



**THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS**

**SCHOOLS
With HEART**

NEWSLETTER

27 February 2026

Issue #5



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

*“We make a living by what we
get, but we make a life by what
we give.”*

Winston Churchill

The quote by Sir Winston Churchill resonates with me. Giving is not always dramatic or loud. Often, it is quiet and steady. It is the teacher who prepares one more lesson, the child who includes someone new in a game, the parent who volunteers time despite a full schedule.

At Theodor Herzl, across our Pre-Primary, Primary and High School, the very act of teaching is an act of giving — of time, of patience, of wisdom and of heart. It is something we see every single day.

On Monday at our High School assembly, we witnessed a particularly tangible expression of this spirit. Our Judaicare committee handed over books to One Life Child Organisation - a simple yet powerful gesture. Books open worlds. They extend imagination and opportunity. I was proud of our students for recognising that what they have can and should be shared. Giving, in this case, becomes both practical and deeply meaningful.

On 23 February, a number of our children and students arrived at school proudly wearing their Cubs and Scouts uniforms. It was a lovely sight. The ethos of Cubs and Scouts, rooted in service, responsibility and community engagement aligns beautifully with our own values. Community service and giving are not “add-ons”; they are at the heart of what it means to grow into thoughtful, responsible young adults. I commend those who are part of this worthy organisation.

Our Can-do Mothers' Committees have also met this week and are already hard at work, ready to channel their skills and enthusiasm into initiatives that will benefit our schools. I am deeply grateful for the generosity of time and energy that our parent body continues to offer. Schools flourish when partnership is strong, and we are fortunate to have that partnership at Theodor Herzl Schools.

As we move into a week of important observances, I extend my good wishes to our Muslim families as they begin the fast of Ramadan. May it be a time of reflection, renewal and blessing.

At the same time, our Jewish community celebrates Purim — a festival that reminds us of courage, resilience and hidden strength. The story of Esther teaches that even when circumstances seem uncertain, individuals can rise with bravery and integrity to shape a better outcome. It is a joyous festival, marked by celebration, giving to others, and acts of kindness. I am looking forward to our Purim parade this coming Tuesday — always a highlight filled with colour, laughter and unmistakable Theodor spirit.



As I write this newsletter, our Judaica tour group is in Cape Town, experiencing some of the traditional sights and sounds of the city. Beyond the tourism, they will share in a meaningful Shabbat together this evening and tomorrow, a special opportunity to pause, reflect and connect. I wish them safe travels and rich experiences.

On a slightly different tack, a friend shared the following article (see link below) on the “world of Lego.” Research done by Lego has shown that a ‘curiosity gap’ has occurred, as parents struggle to keep up with children’s science questions.

I am not here to punt Lego (nor am I receiving a “kickback” by promoting this perennial favourite game for children!!) but the LEGO Group and LEGO Education have launched four innovative STEM sets, specifically designed to inspire curiosity, exploration, and scientific discovery at home, for children aged 7 and up. It is interesting how Lego is making a “comeback”, I believe. The article makes for interesting reading.

The link to the article is: <https://www.lego.com/en-us/aboutus/news/2026/january/lego-education-young-builders-at-home-with-new-stem-sets?locale=en-us>

On that “playful” note, I wish you a wonderful weekend. My wish is that the weekend and week ahead continue to be times in which we give generously: of ourselves, to one another, and to the wider world.

Kind Regards

Viktor

Viktor Kurz

Executive Principal

Primary School

23 February marks the birthday of Robert Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scout Movement. This day is traditionally celebrated worldwide as Founders’ Day. Our Theodor Herzl Cubs and Scouts proudly wore their uniform to school today to remind us of the the values of Scouting: leadership, community service and personal development and also to celebrate being part of a global movement.



High School

Judaicare handed over the book donations to “One Life Child” this week.



Sports News

Primary School Sport

Coach Petro reports:



We congratulate *Iviwe Sizani* on receiving her Eastern Province Colours for Chess.



Cayne Jansen and *Qhayisa Fuzile* did exceptionally well in the Summerwood Chess Tournament last weekend.



Limkhitha Schkolne competed in the Eastern Cape Schools Challenge for synchronised swimming this past weekend. She placed first overall at her level.

High School Sport

Mr Christo Scriven reports:

Biathlon:

Shah Eli Kannemeyer participated in the EP Biathlon Champs on Sunday. First in his age group and he broke the record. Funnily enough, he broke the record that *Kellen Jones* set in 2023! He will thus participate in the SA Biathlon Champs on 21 March.



Cricket:

The 1st team Cricket played against Andrew Rabie last week but unfortunately lost by 4 wickets. All the best on the final match of the season this coming Wednesday vs VP (away)

Tennis:

Our First Team Boys' Tennis won against Grey PE in the 2nd league fixture 3 - 1. This week our boys beat VP's First Team 4 - 0! A superb victory.

Athletics:

All the best to *Olivia Mukheibir* & *Mason Wippenaar* who will be competing at the Metro Champs over the weekend.

Equestrian

Eva Pape has officially been chosen as 1 of 3 children from the Eastern Cape to attend the Complete Eventing camp at the Inanda Country Base in Gauteng. 20 children around the country have been selected.

Basketball:

Our teams played against Grey PE last week. The Junior team beat Grey u/15 B 21-12 and the senior team lost against Grey u/19 B side 23-14.



Swimming:

Congratulations to the following swimmers who qualified for the final Eastern Cape Swimming trials this coming Saturday in East London:

Kellen Jones, Aiden Green, Eli Kannemeyer, Emily Geldart, Jayden Viduya, Carter Cruickshank.



Important notices

Gelvan Park Frail Aged Home Food Drive

Please support Interact by donating the following grocery items:



Donations can be dropped off
with Mrs Everest by 16 March.
Thank you for your support!