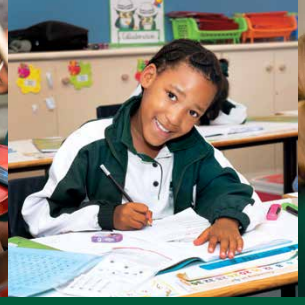


College Chatter

Issue #187

NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
DURBAN GIRLS' COLLEGE

From the Helm

I have been reflecting that writing examinations has a lot in common with completing the uHambo. The examination process is a journey from preparing and studying through to writing the last paper. Just like the uHambo, you, the parents, provide all the necessary support before and along the way; the teachers supply the resources and guide the students with what is to come and how to deal with it; but the girls have to do the work, step by step, to get to the end.

Breaking that analogy down then begs the question of how best to support your child for examinations. For the uHambo it is easy: Write them letters to know they are loved. Provide the correct clothes and equipment to make sure they will be able to maintain the distance. During examinations, emotional support is unbelievably important. DGC is a highly academic institution and we place an emphasis on examinations, but your daughters need to know and feel that your love and their self worth is not dependent upon the marks they achieve. In this stressful period, ensuring physical health means being strict on bedtimes. Working late into the night and waking before the hadedas is not sustainable and should neither be encouraged nor glorified.

Following a correct, balanced diet is important, as Enid Blyton often pointed out, Noddy's car needs petrol.

The teachers are guides. Contrary to what some people believe, examinations are set so students can demonstrate that they have assimilated what has been taught. Teachers do not set traps, or wish to make the students stumble. By nature, teachers are nurturers who want to see their students succeed. As Nicholas Feroni said, "Educators are the only people who lose sleep over other people's children".

The uHambo is best enjoyed when one is prepared. The same can be said for examinations. My advice to students is to use their preparation time now, before examinations, wisely. Procrastination is the enemy of success. Know your syllabus, familiarise yourself with the content and format of each paper. Stay organised, and stay positive. So see these examinations as a journey, "It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end." (U. Le Guin)

Jennifer Harrison
Deputy Head of High School: Academics

College Moment

Homecoming Heroes: Conquering the Great Outdoors

Junior Primary – Mothers Day

Grade 00 and R mums and daughters, celebrated Mothers' Day by engaging in sensory play with *The Play Hive*. They also painted tog bags. Their special day culminated in the presentation of "*Mom and Me*" booklets.

Grade 1 girls and their mums had a special morning of connection as they ate chocolate M&Ms and laughed together answering "*Mom and Me*" questions.

Junior Primary – Mothers Day

The Grade 2 moms had a musical Mother's Day celebration, engaging in playing musical instruments alongside their daughters. The event reached its peak as each mom received lovely personalised cards crafted by their daughters, expressing their love and gratitude.

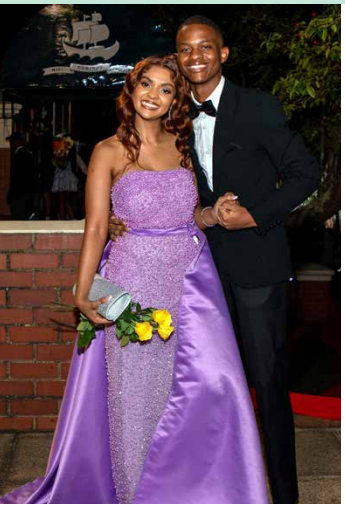
The Grade 3 Mothers' Day Celebration tied in with the theme of the book that the Grade 3s read," The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark." Light can make you feel safe and mums are the light of the world, making you feel loved, cared for and protected. The girls decorated candles with their mums.

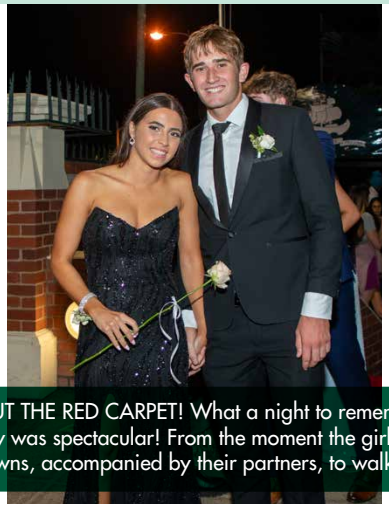
Senior Primary – Mothers Day

The Senior Primary girls had great fun with their mums enjoying the fitness workout.

