



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

## CIRCULAR 5 / 2026 – 23 APRIL 2026

**DREAM  
BELIEVE  
ACHIEVE**

### HHS VISION

To be a leading co-educational **high school**, providing exceptional **physical** and **social** environments in which **all** learners have the **opportunity** to become the **best they can be**, academically, culturally, socially and in sport.

### HHS VALUES

**H**-onour | **H**-ard work | **S**-ervice

### IN THIS CIRCULAR:

1. **ACHIEVERS**
2. **ST DUNSTAN'S EASTER FESTIVAL**
3. **SPLASHY FEN**
4. **ACADEMIC RESULTS**
5. **AFTERNOON COLLECTION PROCEDURE**
6. **TERM 1 ACADEMIC FEEDBACK**
7. **UNIFORM**
8. **HONESTY**
9. **MATRIC DANCE**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to term 2. I trust that you all had a wonderful break and are ready for another jam-packed term. Term 2 sees a lot of sporting activities taking place and this is a lovely opportunity for us to connect with the many parents who come along to support the teams. We really appreciate your support, as do the children, and I would like to take this opportunity to share our school's ethos with parents.

We believe that good sportsmanship on and off the field, showing respect for the referees, coaches and opposing teams, and being good ambassadors for the school are far more important traits than winning the match. Yes, we like to win but not at all costs, and if we do lose, we lose with dignity. We would appreciate it if as parents, you support our philosophy and encourage this while supporting the teams on the side of the field.

## 1. ACHIEVERS

**It gives me great please to congratulate the following achievers:**

### SWIMMING

Bradley Leppan took part in the SA Junior National Championships in Qqeberha (Port Elizabeth) from 21 – 27 March 2026. He achieved seven Personal Best Times and two medals, a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 800m Freestyle and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Mixed 4x100m Freestyle Relay.

### TRIATHLON

Bradley Leppan also competed at the Africa Cup & SA Championship Triathlon Premium Cup in Mossel Bay on 29 March 2026, delivering an impressive performance in his debut season. He placed as follows:

- 17th overall in the Junior Elites age group 16–19, across Africa.
- 7th overall in the All-African age group 16–17
- 4th place in the South African Championship age group 16–17



This is an incredible achievement considering Brad has only been doing this sport for 8 months. We are excited to see what lies ahead for you Brad. Congratulations!

### MMA

Daniel Brandt has been selected for the KwaZulu-Natal MMA Youth B squad for 2026 and will be competing in the National competition in JHB from 30 April to 3 May. Well done, Daniel!

### TIER 2 URBAN RUGBY TEAMS

The following boys have been selected to participate in the main trials at Hilton College on 9 May 2026 for the tier 2 Urban Rugby Teams:

#### U18

- Mvelo Shangase
- Azola Shandu

#### U16

- Alistair Machadu
- Thabiso Malembe

## U15

- Sbonga Ngubane.

## EQUESTRIAN

**Layla Munday** recently competed at another graded Showing Show on her pony Jumanji and her horse Trinity. Her results were as follows:

### ***Riding Jumanji***

1st - in the category Show Hunter pony in hand

1<sup>st</sup> Show Hunter Pony ridden

1st Show Riding Pony ridden

3rd Show Pony ridden.

### ***Riding Trinity (her first show)***

2nd Thoroughbred in hand

3rd Show Hack in hand

2nd Junior Best Trot

1st Junior Best Canter

1st Junior Intermediate Show Hack



## Senior Interprovincial Touch Rugby Tournament

The following learners represented the following teams at the Senior Interprovincial Touch Rugby Tournament, held at Crawford North Coast, 28 - 30 March 2026.

### **KZN Touch:**

**U21 Men's** - Azola Shandu (Vice-Captain), Sibusiso Mapotse, Sphehile Hlambisa, and Uyanda Hlongwa. (Team finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place)

### **KZN Impi Touch**

**U21 Ladies** - Piya Brown (Vice-Captain), Grace Humphreys (Vice-Captain) and Osiphile Vilakazi.



**Women's Open** - Megan Maher, Kayden Carson, and Thingo Dlamini.

**U21 Men's** - Bayanda Gumbi, Mphumelelo Makhathi, Rudy Klijnstra, Cebolakhe Gcuma, Sloane Schaub-Kuffler and

Alwande Sibiya. (Team finished in 2nd place).



