhanya Metshe, Caylin Marsh, Emihle Raba

Middle: Kwakhanya Mahlanza, Gugulethemba Mushangi, Rebecca Hoppe, Jenneville Mabie

Front: Vuyo Ncata, Ms Y. Stone, Caryn Barnes (Captain), Mr. G. Jacobson, Buhle Manentsa (Vice-captain)



2ND NETBALL TEAM

Back: Endinako Mazungula, Mbalentle Tshanga, Bukho Maqanda, Usesam Gangca, Mbali Matoto
Front: Mbali Zigoxo, Khazimla Ngcoza(Vice-captain), Ms Y. Stone, Sibabalwe Betela(Captain), Lihle-Ikamva Twalo





U16 Netball

Back: Limani Tele, Lihanie Bartie, Erin Raw
Second Row: Buhlalu mPlaatjie, Lindsay Froehlich, Faith Zikamveka
First Row: Sinothando Ndialeni, Talita Kamati, Leigh Bridger, Limamkele Baskiti, Ame Kamfer
Front: Ayaqhama Kayi, Alanda Ranuga (Vice-captain) Mrs S. Venter, Mila Ludaka (Captain), Lunathi Mbanga



U15 Netball

Back: Sophia Lourens, Kayla Pople, Luluwolvethu Xasa, Elonso Somlata
Middle: Staci Coetzee, Zintle Sali, Gizelle van Greunen, Cara Coetzee, Achumile Mkoba, Amila Sigadi
Front: Lisenathi Manyika, Jazmine Wicomb (Vice-captain), Mrs S. Venter, Lenique Classen (Captain), Sokhana Olweshu Mdlalana



U/14 A Netball

Back: Alupheli Njokweni, Faith Fourie, Sofia Meyer, Zoey Jacobs
Front: Asivuyise Njingana, Casey Guri(Captain), Mrs L. Spangenberg, Payton February (Vice-Captain)



U/14 B Netball

Back: Matshezanovuyo Mafanya, Riley Oosthuizen, Gabriella Jonson, Ayola Nojoko
Front: Libongo Foki, Mrs C. Hayward, Chulumanco Mgidi(Captain), Mrs L. Spangenberg, Isabella Goosen (Vice-Captain)

Rugby

1st Team ● 2nd Team ● U16 Team ● U15 Team ● U14 Team

Victoria Park High School Rugby on the Rise

Building a Legacy of Sporting Excellence

Over the past three years, sport at Victoria Park High School has undergone a remarkable transformation, with rugby emerging as one of the school's fastest-growing and most successful disciplines. From junior teams showing exceptional promise to senior squads making their mark, it is clear that VP rugby is on a powerful upward trajectory.

Rugby at VP has always carried a strong sense of pride, but the recent progress is undeniable. Thanks to dedicated coaching, passionate players, and a supportive school culture, the last few seasons have demonstrated just how far the sport has come – and how much further it can go.

Credit must go to the hardworking and passionate coaches who have been instrumental in this transformation. Their commitment to developing players both on and off the field has fostered a winning culture and a strong sense of unity throughout the rugby programme.

The U14 team had a standout season, impressing coaches and spectators alike with their skill, commitment, and team spirit. With only two losses on derby days throughout the season, the squad proved that the future of VP rugby is in excellent hands. Their talent and discipline signal the beginning of what could be one of the strongest age groups in years to come.

A special mention must go to Mr T. Mzimane, coach of the U14 team, who was selected as the Eastern Province U12 Coach. This prestigious honour is a clear reflection of his outstanding coaching ability and leadership. VP is extremely proud of him and the impact he continues to have on rugby development both at school and within the province.

The U15 and U16 sides also demonstrated significant growth and resilience. While they narrowly lost some of their derby day clashes, their performances were marked by grit, determination, and strong technical execution.

A major highlight this year came from the U16A team, where Uchenna Oguekwe earned provincial recognition after being selected for the U16A Grant Khomo team – a prestigious achievement. Known for his explosive pace and precision finishing, Uchenna was recognised as one of the best left wings in the tournament, proudly representing VP on the bigger stage.

