



SKY CITY BI-ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024



30 YEARS OF QUALITY PRIVATE EDUCATION

COLLEGE REFLECTION

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, we want to take this opportunity to reflect on the progress we have made and share some of the highlights of the activities we have participated in thus far. It has been a dynamic and enriching first half of the year and we are excited to continue working together to support the growth and development of our educators and learners.

Our learners have shown remarkable dedication and perseverance in their academic, sport and cultural activities. We are looking forward to our midyear academic results.

We are proud of the new clubs that were implemented this year. A dedicated period was given to each club in Term 1 to introduce the clubs and allow learners to foster a sense of community and belonging. As we entered into Term 2, clubs were kept as an extra-mural activity.

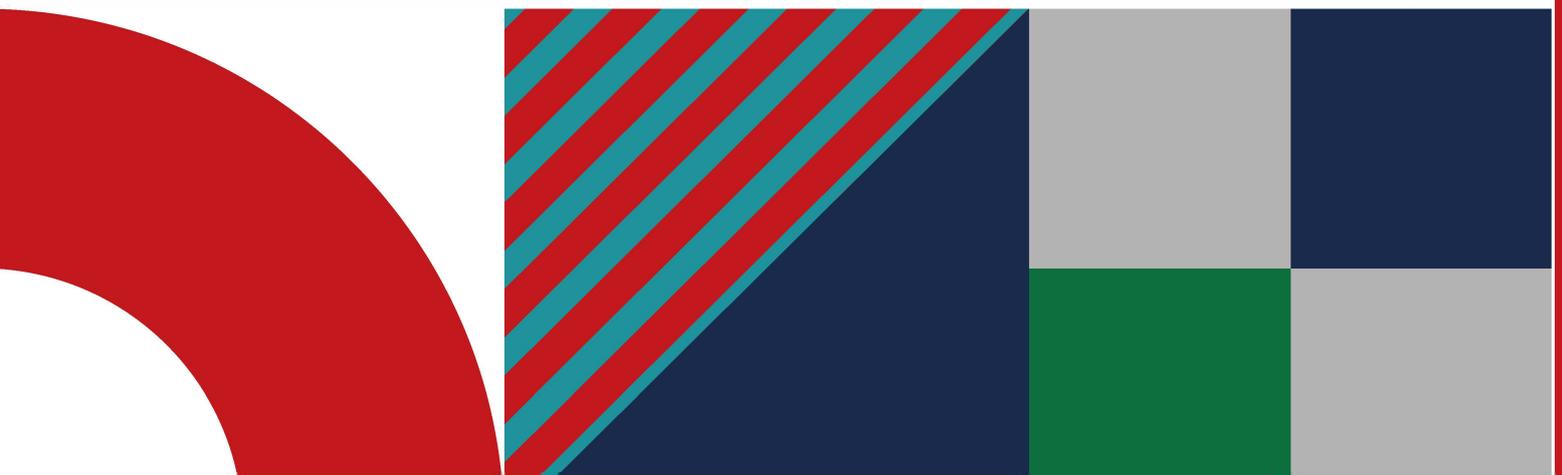
Our sport teams have competed admirably with several notable victories. We are proud to announce that one of our Primary School athletes progressed all the way to the Provincial levels in Athletics and one of our Rugby athletes was selected to represent the Golden Lions Rugby team.

We are happy to report that the computers in the High School CAT lab have been upgraded to ensure that our CAT learners have the best devices and software needed to excel in their subjects. We have also opened up our Primary School computer lab which hosts computer lessons for our Intermediate Phase learners during school hours. The Primary School computer lab will also host Grade 8 and 9 learners after school for their additional Mathematics and English programme, Reflective Learning. Lastly, we have installed interactive whiteboards in our Mathematics and Science classrooms. These Smart boards' interactive features, vibrant displays and versatility will open new possibilities in the classrooms. They will allow educators to engage with educational content in innovative ways, making lessons more dynamic and engaging.

As we return from the midyear break, we remind ourselves of the fun-filled activities that we look forward to in the second half of the academic year. Term 3 and Term 4 will be jam-packed with Educational Excursions, Heritage Day celebrations (Clash of the Cultures), Foundation Phase concert and our annual Colour Run.

We deeply appreciate your continued support and involvement in your child's education. Together, we can create a nurturing and stimulating environment where every learner can thrive.
#StrongerTogether

Ms S. Grieb
Executive Principal



A letter from our Head Girl

Hi there, I am Kearabetswe Thabethe. I am the Head girl for the class of 2024 at Royal Schools Sky City. I would like to start by thanking the school for the four beautiful years that I have spent filled with love, hope and gratitude.

