



# CLARENDON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Dear Parents*

25 June 2026

## 2<sup>nd</sup> TERM NEWSLETTER

As we look back on a lengthy 2<sup>nd</sup> Term, one of the shining characteristics of the term has been the support and co-operation shown by so many parents towards the school over what has been, an often disrupted school term. As a result of a number of external factors outside of our control, many plans have had to change and dates shifted. We are incredibly grateful to so many members of the Clarries Family who have worked with us, and assisted the school in ensuring that our pupils get the best educational experience possible, despite the many disruptions.

Thank-you for your unwavering support in so many areas, including the following:

- Adjusting your planning, daily routine and child's study programme (Grades 4 to 7) when school was closed by the Department during the severe weather that the Metro experienced;
- Understanding when the rain disrupted many sports practices, and collection times had to change;
- Co-operating with the amazing parents who assist us at the Zebra Crossings and Drop and Go zones in the mornings and afternoons, ensuring the safety of our pupils, staff and parents remains our main priority;
- Supporting the school across a myriad of extra-mural activities, including Derby Days, away trips to Stirling, music and choir concerts, Talents Shows, Grade excursions and many more;
- Supporting us by wearing your Clarries supporter cap, or ordering your Clarries Old School jersey;
- Being prepared to get behind our various fundraising initiatives (ie. Solar Champion project, Bench and Umbrella project, the Clarries Golf Day, sponsorship of various events and teams);
- Joining the PTA, or supporting them as they faithfully serve the school in so many positive and meaningful ways:
  - The Book Covering Team, who spend hours ensuring that our textbooks and library books are kept in such good condition;
  - The Love Sandwich, Loaves and Fishes and Love Box Teams, who give of their time so freely in the service of others;
  - The Clarries Prayer Team, who faithfully meet every week, and lift up our school and Clarries Family in prayer;
  - The Blood Drive parents, who have made the Clarries Blood Drive one of the most successful (and life changing) blood drives in the Metro;
  - The parents who kindly and generously serve the school via their delicious catering;
  - Derby Day parents, who are the face of the school and provide such a warm and hospitable environment for our parents and guests;



- The Tuckshop Parents, serving with love, joy and positive energy;
- Library Moms and Grannies – sacrificing time so that their children are supported in their love of reading;
- The sewing team, using their wonderful skills to enhance so many areas of the school;
- The 100 Club Committee, who work tirelessly to provide our parents with a fantastic opportunity to enjoy meaningful moments of great camaraderie and fellowship;
- The amazing group of Class Reps who are a vital link between the school and parents;
- And the list goes on ...

This school is blessed to have the support that it has, and we are incredibly proud that during an often trying and testing term, the Clarries Family has once again risen to the fore.

### STAFF NEWS

We were incredibly proud of **Mr Dean Gow** and **Mr Brett McLaren**, who recently completed the Comrades Ultra-Marathon from Durban to Pietermaritzburg. This is a phenomenal achievement – well done to these incredible staff members! **Mr McLaren** also completed the Two Oceans Ultra-Marathon earlier in the term – an equally impressive achievement.

In addition, **Miss Julia Foot** completed the 21km Heartbreak Hill Run – a very tough and demanding race, whilst **Mrs Jess Elliott** completed a 256km cycle tour of the Baviaanskloof - an outstanding achievement.

**Miss Catherine Trethewey** qualified for the semi-finals of “The Rebel Renegade Games”, an International Cross Fit competition – a superb accomplishment.

It was with immense sadness that we learnt of the tragic passing of one of our legendary drama teachers, **Ms Linda-Louise Swain** during the course of the term. Ms Swain guided, nurtured and mentored countless generations of Clarries pupils over many years, and had a profound impact on the Clarries Family in an incredibly meaningful way. Through her drama classes, direction and co-ordination of many memorable productions, inspirational work with various charities, and the personal relationships formed with a vast number of pupils, staff members and parents, she created a loving, kind and generous legacy that epitomised an educator, friend and colleague of the highest order. There is no doubt that Ms Swain touched a multitude of lives, and her guiding hand Made A Difference that will last for many years to come. She will be sorely missed by the entire Clarries Family, and her family remain in our thoughts and prayers.

