

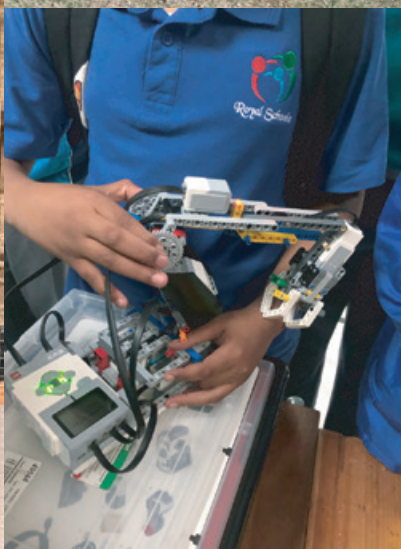


# PRINCESS PARK NEWS

AUGUST 2023



30 YEARS OF QUALITY PRIVATE EDUCATION





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## Reflections

The year 2023 marks the 30th birthday of Royal Schools Princess Park College. Our theme is gratitude and we are grateful for the collaboration and partnerships formed with parents that we have solidified over the past thirty years. The year started on an excellent note with the class of 2022 obtaining a 100% pass rate. The results serve as proof of our academic excellence.

A school is a second home for learners, and as such the following home improvements were made:

- New computers were bought and installed for the learners in the CAT laboratory. These new computers have the latest technology and applications. The old computers were donated to a sister school.
- Classrooms and corridors were painted, air conditioners in classrooms serviced and the ground floor corridors were retiled.
- A major revamp was the construction of the waiting area, where learners can now wait for their parents after school. The development is in line with the school's relentless efforts to make the school a safe haven for our children.
- Staff welfare: As part of our mission for professional development, our educators continuously upgrade their skills with short courses which range from Mental Wellness and Soft Skills to Computer Training and other courses relevant to the education industry. All these courses are financed by the management of Royal Schools.
- Educators who have been instrumental in producing excellent results were recognised.
- Google Classroom has been implemented. It has created a central learning hub for learners in all subjects. Educators use it to provide learners with additional learning materials to reinforce and enrich what was taught in the classroom as well as to post homework. This has been a dramatic shift from the normal "chalk and talk" form of teaching and learning in the classroom.
- In order to ensure and upgrade the quality of academics, Royal Schools have an Academic Quality Assurance Team that works tirelessly to improve on the standard and quality of academics. Former Princess Park educator, Ms S Malatji was promoted to join team. We wish her success as she takes on greater responsibilities.



# Future

The Chinese proverb, “Only when all contribute their firewood can they build up a fire”, encourages teamwork, dedication and commitment. All our educators continue to actively and tirelessly work together to consistently realise our vision of being the school of choice in the community we serve.

Part of our vision is to have all learners take Mathematics at FET level. In order to attain such a goal, we need to create a strong Mathematical base starting at foundation phase level, building up to FET phase.

The goal is to increase the number of learners who take Mathematics at FET level. This initiative is meant to expand the career choices available for our learners. Most well established degree programmes and careers require Mathematics at point of entry at university. To develop a sound foundation, learners in Primary school are currently given Mathematics homework study packs. Intermediate Phase learners also receive Mathematics study packs and can also attend Saturday classes to assist them to master Mathematical skills. In high school, educators make use of intervention classes and Saturday classes. Annual Mental Math competitions, which will be held in August this year, aim at creating healthy competition between the schools. This in turn, creates an interest and an awareness of the importance of Mathematics as a subject.

The world is ever-increasingly becoming challenging and difficult. Through our devotional programmes, our aim is to produce a learner who is fully equipped to tackle the world. We believe that meaningful relationships are where God works to uncover the destiny of a child. Our devotions on Wednesdays are times of life changing encounters through the Word of God so that learners graduating from our school are both academically and spiritually enlightened.

