#### PREPARATORY

Edition 1 2024

# **Moving** Forward







THE **KING'S COLLEGE** AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# **PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS**



SHELLEY TRENT

#### CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND EMBRACING GROWTH

Dear Learners, Parents, and Staff,

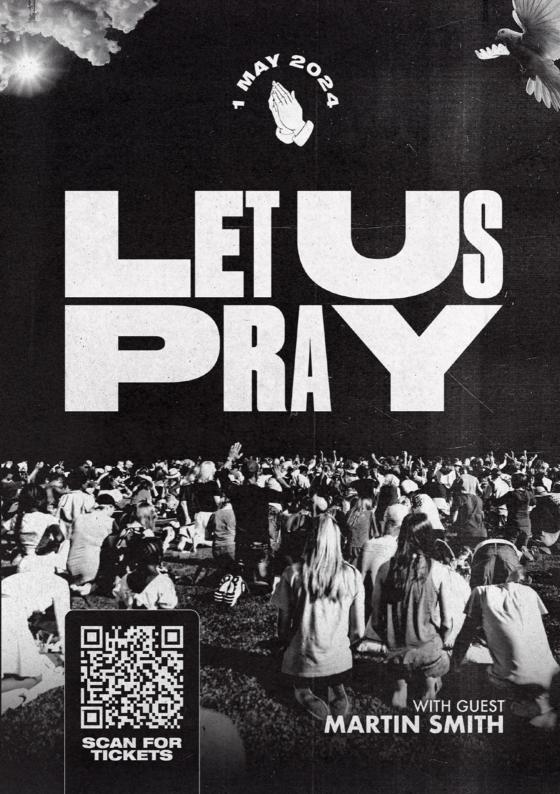
As we reflect on the achievements and milestones of our school community over the past term, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. It is my privilege to share with you the remarkable journey we have undertaken together as a community dedicated to excellence and growth.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to announce that our Matric results have once again exemplified the exceptional standard of education at our school. With a 100% pass rate and a significant number of learners achieving exemption in the 90th percentile, we stand as a beacon of academic excellence. Moreover, several of our learners have made us immensely proud by securing a place among the top 1% IEB achievers in the country. One outstanding individual even received the prestigious "Outstanding Award" from the IEB, a recognition bestowed upon only 25 schools nationwide. WITS recognised this by inviting me to join them in celebrating his results by receiving a prestigious scholarship. Such achievements are a testament to the dedication and hard work of both our learners and educators. Speaking of our educators, I am delighted to report that our new staff members have seamlessly integrated into our school community, bringing with them a wealth of experience and passion. Their enthusiasm and commitment have invigorated our teaching environment, enriching the learning experiences of our learners.

Beyond the classroom, our extracurricular activities have flourished. Our College camps were not only a resounding success in fostering friendships and personal growth but also in instilling a sense of social responsibility and compassion for others. We've celebrated numerous themed dress-up days, from Valentine's to Leap Year to Pi Day, fostering a vibrant and inclusive school spirit. In the realm of sports and arts, our learners have shone brightly. From the success of the Prestige Gala to the triumphs of our cricket and DSSL teams, our learners have showcased their talents and dedication on various platforms. The College play left us in stitches with its outstanding acting and humorous script, while our softball teams emerged victorious at the Herronbridge Softball Festival.

As we bask in the glow of these achievements, let us remember the words of Jaco Kriel, echoed by one of our Board of Governors members: "It was never about winning or losing, but it has always been about glorifying the Lord in all we do." Our successes, both big and small, are a testament to our collective commitment to excellence and integrity.

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our learners, parents, and staff for their unwavering support and dedication. Together, we have embraced the challenges of this term with enthusiasm and resilience, emerging stronger and more united than ever before. Let us continue to move forward with courage and conviction, knowing that the best is yet to come.



LOVE OF LEARNING

### MATRIC RESULTS CEREMONY

We held our annual Matric Results Celebration on Tuesday, 23 January 2024. During the ceremony the 51 Matrics of 2023 were elated to see each other, now Matric graduates and King's alumni, with much laughter, hugs and congratulations shared. Parents watched as each learner received their IEB Matric results and special achievements were celebrated. In particular, King's celebrated their 100% pass rate since 2009, 70 distinctions as well as their top IEB achievers.

Special mentions included Sean Andrews, achieving 8 A's, a 90% aggregate, scoring in the Top1% of all IEB candidates in Accounting, English HL, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Further Studies Mathematics and Life Orientation. Sean Andrews also made the IEB Outstanding Achievements list. King's is extremely proud to be one of the 25 schools countrywide represented on this list.

Hannah Soekoe scored in the Top 1% for English HL and Life Orientation, while Kingsley Okonkwo scored in the Top 1% for Business Studies. King's is also proud of their outstanding Grade 12 teachers who work tirelessly to ensure King's reaches 100% pass rate year on year and its ultimate goal of raising Godly leaders.





