



Newsletter  
18 September 2026

Dear Oakhill School Family

As we approach the end of term I find myself reflecting on what has been a remarkable term punctuated with special and meaningful moments shared and enjoyed by our school community and the students. This has been the busiest term we have experienced for some time and we can feel well pleased with the effort our school has put into making it also one of the most successful.

The annual Oakhill Soccer Day was held on Saturday, 5 September as we welcomed local clubs and schools to the OSC for a day of soccer and connection with our broader community. Our girls and boys impressed both with their skill and their great enthusiasm for the beautiful game.

At the time of this communication we have two water polo teams on tour with the U14 Boys playing in Rondebosch while the U15 Girls are at the Collegiate School in Gqeberha. The U13 Girls have also just returned from a successful tour to Cape Town having proudly flown the Oakhill flag and achieving some of their best results at this annual event.

The Grade 7 group had their camp last week with the weather and the students playing their part in making it a special and memorable week. Despite having to postpone the Prep Spring Walk, the Grade 5 to Grade 7 Spring Dance did take place and proved to be a wonderful evening with a beautifully decorated hall adding the perfect backdrop to the colourful and bright Spring theme. The SRC College Dance which was a new initiative by the SRC was held on Friday last week and was a great success. These dances were a fine example of students having good healthy fun and enjoying the simple pleasures of music, dance and friends.



*Robotics students and their teacher Mrs Dey*

Following the success of the regional competitions two teams from Oakhill took part in the WRO (World Robotics Organisation) Nationals for the very first time. It was an exciting and invaluable experience for our teams, representing the Explorer Lite and the RoboMission Elementary categories. Both teams demonstrated remarkable composure, resilience, and problem-solving skills under pressure. Beyond the competition results, the event provided a fantastic learning opportunity that allowed the students to apply their skills, collaborate effectively, and adapt when challenges arose. Ultimately, our teams gained immense confidence, valuable hands-on experience, and lasting motivation, while representing Oakhill with distinction and thoroughly enjoying the remarkable atmosphere of the national stage.



*The Grade 7s on their camp*

Head of School: James Cross





Last night we hosted the College Drama Fusion where the audience was treated to an impressive selection of 20 items across a range of dramatic disciplines. It was very apparent that the performers had put in a great deal of effort and thought in preparing and in many cases also writing their pieces. The students clearly enjoyed the experience and valued the opportunity of performing in front of an appreciative audience. The arts have truly been celebrated this term with so many memorable events highlighting the talent and creativity that makes our school so distinctive.



The traditional Grade R Ugly Bug Ball was celebrated in Little Oaks this morning with colourful and energetic creatures gracing the campus and delighting those of us lucky enough to witness this wonderful performance. We look forward to the Teddy Bears Picnic tomorrow.

Mr Wright and I have just returned from the annual SAHISA Heads Conference, held in Durban. This was a great opportunity to learn more about issues affecting independent schools, looking at important educational trends and networking with other Heads.

A great deal of time was spent looking at the impact that AI is having on schools and education broadly, safeguarding in schools as well as focusing on the well being of students and teachers. Some of these talks included, *Comprehensive Guidelines on AI* as well as *Education, Relevance and Leadership in the age of AI and Beyond*. We were also inspired by stories of South Africans doing remarkable things and providing us with a real sense of optimism as we look to the future. The theme of the conference this year was, “Waves of Renewal” with the first Keynote address by Matt Botha appropriately entitled “*Atlantic Crossing with Ocean Mavericks*.” This was an inspiring story of a novice South African team undertaking the World’s Toughest Row of 4800km across the Atlantic and finishing third overall.

As we look forward to the upcoming break, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Oakhill families and friends a restful and enjoyable time. Thank you for your ongoing support of our school and for helping us to make this term such a special one.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

*James*

