



**THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOLS
With HEART**

NEWSLETTER

1 August 2025

Issue #15



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

Mahatma Gandhi

Coming into the high school foyer for the past few mornings and seeing the number of blankets donated to the Interact Blanket Drive (blankets will be distributed to charity

organisations in the Walmer Township area), has shone a light on a value that sits quietly but powerfully at the heart of meaningful education: **Service**.

I thank Mrs Liezel Ristow and the Interact Committee for the initiative of collecting the blankets (donated by you, your children and our staff). These are initiatives replicated throughout the rest of the schools (Primary and Pre-Primary) during the year. I thank you, as parents, for your generosity in donating the blankets. The number of them is quite overwhelming.



As is often said, we believe that true learning extends beyond textbooks and classrooms. It's in the moments when we (children and adults) give of ourselves—freely, kindly, and thoughtfully—that we truly grow. In the school and Theodor Herzl Schools context, it's a helping hand offered to a classmate, time spent assisting younger pupils, participating in outreach programmes, or caring for the environment - service teaches us empathy, responsibility, and leadership.

I came across a simple but profound comment the other day while reading an article. It stated: "What makes service so powerful is its simplicity. It doesn't require wealth, status, or age—just willingness." A Grade 3 child collecting canned goods for a food drive is as much a changemaker as a senior student tutoring a peer. Through service, our children/students begin to understand that they are part of something bigger than themselves: a community. In our case, the Theodor Herzl Schools community.

This term will see numerous initiatives in all three of our schools. Traditionally, the last day of Term 3 sees each grade of the High School choosing a service-oriented initiative/activity and visiting the said organisation. All of these acts by all of us, while small in scale, are monumental in meaning. This is the bedrock of education – creating better human-beings, where values are respected and nurtured and acted out. It is about building character, strengthening community ties, and creating a culture of compassion.

At Theodor Herzl Schools, we encourage every student (and adult) to find a way—however small—to contribute. Service is not about perfection or recognition; it's about purpose. As clichéd as the expression may be, service reminds us that we all have the power to make a difference.

I love Winston Churchill's famous line, which is so appropriate for the theme in today's newsletter: *"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."*

Without saying the obvious, the following article explores how **volunteering** enriches both the community and the individual—improving mental health, skill-building, self-esteem, and social connection. It is worth a read – if nothing else, it serves as a reminder of its worth – and hopefully serves to inspire us to volunteer for something! The link is:

<https://www.helpguide.org/mental-health/wellbeing/volunteering-and-its-surprising-benefits>

On a different note, a reminder of our Family Fun Day next weekend, which **commemorates and celebrates our school's birthday**. As reflected in the correspondence with you, our Family Fun Day is taking place next Sunday 10th August, commencing at 9am. A mixture of family events for all ages, including sport and age-appropriate activities for all children, students and parents, it is a day for the whole family to enjoy. Please refer to the communication that has been distributed. I look forward to seeing you there!

With another cold weekend ahead of us, I wish you warmth and good health.

Kind Regards



Mr Viktor Kurz
EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL THEODOR HERZL SCHOOLS

Pre-Primary School News



We have “Bakerman” on a Wednesday at our Pre-Primary School. It is most definitely the highlight of the week. Our children count the days until their turn. This teaches them a number of skills including numeracy, planning and responsibility.



Primary School News

Meet the Primary School House Captains:



Weizmann

Jake Schewitz, Mako Chetsonga, Zinge Nxiweni

Ben Gurion

Cara Miltz, Enrique Claassen, Mukhethwa Maluta

High School News

Our first Toastmasters meeting for Term 3 was a real treat!



Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro reports:

Chess:

Congratulations to our Junior Chess Team who took first, second and third places in their section in a Chess Tournament at the weekend.

Congratulations to our Senior Chess Team boys who were placed third in their section.



Date	Sport	Opponents	Result
29 July	U9 Soccer	Al - Azhar	Lost 3-0
29 July	U10 Hockey	Charlo	Lost 2-1
29 July	U10 Tennis	St Josephs	Won 12-3
29 July	Open Tennis	Collegiate A	Lost 17-11
30 July	U14 Hockey	Kabega Park	Won 3-0

High School Sport

Mr Scriven reports:

Swimming:

Our congratulations to *Kellen Jones* who represented Team South Africa at the Relay World Open Water Swimming Championships in Singapore.



Chess:

Our High School Chess Team: *Lucas v/d Merwe, Sarah v/d Merwe, Kate Yao, Richard West, Camilo Ncoyo, Rohan Mclachlan and Callan Crone*, played their first match of the League against Framesby. They have 2 more home-games before play-offs!



Soccer:



The Girls' Soccer Team beat VP 1-0
The Boys' Soccer Team beat St Dominics Priory 5-0.

Equestrian:

Three of our Equestrian riders participated in the PE Riding Club Winter Show Jumping Show:

Young *Nuha Jeeva* on her pony, *Riverview Kenya*, earned two 1st places in the 30cm Show Jumping classes.



Chloe Wiese on her beautiful new horse, *Callaho Summer Love*, attained a 3rd place in the 80cm class.



Cross Country:



Talia Prahaladh and *Camilo Ncoyo* improved their personal best times at the VP Cross Country League!

Jemma Schewitz and *Callaho Liberty* did their first 1.20cm show and attained a 1st and 2nd place. On *The Beat* she attained a 2nd place in the 1m class.



Important notices



**THEODOR HERZL
& MIGHTY KINGS
BOWLS
DAY**

WESTERN SUBURBS BOWLS CLUB
Friday 26 September 2025
14:00

**R600 PER TEAM
4/TEAM**

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE
CONTACT CHRISTO
sport@theodorherzl.co.za

Great Prizes to be won!



FAMILY

10 August
09:00-13:00

Theodor
Sports Field

FUN DAY

For the whole family.
Join us for a Family Fun Walk, Soccer, Netball, Hockey, Tennis, Chess, Golf (chipping/putting contest), Dad's vs lads, Moms vs daughters & Fun races for our Pre-Primary Theodorables!