High School – uHambo

High School – Matric Dance





ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET! What a night to remember! Our Grade 12 Matric Dance on Tuesday was spectacular! From the moment the girls stepped out in their glamorous evening gowns, accompanied by their partners, to walk the red carpet, it was pure style!

High School – Matric Dance

The matric dance was themed 'Ancient Greece'

Our Matrics were elegant and graceful in their stunning dance dresses.

From Our Chaplain

Michelle Edgcumbe

Lord God, you are my hope.
I have trusted you since I was young.
You have been my help from the day I was born.
I will always praise you.
Psalm 71:5

I was reflecting on this passage from the Psalms this week as we celebrated the life of our dear Mr Rags. I found it to be a very encouraging reminder of the One who stands behind all the goodness this life has to offer. There are so many good and beautiful things that surround us and it is right to offer praise to God for them. But there are valleys alongside the mountain top moments - life is both beautiful and difficult, long and short, joyful and sorrowful. And thus God is also to be praised for the help and the hope he offers. This week we also marked Ascension Day which reminds us that Jesus did not leave his friends to just cope on their own. He promised to send them his Spirit to be their comforter and helper, and as a guarantee of the certain hope that he offers for a future full of abundance and goodness. Down in the valleys of life, the 2 things that are most needed are help and hope. God offers both. I think the Psalmist understood this. How much more should we, who live on the other side of the cross of Christ and who have the privilege of knowing the plans of God to bring us to himself more clearly and fully than the Psalmist did, be full of praise for our Helper, the one who offers Hope that lasts beyond our days.

Meet Our Staff

Jackie Chowles

Admissions

Stepping into a new role can be both exhilarating and daunting, but for me, the opportunity to serve as the Admissions Officer at Durban Girls' College has been nothing short of a privilege. Since January, I've been warmly welcomed into a community that radiates excellence in every aspect.

The support and camaraderie among the staff at Durban Girls' College have made the transition seamless. From day one, I've felt like an integral part of the team, empowered to contribute my skills and experiences to further enhance the school's reputation for excellence.

As a proud mother of two teenagers, Paige and Josh, who were born in France, I've had the joy of witnessing their growth and development across different cultures. Our family's travels have taken us far and wide, from the enchanting streets of Paris to the bustling energy of Tokyo's Disneyland. Living in London, France, and Japan, and traversing through numerous European countries, Thailand, Australia, and New Zealand, has broadened my perspective and deepened my appreciation for diversity.

Prior to my role at Durban Girls' College, I had worked at Holy Family College for six years. Starting as a Receptionist after returning from France, I gradually assumed roles in Admissions, Marketing, and as PA to the Principal. The dynamic nature of this position honed my skills and prepared me for the fast-paced environment I now thrive in.

As my daughter prepares to join Durban Girls' College this year, I am filled with excitement for the opportunities that await her. Knowing first-hand the exceptional educational environment this school provides, I am confident that she will flourish and grow, just as I have in my own journey.

Results

MATHS

Shreeya Mahadeo (Grade 9) was placed 2nd in the AMSASA National Abacus and Mental Arithmetic Championship, the National Dictation Challenge. Dictation from Millions up to Quintillions. We congratulate Shreeya on being crowned National Champion of Champion (1st) for her grade and level and being selected for the AIAMA International Championship in Mumbai, India in July.

Azara Mark (Grade 9) has been selected to represent South Africa at the International Mathematics Competition in India in July (InIMC 2024).

KARATE

Farah Seedat (Grade 8) competed in the Kanazawa Cup on Saturday,27 April 2024. Her results were a Silver Medal for Kumite Female 12-13 year old category and a Silver Medal for her individual Kata Female 12-13 year old category.

MUSIC

Kaisara Pillay (Grade 9) passed ABRSM Music Theory Grade 4 with Distinction. Well done, Kaisara!