The 2nd XV had an outstanding year, showcasing depth in the school's rugby talent. Their season was packed with solid wins, disciplined defence, and moments of individual brilliance. The team set a benchmark for what is expected from players aspiring to break into the 1st team.

The 1st team faced a unique challenge this year, fielding a young squad with only four Grade 12s. Despite this, they showed incredible maturity and teamwork, particularly during their much-anticipated tour to Cape Town. The tour provided valuable experience and served as

a key building block for the squad's future success. Their spirit and cohesion were a testament to the culture being built within the rugby programme.

Excitement is already building for the 2026 season, with a packed fixture list promising more thrilling rugby action. One of the most anticipated additions to the calendar is a newly confirmed fixture against Kingswood College of Makhandla, a renowned rugby school. This exciting match-up will not only test the boys' skills but also elevate VP's competitive profile on the school rugby circuit.

With each age group showing signs of excellence and a strong foundation of young talent rising through the ranks, the future of rugby at Victoria Park High School has never looked brighter. The school's commitment to sporting excellence, both on and off the field, continues to produce players who wear the badge with pride and play the game with heart.

None of this success would be possible without the dedication of the coaching staff, whose tireless efforts are building not just better players, but better young men.

Whether you are watching from the sidelines or playing between the posts, one thing is clear: VP rugby is not just growing – it is thriving.

MIC

Mr vd Merwe



Back: Llewellyn Seymour, Dwayne Cornelius, Joshua Grobler, Msimelelo Heleni, Thandowelthu Yawa
Third Row: Brandon van Wyk, Seth Scheepers, Kyle Swart, Liam Viljoen, Nathan van der Walt, Firaan Jones
Second Row: Konke Gxididi, Iyazi Mabandla, Joshua Wabanie, Mhlali Njokweni, Olwam Mufuta, Usithandile Vokwana, Sinaye Jonas
Front: Ath'enkosi Madwe, Mr R. Gerber, Ayola Duda(Vice-captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Josh Nortje(Captain), Mr E. Boshoff, Ntsika Ngcweleshe



2ND BOYS RUGBY

Back: Keagan Pause, Tyler Olivant, Duwayne Cornelius, Musa Matross, Brandon van Wyk

Second Row: Khwezilethu Landella, Sinesona Qokose, Jonathan Govenden, Oza Msuthu, Mhlali Njokweni, Luphumlo Rafani

First Row: Lithalethu Mphahlele, Charles Tennant-Clarke, Cwega Mafuduka, Konke Gxididi, Libongile Mlonda, Storme Tiflin, Sinaye Jonas, Iviwe Tata

Front: Ethan Menta (Vice-captain), Iyazi Mabandla (Vice-captain), Mr. R van der Merwe, Lutholwethu Mkrakra (Captain), Giano Nazer



Back: Milani Msuthwana, Jordan Saunders, Uchenna Oguekwe, Jan Diego Renkin, Matthew Coetzee, Xhanti, Mlumbi
Third Row: Sihlangulwe Gaga, Amahle Spondo, Jason Denysschen, Deaniel Williamson, Ovayo Gelese, Darius Williamson, Aphelele Mtyeku
Second Row: Sibusiso Rwetshe, Kuya Yamila, Hayden Need, Wandile Khathi, Hlomla Xaluva, Inga Mama, Blessing Maweza, Liyahluma Mabumbula, Jaden Cunningham
Front: Mr B. Zlokovich, Limyoli Myeki(Vice-captain), Mr J. Wicks, Mvelo Tshanyina(Captain), Mr B. Mirams



