

# PRINCESS PARK BI-ANNUAL REPORT

**DECEMBER 2024** 



**30 YEARS OF QUALITY PRIVATE EDUCATION** 

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# COLLEGE REFLECTIONS

As Executive Principal, I am entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring child safety, managing behaviour, and fostering community relationships. I am delighted to share some strides we've made to maximise learner performance across all aspects of their academic journey.

#### **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

This year, our school has made impressive academic progress. For instance, our current Grade 12 learners achieved a 92% pass rate in their preparatory examinations. Grade 9 learners have been engaged in systemic and psychometric testing, and we have also extended Olympiad enrolment to primary learners for the first time, as it was previously reserved for high school learners. These achievements reflect our dedication to academic excellence and continuous improvement.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT

One major development has been the integration of new technology in our classrooms. We now use YENZA psychometric tests for all Grade 9 learners to support subject choices for FET. The installation of smart boards in classrooms is advancing well, and our educators are confidently using Google Classroom as a learning platform. These tools have made lessons more interactive and accessible.

#### **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Our extracurricular offerings have expanded with the introduction of Robotics. On 19 October 2024, our learners competed against other schools, taking a bold step in using robotic technology to solve practical challenges. This addition has provided learners with new opportunities to explore their interests and develop valuable skills.

#### COMMUNITY AND INCLUSION

We have worked to create a more inclusive and supportive school environment. Initiatives such as the Charity Drive have fostered a sense of responsibility and a readiness to lend a helping hand when needed.

#### **CHALLENGES AND RESILIENCE**

This year brought its own challenges. Our subsidy was reduced by 30%. However, our resilience and adaptability were truly inspiring. Water shortages were managed by installing tanks that could be connected to toilets if needed, preventing water-related health issues.

Our ancillary staff have been especially dedicated in managing these challenges. They worked tirelessly to ensure that toilets were operational and learners had access to handwashing facilities. I recall seeing our staff guiding learners to wash their hands, underscoring the dedication of our caring team.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

As we look towards next year, we are excited about new possibilities. We plan to increase the number of learners taking Mathematics and Physical Sciences in Grade 10, aiming for both quality and quantity in academic achievement. It is our goal for all our learners to excel.

We have accomplished much and overcome many obstacles. The changes we've experienced have made us stronger and more unified. Here's to another year of growth and success! As we step into 2025, we look forward to launching new academic programmes, integrating advanced technology, expanding extracurricular activities, and fostering an inclusive, supportive atmosphere. Together, we'll embrace the challenges and opportunities of the new year, striving for excellence in every aspect of school life.











# A WORD FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

As we near the end of another wonderful school year, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude and joy for having your children as part of our school community. It has been a fantastic year filled with growth, learning, and many memorable moments.

Watching your children thrive in their studies, make new friends, and engage in school activities has been deeply rewarding. Their enthusiasm and curiosity have not only enriched their own learning but have also brought a vibrant energy to our entire school.

As we look forward to the new academic year, I am filled with excitement and optimism. We have many new initiatives and programs planned to enhance our students' learning experiences and to continue building on the successes of this past year. Our goal remains to provide a holistic education that prepares our students for the future, fostering a love for learning and a strong sense of community.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday season. May it be a time of joy, relaxation, and togetherness with your loved ones. We eagerly anticipate welcoming you and your children back for another year of growth, learning, and success.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and dedication to our school community.

Thank you for your continued partnership and trust in our school. We look forward to celebrating our students' accomplishments and wish them all the best in their examinations.

Mrs Generiere Porter









#### **GRADE R: PRE- PRIMARY**

In the vibrant world of Grade R, our learners embark on an exciting adventure of discovery and development. Their daily experiences are filled with fun, socialisation, and hands-on learning, all expertly crafted to prepare them for the transition to Grade

## Here are just a few of the activities we've enjoyed in Grade R throughout the year:

- Outdoor play (sand, jungle gym, bikes)
- Friendship-building
- · Hands-on learning through play
- · Building 2D and 3D objects
- · Literacy and numeracy development
- · Reading, building puzzles and blocks and using creative resources
- · Discussing new topics and themes (e.g., seasons, transport, birds, reptiles, etc.)
- · Singing and dancing.

As the year draws to a close, the Grade R Graduation in November becomes a highly anticipated event. This milestone marks the culmination of their foundation phase journey and readiness for Grade 1.

#### **FUNDRAISING FOUNDATION PHASE**

This term has been a whirlwind of excitement and creativity for our Foundation Phase learners as they engaged in various fundraising activities that brought our school community together.