## Referee's

Mrs Telise Tonkin and Tamuka Chovuchovu served as referees for the tournament with Tamuka being assessed throughout the tournament and upgraded to a Level 2 Referee. He also refereed the Open Women's Gold Final, which an extraordinary achievement.

## NETBALL



At the St Mary's U16 Netball Tournament, which took place during the school holidays, Asanda Mazibuko was named the Attacker of the Tournament. Congratulations on this fine achievement Asanda.



## DRAMATIC ARTS

In October last year, the Young Performers Project (YPP) held auditions involving approximately 600 young performers from various schools across KZN. Only 150 performers were selected for the cast. Hillcrest High School was well represented, with four students participating in the production of *A Fairytale Christmas Carol* last December:

- **Onke Gumede** (Pied Piper)
- **Snawo Gumede** (Ensemble)
- **Thingo Dlamini** (The Queen of Hearts).
  
- **Katey Armstrong** (Ensemble)



Through a combination of singing, dancing, and acting, the cast delivered vibrant performances for the patrons of the Durban Playhouse. Running from 5 to 21 December, *A Fairytale Christmas Carol* was a major success.

In April, Esihle Gobozi and Onke Gumedede were awarded parts in the YPP production of *The Little Mermaid* which was held at the Milkwood Theatre in Durban North during the school holidays and up until 12 April. The Drama learners who had the opportunity to see them in action were delighted with Onke's performance of the fiendish slithery eel, Jetsame. Well done to you both.



## 2. ST DUNSTAN'S EASTER FESTIVAL

The Hillcrest High School Tour Teams for Netball, Girls' and Boys' Hockey and Rugby travelled to Gauteng to participate in the St Dunstan's Easter Festival again this year. At the tournament they competed against a wide range of schools from across South Africa as well as from Zimbabwe, testing their skills and resilience. Thank you to our incredible sponsors for making this tour possible - Northside Electrical Lighting Security Wholesalers, Splashy Fen Festival, Secure X, Roman's Pizza Hillcrest Cotswold Energy Centre, PJ Silo, Safri-Dent PTY Ltd, Knapp, RJCO Ballito, Oxford Freshmarket, BSM Laboratories, Lee's Dozers, REMAX Address Upper Highway, Dykes van Heerden Attorneys.

Thank you to our Head of Sports, Mr Patrick Windsor, Deputy Principal, Mr Ndebele, our coaches and managers, Mrs Lauren Topham and Mrs Sarah Geel (Hockey), Ms Erin Blom (Netball) and Mr Minenhle Ngubane and Mrs Laudette Janssens (Rugby) for sacrificing their school holidays, Easter weekend and time with their families to enable the teams to have this experience.





## SPLASHY FEN FESTIVAL

During the holidays Mr Naude and Mr Langston from the IT Department, along with their wives, supervised our AV Club learners on their work experience trip to the Splashy Fen Music Festival. The event, hosted by Impi Concepts, is co-owned by Past Pupil and Friend of HHS, Mr Stuart Berry, who invites AV Club members to attend each year and generously sponsors their catering costs.



According to Mr Langston the learners were exceptionally enthusiastic throughout the festival, embracing every task and challenge presented to them. They conducted themselves professionally and were always willing to lend a helping hand. Even after long hours, they remained positive and cooperative, which made supervising them a pleasure.

Every day was engaging, as they eagerly shared what they had experienced and learned, proving just how meaningful and enriching this experience was for them. Well done to you all and thank you to Mr and Mrs Naude and Mr and Mrs Langston for giving up your holiday time to ensure that the learners could experience, hands-on, a real life and world class music festival.



