

# SKY CITY BI-ANNUAL REPORT

December 2024



**30 YEARS OF QUALITY PRIVATE EDUCATION** 



As we near the end of the 2024 academic year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for our collective achievements. Our learners have once again shown remarkable resilience and commitment to the different aspects of their schooling, including their academics and extra-mural activities. We are looking forward to our end-of-year academic results.

Our educators have continued to provide high-quality education and support, adapting to new teaching methods and ensuring that learners receive the attention that they need. Their dedication and passion are the pillars of our school's success.

We have made significant strides in our Academics with learners progressing through to the Provincial level in Olympiads. We congratulate Marema Mamabolo who achieved second place in the Provincial Social Sciences Olympiad as well as Lindokuhle Mbata who placed in the top 5 in the final round of the Gibela WeSolve4X Mathematics completion, with over 1 000 participants. We also celebrate the remarkable achievement of Nombuso Ncube who achieved a silver medal in the international round of the Eskom Science Expo.

We are also very proud of Thando Shabangu for his outstanding achievements, being crowned Ambassador and Mr Teen Earth South Africa. We wish Thando all the best as he competes in Mr Teen Earth which will take place in Peru in November.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our learners and parents who contributed towards our fundraising initiatives. We are proud to announce that we have upgraded the sound in the hall and have further plans to use our fundraising to improve the quality of our school infrastructure.

We are reminded that education is more than just the knowledge we gain in the classroom, it is the foundation upon which we build our dreams and the bridge that leads to the future. Every lesson learnt, every challenge faced and every success celebrated is a step toward becoming the best versions of ourselves.

We appreciate your continued support and involvement in your child's education, helping Sky City to fly our flag high.

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." – Benjamin Franklin #StrongerTogether

Ms S. Grieb

Executive Principal



### Looking to the future

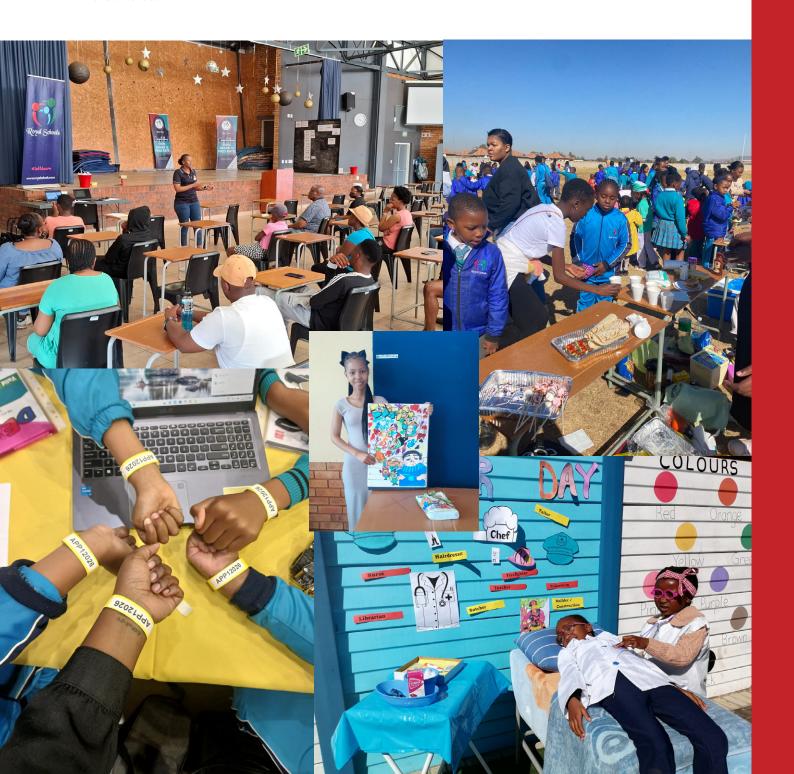
Looking ahead, improved developments could propel us into exciting new territories in education. Here are a few key improvements that can improve our school environment and support the growth of our children:

Robotics and coding will be offered full-time in the Foundation Phase as a fifth subject. Learning coding and robotics teaches learners to work with technology and fosters problem-solving skills, creativity and logical thinking.

We are also looking forward to the acquisition of additional robotics kits for our Grade 4-9 learners.

We will be improving our playgrounds by laying artificial grass underneath the Jungle Gyms.

We are looking forward to these improvements and will continue to strive for quality and excellence in all that we do.





#### Grade R Make and Bake

The Grade R Make and Bake activity was created to engage young learners in hands-on cooking and baking, fostering fine motor skills, teamwork and understanding of healthy eating.

This year's activity introduced learners to basic cooking skills, while encouraging creativity and collaboration. The recipe was chosen to be simple and age-appropriate, ensuring that all learners could participate fully and enjoy the experience.

