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# GLENDALE NEWSLETTER



BREAKING UPDATE BREAKING UPDATE BREAKING UPDATE BREAKING UPDATE BREAKING UPDATE

Dear School Community,

As we come to the end of a busy and rewarding Term 1, we are pleased to share some updates and highlights from our school.

It has been a term filled with energy, growth, and purpose. Our staff has worked tirelessly to deliver quality teaching and learning, while our learners have risen to the challenge of a new academic year with enthusiasm and determination. We are incredibly proud of the progress that has been made across all grades.

We remain committed to building a strong, caring learning community — one where every learner feels seen, supported and inspired to reach their full potential. Our curriculum continues to be implemented with dedication and we are constantly looking for ways to improve the learning experience for each and every child in our care.

As the term draws to a close, we want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to our parents and guardians for your ongoing support and partnership. A school thrives when home and school work together and your involvement makes all the difference.

We wish all our families a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday. May this break offer time for connection, recharge and celebration of all that has been achieved. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for Term 2, refreshed and ready for what lies ahead.

## LEARNER ACCOLADES

# ***GLENDALE IRON CADETS MARCH FORWARD WITH PRIDE AND PURPOSE***



The Glendale school community has every reason to celebrate the remarkable return of the Iron Cadets drilling squad. After a break of more than five years, the squad has come back stronger than ever—showcasing discipline, teamwork, and school spirit in truly inspiring fashion.

Preparations began as early as Term 1 under the dedicated guidance of instructor Ms Erasmus. What started as a hopeful revival quickly grew into a powerful movement, with over 70 enthusiastic learners stepping forward to be part of the squad. Their commitment, energy, and willingness to learn have been nothing short of exceptional.

By the end of the term, the Iron Cadets delivered a stunning showcase that left learners, staff, and parents in awe. Their precision, confidence, and pride on display were a testament to the hard work invested over just a few short months. It was a moment that reminded everyone of the strength of unity and the value of perseverance.



The journey does not end here. The Iron Cadets will continue their training and development in Term 2, with even greater goals ahead. As the squad grows, so too does the need for support. The school warmly invites parents and community members to assist by contributing toward drumming equipment or sponsoring uniforms. Your support will play a vital role in sustaining and expanding this exciting initiative.



We look forward to seeing the Iron Cadets continue to rise, inspiring excellence and pride across the Glendale community.



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# **FROM PAWNS TO PROS: GLENDALE'S CHESS TEAM ON THE RISE**

Chess continues to be a valuable and enriching activity at Glendale Secondary, offering learners the opportunity to develop focus, critical thinking, and strategic skills. Our chess team fosters a supportive environment where learners work together to improve their gameplay and grow in confidence.

We invite all interested learners to join the chess team, whether you are a beginner or an experienced player. Participation provides exciting opportunities to compete against other schools and take part in tournaments.

As the team continues to grow, we aim to establish more than one team. We also encourage female learners to join, as we would like to form a dedicated girls' team. Chess at Glendale Secondary is inclusive and open to all, promoting a non-gender-biased space for every learner.

We look forward to welcoming new members to our chess community.



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## **INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT**



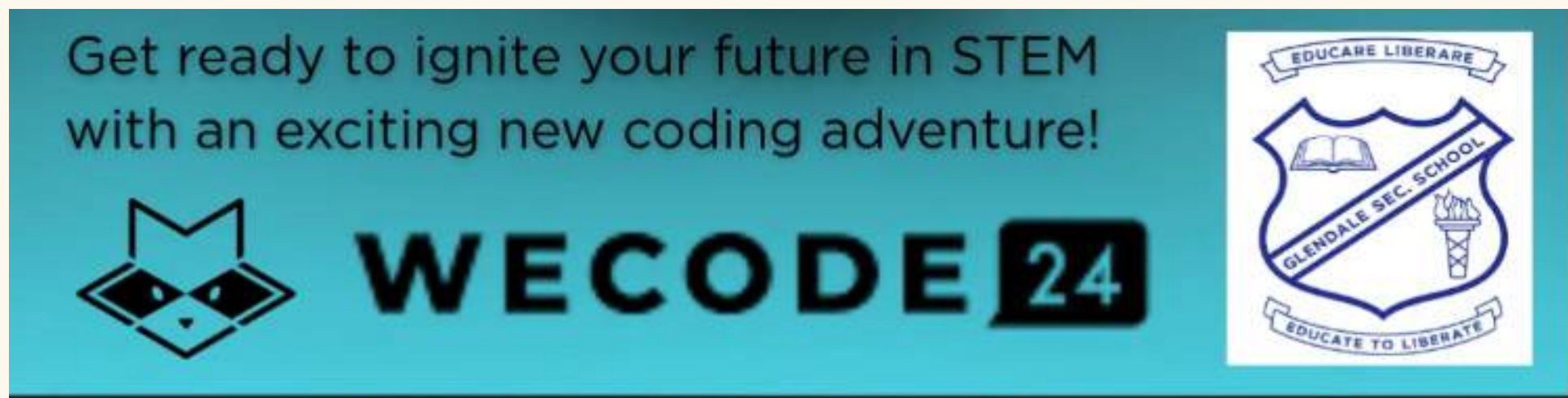
Two of our learners, Jordan Leigh Le Grange and Sinaed Wolmarans, recently attended an International Leadership Camp in Ghana, sponsored by Delta Airlines and Junior Achievement Africa, where they proudly represented both South Africa and our school.

