



THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
With HEART

NEWSLETTER

10 February 2025

Issue #3



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.

Anne Frank



I loved this quote by Anne Frank, sent to me recently by a friend. It reinforces the fact that “improving” the world with the values we espouse at Theodor Herzl Schools does not have to be initiated by others – the responsibility lies with us too, to try and be responsible in our own small way, in making the world a better place. It is easy to look for solutions from the outside (be they from world leaders or otherwise) let us start “at home” (be it Theodor Herzl Schools) or our homes. The tried and tested values of Theodor Herzl Schools remind me that “solutions” are closer at hand than we realise.

The Quality Assurance (OISESA) process conducted at Theodor Herzl Schools (as with all independent ISASA Schools) this past week has been a culmination of many hours of self-study, surveys and meetings etc., ensuring that the three-day site visit by the respective mentors produced enough “evidence” of what we are about as a School (Pre-Primary to High). I thank the whole community (staff, students and parents) for the various ways in which they were involved – surveys and meetings with the mentors etc. The process unfolds as we await the report in the weeks ahead. The process allows us and the mentors to evaluate ourselves in a professional manner, acknowledging what we are doing well and also what we need to focus on to improve. It is an invaluable process of self-reflection. Although not wanting to “jump the proverbial gun”, the visit has been a resounding success. We can be proud of our Schools and what happens in the classrooms, sports fields and the cultural arena. Are there areas we know we can improve upon? – absolutely! Being open to change and healthy self-reflection is valuable in any context. The mentors certainly left, inspired by what they saw.

It is lovely to hear and see, from my office and while walking around, the sounds and sights of children and students engaged in “learning”: be it academics, sporting or cultural pursuits.

For both the High and Primary Schools, sporting fixtures are in full swing, with league matches having commenced, while in the High School, formal (and informal) cycle test assessments have begun too.

This past week saw some good cricket wins against well-established schools, while a number of our students made it through to the PE High Schools athletics Finals, having qualified in the Zonal Meetings earlier in the month. We are on the move.

Our High School cultural programme has begun in earnest, too. I look forward to the new format of our High School Toastmaster's Society, commencing with three formal dinners per term, which will allow us to learn the art of different types of speeches in a more "formal setting," accompanied by a tasty dinner. Our High and Primary School Bands are in full swing, with wonderful sounds emanating from the music classroom each morning.

As always, the emotional Tie Ceremony involving our Grade 12s and their parents proved to be a significant moment this past week. Captured on video, I encourage you to visit our website to witness the special moments of interaction as each parent/guardian placed the tie on each respective child.



Under the guidance and super-talent of Siya Xotyeni and Candice Parkin and organised by the Judaicare Club, the "OneLife Child" children spent a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon learning to play the marimbas. It certainly was food for the soul witnessing children, who would not normally have had the privilege of even seeing, let alone playing a musical instrument, pick up the mallets, come together as a cohesive group and hammer out a tune that had us all swaying and tapping along to the beat. I am sure that the children are hooked and in three weeks', when we meet again, they will be fighting to secure their spot in the "OneLife" band.



This week, the High School will present and share the "Theodor story" in the Pavilion of Clarendon Primary School. It is important to market our school authentically by telling our stories. Our Prize Giving for Grade 9 - 12 students (last year's Grade 8 - 11 students) will take place on Thursday evening. It is certainly a busy week ahead.

An invitation is extended to you. Should your child be involved in a cultural, sporting or academic pursuit that is not offered as part of the “traditional” offering at Theodor Herzl Schools (or a competition that is not known to us) – and has achieved/participated in it, please share this news with us! A brief write-up and possible photo will showcase all of our talents. We cannot promise to showcase every event, but we will do our utmost to do so! It is about celebrating the individual, no matter the event or context. Information is to be sent to our marketer, Mrs Mariska Schewitz at marketing@theodorherzl.co.za

The following article about AI in the educational space is an interesting one – and worth reading. It is a “hot topic” for all teachers and schools, with the ethical use of AI under significant scrutiny.