#### **Equipment Used:**

Learners worked with plastic cups, spoons, cutting boards, child-safe knives, a cupcake baking pan, a wooden spoon, measuring cups, a cooling tray, aprons and oven mittens.

#### **Activity Overview:**

Teachers began with a discussion on healthy eating, emphasising the benefits of fruit and dairy. After washing hands, learners were divided into small groups, with each group assigned tasks such as chopping fruit, layering ingredients, mixing batter and decorating. Guided by teachers, learners carefully cut fruit, layered it in cups with yoghurt, and mixed batter for cupcakes. With teacher assistance, they safely scooped the batter into the tray, baked the cupcakes, and later decorated them with blueberries, icing and sprinkles.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

Handling utensils and cutting soft fruit helped improve fine motor skills, while tasks like measuring and scooping introduced early math concepts. Working in groups promoted cooperation and communication. Learners explored nutritious ingredients and the importance of making healthy food choices, while decorating their cupcakes allowed them to express their creativity.

#### Conclusion:

The Make and Bake activity was a great success. Learners showed enthusiasm and pride in their creations, gaining confidence in their culinary abilities and a greater appreciation for healthy eating.

#### Preschool career day

#### What is Career Day?

Career Day gives learners an up-close look at different career paths and connects their learning to the real world.

#### Why We Host Career Day

We hosted Career Day to support our preschool theme of People Who Help Us. The event aimed to introduce learners to a variety of careers they may not have imagined, helping them to explore interests and skills that could guide their future aspirations. Additionally, Career Day helps learners understand who to turn to when they face specific challenges.

#### A Memorable Experience

Learners thoroughly enjoyed Career Day, engaging with the presentations and asking questions. It was a valuable experience that broadened their horizons and sparked curiosity about the world of work.

#### Anti-Bullying presentation(3RC)

As the learners walked into the hall, each learner was given a bag with an activity booklet and an information leaflet. This created a welcoming atmosphere and ensured each learner was excited to see what would be presented.

The learners were introduced to the 5 one word phrases by means of interactive activities. As each phrase was introduced, scenarios were given, or interactive activities took place, that the learners could easily relate to. Often selected learners were called to the front to participate in certain activities, while the audience was encouraged to observe and evaluate the situation. The audience was given opportunities to share their understanding of their observation, guided with kind corrections where needed. Learners were praised for trying to answer and this increased participation from the audience.

The 5 phrases were followed by I am ... (kind, brave, bouncy, safe, me).

These 5 phrases were repeated before introducing a new phrase to remember. Each phrase was one word ensuring it was age appropriate making it easy to understand, remember and practically apply at a later stage.

The two presenters also spoke to each other kindly and displayed kind and encouraging behaviour towards one another.

Within the bag, each learner received an activity booklet and information leaflet. The presenters encouraged the learners to make use of the information leaflet to obtain further information and to share what they have learnt within their community.

It was a successful event that empowered our learners to recognise their feelings and how to take others' feelings into consideration. The learners were actively engaged at all times and thoroughly enjoyed the presentation.

#### Pre-primary concert report

On October 15, 2024, from 17:00 to 19:00, the preschool concert was held at Royal Schools Sky City Hall. The preschool learners presented the main act, and since the concert's theme was Disney, each class selected a play. During our little one's most exciting moments, grade RRR&RR performed Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, grade RA performed Moana and grade RB performed Frozen. With three songs per class, it took months to prepare everything all thanks to the teachers with their dedication and hard work. Parents and family members purchased tickets for R60, while children under 12 paid R30. Each child contributed R250, which covered the cost of the costume, decorations and concert admission. Parents came in their numbers to support their kids.

#### Foundation Phase Concert: "A Trip to Disney Land"

On the evening, 17 October 2024, the Sky City Foundation Phase learners took the audience on a magical journey through their concert performance, "A Trip to Disney Land." The event, held in the school hall, was filled with excitement, colour and the joy of imagination as the young performers shared their interpretation of the iconic Disney experience.

The school hall was beautifully decorated with Disney-themed props, from Mickey Mouse to Show Whites mirror, creating a whimsical atmosphere. Families, teachers, and friends filled the seats, eagerly waiting for the little ones to showcase their talents. As the lights dimmed and the first notes of cheerful Disney music played, the children, dressed in colourful costumes, took the stage with bright smiles and an air of excitement.

The trip started in the Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, where they went to a ball of Snow White and Cinderella with all seven dwarfs, where they Minions appeared on the scene looking for bananas, which lead them to the Jungle where Baloo's heart beats a jungle beat.