The camp brought together young leaders from different countries to develop teamwork, communication, and leadership skills. The experience highlighted the importance of confidence, collaboration, and respect for diverse cultures.

After returning, the learners also participated in an International Women's Day event on 13 March 2026, where they shared their experience with young females from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We are proud of this achievement and the positive representation of our school.

# STEAM NEXUS CLUB



Glendale Secondary School proudly launched the STEAM Nexus Club in Term 1, 2026 as part of our ongoing commitment to developing our learners holistically. The club was created to give learners meaningful opportunities to explore their talents and potential in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) through fun, hands-on experiences. From the very first session, learners were encouraged to think creatively, collaborate, and build confidence while discovering new skills.

Throughout the term, learners participated in engaging activities that promoted computational thinking, teamwork, and innovation. They were introduced to unplugged coding and robotics, where they explored concepts such as algorithms, decomposition, abstraction and pattern recognition. These activities helped learners understand how instructions work while strengthening logical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Learners also worked collaboratively to code their peers as “robots,” guiding them from one point to another. This activity encouraged teamwork, creativity, and critical thinking, while allowing learners to rotate roles and build confidence in both leadership and participation

Another exciting moment was the introduction to Micro bit technology. Learners explored the device and discussed how coding will be implemented using the MakeCode platform in Term 2. This sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for the hands-on coding experiences ahead.

The rocket-building activity, facilitated by the Science teachers, was another highlight. Learners enjoyed experimenting and learning through play, while developing engineering thinking and collaboration skills.

The STEAM Nexus Club reflects our school’s dedication to nurturing well-rounded learners and helping them discover their strengths, interests, and potential. We are proud of the enthusiasm shown by our learners and look forward to expanding these opportunities in Term 2 with WeCode, Micro bit coding, robotics challenges, and more hands-on STEAM experiences.



# EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN THROUGH SISTERHOOD

A strong sense of sisterhood in schools helps create a supportive and empowering environment where girls uplift and encourage one another. It fosters mentorship, promoted leadership and provides a safe space for sharing experiences and growing together.

Through sisterhood, learners build confidence and self-esteem, gain guidance from positive role models, reduce negativity and develop important personal and leadership skills.



## JOIN THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

**STEP INTO YOUR GREATNESS ARE YOU READY TO GROW INTO THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF?**



The Gentlemen's Club is a space for young men to build confidence, leadership, respect, and purpose. It's more than just a meeting — it's a brotherhood where you can learn life skills, share ideas, and support one another.

If you're in Grade 8–12, this is your opportunity to develop your voice, strengthen your character, and prepare for your future. Room 82 Every Monday Come as you are. Leave as a stronger, wiser young man. Your journey to greatness starts here.

# WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

We were delighted to celebrate World Read Aloud Day with all of our Grade 8 learners. This global event, which takes place annually, is dedicated to reminding us of the power of the spoken word and the joy that reading can bring.

Our Grade 8 learners embraced the occasion with enthusiasm, coming together to share stories and experience the magic of reading aloud. It was a wonderful opportunity to step away from the everyday routine and reconnect with the simple pleasure of a good book.

Reading aloud not only builds vocabulary and comprehension but also develops confidence, expression, and a love for literature — skills that extend far beyond the classroom. We are proud of the energy and participation our Grade 8 learners brought to the day and hope that this experience inspires them to keep reading long after the bell rings.

A special thank you to the teachers who organised and facilitated the activities. Your dedication to enriching the lives of our learners does not go unnoticed.



## TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION, HIV/AIDS & TB AWARENESS TALK



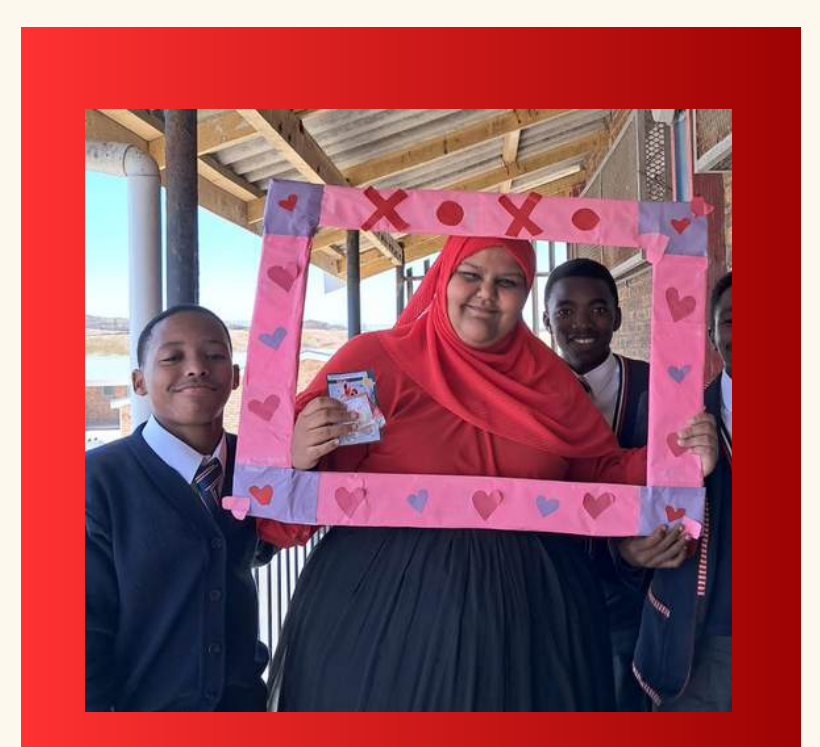
All Grade 9 learners recently participated in an awareness talk covering teenage pregnancy prevention, HIV/AIDS, and TB. The session provided learners with accurate information and key messages around responsible behaviour, health screenings, and where to seek help.