#### PYJAMA DAY

We kicked off our fundraising efforts with a delightful Pyjama Day, where learners and staff donned their comfiest PJs. The sight of everyone in fluffy slippers and vibrant pyjamas brought smiles and laughter to the school. This cosy day not only allowed learners to relax, but also helped raise funds for our upcoming projects, demonstrating that even the simplest ideas can make a big difference.

#### **BAKING AND MAKING**

Our young bakers rolled up their sleeves and got busy in the classrooms! Under the guidance of teachers, learners baked a variety of themed cookies using icing, sweets and decorations. The creativity on display was truly impressive, and these delicious goodies were a huge hit among learners and teachers alike.

#### SPRING DAY BASH

The highlight of the term was our Spring Day Bash, a vibrant event that brought together parents, learners, and teachers. For the first time, Grade 3 learners showcased their entrepreneurial spirit by setting up fun game stalls, food stalls and selling delicious popcorn. The atmosphere was electric, with children laughing and playing games while parents enjoyed the festive vibe.

As music filled the air, learners took to the dance floor, showcasing their best moves. It was a wonderful sight to see families engaging, sharing laughter and celebrating the spirit of spring. The combination of games, dancing and tasty treats made it a day to remember!



# **GRATITUDE AND SUCCESS**

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents, teachers and learners who participated in our fundraising activities this year. Your enthusiasm and creativity not only made these events successful, but also fostered a sense of togetherness in our school community. Stay tuned for more exciting events in the future as we continue to build a vibrant and supportive school community!

# **ACADEMIC CHALLENGE FOUNDATION PHASE 2024**

# FOUNDATION PHASE SHINES AT ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

The excitement was palpable as our Foundation Phase learners participated in this year's highly anticipated Academic Challenge, showcasing their incredible talents across a variety of activities. With events ranging from a Spelling Bee to Mental Mathematics, General Knowledge quizzes, and Poetry recitals, our young learners truly rose to the occasion.

# SPELLING BEE TRIUMPH

One of the highlights of the day was the Spelling Bee, where learners displayed their remarkable spelling skills and confidence. After an intense competition filled with suspense and cheers, our Foundation Phase learners emerged victorious, clinching the coveted Spelling Bee trophy! Their dedication and hard work paid off, and they beamed with pride as they accepted the award.

## MENTAL MATHEMATICS AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

In addition to the Spelling Bee, learners demonstrated their quick thinking and problem-solving abilities in the Mental Mathematics round. The air was thick with concentration as they tackled challenging questions. The General Knowledge segment also had learners buzzing with excitement as they answered questions on a variety of topics, showcasing their impressive knowledge.

# **EXPRESSING CREATIVITY THROUGH POETRY**

The Poetry segment was a delightful celebration of creativity, with learners reciting their original poems with enthusiasm and flair. Their heartfelt performances captivated the audience, highlighting the importance of self-expression and artistic talent in our curriculum.

# A DAY OF LEARNING AND FUN

The Academic Challenge was not just about competition; it was also a fantastic opportunity for learners to learn, collaborate and have fun. Teachers cheered from the sidelines, creating an encouraging atmosphere that motivated our young learners to do their best.







#### LOOKING AHEAD

We are incredibly proud of our Foundation Phase learners for their hard work and achievements during the Academic Challenge. Winning the Spelling Bee trophy is a testament to their dedication and talent. As we celebrate this success, we look forward to more opportunities for our learners to shine in future academic endeavours.

Congratulations to all participants for making this event a memorable experience! Let's keep the spirit of learning alive as we continue to grow and excel together!

#### OLYMPIADS FOUNDATION PHASE

Our talented Grade 1 to 3 learners showcased their skills and creativity at the annual Olympiads, excelling in Mathematics, English and Life Skills. The event celebrated learning, with learners competing to demonstrate their understanding across these vital subjects.

#### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN MATHEMATICS**

In Mathematics, learners tackled a range of challenging problems, showcasing their problem-solving abilities and critical thinking skills. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as learners confidently presented their answers. Their hard work paid off, with many earning gold and silver for their impressive performances.

#### **ENGLISH EXCELLENCE**

The English section tested learners' writing, comprehension and grammar skills. Our young writers produced remarkable pieces, demonstrating creativity and a strong command of language. The judges were thoroughly impressed by the originality and clarity of their work, resulting in numerous students being awarded gold and silver for their dedication to mastering English.