Back: Lubambo Mazomba, Ryan Fairley, Josh Saunders, Maluvuye Mrubata, Avuyile Mbotshelwa
Third Row: Dean Brown, Atida Kanfusen, Inam Ndele, Shakib Ahamad, Siyolise Heugh, Ethan Adams
Second Row: Lisakhanya Qwebi, Sogama Ndaleni, Elarno Geswindt, Athi Panya, Omhle Mngoma, Logan Caldecott, Ravden Swiegelaar
First Row: Yiva Dyira, Somila Totyi, Logan Swanepoel, Amandla Phillips, Jesse Jansen, Babalo Giyose, Chisomo Kulidzuwa, Sibabalwe Ntlale
Front: Uyingqobo Mafani (Manager), Mr S. Wilson, Solwethu Dike (Captain), Mr L. Human, Daniel Oberholzer (Vice-captain)



Back: Siphamandla Hans, Lukhanyo Damba, Liam Gelderblom
 Second Row: Sage Thompson, Callum McHugh, Kwanele Khathi, Daniel Vos, Oyintanda Kabi
 First Row: Ryan Chambati, Benathi Mabondla, Jayden Ehrichs, Tyler Leo, Anathi Njingolo
 Front: Bathandwa Saziwa, Sangiwe Jonas (Vice-captain), Mr T. Mzimane, Ozzy Mfundisi (Captain), Siyolise Mone

Boys Soccer

1st Team • 2nd Team • U16 Team • U15 Team • U14 Team

Boys Soccer 2025

Reports by Mr Hutchinson, Mr Leander, Mr Gwija & Mr Louis

U/14 Soccer Team

The year started with the Alex Festival, where the U/14 boys experienced a mixed bag of results – one win, one draw, and victories in all their remaining matches. As the season progressed, the boys improved both individually and as a team, demonstrating great fighting spirit, often coming back to win challenging games.

The Most Improved Player was Taylon Felkers, while the Player of the Year was Singaloni Ngwendu.

The boys played some very hard-fought matches and ended the season strongly, proving that dedication in training always pays off. Credit must go to the coaches for their tireless efforts in training and for devising astute tactics on match days, especially when key players were unavailable due to injury. Congratulations to the team on a successful season.

– Mr Hutchinson

U/15 Soccer Team

The U/15 team enjoyed a season marked by growth, commitment, and memorable performances. Highlights included impressive away wins against Strelitzia (Uitenhage) and two victories over Linkside, reflecting the team's steady improvement and determination on the field.

The players also represented the school proudly at the St Andrew's

College Tournament, gaining valuable experience against strong opposition. Noteworthy results included a 9-0 win against Kingswood, an 8-0 win against Merrifield, and a 3-1 victory over the hosts.

Unfortunately, the team was unable to travel to Bloemfontein for the Brebner Tournament, a disappointment for both players and staff. The season also presented challenges, as the boys worked under three different coaches throughout the year.

Despite these obstacles, the team displayed excellent spirit, adaptability, and sportsmanship. Their teamwork and perseverance were commendable, and they can be proud of their progress this season.

Player Awards:

Most Improved Player: Antonio de Souza

Player of the Year: Seth Rennick

– Mr Leander

U/16 Soccer Team

The U/16 boys had a strong season in 2025, demonstrating determination and commitment to the team. Four players were selected for Victoria Park High School's 1st Boys' Soccer Team, namely:

Nawaaz Meyer

Rhyan Weitz

Salizwa Mali

Sinipha Unamandla Alizwa

Nyengane

In addition to these selections, the team delivered excellent performances in the league and on derby days.

Player Awards:

Most Improved Player: Kylan Meek

Player of the Season: Liyabona Mabeqa

– Mr Gwija

First Team – A Season of Change

The 2025 First Team season will be remembered not for trophies, but for its challenges and transformations. From an early coaching change to constant player turnover and unpredictable results, the year tested the team's resilience and identity.

The season began with optimism. Strong preseason preparation and flashes of brilliance in the VP Soccer Challenge suggested a promising year. However, a disappointing exit via a penalty shoot-out in the knockout stage marked the end of the tournament.

