



The King's Ken

19 May 2023



A call to
— PRAYER —



from the

PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Our public schools are continuing to perform dismally in South Africa. While this situation gives children educated in independent schools a huge advantage in entering tertiary education and acquiring good jobs, it is a tragedy for hundreds of thousands of our country's youth.

Let's take a look at some of the current trends in our country's public school system:

1. Reading with meaning age South Africa:

The latest research indicates that only 18% of Grade 4 children in South Africa can read with meaning (USA 96%, UK 97%, Iran 65%, Chile 97%). In the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) South Africa rated 50 out of 50 countries participating.

2. Entrance requirements to study teaching at varsity:

University requirements for students wanting to study teaching have been found to be among the lowest of all study fields, according to a study recently released by Stellenbosch University. Because of this, students in teaching degrees often end up there as their second or third choice of degree, and are among the weakest students in every year's intake.

3. **Public servant salaries:** The same study found that these same students, upon graduating earn more than their public servant counterparts with equivalent Bachelor's

Degrees. This means that our universities are churning out expensive teachers with poor academic ability.

4. **Wage inflation:** Wage inflation in the public education space has consistently exceeded inflation over the last few years, and educator wages make up more than 80% of the total education budget, leaving too little budget allocation for building schools, training teachers, maintaining facilities, etc.

5. **New public schools:** Construction of new public schools in South Africa is not keeping pace with the demand. To complicate matters further many township schools are standing empty (in 2019, Angie Motshekga announced that 3000 schools in South Africa would be closed).

6. **Overcrowding in classrooms:** Average number of students in a classroom in South Africa is 35 but in poorer communities the average is usually over 50. With the ongoing backlog of new school construction, this problem continues to be exacerbated.

7. **Teachers leaving the profession:** Many teachers leave the profession due to poor discipline in overcrowded classrooms. Even though new teachers are entering the profession from universities, the reality is that too many good experienced teachers are being lost.

As children of God, our hearts should be breaking for our nation, and we should be crying out to God for his mercy on South Africa. Let us not simply count ourselves lucky to be in the private school sector, but let us pray diligently and fervently that God will raise up his servants to bring a solution. Nothing is impossible for our God.

References

1. <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2023-02-08-only-18-of-grade-4-children-can-read-for-meaning-report/>
2. How much money teachers really earn in South Africa
3. DA concerned about backlog of school construction in Gauteng
4. Overcrowded classrooms and lack of resources still plague Gauteng schools
5. Teacher crisis in South Africa – government responds

- Mr Ken Langley, Principal



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “BE THE DIFFERENCE”

By Ndzalama Chauke, Grade 11 LRC

To be different is to be distinct and separated. In our context of being Christian we are to be different from the world or otherwise be consecrated. Being Christian means love in action by bringing change (for the better) and impacting our communities. Furthermore, loving one another is made possible by God loving us first. Now, this love of God can radiate to those around us who need to experience the Lord's love.

The Polar Bear drive and swim was one of the ways to make a difference in our community and to remind us that we are blessed to be a blessing to others. Being a blessing to others is a form of worship towards the Lord; this is in accordance to Matthew 25:35-40 which states that what we do for others, such as feeding the hungry, clothing the sick, giving something to drink to those who are thirsty and clothes to those who do not have clothes to wear. In this way we demonstrated love towards the Lord.

This term, let us focus on bettering the lives of those in need, not because we want something in return, but because we feel compelled as children of God to love and serve those in need by simply giving what we have including of our time.