This is true for tertiary institutions/universities etc. too. The link is: <https://www.newyorker.com/news/fault-lines/does-ai-really-encourage-cheating-in-schools>

I wish you a good week ahead!

Kind regards

Viktor

Viktor Kurz
Executive Principal

We feel Proud of...



Congratulations to *Uyamamela Magigaba* who won the boys’ U/12 Mini Tennis Tournament held in George recently. He also came 2nd in the Doubles. Uya is currently ranked no 1 in the Eastern Cape Boys’ U/12 category.



Emily Geldart and Mila Schumacher (Grade 8) both received awards at the Eastern Cape Gymnastics prize giving on the 8th February 2025.

Emily received the top achievement award for her participation at the South African GymGames (Nationals) in October 2024. Level 7 12-13 yrs

Mila received the top achievement award for her participation at the South African GymGames (Nationals) in October 2024. Level 5 13 yrs

Pre-Primary School News

Having fun in the sandpit at our Pre-Primary School on a beautiful Summer day.



Primary School News

Nizibone Mgedezi, Rija Altaf, Alison Rennie and Sachiv Moodley were appointed as Leaders in the Primary School.



High School News

A moment of pride, tradition, and belonging! At our special Matric Tie Ceremony, parents and guardians had the honor of placing a tie on their matriculants—a symbol of stepping into the future with confidence and purpose. To our Matrics of 2025, wear your ties with pride—you are part of something special!





Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro Reports:

Date	Sport	Opponents	Result
30 January	U11 Cricket	VP Grey A	Lost by 9 wickets
4 February	U9 Cricket	VP Grey	Won by 14 runs
5 February	U13 Cricket	Newton Park A	Won by 20 runs



High School Sport

Mr Scriven Reports:

We are happy to announce that *House Weizmann* is the Winning House of both the Inter-House Gala and Inter-House Athletics competitions this year!



Sport Results: 3 - 9 February 2025

Cricket:

1st team vs Framesby @Theodor Herzl (3rd League)

Theodor batted first and made 135/10 in their 20 overs.

Best batsmen *Aiden Els 32 and Janreu Oosthuizen 29.*

Framesby were bowled out for 110 runs.

Theodor Herzl won by 25 runs.

Tennis:

1st Girls lost to Pearson (2nd League)

Unfortunately, the boy's match vs Pearson was rained out.

Athletics:

Five of our athletes competed in the PE Athletics Zonal Meeting on 4 February, and all of them placed in the top four in their respective events. Our athletes were *Enzo Luvizeto, Ruhi Doorgapershad, Mason Wippenaar, Zenande Piti and Anthonij Loots*.

Only the top three qualified for the PE Schools Meeting that were held at NMU from 7-8 February and unfortunately Piti missed out on this event (4th at Zonals). Other 4 athletes competed very well against stiff competition with Ruhi and Mason making the finals in their respective heats.

Swimming:

On 8 February was the first B-league Gala where *Jayden Viduya* won both his races with *Carter Cruickshank* placing top 10 in all three of his events!

Important Notices



THEODOR HERZL HIGH SCHOOL


20
25

ART
EXHIBITION

THURSDAY 20 FEB
@ 17:30

HIGH SCHOOL ART &
ENGLISH CLASSROOM

The poster features a black and white photograph of a person's face, a grid of dots, and a small image of a building at the bottom right.



Attention all High School
Maths, Math-Lit & Science Peeps

Mrs Schmidt is available for extra help!
Visit the **Bio Lab**(Mrs Goodall's lab)

Mondays to Thursdays
07:00 - 07:40

Bring your questions and get extra help.
Come for as long as you like,
When you like!

Be **THERE** or be **SQUARE**

The graphic includes a globe, a rocket, a giraffe, a plane, a question mark, and various mathematical symbols like E=MC², A, G, X, N, P, C, I, Z, L, O, K, T, H, and H, O.



Theodor
Herzl
Schools

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE WITH HEAD AND HEART