Midway through the season, Mr Leander stepped down as head coach, with Mr Louis taking over, assisted by Mr Mbhele. Their arrival brought a new energy to the team. Early challenges included the ABSA Wildeklaar Tournament in Kimberley, facing schools ranked among the top 20 in the country – a significant honour and opportunity for the boys to showcase their talent.

Back in Gqeberha, the Western Zone

league saw inconsistent results, though the team achieved notable wins against rivals Alexander Road High School on Derby Day and newcomers Westering High School. Mid-year, the team travelled to East London for the annual Selborne Soccer Tournament, reaching the semi-finals, where they lost in a penalty shoot-out to Alexander Road before securing a silver medal

in the third-place play-off.

The third term brought further inconsistency due to academic pressures and changes to playing personnel. The season concluded with the Nedbank Tournament in Bloemfontein, where a slow start in the group stage was followed by improved performances in the positional playoffs.

As the season ended, valuable lessons were learned regarding consistency, resilience, and teamwork. With 2025 serving as a year of growth and reset for a young squad, there is optimism and excitement for 2026.

– Mr Louis





Back: Mthawelanga Fani, Fabio Synders, Uchenna Ogvekwé, Jayden Barnes
Second Row: Lukhanyiso Mani, Elarno Geswindt, Amila Gqomfa
First Row: Alize Saziwa, Salizwa Mali, Kudakwashe Kambodzi, Sibabalwe Febona, Ryan Weitz
Front: Mr J. De Beer, Fuma Mbewu (Vice-captain), Mr M. Louis, Lithe-Thaa Lindiso (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson, Hlonela Sibhengile (Vice-captain), Mr M. Mbhele



Back: Stuart Gallagher, Langa Madlingozi, Kaden Erasmus

Second Row: Asakho Mvuza, Sichumise Sishuba, Will Prince, Liam Case, Kwanele Maqubela

First Row: Iviwe Tata, Chad Hill, Libongile Mlonda, Unabo Pali, Bulelani Jurie, Kiran Williams, Mbulelo Khathi, Milani Ndimba, Khwezilethu Landella, Oyena Beda

Front: Athe-Nkosi Hanise, Esekaya Mbonda (Vice-captain), Mr C. Griessel, Dominic Bush (Captain), Lunathi Vokwana





Back: Kylan Meek, Maluvuye Mrubata, Endinako Mbopane
Second Row: Hlomla Xaluva, Siyamthanda Ndialeni, Bulelani Jurie, Amile Mama, Nawaaz Meyer, Milani Ndimba, Emihle Solani
First Row: Amyoli Vanqa, Khanyisa Sokopo, Ovayo Jack, Owam Gatya, Kungawo Nama, Liyabona Mabeqa, Unamandla Nyengane
Front: Joel Leander, Mr S. Gwija, Jaden Cunningham (Captain), Mr Z. Sali, Rhyann Weitz (Vice-captain)



U/15A Boys Soccer

Back: Abraham Belachewu, Lubambo Mazomba, Antonio De Souza
Middle: Othandwayo Vongo, Levi Blandy, Salmaan Abrahams, Khwezi Witbooi, Riaz Golding
Front: Charles Ngoma, Matthew Jeule (Vice-captain), Mr R. Leander, Seth Rennick (Captain), Mhlali Mente



U/15B Boys Soccer

Back: Nkazimlo Blouw, Hloma Mena, Vuyo Mazwai
Middle: Luke Dawson, Somila Totyi, Magaliso Foli, Litha Ximiya, Tyler Steyn
Front: Lisakhanya Qwebi, Lingonso Gandela (Vice-captain), Mr G. Dhlwayo, Isi Mtintsilana, Malachi Smith



U14A Boys Soccer

Back: Amyoli Tokwe, Ethan Martin, Alu-Lutho Hanise
Middle: Liqhawe Tsawu, Hlelokuhle Nkoha, Benathi Mabandla, Singaloni Ngwendu, Christian Rhodé, Zingce Qupe, Kungomusa Maloy, Sage Thompson, Lincoln Williams
Front: Tendai Mabvura, Mr J. Hutchinson, Taylon Felkers(Captain), Mr S. Belewa, Bathandwa Saziwa(Vice-Captain)