We encourage parents and guardians to continue these conversations at home, as open communication plays a vital role in supporting our learners in making healthy and informed choices. We thank all those involved and commend our Grade 9 learners for engaging so maturely.

# VALENTINE'S DAY STAFF APPRECIATION

Our learners showed their hearts of gold this Valentine's Day by taking the time to appreciate the dedicated staff who work tirelessly to make our school a great place to learn and grow. It was a heartwarming reminder of the special bond between our learners and their teachers, and a lovely way to celebrate the love and care that exists within our school community.

Thank you to all the learners who participated and to our wonderful staff for everything they do each and every day.



# SELF-HARM AWARENESS



As part of our commitment to the mental health and well-being of our learners, we recently dedicated time to raising awareness around the topic of self-harm. We believe that creating a safe, open, and supportive environment where learners feel comfortable talking about their struggles is an essential part of school life.

Learners were reminded that it is okay to ask for help and that they are never alone in what they may be facing. The importance of reaching out to a trusted adult, whether a parent, teacher, or counsellor, was emphasised throughout. We urge parents and guardians to keep the lines of communication open at home. If you have any concerns about your child's emotional well-being, please do not hesitate to contact the school so that we can offer the necessary support together.



# SONA

Our learners from Mitchells Plain had the extraordinary privilege of serving as Junior Honour Guard for the President at the State of the Nation Address – a moment that filled our entire school community with immense pride. To be selected for such a prestigious role on one of South Africa’s most significant national stages is a testament to the discipline, character, and excellence that our learners carry with them every day. For a school rooted in Mitchells Plain, this is more than just an honour – it is a powerful statement that greatness comes from every corner of our country, and that our children belong in every room, on every stage, and at every table. We could not be more proud of our young leaders who represented not only our school, but their community, with dignity and grace.

## 2026 SONA: THE VOICE OF THE YOUTH

By Thobile Beta

One of the most important ceremonial and public participation elements of the State of the Nation Address (SONA), is the Junior Guards of Honour. The Junior Guards are learners selected from different schools to represent the youth at the SONA ceremony. They symbolise the future of the country.

On the day of the event, the Junior Guards line the route for the President's entourage.


Their involvement is designed to educate and expose them to the workings, roles, and functions of state institutions.

Thobile Beta had a chat with some of the young representatives from different communities in the Western Cape to find out about their experience of being a Junior Guard of Honour, if they previously knew of Parliament and SONA and what issues they wish the President will address.



**Kim Lee Taffa, Glendale Secondary School, Grade 10**

I am excited to be one of the Junior Guards for the 2026 SONA. This is a big opportunity for me to participate in an event of this magnitude. I have never watched the Address by the President before. Going forward this will change. I wish for the President to focus on improving public schools by allocating appropriate resources.



**Lyle Lekeur, Glendale Secondary School, Grade 10**

This experience has been "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" (extraordinary). Not everyone gets a chance to experience this moment. I enjoyed the Parliament tour, learning about the Houses of Parliament and what Parliament does. I have never had an interest in SONA before and didn't even know about Junior Guards. Meeting the Presiding Officers of Parliament and seeing the military during SONA has been eye opening. I hope for the President to address issues of education, infrastructure in schools and communities.



# CROSS COUNTRY SEASON IS HERE

The Cross-Country season will officially begin on 14 April 2026. All learners who are interested in participating are encouraged to sign up.

Join us for an exciting season of fitness, endurance and teamwork!



