



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

CIRCULAR 1 / 2026 –16 JANUARY 2026

**DREAM
BELIEVE
ACHIEVE**

HHS VISION

To be a leading co-educational **high school**, providing exceptional **physical** and **social** environments in which **all** learners have the **opportunity** to become the **best they can be**, academically, culturally, socially and in sport.

HHS VALUES

H-onour | **H**-ard work | **S**-ervice

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I welcome all members of the school community back to the start of the 2026 academic year. I extend a particular welcome to the ±300 students who have joined us this year. I hope that you will all be happy here and that you will make the most of the opportunities that will be available to you.

STAFFING

We have welcomed the following new staff members this year:

- Ms Samantha Jones
- Ms Kashnie Poovalingham
- Mr Seth Jones
- Mr Elton Smith

- Ms Nonhlanhla Nkosi
- Mrs Ricky White (Locum)
- Ms Senamile Madela (Locum)
- Mrs Thandiwe Madladla (Admin)

We hope that you will be very happy at Hillcrest High School.

ACHIEVERS

KZN Softball:

Congratulations to Ethan Moss who has been selected for the Senior KZN Softball Squad and will be representing our province at the upcoming Gordon Monk Provincial Softball Tournament in Kempton Park, Gauteng from the 30 January to 1 February 2026. Well done to you, Ethan.

Pentathlon World Championships:



Bradley Leppan participated in the Pentathlon World Championships held in December in Cape Town. His main focus was the Biathlon individual event, but he also entered the Triathlon event and the Lazer Run, which he entered as an open athlete. He is to be congratulated on an excellent set of results.

- Lazer Run, Open Category: finished 14th in the world and placed 9th for the All-Africa Championships.
- Biathlon Mixed Relay: Won Silver Medal as part of the South African Team.
- Biathlon Individual: Brad placed 3rd taking the Bronze

Medal while competing against 36 of the world's finest competitors.

- Triathlon Individual: Brad had another podium finish, winning Bronze. This victory secured the Gold Medal for Team South Africa overall. Well done, Bradley.

AWARDS

The following learners were awarded academic awards for their results achieved in 2025.

ACADEMIC AWARDS 2025		
TOP ACHIEVERS GRADE 11		
NAME	SURNAME	AWARD
HONOURS CUM LAUDE		
Brielle	Pillay	Honours Cum Laude
Amber-Lynn	Jones	Honours Cum Laude
HONOURS		
Azola	Shandu	Honours
Kylie	Freeman	Honours
Emily	Oshaugnessy	Honours
Andiswa	Maphumulo	Honours
Taylor	Van Tromp	Honours
Nkanyezi	Ngcobo	Honours
Luyanda	Mkhize	Honours
Hannah	Grefrath	Honours
Thingo	Dlamini	Honours

FULL COLOURS		
Nangamso	Nxasana	Full Colours
Taylor	Cribbins	Full Colours
Saselihle	Mkhize	Full Colours
Sebastian	Smith	Full Colours
Melokuhle	Dlamini	Full Colours
Amahle	Zungu	Full Colours
Nolwandle	Jiyane	Full Colours
Jayden	Chaythram	Full Colours
Lubanzi	Maluleka	Full Colours
HALF COLOURS		
Maroelle	Coertse	Half Colours
Ryan	Haasbroek	Half Colours
Nkazimulo	Ngcobo	Half Colours
Kaitlyn	Perumal	Half Colours
Tatum	Low	Half Colours
Kaylin	Olsen	Half Colours
Kamith	Chetty	Half Colours
Shawna	Creed	Half Colours
Jakin	Goldstone	Half Colours
Zabathembu	Sithole	Half Colours
Asemahle	Tshapa	Half Colours
Janoah	Williams	Half Colours
Zoe	Visser	Half Colours
Carlos	Zakwe	Half Colours
Leander	Esterhuizen	Half Colours
Taygen	Oberholzer	Half Colours
Yolan	Govender	Half Colours
Sinenhloso	Shozi	Half Colours
Kostazia	Davie	Half Colours
Chelsey	Greyvenstein	Half Colours
Azrah	Chetty	Half Colours
Cameron	Freeman	Half Colours
Ntwenhle	Kunene	Half Colours
Havanna	Thomas	Half Colours

