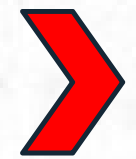
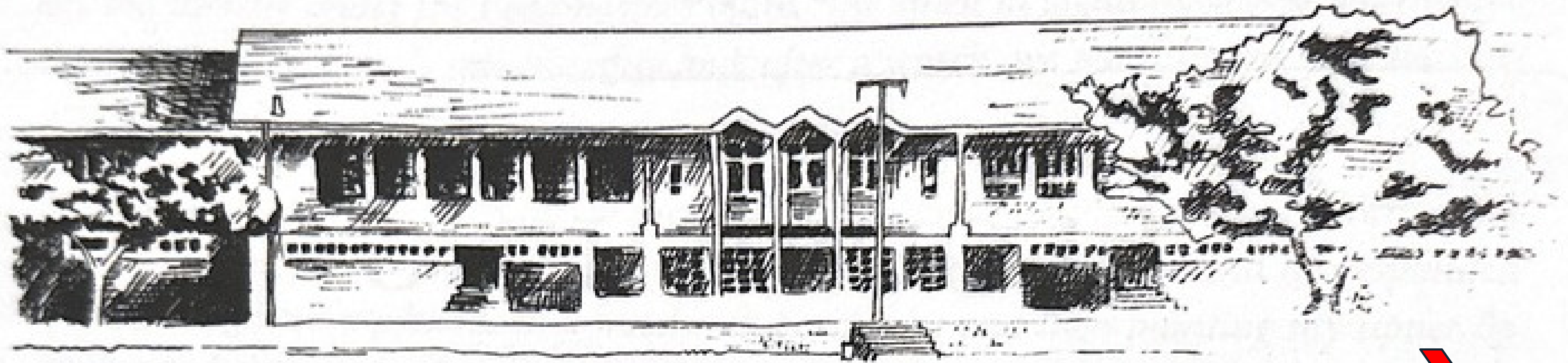




BERGVLIET HIGH SCHOOL



# THE BUZZ



MARCH 2026 EDITION



# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

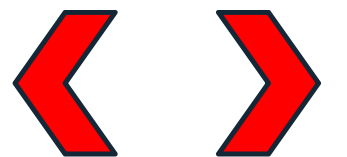


**Mrs P Demas**  
**PRINCIPAL**

The last month of Term 1 2026 was extremely busy, and understandably, when we closed school for the learners, staff, and the majority of administrative staff, it was with a sigh of relief and excited anticipation of the short break that awaited them. The Maintenance, Housekeeping, and IT staff remain on site to complete much-needed work that can only be done when everyone else is away.

Term 1 Assessments got into full swing in the first week of March, and by now, all learners have received their reports. To those learners who achieved the goals they set themselves, congratulations! To those who put in all the effort but somehow did not reach their goals, it's okay. Persevere and stay the course. To those willing to admit that they did not apply themselves, I encourage you to put in the extra time and effort and attend the extra classes on offer. Start now to revise the work from Term 1, be more focused in class when you return, and attend school daily to ensure a successful Term 2.

Our celebrations continued throughout March with several athletes competing at the Champs of Champs event. Our champions on the day were Abigail Tito, Jesse Brooks, Caden Jaftha, Riley Adonis, Noah Dreyer, Harper Halford, and Hannah-Leigh Williams, representing the Western Cape.



# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

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Jesse Brooks advances to the SASSA event in Germiston in April for her 400m race, and before the end of the term, she was competing in the Athletics Age Group Championships in Rustenburg. We wish her all the best.

Harper Halford competed at the Cape Town Biathle District Championship event. This required her to run for 800m, swim 100m, and run another 800m. As a result of her participation, she has qualified and advanced to the next event, the Western Cape Championship, taking place in George in May.