U14B Boys Soccer

Back: Johannes Marais, Tendeni Mabvura, Kyle Inch
Middle: Anele Ndleleni, Mikah Arnolds, Riley Case, Matthew van Rooyen
 Linomtha Fodo, Paul Miller, Ethan Vaaltyn, Caleb Perils, Hlelokuhle Nkaha, Siyolise Mone
Front: Liam Stevens, Neo Lepamo (Vice-captain), Mr M. Mbhele, Kwanele Khathi (Captain), Laiq Connelly

Girl's Soccer

1st Team • 2nd Team

Girls' Soccer 2025 – A Season of Growth, Grit and Glory

This year, our Girls' Soccer teams truly elevated their game—both in spirit and performance. With record-breaking enthusiasm, over forty girls signed up to be part of our growing soccer programme, reflecting the incredible passion and development of girls' soccer at Victoria Park.

Our 1st Team Girls had an outstanding season, showcasing grit and determination across multiple tournaments and fixtures. They were crowned Silver Plate Winners at the VP Soccer Challenge, triumphing over Linkside in a nail-biting penalty shootout. Their exceptional performance continued as they earned the title of Runners-up in the Super Soccer Schools Provincial Tournament, securing a well-deserved qualification for Nationals. Some of the season's most memorable moments included victories over Chapman

and Cillie in the Alex Festival, as well as a thrilling win against Alex on our home turf during the VP-Alex Derby Day finale.

Our 2nd Team Girls also had an exceptional year, competing in the 1st League and holding their own against the first teams from other schools, winning nearly half of their matches. Notably, Victoria Park remains the only school in Port Elizabeth able to field two full girls' teams in the 1st League—a remarkable testament to the growth and strength of our programme.

We proudly acknowledge this year's award winners in the following Girls' Soccer categories:

Most Improved Player: Gabriella Rizzo

Most Persevering Player: Dementieva Stallenberg

Most Valuable Player: Kwakhanya Mahlanza

Top Goal Scorer: Tacianna Stallenberg

Player of the Year: Edina Matyuda

Most Dedicated Player: Edina Matyuda

We extend a special tribute to our Matrics of 2025 who have served Girls' Soccer with dedication: our 1st Team Captain, Edina Matyuda, and our very own Kwakhanya Mahlanza.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our 1st Team Coach, Mr Ulrich Stallenberg, 2nd Team Coach, Kudzai Kandiwa, and our 2nd Team Manager, Mr J. de Beer, for their unwavering commitment, encouragement, and leadership throughout 2025. Their guidance continues to cultivate a thriving and competitive environment where our girls can shine—both on and off the field.

Mrs S. de Beer

Head of Girls' Soccer





1st Girl's Soccer

Back: Buhlalu Plaatjie, Inga Jawula, Cara Coetzee
Second Row: Tacianna Stallenberg, Kaylee Kamaar, Caylo Kammies, Mellodean Du Plessis, Dementieva Stallenberg, Lindokuhle Songxaba
First Row: Sinazo Mahlakhlaka, Kwakhanya Mahlanza, Naleli Lepamo, Ndalwenhle Moloi
Front: Mr J. De Beer, Caitlyn Louis, Mr G. Jacobson, Edina Matyuda, Mr U. Stallenberg



Back: Aphelele Xhego, Gizelle van Greunen, Angelie Mulder
Third Row: Laiiqah Abrahams, Avaleigh Erasmus, Nina Hemsley, Owam Leonard, Zuphophe Mamase, Lisa Julyan
Second Row: Sasha-Lees Paulse, Inam Nonkonyana, Deenah Abdulla, Riley Jacobs, Kuhle Ndyumbuza, Luminathi Mpalala
Front: Liyan Daniels, Mr K. Kandiwa, Lusanele Gantsho(Captain), Mr J. de Beer, Usiphile Mente(Vice-captain)



Squash

This has been a brilliant year for squash! Our 1st and 2nd teams performed exceptionally well, dominating the competition and winning every tournament we entered.

