



THE GRAPEVINE

November/December 2025

What a Showstopper!

**The Global Chorus Saints Production
gets standing ovation!**



See what's inside

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The Principal's Pen



As we enter the last quarter of the year, there's a special sense of momentum in the air. The finish line is coming into view, but our journey isn't quite over yet. This is a season to stay focused, to give our best, and to remember that every effort, no matter how small, still matters.

There may be moments when the pace feels heavy, but we are not alone. God is our constant source of strength and stability, guiding us through every challenge and reminding us of His unchanging presence.

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." Psalm 18:2

As teachers and learners work toward completing projects, assessments, and goals, may we find renewed energy and encouragement. Let's continue to support one another with kindness, patience, and faith, finishing strong, not just in results, but in character and unity.

Let this month be one of steady purpose and joyful perseverance. With God as our Rock, we can move forward with confidence, knowing He will help us complete what we have begun.

IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

- 01 SOCCER TOURNAMENT
GRADE 1 AND U/13 GIRLS
- 07 CAKE AND CANDY
- 07 MATRIC FAREWELL
- 08 SOCCER TOURNAMENT
GRADE 2
- 10-21 EXAMS (Grade 4-9)
- 17-25 EXAMS (Grade 10-12)
- 22 SOCCER TOURNAMENT
GRADE 3 AND U/11 BOYS
- 24-26 GRADE 6 CAMP
- 24-28 FUN DAYS FOR GRADE 1-9
- 26-28 GRADE 9-11 CAMP
- 29 SOCCER TOURNAMENT
U/13 BOYS

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

- 3 DEWALD GROBLER
- 12 JADE WILLIAMS
- 18 LOISE KOCK
- 22 THATO LEGOETE

DECEMBER

- 8 TSHOLOFELO TSIMANE
- 22 ANNA GOREWANG
- 24 KAYLA VAN NIEKERK
- 26 PS. SANDY WILLIAMS
- 29 DEVANEÉ NELL

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Psalm 37:1-9



Cultures unite in spectacular production

Wouter Pienaar

Saints Christian School once again raised the bar for school productions with their breathtaking showcase, The Global Chorus. It was a vibrant, faith-filled celebration from start to finish that had parents clapping, cheering, and at times, even wiping away a tear.

The production followed The Seeker (Thobekile Wesi), wrestling with her doubts about faith and belonging. Through the wise words of different mentors, she learns that her very questions are part of God's invitation that draws her deeper into His story.

Her journey takes her across the globe, encountering cultures and nations that each reveal a glimpse of who God is.

From the pulsating rhythms of Nigeria and the majestic dances of the Zulu and Tswana cultures to the graceful movements of Asia and the jubilant flair



of Latin America, every segment shone with authenticity and passion.

The costumes were nothing short of spectacular. It was a vibrant kaleidoscope of colour, texture, and tradition - while the choreography was meticulously crafted, weaving cultural expression and spiritual symbolism into one seamless celebration.

The evening's musical highlights included a powerful rendition of Baba Yetu that had the audience erupting in applause, and a deeply moving Agnus Dei created a beautiful finale.

In the end, The Seeker finds her home in God's family, declaring her faith in Jesus and being baptised into new life.

It was a powerful conclusion that left the audience uplifted and inspired.





Cultures unite in spectacular production





MARNA VAN SCHALKWYK


What inspired you to become a teacher?

I have always loved children. Teaching gives me the opportunity to make a difference in their lives every day.

What's your favourite part about teaching Saints learners?

Being able to incorporate Jesus into the subject I teach. It's such a blessing to bring faith into learning.

What's a funny or memorable moment you've had in class this year?

When my students tried to prank me with TikTok trends—without realising that I also watch TikTok! 😊

How do you make learning fun for your learners?

I include games and hands-on activities whenever possible.

What's one thing your learners might not know about you?

I did long-distance running when I was in school.

What's your favourite school event or tradition at Saints?

The Production! It's stressful in the build-up, but I get goose bumps every time everything comes together. 🙌

If your class had a theme song, what would it be?

The Pinky and the Brain theme song 🎵 — they're always asking, "What are we doing today?"

What's a lesson your learners have taught you?

That you can make a difference in someone's life without even realising it.

How do you help your learners grow in their faith?

I encourage them to ask questions about Devotions and Chapel and remind them that no question is too small or silly. I always want them to know I'm there for them.

What's one word that best describes your class this year?

Chatty! 🗣️

GET TO KNOW OUR SAINTS!

SHILOH VORSTER

Grade 12


Favourite movie character?

Stitch from *Lilo & Stitch*

What food would you eat non-stop?

