



CLARENDON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents

23 September 2026

3rd TERM NEWSLETTER

As we near the end of a demanding, yet productive 3rd Term, it is so important that we take a moment to breathe, step back and allow ourselves an opportunity to conduct some honest introspection. It has been a very busy term, one filled with a myriad of activities, and our young pupils have once again had so many opportunities to immerse themselves in the life of our special school. A highlight of the 3rd quarter of the year is always our outdoor educational experiences, and this term has been no different. Our Grade 6 and 7 pupils attended the annual “Kirkwood African Imprint” Camp (Grade 6) and “Hobbiton-on-Hogsback” Camp (Grade 7). Our Grade 5’s will attend their “Addo Adrenalin” Camp next term (this was postponed due to poor weather conditions). I was privileged enough to attend the Grade 6 and 7 camps, and I was so proud of how our senior pupils embraced their camp experience. Their character, perseverance, enthusiasm and support of one another were very special to witness. I am well aware that the camps were not every pupil’s “cup of tea”, however, I was so impressed to see many Grade 6 and 7’s being prepared to step out of their comfort zones and confront the challenges in front of them. Many personal battles were conquered out at the camps, and every pupil should feel extremely proud of how they conducted themselves.

As one ponders on the outdoor experience enjoyed by the senior grades, and also reflects on the school that we are blessed to call home, we cannot but feel extremely grateful to be part of the Clarries Family. We often state that it is so easy to focus on that which we don’t have, rather than focusing on all that we do enjoy. One does not have to travel far to be reminded of how many people face a daily struggle to survive, to support their families, and to educate their children. To develop the habit of gratitude is one of our most important tasks as adults. This immensely important habit is best taught through example. It is learnt by being surrounded by people who choose to be grateful, who show gratitude, and who demonstrate gratitude. The scientific research in terms of the positive effect of gratitude on one’s emotional well-being is overwhelming. We fail our children by not actively modelling gratitude in our daily lives; by not making every effort to see the “glass as half full, rather than half empty”. Is it easy? No. Good parenting is often hard, but it’s most definitely worth it.

STAFF NEWS

At the end of the year we will be saying a sad farewell to **Mrs Moira Lock**, a much-loved and highly respected teacher at Clarries. Mrs Lock will be retiring in December after 18 years of loyal and devoted service to the school. During the course of next term we will honour Mrs Lock’s wonderful contribution towards the life of the school.

During the course of the term we were thrilled to welcome **Mrs Kirsty Victor** to Clarendon Park. Mrs Victor is an experienced, kind and caring educator, who will be joining our Grade 3 team.



We were extremely saddened to hear of the passing of **Mrs Sharon Rother's** husband, **Mr Brett McLaren's** uncle, **Mrs Andrea Hayward's** father-in-law, **Miss Kaylin Muller's** (learnership student) grandmother, and **Miss Leanne Ahlfeldt's** (Aftercare) grandfather. These families are all in our thoughts and prayers as they deal with these devastating losses.

We were delighted to receive news of the engagement of **Mrs Elaine Chamberlain's** daughter (Susan). We wish the Chamberlain family all of the best as they prepare for the big day. In addition, we wish **Miss Janis du Plessis** (Aftercare) all of the best as she prepares for her wedding on 26 September. We trust and pray that this day will be a very special and memorable one.

Congratulations to **Mr Brett McLaren** (Madibaz Half Marathon and the Tony Viljoen Border Master Marathon), **Mr Dean Gow** (G.U.M Run (100km) and the Rooikat Trail Run), **Miss Jordan Le Clus** (G.U.M Run (40km), Madibaz Half Marathon and the Tony Viljoen Border Masters Marathon), and **Miss Julia Foot** (Madibaz Half Marathon and the Tony Viljoen Border Masters Half Marathon) on their superb running achievements during the course of the term.

ACADEMIC REPORTS

The 3rd Term academic report was sent home with your child on Wednesday, 23 September. 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 / clarendon@clarendonpark.co.za).