The start of my high school career was at the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic. Fortunately, Royal Schools Sky City had made the means for us to continue with our academics. A special mention to the teachers and staff who worked tirelessly to keep the boat afloat and ensured that the learners were academically supported in every way possible.

Royal Schools Sky City has been a place where teachers taught us to colour outside of the lines and to define ourselves as we choose. It is because of my family, educators and friends that I am able to embark my head girl journey with pride and humility.

As we approach the half way mark of the year, I would like you to celebrate your wins no matter how small you think they might be. Royal Schools Sky City has given me the gift of a lifetime of friendships and memories and they have equipped me with the skills and tools to be able to face the challenges of the world head on.

Royal Schools Sky City is not only known for achieving 100% matric pass rate but it also strives for excellence. The school is fully equipped with trained coaches that'll assist the learners unlock their full potential when it comes to sport as their extra mural activity.

To the future class of 2025, be patient with yourself and learn how to be comfortable with being yourself. Make yourself proud and above all, be kind to yourself.

Thank you Sky City, I will forever fly your flag high and proudly.
#Strongertogether #Webelieve

A letter from our Head Boy

Dear Students, Teachers and Parents,

As we reach the midyear of our school calendar, I want to take this opportunity to look back on our journey so far and look towards to the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

First and foremost, I want to say thank you to each and every one of you for your love and support. Whether you're a learner working hard to do your best, a teacher guiding and inspiring us or a parent supporting us every step of the way, we appreciate you and acknowledge your hard work.

Over the past six months, we've done so much together. From academic achievements to extracurricular successes, it shows our collective hard work and determination. Looking ahead, I am excited about the opportunities that the second half of the school year will bring. From upcoming events and competitions to new learning experiences, there is much to anticipate and look forward to. Let's continue to approach each day with enthusiasm and a willingness to embrace new challenges.

As we look forward to the remainder of the school year, let's also remember the importance of kindness and empathy. Let's work towards creating a bully-free school environment where everyone feels valued, supported and included. Together, we can make a positive difference in the lives of those around us.

Thank you once again for your continued support and dedication. Let's make the second half of the school year even more memorable than the first.

Warm regards
Sibusiso Zwane
Primary School Head Boy



PRESCHOOL ACADEMICS

Our primary objective is to have a smooth transition from preschool into the foundation phase and from the foundation phase to the intermediate phase. Our focus is foundational literacy, mathematics and social skills necessary for future academic success. Educators in the foundation phase employ a mix of teacher-led instruction, group activities and hands-on learning experiences. We introduced formal assessments to our pre-schoolers who will be our newly admitted grade 1's next year. 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 the essential literacy, numeracy and social skills necessary for progression to higher grades. We are proud to announce a 100% pass rate from our grade R learners. It lays a solid academic and social foundation for future learning. Our learners are already showing school readiness, higher levels of school engagement and improved social-emotional skills. They 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 second half of the year with only great things to come.



LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

As we plan for future developments, we would like to share a few key improvements that will enhance our school environment and support the growth and development of our learners. These initiatives are designed to create a more engaging, inclusive and effective learning experience.

- The Reflective Learning programme that is currently being utilised by our Grade 8 and 9 learners will be offered to our Grade 5-7 learners from Term 3. Reflective Learning is an online platform used to develop critical skills in Mathematics and English. Reflective Learning tasks will be done at school but learners will have login details to complete tasks at their own pace in the comfort of their own homes.
- We have recently introduced online support classes for Grade 8-11 learners which are held on Saturdays. The introduction of these classes has been successful and will continue throughout the second half of the academic year.
- In Term 3, we will introduce a Parent Liaison Committee.
- We will be making some improvements to the Primary School play area by laying down paving in some areas over the Winter holiday period.
- The newly added preschool wall will be beautifully painted to the overall comfort of the environment for our little ones.

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

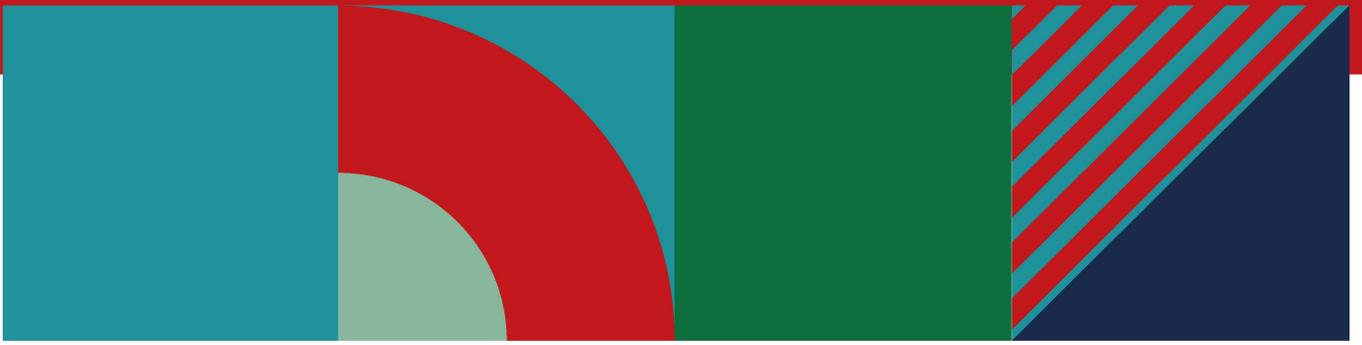
PRIMARY SCHOOL ACADEMICS

As we reach the midpoint of the academic year, it is essential to reflect on our academic progress and achievements.

