



THEODOR
HERZL
SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
With HEART

NEWSLETTER

6 October 2026

Issue # 20



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents / Guardians

“Every exit is an entry somewhere else.”
Tom Stoppard

Welcome back to the fourth and final term of 2026.

There is always something slightly surprising about writing those words.

January does not seem all that long ago, and yet here we are in October, with the final term upon us and the year beginning to gather pace towards its conclusion.

Looking back over the past few weeks, there seems to have been quite a bit of coming and going at Theodor. Students have travelled, performed, celebrated, competed and returned with stories to tell. Our Grade 11 and 12 Drama students have been away on tour these past holidays, and the end of last term was filled with the usual wonderful mixture of school life. Our Pre-Primary Market Day, the Primary School production and Heritage Day were just some of the occasions that brought considerable colour and energy to the end of the term.



Perhaps that is why Tom Stoppard's words seemed particularly appropriate this week: **"Every exit is an entry somewhere else."**

A fair amount of that is happening at school at the moment.

A school tour is perhaps the easiest example. There is the excitement of leaving, the inevitable last-minute question about whether everything has actually been packed, and then the return home a few days later, usually with considerably more washing than anyone remembers putting into the suitcase in the first place.

But some departures are rather more significant.

For our Matric Class of 2026, these next few weeks represent a series of "lasts". Their Matric Dance at the end of last term was one of them, and what a wonderful evening it was. There is something very special about seeing young people whom we have known in school uniform arrive looking suddenly, and rather alarmingly, grown up.



This Thursday we gather for their Prize Giving and Valedictory Function, another important marker in their journey through Theodor Herzl. Soon afterwards, the familiar routine of school days will give way to their final examinations.

For those of us who work in schools, this part of the year is always a little bittersweet. We are enormously proud to see young people ready to move on, but we also know that classrooms, corridors, assemblies and ordinary school

days will soon continue without a group of young people who have been part of the fabric of the High School for several years.

And perhaps it is those ordinary moments that one remembers most.

Not necessarily the big occasions, but the conversations in passages, the laughter before an assembly, the sporting afternoon, the school play, the tour bus, the teacher who helped when something did not quite make sense, and the friendships that somehow became part of everyday life.

Of course, while our Matrics are preparing to leave, everyone else is simply moving into the next part of their own school story.

Our Grade 11s are beginning to realise, perhaps with varying degrees of enthusiasm, that Matric is now rather close. Our younger High School students move another year nearer to the senior phase, while in the Primary and Pre-Primary Schools there is already plenty of conversation about new teachers, new classrooms and the excitement of “being in the next grade”.

That is one of the lovely things about a school stretching from Grade 000 to Grade 12. At any given moment, someone is just beginning something while someone else is preparing to finish it.

So, as we begin this final term, there is much still ahead of us. There will be examinations, celebrations, sporting fixtures, year-end events and, I am sure, a few surprises that have not yet found their way onto the calendar.

For now, it is simply good to have everyone back.

To our Matrics, we wish you well for Thursday's Prize Giving and Valedictory functions and for the important weeks that follow. Enjoy these last few days of being school pupils. They tend to disappear rather more quickly than one expects.

And to all our families, welcome back. I hope the break brought some rest, and some well-earned time together.

Here is to a happy final term!

Kind Regards

Viktor

Viktor Kurz

Executive Principal

Pre-Primary School

Well done to our children and parents for the creativity, care and love poured into every stall at our Pre-Primary School Market Day. Thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a happy day. These are the ordinary school moments that become lovely childhood memories.



Primary School

Congratulations to **Miss Nizaan Hennings** and **Mrs Candice Parkin** for an amazingly successful Primary School Production!



Ahoy, mateys! Our Grade 1 crew set sail for an unforgettable adventure during our **Pirate Picnic Day**! The schoolyard was transformed into the high seas as our little buccaneers showed up in their finest pirate garb, complete with eye patches, tricorne hats, and plenty of "Ahoy!" greetings. The day was packed with high-seas excitement, from hunting down hidden treasures to some fun challenges. After working up a captain-sized appetite, the crew dropped anchor to share a wonderful picnic lunch together. Thank you to all our amazing Grade 1 families for helping make this swashbuckling day such a massive success!



High School

Our High School buzzed with vibrant colours and proud smiles at the end of last term, as everyone dressed in stunning traditional attire to celebrate Heritage Day.



Images supplied by **Jessica Hickman**.

Our High School Photojournalism Club is hosting a photography competition! All High School pupils are welcome to enter. Get your entries in by the end of today!



THEODOR HERZL HIGH SCHOOL
PHOTOJOURNALISM CLUB PRESENTS:

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

CAPTURE YOUR WORLD

OPEN TO ALL THHS STUDENTS!

SHOWCASE
YOUR TALENT!

CATEGORIES & PRIZES

- 1. BEST NATURE PHOTO
- 2. BEST CITY/SCENERY PHOTO
- 3. BEST ANIMAL PHOTO
- 4. MOST CREATIVE PHOTO
- 5. BEST MEANINGFUL MOMENT

**GREAT
PRIZES
TO BE
WON!**

CLOSING DATE: 6 OCTOBER

SUBMIT NOW!
Visit <https://forms.fillout.com/t/dtRFstmtQnus>
or scan the QR code.