In May, we had the privilege of going on our Knysna Tour, where we played against Knysna High School. Across four rounds of matches, we won three and drew the final round. Additionally, Declan Hogg, captain of both the 1st and 2nd squash teams, was nominated for Player of the

Tournament in recognition of his excellent sportsmanship. The Knysna Tour could not have gone better, and I am extremely proud of our team.

I would also like to congratulate two of our players for receiving sports awards this year: Cody Julyan, who received the Most Improved Squash Player award, and Declan Hogg, who was named Senior Squash Champion. These awards reflect their hard work, dedication, and outstanding contribution to the sport.

Overall, this year has been an excellent demonstration of the skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship our squash players consistently show. I am optimistic and excited for the future of squash at our school.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to Mr Wynford and our coaches, Keanu Morrison and Elton Morrison, for their dedication and commitment to squash at Victoria Park High School.

Written by Declan Hogg



Back: Nathan van der Walt, Matthew Sebba, Llewellyn Seymour
Middle: Joel Hoole, Josh Alexander, Leo Botha
Front: Mr R. Wynford, Cody Julyan, Mr G. Jacobson, Declan Hogg (Captain), Keanu Morrison

Swimming

VP Swimming Team – A Year of Growth and Achievement

The year 2025 began with fresh energy as we welcomed a number of enthusiastic Grade 8 swimmers into the VP Swimming Team. Their commitment, determination, and spirited performances at galas throughout the year have been a wonderful addition to our squad. We were also pleased to welcome Coach Dylan, who has taken the reins with dedication and passion. His guidance and encouragement have already made a significant impact, and we are grateful for his contributions.

This past season saw our numbers grow substantially, with a record 24 swimmers competing in the Eastern Cape Schools Provincial Trials in February. The talent within the team shone brightly, with outstanding achievements across the board. A special highlight of the year was Ami-Leigh Immerman, who earned the title of Victrix Ludorum at the Top 8 gala, alongside an incredible haul of 22 gold, 11 silver, and 5 bronze medals

throughout the season.

Another proud moment came in April when newcomer Laaiqah Abrahams was selected to represent the Eastern Province at the SA Schools National Championships held in Bloemfontein – a first for VP Swimming. Adding to these milestones, VP was invited to the Pearson Prestige Invitational Gala for the first time, where our team performed admirably and made us all proud.

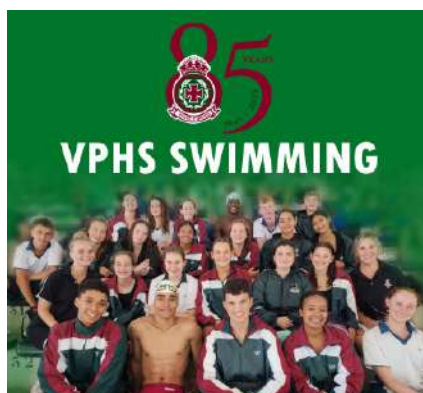
As the team continues to grow from strength to strength, we were delighted to appoint Gabrielle Kramer as the new Swimming Captain – a well-deserved recognition of her leadership and commitment.

While we celebrate these exciting achievements, we also bid farewell to our matric swimmers, who have been with us since the team's revival after COVID. These true pioneers of VP Swimming leave behind a legacy of resilience, dedication, and passion for the sport. We thank them for their invaluable contributions and wish them

every success in the next chapter of their journeys.

With solid foundations, new talent, and a bright future ahead, the VP Swimming Team is ready to dive into another successful year!

