



CLARENDON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents

2 October 2025

3rd TERM NEWSLETTER

I am sure that you will all agree that the 3rd term has indeed been a busy and productive one, and there is no doubt that our Clarries pupils have been on the go on so many different fronts. It has been wonderful to see so many of them involved in all that Clarendon Park has to offer, and in the process, often allowing themselves to be stretched, to grow and to step out of their comfort zones. This has been especially evident at our Grade 5, 6 and 7 camps, where our young boys and girls showed incredible determination, camaraderie and Clarries spirit, as they tackled many obstacles, both mental and physical. The “Hobbiton” (Grade 7), “African Imprint” (Grade 6) and “Leaders in Life: Addo” (Grade 5) experiences continue to provide our seniors with many incredible outdoor learning opportunities, not only in terms of self-awareness, but also unique moments to savour our beautiful surroundings and to discover the value of team-work, co-operation and mutual respect. It was very special to witness the sincere support of each other, the desire to overcome personal challenges, and the joy of climbing a mountain (figuratively and literally) and standing victoriously at the top.

It is, however, important to always remind ourselves that even though we promote and support the involvement of our pupils in the many opportunities provided to them by this special school, it is critical that we actively assist our children to strive for a healthy balance in all that they do. We must never forget that kids need to have unstructured “play time”, where they can just be kids, away from the demands of an organised routine. This is especially true in our technologically driven world, where our young people are bombarded by screens from so many different directions. A Grade 1 teacher once commented, “Yes, kids love technology, but they also love Lego, scented markers, handstands, books and mud puddles. It’s all about balance.” It is up to us as adults to lay down the boundaries in terms of our children’s schedules and to celebrate, value and encourage moments when they can just be free to play. Not easy, but with a concerted and determined effort, possible.

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to **Mr Curt Rix** and **Miss Tarryn Mintoor**, who tied the knot on Sunday, 21 September. We wish them much happiness and joy as they begin their exciting journey as a married couple. In addition, **Miss Unathi Mdyogolo** and fiancé, **Mr Lubabalo Banzana**, are due to be married on 10 October, and we wish them all of the best for their very special day.

We were delighted to hear of the birth of **Mr and Mrs Ray and Mandy Pretorius’** 1st grandchild, Amelia, as well as the birth of **Mrs Penny Kohler’s** 2nd grandson, James. We wish the Pretorius and Kohler families much joy, love and happiness as they celebrate their precious new additions to their families.

During the term, we were extremely saddened to hear of the passing of **Mrs Lisa Van Zyl’s** father, **Miss Unathi Mdyongolo’s** father-in law, **Miss Leanne Ahlenfeldt’s** (Aftercare staff) grandmother, **Miss Janice Du Plessis’** (Aftercare staff) cousin, **Mr Thando Ntulini’s** (Estate staff) mother, **Mrs Christine McLeland’s** (substitute teacher) father, **Mrs Penny Kohler’s** half-sister, and **Ms Vuyokazi Dlambulo’s** (Estate staff)



aunt. All of these staff members and their families remain in our thoughts and prayers as they deal with these devastating losses.

ACADEMIC REPORTS

The 3rd term academic report is enclosed with this newsletter. Please work through this report carefully, taking particular note of the comments contained therein. Should you wish to meet with your child's class teacher early in the 4th Term with regards to the report, please feel free to set up a meeting through the front office (041-581 4231).

The **Academic Awards Assembly** (Grades 4 to 7) takes place on Friday, 17 October at 07h55, where Gold and Silver Badges will be awarded (as indicated on the report). Parents of the recipients are invited to attend this assembly, and seating will be available in the gallery.

END OF YEAR DATES

Please refer to the 4th Term Planner sent home with this Newsletter.