# THEE CULTURE OF MATHEMATICS

## GLENDALE SECONDARY SCHOOL MATHS CLUB

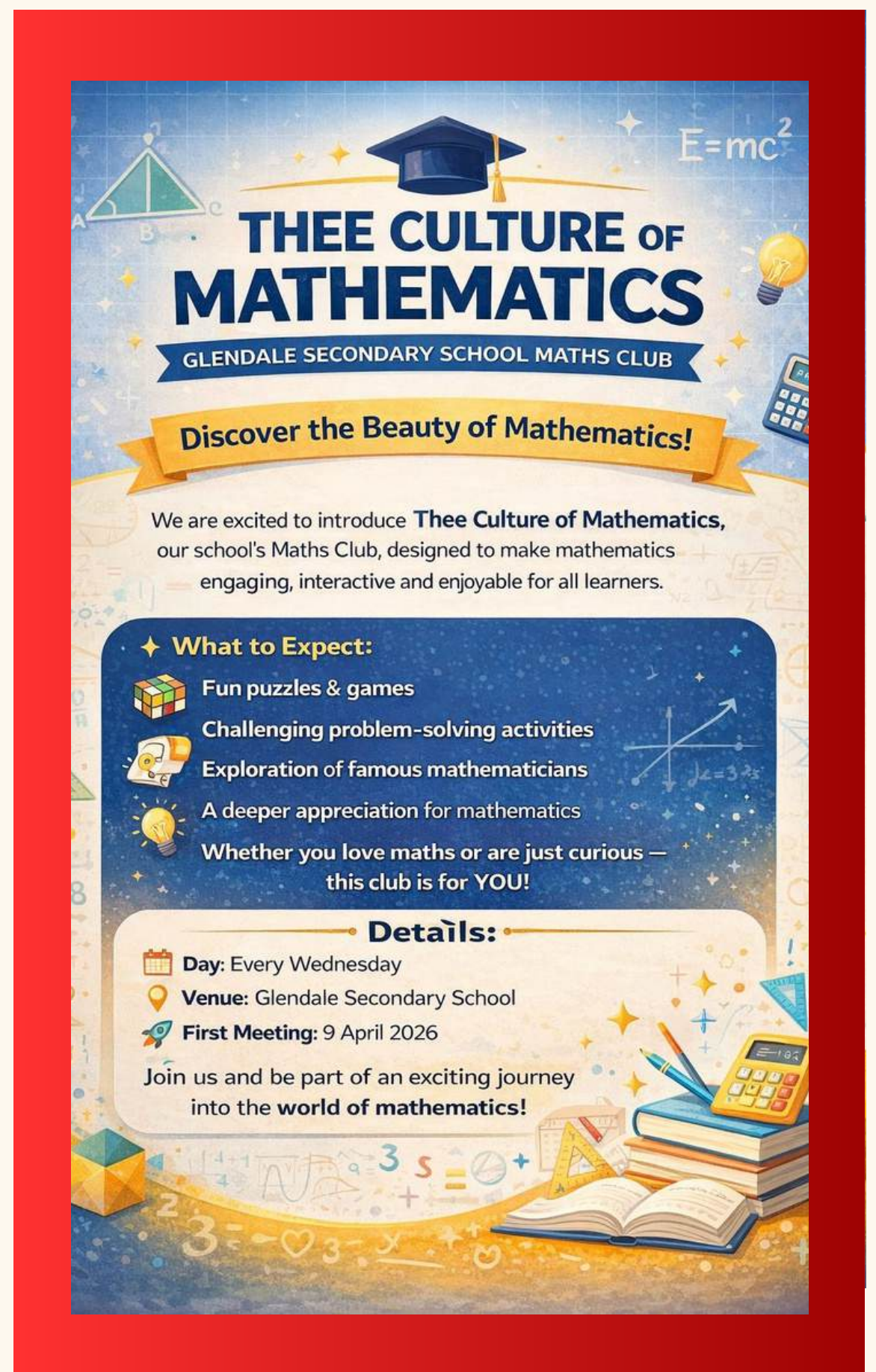
We are excited to introduce Thee Culture of Mathematics, our school's Maths Club, aimed at making mathematics engaging, interactive and enjoyable for all learners.

This club offers learners the opportunity to explore maths beyond the classroom through puzzles, games and problem-solving activities. Learners will also be exposed to the work of influential mathematicians and develop a deeper appreciation for the subject. Whether you are passionate about mathematics or simply curious to learn more, all are welcome to join.

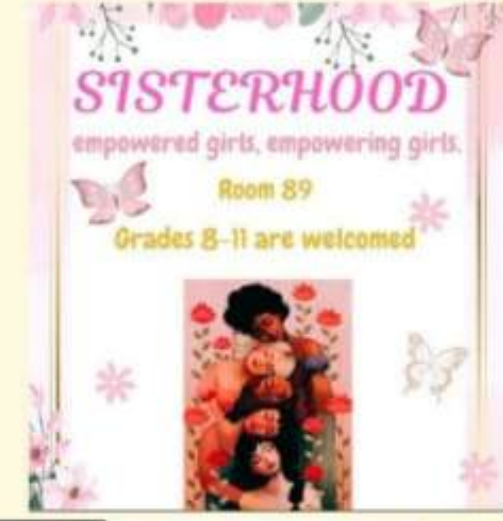
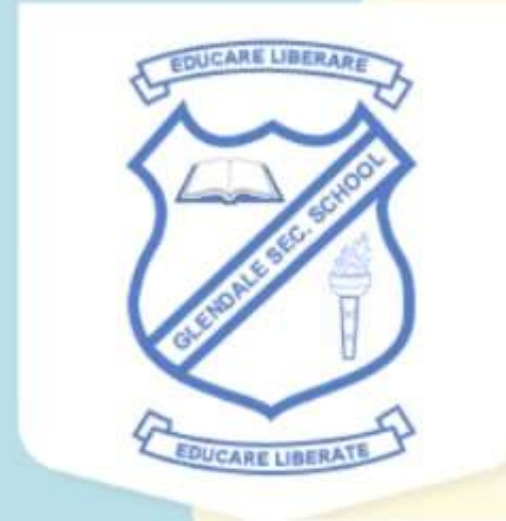
Details:

- **Day:** Every Wednesday
- **Venue:** Glendale Secondary School
- **First Meeting:** 9 April 2026

We encourage all interested learners to become part of this exciting initiative.



