



THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
With HEART

NEWSLETTER

8 August 2025

Issue #16



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

*“Today you are you! That is truer
than true! There is no one alive who
is you-er than you!”*

[Dr. Seuss](#)

As we celebrate and acknowledge the 66th birthday of Theodor Herzl Schools this weekend, these famous, profound yet straightforward words by Dr Seuss ring especially true. Every birthday – whether of a person or an institution – is a reminder of

identity. Just as no two individuals are the same, no two schools are alike. Our story, our traditions, our people, and our shared values make us uniquely *us*. To borrow Dr Seuss’s words - there is certainly no-one alive quite like “us” – Theodor Herzl Schools.

Founded on Jewish principles and as a Jewish Day school in 1959, Theodor Herzl Schools has evolved, opening its doors to all faiths and cultures in the 1990s. Our school has always stood for the universal values that bind humanity together – respect, integrity, compassion, and, this year’s guiding value, humility. A wonderful thought: over the past 66 years, generations of students, teachers, and families have added their own chapter to our heritage, creating a rich tapestry of learning, belonging and purpose.

Dr Seuss reminds us that authenticity, is a gift – that being truly ourselves is the greatest contribution we can make to the world. In much the same way, Theodor Herzl Schools’ strength lies in remaining true to our ethos while growing and adapting to an ever-changing world. We embrace innovation in teaching and learning, yet we stay grounded in the principles that have guided us from our founding days.

THEN: One of the Primary school's first assemblies in the early days of Theodor Herzl Schools



NOW: Pre-Primary, Primary and High School Theodorians today.



So, as we mark this milestone, we do so with gratitude for the visionaries who began this journey in 1959, with appreciation for all who carry it forward today, and with confidence that future generations will continue to live out the values that make our school “us-er than us.”

Our birthday also falls in the week of **Shabbat Nachamu** – the “Shabbat of Comfort”. It is a time of hope in the Jewish calendar. In many ways, our school’s journey reflects that same spirit – offering a place of belonging, inspiration, and growth, where young people are nurtured to see the possibilities ahead. Just as Shabbat Nachamu calls us to look forward with renewed strength, so too does our birthday invite us to celebrate our past while stepping with confidence into the future.

I acknowledge the Board, under the Chairmanship of Mr Ian Meyer, who give of themselves in every way, to ensure that Theodor Herzl Schools remains a school that is synonymous with achieving “excellence in head and heart”.

We invite all parents to join us for our **Meet the School Board** function on **Wednesday, 21 August**. This is a wonderful opportunity, whether you are a Grade 000 or Matric parent, to get to know the people behind the Board who help guide and support our school’s vision and future. It’s also a chance to hear updates (financial or other), ask questions, and share your thoughts in a relaxed and friendly setting. All of our staff from the three schools as well as our Board members will be attending. All of this, while enjoying our hospitality with delicious refreshments! Your presence and input are valued – we look forward to seeing you there!

From birthdays, our Board to the busyness of daily life in our schools, this week has again been a busy one in our school calendar. Over and above the daily academic pursuits of our children and students, our newsletter reflects the sporting and cultural activities, (be they practices, matches or performances) as our children enjoy the holistic education on offer at Theodor Herzl Schools.

Sadly the predictions regarding the weather for Sunday, our Family Fun Day, are not promising at all. Gale force winds and intermittent rain are predicted, hence our

decision to postpone our Family Fun Day. An appropriate day will be communicated with you.

I wish you all a special weekend and look forward to seeing you at the various functions in the days and weeks ahead.