## LIFE SKILLS LEARNING

In the Life Skills segment, learners engaged in activities that fostered teamwork, empathy and decision-making. Through written tasks, they explored important life lessons that contributed to their overall development. Their thoughtful contributions earned well-deserved recognition, with many receiving gold and silver.

#### **CELEBRATING SUCCESS**

The achievements of our Grade 1 to 3 learners at the Olympiad were extraordinary. Their collection of gold and silver is a testament to their hard work, perseverance and enthusiasm for learning. Teachers are immensely proud of their accomplishments, celebrating their dedication and spirit.





# **ROBOTICON 2024**

PPC, alongside many other schools, competed in the Resolute Roboticon on the 19th of October. Our Grade 3 learners entered the Novice category, where they used cardboard, wooden sticks, and Prestik to build add-ons for their bots. Their objective was to carry items to a 'burning house' to assist in taming the 'fire'. They displayed remarkable creativity and gave their best efforts!

Our Apprentice 1 & 2 group, comprising Grade 5 to 7 learners, programmed their bot to follow a path and bring relief to the burning house. They excelled in coding their bot to meet the challenge.

The final team, Apprentice 3, made up of Grade 6 and 7 learners, undertook a comprehensive project. They used their house bot to either prevent damage from a natural disaster or assist in its aftermath. The team chose a preventative approach, coding the house to react when its base is shaken.

Although we didn't win any prizes, we gained invaluable experience by witnessing the creativity of other teams, learning from the Resolute staff, and enjoying every moment of the day. I am incredibly proud of each learner who tried their absolute best; you were impressive!

#### FOUNDATION PHASE CONCERT

The theme for our concert was "Proudly South African." We journeyed through each province, highlighting what is most significant about each one. Our teachers and learners worked tirelessly to create a memorable experience for every parent, and they were incredible!

Our high school choir also performed several songs, dazzling the crowd with their amazing body percussion and dances. We are grateful to every parent and learner; without you, this event would not have been possible!









# INTERMEDIATE



#### **ACADEMIC CHALLENGE COMPETITION PPC 2024**

Academic News! We held an Academic Challenge competition on 17th August at Royal Schools Princess Park. Our Academic Challenge included Chess, Spelling Bee, Mental Maths and General Knowledge. Academic Challenge competitions help our learners have fun while developing various skills. They also foster teamwork, improve social interactions, and boost self-esteem.

Our school won the Spelling Bee category for Grades 1 to 3. We also triumphed in the Chess category for Grades 4 to 6, and we were named the overall THIRD PLACE WINNERS in the Academic Challenge competition!

Through Academic Challenge competitions, we work towards a common goal, which enhances teamwork. It was loads of fun!

Thank you for helping us support our learners in having fun!

#### TRIP TO ACROBRANCH

On 22nd August 2024, our school enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Acrobranch!

Learners and teachers had a blast tackling exciting obstacle courses high in the trees and shared a relaxing picnic together. It was a day filled with fun, laughter, and bravery, as many learners overcame their fears and discovered just how adventurous they could be.

Every moment was filled with excitement, creating memories we will cherish forever!











# HIGH SCHOOL

#### **EXAMINATION READINESS: CLASS OF 2024**

The Class of 2024 has undergone rigorous study sessions in the second half of the year. Their first sleepover Boot Camp took place from 8 to 11 August 2024, with lessons commencing at 6:00 AM and concluding at 10:30 PM. A second Boot Camp ran from 23 to 27 September. We would like to thank the committed educators and ancillary staff members who sacrificed their holidays to ensure better results for our learners.

The weekend and after-school classes ended on the 14th of October. These challenging activities aimed to prepare the Class of 2024 thoroughly. We ensured that our matriculants were well-polished for their final examinations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the learners for their resilience and commitment to achieving better results, the parents for their unwavering support, and the educators for leaving the comfort of their homes to work unusual hours in support of our children. Lastly, I extend my gratitude to our caterers, who worked tirelessly to provide meals for the learners.

A word of gratitude goes to our directors who funded these academic projects. It is worth noting that our learners did not pay a single cent for the Boot Camps; the directors made provisions for us. Despite the challenges posed by the nature of our school, they paved the way for us. We sincerely appreciate your support. Thank you.

#### GRADE 12 PRIZE GIVING DAY

The Class of 2024 Prize Giving Day was a grand affair, celebrating all our learners for completing high school and recognising academic achievements. We believe that every learner is gifted and deserves recognition for their uniqueness.