The Clarries Family was also devastated to learn of the passing of **Mr Mziyanda (Mzi) Breakfast** during the course of the term. Mr Breakfast was a loyal and devoted member of our Estate Staff Team, and he made a wonderful difference to the life of Clarendon Park. He was a kind man, who dedicated himself to his duties and who embraced his daily commitments with a smile and a generous heart. He was loved and appreciated by all who knew him, and was a wonderful team player. There is no doubt that he made a meaningful difference to those around him, and it was a privilege and honour to know and work alongside him. He will be desperately missed by the Clarries Family. His family (Thandi, his father, is also a member of our Estate Staff Team) remain in our thoughts and prayers.

We were extremely saddened to hear of the passing of **Mr Stash Truter's** mother, **Mrs Kim Strydom's** mother-in-law, and **Ms Nomveliso Mfunda's** mother during the term. The Truter, Strydom and Mfunda families are all in our thoughts and prayers as they deal with these devastating losses.



At the end of the term, we will be bidding a sad farewell to **Miss Andrea Morris**, who will be emigrating to Qatar, where she will be taking up the post of Head of Music at the Hamilton International School in Doha. Miss Morris has made an enormous difference in the Music Department, and in the life of the school as a whole. Her boundless energy and contagious enthusiasm will be sorely missed, and her kind and caring teaching will always be fondly remembered. We wish her all of the best on her new adventure! We would like to congratulate **Mr Matthew Perry**, who has been appointed into the music post as from 1 July 2026. Mr Perry is a highly regarded and respected Saxophone teacher, and we have no doubt that he will make a meaningful difference in the life of the school.

We were delighted to receive the news of the birth of MC Botha (son to **Mr Van Zyl Botha**) during the term. We are so excited for the Botha family, and wish them all of the best as they enjoy their time with their precious son.

We were also delighted to hear the news of two staff members who are expecting the arrival of a new addition to their family in 2026. Congratulations to **Mr Chris Stockwell** and **Mrs Donn  Stockwell**, who are excitedly preparing for the arrival of their baby in the 4<sup>th</sup> term of this year.

We would like to wish **Miss Chelsea Pike** all of the best as she prepares for her wedding on Saturday, 4 July. We hope and pray that the day will be an incredibly memorable and special one, and wish Miss Pike and her fianc , Justin, all of the best as they begin their new and exciting journey together.

## **ACADEMICS**

With the **Mid-Year Examinations** and **Foundation Phase Assessments** now behind us, I was delighted to read of the hard earned efforts of so many of our pupils. It is quite clear that academic excellence and diligence remain one of our core pillars.

As a result of the extension of the exam timetable in Grades 4 to 7 (due to the closure of schools during exams), Academic Reports will be emailed to all parents/guardians on Friday, 26 June at 12h00. If a parent would like a hard copy of the report, then the reply slip enclosed with the enclosure pack should be completed and returned to the class teacher on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Term.

The **Academic Awards Assembly** (Grades 4 to 7) takes place on **Wednesday, 29 July 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.

**Parent Academic Interviews** will take place on **Monday, 27 and Tuesday, 28 July**. Correspondence with further information pertaining to these interviews will be sent home in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> term. These meetings are especially significant for parents of pupils who experienced academic challenges during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Term.

## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> Term has been 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.



### **BOOK CHARACTER DAY AND GRADE 1 LETTERLAND DAY**

The response of the Clarries pupils to the invitation to dress up as their favourite book character was magnificent! Clarendon Park places enormous emphasis on developing a love for reading, and this occasion clearly demonstrated that books are alive and well at our school. Thank you to so many parents who assisted their children in making this day such great fun.

It was also wonderful to have our Grade 1's enjoy their very own special Letterland Day, as they dressed up as their favourite Letterland character, and had an awesome day of alphabet fun.

### **WINTER WOOLIES**

Our annual Winter Woolies collection will take place during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of next term (21 to 24 July). All donations will be handed to the Missionvale Care Centre. This holiday period will hopefully provide the perfect opportunity for pupils and parents to sort through their cupboards and put aside any winter clothing items that they no longer have a use for.

### **STAFF REUNION TEA**

We were once again honoured to welcome back to Clarendon Park, past staff members who have served the school over so many years. This school is special because of the people who form the heart of the school, and those who taught and worked at the school have left a wonderful legacy for us to follow. Thank-you to the fantastic PTA for catering for this very special morning of reminiscing, camaraderie and good fellowship!