Next, the children took the audience to the magical streets of Agrabah. A group of learners, dressed as Aladdin, Jasmine, and the Genie, danced whilst capturing the spirit of adventure. Next scene was filled with humour and excitement as the learners re-enacted the meeting between Moana and Maui, the demigod. Maui, played by a charismatic learner, performed the song "You're Welcome," showing off pretend tattoos and flexing his muscles, while the audience laughed and cheered. The interaction between Moana and Maui

was playful and full of energy, capturing the essence of their unique friendship. As the Frozen characters continued their journey, the stage was transformed into the colourful world of the Smurfs. A group of children, dressed as iconic Smurfs such as Papa Smurf, Smurfette, Brainy, and Clumsy, danced their way onto the stage to the lively tune of "La La La (Smurf Song)." Their playful choreography and high-energy performance had the audience cheering and laughing. After leaving the Princesses and the Smurfs, we went to Monsters Inc where Sally the little monster showed off his daily exercise routine and the audience was wowed by the monster dances. Then with all the magic in the air, we landed in the World of Harry Potter where parents were captivated by the children's performances. The detailed costumes, lively acting, and adorable moments of magic left the audience applauding throughout the show. The final stop on this Disney trip was a playful adventure with lions. The Lion King concert was a roaring success, filled with unforgettable moments of music, dance, and storytelling. The learners' enthusiasm and talent brought the magic of The Lion King to the stage, making it a memorable experience for all who attended. The children should be proud of their outstanding performance!

The concert "A Trip to Disney Land" was a delightful success, showcasing the creativity, confidence and enthusiasm of the young performers. The concert not only entertained the audience, but also provided the learners with a platform to develop their performance skills and work as a team. It was truly a magical evening that will be remembered by all who attended.

#### Foundation Phase Challenga

We are very excited to share that during term 3 period our learners entered a School Olympiad Challenga; 11 learners in grade 1, 13 learners in grade 2 and 14 learners in grade 3. They wrote a Mathematics, English HL, Life Skills and General Knowledge assessments. Learners enjoyed this experience of writing external papers and they obtained good marks. They received Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates for their results from this Challenga.

We would like to thank parents for giving our learners this opportunity to challenge this Challenga with confidence and independency. Our learners are very excited and looking forward to next years Challenga.



#### Reading Club

Royals Schools Sky City Foundation Phase Launches Exiting Reading Club for young Bookworms!

In a delightful initiative to foster a love for reading among the littlest learners, Royal Schools Sky City has introduced a brand-new Reading Club tailored for its enthusiastic learners. The club aims to spark imagination, boost literacy skills, and cultivate a lifelong passion for books from an early age.

The idea is to make reading fun and interactive for our young ones. It is see books as magical portals to new worlds.

We believe that reading should be a joyous experience, by creating a positive association with books at this young age, we hope to instil a lifelong love for reading.

#### **Chess Club**

The Crescent Chess Club has been on an exceptional winning streak, triumphing in all their matches this season. Their success is attributed to a combination of strategic preparation, skilled players, and a strong team spirit. Key victories include decisive wins against top local rivals, showcasing their dominance. Looking ahead, the Chess Club aims to continue their winning momentum and achieve even greater milestones in upcoming tournaments.

#### Foundation Phase Excursion 2024 - Croc City & Reptile Park

This year, the Foundation Phase learners enjoyed an exciting visit to Croc City and Reptile Park in Johannesburg. Enthusiastic about seeing live crocodiles, the children learnt about their habitats, diets and behaviours, gaining a deeper understanding of these impressive creatures. In addition to crocodiles, the learners encountered a range of reptiles, including turtles, snakes and lizards, which captivated their attention.

A highlight of the excursion was the opportunity to touch some of the reptiles, making the experience even more memorable. The guides shared fascinating facts and encouraged the learners to ask questions, sparking curiosity and excitement among the children. Overall, it was a fun and educational outing that enhanced the learners' knowledge of reptiles and wildlife conservation.



## THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT

# FOR CLASS OF 2024



By Nombuso Ncube (Grade 12) (Deputy Head girl)

The past few months have been very eventful, not only for the school in general but also for the class of 2024. As the deputy head girl, I have witnessed and enjoyed many inspirational moments that have truly given me hope for the upcoming national exams and future.

In order to ensure our preparedness for our final exams our dedicated principals and teachers organised boot camps and sleepovers for matriculants. The tireless efforts of the principals and teachers are truly appreciated. These boot camps, during the June and September holidays, have built our confidence and given us the strength to face the prelims and final exams with nothing but conviction. We can now smell that coveted 100 percent pass rate! We have confidence and we believe that, as the class of 2024, we are going to achieve phenomenal results.

The one electrifying event was the matric promposals. Our voices are still hoarse and recovering from the ululations. These proposals were well planned out and were the perfect way to sign off as the class of 2024. It is not necessarily about love being in the air, but about finding friends that we have battled through high school with and that will enjoy and share our last moments of matric with us. It was truly lovely and heart-warming.