### 3. ACADEMIC RESULTS FOR TERM 1

#### Top Achievers – Grade 8

1	Lisa Ludick	87.23
2	Phakade Khumalo	86.88
3	Hrishtha Rambaruth	86.76
4	Angelique Smit	85.92
5	Amara Accob	85.69
6	Divya Pillay	85.33
7	Luhle Shezi	85.25
8	Nicholas Murphy	84.96
9	Faye Anderson	83.99
10	Matshepo Mphahlele	83.72

#### Top Achievers – Grade 9

1	Jaylene Chaythram	86.72
2	Michael Clur	86.59
3	Sinelizwi Dlamini	85.43
4	Isabella Keating	85.11
5	Laela-Mae Geldenhuys	84.47
6	Jethro Le Roux	85.39
7	Aphelele Mbonambi	83.58
8	Aarin van der Byl	83.08
9	Osaze Mhlongo	82.61
10	Ross van der Merwe	81.96

#### Top Achievers – Grade 10

1	Terania Govender	93.83
2	Matthew Pillay	90.14
3	Langelihle Nxumalo	88.68
4	Khwezi Mnyandu	88.10
5	Ella Saunders	87.12
6	Simmukele Gwala	86.61
7	Amy Neveling	86.37
8	Azania Ntshangase	85.42
9	Sinakhokonke Mkhize	84.60
10	Uyathandwa Madonda	83.67

#### Top Achievers – Grade 11

1	Luke Whittle	89.77
2	Isabella Te Brugge	88.35
3	Owomusa Dlamini	87.07
4	Maja Kearley	86.96
5	Jema-Lee Duncan	84.59
6	Saiusha Viraragavan	83.78
7	Norma-Jean Price	82.93
8	Anro Adendorff	82.79
9	Darshni Reddy	82.60
10	Sthembile Makhuba	81.08

### **Top Achievers – Grade 12**

1	Brielle Pillay	94.47
2	Amber-Lynn Jones	88.83
3	Emily Oshaughnessy	84.44
4	Azola Shandu	83.58
5	Taylor van Tromp	82.90
6	Luyanda Mkhize	82.56
7	Hannah Greffrath	82.52
8	Taylor Cribbins	82.03
9	Nkanyezi Ngcobo	81.99
10	Thingo Dlamini	81.31

#### **4. TERM 1 ACADEMIC FEEDBACK**

The results from term1 were overall on a par with the results in term 1 of 2025 and we are pleased to see that there is improvement in some of the subjects. It was pleasing to see so many grade 8 parents at the Grade 8 Parents Information last week. I hope it was of benefit to meet your child's teachers and get feedback on their progress. I am sure the Grade 9 Parents information evening will also be a great success.

I apologise that the Aggregate certificates handed out to learners with an aggregate of 75% or over may be different to the aggregate on the report. This is because the report calculates the aggregate from the top 7 subjects whereas the list that is used to determine the aggregate over 75% for the certificates uses **all** subjects in cases where a learner does extra subjects (except for Further Studies Mathematics).

Extra lessons have started in earnest, and all learners are encouraged to attend as many extra lessons as possible to ensure good results. The June Examination timetable will be going home shortly but revision for these exams can start before you see the timetable. Remember that these exams are the second most important exams of the year and contribute a large portion to your overall year mark.

#### **4. AFTERNOON COLLECTION**

Learners are no longer allowed to sit on the wall opposite the Memorial Garden to wait for lifts in the afternoons between 3:00pm and 4:30pm. If they are not involved in the extra-mural activities, they should wait in the new Homework area or in the tiered seating.

Parents, lift clubs and transport providers are reminded that the preferred pick-up point is from the Ridge Road side of the school, as there is more parking, shade, two possible entrances and it is closer to the Homework area. The pedestrian gates will always be open so every learner will be able to get out when their lift arrives.

Please remember that for the children's safety we ask them to wait inside the school property and to only go out when their lift arrives. We also do not want them to sit or lie on the pavements while waiting as this creates a terrible impression on the school, and as I mentioned it is not safe to wait outside the school.

