

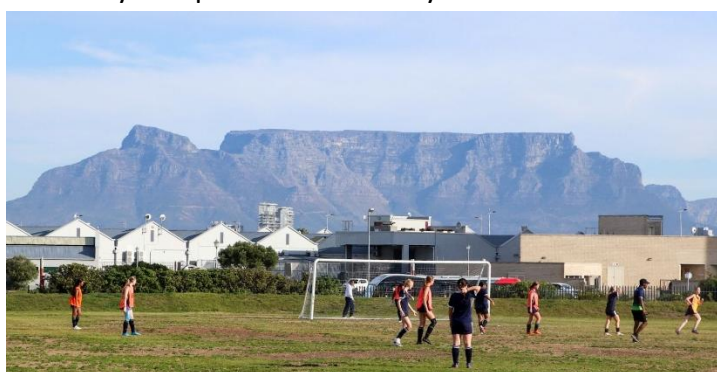


Newsletter
7 August 2026

Dear Oakhill School Family

The Elkanah House Derby was a great success and Oakhill was well received by our gracious hosts in Cape Town. As it was the inaugural Oakhill - Elkanah Derby it was even more special knowing that we were part of the first such experience for our hosts.

It was wonderful to witness the interaction of our students with their hosts who quickly became friends and who shared great moments on and off the field. Oakhill performed admirably achieving great results across a variety of codes. The fixtures scheduled over the course of the Friday afternoon and Saturday morning included hockey, soccer, netball, chess and debating. An undoubted highlight of the weekend was the Oakhill staff vs Elkanah House staff hockey match that took place under lights on Friday evening. I am delighted to report that our staff acquitted themselves very well against a determined opponent prevailing 2-0. Our College Head of Sport stepped up to score the two goals but credit must go to the entire staff team for a very fine performance away from home.



Oakhill School and Elkanah House staff

The Old Oaks Function held at Woodstock Brewery was well attended and it was wonderful to meet up with former students and to learn of their experiences since school. It was with great pride that we heard of their achievements and experiences and we left feeling a renewed sense of optimism about the future knowing that so many of our former students are making a significant impact wherever they may happen to be and whatever they happen to be doing.

Last night we were treated to an impressive Intermediate Phase Art Exhibition graciously hosted at The Knysna Fine Arts Gallery. The combination of the fitting venue and the creativity, skill and efforts of our students resulted in a celebration of visual arts. It was a reminder to us all of the value of art and that we should challenge ourselves to embrace art even as we get older. This sentiment is well captured in the words of Pablo Picasso, *"Every child is an artist; the problem is staying an artist when you grow up."* Our sincere thanks go to Julie Stevenson, The Knysna Fine Arts Gallery and our wonderful support team for a memorable evening.



Mr Trent Read (Knysna Fine Art Gallery) &
Mrs Julie Stevenson (Prep Art Teacher)



Head of School: James Cross



The Little Oaks Tuesday Talks (supportive discussions through the journey of pre-school years) season continues with great interest and attendance being demonstrated by our parents eager to learn something more as they navigate parenthood and share experiences along the way. Topics covered thus far include: *Growing Safe Habits in a Digital World* and *Picturing Resilience* while parents can also look forward to the following topics in the upcoming weeks: *Managing Boundaries, Bodies and Behaviour; Ready, Steady, Start (School readiness); Exploring the Wonders of Fermented Foods; Nurturing the Nervous System; Good Child Health* and *From counting sheep to staying asleep*.

I am very pleased to announce that Georgia Louw has been appointed to the Little Oaks staff for 2027 as the Grade 00 Teacher. Georgia is a young educator who has had experience teaching at Selborne Primary where she has also served as an intern and teacher assistant. She brings a range of skills and strengths to our Little Oaks team including a passion and strong ability in sports and outdoor pursuits.

You are reminded of the Bridge House Derby taking place this weekend. We are looking forward to a range of activities that include soccer, netball, hockey, debating and mountain biking. Please make your way to the OSC and support our school. Friday evening also sees the Oakhill and Bridge House Cultural Performance at the NG Kerk, Knysna. Our sincere thanks go to all our Oakhill families and friends who are hosting our guests. Your warm and welcoming hospitality is greatly appreciated.

Further highlights to look forward to this term are the College Inter-House 36 Hour Drama Festival 2026 on 13 and 14 August and the College Interact Fashion

Show and SRC Food Evening on 21 August. We are very excited to have six of our students representing Oakhill at the Regional World Robotics Olympiad to be held in Gqeberha on the 15 August.

The state of the roads in and around our school remain a source of great concern and growing frustration for all who use them and for us as a school. We are making every effort to engage with the authorities in this regard and will share pertinent information with you once we have had feedback.

As we enjoy a long weekend due to Women's Day we pause to acknowledge, celebrate and sincerely thank the remarkable women in our lives and in the life of our community for all that they continue to do to make our world a better place. The recent Women on Court event hosted at the OSC was a wonderful occasion fittingly held in Women's Month close to Women's Day.



Students and parents participating in the Women on Court event

Wishing you a wonderful long weekend.

James



For more photos follow Oakhill School on social media

Head of School: James Cross