TOP ACHIEVERS GRADE 10		
NAME	SURNAME	AWARD
FULL COLOURS		
Luke	Whittle	Full Colours
Owomusa	Dlamini	Full Colours
Isabella	Te Brugge	Full Colours
Anro	Adendorff	Full Colours
HALF COLOURS		

Jema-Lee	Duncan	Half Colours
Maja	Kearley	Half Colours
Thubelihle	Njokwe	Half Colours
MERIT		
Mikateko	Mashaba	Merit
Isabella	Momoh	Merit
Kaitlyn	Steyn	Merit
Norma-Jean	Pryce	Merit
Kristen	Bartholmew	Merit
Darshni	Reddy	Merit
Peyton	Kietzmann	Merit
Jaylah	Noble	Merit
Callum	Stieger	Merit
Margo	Frasenburg	Merit
Sthembile	Makhuba	Merit
Kayla	Jackson	Merit
Piya	Brown	Merit

TOP ACHIEVERS GRADE 9		
NAME	SURNAME	AWARD
JUNIOR COLOURS		
Terania	Govender	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Matthew	Pillay	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Ella	Saunders	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Amy	Neveling	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Khwezi	Mnyandu	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Langelihle	Nxumalo	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Sinakhokonke	Mkhize	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Owethu	Mkhize	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Azania	Ntshangase	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Erin	Lowe	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Keegan	Compton-James	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Kellan	Boynton	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Alexis	Duncan	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Siphokazi	Makanya	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Sbongakonke	Nxumalo	Junior Colours
Simmukele	Gwala	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Makayla	Torchia	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Noah	Berndt	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
Jaden-Lee	Anderson	Junior Colours
Riaan	Van Der Byl	Junior Colours (Re-Award)
MERIT		
Mafuya	Nkabinde	Merit (Re-Award)

Annabelle	Van Heerden	Merit (Re-Award)
Skye	Mans	Merit
Stephen	Munro	Merit
Joy	Mackenzie	Merit (Re-Award)
Thalente	Cele	Merit (Re-Award)
Theresli	Meyers	Merit (Re-Award)
Eben	Coetser	Merit (Re-Award)
Charnia	Maistry	Merit (Re-Award)
Benjamin	Smith	Merit (Re-Award)
Theko	Motaung	Merit (Re-Award)
Okuhle	Nxumalo	Merit
Esihle	Myende	Merit (Re-Award)
Sesona	Guzana	Merit (Re-Award)
Thandolwethu	Dlamini	Merit
Scarlett	Ferreira	Merit (Re-Award)

TOP ACHIEVERS GRADE 8

NAME	SURNAME	AWARD
JUNIOR COLOURS		
Sinelizwi	Dlamini	Junior Colours
Izabella	Keating	Junior Colours
Jaylene	Chaythram	Junior Colours
Laela-Mae	Geldenhuis	Junior Colours
Osaze	Mhlongo	Junior Colours
Jethro	Le Roux	Junior Colours
Cayla	Wareing	Junior Colours
Michael	Clur	Junior Colours
Jamee	Frasenburg	Junior Colours
Ndumiso	Cele	Junior Colours
Casey	Erasmus	Junior Colours
Grace	Maemesa	Junior Colours
Aarin	Van Der Byl	Junior Colours
Sophy	D'alton	Junior Colours
Mackenzie	Kuijken	Junior Colours
Ross	Van Der Merwe	Junior Colours
MERIT		
Aphelele	Mbonambi	Merit
Ogechi	Okorie	Merit
Ethan	Barnes	Merit
Summer	Mnguni	Merit
Anezelwe	Mdletshe	Merit
Emily	Lawrence	Merit
Smangaliso	Num	Merit

Ukhona	Dlamini	Merit
Boniswa	Masondo	Merit
Lindokuhle	Nxumalo	Merit
Sienna	Kidgell	Merit
Skylar	Neaves	Merit
Zinhlezonke	Ngwane	Merit
Michaela	Roberts	Merit
Bella	Fettes	Merit
Andiswa	Maphumulo	Merit
Trinity	Rodney	Merit
Siyamthanda	Khanyile	Merit
Kenzie	Stevenson	Merit
Mishael	Lawrence	Merit

NSC MATRIC RESULTS 2024

I wish to congratulate our Class of 2025 for achieving a pleasing set of results. 219 students wrote the NSC examination last year and 213 passed, giving us a pass rate of 97,3%. 164 obtained Bachelor's passes whilst 39 obtained Diploma passes. 93% of the class of 2025 have thus satisfied the minimum requirements for admission to tertiary study. The Top Achievers were as follows:



Learners who achieved 7As were:

- Hannah King (91,6%)
- Micaella Hunter (88%)
- Ethan Ainhirn (87,5%). (Ethan also achieved an A for AP Maths – an IEB Subject).
- Lindokuhle Nyaba (86,4%).