Academic achievements across all grade levels have been satisfactory. Our learners are continuously demonstrating remarkable growth in their academic progress, reflecting their dedication and hard work. Our commitment to producing excellent marks has resulted in notable advancements among learners with diverse learning needs, ensuring that every child reaches their full potential.

The following measures have been put in place for improved results:

- Google Classroom has given our learners an opportunity to consolidate classwork beyond the daily contact time. Educators have gone as far as posting activities for learners to prepare for formal tasks.
- Intervention classes to assist learners who have not been performing at Grade level competence to reach their full potential.
- Olympiads to expose our learners to different questioning techniques and enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills in the process.
- Reflective learning which is an online programme where learners get to practise skills needed for Mathematics and English at their own pace.
- Computers which teach learners essential skills that they will use throughout their lives. Understanding the fundamentals of computers opens up a world of possibilities.



We have continued to enhance our curriculum to meet the evolving needs of our learners. The introduction of new extracurricular activities and clubs has provided learners with opportunities for holistic development, promoting a well-rounded education.

Our dedicated educators have participated in ongoing professional development workshops and training sessions, equipping them with the latest instructional strategies and educational trends. I am proud to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of our teachers, whose unwavering commitment to learner success is truly commendable.

Our school continues to thrive due to the unwavering support of parents, guardians and community stakeholders. Their involvement in school events and activities is invaluable and greatly appreciated. We remain committed to fostering strong partnerships with parents and guardians, ensuring open communication and collaboration for the benefit of our learners.

We are excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. With the continued support and dedication of all stakeholders, we are confident that we will build upon our successes and achieve even greater milestones. Together we will continue to inspire excellence and nurture the next generation of leaders.



PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Valentine's Day Event

This year we combined Foundation Phase and Intermediate Phase for our Valentine's Day celebration. It was a lovely and amazing Valentine's Day celebration hosted at Royal Schools Sky City.

We sold key rings, teddy bears, flowers, chocolates and all kinds of sweets, which were a huge hit with our learners. Foundation Phase educators explained the meaning of Valentine's Day to our learners. We explained to our learners that not only is this day about love, but a day of appreciation. We don't just look at finding a valentine but the love for the people who are around us constantly. We expressed how our parents need that love and appreciation from us all as they make many sacrifices for us on a daily basis just to bring smiles onto our faces.

Learners were told to love one another as you would want someone to love you, friends and sharing of gifts towards their loved ones.

The event was exclusive and we definitely had an awesome experience and day with the learners.

Primary school clubs

Debate:

Participated in the Bauhouse tournament and brought home the Novice Champions Trophy.

Choir:

Graced the Grade 12 motivation night with an exhilarating performance.

Science Club:

Participated in the District Science Expo competition and performed very well. They are in the midst of preparing for the Regional Science Expo competition. We look forward to a positive result.

Maths Club:

Wrote the Wits Maths Olympiad. Waiting in anticipation for the outcome. We hope for the best.

Art club:

Currently working on drawings and paintings for the Sanlam "My happy Place," competition. The artwork was submitted in June.

Robotics club:

Preparing for the upcoming competition.

Chess:

Participated in cluster competitions. We are waiting in anticipation for the selection list for District competitions.



Reading Club:

Royals Schools Sky City Foundation Phase Launches Exciting 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 students. 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 and to 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.

Primary School Chess

The Primary School Chess learners have 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 Edenridge primary schools, showcasing their dominance in the beautiful game of chess. Looking ahead, Primary School Chess aims to continue its winning momentum and achieve even greater milestones in upcoming District tournaments. One of our own, Tayana Maponga, came out victorious in the U/15 Ekurhuleni District Chess individuals on the 18th May 2024. She will be playing in the Gauteng Chess individuals soon.

The Chocolate factory: Mother's Day

"The Chocolate Factory" hosted a Chocolate-Making workshop for our Grade RRR-3 learners. The learners enjoyed the workshop and had an opportunity to learn a new skill of decorating chocolate slabs. This helped them get a sense of accomplishment while having fun.