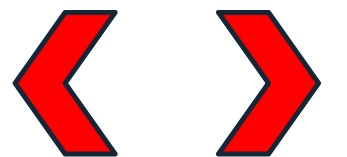
Our Head of Life Sciences, Mr Lambrecht, competed in his 2nd Cape Town Cycle Tour and enjoyed a successful ride of 109 kms with a time of 06:42:36.

We were very excited when we were informed that Kaitlin Chinnaiah in Grade 10G had applied to be a member of the Junior City Council. She was one of 50 successful candidates from a total of 929 applicants who underwent a highly competitive selection process. Bergvliet High School has been very successful over the years, with learners being selected for the JCC. We wish her well with this additional responsibility.

We are also thrilled to announce that Triston Fortune, currently in Grade 11 (also a former JCC member in Grade 10), then elected as Deputy Chairperson of the Nelson Mandela Children's Parliament late last year, will be jetting off to Washington in July as a member of the Youth Ambassador Africa Exchange Programme. This is a significant achievement for Triston, who has put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to be selected. We wish him a safe journey there and back.



Kaitlin Chinnaiah who was selected to be a member of the Junior City Council



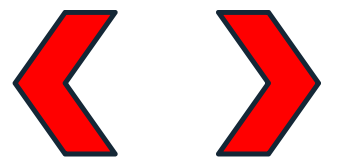
# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

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All our summer sporting codes, clubs, and societies enjoyed a wonderful Term 1, and the latter two will continue to do so at the start of Term 2, along with the winter codes, who have already been involved with pre-season training. Such is their excitement that they will be training during the short break.

Extensive renovations are currently underway at the school during this short break. The Astro replacement is nearing completion, with more flooring in the passages, removal of old window frames, and clearing of the maintenance sheds.

At our final Term 1 assembly on Friday, 27 March, learners and staff bid farewell to Mrs Ebersohn, who so kindly stepped out of her retirement when we urgently needed a Maths teacher. We are very grateful that she was willing to do so, and are indebted to her. We also bid farewell to Mr Gwavava who arrived in January 2024 to join the Maths Literacy Department. A promotion post at Westerford High School became available, and Mr Gwavava was successful with his application. We thank him for his contributions to the school's academic success during his time with us, his role as coach and manager for Soccer last year. as Head of Boys Basketball this year, and a partner to Miss Jorge as the Teacher Liaison Officers (TLO's) for the Astronomy Club. We wish him every success in his new chapter.



# THE PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

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The two new teachers joining us at the start of Term 2 are Mr February (formerly at Norman Henshilwood High School), replacing Mrs Ebersohn in the Maths Department, and currently tutoring some of our Students for a Better Future learners. Mr February has extensive years of experience as a Maths and Science educator. Mrs Bawa joins us from Lavender Hill High School, also with many years of experience as a Maths Literacy educator. We look forward to their arrival!

On Saturday evening, 28 March, with much anticipation, the Class of 2026 had their Matric Dance celebration at the Southern Sun Hotel in Cape Town. What a sight to behold! Our young gentlemen and ladies arriving in spectacular vehicle style, dressed to kill in suits and dresses that they clearly put considerable thought into. On their behalf, I extend our sincere gratitude to Miss Kriel, who organised this year's event (planning of which started last year). Without a doubt, it was a resounding success!

In closing, we wish our Christian families well over the Easter Weekend with all its commemorations and celebrations. We also trust that our learners and staff will enjoy the well-deserved short break.

