



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

CIRCULAR 9/2026 – 28 AUGUST 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

IN THIS CIRCULAR:

1. **ACHIEVERS**
2. **D6 AND DETENTION UPDATES**
3. **GOSPEL CHOIR**
4. **ANGEL FUND LADIES BRUNCH**
5. **isiZULU CULTURAL EVENING**
6. **LEGACY IN HARMONY**
7. **HONESTY**
8. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

One of the greatest privileges of leading a school such as ours is witnessing the remarkable breadth of opportunities that shape our learners each day. As I reflect on the first weeks of the term, I am struck not only by how busy our calendar has been, but by the rich diversity of experiences that have brought our school community to life.

From academic endeavour to sporting excellence, from cultural expression to service and leadership, our learners continue to embrace opportunities with enthusiasm and commitment. These experiences are more than events on a calendar; they are the building blocks of a holistic education. They expose our young people to new perspectives, challenge them to grow beyond their comfort zones and help them

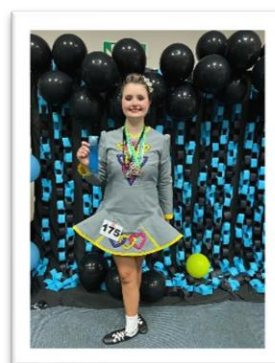
discover who they are becoming. Together, they create the dynamic, diverse and opportunity-rich environment that makes our school such a special place to learn, grow and belong.

As you read through this month's highlights, I am sure you will share my pride in all that has been accomplished and appreciation for the many staff, learners and parents whose contributions make these opportunities possible.

1. ACHIEVERS

IRISH DANCING

Congratulations to Grade 10 learner, Rachael Atkinson, who took several podium position wins during a recent Irish Dance competition. Rachael achieved one Gold, two Silver and three Bronze medals as well as one 4th placing and will be attending the South African Irish Dancing Championships in Johannesburg at the end of September 2026.



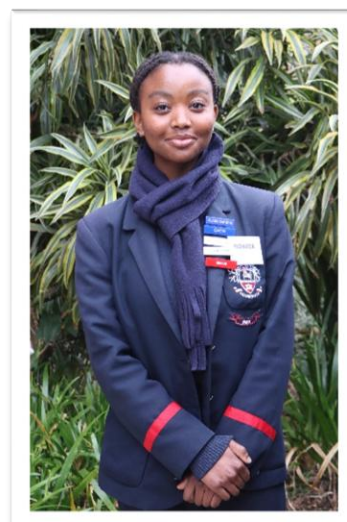
ATHLETICS



Congratulations to Thabiso Malembe who has qualified to compete in the KZN Athletics Championships in the on Friday, 28 August. Competing in the U18 age group at trials, placing 3rd in the 800m and 1st in High Jump (where he broke the Record at 1.84m) at the trials.

KARATE

Esnath Kufakunesa recently competed at a Karate Tournament at Waterfall College and performed exceptionally well. She achieved a Gold Medal, 1st Place for the Kumite (16 – 18 years) and a Silver Medal, 2nd Place for Kata. Congratulations to Esnath for showing discipline, determination and confidence throughout the competition. Her results reflect the effort she has put into her training and her ability to perform under competitive pressure.



SOCCER

Congratulations to the following learners who have been selected for the **Highway Soccer Teams**:

BOYS:

U14: Samkelo Mthembu, Alondwe Ndlovu, Qwabelihle Makhanya

U15: Keegan Myeza, Buhlebonke Xaba, Amkelo (Sbani) Radebe.

U16: Siphiso Mkhize, Okuhle Nxumalo, Jose Lyons.

U19: Philisa Mgwange, Mohale Sakuneke, Thando Ndlovu, Luthando Mzobe, Avuyile Ntshangase.





GIRLS: Ayabonga Ximba – U16,
Senamile Mvelase – U19, Grace
Humphreys – U16
Siyamthanda Phewa – U15, Sienna
Fripp – U19.

The following boys have been selected for the **KZN Soccer Teams**. Congratulations! Alondwe Ndlovu – U14A, Melokuhle Ndlozi – U15A, Samkelo Mthembu – U14B, Okuhle Nxumalo – U16B.



