# College Chatter

Issue #186

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

## From the Helm

**DGC High School Choir Tour to Cape Town –
A Celebration of Musical Excellence**

Durban Girls' College is renowned for its innovative and inspiring music programmes. Music is not just a subject at our school; it is an integral part of our daily routine, contributing to a long-standing musical tradition that has lasted for almost a century.

From the tender age of Grade 00 to the confident strides of Grade 7, our students embark on a journey of instrumental learning through the Music Modules. From Grade 6 to Grade 9, they're exploring the captivating realms of Music Production, laying the foundation for future musical endeavours. Music students in Matric have the opportunity to take Music as an 8th Subject and have their private music examinations recognised.

At Durban Girls' College, music isn't confined to the classroom; it reverberates through our halls and resonates in our hearts. The High School Orchestra commands attention at Whole School assemblies, while marimba bands, Senior Primary Orchestra and soloists captivate audiences during phase-specific assemblies. Themed concerts throughout the term provide a platform for budding musicians to showcase their talents and inspire their peers.

This commitment to musical excellence culminated in the recent High School Choir Tour to Cape Town. From 7 - 10 March, 38 talented girls from our choir embarked on a journey to represent Durban Girls' College at the prestigious National Conductors Convention. Under the esteemed guidance of conductor Jennifer Tham, our choir immersed themselves in a two-day workshop and delivered exceptional performances in front of delegates from all over South Africa.

The tour wasn't just about musical prowess; it was about fostering unity and camaraderie among our students. Collaborating with choirs from Cape Coral Academy and Somerset College, our choir forged bonds that transcend notes on a page. The significance of the tour lies not only in the exposure to professional music-making but also in the shared experiences that enrich our school community.

As we reflect on the memories made and the melodies shared, we're reminded that music isn't just about hitting the right notes; it's about coming together, inspiring each other, and creating something beautiful. At Durban Girls' College, our choir tour to Cape Town epitomizes the spirit of harmony and excellence that defines our school.

***Dana Hadjiev – Head of Music***

## College Moment

Our High School Mentors and Primary School girls had lots of fun dressing up.

# Junior Primary

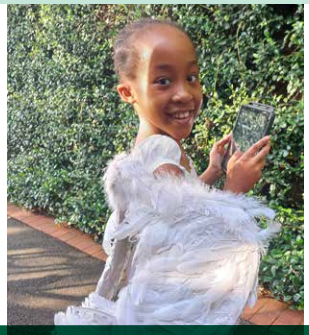
Grade Rs enjoy a weekly Yoga session on a Monday to start their week off calmly.

The Grade 00 and R girls had a fun morning interacting and playing with their friends from Clifton. They enjoyed a Busyballers session and decorated biscuits together.

Grade 1 girls ready to shine in Term 2.

'Kingdom Kids' is a Grade 1 to 3 co-curricular club that runs on Wednesday afternoons with Miss Edgcumbe. This is the Junior Primary's version of a Student Christian Association which we have been offered in the Senior Primary and High School for many years. The goal is to have fun whilst growing in friendship and understanding of who Jesus is! Kingdom Kids is attended by approximately 30 girls.

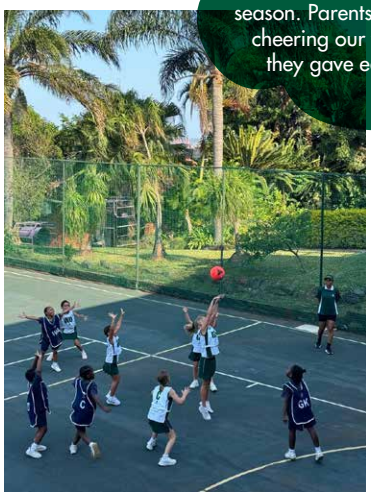
# Junior Primary



The Grade 2 girls went on a Nature Walk around the school to photograph five things in nature. They also had to collect five things to create a picture. They then took a picture of the creation they had put together.

The Grade 2 girls had fun during their Creative Day, cutting shapes out of textured fabric and gluing them into position to create a flock of fluffy sheep.

Our Grade 2 & 3 girls thoroughly enjoyed putting their Netball skills to the test at our first Junior Primary Mini Netball Festival of the season. Parents and teachers enjoyed cheering our young players on as they gave each game their all.



# Primary School

The Matric Mentors organised a wonderful picnic with the Primary School girls. Each girl came dressed as the first letter of their name. They had a super time.

# Senior Primary

A much-loved tradition at Durban Girls' College is the Grade 4 History Tour with alumna, Mrs Lynne Neilson (née Knowles Class of 1969).

# High School

The High School Choir that went on tour to Cape Town.

