



THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
With HEART

NEWSLETTER

15 August 2025

Issue #17



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

"Time is the wisest counsellor of all."

Pericles

As I sit down to write this week's newsletter, I am reminded how quickly the months seem to pass. It feels as though the beginning of the

term was a few days ago, yet here we are – August already – with the end of the school year slowly but surely drawing nearer. The passing of time and the changes that occur with it are uppermost in my mind at the moment. Possibly for all of us?

One of the most visible changes in our school this week has been in the High School, where we have celebrated the induction of our new Student Leadership Committees for 2026. This annual moment of transition is always a poignant one for me...a reminder that time is passing and that change is happening before one's eyes. Providing leadership and other associated skills in an ever-changing and evolving world is part of what every school should be fostering.

I congratulate **Max Schewitz**, who has been elected as Head Prefect and **Isabella Price** as Deputy Head Prefect for 2025/2026. They, together with our Prefects, are worthy ambassadors of our school, and I look forward to seeing them grow their leadership skills. Education is not just about learning and discovering the world of academia.

Change, of course, is not just about big moments or formal ceremonies. It's in the small shifts we notice every day – students and children growing in confidence, friendships deepening, ideas evolving in the classroom. It's in the way our youngest pupils take bold steps into new learning, and in how our oldest students begin to look towards life beyond the gates of Theodor Herzl Schools. Change can be exciting, sometimes challenging, but always essential to growth. Our school space is an ever-evolving one.

The passage of time is also reflected in the images, captured on social media and later in the newsletter, of the Grade 1s wishing our Matric students well in the upcoming examinations (Prelim and Final examinations loom). The Grade 1 visit is always a special and memorable one. My thanks to our Grade 1 teachers, ***Mrs Klackers and Mrs Shaw***, for creating this special moment for our Matrics.



Although mentioned before, I am particularly pleased and proud of our three High School students who have been chosen to represent South Africa in their respective sporting disciplines: ***Kellen Jones*** (swimming), ***Jayden Viduya*** (swimming) and ***Adrienne Schmidt*** (Soccer).

I correct the error I made regarding the day of the week of our Board AGM meeting. I confirm that the date of this important meeting is **THURSDAY, 21 August** and NOT Wednesday, as mentioned in last week's newsletter. Please note that **you will shortly be receiving a more detailed letter** from me about the format of the evening. The interactive evening promises to be enlightening and informative on so many levels. I do hope to see many of you at the evening!

It is with sadness that I announce that ***Mrs Valmarie van de Vyver***, our Life Orientation and part-time Life Sciences teacher at the high school, will be leaving us at the end of the year. She joins her husband, who has taken up a position in the Somerset East area. Having made an impact on our school in a short space of time, Mrs van de Vyver will most certainly be missed.

I wish you a good weekend and week ahead!

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V. Kurz". The signature is stylized with a cursive-like font.

Mr Viktor Kurz
EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL THEODOR HERZL SCHOOLS

Pre-Primary School News

The Pre-Primary School Open Day is on the 24th of August!



THEODOR PRE-PRIMARY

OPEN DAY

DATE- 24 AUGUST 2025
TIME- 9:30-11:00
VENUE-THEODOR PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL
RSVP TO WENDY 041 581 2204

Primary School News

Pyjama Day Fun at school today. The best way to end the week.



High School News

Congratulations to our new Prefect Body:



Congratulations to our Quiz Team! Charlotte Marran placed 1st and Liyemah Funani placed 7th in the Varsity College Quiz Competition. The Top 10 will be competing for the title later this month.



Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro reports:

Date	Sport	Opponents	Result
11 August	U/13a Netball	St Georges	Won 14-9
11 August	U/13b Netball	St Georges	Won 9-7
12 August	U10 Hockey	Greenwood A	Lost 6-0
12 August	U9 Soccer	Willow	Lost 6-3
12 August	U10 Tennis	Newton Park B	Won 13-2
12 August	Open Tennis	Handhaaf A	Lost 19-9
13 August	U14 Hockey	Parkside	Won 4-1
14 August	Junior Netball	St Georges	Lost 4-1
14 August	Junior Netball	St Georges	Lost 18 -1
14 August	U13 Soccer	Harvest A	Draw 1-1
14 August	U11a Soccer	Harvest A	Won 1-0
14 August	U11b Soccer	St Augustines A	Lost 4-1



Mihle Schkolne took part in the Friendly City Dance Festival last week in the Street Dance category. Her group (trio), from the Nicki Ray Performance Academy, was awarded a gold medal.



High School Sport

Mr Scriven reports:

House Captains have been chosen:



Weizmann:

Max Schewitz & Jessica Bartlett

Ben Gurion:

Saniya Kader & Dezaan Zhang

Swimming:

Jayden Viduya has been selected for the SA Swimming Team that will be participating in the Africa Aquatics Zone IV Championships during September.

Kellen Jones has been selected for the SA Swimming Team that will be participating in the World Junior Swimming Championships in Romania next week.

Important notices

A promotional poster for a bowls event. The background is a photograph of a bowling green with several bowls in the foreground. A large red bowl is prominent in the bottom left. The sky is blue with a bright sunburst effect. In the top left corner is the Theodor Herzl School crest, which features a shield with a menorah and the text 'THEODOR HERZL' and 'הספלה העברית נאמל'. The main text on the right side, set against a dark blue background, reads: 'THEODOR HERZL & MIGHTY KINGS BOWLS DAY'. Below this, it says 'WESTERN SUBURBS BOWLS CLUB', 'Friday 26 September 2025', '14:00', 'R600 PER TEAM', '4/TEAM', 'LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE', and 'CONTACT CHRISTO sport@theodorherzl.co.za'. At the bottom left, a white banner says 'Great Prizes to be won!'.

Meet our Board



"Dear Theodor Family. My name is **Debbie Schkolne** and I am one of the board members of our school.

Our family moved to Gqeberha just over 4 years ago. One of the main reasons for the move was for our children to attend Theodor Herzl, specifically because of its diversity, family values, and the offering of isiXhosa as a first additional language until matric.

The more time we spend at the school, the more I value its ability to really 'see' each child for their uniqueness, supporting and nurturing them to thrive. I also appreciate the academic excellence and the focus on universal values of inclusivity, kindness, and humility.

I have over 15 years' experience in the non-profit education sector, having worked with various NGOs, philanthropy, and government. I am committed to advocating for quality education for all children. I hope that my experience and skills in the education sector, such as fundraising, strategy, programme design, quality assurance and monitoring and evaluation, will benefit the school.

As a board member, I am committed to serving the Theodor community of parents, guardians, current students, and alumni. I believe that our school will thrive if we work together as a community, with our children and their futures at the centre."



Theodor
Herzl
Schools

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE WITH HEAD AND HEART