We have adopted a learner-centered approach in our day-to-day affairs, where learners actively participate in maintaining a positive community culture in the school. Through the prefects body, learners are running a charity drive as well as leading the devotions on Wednesdays. This is part of the positive influence that we wish to continually spread at our institution.

We have introduced Robotics as an extra mural activity in both Primary School and High School. Plans are underway to introduce Robotics as a subject starting in Primary school.

Our learners are dynamic and come from different ethnic groups. In order to cater for the diversity in ethnicity, the academic team is currently deliberating on introducing another African Language as a subject. This will expand the choice of first additional languages currently offered at the school. We are also looking forward to giving our learners a reprieve from the intensity of classroom learning in August when they go on educational excursions to various destinations. Last but not least, the annual matric farewell function is scheduled for term 4. This is an eagerly anticipated calendar event!



# CHARITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Philanthropism is part of the Royal Schools Princess Park College culture. This is an ongoing endeavour that exposes our prefects to real-life situations in which they learn to have compassion for community members living in challenging circumstances. Currently, they have embarked on the #keepeveryonewarmthiswinter# campaign. Letters were sent to parents asking for donations of winter clothes. Donations came in large quantities. Learners are still bringing in winter clothes in even more generous quantities. We would like to thank our parents for making our drive a success. These clothes will be donated to an organisation identified by the learners. We are also grateful to Mrs Walker who is actively involved in the campaign.



## FOUNDATION PHASE

### Choir

We are pleased to introduce our Foundation Phase choir. From Grade 1, the choir members are Kemoratile Maseko, Iyazi Nkebe, and Kaylee Walker. From Grade 2 the members are Reokeditswe Mapheto, Narcia Bukasa, Zizezakho Pike, Connie Maseti and Hope Netshimbupfe. Grade 3 members are Zenande Cele, Lwazi Mahlangu, Lwandle Mfeka, Oluwatomisin Akintomide, Zanel Walker, Ruel Cavanagh, Yvonne Jongwe and Gabriel Mokgwadi. The choir is stronger and better than ever. The choir plans to perform at upcoming events such as the prize giving ceremony.

### Swimming

The Piranha Swim Club, which trains children to be water safe has, become a partner of Princess Park College. The Learn-to-Swim programme offered by the club, is primarily meant to train as many children as possible to be water safe. Children are trained to swim in all the different swimming styles, namely freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly. Learning to swim is a process that requires commitment and consistency. The Piranhas Swim Club encourages excellence in all they do. The club is registered with NTS, the controlling body for Swim South Africa. This allows the club to participate in Learn-to-Swim competitions. The club has established relationships with



various schools in Pretoria East through their network of swim clubs, where they are invited to “Friday Friendly” swim galas. As of August this year, they will be given a list of upcoming swimming competitions and will match the children in their swim club to the competitions based on their ability. Prior to March of this year, they attended two Learn -to-Swim competitions at “Friday Friendly” swim galas. Preparing for these competitions takes a lot of effort, but the club never tires in the work required for every child in the club.

### Chess

In term 1, the Foundation Phase started the annual chess club with 53 learners from grade 1 to grade 3. The coaches, Ma’am Chante and Ma’am Ashley, taught them basic thinking skills related to chess. In term 2, the chess club was reduced to a smaller focus group, which includes the following learners:

Denezel 1A	Mahau 1B	Rearabilwe 1C
Nicole 2A	Enslin 2B	Kuzokanya’ngaye 2C
Tinyiko 3A	Liam 3B	Anotidiashe 3C

### Drama Club

Learning drama from an early age can lead to an unlimited number of positive benefits to children, therefore at PPC we have introduced the drama club in the Primary School. Drama offers the learners techniques and skills to tackle public speaking and overcome shyness. As public speaking forms part of the English Language curriculum, drama offers a major benefit to aid our learners in mastering their English skills. The drama club is also fun and educational.