30 Grade 11s showcased their newly honed public speaking skills at the Toastmaster Communication and Leadership Training graduation!
We live in a world where the ability to convey thoughts and ideas with clarity and confidence has never been more crucial. Whether it's presenting ideas, leading discussions, or inspiring others, these skills will undoubtedly serve them well in their academic and professional pursuits. Well done, girls!

# From Our Chaplain

## *Michelle Edgcumbe*

*Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12:1,2*

My car nearly got stuck in a rut the other day. I was driving on a dirt road which has been worn away on one side by rain and wind. As I went along I realised that I'd been driving in a shallow channel for a while without really knowing that it was getting deeper, and I hoped that I'd be able to get out. Luckily the terrain smoothed out and I popped up onto more even footing. Sometimes we go and go and go through the weeks or months of life, and then something makes us stop and look around. We realise that we've worn a path of routine or habit through our days and we follow it without thinking. These can be helpful routines, but sometimes unhelpful or unwise habits creep in until they become part of our daily life. We don't even question them and become desensitised to the conscience that might usually be pricked. The things that make us stop and consider our patterns of life and thought are sometimes difficulties or losses. Sometimes they are wonderful windfalls. Either way, we find ourselves able to look at life with a different perspective. We find that we have a desire or need to recalibrate our thoughts or habits. Perhaps Hebrews is a good reminder and encouragement to those of us who feel the need to re-establish better patterns of thought or action.

# Meet Our Staff

## *Debra Richard*

**Primary School Deputy Head**

From as early as I can remember, my dream was to be a teacher. This dream was realised when I was accepted to study teaching at Durban College of Education. My first teaching job was at Gordon Road Girls' School where I spent five happy years as a Grade 4 teacher. I then accepted a post at Maris Stella, where I spent the next twenty years of my teaching career. Although I never intended to make teaching girls my career path, the time spent at these schools during my first teaching years ignited my passion for educating girls to become the leaders of tomorrow. As the African proverb says: 'If you educate a woman, you educate a nation'.

My teaching journey has now led me to Durban Girls' College. Being in a position to work daily with members of Management, Staff, parents and most importantly the DGC girls from Grade 00 to Grade 7 is a privilege. I have realised how special it is to be a part of a school that has a vision for what education should be like today and a vision for the future.

Spending time with my husband Shayne, my two daughters, Erin and Ella and my step-son, Brayden is my favourite thing to do. I enjoy my early morning gym sessions and Kauii smoothies and love to watch Netflix series with my family during the holidays. I have a passion for learning and enjoy reading both fiction and non-fiction. Catlyn, our beautiful cat, rules our home and reminds us who is really the boss. My faith is my strength and I believe in being positive, kind and always making the best of every situation. I hope to make a difference in my new space and help to make the DGC Primary School even stronger.

# Results

Our DGC Grade 3-6 Netball players hosted Westville Senior Primary. All the teams played with excitement and many goals were scored. We were so proud of the Netball skills on display!

## NETBALL

- **1st Team**
  Won against DGHS 33-14
  Won against Danville 41-21
  Won against Ashton 19-14
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 30-18
  Lost to Fatima 21-23 (Action Netball)
- **2nd Team**
  Lost to DGHS 4-10
  Won against Danville 8-7
  Lost to Ashton U15A 8-15
  Won against St Mary's 30-7
  Won against Inanda Seminary School 16-14 (Action Netball)
- **U16A**
  Won against DGHS 20-4
  Won against Danville 20-10
  Lost to Ashton 7-13
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 13-8
  Won against Fatima 24-16 (Action Netball)
- **U16B**
  Won against DGHS 8-7
  Won against Curro 24-6
  Drew with Ashton 11-11
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 17-11
  Lost to Inanda Seminary School 15-19 (Action Netball)
- **U15A**
  Won against DGHS 30-1
  Lost to Danville 8-18
- **U15B**
  Won against DGHS 18-5
  Won against Danville 10-5
- **U15C**
  Won against Curro 9-3
- **U14A**
  Lost to DGHS 10-21
  Won against Danville 18-15
  Lost to Ashton 12-13
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 18-8
  Won against Maris Stella 15-5 (Action Netball)
- **U14B**
  Won against DGHS 14-8
  Won against Danville 23-4
  Won against Ashton 11-3
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 21-3
  Won against Crawford College La Lucia 24-9 (Action Netball)
- **U14C**
  Lost to DGHS 1-3
  Won against Danville 22-0
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 14-9
- **U14D**
  Won against Curro 10-0
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 6-4
- **U13A**
  Lost to Penzance 4-18
- **U13B**
  Lost to Penzance 0-21
- **U12A**
  Won against Penzance 13-8
  Won against Fatima 5-4
  Won against Penzance 6-5
  Lost to Maris Stella 2-3
  Won against Ashton 7-0
  Lost to Winston Park 4-5
  Drew with Ashton 16-16 (Action Netball)
- **U12B**
  Won against Penzance 13-3
  Won against Westville Senior Primary School 11-1
  Lost to Chelsea 8-10 (Action Netball)
- **U12C**
  Lost to Penzance 4-6
  Lost to Westville Senior Primary School 0-4
- **U11A**
  Won against Penzance 8-6
  Lost to Fatima 1-3
  Lost to Penzance 0-2
  Lost to Maris Stella 3-4
  Lost to Ashton 3-5
  Lost to Winston Park 0-3
  Lost to Westville Senior Primary School 5-6
- **U11B**
  Lost to Penzance 1-4
  Drew with Westville Senior Primary School 2-2
- **U11C**
  Lost to Penzance 0-14
  Lost to Westville Senior Primary School 0-1
- **U10A**
  Lost to Penzance 2-5
  Won against Maris Stella 3-2
  Drew with Penzance 3-3
  Lost to Ashton 1-5
  Lost to Winston Park 1-6
  Lost to Glenwood 0-8
  Won against Westville Senior Primary School 8-0
  Lost to Fatima 8-10 (Action Netball)
- **U10B**
  Drew with Penzance 3-3
  Lost to Westville Senior Primary School 2-6
- **U10C**
  Won against Penzance 4-3
  Won against Westville Senior Primary School 4-2
- **U10D**
  Won against Penzance 4-0
  Won against Westville Senior Primary School 7-4
- **U10E**
  Lost to Penzance 2-3

