



# HERSCHEL SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

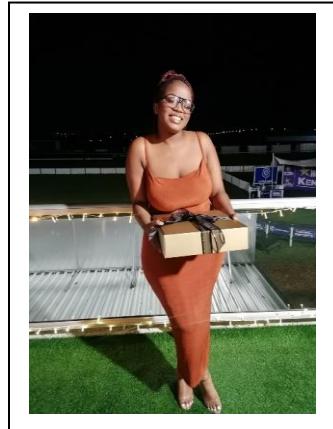
No. 4 – 10 March 2023

Dear Parents and Pupils

On Friday night the Class of 2023 celebrated a very special Herschel milestone at their matric dance. It was an elegant and memorable occasion thoroughly enjoyed by all: families and special friends, teachers and pupils. The 2023 Matric Dance Committee can reflect with pride on a beautiful event which unfolded smoothly and provided the matrics with lifelong memories. The décor, menu, music and photo booths were fabulous and the dancing epic! It was wonderful to see the pupils having such fun! The dance was enjoyed by teachers too, with the girls graciously giving us some space on the dance floor.

On Saturday evening, the annual Gala Dinner Dance took place at Kenilworth Racecourse, making use of the Matric Dance venue as a fundraiser for the Herschel Bursary Fund. Past pupil, Buhle Twana addressed the audience, sharing her story and providing food for thought, especially regarding the importance of education in creating life-changing opportunity.

We are very grateful to all who attended and supported this event, appreciative of the funds it raises for an incredibly important educational cause. As a girls' school, our advocacy for access to excellent education is intentional and it is our aim to grow the sustainability of The Herschel Bursary Fund so that we can increase its reach. Our thanks to the Gala Dinner Committee who worked so hard at organizing this event, procuring



sponsorships, arranging lucky draws, games and mystery prizes and reconstituting the venue for the event. It was a wonderful evening and an opportunity for Herschel friends to enjoy time together and to connect.

***Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does.*** (Nelson Mandela)

What a week this has been on the sporting front! We are so proud of the achievements, efforts, physical prowess, speed, strength, agility and sportsmanship shown by our athletes across all of the Summer sporting codes! What a privilege it is to witness the passion and purpose with which our sportswomen play.

In assembly this week, Maryke Elof launched a competition for the opening of the school gym, and we look forward to introducing this at the start of Term Two. We have no doubt that one or more of the pupils will come up with a great logo and design to accompany the name of this space and we have great plans for its use, not only for strengthening and conditioning athletes and for use in Physical Education, but also for recreational purposes and general wellbeing.

This week saw the junior and senior tennis teams winning the PGSGU Interschools' Tennis Tournaments. They have enjoyed success this season, having played consistently from the outset. Congratulations to both teams!



The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Indoor Hockey teams played their final matches of the season on Wednesday night, winning their respective leagues with convincing victories over Westerford. The exciting format of the game has become increasingly technical and requires great physical and mental agility. Our congratulations to these sides on their success this season.

Wednesday night saw all the Herschel age-group water polo teams participating in the respective Cup Finals. The u14 and u16 teams both won silver medals, losing narrowly to Reddam. The u19 team played superbly for a convincing win over Reddam to claim the gold medal and the Waller Cup. Playing at SACS, in front of a good crowd, the 1<sup>st</sup> Team showed composure, enjoying incredible support from the #pinkarmy which turned out in force! The energy, excitement and spirit of our pupils added to the poolside atmosphere in what was an incredible evening of exciting polo. The Spirit Committee can be proud of a job well done!



Herschel's winning streak continued yesterday with our swimming team winning the A League Gala, hosted by Wynberg Boys' High School at the Herschel pool. While our swimmers were working hard in tightly contested races, the basketball teams (u14s and 1<sup>st</sup> Team) dominated in their games against the Cape Town International School, winning both matches.



It is important to celebrate the successes of our sportswomen because we know the hours of hard work, the mental and physical preparation and commitment that goes into practices to ensure that they are ready to perform and to enjoy the contest that a match provides. This week we have cause to celebrate and these accolades are richly deserved.

This past week has given me plenty of opportunity to sit alongside coaches and members of the sports department, as well as parents and pupil supporters, and I have so appreciated the immense pride and passion shown towards all players, as well as the warm and relational dynamic between players and coaches which underpins the competitive and spirited performances that we see. There is indeed truth in Mandela's words: *[Sport] has the power to unite people in a way that little else does*. The spirit, support and camaraderie amongst the girls this past week reflects the power of sport. Congratulations to the sports department, our coaches and sportswomen – we are super proud of you!