Some of our awards include PIPE Values, for learners who excel in discipline and embody integrity, etiquette, modesty, and humility, as well as awards for the Most Hardworking and Most Improved learners. We ensure that we value not only academic performance, but also good character.

#### We congratulate our top ten learners for the Class of 2024:

- 1. Karimat Ojeleye
- 2. Emmanuella Onyeajam
- 3. Lethabo Mahlase
- 4. Adore Chauke
- 5. Khumo Modise
- 6. Keitumetse Masola
- 7. Salima Shabani
- 8. Onkarabile Matala
- 9. Hongwane Bridgette
- 10. Tshabangu Benedict

# **GRADES 8 - 11 PRIZE GIVING DAY**

Our learners always look forward to this annual event, which took place on 18 October 2024. We were delighted this year, as a significant number of learners received awards for achieving good averages across various subjects.

Notably, our boys are excelling as well. In previous years, most awards were scooped by girls, but this year boys emerged as strong contenders, particularly in the Grade 10 group. I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the excellent and well-organised Prize Giving and Décor Committees. You are the best! The certificates team excelled this time.

The top ten learners for grades 8 to 11 are as follows:

	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11
1	Hiwot Engdaw	Lethabo Gololo	Aishida Asher	Keamohetswe Marumo
2	Atanda Daniel	Marume Nicole	Atanda Elizabeth	Mogane Keabetswe
3	Phiri Carol	Nkadimeng Releabestwe	Mosho Dineo	Seakamela Masego
4	Awoleye Success	Mphela Buhlebenkosi	Sechogo Orapelang	Obodo Tamika
5	Mamabolo Tebogo	Mthimunye Zinhle	Monyamane Kamogelo	Tleane Omphile
6	Cobokana Somila	Ilunga Gloria	Mnyakene Tshegofatso	Sindane Bokamoso
7	Mudau Rendani	Lukhele Eulenda	Montjane Phemelo	Angel Mathibela
8	Dindala Lethabo	Moloto Neo	Skosana Tshenolo	Mongalo Khomotso
9	Selemela Kamogelo	Thela Mbalenhle	Ngwenya Nompumelelo	Mongaula Tumelo
10	Mathaba Resaoboka	Mboweni Thuso	Koza Phenyo	Motlhatlhedi Palesa

# **DUX LEARNERS HIGH SCHOOL 2024**

**GRADE 8 - HIWOT ENGDAW** 

**GRADE 9 - LETHABO GOLOLO** 

**GRADE 10 - AISHIDA ASHER** 

**GRADE 11 - KEAMOHETSWE MARUMO** 

**GRADE 12 - KARIMAT OJELEYE** 









# **ACADEMIC CHALLENGE**

On 17 August 2024, all Royal Schools gathered at Princess Park College to showcase their academic prowess and represent their schools. Princess Park learners battled against their counterparts in the following disciplines: Mental Maths, Chess, General Knowledge and Spelling Bee.

The event was a resounding success, bringing together top-performing learners from high schools across Royal Schools. Each category featured one boy and one girl per grade, showcasing a diverse range of talent and enthusiasm for knowledge.

Participants demonstrated exceptional problem-solving skills and a deep understanding of complex concepts. The event not only highlighted academic excellence, but also fostered a spirit of healthy competition among learners. This gathering of bright minds underscored the importance of interaction in shaping future leaders.

## GRADE 9 PARENTS AND GUARDIANS SUBJECT CHOICE MEETING

The philosophy of the school is to pursue high academic standards, and academic excellence is not merely a goal, but a way of life. For children to excel, they need to make the right choices.

The Grade 9 subject choice meeting serves as a platform for parents and educators to collaborate and help learners make informed decisions about subjects offered at the FET level.

The principal, Mr Muganhu, reiterated the importance of choosing subjects that align with intended careers. We are pleased that parents came out to support their children in their academics.

#### **GRADE 8 AND 9 SYSTEMIC TESTS**

We leave no stone unturned when it comes to our academics. Our Grade 8 and 9 learners sat for the annual Systemic Tests from the 14th to the 16th of October 2024.

These tests are designed to assist educators in ensuring that our learners pursue their academic goals and improve learning outcomes. The aim is to enhance marks in Mathematics, Natural Sciences and English Home Language.

We await the marks to be finalised by our quality control board, RAAQA, and hope to receive feedback on our learners' performance compared to other schools. The tests will inform us precisely what we need to do to improve performance in mathematics and languages.