If parents are using the Shortlands entrance, especially after sport practices or matches – please be courteous and mindful of the neighbours who need to always have access to their property and driveways. Do not stop in the middle of the road to load up the children as this is causing unnecessary traffic congestion and tension. Please park on the verges. Please also do not park across the school entrances or exits at any time. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## 5. UNIFORM

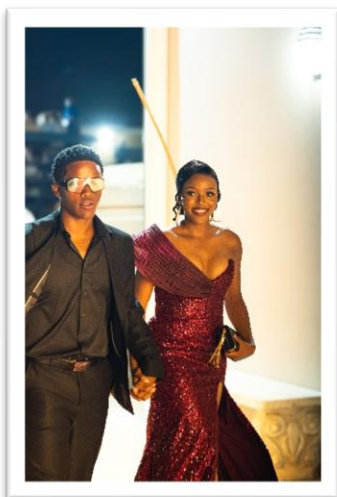
As mentioned in the previous circular, term 2 is the start of our winter season which means learners are expected to attend school in their winter school uniform viz. blazers. These were compulsory from the first day of the term. Please can parents ensure that their children are correctly dressed and properly groomed before they leave in the mornings and that boys are clean shaven with suitably cut hair.

## 6. HONESTY

I would like to congratulate the following learners on their honesty, an honourable trait which we like to acknowledge. Well done to the following learners who have returned lost items to the office:

- Rayne Fryer for handing a cellphone in to the office.
- Vuyiswa Hlengwa for handing in a Smart Watch.
- Ethaba Majozi and Sphehile Sloti who handed in a set of earpods in their case.
- Jayden Roestoff and Owami Radebe who found and handed in a bank card.

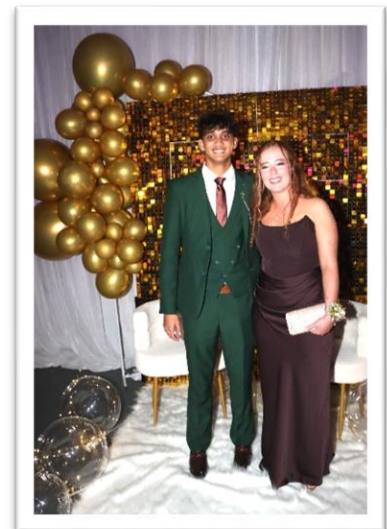
## 7. MATRIC DANCE



Our annual Matric Dance was once again a tremendous success with the learners looking very smart in some most exquisite outfits. The arrivals were very exciting, although somewhat loud, and the entire evening was lovely.

I would like to thank, in particular, Mrs Edy and Mrs McLaughlin, who are the staff members in charge of this

function every year. We really appreciate the fantastic work



they do including all the extra hours and organisation that enables them to turn our MPC into such a magnificent venue.



I would also like to thank the following staff for their assistance in so many different areas:

- Zethu Cele
- Silindile Hlophe
- Dudu Shoba
- Nellie Mbanjwa
- Zodwa Khanyile
- Njabulo Mbembo
- Nkanyiso Ntobela
- Justice Latha
- Zwelihle Mdim
- Bheki Ndlovu
- Lindo Magubane
- Bhekani Mkhize

The following learners took on the role of waitrons, and their service is also greatly appreciated. Thank you to:

- Hayley Wilke
- Lethokuhle Mbathi
- Athandwe Ngcongo
- Chloe Canham
- Melisha Mundondo
- Katelyn Enslin
- Rebecca Easson
- Asanda Maduna
- Thato Mkwanyana
- Banele Xhakaza
- Andisokuhle Dlamini
- Afezeka Linda
- Zenani Zama
- Asanda Mazibuko
- Sibahle Zwane
- Tamique Piyoos
- Sesona Guzana (grd 10)



## **IN CONCLUSION**

It is evident that term 2 is going to be another term packed full of academics, sport and cultural fixtures, fundraising events as well as the June examinations. I hope that it will be an enjoyable term for all. We have two long weekends ahead of us well, and if you are travelling, we wish you a safe trip.



**Yours faithfully**

**D.P. KNIGHT**  
**Principal**