They had an amazing experience this Mother's Day as they had to gift their mothers with a chocolate creation that they lovingly crafted by hand.

The 45-minute workshop included a hands-on, chocolate-making experience, where the instructor showed them the art of chocolate-melting and moulding. The learners then decorated the provided chocolate photo frame with the words MOM, fondant flowers and beads. They then wrapped their creation in plastic cellophane and a ribbon, to be presented to Mom on Mother's Day. .

Each learner received a Chocolate-Making workshop attendance certificate to honour them for their creativity.

We strive to expose our learners to more than the day-to-day classroom routine in their development.





PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS

Over the past two terms, learners have actively engaged in robotics and coding, acquiring valuable skills and knowledge. Here are the key highlights:

1. Introduction to Scratch:

- Learners were introduced to Scratch, a visual programming language. They learnt how to create interactive animations, stories and games using Scratch's block-based interface.
- Concepts covered: sequencing, loops, conditionals (if statements) and variables.

2. Exploring Sensors:

- Learners had hands-on experience with sensors (such as light sensors, temperature sensors and motion sensors.)
- They learnt how to integrate sensor data into their projects such as allowing their Sprites in Scratch to sense colours and keyboard keys, enhancing interactivity and responsiveness.

3. Coding Concepts:

- - Learners learnt the fundamental coding concepts:
 - Variables: Understanding and using variables to store and manipulate data. They managed to change variables when they created games, the scores and the levels in the games.
 - Operators: Applying arithmetic, logical and comparison operators.
 - Loops: Creating repetitive structures in their programmes.
 - Conditional Statements: Using "if" statements to make decisions based on specific conditions. They started by creating their own 'if or else' statements in everyday lives and then tried to create those involving coding.

4. Project-Based Learning:

- Learners collaborated on various projects, including:
 - Game Development: Designing and coding interactive games.
 - Creative Animations: Using Scratch to create animated stories.
 - Problem-Solving Challenges: Solving puzzles and logical problems through coding. They were able to make their Sprites to draw different geometric shapes. It was here that they noticed that they require their Maths knowledge to solve some coding problems. They were required to remember the properties of the different geometric shapes before they could code their Sprites.

5. Boot Camp:

- We had a Boot Camp from the 9th of April to the 15th of April, where learners received online lessons every afternoon.
- Learners in our Robotics Club had a wonderful experience with an external teacher from India.

6. Positive Outcomes:

- Learners demonstrated enthusiasm and creativity during class.
- Their critical thinking skills improved as they tackled coding challenges.
- Collaborative learning fostered better communication and teamwork as learners will always work in groups.

In summary, our robotics and coding programme has been successful. In the coming terms we will be working on the microbit car.

PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE

Debating offers a holistic educational experience that goes beyond traditional classroom learning. It equips students with practical skills, enhances their intellectual abilities and prepares them for success in various aspects of life. Royal Schools Sky City invested in the Bauhouse debating programme to help our learners not only excel academically, but also become more confident, informed and engaged individuals.

The Bauhouse debate league was kick-started with personalised coaching sessions where our learners were assigned a qualified and experienced debate coach from Bauhouse Academy. The coach worked closely with our learners in tailor-coaching sessions that addressed their specific needs, ensuring individualised attention and progress. They focused on skills such as research, argumentation, rebuttal and presentation.

After the intensive training sessions, our learners were confident enough to competitively participate in the league. They easily sailed through the preliminaries and qualified for the Quarter finals. This boosted their self-esteem and ignited the zeal to excel going further. Quarter finals were a white wash which saw our teams heading for the Semi-finals which were nothing but a walk in the park for our trailblazers. Regardless of the odds in the finals our Debate team came home with medals for being best speakers and a trophy for being the best Novice team of the season.

Thank you to our supportive parents who trusted the school with their children and allowed us to take them on Saturdays and Sundays until as late as 16:00. At the end of it, our learners benefitted more than just recognition. They also acquired skills that will help them in their academic journey. The competitions and events helped them to interact with learners from other schools. This provided networking opportunities and an awakening that go beyond the RSSC walls.

We look forward to yet another exhilarating experience in the near future.



PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL SPORT

At Royal Schools Sky City we believe that sport provides learners a platform to develop physically through training and participation to build on their life lessons and interpersonal skills, all of which contribute to a more holistic education that will benefit learners in the long run. We believe that there is a team for every learner at our school, from the serious athletes/players to the social butterflies who just want to be part of the fun.

We started the year with athletic prowess and spirited competitions where our learners showcased their skills and abilities with great sportsmanship. We hosted our Inter-House Athletics tournament where all our learners participated and supported their team's athletes.

