



THEODOR  
HERZL  
SCHOOLS

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With HEART

# NEWSLETTER

10 March 2025

Issue #5



## Principal's Corner

### Dear Parents / Guardians

*“When your values are clear to you,  
making decisions becomes easier.”*

[Roy E. Disney](#)

(Brother of the famous Walt Disney, Roy was also one of the CEOs of the famous Disney Organisation.)

Values are central to how we go about our daily business at Theodor Herzl Schools. While many virtues contribute to our collective success, humility stands out as particularly vital.

As is known, it is our chosen value for this year. It encourages us to recognize the contributions of

others, remain open to learning, and approach. A humble mindset promotes collaboration, empathy, and a genuine appreciation for the diverse talents within the walls of our school (and beyond), ultimately enriching the educational experience for all.

With this in mind, it is appropriate to acknowledge our High School secretary and my PA, **Mrs Angela Kennedy**, for 25 years of uninterrupted service at Theodor Herzl High School. She began her role on 6 March 2006. Talk about values – Mrs Kennedy has many of them all rolled up into one as she goes about her daily tasks – helping staff, children, parents and the Board. The value of **humility** certainly comes to mind, too. No request or job is too much to ask for Angela to complete. I thank her for her dedicated service and **loyalty** to Theodor Herzl Schools. Our High School students and staff paid tribute to her recently – hence the Queen's crown – a fitting feature as she “leads” our school! Ha ha!

It is March, and the obvious question is, where has the time gone? We are already commencing with our Winter co-curricular/sporting



with the Summer leagues for many sports having ended. Some superb results have been recorded, with our Boys' Senior Tennis Team winning their league and promoted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest one. In our Primary School, the winning ways are reflected in many matches too. Dedication and commitment are paying dividends. Seeing our Primary School cricketers attend the Warriors Coaching School this past week was good. Success breeds success. Role models are reinforced in a myriad of ways.

It is also good to see many of our students/children involved in and dedicated to individual sports that may not be construed as typical of sports offered by our school – and achieving at the highest levels. I encourage you to share these results with us! We encourage our children to find their passion and interests – reflecting their respective successes is equally important for all of us.

But it all starts at the Pre-Primary School, whether it be learning about how secondary colours are created (as depicted on social media), playing and learning simultaneously, or being engrossed in a *Kindermuzik* activity. The teachable moments are endless, and the values and lessons are instilled there.

Unfortunately, I omitted two images of ***Sebastián Schmidt*** and ***Taahir Carloo*** who received their ties at the recent and special Matric Tie Ceremony. I apologise for any inconvenience caused. The photos are below.



The Guardian article “Children are starting school unable to sit up or hold a pencil—and I know the culprit” is thought-provoking and sobering in its contents. Written by Kathryn Peckham, it pulls no punches. It is worth a read. The link is:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/feb/18/children-school-screen-time-early-years-specialist-smartphones-physical-activity>

This week ends when we celebrate Purim, a joyous Jewish festival commemorating the triumph of good over evil. I look forward to seeing all the costumes and sharing festive treats. It's a time for community and celebration. Photos will certainly be reflected on social media!

I wish you a good week ahead!

**Kind regards**

*Viktor*

**Viktor Kurz**  
**Executive Principal**

## Pre-Primary School News

**Mrs Carly Collett**, HOD Pre-Primary School, writes:

“Over the past two weeks, the Pre-Primary has welcomed some very special visitors. As teachers, we begin each year with a classroom full of new faces—each child bringing their own unique personality and potential. We start the year not knowing each other very well but by the end of the year, these little ones feel like our very own family - making the farewell at the end of the year both joyful and bittersweet.

At Theodor, we have a lovely tradition that makes parting a little easier—our Grade 1 children return to visit the Pre-Primary School. This reunion is always a heart-warming occasion, offering us the opportunity to see how much the children have grown and matured in such a short time. The Grade 1s spent a happy afternoon icing biscuits, painting pictures, and playing together once more.

As the saying goes, *“It takes a village to raise a child,”* and this sentiment was truly felt during the reunion. The children were excited to reunite with their former teachers and there were hugs and squeals of delight when Darielle walked through the door. Heartfelt gestures—like Casimira’s special handwritten note and picture to Mandisa, whom she misses dearly, was so special to see.

Another unexpected visitor we were lucky enough to discover was a little chameleon that was found in our garden. What a treat it was to see it changing colour in front of our eyes and learning a little bit about these gentle creatures. Helen, our resident nature enthusiast, gently took the chameleon around to each class and allowed the children to have a closer look, before releasing it back into nature.



These moments remind us why we do what we do. Knowing our children move forward with confidence, love, and happy memories makes it all worthwhile.”



## Primary School News

Our Grade 2s doing their bit for the community with a Beach Clean-up at Hobie Beach.





## High School News

Our Matric boys aka “The Brotherhood” have taken initiative to do THEIR bit for the community and cleaned up at Pollock Beach during the Mid-Term Break.



There is so much to love about our High School! Being happy at school is very important, because it helps you stay motivated, build strong friendships, and enjoy learning. When you're happy, you're more likely to succeed academically and socially, setting a strong foundation for the future! Our Prefects arranged some “Musical Chair” fun for their peers. Congratulations to the Grade 9s who won!



## Sports News

### Primary School Sport

Coach Petro Reports:

Date	Sport	Opponents	Result
26 February	U13 Cricket	Willow Academy A	Won by 58 runs
27 February	U11 Cricket	Willow Academy A	Won by 16 runs
27 February	Open Tennis	Clarendon B	Won 32-10
4 March	U9 Cricket	Mount Pleasant	Lost by 3 runs
4 March	Open Tennis	Handhaaf	Won 36-6
5 March	U13 Cricket	Bethvale A	Won by 83 runs
6 March	U11 Cricket	St Teresa A	Lost by 28 runs



### High School Sport

Mr Scriven Reports:

Sport results

Sport results: 24 Febr – 1 March

Golf:



**Ana Weber** made Theodor Herzl very proud by participating in the 2025 South African Women's Amateur Stroke & Match Play Championships at PE Golf Club from 23-28 February. She made it to the play-off rounds where she unfortunately lost her match-play match. She walked away with 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Division B.



### Metro Athletics:

**Mason Wippenaar** competed against the best athletes in the Metro and finished the season with a 6<sup>th</sup> place in the long jump and 4<sup>th</sup> in the javelin.

### Basketball:

Our Basketball team played an outstanding well contested match against Grey and narrowly lost the contest.

### Tennis:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Boys' Tennis team played against Grey PE in the the 3<sup>rd</sup> league final and claimed a close but well deserved win to walk away with top spot and promotion to the 2<sup>nd</sup> league.

### Equestrian:

**Bella Hunneyball** in Grade 8, was recently awarded the Eastern Cape Eventing Association Champion Pony Rider of 2024 for the 65cm Class. We are very proud of this brave rider!



Theodor  
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