



CLIFTON
DURBAN

MAY 2026

HEADS UP!

News and Memorable Moments *worth celebrating*



FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER, MR ADAM ROGERS

In a South African traditional boys' school, the arrival of winter is not merely a shift in temperature - it is a change in tempo, tone, and texture. The fields grow heavier underfoot, breath hangs in the early morning air, and the rhythm of school life begins to orbit around team lists, fixtures, and Saturday afternoons. Winter sport - whether rugby, hockey, tennis, squash or cross-country - becomes far more than competition. It becomes one of the most powerful engines of memory-making, friendship-forming and community-connection.

Much is often said about the drama of the sports field - the roar of the crowd, the clash of competition, the visible triumphs. Yet, in quieter corners - rehearsal rooms and assembly halls - another equally powerful story is unfolding. It is the story of boys who sing together, who play together, and who, through music, discover something enduring.

Choir and orchestra are not simply extracurricular activities; they are formative spaces where boys are shaped in ways that resonate far beyond the final note. Years later, it is often a song that brings it all back: the camaraderie, the nerves, the pride. Music becomes the soundtrack of their school experience, a living archive of who they are and who they are becoming.

For those representing their School in a sports team or a music ensemble, they come to see each other under pressure, in moments of fatigue, frustration, and triumph. They learn who will step forward when it matters, who will offer encouragement when spirits drop, and who will quietly do the hard work without seeking recognition. These moments teach a powerful lesson: you are not alone. Your effort matters not only for yourself, but for those alongside you. I wish to commend our winter sports teams for continuing to punch above their weight by taking on some formidable opposition - both in local fixtures and in away festivals and tournaments.

Our College Choir and music ensembles have brought much credit to our School with their performance at the Drakensberg Boys' Choir School. All of this whilst keeping up with their academic and sporting demands. Much is asked of our Clifton gentlemen and I remain immensely proud of how they continue to answer the call to support their School in multiple endeavours.

At the time of writing we eagerly look forward to the out-of-province fixture against St Alban's in Pretoria on the weekend of 15 to 16 May. Our winter sports season will wind down with the traditional Old Boys' Day on Saturday 23 May when our teams take on St David's from Johannesburg and then Glenwood High School on Saturday 30 May.

Long after exams have faded and classrooms have been forgotten these memories remain vivid. These are shared experiences, layered with emotion and meaning. They bind boys to a place and to one another. Years later, it is often these moments that Old Boys recall most clearly, because they were lived fully, collectively, and with a sense of purpose beyond the self. It reminds our Clifton boys that what they do today contributes to something lasting. "Prodesse Quam Conspici".



FROM THE PREPARATORY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, MR ALAN ANGEL

Five months into the school year, the rhythm of school life is firmly established. For some boys, it has meant new faces and unfamiliar spaces; for others, a familiar path continued. Across both, a quieter and more enduring shift has taken shape - growing ease, connection and belonging, steadily built through shared days.

It is visible in ordinary moments that now carry greater weight - a boy raising his hand to speak when once he would have stayed silent; another making space for someone new; friendships forming in classrooms, on fields and in the spaces between. Laughter now moves more freely through corridors. What once seemed small is, in fact, the steady building of confidence, character and connection.

There are deeper moments too - when disappointment is met with persistence, when effort is given without recognition, when kindness is chosen over convenience, or when a boy stands beside another unasked. In these moments, values are not spoken about; they are lived and quietly strengthened.

This term will not be defined by a single achievement but by boys learning to work together, to try again, to lift one another and to care. In the rhythm of everyday school life, something lasting develops - a responsibility to each other and a growing sense of belonging to a shared community.

This responsibility strengthens our Clifton culture. It shapes how our boys think, act and respond in classrooms, in relationships and when representing Clifton in any space.

Our boys are shaping Clifton as Clifton shapes them. They are part of a proud legacy that continues to grow. Tomorrow's leaders and changemakers are emerging at Clifton and we are privileged to be part of their journey.



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SA WATER POLO SELECTIONS



TAYLOR SEILER

South African Men's Water Polo Team

South African Men's U18 Team



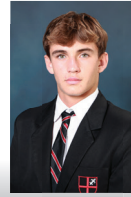
JAMIE NICOLAU

South African Schools U18 Team



NABIL BEJIA

South African Men's U18 Team



MAXWELL FOWLDS

South African Boys' U16 Team

South African Schools U16 Team



AKANI MUKANSI

South African Boys' U16 Team (Non-Travelling Reserve)



NATHAN BURGER

South African Men's U18 Team



DANIEL NOTHARD

South African Men's U18 (Non-Travelling Reserve)

South African Schools U18 Team (Non-Travelling Reserve)



JOSH WATSON

South African Boys' U16 Team

South African Schools U16 Team



CRUZ CHAPMAN

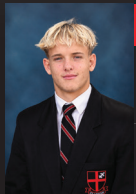
South African Boys' U16 Team (Non-Travelling Reserve)

South African Schools U16 Team (Non-Travelling)



SATYA MUNTHRE

South African Boys' U16 Squad



CARTER SEILER

South African Boys' U16 Team



MUSIC IN THE Mountains

44 incredibly talented singers and musicians headed to the beautiful Drakensberg Mountains to perform at the uplifting and inspiring Music in the Mountains Festival, hosted by Drakensberg Boys' Choir School on Sunday 3 May. They then went on to entertain a capacity audience at the Clifton College Music of the Night Concert together with Our Lady of Fatima, Durban Girls' High School, Maris Stella and Reddam House Umhlanga on Tuesday 5 May.