Executive Principal, Shelley Trent, encouraged the class of 2023: "Be true to yourself and who you were made to be. In each of you there is unlimited potential waiting to be uncovered. Passing Matric is the first step and you have conquered it. Be strong and courageous for God is with you wherever you go."

### MEET THE TEACHER: MRS VAN WYK

#### Written by Daniel Janse van Vuuren (Grade 6)

Mrs Lizelle van Wyk is our new STEAM teacher. On 3 April 2024 I got to ask her some questions to find out more about her.

When asked why Mrs van Wyk wanted to become a teacher, she answered that when she completed her BSC Honours degree, part of the degree was lecturing and helping with practicals, which she absolutely loved. She also really didn't like working on her own in a laboratory. The head of her department suggested that she become a teacher and she has not regretted it to date.



She never really lived in the same place growing up as her mom and dad were in the military so they moved every 2-3 years. She is the eldest, having a younger brother and sister. They are extreme extroverts, very sporty and very blonde.

Then I asked her if she uses computers or other cool gadgets in class, to which she answered 'Yes!". Mrs van Wyk believes the coolest gadget is our creativity and our own minds but she also uses the dot-dash robots and Chromebooks in class.

The coolest place Mrs van Wyk has ever travelled to is the North Pole! The most interesting places she's ever been to is South America and Ethiopia. Mrs van Wyk says she has a zoo at home. She loves animals. She has quite a few fish, lots of babies (if anyone wants any) but the two adults are called Luigi and Mario because they keep moving their pipes around. She also has 3 cats and 2 dogs.

When Mrs van Wyk is not teaching, she likes to be out in nature, hiking, rock-climbing, trekking or camping. Her favourite books, which she has read many many times, are The Secret Garden and A Wrinkle in Time. The movie she has seen the most is Cool Runnings.

She doesn't like to bake because there is too much cleaning involved and you have to be very precise which is ironic as she is a chemistry teacher and in chemistry, you need to be very precise. She does enjoy cooking, especially making Bobotie. If Mrs van Wyk could have any superpower it would be to change others perspective and opinion on things.

SHE LOVES TEACHING STEAM AS THE LEARNERS GET TO USE CREATIVITY AND COLLABORATION TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND TO LOOK AT PROBLEMS FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE, YOU CAN JUST BE YOURSELF TO COME UP WITH THE ANSWERS. "THE MORE CURIOUS THE QUESTIONS, THE BETTER THE ANSWERS." **BUILDING CULTURE** 

# **CREATIVE ARTS**

## CHESS

Written by Aadhiran Dixon (Grade 7)

This term a team of King's best chess players from Grade 3-7 took part in a chess league which was called Go For Chess. We met every Tuesday, for about 1 month, at Grayston Prep where we competed against a lot of schools in our area. The tournament is nerve wracking but fun at the same time. The reason it's nerve wracking is that you have pressure that if you loose you don't score points and you disappoint yourself and your team, but you also need to remember we need to have fun, we can't take everything so seriously. We play against random students who challenge us. The overall experience is very different compared to other sport matches, and I love it!

THE TOURNAMENT MOTIVATES US TO BECOME BETTER PLAYERS AND TO KEEP PRACTICING SO WHEN WE PLAY AGAIN WE ARE STRONGER PLAYERS!































### **GRADE 1 ART EVENING**

"I loved being with my mom and dad, seeing all my friends. But the best was scaring Didi with my Dad's tools! She hid under the table." Neliswe Nkwanyana









"I liked painting and I liked the cookies. It was very fun with mom and dad. My best part was painting." Gabriel Shaw



"I loved being with my Dad. He helped me build a robot but I got burnt by the hot glue gun!" Zion Mutuma







# **GRADE 2 ART EVENING**

"My best part was that my dad was helping a little bit." Enzo Furtak









"I made lungs with straws and balloons." Bonolo Nyakale



"I liked it when I strapped my art hand onto my hand and the fingers moved." Wyatt Moodley









# **GRADE 3 ART EVENING**

"Neo's Rhino in the sunset was my favourite, I liked my cookie, and playing on the playground." Hannah Straighfill







"I made the joburg City Skyline, Scarlett made a beautiful protea. I found it amazing." Oloagile Gololo



"My dad enjoyed it, and let me use the spraypaint." Neo Powell









# SPORTING EXCELLENCE

## **INTERHOUSE GALA**

#### Written by Ethan Muchena and Lauren Walker (Grade 7)

The whistle-blowing, cheering in the air, it's the Inter-House Gala. In everyone's head the suspense of which house will win was building. These are some of the words that can describe this day but none of them do this day justice. As this was the last gala for the Grade 7's, we wanted to give our all. The experience for the lower grades could be exciting but for the house captains this was a big day of competition. We had been preparing for this day for multiple weeks before and making preparations for our theme. On the day you could feel the excitement in the air and competition against the three houses (Eagles,Hawks and Falcons).