Our Primary School athletes showcased their talent and participated in the annual Inter-School competition at Pilditch Stadium against our sister schools and gracefully took 2nd place. The athletes continued their competing spirit where our learners participated in the St Declan's Inter-Schools Athletics where 22 of our learners were selected for Greater Alberton Inter-Schools competition. Our Primary School learners made us proud at this competition and one of our learners, Nhlanhla Vilakazi, made it through to the District Athletics Championship where he further made it through to the Provincial levels. We are very proud of Nhlanhla's achievement, with the help of our sports coach Lesego, who walked the journey with him all the way to the end.

Our High School athletes made waves with their unwavering skills taking 1st place at the annual Inter-School competition at Pilditch Stadium against our sister schools. They continued to compete in the GASA Inter High School Athletics, where 14 of the learners were selected for the Greater Germiston Championships. We are very proud of our learner, Paballo Lebenya, who made it through to the District Championships level at this competition.

Our Primary and High School sporting teams are currently participating in their different school leagues where they are competing against other schools within the District. Our U/11 Girls' Soccer team has already made it through to the next stage of the games in their league.

The U/15, U/17 and Open Girls' Soccer teams are not letting anyone steal their show either. They are currently undefeated and we support the teams as they continue in their leagues.

We have had the privilege of our learners participating in the Golden Lions Rugby League where we have a boys and girls team. Although it has been challenging, our learners and coaches are committed to practise and have incorporated improvement plans for us to shine in the future.

We congratulate our very own Matau Kune in Grade 11, who was selected for the U/18 Golden Lions Girls' Rugby team. As we settle into our winter games season, our netball and cross country learners are preparing diligently for their upcoming events and we hope to have amazing results from the different teams.

We are proud of our coaches and staff, who are committed and share a united vision to enhance the ability and sportsmanship of all participants at the school, while maintaining positive programmes through which learners love to play the various games and look forward to practice and matches.

We look forward to all our planned sporting activities and continue to strive to offer our learners a comfortable space to excel in their own way and, most importantly, to have fun along the way.

Quote: "Strive for progress, not perfection. It's the small steps that lead to significant achievements."
– Unknown

HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMICS

The first half of the year has been an active one as far as Academics is concerned. We are pleased to report on the following overall results for Term 1 and look forward to the final results at the end of Term 2.

Our learners participated in the Accounting, Business Studies, Economics, English, Geography, History and Mathematics Olympiads. We are still awaiting these results, however, we are very pleased to report that 12 learners went through to the Second Round of the Mathematics Olympiad.

Two of our Grade 12 learners, Tinotenda Ngcatshe and Amahle Yeni, were accepted into the STEMmetorHER Programme, which aims to mentor selected learners in the Sciences/Maths fields. University lecturers and senior students have been assigned to them to assist them with bridging the divide between School and University.

We entered 9 learners for the Science expo and are very pleased that 6 of our learners have been accepted into the Regionals.

Our Grade 12's achieved a 100% pass rate with 133 Distinctions in Term 1. We strive to maintain this level of excellence and look forward to handing out the Term 2 reports when schools re-open.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Prefect Camp 2024 (Both for Primary and High School)

Our school's annual Prefect Camp was held from the 13th of February to the 15th of February at Camp Ubhetyan in Middleburg. Our learners, educators and management were warmly welcomed by the well organised camp facility. They were ready to start working with our learners from the very moment we arrived and immediately set the tone of an exciting learning weekend to all.

Prefects were presented with a variety of activities including exciting obstacle courses and building kaskarre, of which the success of each was dependent on the collaboration of each team member. The prefects learnt crucial leadership skills where perseverance and tenacity were tested, while enduring long hikes through beautiful scenarios of bush and free-walking animals.

The camp activities relied on the right strategy, communication and trust to enable the successful completion of their journey. The camp definitely developed each member's confidence as they progressed over the weekend's challenges and ended it with a beautiful bushveld church service held by the prefect groups.

Why do we have perfect leaders at our school?

The role of the prefects as leaders at Royal School Sky City is to be a positive influence to peers and provide guidance, while acting as a link between learners and educators to uphold good discipline. Great leadership promotes maximum participation in diverse sporting activities, education and cultural activities.

The teachers and management developed an overall perspective of the prefects at the camp, where we were able to observe and listen to our prefects. Staff were able to pay attention to these team players' personalities, how they respond to pressure, to finding solutions independently, and as a collective play a vital role in understanding the team better. This ensures great facilitation while cultivating their leadership and management qualities post the camp, which is beneficial for them to be able to balance their responsibilities,

What we expect from the prefect group

The school places confidence in the current position of the 2024 prefect group, with the acquired knowledge and guidance to run and lead in an exemplary fashion, whilst maintaining a good repertoire of good academics and discipline.

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."
– John Quincy Adams

Valentine's Day Event - High School

Valentine's Day is a special day meant to celebrate with your loved ones and express your love in various ways. That is exactly what Royal Schools Sky City High School did on this amazing day.