Kind Regards

V. Kurz

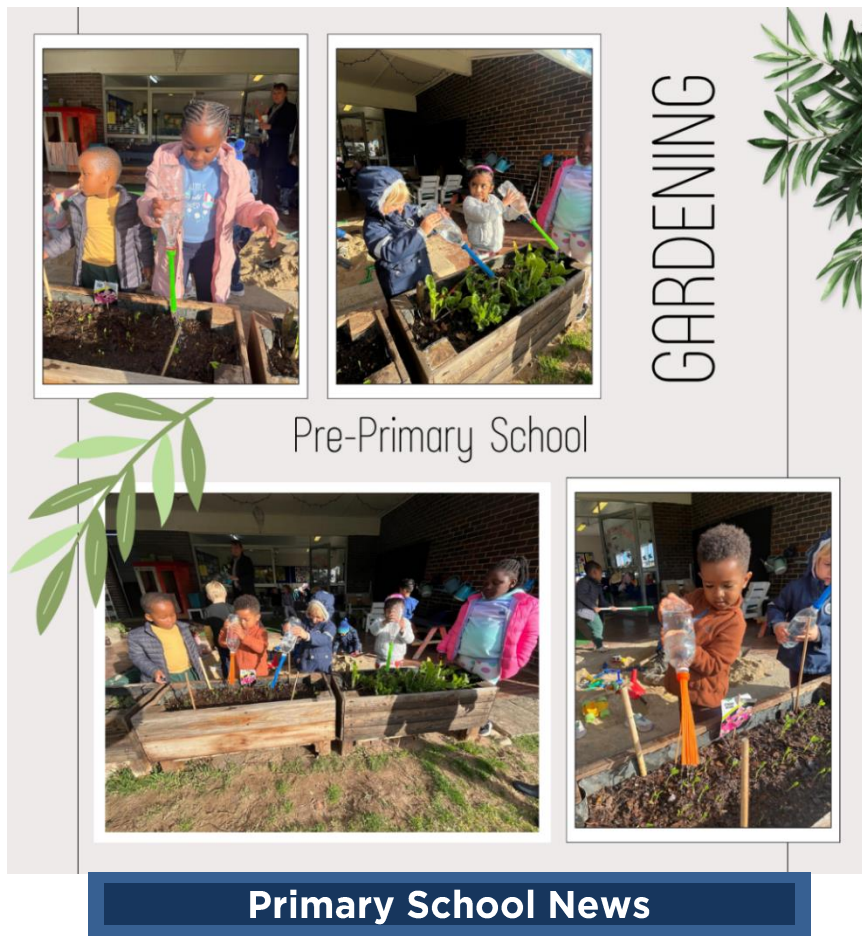
**Mr Viktor Kurz
EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL THEODOR HERZL SCHOOLS**

Pre-Primary School News

The Grade 00s had a visit from a pilot. We learnt about flying, and all the work that a pilot has to do. We even had a real-life pilot visit us!



Not only do our Pre-Primary Theodorables love watering and looking after their plants, but they are learning about responsibility, growth and provision.



Primary School News

Art in our Primary School nurtures creativity, self-expression, and critical thinking, laying the foundation for confident, well-rounded learners.



Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro reports:

Date	Sport	Opponents	Result
4 August	U/13a Netball	VP Grey	Won 9-7
4 August	U/13b Netball	VP Grey	Lost 13-2
5 August	Junior Chess	St Dominic's	Lost 6.5-0.5
5 August	Open Tennis	Clarendon B	Won 19-9
7 August	U13 Soccer	VP Grey B	Won 3-0
7 August	U11a Soccer	VP Grey B	Won 3-2
7 August	U11b Soccer	Cape Recife A	Lost 6-0



High School Sport

Mr Scriven reports:

Netball:

THS vs DF Malherbe: C -league friendly

u/15 won 8-5

u/19 lost 13-9

THS vs Framesby: C-league friendly

u/15 lost 25-2

u/19 lost 15-6

Equestrian:



Congratulations to our Ev85 Champion! **Bella Muller** on her pony **Jon-Jon** won the EC Eventing 85cm Championship held at Woodridge this past weekend.



Cross Country:

Camilo Ncoyo had a solid Run in Baakens Valley.



Squash:

THS vs Alexander Road (League)
Won 11 – 2



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!

Meet our Board



Emma Cora Gardiner

Greetings Theodor family, my name is Emma Cora Gardiner and I am one of the board members for our school. As an alumnus of the school and parent of two current high-schoolers, I am passionate and proud of our precious school and all it offers to our community and children. I was privileged to attend Theodor Herzl School in the 1990s – to this day, its multicultural and diverse community upholds and celebrates the individual and drives home the value of seeing the Other in each other and how to learn from each person's rich tapestry. It opened my eyes, my mind and my world, providing me with the tools and skills that I utilise every day. I am forever grateful to the pioneers of the past who championed critical thinking, robust debate and who led by example – instilling and upholding the universal Jewish values that guide our school to this day.

Theodor helped shape my career in many ways. It was the springboard for me to study medicine at Groote Schuur Hospital, UCT from 1996-2001. Little did I know that I would return to Port Elizabeth in 2004! I have been fortunate to work at Livingstone Hospital for nearly twenty years in the discipline of Internal Medicine. Again, Theodor's values-based education was instrumental in shaping my choices over the last two decades. The experience of our school, both as a scholar and now as a parent, always provides a touchstone, a reminder in my consciousness – am I making the correct decision? I cannot thank Theodor enough for the indelible mark it has made, enriching my life choices at every turn.



Theodor
Herzl
Schools

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE WITH HEAD AND HEART