Hosted by Theodor Herzl HS Photojournalism Club | #THHSPhotoComp2026

High School Sport

Mr Christo Scriven reports:

SWIMMING:

Kellen Jones proudly represented Team South Africa at the World Aquatics Junior Open Water Swimming Championships held in Argentina from 3-6 September 2026. Competing against the best junior open water swimmers from around the world, Kellen achieved outstanding results:

- **Top 30 male swimmers in the world** – 7.5 km event
- **18th place** – 3 km event
- **8th place** – Team Relay

Kellen's performances on the international stage are a remarkable achievement and a testament to his dedication, commitment and hard work. We are extremely proud of his achievement in representing both **Theodor Herzl High School and South Africa** at this prestigious global event.

Theodor Herzl swimmers once again delivered an outstanding performance at the **BEST Swimming Gala on 5-6 September 2026**, producing excellent individual and relay results.

Emily Geldart

- 1st – 100m Breaststroke
- 3rd – 100m Freestyle

Jayden Viduya

- 1st – 100m Butterfly
- 1st – 100m Freestyle
- 1st – Boys 15&O 4 × 100m Freestyle Relay
- 1st – Boys 15&O 4 × 100m Medley Relay
- 2nd – 100m Backstroke
- 4th – 1500m Freestyle

Carter Cruickshank

- 1st – 400m Freestyle
- 3rd – 1500m Freestyle

Eli Kannemeyer

Eli had an exceptional gala, winning **five individual gold medals** in the Boys 13-14 age group:



- 100m Butterfly – **1:07.08**
- 100m Freestyle – **57.88**
- 200m Individual Medley – **2:28.41**
- 200m Freestyle – **2:08.43**, improving his time by an impressive **3.68 seconds**
- 100m Backstroke – **1:08.62**

Eli also contributed to **two relay gold medals**:

- Boys U14 400m Freestyle Relay – **4:19.75**
- Boys U14 400m Medley Relay – **4:53.98**

A fantastic weekend of swimming for Theodor Herzl! These results are a reflection of the swimmers' dedication, commitment and hard work in the pool. We are incredibly proud of all four swimmers and the way they continue to represent the school at the highest level.

ATHLETICS:

Congratulations to **Talia Prahaladh** and **Olivia Mukheibir**, who represented Theodor Herzl at the 1st leg of the EPA Athletics Meeting held at the Oval on Saturday, 12 September. Both athletes competed in the U16 category, despite being younger than the age group.

Olivia Mukheiber, still an U14 athlete, produced an outstanding performance, claiming 1st place in all three of her events:

- 100m
- 200m
- 400m

Talia Prahaladh, still an **U15 athlete**, also delivered an impressive performance, finishing **3rd in the 3000m** against the U16 athletes.

Competing against athletes older than themselves makes these results even more impressive. **Well done, Olivia and Talia!** Your performances are a fantastic reflection of your hard work, commitment and determination.



EQUESTRIAN:

Jemma Schewitz participated in the Spring Derby Show at PE Riding Club during the holidays. We congratulate Jemma on **Callaho Liberty** who attained two 3rd places, a 2nd place in the 1.15m Show Jumping classes and won the Derby. On **First For Horses Silence S**, Jemma attained a 3rd and 2nd place in the 1m Show Jumping classes and secured another win in the Derby. It is good to see you back in the arena Jemma!



Bella Muller and **Jon Jon** participated in the EC Showing Championships 2026 and attained the following titles:

EC Open Working Riding Pony Champion of 2026.
EC Open Show Hunter Pony Champion of 2026.
EC Open Reserve Show Pony of 2026.
EC Open Working Hunter Pony Champion of 2026
Awarded National Novice Working Hunter Pony Rider of 2025.
Awarded EC Open Show Pony of the year for 2025.
Awarded EC Novice Show Pony of the year 2025

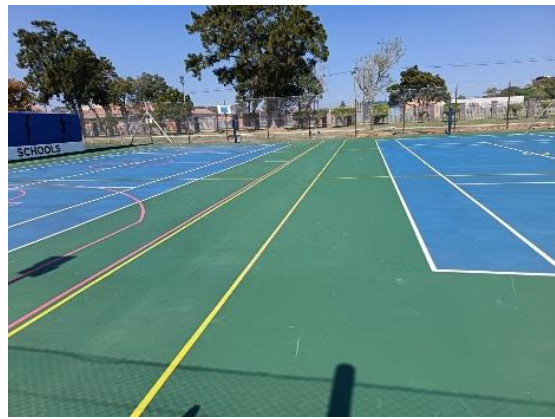


Important Notices

A huge Thank You to everyone involved in our current campus maintenance:



Cricket nets revamp in progress.



Fresh look, 2 multi-purpose courts.



Pool crystal clear and new shading done.



Two 32-seater pavilions have been sponsored by Sally Nel, one of our Theodor families! Thank you to you and your capable team.



ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE WITH HEAD AND HEART