# Results

## HOCKEY

- **1st Team**
  Won against Danville 12-0
  Won against St Mary's Kloof
- **U16A**
  Lost to Danville 1-2
- **U14A**
  Won against Danville 12-0
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 3-2
- **U14B**
  Won against St Mary's Kloof 3-0

Emily Macquet was awarded runner-up player of the tournament at St Marys Waverley.

Tara Pakendorf and Emily Macquet (both Grade 12) won gold at the Indoor Hockey IPT for the KZN Raiders.

Ruby Kraus (Grade 12) KZN Mynahs team won gold.

Emily Macquet (Grade 12), Tara Pakendorf (Grade 12), Ruby Kraus (Grade 12), Caprice Bengston (Grade 11) and Chelsey Woolf (Grade 9) were selected for the KZN u21 Hockey side.

## DEBATING

**Senior Round 5** – The motion was "This House Regrets Life Orientation as a compulsory subject in South African High Schools".

The DGC Senior Team, consisting of Chikondi Masenya and Shannon Botha was proposing. They won their debate against Ridge Park and Shannon Botha was awarded Best Speaker.

**Junior Round 5** – The motion was "This House Would increase the age of retirement in South Africa".

The DGC Junior Team 1 debated against Clifton. The team consisted of Sophia Kidson, Anni Lou and Owam Sidlakadla.They won their debate and Sophia Kidson was awarded Best Speaker.

## MUSIC

Pei-Jiun Chen (Grade 9) passed The Trinity Grade 6 Piano Examination with Merit.

Seneme Chiluvane (Grade 6) ABRSM Music Performance, Violin Grade 3 - Distinction.

## SQUASH

Lost to Danville
Won against Westville Girls' High School

## TENNIS

Won against Danville 27-9

Emily Macquet

Tara Pakendorf

Ruby Kraus

Caprice Bengston

Chelsey Woolf

Pei-Jiun Chen

Seneme Chiluvane

# Results

Sienna Setzkorn

Victoria Scott

## SWIMMING

Payton Aitken (Grade 8) results for SA Schools swimming:

- Gold - 50m Freestyle
- Bronze - 50m Backstroke
- Gold - 4x50m Free KZN Relay Team
- Gold - 4x50m IM KZN Relay Team
- Gold - 4x100m KZN Relay Team
- Gold - 4x100m IM KZN Relay Team

## KARATE

Ila Panchpersadh (Grade 7) competed in the National Karate tournament recently and won Gold for the Team Kata (technique) event as well as Bronze for Kumite (fighting). Well done Ila.

## TABLE TENNIS

Mahi Gokal (Grade 5) played singles in the under 13 and under 15 divisions at the recent Table Tennis Provincial Ranking Tournament. Mahi played extremely well and won two bronze medals.

## EQUESTRIAN

Sienna Setzkorn (Grade 10) and her horse, Hot Fudge Flattley, are doing well in both Show jumping and Showing.

- Triple P Valentines Show Jumping Show: 3rd place in the Adults/Jnr competitions in 2 phases.
- ESP Spring Show Jumping Show including the KZN Inter-Schools Show: 4th place in the 1m Adults/Jnr Competition in 2 phases.
- The 2024 Toyota Easter Festival at Kyalami: 6th place at the 1m Jnr Competition in 2 phases.
- 2nd place in the Open Junior Show Hack at the March Showing Show at Galloping Winds and was awarded the Reserve Champion Open Junior Show Horse.

