



THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
With HEART

NEWSLETTER

2 February 2026

Issue #3



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

“The world is sustained not by the loud, but by those who quietly do what needs doing.”

Anonymous

This past week, the sentiment expressed in the quote above, found a very real expression close to home. I returned home late afternoon on Wednesday, after a meeting off campus, to find our well-supported High School Eco Club

returning to school too. They had spent an afternoon in the Baakens Valley behind the school, working alongside professionals to clear alien vegetation and care for an area that so often goes unnoticed.

There was no fanfare, no audience, just young people, sleeves rolled up, doing work that matters. Acts like these remind us that service does not always announce itself, and that some of the most meaningful contributions are made quietly, with care and purpose. **Respect** for the environment, responsibility to others, and a willingness to serve are values we hold dear at Theodor Herzl Schools, and I am grateful to Mr Warwick Osmond and the Eco Club for living out these so clearly.



It has been a busy and happy week across the campus. Our Matric Class of 2026 celebrated an important rite of passage moment at a meaningful and symbolic Matric Tie Ceremony. With each matric accompanied by his/her parents, it was a significant moment that acknowledged both how far they have come and the responsibility that now rests with them.

In the world of the Pre-Primary, parents gathered for a warm and relaxed picnic in the gardens; thankfully, the weather held, allowing for a lovely evening of connection in a beautiful setting. Meanwhile, the Primary and High School co-curricular programmes began in earnest, with matches against other schools signalling the start of an energetic and competitive season. The week concluded with a festive and keenly contested High School Inter-House Athletics Day. It certainly was a celebration of effort, spirit and healthy competition.

It is not merely a coincidence that across South Africa and around the world, schools and education systems are engaging in thoughtful conversations about how best to manage student cellphone use during the school day. These conversations include numerous policies being re-examined. We have no choice. This is not just a High School problem – the indiscriminate use of cell phones begins at a young age. I appreciated hearing Mrs Hilary Goldberg reinforce her firm belief, at the recent Grade 1 Orientation function, that reading, playing, and discovering must be the focus. There is plenty of time to use a cellphone. I concur wholeheartedly with her.

Balanced approaches that prioritise each student's well-being and the act of learning, are needed. Our discussions and sincere concerns mirror international trends, including recent coverage in *The Guardian* on schools re-evaluating phone use in the classroom. These shifts are not coincidental; they reflect a broader commitment within education to promote focus, positive social interaction, and healthy learning environments. The link to the article:

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2026/jan/26/education-secretary-mobile-phone-ban-england-schools-ofsted>

For a South African perspective on this ongoing dialogue, you may find this Cape Argus article insightful: <https://iol.co.za/capeargus/news/2025-12-21-cellphone-restrictions-in-south-african-schools-what-it-means-for-learners/>

As always, I thank you for your partnership and support.

I wish you a good week ahead!

Kind Regards

Viktor

Viktor Kurz

Executive Principal

Pre-Primary School

Parents, teachers, and children all came together to laugh, relax, and enjoy one another's company, turning an ordinary afternoon into a truly memorable Pre-Primary School family picnic.



Primary School

Our Grade 7/1 Buddy System creates a warm, supportive start to school life. It helps our youngest children feel safe, seen and confident as they settle in, knowing there's a friendly older face looking out for them. At the same time, it builds responsibility, empathy, and leadership in our Grade 7s, strengthening a sense of community where everyone belongs and looks after one another.



High School

Mr Arnold Lamont, Principal of the Online IT School attended by our Grade 10-12 students, visited Theodor Herzl High School last week and delivered a practical session with our students. They thoroughly enjoyed interacting with him and he with them. Mr Lamont reviewed their current coursework and provided hands-on guidance, enhancing their learning experience.



“GEES” Week was a special time in our High School where laughter, creativity and school pride came together. It gave our pupils a chance to step out of their routines, celebrate what makes their school unique and connect across grades. By dressing up, cheering together, and sharing in the fun, “GEES” Week built camaraderie, strengthened friendships and reminded everyone that they are part of something bigger than themselves.



Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro reports:

Equestrian:

Nuha Jeeva participated in the Summer Equestrian Show this weekend at the PE Riding Club on her pony **New England Desert Rose**. She attained 1st places in the Newcomer Equitation class, Show Riding, Show Pony and Show Hunter classes, including a 1st place in the Newcomer Championship Pony Rider class.



Cross Country:

Phethokuhle Makamba participated in the N2 Blue Water Bay race on 17 January 2026. He completed the 5 km race in 30 minutes.



High School Sport

Mr Christo Scriven reports:

Cross Country:

Bonukukhanya Makamba participated in the N2 Blue water Bay race on 17 January 2026. He came 2nd in this 5 km race, completing the race in just under 20 minutes.



Equestrian:

Bella Muller and **Jon Jon** competed in the PE Riding Club's multi-discipline Summer Show this past weekend. Bella attained 1st places in the Open Show Hunter Pony, Champion in both the Open Working Hunter and the Open Working Riding Pony classes and won the Summer Show's Supreme Reserve Working Hunter and Working Riding class. For Equitation they placed first in the Open Pony class and for Show Jumping 80cm they placed 2nd.



Cricket:

The First Team Cricket boys played their first League match of the season against DF Malherbe in the T15 format. The team showed good intent and played some solid cricket throughout the match. **Aiden Zeelie** was the top batsman, scoring 27 runs. Although the final result didn't go our way, it was a valuable first outing and the boys are looking ahead with confidence to the next fixture.



TENNIS:

Our 1st Team Boys' and Girls' Tennis Teams played their opening matches of the season against Nico Malan and Brandwag respectively. Both teams narrowly lost their fixtures 3–1, with the boys in particular pushing their opponents hard in several closely contested matches. Outstanding performances came from the **Magigaba twins**, who both secured convincing wins in their matches. A promising start to the season with plenty to build on going forward.

Important Notices

Are you ready for a night of laughter, great music and friendly competition? Our Music Trivia Evening promises toe-tapping tunes, brain-teasing questions and plenty of fun for music lovers of all ages. Gather your friends, test your knowledge across the decades, and enjoy an evening filled with energy, camaraderie and memorable moments. Don't miss out - come and play, sing along and make some noise!

THEODOR HERZL
DANCE COM
presents

MUSIC TRIVIA 2026

PRIZES LUCKY DRAWS & MORE

19 March | **18:30** | **Maths Block**

Tickets Available NOW! Ask any DANCE COM member or Phone 041 5814244

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R110 pp / R1000 per table of 10
Bring your drinks & snacks
Enjoy the music with us!

54%

Turn on sound for best experience!

Please join us at our Theodor Herzl High School Open Day.

**OPEN
DAY**

Join us for the

THEODOR HERZL HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAY

12 February @ 18:00, HALL

**Come experience the
Theodor Vibe, Energy &
Excitement!**

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