# Toiletry Drive



Glendale Secondary School

THE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

In collaboration with Sisterhood and the Gentlemans Club

## We need

- Shampoo
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Body Spray
- Toothpaste
- Tooth brush
- Lotion
- Sunscreen
- Wipes
- Tissues
- Wash cloth

**Or any essential toiletry you can provide** ❤️

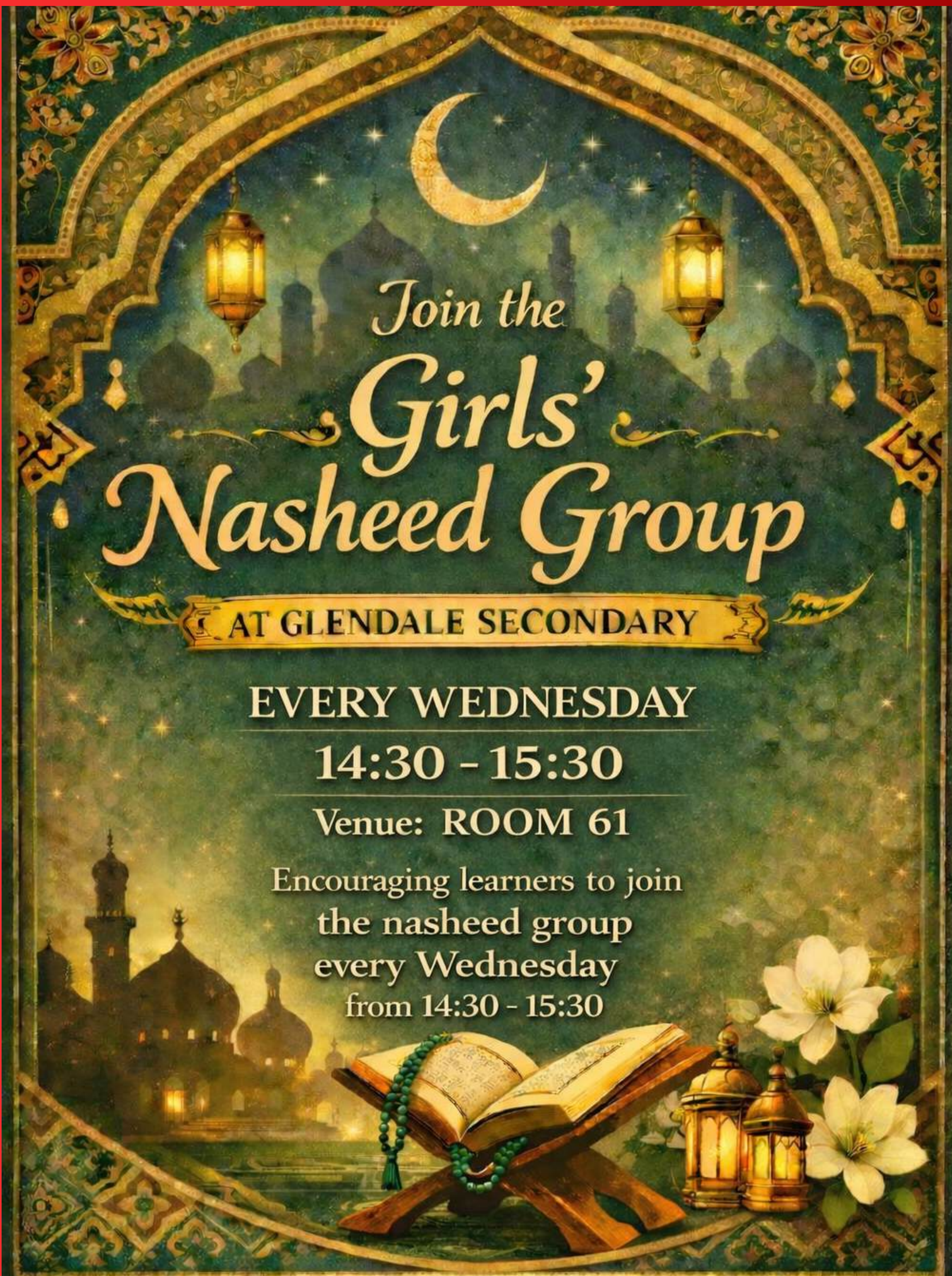
Please approach the class teacher if there is a need

Please help our school to provide our learners with essential toiletries

For more information, please contact:  
Ms B Abrahams, Ms B Campbell and Mr M Petersen

**Thank you for supporting us with your donation!**

Safeguarding learner dignity as a community, one step at a time



Join the  
**Girls'  
Nasheed Group**

AT GLENDALE SECONDARY

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**14:30 - 15:30**

**Venue: ROOM 61**

Encouraging learners to join  
the nasheed group  
every Wednesday  
from 14:30 - 15:30

Encouraging learners to join the nasheed group every Wednesday  
from 14:30 - 15:30 starting 15 April 2026

# JOIN THE RECYCLING CLUB!

GLENDALE SECONDARY SCHOOL

BE THE CHANGE - KEEP OUR SCHOOL CLEAN AND GREEN!