Awards Ceremonies:

The dates of the Awards Ceremonies at the end of the year are as follows:

Grade 1:	11 November (08h30)	Grade 2:	11 November (10h30)
Grade 3:	12 November (08h30)	Grade 4:	12 November (11h30)
Grade 5:	13 November (08h30)	Grade 6:	13 November (18h30)
Grade 7:	13 November (18h30)		

Further details with regards to the Awards Ceremonies will be provided in due course.

Grade 4 to 7 Exams:

The Grade 4 to 7's will write their final exams from 17 November to 27 November.

Final School Day:

The final day of the school year for pupils will be Thursday, 4 December. Attendance at school from 5 to 9 December will be optional for all pupils. The final day for the Aftercare will be on Tuesday, 9 December.

Collection of 4th Term Reports:

The final Academic Report for the year will be handed out on Wednesday, 10 December. Details pertaining to the report collection will be provided in due course.

M*A*D

This term has once again shown that the Clarries Family are passionate about Making A Difference in many lives. A short video showing all our M*A*D activities from the 3rd Term will be sent to parents via the class WhatsApp groups. We are extremely grateful to so many parents who make a difference every week by donating towards our Loaves and Fishes and Love Sandwich outreach projects.

PARENTS WORKSHOP

Our 2nd Parents Workshop for the year was a great success, with a wonderful turn out from our parent body. **Dr Carrie Brand** (Counselling Psychologist) presented a superb workshop on "Attachment-Based Parenting: Setting Boundaries Without Losing Connection". There is no doubt that those in attendance benefitted enormously from her presentation.



SCHOOL SHOP ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 4TH TERM

The School Shop will be open on Saturday, 11 October from 09h00 to 12h00 in order for parents to purchase summer uniform items. Please note that due to the high volume of business in the school shop in the 4th Term (due to the new Grade 1's purchasing their uniform for next year), from Tuesday, 14 October to Thursday, 30 October, parents may only attend the shop if a prior appointment has been made. Unfortunately, no walk-in purchases will be allowed during this time period. To make an appointment, please phone the School Shop Manageress, Mrs Laurien Sutton, on 041 – 581 4231. From Tuesday, 4 November until the end of the school year, no appointments will need to be made.

SECOND HAND CLOTHING

The final date for the handing in of 2nd hand clothing at the school shop (for resale purposes) will be Thursday, 27 November. These items of clothing will be processed at the start of 2026. The shop will begin to receive 2nd hand clothing again on Tuesday, 17 February 2026.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Earlier in the term we celebrated the opening of our new Performing Arts Centre. We are incredibly humbled and grateful by this new addition to the campus, and in a short period of time, the new centre has already made a wonderful difference to the cultural life of the school. The many opportunities for growth in all spheres of the performing arts at Clarries is extremely exciting, and we look forward to many years of inspiring cultural experiences in our new centre.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

As mentioned above, it was wonderful to see so many of our Clarries pupils involved in our Grade 5, 6 and 7 camps this term. We were so proud of all of our pupils, who embraced their outdoor educational experience with such a positive and enthusiastic attitude. Their willingness to be stretched, to grow and to step out of their comfort zones was phenomenal. An enormous amount of determination, camaraderie and Clarries spirit was shown as they tackled many obstacles, both mental and physical.

BAND TOUR

For the first time since Covid, our Concert Band undertook a successful tour to East London earlier in the term. Their performances at Nanaga, PJ Olivier in Grahamstown, Selborne Primary School and the Oos-Kus Gymnasium were very well received. The combined concert on the final evening of the tour, with Stirling High and Primary Schools, was a wonderful evening of collaborative school music talent, and a definite highlight of the tour.

MATRIC REUNION

It was very special to host 89 past Clarries pupils who are currently in matric at our Matric Reunion Dinner on Monday, 29 September. There is no doubt that these Grade 12's still hold Clarendon Park very close to their hearts, and it was wonderful to be able to share an evening of reminiscing, photos and laughter with them. We are very proud of all that our pupils have achieved at their respective high schools, and we wish them all of the best for their upcoming final examinations.