CHESS

Shreeya Mahadeo (Grade 9) has been selected to represent South Africa at the 2024 AFRICAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS in Gauteng on 15 June. Congratulations Shreeya.

BADMINTON

- **1st Team**
  Lost to Durban Girls High School 0-6
- **3rd Team**
  Lost to Durban Girls High School 0-6

SQUASH

- **2nd Team**
  Lost to Maris Stella 3 - 6

HOCKEY

- **1st Team**
  Won against Thomas More College 5-0
  Won against Maris Stella 2-0
- **2nd Team**
  Won against Thomas More College 2-0
- **U16A**
  Lost to Thomas More College 0-1
  Won against Maris Stella 2-1
- **U14A**
  Won against Maris Stella 6-0

NETBALL

- **1st Team**
  Won against Kuswag 44-13
- **U16A**
  Won against Kuswag 36-8
- **U15A**
  Won against Kuswag 116-9
- **U13A**
  Won against Winston Park 12-7
  Won against Morningside 19-7
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 2-35
- **U13B**
  Won against Winston Park 7-2
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 5-18
- **U12A**
  Lost against Winston Park 2-8
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 3-22
- **U12B**
  Won against Winston Park 9-5
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 4-6
- **U12C**
  Won against Winston Park 4-2
  Won against Glenwood Preparatory 7-5
- **U11A**
  Won against Morningside Primary 13-0
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 1-10
- **U11B**
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 1-6
- **U11C**
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 1-2
- **U10A**
  Won against Glenwood Preparatory 5-4
- **U10B**
  Lost to Glenwood Preparatory 0-8
- **U10C**
  Won against Glenwood Preparatory 2-0
- **U10D**
  Won against Glenwood Preparatory 3-1

- Grace Daley (Grade 12) has been selected as a member of the Kingdom Stars team, the Telkom Netball League KZN A women's team.
- Grace participated in the Action Netball Inter-Provincial tournament in the Under 23 category. The team won Silver in the 6-A-Side category and Bronze in the 7-A-Side category. Further to this, Grace was selected into the SA U23 Netball Team. The team will participate in the WINA (World Indoor Netball Association) World Cup in 2025.