Are you passionate about the **environment**?

Join our Recycling Club and help make a difference by reducing waste and promoting sustainability within our school community.

### What you'll do:

- Help manage and organise recycling around the school
- Learn about environmental responsibility
- Work as a team to keep our surroundings clean
- Take part in fun and meaningful eco-projects

## GLENDALE STAFF

# CELEBRATING OUR INSPIRING LEADER ON HER SPECIAL DAY

On this special occasion, we celebrate not only the principal's birthday but also the remarkable leader she is. Her passion, strength and unwavering commitment to our school continue to inspire both staff and learners each day. Through her visionary leadership, she has created a culture of excellence, discipline and care, ensuring that every learner is given the opportunity to grow and succeed.

Her ability to lead with integrity, compassion and determination has strengthened our school community and motivated us all to strive for our best. She leads by example, fostering teamwork, resilience and a shared sense of purpose among staff and learners alike.

May the year ahead bring her continued success, good health and happiness.



# A NIGHT OF UNITY : OUR INTER-FAITH A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

Our school community came together in a truly beautiful and meaningful way as we hosted our inter – faith iftar, bringing learners, staff, parents, and community members of different faiths and backgrounds around one table to break bread – and fast – together. The event was a wonderful reflection of the rich diversity that makes our school and the broader Mitchells Plain community so special.

As the sun set and the call to break the fast was made, there was a warmth in the room that went far beyond the food that was shared. Guests of all faith sat side by side, engaged in heartfelt conversation, and embraced the spirit of Ubuntu that binds us together as South Africans. The evening served as a powerful reminder that while we may worship differently, our shared values of compassion, respect, and community are what truly unite us.

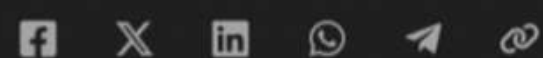
We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made the evening possible – from those who prepared and donated food, to the learners and staff who organized and hosted with such care and dedication. Events like these are what set our school apart and reinforce our commitment to nurturing not only academic excellence, but also empathy, inclusivity, and an appreciation for one another’s traditions and beliefs.

Our interfaith iftar was more than just an event – it was a celebration of who we are as a school family.



## Community unites for inter-faith iftaar outreach at Glendale High School

Marsha Bothma | Published 2 days ago



Add as a preferred source on Google



More than 600 residents gathered at Glendale High School on Tuesday February 24 for an interfaith iftaar outreach uniting the community across faiths and cultures during Ramadan and Lent.

Image: Supplied



# END OF TERM STAFF CELEBRATION

As Term 1 draws to a close, we took a well-deserved moment to celebrate and appreciate our incredible staff.

Teaching and supporting learners every day is no small feat, and our end of term get-together was a wonderful opportunity for staff members to relax, reconnect, and be recognised for their hard work and dedication throughout the term.

The celebration also gave us the perfect opportunity to acknowledge and wish all staff members who celebrated their birthdays during Term 1 a very happy birthday! We hope each of you felt truly special on your day.

To our amazing staff — thank you for your unwavering commitment, your patience, and the passion you bring to school every single day. You are the heartbeat of our school and we are grateful for each and every one of you.



# ACADEMICS

## TOP LEARNERS IN ALL GRADES

### GET

#### GRADE 8

1. Amber Coster
2. Avethandwa Mtandeki
3. Ziyanda Mbambo
4. Babalo Tokota
5. Keano Philanders
6. Grayson Petersen
7. Leloxolo Senteni
8. Swazi Zibi
9. Tiffany Latola
10. Buhle Phoswa

#### GRADE 9

1. Kwakhanya Sontshatsha
2. Ahlume Mahlaba
3. Mangaliso Mcunukelwa
4. Kauthar Andrews
5. Lelethu Qutyelo
6. Abbey Leigh Thomas
7. Tamara Jiji
8. Sesihle Dana
9. Thandiwe Ngongoma
10. Payton Classen

### FET

#### GRADE 10

1. Yoko Small
2. Lyle Lekeur
3. Mog. Yusuf Steyn
4. Ashante Swartbooi
5. Naledi Mpunzi
6. Cheryl Maphanha
7. Tatum Oersen
8. Tahlia Scheepers
9. Zurayda Micheals
10. Joshua Van Boom

#### GRADE 11

1. Mia King
2. Simnikiwe Mphetshulwe
3. Lilitha Nkohla
4. Lungelo Makhubu
5. Milani Rayi
6. Adeela Phileman
7. Fisokuhle Tshingilane
8. Leah Van Niekerk

#### GRADE 12

1. Kauthar Havenga
2. Raeesah Phileman
3. Keziah Jaftha
4. Talent Majuta
5. Muminah Abrahams
6. Taghseen Fisher
7. Rachel Mcloed
8. Hailey Anthony
9. Zeah Tango
10. Jenna Lee Kinnes

## GENERAL MATTERS

### GLENDALE UNIFORM

We would like to remind all parents and guardians that the school tie is a compulsory part of our uniform and must be worn every day. We have noticed that a number of learners are attending school without their ties, and we kindly ask for your support in ensuring that your child arrives properly dressed each morning.