CLIFTON at Clifton

Benjamin Gooch competed in the 2026 World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships held in Bristol in April. This year the tournament was hosted by Clifton College - a prestigious school with symbolic links to our own school. Benjamin was ranked in the Top 50 overall. Mr McCabe, accompanied the South African speakers as a Team Manager.



TURF WARRIORS

No fewer than 16 Clifton College hockey players have been selected into KZN Coastal teams. Georg Wolhuter (U18A), Ryde Brisset (U18A)*, Daniel Holliday (U18A), Tye Milne (U18A)*, Locke Makholiso (U18B), Nabil Bejia (U18B), Daniel Rea (U18B), Luke Carolan (U18C), Daniel Joss (U18C), Alex Verster (U16B), Miguel Suarez (U16B), Ben Snaith (U14A), Matthew Pomakov (U14A), Esihle Mpanza (U14B), Daniel Bester (U14C), Lwethu Dlamini (U14C), Ben Hulett: Assistant Coach, (U14B)

*Absent

COLLEGE IN Numbers

3 u14A placing in the Knights Hockey Tournament (exciting draws with Michaelhouse and Maritzburg College)

13 our First XI Hockey Team's placing at the Hibbert Shield Hockey Tournament

20 years of service to Clifton by Mrs Delia Watson (Receptionist)

38 boys in the College Choir

PREP MOMENTS

PAT VISITS OUR PREP 1ST XV

The Clifton Prep 1st XV Rugby team were fortunate enough for SA rugby legend Patrick Lambie (Clifton Prep 2003) to visit his old school and to share a few wonderful words of encouragement.

Pat relived a few memories of his days at Clifton as well as some of his experiences playing for the Springboks, The Sharks, and Racing Metro.



GREAT Sport

17 APRIL

Our Clifton campus was buzzing on Friday afternoon as no fewer than 22 teams arrived to take part in our exciting U9 & U10 Rugby Festival.

Sunny skies, great sportsmanship, delicious coffee from Seattle Coffee Co, and a festive atmosphere all led to a massively successful event.



INTERACTIVE DAY WITH DGC

Our sisters from DGC visited our SP Boys for our termly Interactive Day. The activities that the students took part in together featured moments of connection, collaboration and fun all to inspire the brother-sister school relationship that reaches out far beyond school walls.



FP Mother's Day Concert

Love, laughter and the sweetest moments filled our Foundation Phase Mother's Day Tea as we celebrated the incredible moms and mother figures who mean so much to our Gr:00-R boys.

PREP IN *Numbers*

84

The number of SP boys who qualified for the second round of the Horizon Maths Challenge.

35

Our U9A Rugby team put in a strong performance against St Charles, scoring 35 points without conceding any.

21

Goals scored by Hudson Mun-Gavin at the Grey Junior U13 Water Polo Tournament

168

individual art pieces displayed at our FP Auction

20

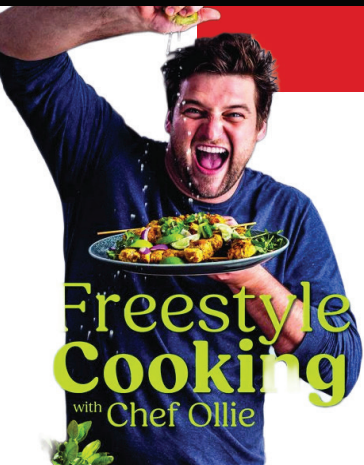
Clifton offers our boys the chance to learn 20 different musical instruments.

9

Years of service to the Prep School by Mrs Wendy Meyer

CLIFTON COMMUNITY

COBWEB SPOT *Light*



Meet Oliver 'Chef Ollie' Swart, a Durban-born Clifton Old Boy (Class of 2009) who has carved out an impressive career in South Africa's culinary scene. Ollie's approach to food is simple: it's about joy, creativity, and bringing people together.

After starting out in civil engineering, he followed his passion to Cape Town, where he trained at the Silwood School of Cookery. From there, he went on to work in some of the country's top kitchens, including The Test Kitchen, La Colombe, and The Pot Luck Club. Today, Ollie is a co-chef and business partner at Annalize Catering, as well as the author of Freestyle Cooking with Chef Ollie (2025), continuing to push boundaries with his dynamic food style. With a strong Instagram following, Ollie brings his recipes to life through live, Jamie Oliver-style tutorials that are as entertaining as they are inspiring. His energy and creativity make it hard not to jump into the kitchen and try something new. Congratulations to Chef Ollie on his appointment as SA Olive's brand ambassador for the coming months. We couldn't be prouder!

NEVER *Forgotten*

In a moving annual tradition, Clifton Old Boys, Prep and College boys, together with senior staff, gathered to visit the grave of our founder, Harry Stubbs, to honour his vision and legacy on 6 May (90 years since his passing).

This special moment of reflection reminds us of the enduring spirit, brotherhood and values upon which Clifton was built. A moving service was led by Rev. Kevin Robertson and was also attended by SA Legion members Col. Pat Acutt (Prep 1960), Captain John Johnston-Webber (Prep 1956) and SA Legionnaire Bradley Fourie



Bright and Beautiful Moms Morning

Our Clifton Moms enjoyed a morning of friendship, connection and laughter– as well as musical performances and a highly informative presentation by Megan and Faye of Image Insured – at our Moms Morning held on 11 May. Thank you to our wonderful sponsors and the generous moms who ensured the morning was a smashing success!

FOUNDATION PHASE ART AUCTION



The Foundation Phase community came out in force to enthusiastically support our 2026 Art Auction. This fundraising evening made a welcome return to the Clifton calendar after a five year hiatus, and was a great success thanks to the generosity of our parents and the incredible efforts of our staff and boys



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