*The Wolves*, this year's Senior School production, is in final rehearsals this weekend and will run in The Theatre from the 14 – 16 March. If you haven't booked, make sure you get to Quicket and secure your seats. The cast – who you have met via Instagram over the past few weeks – is ready to deliver a gutsy performance. They have spent hours at school rehearsing, and they deserve to play to a full house. The energy, focus and intense characterization study has required significant input on their parts and on the part of Director, Sarah McArthur, and we wish them well for the weekend rehearsal schedule and look forward to supporting them next week.

Make the most of the weekend!

Heather Goedeke

## Matric Dance 2023

A mid summers night that will always be remembered. The dance was filled with dancing, laughing, fun and gorgeous Matrics!



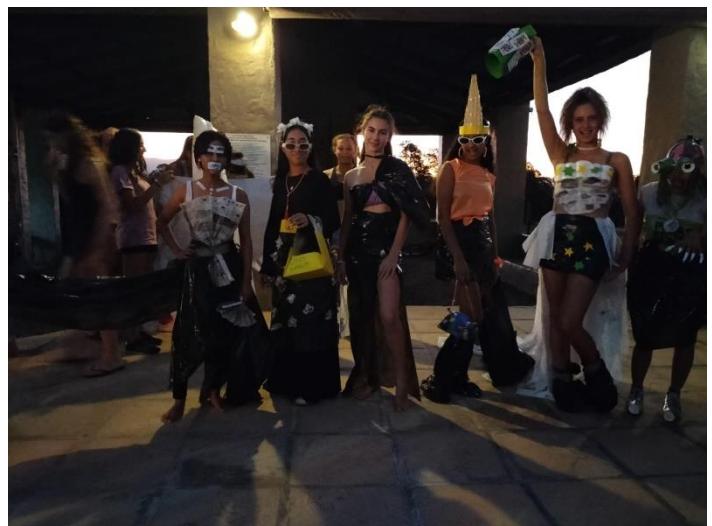
## Grade 8 Camp

Their first high school camp took our Grade 8s to Waterval Lodge in Tulbagh. With glamping accommodation, searing heat, and exciting activities to keep everyone entertained all day, much fun was had. Activities ranged from interesting adventure and communication challenges, an early morning hike to a waterfall, a Disney themed fashion show from recycled materials, and a bonfire and riff-off on the last night. Lots of fun was had whilst getting to know other people in their Grade and creating new friendships.



## Grade 9 Camp

Our Grade 9s set off for Witzenberg Game Park where they were hosted by Lead4Life. Despite the intense heat, the pupils were full of high energy and a real sense of fun. Activities were focused on team building, communication, strategy and identifying skills and values within yourself and your team. The last night ended with a “Project Runway challenge” and the Grade 9s put on a spectacular show! Many lessons were learnt, and the Grade went through a lot of personal and team development.



## **HERSCHEL CAREERS WORKSHOP, 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023.**

***Every woman's success should be an inspiration to another.  
We're strongest when we cheer each other on. - Serena Williams***

We would love to invite you to Herschel to share your journeys, life-lessons, wisdom, successes, failures, challenges, authentic selves with our current pupils in a workshop-style morning, culminating in refreshments. The power and impact of relationship, shared experiences and connection knows no bounds and in terms of fostering a more cohesive Herschel community, we hope that this will be an ongoing annual shared experience.

As a school, we celebrate the influence, passion, achievement, and contributions of women to the advancement of South African society. We would like to use this workshop to empower, equip, inspire and introduce our current pupils to the myriad areas of industry, academe, public and private sector involvement, NPOs, NGOs and entrepreneurship in which many women have, and continue, to contribute.

We are inviting women who are role-models, change-makers, creatives, researchers, professionals, collaborators and academics and whose real-life experiences we know will inspire, encourage and embolden our pupils in their decision-making as they start to contemplate what field of study / area of interest to enter into when they have finished matric.

We want this to be an authentic morning of connection between yourselves and the pupils as you share with them your respective journeys, including the paths you chose in gaining qualifications, experiences of growth and learning, failures, tough decisions, successes and challenges you may have encountered along the way.

We encourage discussions around the significant changes that you have experienced and seen in your industry over time and the skills you have had to acquire to meet these changes. How has technology impacted your industry and what challenges have come with this.

Above all, we want this to be a fun and relaxed workshop! Stress levels at Herschel often run high amongst senior students when it comes to career choices, study paths and the pressures that come with applications and acceptances and we want them to know that there is no single route to what they want to do or achieve.