MRS P DEMAS  
PRINCIPAL





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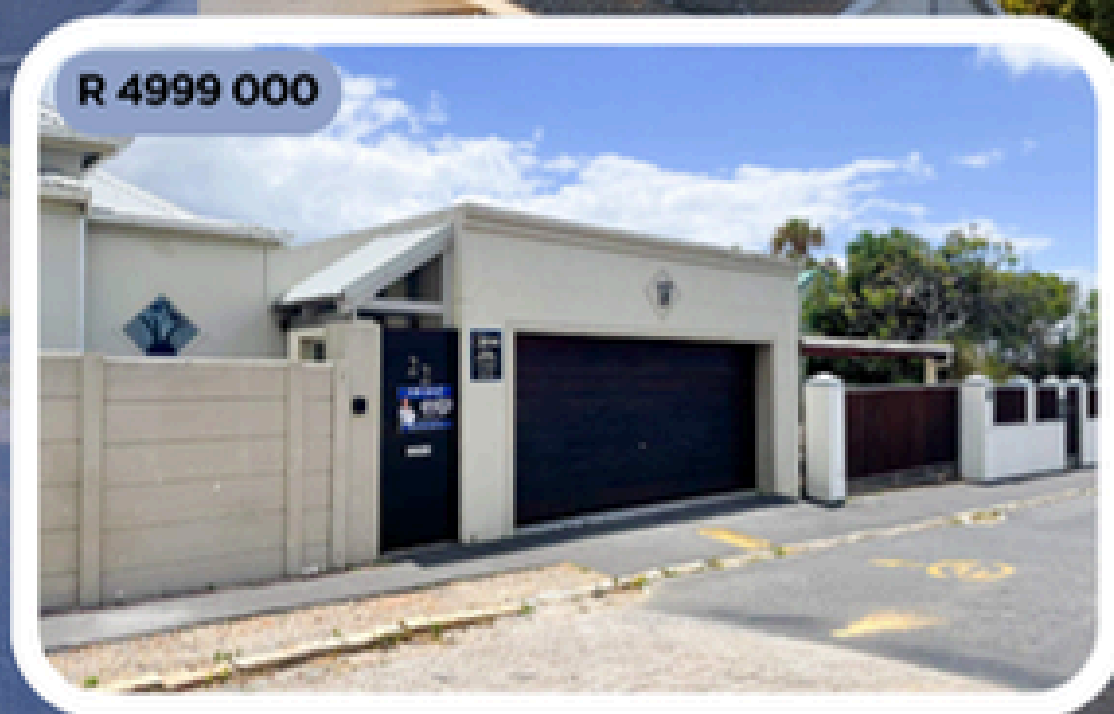
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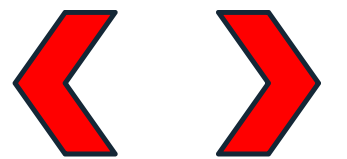


# Dance Department

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As I sit down at the end of the term to reflect on our Dance Department, I am blown away by the incredible growth I have witnessed in our young dancers. It has been a full and inspiring term, filled with opportunities that have challenged, stretched, and inspired both our learners and myself.

We started the term with our Professional Dance Series, where I invite industry professionals to work with our dance learners. This term we had the privilege of welcoming Marlin Zoutman from New World Dance Theatre and Emile Petersen from The Gain Collective. These professional workshops are always challenging, as learners are exposed to new movement vocabulary and are required to pick up complex choreography quickly. These classes are truly a breath of fresh air in our department, and they leave us all feeling creatively energised and inspired.



Marlin Zoutman hosts an annual Youth Dance Festival called Resilience, which celebrates the resilience and creativity of young dancers. We were incredibly fortunate to perform a work choreographed by him at the Artscape Theatre at the end of February, an unforgettable experience for our learners and a wonderful opportunity to perform on a professional stage.

This term we were also privileged to watch several outstanding contemporary dance performances. We attended Gregory Maqoma's Genesis, and the Jazzart Dance Theatre Meraki Festival, where we witnessed a variety of performances by Jazzart and other dance companies. A major highlight for our learners was watching Emile perform one of his own choreographies with The Gain Collective at the Meraki Festival. We also had the opportunity to watch Marlin's powerful hour-long contemporary work titled Messiah.