### Eisteddfod

We are incredibly proud of our learners that took part in the Pretoria Eisteddfod for “Non- English Speakers Verse Speaking (Poetry)”. It took a great deal of determination and courage for each learner to get up on stage and recite their poems.

We are very proud to announce the results of the following learners:

Chimaobi Nnamdi (Grade 2)	A
Ditheto Malebana (Grade 2)	A
Jonathan Mahlangu (Grade 2)	A
Sunshine Jinya (Grade 3)	A
Ofentse Mokwele (Grade 3)	A
Mukundi Nthangeni (Grade 3)	A
Zareen Boadu (Grade 4)	A+
Bryce Mpofu (Grade 4)	A+
Grâce Agondjodi (Grade 5)	A
Theophilus Tshikundu (Grade 5)	A
Kungwayo Mqolo (Grade 6)	A

Congratulations to all the learners. PPC is incredibly proud of you.

### Foundation Phase Fun days

Teaching and learning is not just about academics. It is also about having some fun. Therefore, in Foundation Phase, educators and learners make the most of every moment. It is important for each learner to express themselves and to let their imagination run wild. One of the best ways to achieve this is to have fun dress up days.

### Art

Mikayla 1A, Ronewa 1B, Rozelle 1C, Shalom 2A, Inessa 2B, Solakha 2C, Peter 3A, Anza 3B and Siboniso 3C all took part in our Foundation Phase Art Club in Term 1 and 2. Each learner drew of his/her interpretation of summer. They used the most beautiful autumn colours to colour an autumn leaf and practised their fine motor skills by tearing paper into small pieces and pasting them onto a stencil of a butterfly. The calm atmosphere, whilst doing art, surely got the learners’ ‘creative juices’ flowing. Educators and learners are excited about the next art club session!





## Robotics

This term, implementing the robotics programme began in the different phases. Educators work with the learners and show them how to programme their bots step-by-step. Robotics help learners get technologically ready for the future. We are excited to see what the future holds with this new addition to the curriculum.





# Ballet at Princess Park

The first part of 2023 literally “skipped” by! This year our DASA exams were scheduled for mid May and with it being so early in the year, not many of our ballerinas entered due to of the time frame and financial constraints. All the dancers had to commit themselves and work extra hard to master the required technique and know the syllabus settings. Well done to each and every dancer who worked with dedication, energy and focus – you made us so proud with amazing results and positive feedback from the DASA Examiner. You were all perfectly groomed and looked beautiful. There were 14 dancers entered for the DASA exams this year, with a studio average of 81%, well done to you all!

The Gr1 learners passed the Tiny-Tots 2 exam with lovely and encouraging comments from the Examiner. You looked beautiful and performed with flair. Well done Reneilwe Maripane and Kaylee Walker.

The Gr2 learners danced the Pre-Primary exam with confidence, great work girls! Both Ofentse Ledwaba and Abigail Pawa, passed with Distinction.

The Gr3 learners showed excellent work in the Primary exam, keep up the good work! Tlotliso Ntho and Zanel Walker were awarded Distinctions (above 80%).

The Gr4+5 learners danced the Grade 1 Ballet exam, well done young ladies! Konke Tshomela was awarded a Distinction.

The Gr6+7 learners danced the Grade 2 Ballet exam which is really a technical challenge – you performed above expectation, with Distinctions awarded to both Mohau Matloha and Milowo Mpontshane. An excellent achievement!

Our High School dancers excelled in the Grade 3 Ballet exam, and received exceptional accolades from the Examiner. (remove space and include in previous paragraph)

Lwandle Sibandze was awarded 96% and Lethabo Gololo 92% These 2 hard-working and most talented dancers will now have the privilege to get their first pointe shoes! Something every little ballerina dreams of....

All our dancers will be evaluated through an internal assessment in the week of 13-14 June 2023. This way, we can start with new dance skills after the July holidays, as well as start preparing for the DANCE CONCERT at the end of the year!