Azara Mark

Kaisara Pillay

Farah Seedat

Shreeya Mahadeo

Grace Daley

Calendar

Monday 13 May - Sunday 26 May 2024

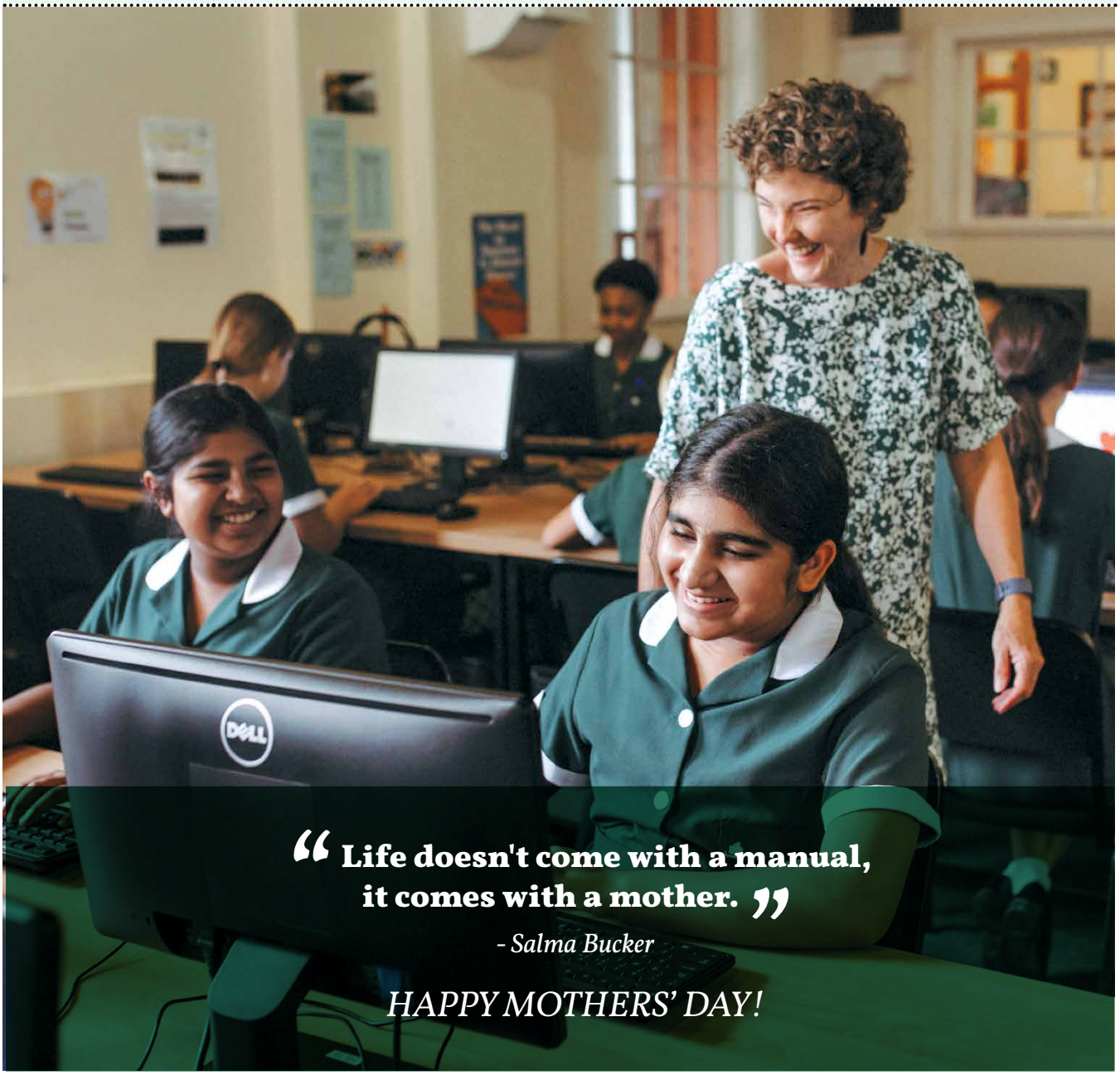
Monday 13	**Day 6** HS:07h30-09h00: Muffin Morning: Lecture Theatre PS: 07h35-08h05: Chapel: JP Play area HS: 09h00-14h00: Blood Drive: Miller Grove PS: 09h00-11h00: Grade 4 Visit to Museum: Durban Natural Science Museum HS: 15h30-18h30: Hockey vs Fatima: U14B, U16B & 2nd Team DGC HS: 15h30-17h30: Netball vs Fatima: DGC HS: 16h30-18h30: Grade 8 Parent/Teacher Interviews: Miller Grove
Tuesday 14	**Day 7** HS: 07h35-08h05: Assembly: Centenary Hall PS: Spirit Practice: 07h35 – 08h05 HS: 14h30-15h30: Hockey vs Fatima: U14A , U16A & 1st Team: Riverside Sports HS: 15h00-17h30: Netball vs Kingsway: Kingsway High School HS: 17h00-18h00: 2025 Exchange Information evening Grade 9 & parents: Lecture Theatre SP: 18h00-19h30: Clifton Choir Evening " Worthy of Note" Concert: Clifton School
Wednesday 15	**Day 8** SP: 08h30: Grade 5 departs for excursion: Tala SP: 08h30: Grade 6 departs for excursion: Nyala Pans HS: 13h05-14h45: Grade 12 Life Science Case Study: Endocrine System HS: 15h00-17h00: 1st Team Squash vs Westville: DGC HS: 15h00-17h00: Cross Country League: Ashton College Ballito HS: 15h00-16h30: 1st Team Badminton vs St Mary's Kloof: DGC HS: 15h00-16h30: 2nd Team Badminton vs Hillcrest High School: Hillcrest High School HS: 15h00-16h30: 3rd Team Badminton vs St Mary's Kloof: St Mary's Kloof HS: 18h00-20h00: Clifton Choir Evening: Clifton School
Thursday 16	**Day 9** SP: Grade 5 away on excursion: Tala SP: Grade 6 away on excursion: Nyala Pans HS: St Anne's 1st Team Hockey Tournament WS: 07h15h-07h45: DGC Moms' Who Pray: College House JP: 14h00-15h30: Grades 2 & 3 Netball Mini Festival: DGC HS: 15h30-17h30: Netball vs St Henrys: DGC
Friday 17	**Day 10** HS: St Anne's 1st Team Hockey Tournament HS: 08h00: Grades 10 & 11 start Exams JP: 08h05-08h35: Assembly: PS Hall SP: 09h35-10h00: Assembly: PS Hall SP: 12h00 Grade 5 return from excursion SP: Grade 6 return from excursion HS: 13h30-14h30: DGC & Clifton Lunch hour Music Concert: DGC Lecture Theatre SP: 14h00-17h00 U12 & U13 Netball vs Umhlali: Umhlali Prep School