Claire Wait



Back: Cullen Bester, William Udemans, Kieran Heiberg

Third Row: Morgan Griffiths, Roby Ellis, Madyson Windvogel, Ami-Leigh Immerman, Isabella Goosen, Sofia Meyer

Second Row: Emma Claydon, Melissa Muller, Jaden Nel, Chad Thyse, Ath'enkosi Madwe, Isabella Gilbert, Rachael Glass

First Row: Ashleigh Petersen, Megan Horner, Jessica Good, Georgia Papamichael, Hayley Claydon, Byron Minnie, Julia E Melo, Jayme Uithaler, Raine Welcome

Front: Mrs C.Wait, Gabrielle Kramer, Mr D. Botha, Laaiqah Abrahams, Mr G. Jacobson, Micah Kivido, Ms K. Kloppers



Tennis

Tennis continued on its trajectory of improvement this year. With the support of two coaches, more attention was given to skill development, which was reflected in competition results.

Our first teams competed in both Summer and Winter leagues this year, with the boys playing in the 4th league and the girls in the 5th league. In the Summer league, the boys won two games and lost two, while the girls won all three games they played. During the Winter league, the boys won three games and lost four, and the girls won three and lost two. Next year, we hope to see the boys competing in the 2nd league and the girls in the 1st

league.

Competition within the squad also grew this year, as players competed against one another for positions on the log. The boys were captained by Tim Mucka and the girls by Matshezi-Avuyile Mafanya. The girls' team had the wonderful opportunity to participate in the Collegiate Spring Sport Festival, gaining invaluable experience.

A highlight of the year was the tennis tour to Knysna, where both the boys' and girls' teams played against Knysna High School, testing their skills in a competitive environment.

As is tradition, the players also thoroughly enjoyed matches

against the staff, combining friendly competition with fun.

The sport continues to grow in both camaraderie and skill, promising an exciting year ahead for VP Tennis.

Vivite Fortes

Mr Anderson





Tennis Boys



Back: Somila Totyi, Ryan Smith, Bulumko Dyantyi
Front: Mr N. Anderson, Timothy Mucka(Captain), Mr G. Jacobson

Tennis Girls



Back: Faith Kretzmann, Salomé Louw, Beatrice Chingweba, Emily Burley
Front: Mrs T. Wood, Avuyile Mafanya (Captain), Mr G. Jacobson

Trolley Dash

Our annual Trolley Dash this year was responsible for plenty of laughter—and even some hair-shaving entertainment!

Learners were issued with booklets to sell, with Gabby Muller selling a whopping 35 booklets. A record-breaking total of R100 454 was raised!

Congratulations to our top three winners who dashed their way to

amazing prizes this year:

- First prize went to Ellen Austin, who sped through the aisles and filled her trolley with luxury goodies and essentials to take home. A trolley bursting with smiles, with an estimated total value of R5 400—what a victory!

- Our runner-up, Ondine Paulson, walked away with a R1 500 voucher.

- Third place, Corbin Coltman, received a R1 000 voucher to enjoy.

A massive thank you to Kwikspar On First for once again teaming up with our school and making this exciting event possible.

Chrisma Hayward



Waterpolo

Water Polo saw an increase in numbers this year, which is fantastic for the continued growth of this sport at Victoria Park. We were able to join the Alex Junior League once again, with many new players joining our returning athletes. Together, they were able to participate and develop significantly over the course of the season.

It is with pride that we announce Ath'enkosi Madwe was selected for the South African men's under-17

squad as a non-travelling reserve. This is an impressive achievement, particularly as he was scouted during the IPT tournament at the end of last year while representing the Eastern Province under-16 boys.

Additionally, five of our players were selected for the Eastern Province training squads – a first for Victoria Park, highlighting the high standard of talent within our team. We are especially proud of Ath'enkosi Madwe for being selected for the

Eastern Province under-19 team as a non-travelling reserve, marking another significant milestone.

We look forward to the next season and hope to welcome even more players, continuing to grow the sport at Victoria Park.