#### **GRADE 9 PSYCHOMETRIC TESTS**

Psychometric tests are valuable in measuring the cognitive abilities of our learners. They provide an objective way to assess potential abilities, fostering reflection and allowing students to correlate their interests with possible career paths.

These tests also help learners understand their strengths and weaknesses, serving as a tool for evaluating student growth and development.

#### PREFECTS CHARITY DRIVE

Prefects at Princess Park have a social responsibility beyond their normal duties of maintaining order. Each year, they are tasked with identifying a home for the underprivileged. After selecting a home, they gather information on how they can assist. They then return to school and organise a day where learners can wear civvies for free if they bring something to donate to the chosen charity. The prefects collect the donations and subsequently hand them over to the charity home.

This year, they chose Tshwane Haven, a home for disadvantaged children. We would like to thank all the high school learners and parents for their generous donations, which included toiletries, blankets, fruits, and non-perishable food items.

The donated goods were delivered to the home on 19 September at around 13:00 PM. The prefects had the opportunity to play with the children and were taken on a tour of the home. We are proud of our learners, who did not hesitate to lend a helping hand. Indeed, "blessed is the hand that giveth..."

# HIGH SCHOOL OLYMPIADS

The high school Olympiads are an annual event, especially for learners taking commercial subjects.

#### They competed in the following subjects:

- · ACCOUNTING
- BUSINESS STUDIES
- ECONOMICS

For grades 10 to 12, the competition was held in two rounds. Round One took place on 7 May 2024. Fifty learners were registered, but 49 participated (one learner was absent). Some learners registered for more than one subject.

Round Two saw 37 learners progress, having achieved a pass mark of 60% or above in Round One. All participants were awarded certificates from Proverto and the University of Johannesburg. These learners have made us proud and have gained recognition in numerous educational institutions.

# HIGH SCHOOL CULTURE

To make learning fun and engaging, a variety of brain-stimulating events were organised for the learners. These included Mandela Day, "Bring Anything but a School Bag" day, a Gold Reef excursion, Women's Day Doek and Slay, Vintage Day, "Dress Like Your Favourite Teacher," and Spring Day dress-up.

#### Mandela Day

Mandela Day is celebrated by going the extra mile to help others. Our Grade 12 learners assisted the ancillary staff with cleaning the school. They mopped floors, picked up litter and cleaned the toilets.

## Bring Anything But A School Bag

Grade 12 learners had a lot of fun and took time to unwind during the latter part of the year. Books were carried in pots, straw baskets, bins and more. We couldn't help but laugh when some learners confessed that nothing is as convenient as a school bag for carrying books to school.



#### Gold Reef Excursion

Learners in grades 8 to 11 enjoyed a trip to Gold Reef City. After falling in love with the place last year, many opted to return, feeling they had not fully explored it before. It was an immensely enjoyable day, and we thank our organisers and parents who generously supported this outing, allowing learners a much-needed break from academics.

#### Women's Day Doek and Slay

In commemoration of the courageous women who marched to the Union Buildings in 1956, learners were encouraged to celebrate by wearing a doek. Most of our learners donned elaborate headgear, and we had a wonderful time celebrating their creativity and unique styles. The day was a resounding success and provided a refreshing break that we had eagerly anticipated.

#### **Dress Like Your Favourite Teacher**

This was a day to remember, showcasing remarkable transformations among our learners. It had never occurred to me that girls would seek out artificial beards to imitate their male educators. Not only did they dress like their teachers, but they also mimicked their mannerisms and imitated the way they walked and spoke. Some even went so far as to carry similar laptop bags and handbags and copied their educators' hairstyles. I learned a valuable lesson: learners are extremely observant, and educators serve as everyday role models.

#### Spring Day

Spring Day is celebrated by shedding heavy winter clothing in favour of something light and colourful. After a long and dreary winter, we eagerly anticipated the arrival of spring. Indeed, learners and educators came out in style, making the school vibrant and colourful. Who wouldn't want to celebrate the coming of sunny days in style?

#### **AFTERCARE**

Princess Park Aftercare offers a stimulating programme five days a week for learners who do not go home immediately after school. Our dedicated team provides daycare services for parents unable to collect their children at 2:00 pm.

As we reach the end of the year, we would like to thank our children and parents for working together to create a safe and nurturing environment. Most of our learners have shown significant improvement.

As the learners completed their final examinations we eagerly look forward to their successes. We trust that our children have been well nurtured and anticipate excellent marks and good averages across all subjects.

To our parents, we pray that God continues to grant you strength to achieve your goals. We thank God for 2024 and trust Him for a more prosperous year ahead.