For those who still need to purchase a tie, it is available at the school for R80.

Thank you for helping us maintain our school's standards and pride.

## EXAMINATIONS & CONTROLLED TESTS: IMPORTANT NOTICE

We kindly request that parents and guardians avoid scheduling holidays, appointments, or any other arrangements during examination and controlled test periods. This includes bookings for Driver's Licences, Learner's Licences, and Home Affairs visits. Removing learners from school during these periods is highly disruptive and not in the best interest of your child's academic progress.

## ABSENCES DURING EXAMS OR CONTROLLED TESTS

As outlined in the school's Code of Conduct, any learner who is absent during an examination or controlled test will be required to submit supporting documentation upon their return. Please note that only the following will be accepted:

- An original medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner, or
- A copy of a death certificate in the case of a family bereavement

No other documentation will be considered. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in upholding the integrity of our assessment processes.

## CELLPHONE POLICY REMINDER

We would like to remind both parents and learners of the school's Cellphone Policy. Any cellphone that is visible on the school premises will be confiscated in accordance with the following schedule:

- 1st Offence – Confiscated for 14 school days
- 2nd Offence – Confiscated for 30 school days
- 3rd Offence – Confiscated for the full term
- Resistance to confiscation – An additional 3 days will be added to the confiscation period

Please note that cellphones must not be visible on school grounds from Monday to Saturday, between 07:00 and 16:00.

### Collection of Confiscated Cellphones

Once the confiscation period has been served, the cellphone may only be collected by the learner's legal guardian. No other person will be permitted to collect the device. When collecting the phone, the legal guardian is required to bring the following:

- A valid ID document, and
- A payment of R100

We ask that parents support the school in enforcing this policy, as it plays an important role in maintaining a focused and disciplined learning environment. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## DISCIPLINE

Maintaining discipline is one of the school's core responsibilities, and we are grateful to the parents and guardians who partner with us in this regard. We believe that understanding each learner as an individual is key to fostering accountability and ensuring that meaningful learning takes place.

We would like to highlight two areas of ongoing concern across the grades:

- Vaping – A dangerous habit whose serious health risks are often underestimated by learners.
- Irresponsible cellphone use – Certain online behaviours carry legal implications that learners may not be aware of.

We encourage parents and guardians to have open conversations with their children at home about both of these issues. While our disciplinary approach may not always mirror every parent's preference, we are united in our goal of guiding learners to make responsible choices. Thank you for your continued support.

## SCHOOL FEES

Paying school fees plays a vital role in maintain the quality of education and ensuring that the school runs effectively. These fees contribute directly to the day – to – day functioning of the school, covering essential services such as electricity, water, internet and the upkeep of classrooms and facilities.

School fees also help provide salaries for teachers, administrative staff and support personnel, ensuring that learners are guided by qualified and dedicated professionals in a stable environment. In addition, they support the provision of important learning resources, including textbooks, technology, laboratory equipment and sports gear, all of which enhance the overall learning experience.

Well-maintained facilities, such as clean classrooms, safe buildings, libraries and sports grounds, are made possible through the consistent payment of feed. Furthermore, extracurricular activities like sports, cultural programmes and clubs rely on this funding, allowing learners to develop skills beyond the classroom.

When families contribute towards school fees, it allows the school to plan effectively and provide constant, high-quality education for all learners. At the same time, it is important to remember that support options, such as exemptions or financial assistance, are often available for families who may need it.

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt condolences to all members of our school community – teachers and learners alike – who have experienced the loss of a loved one during this past term.

We especially mourn the passing of our Grade 10 learner, Naledi Susan Moikwathai, whose presence will be deeply missed by all who knew her. We hold her family, friends, and classmates in our thoughts during this profoundly difficult time.