Michelle Rademeyer (Coach and Manager)

Scotland Wilson (Manager)



Back: Johnathan Kloppe, Lethabo Masiza, Ethan Adams

Second Row: Darian Peo, Tatum Barth, Sophie Lourens, Taylor Woods, Holly Willemse, Demi Verreyne

First Row: Layla Zealand, Jayme Keva Uithaler, Leme Davids, Byron Minnie, Zachary Peo, Rayah Dorfling, Mellodean Du Plessis, Leah Seale

Front: Mr S. Wilson, Stephen Southern, Mr G. Jacobson, Ath'enkosi Madwe (Captain), Mrs M. Rademeyer



Gym

Highlights of the School Gym in 2025

The vision and mission of the school gym is tied with the excellence and motto of Victoria Park High School. Therefore 2025 has seen yet another year filled with exciting developments and engagement. Here are the key highlights:

The gym underwent significant renovations, complete new paint and look, complete new cabinetry and basin, and the addition of state-of-the-art fitness equipment. The layout of the gym, together with these improvements, has made the space more inviting and accessible for all learners.

We have had a phenomenal growth in sporting codes and teams that made use of the facilities to improve their sporting performances as well

as sports such as swimming that never used it in the past.

The school's sports teams had an outstanding year with multiple achievements across all codes and teams. The gym served as an integral part in preparing these athletes as well as managing injuries to get them back on track. More sports teams from various codes are adopting the culture of pre and post season programs facilitated by Mr. Gerber and the school gym.

In alignment with a growing focus on learner well-being, the gym is promoted as a space to grow strength and conditioning to better equip sportsmen and women to prevent the potential of sports injuries. We emphasise the importance of physical fitness, nutrition, and mental health. We have also started a working relationship with Nutritech to further the

nutritional support for all the learners. Look out for the next Nutritech activation talk at Victoria Park High School.

The gym is open to the local community which strengthens ties between the school and its surrounding neighbourhoods. The support from the community enabled a number of learners to go on tours and to obtain the basic kit to perform at their best. We have also been complimented by the community on the standard and behaviour of the learners when engaging in exercise at the school gym.

Overall, 2025 was a transformative year for the school gym, enhancing not only the physical space but also fostering a sense of community, wellness, and school pride.

Rynhardt Gerber



Photography Outing NMU Art Gallery



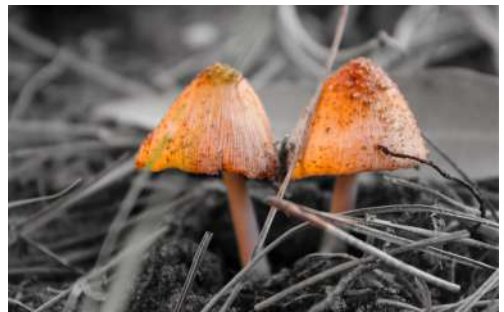
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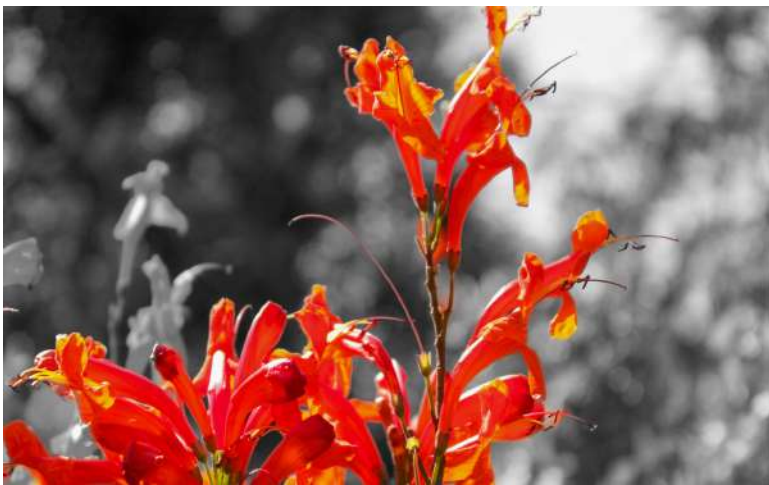
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