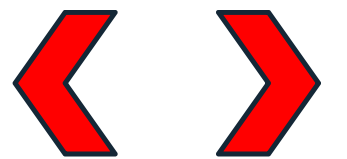


Term 1 has truly filled our learners' creative tanks, and I have already had the privilege of seeing the fruits of this inspiration in their classwork, improvisations, reflections, and choreographies. It takes time to build something great, and here at BHS we are building creative, confident young people in our Dance Department, young people who can go out into the world and tackle anything life throws at them with flexibility, resilience, and curiosity.

I look forward to Term 2 and all the incredible work our learners will continue to create and share.

Yours in dance,

Mrs. Voss-gatter  
Head of Dance Studies



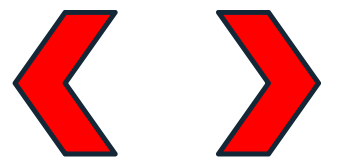
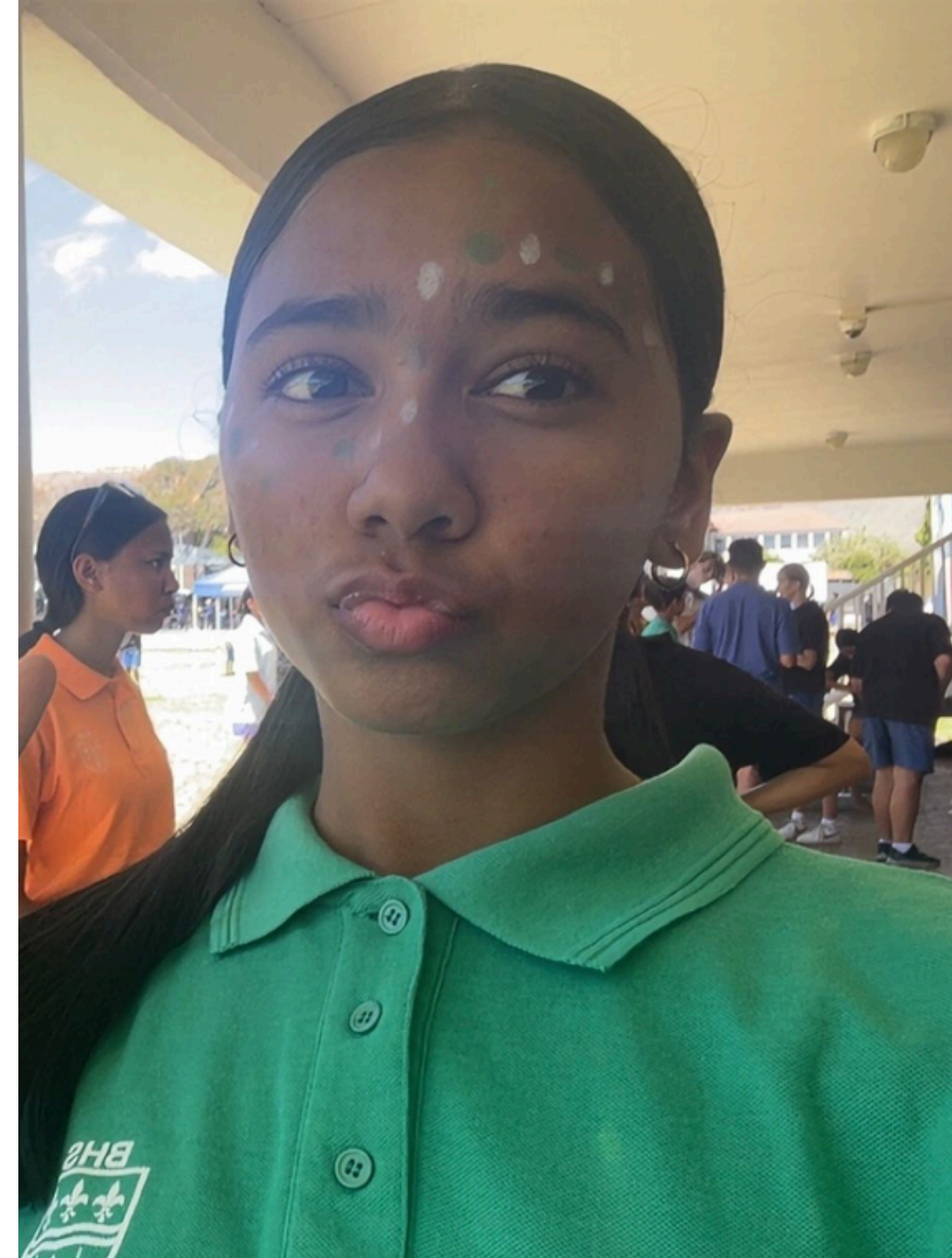
# Help Jehaan Karriem Represent Her School and Community on the Academic Achievers Dubai Tour 2026!