The following girls have been selected for the **KZN Soccer Teams**. Well done!
Angelique Smit – U14
Awonke Ndwayi – U14
Langalihle Nxumalo – U16
Theresli Meyers – U16
Sophie Buccimazza – U19

CHESS

This year a total of 11 schools participated in the PADSSA CHESS LEAGUE with a total possible score of 80 points. Congratulations to Star College on finishing at the top of the league and to Pinetown Boys High School who came 2nd. Hillcrest High School finished in a very pleasing 3rd position.

This junior team consists predominantly of Grade 8 and 9 pupils. They were up against stiff opposition - notably both Star and PBHS pupils were all seniors. Congratulations to the team on this fantastic result and a very big thank you to Mrs Gomes for her continued commitment and dedication to chess.

1	STAR COLLEGE	69.5
2	PINETOWN BOYS' HIGH	61
3	HILLCREST HIGH	56.5
4	KEARSNEY COLLEGE	49.5
4	KLOOF HIGH	49.5
5	WERDA	33.5
6	THOMAS MORE COLLEGE	30
7	PINETOWN GIRLS HIGH	28.5
8	GELOFTE	25
9	QUEENSBURGH GIRLS	22.5
10	WATERFALL COLLEGE	5

2. D6 AND DETENTION UPDATES

Please note, we have adjusted the D6 minus point system for late arrivals. The system was previously a minus 1 and a detention but will now be a minus 5 on the D6 and no detention. This does **not apply** if a parent emails the Grade Controller with the reason for late arrival, in which case no minus points will be applied.



3. GOSPEL CHOIR

The Gospel Choir represented the school with distinction throughout the Gospel Choir Evening hosted by Maritzburg College on the 15 August, in the Alan Paton Memorial Hall in Pietermaritzburg. Mrs Magubane reported that their behaviour was exemplary, and they conducted themselves in a manner that reflected positively on our school community and earned many positive comments. They demonstrated respect towards organisers, educators and fellow participants, and displayed a high level of maturity, discipline, and cooperation. Their appearance, attitude, and conduct were commendable and served as a positive example of the values we strive to instil in our learners.



Congratulations to all the learners who attended this event and thank you to Mrs Gabisa and Mrs Magubane for all the hard work and dedication that is involved behind the scenes.

4. ANGEL FUND LADIES BRUNCH





The Hillcrest High School Angel Fund Committee hosted over 200 ladies for a bespoke brunch, on Saturday 15 August. Guest speaker, philanthropist and ex-East Coast Radio personality, Jane Linley-Thomas had the audience spellbound as she recounted some of her most dramatic radio interviews, and the “giant leap” of faith of leaving her dream job to follow her “next”.

The Angel Fund Tea is hosted annually, as a fundraiser aimed at supporting learners from within the school, whose families are going through financial challenges. Support such as lunches, school stationery and uniforms ensure that learners can concentrate and function at school, no matter the challenges faced at home.



The Angel Fund committee, comprised of learners and headed by Mrs Kowlesur and Mrs Edy, sourced incredible items, vouchers, and gift hampers to be raffled as prizes, as well as an astounding number of lucky draw prizes for ticket holders, and best dressed prizes too.

Guests were served delicious charcuterie boxes, prepared by the



school’s Consumer Studies department and Catering Club learners, and a box of Dough Girls treats, which many ended up having to take home after the jam-packed breakfast boxes. The ladies also received a variety of other spoils, and we thank all our sponsors who contribute so generously to this worthy cause.

A big thank you to Mrs Frances Mans, a parent and member of our SGB, who took care of the décor, including the rainbow-coloured balloon arch, in keeping with our colour theme for the day. It truly was a day to Live Boldly and Dare to Dream!

Thank you to Mr Bartholomew, the AV Club, the Catering Committee and all the other staff and parents who contributed to the success of this year’s event.

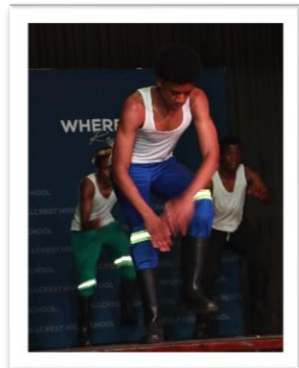
5. ISIZULU CULTURAL EVENING



The Grade 11 isiZulu First Additional Language learners showcased isiZulu poetry, song and dance, at the 20th Annual Hillcrest High School isiZulu Evening on Friday 21 August, acknowledging the heritage and culture of the isiZulu people.