Victoria Scott (Grade 7) and her pony, Syringa Stanley, competed at the Foresyte Shongweni Show in March placing 4th and 3rd in the 1m pony classes as well as placing 4th in the pony rider 1m A2 competition class at the 2024 Toyota Easter Festival in Kyalami.

Frankie Horn (Grade 7) and her pony, Grantleigh Gala, competed at the Triple P Valentine's Show and placed 5th in the 60/70cm speed class. Frankie also represented DGC at the SANESA 1st qualifier in Shongweni and placed 2nd in both her 60cm Show Jumping classes and 3rd in the Pony Rider 60cm Equitation class.

Payton Aitken

Ila Panchpersadh

Mahi Gokal

Frankie Horn

# Calendar

## *Monday 29 April - Sunday 12 May 2024*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Monday 29** | **Day 6**<br>PS: 07h35-08h05: Chapel: Centenary Hall<br>HS: 08h00-10h00: Grade 12 Rocking the Future: Miller Grove Building |
| **Tuesday 30** | **Day 7**<br>PS: 07h35-08h05: Spirit Practice<br>SP: 14h00-16h00: Netball vs Glenwood: DGC<br>HS: 15h30-18h30: Hockey vs Thomas More College: Thomas More College<br>HS: 10h05: Matrics leave school<br>HS: 18h00-23h00: Matric Dance: Centenary Hall |
| **Wednesday 1** | **Day 8**<br>***HOLIDAY: Workers' Day*** |
| **Thursday 2** | **Day 9**<br>***School Holiday*** |
| **Friday 3** | **Day 10**<br>***School Holiday*** |
| **Saturday 4** | |
| **Sunday 5** | |
| **Monday 6** | **Day 1**<br>PS: 07h35-08h05: Singing Practice: Primary School Hall<br>JP: 08h00-10h00: Grade 2 Mother's Day: PS Hall & Multipurpose Room<br>HS: 14h30-15h30: Matric Dance Fashion Show Rehearsal: Centenary Hall<br>HS: 15h00-18h00: Hockey vs Maris Stella: Durban Girls High |
| **Tuesday 7** | **Day 2**<br>JP: 07h30-08h30: Grade 3 Mother's Day<br>SP: 14h00-16h00: Netball vs Morningside: DGC<br>HS: 15h30-18h30: Hockey vs Thomas More College: Thomas More College<br>HS: 18h00-19h00: Matric Dance Fashion Show: Centenary Hall |
| **Wednesday 8** | **Day 3**<br>SP: 07h30-08h30: Mother's Day Picnic and Hip Hop<br>JP: 10h00-12h00: Grades 00 & R Mother's Day: PS Hall<br>HS: 14h30-15h00: Accounting Olympiad #1<br>HS: 15h00-17h30: Netball vs Kuswag: Kuswag<br>HS: 15h00-17h00: 2nd Team Squash vs Maris Stella: Crusaders Sports Bar/Club<br>HS: 15h00-17h00: Cross Country League Inlands vs Coastals<br>HS: 15h00-16h30: 1st Team Badminton vs Durban Girls High School: DGHS<br>HS: 15h00-16h30: 2nd Team Badminton vs Westville Girls High School: WGHS<br>HS: 15h00-16h30: 3rd Team Badminton vs Durban Girls High 2nd Team: DGHS |

# Calendar

## *Monday 29 April - Sunday 12 May 2024*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Thursday 9** | **Day 4**<br>WS: 07h15h-07h45: DGC Moms' Who Pray: College House<br>JP: 07h30-08h30: Grade 1 Mother's Day: JP Play area<br>SP: 14h00-16h00: U10-U13 Netball vs Chelsea Prep: Chelsea Prep<br>HS: 14h30-16h30: Maths Olympiad 2nd Round<br>HS: 16h00-18h30: Hockey vs Curro Hillcrest: DGC |
| **Friday 10** | **Day 5**<br>JP: 08h05-08h35: Assembly: PS Hall<br>SP: 09h35-10h00: Assembly: PS Hall<br>PS: 10h00-10h30: Grades 2 & 3 Cake Sale<br>HS: 14h00-16h30: Epworth Netball Netball Derby Day: DGC<br>HS: 14h30-18h30: Final KZN Hockey Trials<br>SP & HS: 18h00-20h00: Music Extravaganza Concert with KZNYO: Centenary Hall |
| **Saturday 11** | HS: 08h00-15h00: Ashton U15 Netball Tournament: Ashton International College Ballito<br>HS: 08h00-15h00: DGC U14 Netball Tournament: DGC<br>HS: 08h00-14h00: Epworth Hockey Derby Day: DGC<br>WS: 10h00-12h30: Music Progress Concert |
| **Sunday 12** | ***Mothers' Day***<br>PS: 14h00-16h00: U12 and U13 Umlazi Netball trials: Hoy Park |