Another event of note is the valediction night where matriculants received recognition for their accomplishments. The excellence that was on display was truly breath taking. We are still reeling from the wonderful feeling of that night. One thing for sure, Royal Schools Sky City's lavish décor made us feel like royalty. Furthermore, it felt wonderful to take a glimpse at our year-long efforts. The speech from the valedictorian, Nelisiwe Sithole, embodied the spirit of the Class of 2024. She was right about one thing though, the June exams and prelims could not stop us, so what makes anyone think that the finals are going to stand in our way? I am confident that the passing down of the flame to the grade 11s gave them a sense of the responsibility that will be placed on their shoulders for 2025. We are looking forward to the Matric Dance, the icing on the cake.

The true highlight of my year was my invitation to the International Science Fair at Emperor's Palace. It hosted young scientists from different countries, namely South Africa, Zimbabwe, Russia, Mexico, Lesotho e.t.c. I was truly blessed to present my project in the category of environmental studies. I was excited and humbled to receive a silver medal for my project. This was a life changing event that opened up my eyes to so many possibilities. I would like to thank the directors and principals for generously providing me with the resources and finances that I needed. Additionally, I would like to thank Mrs Ndlovu, my Science teacher, for her relentless mentorship and commitment.

In retrospect, I joined this school in 2018 as a mere Grade 6 learner who was green behind the ears. Throughout my journey at this school I was exposed to a plethora of academic and cultural activities. I dived into these activities with a great appetite and to my heart's content. I was spoilt for choice. I was engaged in rugby, the olympiads, eisteddfod, robotics, science debate, science expo, Varsity College Quiz and academic challenges like mental Maths, spelling bee, you name it. Over the years, I have grown in a manner that I never envisaged or thought is possible. The school has nurtured me. It has given me wings to soar, to unlock and unleash my potential. I will forever be grateful for the platforms availed to me.

My run as the deputy head girl had its fair share of challenges, but I am always up for a good challenge. All in all, it was enjoyable and taught me a multitude of lessons. I thank the principals and all of my teachers, once again, for the efforts they have put in to ensure that the best of the best is received by the class of 2024. It honestly takes a superhero to have the patience that they had for us. As we bow out, I would like to wish all my fellow matriculants nothing but a glittering future.



# FOUNDATION PHASE AND PRESCHOOL

# ACADEMIC REPORT

Our primary objective is to have a smooth transition from preschool into foundation phase and from foundation phase to intermediate phase. We have started systemic testing which provides us with a benchmark for our new learners entering 2025. Preschool aims to prepare children for formal schooling by fostering socialisation, cognitive development, and self-regulation skills. It emphasises play-based learning to stimulate curiosity and creativity. We have started formal assessments in grade R to ensure learners are well aware and familiar with assessments. Differentiated instruction is used to accommodate diverse learning styles and abilities. Successful completion of the Foundation Phase equips children with essential literacy, numeracy, and social skills necessary for progression to higher grades. We are proud to announce a 100% pass rate from our grade Rs and only 1 failure from our grade 1 group consisting of 124 learners. Foundation phase lays a solid academic and social foundation for future learning. We used this to identify barriers for intervention where necessary. Our learners are already showing school readiness, higher levels of school engagement, and improved social-emotional skills. Our grade 2s and 3s accomplished a passrate of 90%. Our learners are better prepared to meet the academic and social demands of formal schooling. Our educators have done a stellar job in ensuring this is all possible. We look forward to a great new year with only great things to come.







# PRIMARY SCHOOL

# ACADEMICS

We are proud to present this Academic Report reflecting the combined efforts of our dedicated staff, enthusiastic learners and supportive parents. Together we have fostered a learning environment that nurtures academic excellence, personal growth and holistic development.

This year we have made significant strides in curriculum delivery and co-curricular activities, positioning our school as a centre of innovation and excellence. Our emphasis on technology integration and participation in Olympiads and competitions has led to remarkable achievements.

#### **Academic Achievements**

- We boosted self-esteem and motivation by recognising students in the TOP 5 of each grade with certificates presented at assemblies.
- · Intervention programmes were established to support learners in improving their grades.
- · Learners in Grades 5-7 engaged in Reflective Learning to close the COVID-19 learning gaps and tackle
- educational challenges.
- Learners participated in various Olympiads and competitions, enhancing their problem-solving skills and critical thinking. They participated in the Eskom Science Expo, Wits Mathematics Competition, Social Sciences Olympiad, Technology Olympiad, Art Exhibition, Roboticon, Gibela We Solve 4x Mathematics Competition and the Conquesta Olympiad.
- · Our achievements in the Olympiads and Competitions were as follows:

Olympiad/ Competition	Achievement
Social Sciences Olympiad	2 <sup>nd</sup> place at the Provincial level.
Eskom Science Expo	Recognition from Tshwane University of Technology for best project.
Wits Mathematics Competition	2 Excellent and 3 Merit recognitions.
Technology Olympiad	Participated up to the District level.
Gibela We Solve 4x Mathematics Competition.	Qualified to the finals with 1 excellent and 4 Merit recognitions.