Ice-Cream

One thing you would change of social media?

Impossible to post hateful comments

What's your go-to study hack before exams?

Take breaks and set a goal for yourself

Career path after school?

Soccer coaching and strength and conditioning coaching

If your grade was a TV series, what would it be called?

The Guinea Pigs

Who in your class is most likely to be famous one day?

Tshegofatso Monyela (Cricket)

Which teacher gives the best one-liners or funny quotes?

Mr. Ivan Reckling

What's the biggest myth about high school that isn't true?

High school will show which direction you will head in after school.

What are you most proud of achieving at Saints?

I pushed through difficult times. I did not give up on my education and sport. I got out of my shell and managed to become vice-head girl.



One step at a time

Tshegofatso Monyela

Wouter Pienaar

If you want to know where the heartbeat of cricket lies at Saints, look no further than Tshegofatso Monyela.

"Stevie," as she is known by her teammates, has done it all at Saints in a glorious decade. This matriculant and first-team captain is the first girls cricketer that the school has produced. As a pioneer, she has lived through the highs of lifting countless trophies and has also experienced the lows of failure in a high-performance environment.

Her success story is embedded in a phrase: "One step at a time."

She learned this life lesson during a tough period, but she persevered to lead Saints to Schools SA20 success this past year. Through consistent top performances, she could not be ignored, and being present has opened doors for Tshego - who has big dreams of making cricket her profession. Two unions, Easterns and Limpopo, have already contacted her with contract offers for next year.

Opportunities will always knock at her door. Tshegofatso is a true cricketing pioneer at Saints as the first girls cricketer in the school's history.

Her cricketing journey started when she was in Grade 2 in teacher Tina Smit's class.

"I used to be a very busy kid in class. I always finished my work early. Colouring books and puzzles could not keep me entertained."

One day, Teacher Tina sent Tshego out to play sport with the boys during a sports period because of her energy.

"Coach Keo Sebetlele asked me if I could bowl with a mini-cricket ball. He then taught me the basics and saw my potential. My first match was with the boys at under-8 level."

Tshego was initially nervous about being the only girl in the team, but taking her first wicket gave her confidence.



"My goal is to dominate and make a name for myself."

"I saw potential in myself. I played at home, during break time - everywhere I could, I played. Cricket is a lifestyle," she adds.

Tshego began taking cricket seriously when she was called up to the senior Dragons Women's squad at u/13 level in Grade 7.

This was the moment that lit an even greater fire in her soul. Practising and playing alongside top women's cricketers at North-West Dragons opened her eyes to the possibilities of cricket as a profession. At that stage, the Dragons had Protea stars like Anneke Bosch and Tazmin Brits in their ranks - players that Tshego could rub shoulders with.

"Coach Ché went with me to meet the Dragons players for the first time. I had my school uniform on. I remember all those players looked so cool in their kit. Tazmin came up to me and told me that she had heard good things about me - that also boosted my confidence," says Tshego.

Tshego's journey was not always smooth sailing - far from it. At times, the wind was knocked from her sails. Not getting called up to the Dragons, a loss of form - all pointed to one question: Could she make it?



One step at a time

Tshegofatso Monyela

Wouter Pienaar

"My problem was that I tried to figure out everything at the same time. My concentration shifted from my mental side to trying to impress people in a high-performance environment. I was just messed up mentally. It's so frustrating to do something but not get the results you know you're capable of."

Coach Ché saw that Tshego was not at the level she needed to be and gave her wise words that she still treasures to this day. It was the catalyst for a turnaround that transformed failure into massive success.

"Coach Ché told me to take it one step at a time. To focus on a 1% improvement each day. It makes a huge difference," she adds, smiling.

This newfound confidence helped her lead her team to second place at the national Schools SA20 tournament. Under her leadership, the younger players thrived in new conditions, with television cameras and extra publicity taking the whole experience to another level.

"I told myself to lead from the front. I must be the example to the other girls. My main goal was for the younger girls like Rea and Chief to get recognised. It is important for me to nurture them and give them the opportunity to reach goals at school level that I could not," explains Tshego.



Next on the horizon for Tshego is cricket in Division 2, and although she wanted to reach Division 1 after school, she still feels that she can make an impact with increased game time.

"I am generally proud of reaching the second division, although I wanted to reach the first division. The second division will not stop me from fully displaying my potential. My goal is to dominate and make a name for myself. From there, I can get called up to bigger unions."

Those who have seen Tshego on a cricket field would know that her support system is never far behind.

The loudest cheers can be heard from her proud mother, Bafedile, who is a teacher at Little Saints Nursery School. Most often, she will bring friends and colleagues to amplify the support for Tshego and her Saints team.