SPORTS DERBY DAYS

It was so special to enjoy two wonderful Derby Days this term. Our annual fixtures against Herbert Hurd (away), and Westering (home) were highlighted by competitive matches, good sportsmanship and great support along the touchlines. Our weekly league fixtures also produced some fantastic performances,



and it has been heart-warming to see so many Clarries pupils involved in the many extra-mural opportunities offered at the school.

We once again were privileged to be able to host a wonderful Netball Festival, which gave so many players an opportunity to play a number of matches in a festival environment. Our Grade 1's also enjoyed a Clarries Fun Rugby Day, with our Grade 2's involved in a fantastic Mini Hockey Day.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Our Foundation Phase staff and pupils ensured that our annual Grandparents Day Shows were a huge success, entertaining many, and creating some very special memories. A great deal of hard work went into the concerts, and there is no doubt that these concerts remain a very meaningful event on our calendar. The full concert is available on our Facebook page – please enjoy watching this very special concert.

JAZZ SPECTACULAR

Our annual Jazz Spectacular was an incredible two-night concert, featuring Jazz Bands from Clarendon Park and 8 local schools, as well as a Clarries Alumni Band. The event once again, highlighted the wonderful young musical talent that our city possesses. These concerts have become an established and very popular event on the Gqeberha music calendar, and we are incredibly proud of each musician who took part.

SPRING WALK

Our annual Spring Walk was a great success this year, with the event being thoroughly enjoyed by all. An opportunity to listen to our various music ensembles, to participate in some fun netball, touch rugby and soccer, and to relax as the Clarries Family proved to be very meaningful and enjoyable. Thank-you to so many families (over 1000 people in attendance) who joined us for the morning, and enjoyed the walk, and the wonderful time together afterwards.

UNIFORM ARRANGEMENTS: 4TH TERM 2025

School starts for the 4th Term on **Monday, 13 October**, and you are requested to please ensure that your son/daughter returns with shoes polished and with a school regulation haircut. With regards to the school rules pertaining to hairstyles, we wish to remind all parents of the following: "All hairstyles are to be acceptable to the school and should not draw unnecessary attention. If pupils arrive at school with a hairstyle that does not comply with the school rules, parents may be requested to fetch their children from school in order to have the hair suitably cut. Boys' hair should be short, neat and of an even length with no steps or lines. No fashionable hairstyles are acceptable. Hair dying or colouring is not permitted." We thank you for your co-operation and support in this regard.

With regards to uniform requirements for next term:

- **summer uniform** must be worn from the start of the term;
- if a pupil is dressed in school uniform on a Friday, blazers are compulsory for assemblies;
- on Phys Ed days, Phys Ed kit is to be worn to school.

EARRINGS

All parents are reminded of the rules pertaining to earrings:

"Studs or earrings are not permitted. Bristles or retainers (used to keep the holes open) are not allowed. Plasters may not be worn to cover the holes from piercing. Ear piercing should only be done early during the long holidays, giving enough time for healing."



SGB AGM (FINANCE MEETING)

The SGB AGM (Finance Meeting) will take place on **Tuesday, 18 November at 17h30 in the Scott Hall**. At this meeting, the school's budget for 2026 will be presented, which will include the proposed 2026 school fees. Your attendance at this very important meeting will be highly appreciated.

PUPILS DEPARTING CLARENDON PARK

If your son or daughter will not be returning to Clarendon Park at the start of 2026, please could you kindly let the school office know in writing, by **Friday, 17 October**. We have a number of applicants on our waiting list, and we need to confirm our 2026 numbers as soon as possible.

We trust that you will have a wonderful holiday with your children and that some special "family time" will be the order of the day. Thank you to each one of you for your support and positive involvement in all that Clarendon Park is – we look forward to an exciting, memorable and successful last term of 2025.

HONOUR AND TRUTH

Regards,

Derryk Jordan
Principal