A Valentine's disco was set for the day as one of our fond parents, Mr Mnguni, freely donated his disco equipment for the day to be a success. We also had a Valentine tour of celebrity Tik-Tokers as our guests, the likes of Omaann, DJ Kaymo, InterB & Draad, Mr SizweSir, Kananelo-TheDimples, Braga, Kayrams, Caleb March and Saddydesnowboii.

The school hall was packed as learners anticipated their celebrity guests. Learners wore civvies in celebration of the event. Red, white, pink and black was the order of the day. Valentine's gifts such as roses, mugs, key rings, sweets, chocolates and teddy bears were sold. For refreshments, the famous Mojito (non-alcoholic) was sold.

The stage was beautifully decorated, with disco lights flashing all around creating a vibe in the hall.

AmaPiano graced the moment as learners danced off showcasing their various dance styles. The Tiktokers had the learners on their toes the entire event. The day was a huge success.

Young Barbershop

During our sport's day we also had 'Young Barber' bring their mobile barbershop to give some of our learners haircuts and goodies. This is a new barbershop, which was established and is run by young people and as a school, we are always looking to support young entrepreneurs by having them display their work and inspire our learners.

Grade 8 Boys to Men Hike

As part of the introduction to High School, we take our Grade 8 boys on a hike. This year we chose to conquer the hills at Rietvlei Zoo Farm. Learners were placed into groups and were tasked with getting to know each other along the journey. We heard many laughs during our walk and were eagerly waiting to hear what each learner had learnt about his new friends. Once we completed the hike, the groups had to tell the educators what they had learnt about their new friends.

After much laughter, we embarked on some physical activities where the learners enjoyed good old-fashioned games. The energy ran and ran, and eventually the educators were all run out and our 'men' continued to push on.

Before enjoying our delicious meal, we had a few motivational talks ranging from boys changing to men, to how to deal with the new pressures that our learners will face in High School.

All in all, it was a very successful day and new friendships were fostered.

Empowering Grade 8 Pajama Night: Celebrating Friendship, Dreams and Fun

The Hall buzzed with anticipation as the Grade 8 girls gathered for their annual Pajama Night. Clad in cozy sleepwear, they were about to embark on a memorable evening—one that would empower them, celebrate their bonds and create lasting memories.

Good Hearty Food: Pizza and Wings

The aroma of freshly baked pizza and crispy chicken wings filled the air. The tables were filled with platters and the learners eagerly grabbed their boxes and slices of cheesy goodness. As they savoured each bite, laughter echoed—the universal language of friendship. The pizza and wings weren't just food; they were a symbol of togetherness, shared joy and comfort.



TikTok Dances: Grooving to Empowerment

The Hall transformed into a dance floor. The DJ played catchy tunes and the learners unleashed their inner TikTok stars. Arms swayed, hips moved and smiles widened as they grooved to the beat. The dances weren't just about entertainment; they were a celebration of self-expression, confidence and empowerment. Each step was a reminder that they could conquer any rhythm—on the dance floor and in life.

Motivational Speech: Inspiring Words from a Female Sports Commentator

The spotlight shifted to the stage, where a renowned sport's commentator, stood. Her passion for sports and her journey to success resonated with the girls. "Ladies," she began, "life is like a game. Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn, but always play with heart." Her words echoed through the room, igniting dreams and fueling determination. She was a beacon of possibility—a reminder that girls could break barriers, shatter glass ceilings and redefine the game.

Indigenous Games: Connecting with Heritage

The students gathered for indigenous games. They played "Morabaraba," a strategy game that transcends time and culture. The learners kept playing and falling, and laughter erupted as friendships deepened. The games weren't just about competition; they were a bridge to their roots—a way to honour traditions, respect diversity and celebrate unity.

Teen Rom-Com: Laughter, Love and Lessons

As midnight approached, the learners settled down with blankets and pillows. The giant screen flickered to life, and they watched a classic teen rom-com. The plot was familiar—a quirky girl, a charming boy, and a rollercoaster of emotions. Beyond the laughter and heartwarming moments, the movie carried subtle messages: Be true to yourself, embrace imperfections and find love in unexpected places.

A Constellation of Empowerment

As the night waned, the learners hugged, promising to meet again under the same starry sky. The Grade 8 Pajama Night wasn't just an event; it was a constellation of empowerment. The pizza, the dances, the speech, the games and the movie—they all wove a tapestry of courage, resilience and friendship. As they drifted off to sleep, dreams intertwined with stars, they knew that this night would guide them toward their brightest futures.