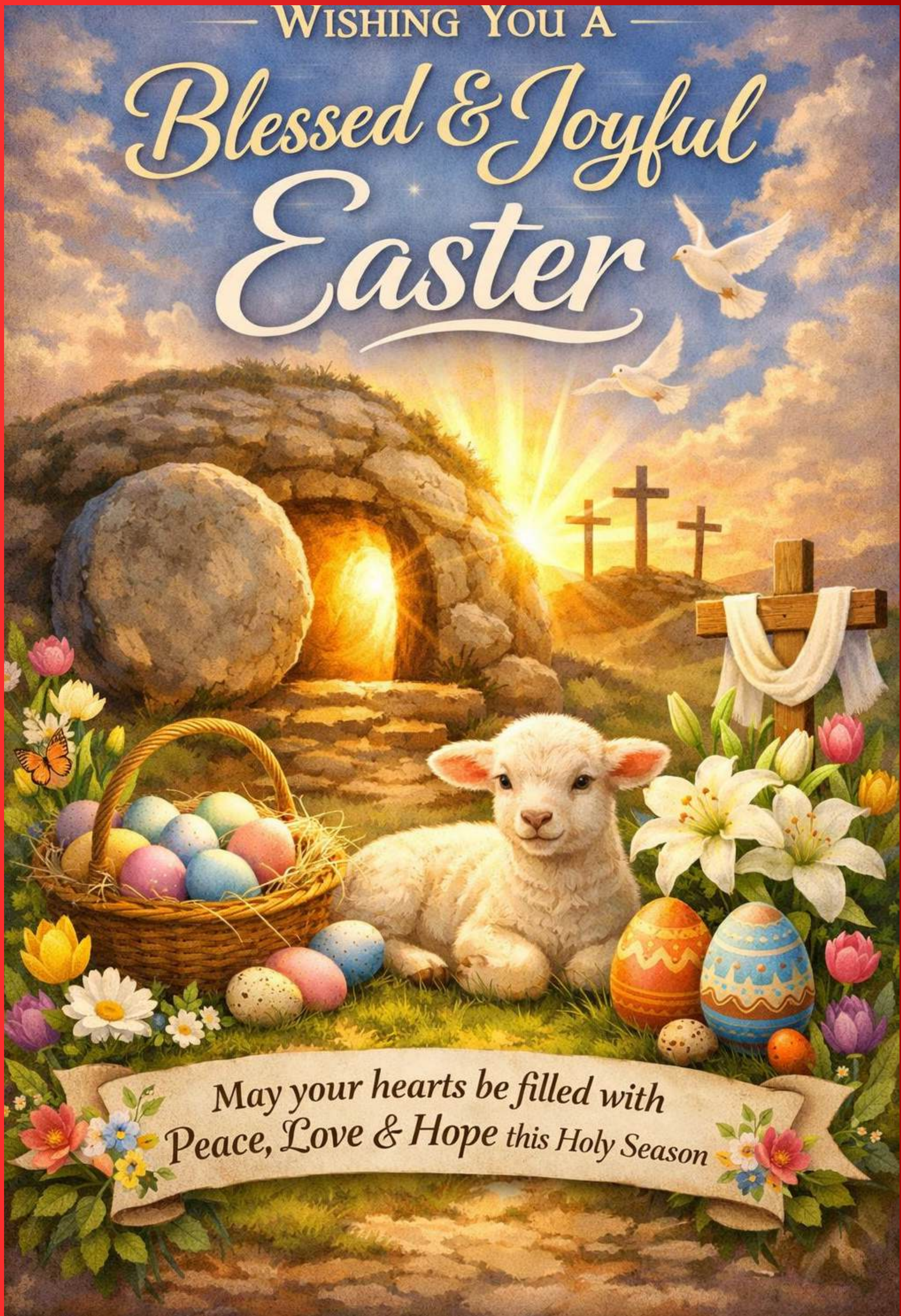
*May the Almighty grant all those who grieve comfort, strength, and peace.*

## IMPORTANT TERM DATES

**11 April 2026** : Term 1 Intervention Meeting  
Grade 12 : 08:30 - 10:30  
Grades 8 - 11 : 10:30 - 12:30

**14 April 2026** : Blood Donor Clinic

— WISHING YOU A —  
*Blessed & Joyful  
Easter*



## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Learners, Parents, and Staff,

As Term 1 draws to a close, I would like to take a moment to reflect on everything we have accomplished together. This term has truly been one of growth, learning and resilience and that is a testament to the dedication and spirit of every member of our school community.

To our learners: You have demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and commitment across all areas of school life — from the classroom to the sports field, from creative pursuits to leadership opportunities. I am incredibly proud of the way you have risen to challenges and continued to strive for excellence. Please carry that same energy and determination into Term 2!

To our parents and guardians: Your partnership means the world to us. Whether you have attended parent-teacher meetings, volunteered your time, or simply encouraged your child at home, your involvement makes a real and lasting difference. A positive school experience is built on the foundation of a strong home-school relationship, and we are grateful for your continued support.

To our dedicated staff: Your passion, commitment and tireless efforts do not go unnoticed. Each one of you plays a vital role in shaping the minds and futures of our learners and this school would not be what it is without you. Thank you for showing up every day with dedication and heart.

This term also saw the introduction of exciting new initiatives, including leadership programmes, special events and community outreach projects, all of which have added to the vibrant and dynamic spirit of our school. It has been wonderful to see so many learners stepping up, exploring new interests and developing important life skills along the way.

As we head into the well-deserved break, I encourage everyone to rest, recharge and take time to celebrate the milestones of this term. While it is important to enjoy the holiday, I also encourage our learners to look ahead with excitement to the opportunities and challenges that Term 2 will bring.

I am truly excited for what lies ahead and look forward to continuing this journey together. Thank you to each and every one of you for your hard work and dedication this term. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.

School will re-open on Wednesday, 8 April 2026.

God Bless.

Yours in education,

*Ms F. Smith*