I (Lauren Walker) was swimming for most of the day earning points for my team, but my counterpart (Ethan Muchena) was helping with the organization and warcries on the day. As Eagles, our biggest rivals, were Hawks for the Inter-House Gala and Falcons for Spirit Cup. The main focus was the swimming and the support from our team as well as good sportsmanship. The swimming was excellent from Eagles and with a collective effort we managed to win the Inter-House Gala. Despite our best efforts, the Falcons won the Spirit Cup. Hawks did very well in their cheering and swimming against the other houses but just fell short of the ultimate prize. Even though Inter-House Gala was the very first big event for the whole primary school it was a memory that will live forever.



## DSSL

Written by Oke Ekpeto and Angel Chiswanda (Grade 7)

#### THIS SEASON OF DSSL HAS BEEN THE BEST SEASON YET. WE LOVE DSSL WITH ALL OUR HEARTS. THIS SPORT HAS HELPED US FIND A SPORT WE BELONG TO, WHERE EVERYONE IS SUPPORTING EACH OTHER.

We started DSSL only last year and we have done exceptionally well and five people from our school made it to provinal which was an amazing experience. From provincial we have become amazing dancers and we were able to come first place twice in a row. This season was wonderful and it was amazing to be captains. We enjoyed meeting people along the way.



**PREPARING LEADERS** 

# SOCIAL IMPACT

## LOVE OUR CITY UPDATE

Written by Zawadi Nyembo (Grade 11)

Over the past few months, our school has been involved with Love Our City, a non-profit organisation whose main goal is to provide social justice God's way. Through this connection they've built with the school, they have been able to host many initiatives that involved the inclusion of the learners of The King's College and Preparatory School. One of our first Love Our City initiatives this year was our annual river clean-up. Our fellow Grade 12 learners displayed their commitment to environmental responsibility by actively participating in the Jukskei River clean-up. As a collective, they had all pulled up their gloves and worked to try their best to revive the area surrounding the river while they enjoyed their time spent together.

The recent blood drive at our school was another success, with an exceptional turnout and many young first-time donors. It was quite the occasion for the Grade 11 Peer Promoters who volunteered to help and presented itself as a new opportunity opened up for those who were interested in learning about how blood drives work and how we, as a community, could help save many lives. Many community members arrived during the day to donate, which led to great success in the day itself. We were incredibly appreciative of all the first-timers who attended and donated. As the year moves ahead, we are excited to join along on any more opportunities Love Our City has in store for us and recommend that you do too. If you're ever wondering what you could do to help out in future, please contact the Love Our City office, follow them on the church's very own NCCB Church Centre App or Instagram for any recent updates on how you too could serve our beautiful community.





# ALUMNI

# A PEER INTO THE PAST

Written by Kayira Yawe and Samantha Mutsekwa (Grade 12)

#### An alumnus interview featuring Linda Karabo Mdluli

Linda Karabo Mdluli is a King's alumni whom we have had the privilege of interviewing as homage to his high school graduation a decade ago. Karabo attended the Independent Institute of Education's, Monash South Africa College, pursuing computer, and information sciences as his choice of study. He is now a multi-media designer and photographer who today is still heavily involved with the church and youth, often being found at the school's café, Echo.

Throughout his time, he revealed that his reason for still being involved with the school and church is associated with both his shared beliefs in the school's ethos and values. The school has always created a platform and environment for him to create close and impactful relationships with the people around him, describing its inexplicable power to bring people together through open and interwoven communities and spaces, all having Christ at their centres. Linda today





still maintains many of the intimate and earnest bonds with many of the classmates he engaged with between the years of 2009 and 2014, having emphasised the importance of remaining close to high school friends and acquaintances.

#### TO LINDA, KING'S COLLEGE AND NCCB ARE A COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY TOGETHER, AND NOT JUST A CHURCH AND SCHOOL ALIKE, SHARING THAT HIS SPIRITUAL GROWTH HAS BEEN ROOTED IN HIS EXPERIENCES IN BOTH.

Linda has achieved many great accolades during the time following high school, including having his work produced on Disney Channel and Disney Plus, as well as working on advertisements for international brands such as Lexus and Toyota. Linda relays a message about the importance of individualism after school, hoping that all high school students may know the importance of self-love, respect and worth, rooting their identity in whom Christ has called them to be. Linda firmly believes that King's offers something unique compared to other schools, offering programmes and support that aid and nurture one's personal growth in Godly leadership, and self-discipline, prefaced by the incredible KLA lessons, camps and seminars run by Jason Sandows and the similarly crucial KLA team.

#### As a King's alumnus, what advice could you provide for current students?

"Firstly, always continue to forge your relationship with God, because it is the most meaningful relation you can ever have. Always make that your number one priority. Secondly, try your best to keep strong relationships and friendships with those around you regardless of if they are your classmates or teachers, because you never know who you will run into in the future or down the line. Be intentional and thoughtful about the connections, because when you forge a life after high school, those relationships can help support you along the way."