#### **Practical Activities**

Practical work enhances classroom learning. This year students dove into exciting activities that sparked creativity and deepened their knowledge.

#### My favourite author competition

Grades 4-7 embraced their inner bookworms by selecting their favourite authors for a creative presentation. With posters and mini-displays, they showcased the authors' lives and literary impact. This competition not only celebrated their love for reading but also brought their favourite stories to life in vibrant, visual ways!



#### Entrepreneurs' day

Grade 7 learners stepped into the world of business during Entrepreneurs' Day. Setting up stalls to sell goods, they tapped into their creativity while gaining firsthand experience in entrepreneurship. It was a day filled with innovation, collaboration and a glimpse into the exciting world of running a business!

#### FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS

#### Core Skills Development

- Literacy and Numeracy: Ensure that children develop strong Reading, Writing and Mathematical skills. Emphasis will be on Phonics, Comprehension, basic arithmetic and problem-solving.
- · Critical Thinking: Introduce activities that encourage logical thinking, questioning and problem-solving.
- Digital Literacy: With the growing importance of technology, integrating basic computer skills and digital safety from a young age.

#### Holistic learning approach

- Interdisciplinary Learning: Foster connections between subjects like Math, Science and Language to create a more integrated understanding.
- Creative Expression: Encourage arts, music and drama to help children express themselves and enhance cognitive skills.

#### Technology and Innovation

- EdTech Integration: Use educational technology to enhance learning experiences, including gamified learning, coding and interactive lessons.
- · Cyber Safety: Teach learners how to navigate the internet safely and responsibly.

#### Personalised learning

- Differentiated Instruction: Cater for diverse learning needs by providing individualised support for children at different academic levels.
- Learning Styles: Use various teaching techniques (visual, auditory, kinaesthetic) to match the learning preferences of each learner.
- Parental Involvement: Encourage collaboration between schools and families to support children's learning at home.







#### Conclusion

As we conclude this academic year, we celebrate the remarkable progress our learners have made academically and socially. Their enthusiasm for learning and their ability to overcome challenges inspire us all. We extend our gratitude to our dedicated teachers and staff for creating a nurturing environment essential for success.

Looking ahead we encourage our learners to embrace new opportunities and continue striving for excellence. The friendships and lessons learnt this year will shape their future journeys.

We appreciate the unwavering support from our school community—learners, teachers and parents—for making this year memorable. Together we look forward to even greater achievements ahead!





## PRIMARY SCHOOL

# CULTURE

The cultural offerings in the Primary School lay the foundation for developing individual abilities throughout school life.

Our learners successfully participated in the B-Bold Eisteddfod, showcasing their talents in acting, singing, dancing and reciting.

Playing chess is encouraged as a valuable way to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills, creativity and academic performance in a fun and dynamic environment. Our learners actively participated in chess tournaments up to the Provincial level.

Learners who demonstrated improvement in their academic and social conduct were invited to the Achievers' Tea event, celebrating their resilience and hard work.

The Primary School choir plays an essential role in our cultural activities, promoting musical skills, teamwork, confidence and discipline among our learners. Their melodic voices have graced our assemblies and major events, adding a special touch to our gatherings.

The Robotics Club had an opportunity to participate in the Roboticon competition, providing valuable networking experiences with other learners.

Visual Arts learners took part in the Art exhibition, gaining insights into what it takes to reach great heights in Visual Arts.

Heritage Day celebrations allowed our learners to take pride in their cultures while embracing each other's customs, particularly in dress code. Teaching one another and playing different indigenous games made the celebrations enjoyable and memorable.

All learners are expected to take part in at least one cultural activity, with many voluntarily committing to a number of different options.



# PRIMARY SCHOOL CHESS CLUB

In Term 3, we focussed on making better moves and ending our chess season on a high note. Our Primary School Chess Club participated in various tournaments, beginning with the Chess District Championships on 20 July 2024. Two of our Under 9 girls, Bokamoso Moraka and Nadia Maphosa, qualified for the Chess Provincial Championships. Tayana Maponga placed in the top 5 in the Under 13 Girls category, demonstrating impressive skill and determination. Several of our boys also performed well, with Lwazi Radebe (Under 9) finishing in the Top 8, and Ofentse Murubane (Under 11) and Njabulo Mthunzi (Under 13) placing in the Top 14.

Following just a week of training after the championships, our learners competed in the Annual Royal Schools Academic Challenge. Although we did not win, we lost by a narrow margin, showcasing our team's resilience and competitiveness.