High School Clubs

During Term 1, a dedicated period was assigned to clubs to allow learners to broaden their school experience. Learners were able to sign up for:

Business Studies Olympiad, Chess, Choir, Culture, Drama, Environmental Club, General Knowledge, Maths Club, Photography, Public Speaking, Robotics, Science Club, Scripture Union, Economics Olympiad, Geography Olympiad, History Olympiad and Spelling BEE.

From Term 2, many of these clubs continued as extramural activities. Most of the Olympiads have been conducted and the more academic-oriented clubs now have learners involved in preparing for our annual Academic Challenge to be held in Term 3.

First Aid

During this year, we held various First Aid courses for learners and staff. The first response to an emergency situation is usually the most important response.

Earlier this year, we offered level one First Aid courses to our Grade 11 learners and level one and two First Aid courses to our staff. Being able to assist with injuries and illnesses is a necessity at school level where learners can possibly be injured from playing sport or playing on the playground.

In May we offered First Aid level 3 courses to some of our staff to be able to assist with the more serious incidences that may occur at school.



Grade 12 Networking

This initiative was started by Mrs Moyo in 2023. Matriculants from both Sky City and Alberton (SKYBERTON) gather to network with each other and share common issues and experiences relating to their Grade 12 academic year. The occasion also serves as a key motivational event as they head towards their June Examinations and the day is concluded with sporting events and lunch. This year the event was held at Royal Schools Alberton. Guest Speakers and staff covered topics such as University Applications, Study Techniques and Student Wellness.

The keynote Motivational Speech was given by our Academic Director, Mrs Lovinia Moyo. She stressed the importance of keeping all aspects of one's Grade 12 life intact so as to have a strong support mechanism for being able to cope with the Grade 12 year.

Her demonstration using a peeled (left exposed) and unpeeled (keeping your support mechanism intact) naartjie thrown into a jug of water made a deep impact on the learners.

Learners also attended briefing sessions in core subjects presented by the Gr 12 educators. They were given tips to assist them with their studies for the Examinations and were encouraged to ask for assistance with difficult concepts.

On the sporting front, Sky City won the Soccer games whilst Alberton were victorious in the Netball. We look forward to continuing this tradition at Sky City in 2025.

Grade 12 Motivation Night

Welcoming our class of 2024 as per our school culture, we hosted our prestigious Motivation Night. This night is considered very significant for our learners, educators, as well as parents, because this is when they define themselves as the class of 2024 and recite their Grade 12 pledge in the presences of their parents and educators.

This year our Grade 12s defined themselves as the group that believe with their slogan #WEBELIEVE that aligns quite well with our 2024 slogan #STRONGERTOGETHER.

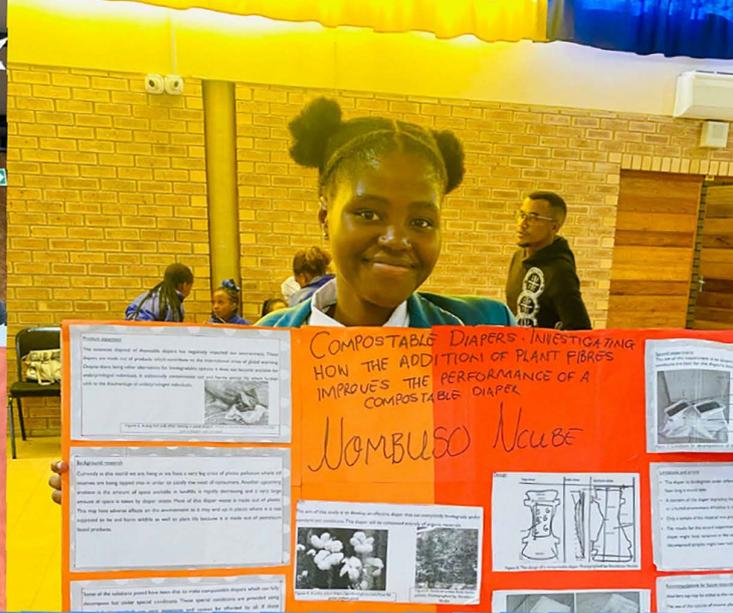
On that night, they showed that when they work together and believe they can and will achieve their goals.

Grade 12 Hike

Teambuilding during a hike is an excellent way to foster camaraderie, improve communication and build trust among the team members. Our grade 12 learners started the year off with a teambuilding hike at Klipriviers Nature Reserve along with the school SMT and grade 12 educators.

This hike plays an important role in the grade 12 journey as it instils discipline, perseverance and teamwork within the grade 12 group. Learners are pushed to their limits and offer each other support, whether it be a helping hand over a large boulder, some kind words to help their friends push through the pain and even our very own Maths teacher describing each section of the hike as the Mathematics Papers. Our grade 12 learners felt the joy of accomplishment once they had completed their hike.