Thank you to every parent for supporting our dancers. We appreciate you and know our dancers are special and truly loved! We are very proud of them and what they have already achieved this year.





# PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Academics/Olympiads

The end of Term Two, is a time to reflect on the incredible journey of learning and growth that our students have embarked on this semester. In our Primary School, we emphasise on the development of core P.I.P.E values, namely perseverance, integrity, people, and excellence, which lay the foundation for a well-rounded education. We firmly believe that education is not just about acquiring knowledge; it is about instilling values that will guide our learners throughout their lives.

Education holds immeasurable worth as it equips our children with the necessary tools to navigate an ever-changing world. It empowers them to become critical thinkers, problem solvers, and lifelong learners. At our school, we strive to cultivate a love for learning in our learners, fostering curiosity and a thirst for knowledge that extends far beyond the classroom.

We are delighted to see our learners actively participating in various extracurricular activities such as soccer, netball, chess, robotics and ballet. These activities offer valuable opportunities for physical, mental, and social development. Through sport, strategic thinking and artistic expression, our learners not only enhance their skills but also learn important life lessons such as teamwork, resilience, and discipline. We applaud their dedication and commitment to these endeavors.

In addition to the diverse extracurricular activities, our holistic approach to education ensures that every child receives a well-rounded experience. We recognize that each student is unique and possesses a range of talents and interests. By providing a broad curriculum and a supportive learning environment, we nurture the intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development of each child. This holistic approach allows our students to flourish in all aspects of their lives and prepares them for a successful future.

Rest assured that we always have the best interests of your children at heart. Our dedicated team of educators is committed to building a solid academic foundation for each learner. Together we form a strong partnership with you, working hand in hand to nurture and support your child's growth and development.

Thank you for entrusting us with the privilege of educating your children. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to an exciting and fulfilling Term Three.

# INTERMEDIATE PHASE

## Sport

Sport helps children to exercise, and to develop physical skills. Sport can also help children to learn teamwork, to get along with others and improve self-esteem. It is important for children to make friends and to have fun. That is what we try to accomplish through our sport days.

We had an athletics day on the 8th of February at Royal Schools Sky City. We all departed early in the morning by bus. After our long athletics day, the learners enjoyed a nice lunch. We also had an interhouse netball and soccer day on the 19th of May. The netball was held at Royal Schools Princess Park and the soccer was at the Union Buildings. In netball and soccer matches, we all work towards a common goal, and that improves teamwork! It was loads of fun!



### **Mastering the Game: Given Ishmael Empowers Students through Chess Coaching**

Royal Schools Princess Park is abuzz with excitement as students in Grades 4 to 7 eagerly participate in chess sessions under the expert guidance of Mr Given Ishmael. Since Term 1, Mr Ishmael has been leading and coaching our aspiring chess players, preparing them for the highly anticipated interscholastic competition scheduled for Term 3.

Mr Ishmael's unwavering commitment and passion for the game have been instrumental in igniting a love for chess among our learners. Through his expertise and patient coaching, he has inspired them to explore the intricacies of the game, develop critical thinking skills and unleash their strategic minds.

The chess programme led by Mr Ishmael has not only developed students' chess skills, but has also had a positive impact on their overall academic performance. Studies have shown that chess enhances critical thinking, problem-solving abilities and concentration, which are transferable skills applicable to various subjects.

### **Unleashing Young Innovators: Robotics Sessions at Royal Schools Princess Park**

Royal Schools Princess Park has embarked on an exhilarating journey to foster innovation and critical thinking by introducing robotics sessions during Term 1 of this academic year. Aimed at igniting curiosity and equipping students with valuable skills for the future, these sessions have become a highlight in our curriculum. Led by a team of passionate educators, including Khwezi Dlamini, Mienke Du Plessis, Rene Phillips, Chante Rossouw, Given Ishmael, and Saul Mukwayo, our students have delved into the fascinating world of robotics, using Novice bot and LEGO sets as their creative tools.