As Mike Tyson said, "I just want to do what I do best, and that's fight. I love it." Our learners embodied this spirit at the Ekurhuleni Top Schools competition on 2 August 2024. While we did not secure any trophies or medals, we learnt valuable lessons from our experiences.

Before the end of Term 3, our Under 15 boys and girls were selected to participate in the Ekurhuleni Chess or O.R. Tambo Soncini Cohesion Games on 14 September 2024. The learners who represented us were:

**Boys:** Lwazi Mchunu, Kamogelo Mogane, Ntokozo Ndumo, Imani Madzunya, Ntokozo Nxumalo

**Girls:** Ampfarisaho Mphigalale, Tayana Maponga, Banzi Valacia, Muhluri Chauke, Owethu Buthelezi, Ntokozo Xulu, Mamello Ntsala.

The competition was fierce, featuring players with Electric Light Orchestra ratings between 1100 and 1500. The Primary School Chess Club demonstrated a "never say die" attitude that carried us through the games. Tayana Maponga placed in the top ten, highlighting her exceptional talent.

As we move forward, it is back to the drawing board for the chess team. We look forward to a triumphant chess year in 2025.



# PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### Carnival Day for Foundation Phase

On the 13th of September 2024, the foundation phase learners and teachers gathered for a joyful Carnival Day filled with laughter and excitement. The event featured stalls brimming with sweets and toys, captivating the young learners as they explored the many treats on offer. With vibrant decorations and lively music setting the scene, learners delighted in selecting their favourite snacks, including boerewors rolls, candy floss and ice cream. Teachers managed the stalls, ensuring every learner enjoyed the treats and took home a cherished toy.

The day was packed with engaging activities that kept the children entertained and active. The inflatable jumping castles were a highlight, allowing learners to bounce freely and enjoy the thrill of jumping with friends. The face painting station was also a big attraction, with children transforming into animals and superheroes.

Overall, Carnival Day successfully promoted fun, creativity and teamwork, leaving lasting smiles on the faces of all who attended.

# HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS

This report highlights the impressive progress our learners have made in the Coding and Robotics programme this year. Learners engaged in a variety of innovative projects that significantly enhanced their technical skills and understanding. Below are the key achievements:

#### 1. Introduction to Scratch

Learners explored Scratch, a visual programming language, where they created interactive animations, stories and games. They mastered essential concepts such as sequencing, loops, conditionals and variables.

#### 2. Exploring Sensors

Hands-on experience with light, temperature and motion sensors allowed learners to integrate sensor data into their projects. They programmed Scratch sprites to sense colours and keyboard input, adding interactivity to their creations.

#### 3. Core Coding Concepts

Students tackled essential coding principles:

Variables: Learners stored and manipulated data in games.

Operators: They applied arithmetic, logical and comparison operators.

Loops: Learners created repetitive structures in their code.

Conditional Statements: They used "if" statements to make decisions based on specific conditions.

#### 4. Project-Based Learning

Collaborative projects included:

Game Development: Designing and coding exciting interactive games.

Creative Animations: Crafting animated stories using Scratch.

Problem-Solving Challenges: Drawing geometric shapes through coding, reinforcing their mathematics knowledge.

#### 5. Positive Outcomes

Learners displayed enthusiasm and creativity throughout the year. Their critical thinking skills improved as they faced coding challenges, while group work fostered effective communication and teamwork.

#### 6. Smart Board Integration

The integration of Smart Boards in lessons made learning more interactive and engaging. Teachers customised lessons to meet individual needs and learners collaborated on the boards, enriching their classroom experience.

#### 7. Radio Communication with Micro

Learners successfully programmed Micro to communicate wirelessly, exploring the fundamentals of wireless communication and data transmission.

#### 8. Thermo-Sensors Using Micro

Learners integrated thermo-sensors with Micro to measure and display temperature, gaining practical experience with sensor technology.

#### 9. Morse Code Implementation

Learners programmed Micro to send and receive messages in Morse code, enhancing their coding skills and logical thinking.

#### 10. Rock, Paper, Scissors Game

Using Micro, learners created a digital version of Rock, Paper, Scissors, applying their knowledge of conditional statements and random number generation.

#### 11. Line-Following Car

A standout project involved designing a line-following car that navigated through a restaurant setting. This showcased the learners' ability to integrate sensors and motors into a functional robotic system.

#### 12. Open Day Project Display

During our recent Open Day, learners proudly showcased their projects, receiving valuable feedback from parents, teachers and peers.

#### 13. Acquisition of a 3D Printer

We are excited to announce the acquisition of a 3D printer! This tool will enable learners to bring their designs to life, further enhancing their creativity and technical skills.

Overall, our learners have demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and dedication. Their ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical tasks has been commendable, fostering teamwork, problem-solving and creativity. We look forward to exploring more advanced topics in the upcoming year. Thank you for your continued support of our Coding and Robotics programme!

## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

#### **High School Excursion**

Thrills, laughter and endless fun: An Unforgettable School Excursion to Gold Reef City.

On a sunny 23 August, our school embarked on an eagerly awaited excursion to Gold Reef City, one of South Africa's premier entertainment destinations. The excitement was palpable as we boarded the buses, ready to trade textbooks for thrill rides and adventure.

#### Adrenaline-Packed Rides

Upon arrival, we hastily made our way to the theme park, eager to experience the array of heart-pounding rides. The Anaconda, a towering rollercoaster, was our first conquest. Screams of delight filled the air as we twisted and turned through loops and corkscrews. Next up was the Miners Revenge, a stomach-dropping free-fall ride that left us breathless. Other highlights included the River Rapids, where we navigated turbulent waters and unexpected geysers and the Golden Loop, a classic rollercoaster with breathtaking views of the city. Even the more cautious among us could not resist the allure of the gentle Train Ride, which offered a relaxing respite from the adrenaline-fueled action.

#### **Culinary Delights**

After working up an appetite, we indulged in a delicious lunch at the park's restaurant. The buffet spread offered an impressive array of options, from juicy burgers to crisp salads and decadent desserts. Our favourites included the crispy pizza and savoury chicken wings.

#### Extension of a Lifetime

Just as the day seemed to be winding down, the School Management Team surprised us with an extra hour at the park. Cheers erupted as we seized the chance to squeeze in a few more rides!

#### **Homeward Bound**

At 3:00 pm, we reluctantly boarded the buses, exhausted but exhilarated. The excursion exceeded all expectations, building unforgettable memories and strengthening bonds among classmates. Our adventure served as a poignant reminder of the importance of taking breaks from academic routines. As we settled in for the journey home, laughter and chatter filled the bus, reliving the highlights of an unforgettable excursion.

# HIGH SCHOOL CULTURE

#### **ROYALTIES PRESENT: CLASH OF THE CULTURES 2024!**

#### Brought to you by Royal School Sky City, united by our diversity.

Royal Schools Sky City was again impressed with the Clash of Cultures event on 18 September 2024. Hosted by two talented Grade 11 pupils who showcased their newfound skills, the event celebrated the school's vibrant diversity. Seven cultural groups, some merged for added variety, gave their all to represent their unique heritages with pride and enthusiasm.

The event showcased the beauty of each tribe, filling the room with joy and ululating from all groups, audiences and even the judges, who had the delightful task of observing and learning from the diverse performances. Each culture also impressed the judges with stunning decorations at their stalls, offering glimpses into their historical roots, or imvelaphi yabo in isiZulu, and featuring displays of mouthwatering South African cultural food.

The show began with greetings and the introduction of the judges, followed by a magnificent heritage poem by matriculant Nyeleti Nkuna. The anticipation grew as the judges visited each cultural group to taste their home-prepared traditional meals and admire their impressive African displays. The judges, known as amandwendwe by the Xhosa people, meaning visitors, were welcomed with sweet, enchanting African melodies.

The Tsonga/Venda group opened the performance stage with an outstanding dance that included a portrayal of a Venda prince being charmed by Tsonga and Venda maidens. Their marvellous dancing skills captivated the audience and earned enthusiastic cheers from the crowd.

The Xhosa group followed with a triumphant walk from their stall to the stage, immediately capturing the audience's attention. Despite technical glitches, they sent chills through the room, holding everyone's gaze. Their walk was accompanied by enchanting African melodies and rhythmic beats, intertwined with lion roars. They transformed the stage into a runway showcasing their diverse Xhosa attires, each holding deep significance. A Xhosa poet led the way with a stirring poem that brought the room to complete silence as their culture was unveiled. "The Eastern Cape being brought to Joburg," they said. The clan speaker celebrated their culture's beauty, from their attire and homes to their customs and festivities. They concluded with a spirited dance to a song declaring bendinixelele ndathi ndinabo abantu bam abazalana nam — "I have told you I have my people, my kin."





The Coloured/Afrikaans group brought endless entertainment and laughter to the room. With a no-filter approach, they showcased their daily lives and highlighted the best parts of their culture, from lively braais and family gatherings after rugby matches, to the beloved aunt who prepares delicious meals after Sunday church services. Their performance captured the warmth and humour of their heritage. They put the icing on the cake by inviting everyone to join in on the dance floor, ending their segment on a high note.

The Zulu clan arrived in full force, known for their powerful melodies. They approached the stage singing and ululating, their enthusiasm and pride evident in every step. Their act depicted a traditional scene of how a girl is courted, filled with authenticity and charm. The group performed with unison and passion, captivating the audience with their energetic and heartfelt display.