The **Academic Awards Assembly** (Grades 4 to 7) takes place on Friday, 16 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:	10 November (08h30)	Grade 2:	10 November (10h30)
Grade 3:	11 November (08h30)	Grade 4:	11 November (11h30)
Grade 5:	12 November (08h30)	Grade 6:	12 November (18h00)
Grade 7:	12 November (18h00)		

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 16 to 26 November.

Final School Day:

The final day of the school year for pupils will be Wednesday, 2 December. Attendance at school from 3 to 8 December will be optional for all pupils. The final day for the Aftercare will be on Tuesday, 8 December.

Collection of 4th Term Reports:

The final Academic Report for the year will be handed out on Wednesday, 9 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 is 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.

SCHOOL SHOP ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 4TH TERM

The School Shop will be open on Saturday, 3 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 Monday, 12 October to Thursday, 29 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, 3 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, 26 November. These items of clothing will be processed at the start of 2027. The shop will begin to receive 2nd hand clothing again on Tuesday, 16 February 2027.

BOYS MATCH SHIRTS

Please note that as from the start of 2027, it will be compulsory for all boys to wear the new Clarendon Park match shirt for all official sport matches in the following sporting codes:

- Cricket
- Tennis
- Hockey
- Athletics
- Cross Country

Parents will be notified as soon as the new shirts have arrived in the school shop.

GIRLS WATER POLO COSTUMES

All girls who play Water Polo will be required to wear an official Clarendon Park Water Polo costume for all league and inter-school matches, as from January 2027.

Parents will be notified as soon as the new costumes have arrived in the school shop.

TENNIS COURT FLOODLIGHTS

In partnership with our resident tennis professional, Johan Grobler and PTC (performance Tennis Centre), we have recently had floodlights installed on two of our tennis courts. Please kindly note that these are only for use for official school practices and private coaching by the PTC coaching staff.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

As mentioned above, it was wonderful to see so many of our Clarries pupils involved in our Grade 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

Our Concert Band undertook a successful tour to the Southern Cape earlier in the term. Their performances at Storms River, Greenwood Bay College, Knysna Primary School, the Amble Ridge Retirement Village, the Knysna Waterfront and the Harkerville Market were very well received. There is no doubt that our gifted young musicians brought much joy to many people, both young and old during the course of the tour.

MATRIC REUNION

It was very special to host 93 past Clarries pupils who are currently in matric at our Matric Reunion Dinner on Monday, 21 September. It was abundantly clear 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 past 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 (home), and Westering (away) 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 Netball 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, and to relax as the Clarries Family proved to be very meaningful and enjoyable. Thank-you to so many families (almost 1000 people in attendance) who joined us for the morning, and enjoyed the walk, and the wonderful time together afterwards.



100 CLUB

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our third 100 Club meeting of the year, enjoying an evening of “Bingo and Banter” 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.

We eagerly look forward to our annual 100 Club Parents Dance, to be held on Saturday, 17 October, which promises to be a wonderful evening for the Clarries Parents and Staff.

4TH TERM EVENTS

Please keep a careful eye on the Class WhatsApp groups, as well as our Facebook page, for many exciting events that will be taking place next term. These include:

- 100 Club Parents Dance (17 October)
- Clarries Golf Day (23 October)
- Music Evening (5 November)
- Camp Out (27 November)
- Carols By Candlelight (3 December)

UNIFORM ARRANGEMENTS: 4TH TERM 2026

School starts for the 4th Term on **Tuesday, 6 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. No fashionable hairstyles are acceptable. Hair dying or colouring is not permitted. Boys’ hair should be short, neat and of an even length with no steps or lines.” 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 **Monday, 16 November at 17h30 in the Scott Hall**. At this meeting, the school’s budget for 2027 will be presented, which will include the proposed 2027 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 2027, please could you kindly let the school office know in writing, by **Friday, 9 October**. We have a number of applicants on our waiting list, and we need to confirm our 2027 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 2026.
Regards,

HONOUR AND TRUTH

Regards,

Derryk Jordan

Principal