"My mom is my number one supporter. Her relationship with God is solid. Everything in her life revolves around God. She has given me such an awesome example.

She inspires me because she understands that anything is possible with God."

In the past, Tshego would have tried to impress others, but she has learned that the key to success is putting God first. Full stop.

"I can do anything I put my mind to. It looks impossible, but it can be done with God leading the way.

Have trust in your skills and abilities. I don't mind standing out. As I grew older I realised that I'm built to stand out and that's exactly what I plan to do as I chase my professional dream in Division 2 and beyond."



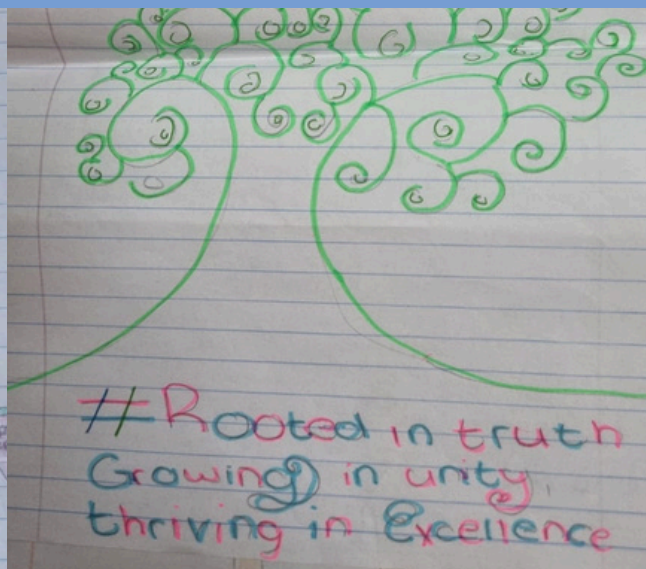
Creative Corner



Written and creative pieces from our learners



Thembelihle Mphote (Grade 6)



Saints Christian School isn't just a school, it's a home for future leaders. With truth, unity and excellence at our roots, we provide top-tier education rooted in strong values. Learners don't just learn, they grow, innovate and prepare to make an impact. Our dedicated teachers, safe environment and faith-driven approach ensure that every learner reaches their highest potential. Give your child the best start in life. Enrol at Saints Christian School today - where education meets purpose and success begins!

Thobekile Wesi (Grade 7)



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SPORT REPORT

Saints u/19 cricket girls secure two title wins against Gimmies

Wouter Pienaar

The Saints u/19 girls cricket team have once again proven why they are the best with two commanding victories over Potch Gimmies in successive weeks, securing both the NW Schools SA20 title and the Noordvaal provincial championship in emphatic fashion.

In the SA20 Final, Saints produced a clinical all-round display to defend their title with style. Batting first, Saints posted a formidable 153/5 in their 20 overs, thanks to a superb innings of 72 runs from Jessica "Chief" Joshua, who anchored the effort with confidence and class. The bowlers then turned the contest into a one-sided affair, dismantling Gimmies for just 34 runs in 11.1 overs.

Gogontle Padi and Reabetswe Dithipe were outstanding with the ball, striking at regular intervals. Padi's dismissal of Gimmies' key batter, Deidré van Rensburg, effectively sealed the result, as Saints marched to a 93-run victory and booked their place in the Central Qualifiers.

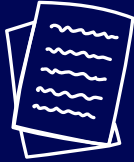
Barely a week later, the Saints rolled on with another dominant performance, this time in the Noordvaal Final.

They cruised to a 10-wicket win. Gimmies were bowled out for 59 runs in 18.4 overs, with only Van Rensburg showing resistance through a gritty 45-run knock.

Saints' bowlers were relentless once again, led by Player of the Match, Reabetswe Dithipe (3/7), and Tshegofatso Monyela (2/19). The pair then comfortably chased down the target, with Dithipe (22*) and Monyela (26*) guiding Saints home with more than 15 overs to spare.

These back-to-back triumphs highlight Saints' remarkable depth, discipline, and team spirit.





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THE ONLY **ieb**-AFFILIATED SCHOOL IN POTCHEFSTROOM!

Why Choose Saints?

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- ✓ Smaller classes for personal attention
- ✓ Christ-centred education
- ✓ Top-tier academics, sport, and culture including dance classes, sports academy, and computer classes.



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**From first steps to final exams -
Experience the full Saints journey.**

TRUTH | UNITY | Excellence



Each edition will feature one of our staff members when they were young! Can you guess who this is?

The answer is hidden on this page!

Contact us!



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OUR SAINTS STAFF FAMILY PHOTO!

