



Dear Oakhill School Family

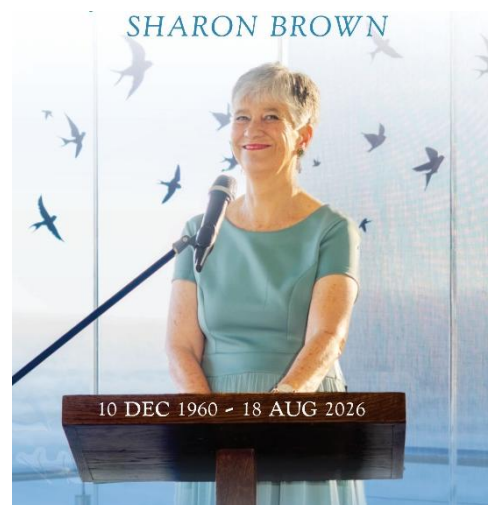
Oakhill had a fantastic experience at the WRO (World Robotics Olympiad) Provincial Competition in Gqeberha on 15 August, with three Oakhill teams competing and representing the school incredibly well.

In the Prep school, BOT-Tanicals competed in the Explorer Lite category. With only two minutes left on the clock, they demonstrated great poise under pressure and managed to get the points they needed to take first place. In the RoboMission Elementary category, The C@pyBOTr@s won their category, showing fantastic determination and perseverance throughout the competition. The College team, Robusters, finished in second place, also pushing through right until the end and demonstrating some excellent problem-solving and teamwork. It was a wonderful first provincial competition for Oakhill, and the start of something really exciting for our Robotics programme. The students have shown that they can compete at this level, and we are excited to see how we can build on this next year. We eagerly await news of whether any of our teams might get invited to the Nationals on the 11 and 12 September.

On Friday 14 August audiences were treated to a wonderfully entertaining and very impressive evening of Inter House plays as part of the 36-Hour Drama Festival. It was quite remarkable what was created in the very limited time provided and all involved deserve much credit for the quality of the productions that were put on. All six plays were written by our students, and the production, casting and performance was managed by the students themselves. Without the luxury of long rehearsals, students had to rely on imagination, creative instincts, and plenty of improvisation to bring their original scripts to life. This experience encouraged extraordinary levels of real-time collaboration where trust, communication, and problem-solving become essential ingredients for success.

The evening was the culmination of an incredible amount of effort from all concerned matched only by the level of enjoyment that the production teams experienced. It was a privilege and delight to watch and an unmissable opportunity for our students to discover more about themselves and each other.

The passing of our former Head of College, Sharon Brown this week has made for a difficult period as staff and our community try to come to terms with the loss of such an integral and much loved teacher, colleague and friend. It is, however, also a time to celebrate a life that has influenced and served our school in such a profound manner. We are reminded of Sharon's love of teaching and the incredible care she demonstrated each day as she helped generations of young people navigate their journey to young adulthood. Mrs Brown's legacy and example continues to challenge us to be rigorous in our endeavours, to aspire to achieve greatly while also being ever mindful of the needs of others and serving where needed. Oakhillians lucky enough to have known and been taught by Mrs Brown will always carry her guidance as a treasure and her wisdom as a light.



We have been incredibly touched by the many heartfelt messages of condolence from families near and far and from students young and old. I thank our incredible Oakhill community most sincerely for the consideration, care and love they have shown at this time.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

*James*



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Head of School: James Cross