Calendar

Monday 13 May - Sunday 26 May 2024

Saturday 18	HS: St Anne's 1st Team Hockey Tournament HS: 08h00-13h00: 1st Team Netball Tournament: Curro Salt Rock High School HS: 08h00-13h00: U16 Netball Tournament: Maris Stella SP: 08h00-13h00: U10 & U11 Netball Umhlali: Umhlali Prep School WS: 10h00-16h00: Manic Marimba Competition: HS 1st Team, Grades 6 and 7 Bands: Ashton International College, Ballito HS: 14h00-16h30: Grade 10 Moms' & Daughters' Tea: Miller Grove
Sunday 19	HS: St Anne's 1st Team Hockey Tournament
Monday 20	**Day 1** HS: Grades 10 & 11 Exams PS: SPCA 'Adopt a week campaign' PS: 07h35-08h05: Singing Practice
Tuesday 21	**Day 2** HS: Grades10 & 11 Exams PS: SPCA 'Adopt a week campaign' PS: Reading Period: 07h35 - 08h05 PS: Grade 4 depart for excursion: Seula HS: 13h00-15h00: Geography Olympiad Grade 10-12 SP: 14h00-16h00: Netball vs Sherwood: DGC SP: 14h00-15h30: U8-U11 Netball vs Al Falaah: DGC
Wednesday 22	**Day 3** HS: Grades 10 & 11 Exams PS: SPCA 'Adopt a week campaign' PS: Grade 4 away; Seula SP: 14h00-16h30: Netball vs Fatima HS: 14h30-16h00: isiZulu Olympiad Round 2: isiZulu Classroom HS: 15h00-17h00: 1st Team Squash vs St Mary's Kloof: DGC HS: 15h00-17h00: 2nd Team Squash vs Danville: Crusaders Sports Bar/Club HS: 15h00-17h00: Cross Country: Waterfall College HS: 15h00-16h30: 1st Team Badminton vs Westville Girls School: DGC HS: 15h00-16h30: 1st Team Badminton vs St Mary's Kloof: St Mary's Kloof
Thursday 23	**Day 4** HS: Grades 10 & 11 Exams PS: SPCA 'Adopt a week campaign' WS: 07h15h-07h45: DGC Moms' Who Pray: College House PS: 07h35-08h35: Lloyd's Incredible Dog Show: DGC Field PS: 12h00: Grade 4 returns: Seula HS: 12h00-14h30: Grade 12 Pit Produksie: Lecture Theatre SP: 14h00-16h00: Netball vs St Henry's: DGC JP: 14h00-15h30: Grades 2 & 3 Netball Mini Festival

Calendar

Monday 13 May - Sunday 26 May 2024

Friday 24	**Day 5** HS: Grades 10 & 11 Exams PS: SPCA 'Adopt a Week campaign JP & SP: 08h00-10h00: Cross Country: DGC' JP: 08h05-08h35: Assembly: PS Hall SP: 09h35-10h00: I-CARE Assembly: PS Hall HS: 13h00-15h00: NBT Training JP: 14h00-15h00: U9A Netball Festival: Ashton Ballito
Saturday 25	
Sunday 26