The Basotho, Pedi and Batswana kingdoms delivered a truly remarkable performance. They showcased the most important and beautiful aspects of their cultures, blending their distinct traditions seamlessly. Although these are separate clans, their collaboration was exceptional. The entrance dance was electrifying, energising the entire crowd and leaving a lasting impression. Well done to all involved!

When it comes to perfection, the Indian culture truly shone. The attire, the dance and the graceful movements captivated the audience. Every aspect of their performance was phenomenal. As soon as they stepped onto the stage, the crowd was drawn in. Their entrance was particularly stunning, with dancers holding small candles that illuminated the stage like fairy lights, creating a magical atmosphere.

They say save the best for last, and the Swati kingdom proved this to be true. They made a grand entrance, dressed in uniform attire from head to toe. Known for their calmness and humility, they spoke with pride about their culture and their deep connection to their roots. The performance concluded with great laughter and entertainment as the dance teacher took the stage, energising the crowd with her hilarious dance moves.

#### THE VICTORS OF THE DAY

The moment everyone eagerly anticipates in every competition is the moment of honour. With all the groups performing exceptionally well, it came down to one group being chosen for each of the four categories.

#### Best food award: Tsonga/Venda group

The Tsonga/Venda group claimed the best food trophy once again! They skilfully prepared mouthwatering meals, and the judges awarded them the title of our cultural master chefs.

#### Best Decor: Swati group

The Swati kingdom not only showcased a great sense of style, but also revealed another side of their culture, displaying indigenous pieces of art. With a red, black, blue and brown theme, their beautiful craftsmanship captured everyone's attention.

#### Best attire: The Xhosa and The Indian group

It was a tie between the Xhosa and Indian tribes, both of whom did an exceptional job and showed great preparation. The Xhosas impressed with their exquisite attire, while the Indians dazzled with their stunning sarees in a variety of colours.

#### Best performance: The Xhosa and the Indian group

Another tie between the Xhosa and Indian tribes! The decision was met with admiration from all. Both tribes worked tirelessly, delivering outstanding performances, from flawless choreography to perfect execution. Bravo!

#### **OVERALL BEST CULTURE: The Xhosa group**

Another win and a huge congratulations to the Xhosa tribe for a truly theatre-worthy performance. From the very beginning, this group excelled, representing their culture with pride. Their enthusiasm was evident throughout, and the hard work behind the scenes was reflected in the exceptional quality of their performance. Hats off to both the choreographers and the performers.

A big congratulations to all the cultures who participated. Understanding our cultures are essential to embracing and celebrating who we truly are. It allows us to appreciate the beauty of diverse traditions and customs. As we roll up our sleeves for next year, we are reminded that in our diversity, we find unity. This was truly A Clash of the Cultures!



# MR & MISS RSSC 2024

The Mr and Miss Royal Schools Sky City (RSSC) 2024 pageant captivated attendees on October 18, showcasing a day of elegance in collaboration with the World South African Pageants (WSAP).

#### Theme and Atmosphere

With the theme "Strictly Elegance," contestants dazzled in stunning attire, embodying sophistication and charm. The event celebrated not just beauty but also poise and creativity, creating a memorable experience for all.

#### Coaching and Judges

Contestants were coached by Ntokozo, Mr. Teen International SA, whose guidance enhanced their stage presence. The judging panel included Phindulo Matshili, Mini Mr Teen Star Universe, Miss Mhlongo, Discipline Coordinator at Royal Schools Sky City; and Lesedi Motswaledi, Miss Teen International SA 2023, ensuring fair competition.

#### Master of Ceremony

Siyabonga Tshabalala, former Mr Bohlale Village at North-West University, served as the engaging MC, adding flair to the proceedings.

#### Winners Announced

The titles were awarded as follows: Mr RSSC 2024: Mamello Mofokeng Miss RSSC 2024: Oratile Mafa 1st Prince: Thando Shabangu 1st Princess: Jade Puley 2nd Prince: Tumelo Khala

2nd Princess: Parabo Motseleban

#### **Organisers**

The event was meticulously organised by the Royal Schools Sky City Pageant Committee: Miss. Nyathi, Miss Mdluli and Miss Moagi.

Overall, the Mr and Miss RSSC 2024 pageant was a celebration of talent and elegance, leaving participants with cherished memories and a sense of accomplishment within the pageantry community.







## **AFTERCARE**

We had fun-filled and fruitful times at the Aftercare this year! Our amazing staff supervise our learners. We are happy to report no injuries and our learners are safe and secure. We partake in art and lots of creativity takes place. We thank teacher Ntombi for always providing yummy well-balanced meals. Teacher Thandi ensured that all homework was supervised and ensured that all was complete, so that when our children are home they have lots of time with their parents. Our Fridays were action-packed with movie days and a special treat of popcorn.

We look forward to welcoming all our children back, as well as welcoming new children, in the new year to the Aftercare.

Happy holidays to all our learners, parents and staff!