The annual event serves as an opportunity for learners to showcase not only their performance skills, but their language and public speaking skills as well. The entire evening is choreographed and managed by the Grade 11 learners, with support from the isiZulu Department educators and the school's Audio-Visual Club, led by Mr Langston. Head of the isiZulu Department, Ms Thobeka Gabisa, thanked the staff and parents who supported the learners enabling them to attend practices, Mr and Mrs Mqadi for sponsoring the gifts for VIP guests and along with Mr and Mrs Njokwe, contributing towards the sponsorship of the costumes for the girls' performances.



Learners performed several traditional girls' and boys' songs as well as traditional dances, a gumboot dance and various poetry renditions. The AsiziZamele Primary School dancers amazed the audience with their outstanding guest performance, and the evening was once again a great success. My thanks and appreciation must be extended to the isiZulu Department and the Grade 11 learners on putting together such an outstanding event.



6. LEGACY IN HARMONY

As part of the school's ongoing 50th Jubilee celebrations, the school choir recently joined forces with the Durban Symphonic Choir, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, for a special commemorative concert. The collaboration, spearheaded by Mr Bartholomew and Ms Stow, provided a unique opportunity for learners to perform alongside experienced choral singers and experience the power of a large mass choir. A particular highlight was the school choir's presentation of favourite repertoire from the past three years, showcasing the strength and quality of the ensemble.



Memorable moments included the dramatic a cappella procession and the combined choir's stirring performance of *For the Beauty of the Earth*, performed by more than 80 singers. The concert was a fitting celebration of both organisations' milestone anniversaries and a wonderful showcase of choral excellence within the school community.

Congratulations to both choirs on a fantastic concert. Thank you to Mr Bartholomew and Ms Stow for putting this together and ensuring that it was such a memorable event.

7. HONESTY

I would like to congratulate the following learners on their honesty, an honourable trait which we like to acknowledge. Well done to the following learners who returned lost items to the office:

- Ntwenhle Kunene in Grade 12SD handed in a cell phone.
- Alexa van Rensburg in 8NK and Kacey Walton 8NK handed in an iPhone.
- Zibusiso Ngubane 11NJ handed in a wallet.
- Zingisa Mathonsi 9NM and Sakhisizwe Ndwayi 9NM handed in a cell phone.
- Nqobangothando Khumalo 10CN handed in a cell phone.
- Buhle Dlamini 11GB handed in a bank card.

- Andiswa Maphumulo 12SD and Jayden Chaythram 12SD handed in a blazer and cell phone.
- Siphesihle Mthiya 12SD handed in a blazer with cell phone, calculator etc.

8. UPCOMING EVENTS:

RCL Pens Down Movie Night at Westtown.

- 19 September.
- Gates Open: 4:30pm
- Movie Starts: 6pm
- Tickets to be sold via Karri – R50.

HHS Golf Day – Sports' Department fundraiser

- 30 October.
- Book with Mrs Blom – marketing@hhs.co.za or Mr Windsor windsorp@hhs.co.za.
- ***Prizes and items for golfer goodie bags welcome!***



HHS GOLF DAY
HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL
30 OCT 2026

4-BALL - R3500
SPECIAL HOLES - R3500
TEE OR GREEN - R2500
SPONSOR A PLAYER - R875

Join us at the Annual Hillcrest High School Sports' Department Golf Day Fundraiser @ Kloof Country Club
Great fun, awesome prizes, amazing sponsors & refreshments.

marketing@hhs.co.za
windsorp@hhs.co.za

BOOK NOW

IN CONCLUSION

Next week we have our Test week for the Grade 8 – 11 learners. The programme for each day and the venues have been shared with all the learners, and they all have the timetable as it is part of the Assessment Calendar.

I hope they have all been revising and will be well prepared for these tests. There will be study sessions during the day, so this will give them further opportunities to prepare themselves for the tests/assessments and achieve the results of which they are capable.

The Grade 12 learners are well into the Preliminary Examinations (Trials), which are of course the second most important exams of their school careers. We wish them all the best as they continue to strive to achieve the best possible results.



Yours faithfully

D.P. KNIGHT
Principal