#Be the
Difference

Important Dates

SACSSA 6-a-side Soccer (SNR)	- 20 May
FP and IP Blue Certificate Assembly	- 22 May
Prayer Day	- 24 May
Extra Murals End (Gr. 8 – Gr. 12)	- 25 May
SACSSA JNR Netball	- 27 May
Gr. 10 + Gr. 11 Study Leave	- 29 May
Gr. 10 + Gr. 11 Exams Start	- 30 May
Gr. 1 to Gr. 7 Extra Murals End	- 1 June
SACSSA 6-a-side soccer (JNR)	- 3 June
Gr. 8-9 Exams Start	- 5 June
Gr. 12 Assessments Start	- 5 June
Bournemouth Soccer Clinic @ TKSWR	- 5-7 June
PP Father's Day Breakfast	- 9 June
Gr. 4-7 Exams Start	- 12 June
NS Father's Day and Fun Day	- 14 June
YOUTH DAY	- 16 June
Extra Mural Awards Nominations	- 19 June
Gr. 4-11 Exams end	- 23 June
Gr. 12 Assessments End	- 23 June
SCHOOL CLOSES	- 23 June
	(PS – 11:45 & HS – 12:00)
Gr. 12 Winter School Starts	- 26 June
Gr. 12 Winter School End-	29 June
SCHOOL STARTS	- 18 JULY

MEN ON FIRE

We invite you to an evening of
fellowship around the bonfire



Friday, 26 May 2023
Starts 18h30
at The King's School West Rand

We look forward to seeing you all there!

NATIONAL ABACUS COMPETITION



The Twala Brothers: Cebisa in grade 7 and Kamv'Elihle in grade 4 represented Gauteng Province at the National Annual Abacus Maths Competition which was held in Durban.

Kamv'Elihle received a gold medal (3rd position). Cebisa received a Top achiever Trophy (1st position).

Well done, we are proud of you!

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Results:

Boys 1st Team vs Crawford Ruimsig: lost 0-6
Girls 1st Team vs Krugersdorp High: lost 3-4

Boys 1st Team Aitken Tournament results:

TKSWR vs Reddam Waterfall: 0-4
TKSWR vs Crawford Ruimsig: 0-1
TKSWR vs Edenglen: 0-0
TKSWR vs Sicelo: 2-2 (won 3-1 on penalties)
TKSWR vs HS Bekker: 1-1 (won 2-0 on penalties)
Overall Aitken placing for 2023: 5th out of 8
Schools



Upcoming fixtures:

Boys 1st Team vs Roosevelt Park High –
Wednesday 17 May
Girls 1st Team vs HS Florida –
Thursday 18 May

SOCCER

Primary School: had a BYE week.
We play Panorama Thursday, 25 May

High School vs Curro Wilgeheuwel:

U14 won 4 – 3

U16 lost 2 – 3

First Team lost 0 – 2

High School vs Alma Mater

U14 won 5 – 0

U16 won 6 – 2

U19 lost 4-3

Tournaments & Festivals:

Friday 19 May - Mini Soccer Festival for u7, u8 & u9

u7 and u8 playing at TKSWR

u9 playing at Weltevreden Park Primary

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR TEAM PHOTOS OF OUR U7, U8 AND U9 TEAMS

Saturday 20 May

SACSSA Senior 6-a-side Soccer

Saturday 27 May

Charterhouse Winter Sports Day for u9 – u13 Soccer and Netball

Saturday 3 June 2023

SACSSA Junior 6-a-side Soccer

Tuesday 6 June and Wednesday 7 June 2023

AFC Bournemouth will be running soccer clinics at TKSWR for 20 schools and will include 20 of our players (ages 16-18). We look forward to an exciting afternoon with our guests.



NETBALL

Primary School vs
Trinityhouse Little Falls:

u/10: won 5-0

u/11: won 21-0

u/11C: lost 1-4

u/13: won 12-0

High School vs La Salle
College:

u/14A: lost 9-16

u/15A: won 24-6

u/16A: won 30-4

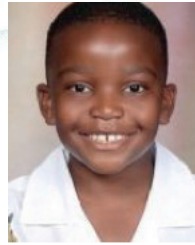
1st Team: lost 21-22

CHESS

Our Chess players did us proud at the D12 Individual Chess Championships at Crawford Ruimsig on 13 May. Congratulations to the following players who will represent D12 at the Gauteng Chess Championships to be held in Benoni as follows:

