



ORION SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Learners



CALENDAR	
JANUARY	
Wed 14 th	Start of Term 1 for learners
Fri 16 th	High School Leadership Workshop till 3pm
Mon 19 th	Grade 12 Parent Meeting 5:30pm
Mon 19 th	High School Parent Information Evening 6pm
Mon 19 th	Primary School extra murals start
Tue 20 th	Primary School Parent Information Evening 5pm
Wed 21 st	High School extra murals start
Fri 23 rd	Interhouse ATHLETICS and Boerie Roll sales
FEBRUARY	
Tue 3 rd	Intermediate Phase Cycle Tests start
Fri 13 th	Valentine's Day CIVVIES (R20) and Dances
Fri 27 th	Interhouse GALA and Boerie Roll sales
MARCH	
Mon 9 th	High School Cycle Tests start (till 19 th)
Fri 20 th	INTERSCHOOL GALA
Mon 23 rd	FUNKY HAIR/HAT DAY (R20)
Tue 24 th	Intermediate Phase CAMP (until 26 th)
Wed 25 th	High School CAMP (until 27 th)
Fri 27 th	End of Term 1

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back! We hope you have had a wonderful break and that you are well rested and looking forward to this new year of 2026 - with all the opportunities it is going to bring. We would also like to welcome our new learners and their families to Orion College. We are so pleased to have you join our Orion family.



We kick off the year with our **new 2026 theme:**

We will explore the word **PIVOT**, not only as a concept of small, thoughtful and deliberate changes but also as a visual reminder and acronym for how being **Purposeful** and **Passionate**, living with **Integrity** and **Intentionality** – being **Versatile** yet grounded in ones' **Values** - open up **Opportunities**. We will also learn to **Trust** and be **Tenacious** in our **2026 journey**.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2025

The class of 2025 have achieved outstanding results, exceeding our goals for them.



★ **100% PASS**

★ 60% Bachelor Passes

★ 40% Diploma Passes

★ 2 Distinctions

★ Congratulations to **Alex Wilsenach** – for being in the **Top 100 learners** for CAT (Computer Aided Technology) in **Gauteng** – listed at 96. This is a huge achievement!

★ Congratulations to **Mr Sutherland** on achieving a **TOP 60** in the province position for Orion College for his subject – CAT.

2025 YEARBOOK

Orders for our yearbook for 2025 are open. An order form will be sent home shortly for orders to be placed. Don't miss out on this opportunity to keep memories alive.



NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We welcome our new members of staff who have joined Orion this year.

Mr Moeketsi Ntsike (Intermediate Phase/Grade 7 Register teacher)

Miss Alnique Davids (Foundation Phase Grade 3)

Miss Nicole van der List (Educational Psychologist)

Miss Leah Booysen (Speech and Language Therapist)

Miss Camryn Dry (Occupational Therapist)



PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS

- **Grade 12 Parent meeting** is on **Monday 19th January at 5:30pm.**
- **High School Parent Information Evening** is on **Monday 19th January at 6pm.**
- **Primary School Parent Information Evening** is on **Tuesday 20th January at 5pm.**

UNIFORM

We would like our learners to be dressed neatly, according to the uniform policy. **Please check the learner planner for uniform requirements. Old uniforms** can be donated to the **second-hand shop**. Please drop these off at reception.

Learners in the **FET Phase** are required to wear a **tie and blazer all year round**. Communication was sent home at the end of last year regarding this. They are our school role models, and we expect them to represent the school with pride.

SCHOOL TIMES and PUNCTUALITY

Learners need to be ON TIME for school and in class by **07h25**. Lessons start at **07h30**. Let's start the year how we intend to carry on.



FEES

Please remember that fees are due **in advance** starting in January until November. Prompt payment and communication with the finance department is appreciated.



SCHOOL COMMUNICATION – changes coming soon!

Thank you to the parents who completed the parent survey. Valuable feedback was received. One point noted was the request for improved communication channels. In response to this, Orion will be transitioning over to the **D6 school communicator** during the course of Term 1. Once set up, parents will be required to **download the D6 app**. In the transition period, we will continue to use the class WhatsApp groups already established.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Please remember that only Grade 10,11 and 12 learners are allowed to have their cell phones on their person during the school day. ALL other grades are expected to hand their cell phones in first thing in the morning or leave them at home. **Cell phones will not be released to pay for food at the tuckshop during break times. Learners must please use alternative payment methods.**



If cell phones are brought to school – it is the learner's responsibility. The school will not take responsibility for cell phones or any other electronic or personal item that is lost or stolen. **Learners are encouraged to not bring personal or other electronic items to school that are of value to them.**



Learners who use **reading apps**, such as **Natural Reader**, to support them with reading during class, are allowed to have them on their person, but they must obtain permission to do so, and they must bring their own headphones. These learners must also check with their teachers before taking their phones out to use the app. Looking after the phone is their responsibility.

Wishing you all a very positive and transformative 2026. Mrs Robinson and the Orion College staff.