The robotics sessions have captured the imagination and enthusiasm of our students, inspiring a love for technology and problem-solving. With the guidance of our dedicated educators, our young engineers and programmers have embarked on a hands-on journey, discovering the intricacies of robotics. Through the Novice bot, students have gained a fundamental understanding of motors, sensors, and programming. Constructing and programming their own robots has allowed them to explore these concepts firsthand, fostering a deep comprehension of the subject matter. The sessions have also encouraged teamwork and collaboration, as learners work together to overcome challenges and complete thrilling missions.

Integrating LEGO sets into the sessions has added an extra dimension of excitement and innovation. Our students have relished the opportunity to construct complex structures and machines using the versatile LEGO pieces. This integration has further developed their engineering skills and facilitated a holistic understanding of design, mechanics, and coding. The fusion of LEGO and robotics has unleashed our learners' creativity, inspiring them to design and build unique robots that push the boundaries of their imaginations.

### **Fun Days/Fundraising**

The learners at Princess Park often find great joy and excitement in participating in fundraising events. These events provide a unique opportunity for the learners to come together and contribute towards a common cause, whether it is raising funds for a charitable organisation, supporting a school project, or organising a special event. The enthusiasm and camaraderie among learners during these events are contagious, as they engage in various creative and fun activities such as Valentine's Day, talent shows, sport competitions or themed dress-ups. The sense of accomplishment they feel when they see their efforts translating into tangible results, like donations collected or goals achieved, further adds to their enjoyment. Fundraising events not only teach learners valuable skills like teamwork, leadership and organisation, but also foster a sense of community and empathy, making them a memorable and fulfilling experience for school learners.







# HIGH SCHOOL

## **A word from the Academic Principal**

The scripture teaches, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it". Proverbs 22:6

Keeping this very important word in mind, I would like to thank all our educators for spending so much time and effort in teaching our learners.

We had a wonderful start to the year, with a 100% pass rate. This is heart-warming achievements and a 96% admission to tertiary institutions for the class of 2022 puts the cherry on top.

We had learners participating in the Eisteddfod, and this year parents were allowed to accompany their children to this prestigious event. We are grateful for the wonderful results and the time and effort our learners put in to prepare.

Our Gr12 educators took some time off to celebrate the results of the class of 2022. It was indeed a sweet celebration. We are proud of our educators who do not compromise when it comes to academics.

We had a successful boot camp with our Grade 12 learners in April. We also had a boot camp from 26 to 30 June, for that last push before preparatory examinations start on 1 September.

Mid-year examinations went well and we believe that our learners will make us proud once again this year.

*Academic Principal Karlien Walker*

## **Grade 12 pledge signing ceremony**

The pledge signing ceremony, affectionately known as Tea Party, is a calendar event at Princess Park. The pledges are in line with the requirements from the Department of Basic Education to conscientise the learners against exam malpractices. The pledge compels and demands that learners be honest, avoid cheating, copying and other examination irregularities. Our oath-taking ceremony was a colourful event held.

## **Prefects**

At the beginning of the year a total of sixty high school learners were elected as prefects. In their inauguration speeches, Lithitha Mduba and Beula Mbele, Head Boy and Head Girl respectively, pledged, on behalf of the prefects board, to serve the school wholeheartedly.

## **First aid training**

Each year, Grade 11 prefects undergo First Aid Training. This year, twenty learners went to Amberfield College to train as First Aiders. These young leaders are now equipped with the basic skills of saving lives in cases of emergency.

## **PIPE Values Merit Awards**

Discipline goes hand-in-hand with academics. Through the use of the conduct system, merits are awarded to learners for good behaviour. Learners with the most merits each month are given certificates to thank and recognise them for upholding the school's values.