Friday 26 May – Primary School

Saturday 27 May – High School



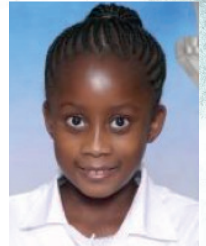
**Nathan
Nemusombori**



Taig Pillay



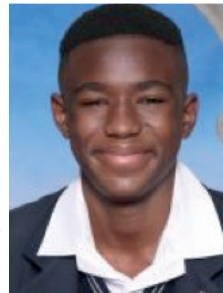
Anja Underwood



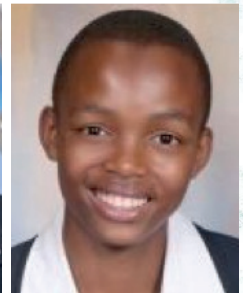
Samara Uwakata



Samantha Uwakata



Khodi Nwedo



Athenkosi Mandlake



RACING

Ethan de Freitas managed to qualify in pole position at the South African Short Circuit Series in the SM Junior 50cc class. He competed in 3 heats and took 1st place overall for the day and currently leads in his section in the championship. Well done, Ethan!





Proverbs 3:27 & 28 states: "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbour, 'Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow' - when you now have it with you".

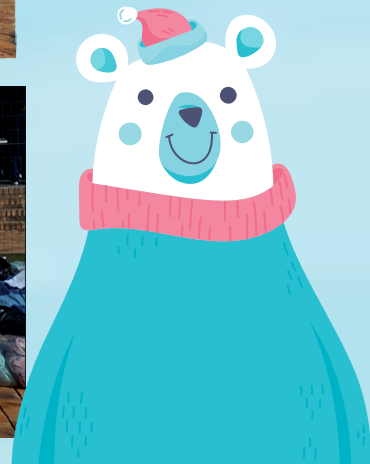
This year, as part of the Polar Bear drive / swim, we provided an opportunity for the High School students to also give of their time. Students signed up to serve on Wednesday, 10 May and/or Thursday, 11 May to sort out all the donations received from the Polar bear drive, as well as making sandwiches for a breakfast drive. This drive provides sandwiches for students in need before school on a daily basis. The students had a wonderful time serving together, while considering those less fortunate than themselves.

Quote provided by Lesedi Legodi (Gr12 LRC) We would like to thank every family and student for their generosity shown whether it be in the form of physical donations, financial donations or the giving of their time. We were blown away by the generosity, love and kindness shown by The King's School family.

Our three visiting Polar Bears (Snowy, Dowy and Glowy) with all the donations received. Thank you for keeping someone warm this winter!



Thank
you!



POLAR BEAR SWIM

In celebration of the Polar Bear Drive our annual Polar Bear Swim was held on Friday, 12 May! Our High School Prefects, Gr12 LRCs and Gr 12 students did a fantastic job in facilitating the Foundation Phase, Intermediate Phase and High School Polar Bear Swim sessions.

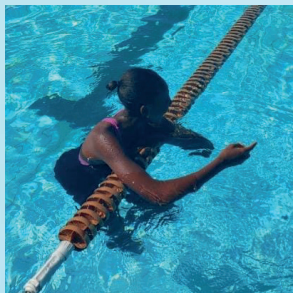
We would like to thank each teacher and student who braved the cold water, walked through the small swimming pool and considered those less fortunate that might not have enough to keep warm this winter.

There were six Foundation Phase teachers who braved the big swimming pool with swimming one lap each. From the Intermediate Phase mama Riekies (on behalf of our student interns) challenged teacher Hector to a very exciting race and we were very proud to have had twenty Grade 7 students swimming.

During the High School session, Mr Clete Stevis, accompanied by English Premier League soccer player, Lyle Foster, joined in with an ice lolly eating competition. A big thank you to Mr Stevis who will assist the school with the distribution of the donations. The High School teachers also delivered a very exciting race, followed by student races as well as a competitive race between the Grade 12 prefects and the Grade 11 prefect applicants. Many students and teachers were brave enough to jump into the big pool as we closed off the event.







EXCITING NEWS
SPECIAL SCHOLAR
 Gym membership!

Planet Fitness has joined forces with your child's school to launch an exciting new wellness initiative. Now offering specials on all joining fees to help you reach your health & fitness goals.

At Planet Fitness we believe that health & fitness should be the core foundation for all children. That's why we've arranged to provide you with the know-how, skills & inspiration to encourage you & your children to lead a healthier lifestyle.

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- Please bring along both your ID's and your child's report card
- Make a booking for our induction programme

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