To round the day off, we had a motivational talk to feed our souls and delicious food to feed our tummies.



FUN DAYS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL

Fun days at school play a crucial role in creating a positive and engaging educational environment. These special days provide numerous benefits to learners, educators and the overall school community.

Fun days allow learners and educators to participate in fun activities like dressing up with their peers in a less formal setting. This helps build social skills, foster friendships and promote teamwork.

We hosted a few fun days to break free from traditional daily routines. The educators and learners showed so much joy and enthusiasm in their participation.

Anything but school shoes (Primary and High School):

We started our year off with our first fun activity where learners could wear anything but school shoes (and staff could wear anything but regulation footwear.) Of course most of our educators opted for the more casual slippers, tekkies and flip-flops but our learners wowed us with stilettos, formal shoes and some even came to school barefoot. All in the name of fun.

Dress like your favourite teacher (Primary School):

Learners were encouraged to dress like their favourite teacher with some learners hitting their outfits out of the park by becoming twinzies to teachers. Memories were made and teachers were surprised to see how well their children knew them.

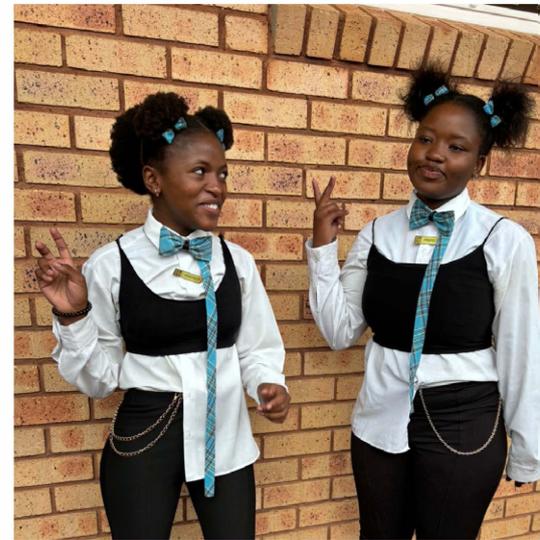
Pimp my uniform (High School):

High School learners were given the opportunity to pimp up their uniforms and show us what they think school uniforms should look like. Some learners remained within the lines by making one or two alterations, whilst other learners coloured outside the lines by changing their uniforms completely. Much fun was held on this day and many conversations were brewing between teachers and learners.

Career Dress up day (Primary and High School):

You have to dress for the job you want, not the job you have, and you have to start doing the work you want to be doing – Austin Kleon

Learners were encouraged to dress like the careers they are aiming for and were we amazed at the outfits they put together! We had nurses, doctors, lawyers, fashion designers, architects and even social influencers. So much fun was had on this day. Some educators decided to take this fun day one step further and allowed learners to perform mini skits to the class portraying their future careers.



MORE SCHOOL NEWS

Easter Social Project

As part of our: "Give back to the community" drive which entails raising funds for initiatives so that our learners are able to experience giving back to those less fortunate than ourselves, our school held a fundraiser on Friday 15 March for the Ezibeleni LSEN School (Special Needs) in Thokoza. Ezibeleni caters to the needs of 255 LSEN learners. A dedicated staff complement of 80 see to it that these learners are cared for.

Our Primary School learners dressed up as their favourite teachers whilst the High School learners held a "Pimp my uniform" day to raise funds for this worthy cause.

With the funds raised, we purchased stock of non-perishable food to assist the school with the daily food needs of the learners. We also purchased Easter Eggs and distributed them to Ezibeleni on Wednesday 19 March. Our Prefects accompanied members of staff to conduct the handover. Both learners and staff of Ezibeleni were highly appreciative of this gesture. Congratulations to Mrs Vilakazi and Ms Mhlongo for driving this initiative.

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed. - Proverbs 19:17

Blood Drive

As part of us giving back to society, we have taken an oath to have an annual blood drive at Royal Schools Sky City. Our learners and the community are invited to assist save lives by donating blood. One pint of blood donated can save up to three lives.

We were thrilled to have our learners donate blood, for some of them it being their first time. We had a few nervous learners but most of them were at ease after they had attended the blood drive education session the day before, and of course, others took part last year and were happy to donate again this year.

We are happy to see our learners being eager in the blood drive and becoming ambassadors of the campaign.

Aftercare

We have had a fulfilling time at Aftercare. Our amazing staff supervise our learners during structured activities and homework. We partake in art and lots of creativity takes place. Some of our structured play activities include puzzle building, shadow art, bead threading and ball games. We thank Teacher Ntombi for always providing delicious and nutritious well-balanced meals. Teacher Thandi ensures all homework is supervised and ensures that all is complete so that when our learners are at home, they have time with their parents. Our Fridays have been action-packed with movie days and a special treat of popcorn.