### **How will it work?**

As a result of the feedback received last year, we anticipate each session being 30 minutes and there being 5 sessions in the day. We are hoping to attract many more potential guest speakers this year, so that we can offer each presenter a break during the morning. The sessions will end at 13h00 and we invite you to join us for lunch afterwards.

If you are interested in being a part of our Careers day, please fill out the following google form: <https://forms.gle/QpfgkowdEwKxd8BV8> by Friday, 24 March. More information will be emailed to you once we have collated everyone's responses.

# THE WOLVES

BY SARAH DELAPPE  
14 – 16 MARCH  
HERSHEL THEATRE

PG 13  
BOOKINGS ON **Quicket**  
EXPERIENCE AWESOME

HERSHEL GIRLS SCHOOL

#2 “QUEEN OF THE CAT-SCAN!”

# THE WOLVES

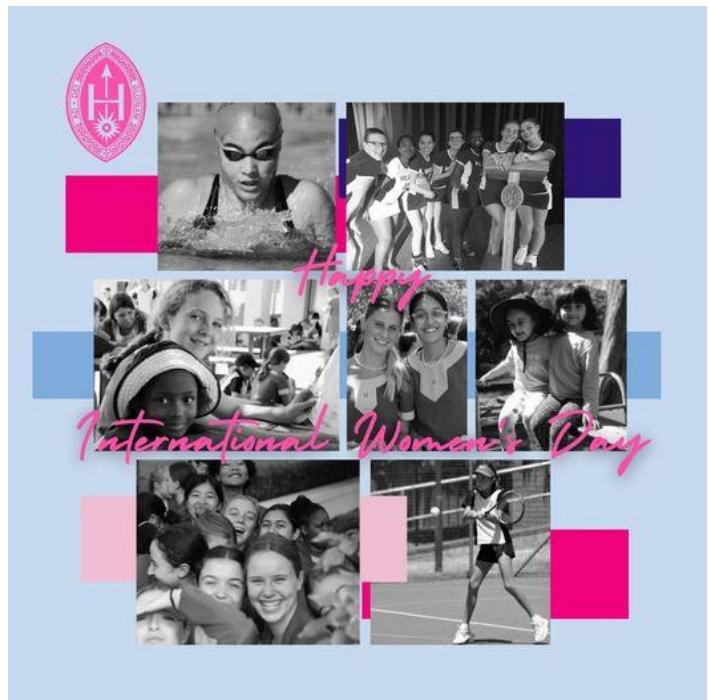
BY SARAH DELAPPE



14 – 16 MARCH  
HERSHEL THEATRE

**Quicket**  
EXPERIENCE AWESOME

“THE WOLVES” IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.



GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE  
DOING THE CAPE TOWN  
CYCLE TOUR

-  RIDE SAFE
-  HYDRATE
-  TAKE IN  
THE VIEWS
-  HAVE FUN
-  RECOVER



## SPORTS WRAP

Congratulations to our swimming team who were victorious at the recently held PGSGU Interschools Swimming Competition. Herschel came out tops against Rustenberg Girls High School, Springfield Convent and St Cyprian's.



Our water polo teams participated in the Ultima, Morelli and Waller Cup Finals held at SACS. Our U14 and U16 teams won silver medals, whilst our U19 team played sublime water polo and beat Reddam in a pulsating match for the gold medal.



## HERSCHEL SENIOR SCHOOL TERMS 2024

<u>TERM 1</u>	<u>TERM 2</u>	<u>TERM 3</u>	<u>TERM 4</u>
<p><i>(Staff: Mon. 15 January – Wed. 20 March)</i> Pupils: Wed. 17 January – Wed. 20 March 46 (48) school days</p>	<p><i>(Staff: Mon. 8 April – Fri. 14 June)</i> Pupils: Mon. 8 April (Online) Tues. 9 April (On campus) – Fri. 14 June 50 (50) school days</p>	<p><i>(Staff: Mon. 8 July – Fri. 20 September)</i> Pupils: Mon. 8 July (Online) Tues. 9 July (On campus) – Fri. 20 September 54 (54) school days</p>	<p><i>(Staff: Mon. 7 October – Fri. 6 December)</i> Pupils: Mon. 7 October (Online) Tues. 8 October (On campus) – Wed. 4 December 43 (45) school days</p>
193 (197) school days			

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2024

21 March	Human Rights Day
29 March	Good Friday
31 March	Easter Sunday
1 April	Family Day
27 April	Freedom Day
1 May	Workers' Day
16 June	Youth Day
9 August	National Women's Day
24 September	Heritage Day