# Robotics, IT and Computers

## Robotics

- We have a list of 20 learners from grades 8 and 9 participating in robotics.
- Two of our high school educators joined their primary school counterparts for training at Royal Schools Alberton
- We have received some robotics tools and components for novices.
- A plan to have an outside container is in the pipeline for a ROBOTICS station.
- On 15 June, high school robotics participants had a workshop on the school premises.

## IT and Computers

- We have created and assigned school emails to all the learners and teachers.
- Google Classrooms have been created by all the teachers for their subjects.
- The Commercial Subject Olympiads were conducted using the Google Classrooms.
- Princess Park College Google Classrooms have grown tremendously over a few months as both teachers and learners actively make use of the Google Classroom platform.
- Parents have shown a keen interest in their children using this online teaching and learning platform.

# High School Fun Days

## Valentine's Bash

Valentine's Day is one of the most anticipated days of the year. It is known as the day of love and friendship and celebrated every February 14.

Princess Park launched the search for the Mr and Miss Valentine 2023. It was a beautiful event. The crowd of learners found the charm, elegance and dances of the participants highly entertaining.

The candidates were very creative in their expression of their unique fashion styles as well as expression of their unique personalities. The competition celebrated diversity as participants ranged from slim to plus size.

The winners were:

### Grade 8

Angel Hlatshwayo, Lethabo Gololo, Pablo, Khulekani Mbele

### Grade 9

Sinethemba Mgidlana, Angel Masina, Dimo Shayi, Atlegang Ndlovu

### Grade 10

Grace Mbonani, Tumelo Mongaula, Tlotlang Rathelele

### Grade 11

Medan Dobamo, Mapaseka Ncube, Musatondwa Lambani, Dimpho Chipa, Kamohelo Mulaudzi



# High School Culture

## Eisteddfod

It is the responsibility of the English educator to inspire the learners to explore their diverse interests, and to encourage them to articulate themselves with confidence. Our High School learners' participation at the annual Eisteddfod revealed that they are highly talented in public poetry recital. They proved that with proper planning and determination, it is possible to achieve your goals. The Eisteddfod Poetry Competition was held at Christian Brothers College during the month of May. They obtained the following results:

### Grade 8 learners

Abigiya Yibeltal A++ (she was the overall winner) and Lethabo Gololo A+

### Grade 9 learners

Elizabeth Atanda A+

### Grade 10 learners

Bokamoso Sindane A+, Lethabo Sekgobela A+, Nicky Chitupa B+

### Grade 11 learners

Catherine Msimanga B+

### Grade 12 learners

Lerato Lekganyane A+

## Interschools Prepared Speaking League

Five of our learners have been registered for the Interschools Public Speaking League hosted by WITS University School of Law. Provincial competitions was held at Laerskool Concordia in July 2023. This is an opportunity for learners to become critical thinkers on issues relevant to their country and the world. Public Speaking Competitions provide a platform for learners to voice their views as young people. Public speaking is the ideal platform for our learners to showcase their talents.

Our participants were:

Dineo Mosho (Grade 9)  
Dimpho Chipa (Grade 11)  
Adore Chauke (Grade 11)  
Lithitha Mduba (Grade 12)  
Beatrice Chivorovoro (Grade 12)

## Aftercare

Princess Park Aftercare is not just an extension of the school day, but it is a dedicated centre that is tailor-made to meet every child's specific needs. The aftercare facility offers an integral and holistic approach to childcare. Intervention programmes are available for the learners who face academic challenges. Learners are assisted with their homework. Intervention classes are available as well.

In this era of security concerns, parents need to know that their children are in a safe, organised and socially healthy environment. The aftercare facility helps carry the burden of parenting faced by working parents by being available for the children as second parents.

Not only does the aftercare centre cater for the academic needs of our children; it also provides a wholesome routine for the children which includes supervised free play and games. Development of morals is encouraged through programmes such as Bible study sessions where children's spiritual development is nurtured.

We believe in empowering young minds. We treat our children with respect.  
We instil values. Above all, we love our children.