Learners who achieved 6As were:

- Cadence Barclay
- Kelsey Brown
- Cheyenne Houreau.
- Vanessa van der Westhuizen. Vanessa achieved an A for AP Maths (IEB Subject).

Learners who achieved 5As were:

- Ariyin Collingwood
- Lola Klijnstra
- Chloe Marais.

Learners who achieved 4As were:

- Julia Angus
- Leah Donkin
- Joe Te Brugge
- Dayna Gagiano
- Khethelo Ngcamu.



Congratulations to them all! We were exceptionally pleased with the results. The class of 2025 did not have an easy high school experience, having been affected by the Covid-19 lockdowns, the unrest, the floods and the like. We are very proud that they took our motto to heart and realised the truth in *“If it is to be, it is up to me!”* We wish them all the very best for their futures.

Of course, the challenge to this year’s Matrics is to strive for a 100% pass rate! Success in Matric (as in any Grade) is the result of consistent work throughout the year, regular attendance at school, and the submission of all assignments. In addition, the system of continuous assessment (or CASS) places a lot of pressure on Grade 12’s as they earn marks towards their final mark throughout the year. CASS counts 25% of the final mark in Grade 12 with the end of year examination contributing the other 75%. This will all be covered at the **Grade 12 Parents Information Evening** on the 27 January. I wish the class of 2026 all the best for a successful grade 12 year.

GRADE 8-11 PRIZE GIVING

This important event takes place on Friday 30 January at 10h00 in the CM Girvin Multipurpose Centre. At this event awards will be made to those learners who came top of each of the four grades in 2025 and learners who achieved in the sporting, cultural and service arenas in 2025. It is compulsory for all Grade 9-11 learners to attend. An invitation to parents will follow. The Grade 8 and Grade 12 learners may have the day off to study, and with the exception of the prize winners and SLT, will not be required to attend school on 30 January 2026.

POLICIES

As usual at the beginning of a new year, I would like to remind you of the following school policies:

1. SICK ROOM

Only learners who have been injured or who are clearly extremely ill are allowed into the sick room. Learners who feel unwell during the day report this to their grade controller – the grade controller lets the front office know and they will contact parents/guardians. Unless obviously very ill, learners will wait in the classroom for parents/ guardians to collect them at the office.

LEARNERS MAY NOT PHONE PARENTS DIRECTLY.

2. NOTEBOOK/ ID PHOTOGRAPH

These are combined. The ID photograph is stuck into the front of the Notebook and is produced in-house. 2026 Notebooks will be distributed this week. The first Notebook is free, but replacements have to be paid for. The cost is R20 for a new photo and R20 for a book.

3. EXEATS

Except for obvious emergencies, exeats can only be issued by Grade Controllers. The secretarial staff do not issue exeats for dental appointments, learners’ licence appointments and the like. A note to the Grade Controller is required – s/he will issue the exeat which is handed in to the front office when the learner leaves the school.

4. DELIVERIES

Please can deliveries of forgotten lunches, PE kits etc be kept to emergencies only, and then they need to be made to the reception. We will make every effort to get items to your child, but it is a very large school with 1200 learners so this can be very time consuming for the admin staff who are very busy. Your understanding is appreciated.

5. PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This is part of the Life Orientation programme, and the policies and procedures are laid down by the Department of Education. A copy of the policy may also be viewed on the D6 under the Resources tab in the Life Orientation category.

UNIFORM ISSUES

Our learners are our most important advert. One of the most overt ways in which they demonstrate their pride in their school is the way they wear its uniform, both here at school and when they are in the community. People often judge our school by what our learners do and/or look like when they are wearing their uniform. I would appeal to parents to ensure that their children leave home or alight from the car at school in the morning correctly dressed. I would also ask that you ensure that they are neatly dressed when they are out in the community.

1. BLAZERS

Blazers are not compulsory in the first and fourth terms. However, if it is cold and learners will be walking about in public after school hours, they may only wear a blazer or shirt sleeves. Jerseys and tracksuit tops may not be worn outside of school property unless they are worn underneath the blazer. Please can parents assist us by ensuring that your children are properly dressed if they are with you in the public arena.