### **STIRLING DERBY**

Our away derby fixture against Stirling Primary School proved to be a great success, with more than 800 Clarries and Stirling pupils involved over the two days of the derby. 62 matches across various sporting codes were played in less than 24 hours – a wonderful opportunity and experience for our pupils. The value of derby fixtures such as this one can never be measured by results, but rather in the priceless life lessons that each pupil is presented with, and the many meaningful and fruitful experiences enjoyed by all. A huge thank-you to every parent and staff member that made the trip to East London, and to our very kind and generous Stirling hosts.

### **TALENT SHOWS**

We were blown away by the incredible talent of the many pupils who participated in our two Talent Shows at the end of the term. There is no doubt that the talent amongst our pupil body is immense. Thank-you to each performer for being unbelievably brave, and for sharing your unique and very special gift with us.

### **100 CLUB**

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our second 100 Club meeting of the year, enjoying an evening of "Minute Mayhem" at the Walmer Bowling Club. Our 100 Club Committee really did a fantastic job, and ensured that the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Our 100 Club is alive and well, and provides a wonderful platform for staff and parents to interact on a social basis. Thank-you to the Walmer Bowling Club for their warm and kind hospitality.



### **CLARENDON PARK PARENTS' DANCE**

Please join us on Saturday, 17 October for our annual **Clarendon Park Parents' Dance**. This function is open to all current Clarendon Park parents and staff and promises to be an event you don't want to miss. Tables seat 10 people, so start getting your group together. More information will be sent out early next term.

### **CLARENDON PARK SOLAR PROJECT**

As you are aware, the school currently has 166 solar panels, which provides 94 KWp. This investment has made an enormous difference in terms of our reliance on Eskom. We are hopeful that our parents will continue to support us in terms of our financial position so that this project, essential for our sustainable growth and development, may continue. Through prompt and due payment of school fees, and the consideration of becoming a "Solar Champion", parents can partner with the school in order to place us in a position whereby we are becoming more and more self-reliant in terms of energy consumption.

For more information regarding our Solar Champion project, please make use of the following link:  
<https://clarendonpark.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/CPPS-Solar-Champions-June-2025-scaled.jpg>

### **3<sup>RD</sup> TERM CALENDAR**

Please find next term's calendar in the enclosure pack that was sent home on Thursday, 25 June.

### **3<sup>RD</sup> TERM EXTRA-MURAL PROGRAMME**

Please note that an amended extra-mural programme will be in place for weeks 1 and 2 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Term (a copy enclosed in the enclosure pack). Thereafter the 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Term extra-mural programme will continue as normal.

### **MY SCHOOL CARDS AND SCHOOL DAYS**

A huge thank-you to many parents who have made use of their My School cards, as well as those who have registered for School Days, over the last few months. The profits generated by the My School cards and School Days registration directly benefit our pupils by way of new resources and upgrades to our facilities. Any queries in this regard can be directed to Mrs Tracy Petzer ([tracyp@clarendonpark.co.za](mailto:tracyp@clarendonpark.co.za)).

### **IMPORTANT 4<sup>TH</sup> TERM DATES**

Please take note of the following Awards Ceremony dates:

- Grade 1: Tuesday, 10 November at 08h30
- Grade 2: Tuesday, 10 November at 10h30
- Grade 3: Wednesday, 11 November at 08h30
- Grade 4: Wednesday, 11 November at 11h30
- Grade 5: Thursday, 12 November at 08h30
- Grade 6 & 7: Thursday, 12 November at 18h30.

The final Grade 4 to 7 examinations are provisionally set down to run from 17 to 27 November.

School starts for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Term on **Tuesday 21 July**, and you are requested to please ensure that blazers are clean for the start of the new term (with all of the buttons in place), shoes polished, and that your son or daughter arrives back neat and tidy in their Winter Uniforms. Please also ensure that your child returns to school with a school regulation haircut and the correct hair colour.



At the end of a busy and successful term, a huge thank-you must be extended to the entire Clarendon Park Family – our incredibly hard-working and committed **staff**, our wonderful and proud **pupils**, and our loyal and supportive **parents**, for the invaluable input made by each person into the life of this school. We are very privileged to be part of this special and happy school.

## HONOUR AND TRUTH

Regards,

*Derryk Jordan*

Principal