2. HAIR GIRLS

Hair regulations are as follows:

- i) Hair must be clear of the face.
- ii) If long, hair should be tied back or plaited/braided.
- iii) Fringes must be above the eyebrows.
- iv) Only plain, functional accessories may be worn, and they must be in school colours or clear. The sole purpose of these accessories is to ensure that hair is neat, tied back and complies with rules 2.10 (i) and (ii). They are not for decoration.
- v) Only extensions of a natural colour will be allowed.
- vi) Only naturally coloured hair will be permitted. No obvious colouring will be allowed. If hair is of more than one colour, additional colours must still be natural.
- vii) Deviations from these regulations may be permitted for certain events, e.g. the Matric Dance. However, this will be for a limited period only and the conditions under which these deviations are permitted will be made very clear to parents and/or guardians and learners.
- viii) Disputes relating to hair styles will be referred to a sub-committee consisting of the Departmental Heads in charge of boys' and girls' hair, other identified members of staff, and two members of the RCL (one male and one female).



GIRLS' UNIFORM HAIR RULES

- 1** Long/ loose hair that touches the collar must be tied back/plaited or braided. Hair needs to be clear of the face with no loose strands hanging in or around the face.
- 2** Hair accessories used to tie-up or hold back hair must be in school colours (navy blue, red or white) or of your natural hair colour.
- 3** Only natural coloured hair colour is permitted - No obvious colouring. No bleaching or tinting.
- 4** Fringes to be above the eyebrows. No patterns or lines to be shaved into eyebrows.
- 5** Extensions need to be in YOUR natural hair colour. No "steps" beads or extra's in hair.



BOYS' UNIFORM HAIR RULES

BOYS

1

Hair may not touch collar or be draped over ears. Sideburns must not pass mid-ear.



2

No extreme styles, comb overs, long pasted down strands (in any direction). No "steps", patterns, gelled or combed spikes.



3

Only natural coloured hair colour is permitted - No obvious colouring. No bleaching or tinting.



4

Fringes to be above the eyebrows. No patterns or lines to be shaved into eyebrows.



5

Face must be clean shaven - no beards or moustaches or long sideburns.



- i.) Hair must be neat and well-groomed at all times. There should be no extremes of style.
- ii.) All boys are to be clean shaven. Sideburns may not extend beyond the middle-ear.

EXTRA-MURAL COMMITMENT

Every learner in the school is required to participate in at least two activities. The term calendar will be sent out shortly. It details all this term's activities as well as giving details of practice days and kit required.

**DREAM
BELIEVE
ACHIEVE**

THEME 2026 - DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE!

"DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE" encapsulates the journey of turning aspirations into reality.

As we embark on this new year, let us encourage each other to embrace our dreams with open hearts and minds, having the courage to imagine a future filled with possibilities.

Believing in ourselves and our potential is the next crucial step; it builds our determination and resilience, allowing us to overcome challenges and setbacks.

Finally, through hard work, perseverance, and a positive mindset, we can achieve our goals, no matter how ambitious they may seem. This theme encourages us to dream big, believe in our abilities, and strive for excellence in all our endeavours, creating a vibrant and inspiring school community.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Hillcrest High School covers all learners for Personal Accident through EduRisk Financial Services.

Please find the Learner Insurance Information document on our D6. The document includes a summary of benefits, frequently asked questions, claims procedure & disclosure notices.

To obtain a claim form, please email businessmanager@hhs.co.za or request from the school reception.

HHS IS A CASHLESS SCHOOL

To protect the safety of our staff and your children, HHS continues to strive to become a cashless school.

To eliminate cash transactions at HHS, only the following payment options will be available:

- EFT payments
- Debit order payments
- Karri App payments (school fees are not payable via Karri).

Thanking you, in advance, for your understanding & support in assisting us with the transition to become cashless.

IN CONCLUSION



Finally, a reminder that all communication from the school (including circulars, term calendars and control test and examination timetables) is electronic (via the D6 Communicator, emails from our Front Office, as well as grade WhatsApp groups) unless you have specifically requested hard copies of documents. Please inform the Front Office if you would like to receive hard copies of communications from the school.

I wish all members of the school community a happy and successful 2026.

Yours faithfully
D.P. KNIGHT
Principal