We are extremely proud to share that Jehaan Karriem, a grade 9 learner, from Bergvliet High, has been selected to join the prestigious Academic Achievers Tour to Dubai during the December holidays of 2026. This rare opportunity recognizes her outstanding academic achievements, leadership abilities and determination to succeed in the future.

We are calling on our community and supporters to help make this dream possible. Your support will help cover travel, accommodation, lectures and programme costs. Every donation, no matter the size, will bring Jehaan one step closer to this life-changing opportunity.

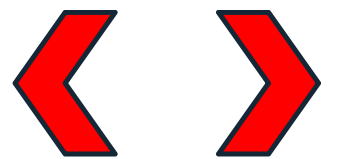
[Please see raffle form and sponsorship form HERE](#)



# FOUNDER'S DAY

## Did You Know? A Piece of Bergvliet High History

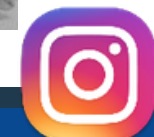
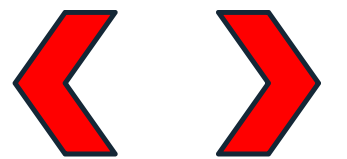
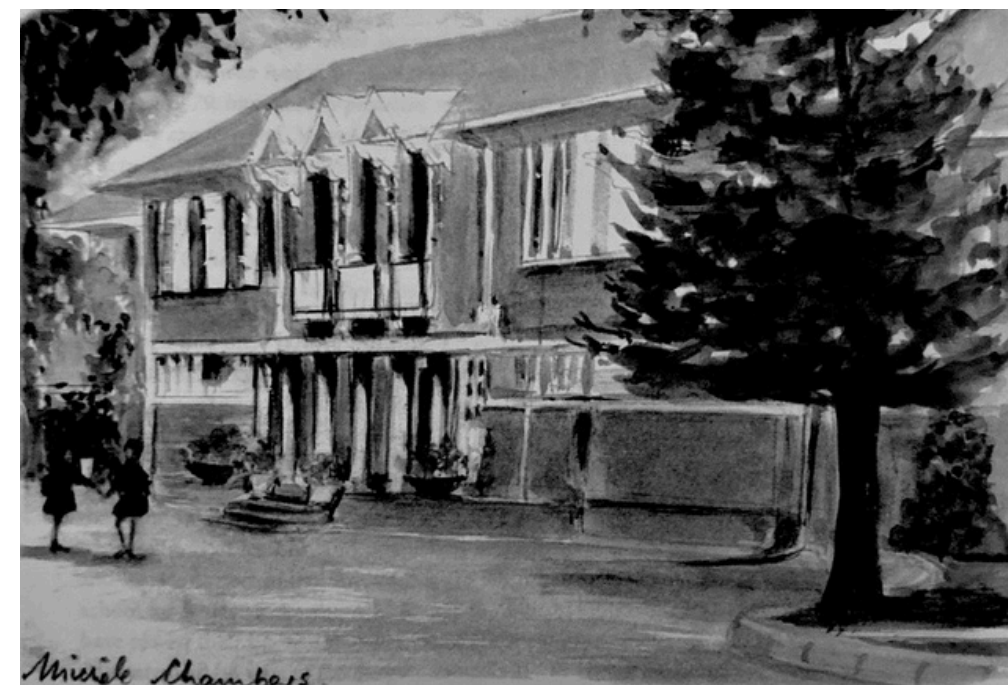
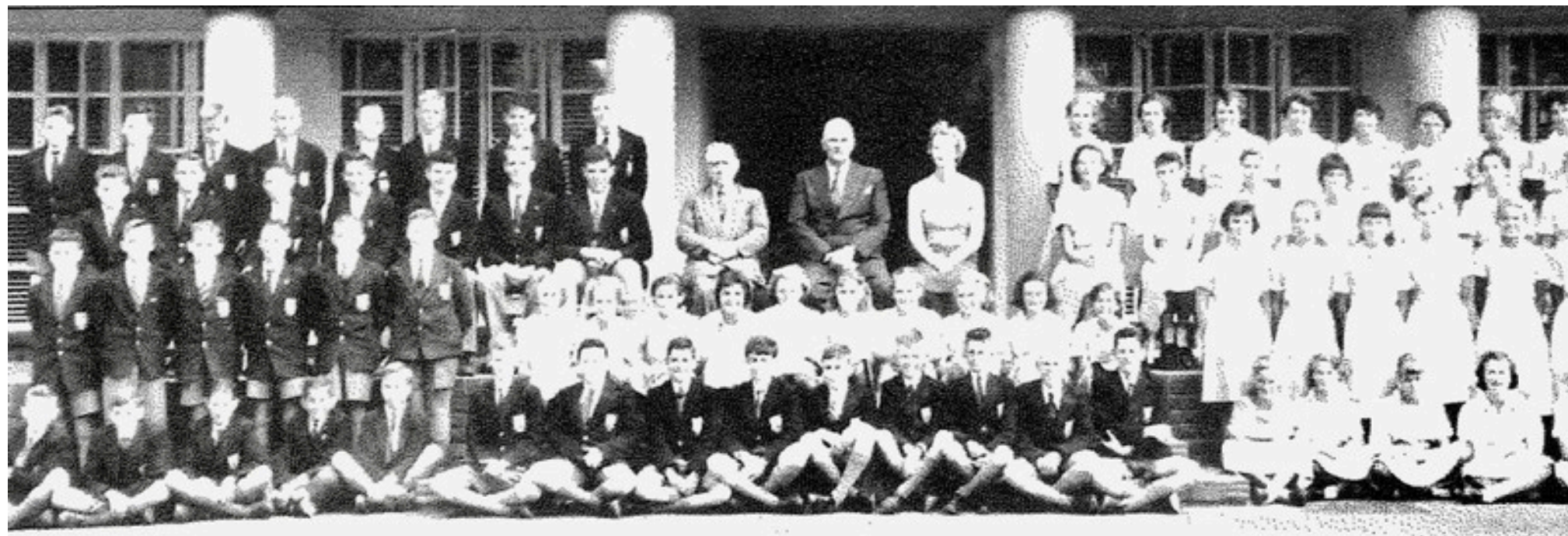
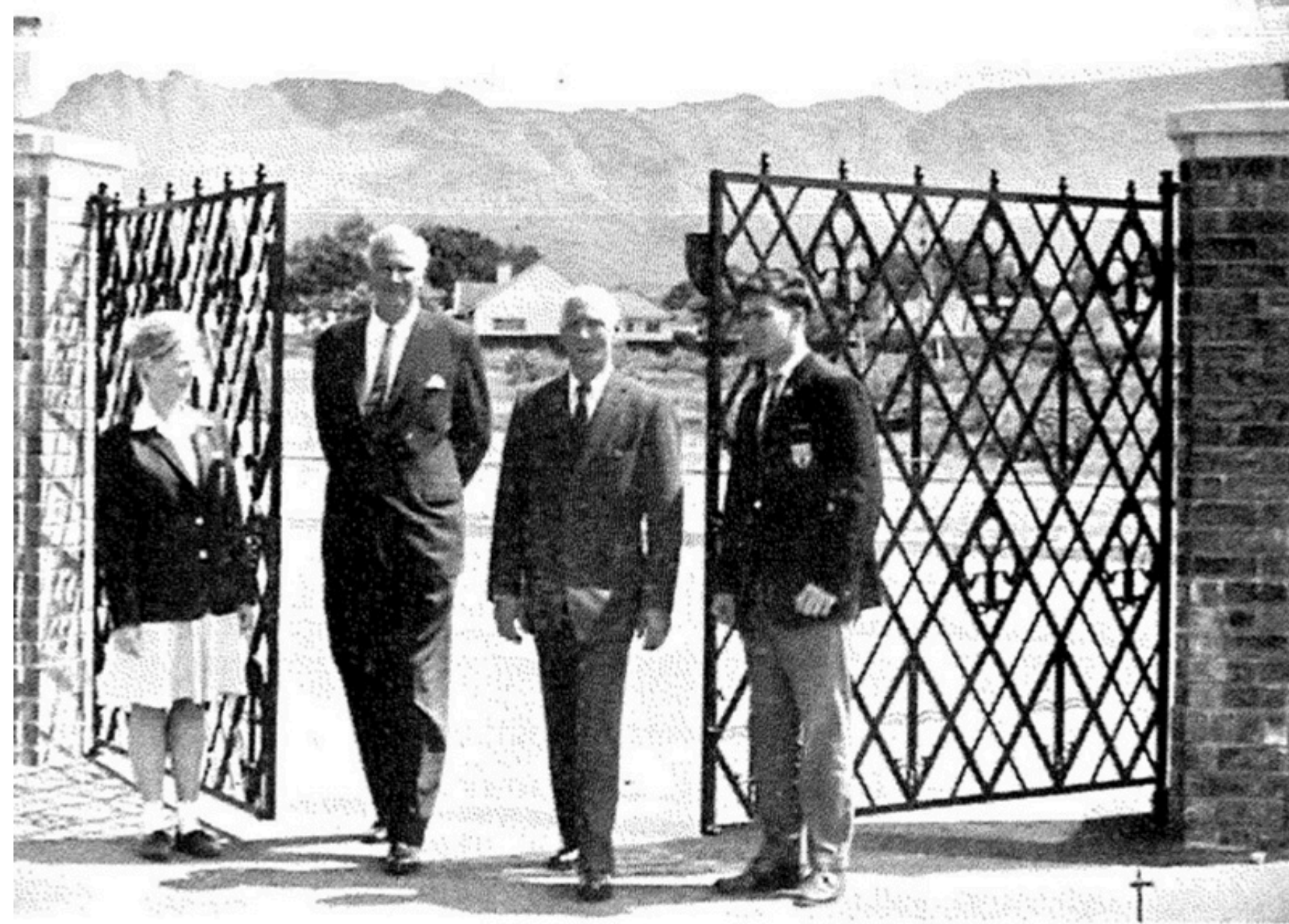
Bergvliet High School opened its doors on 29 January 1957, welcoming over 70 pupils on its very first day. Under the leadership of founding principal Mr P.A.M. van der Spuy, the school quickly established itself as the heart of the community. Beginning with just four teachers, the school has grown enormously over the past 69 years into the institution we know and love today. As we go about our busy school days, it's worth pausing to appreciate the remarkable journey that brought us here!



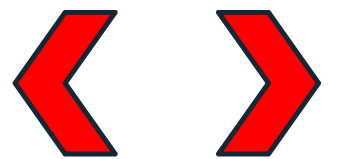
# FOUNDER'S DAY

## Did You Know? A Piece of Bergvliet High History

The official opening was on 15 March 1957 – coincidentally van der Spuy's birthday – which became Founder's Day.



# FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

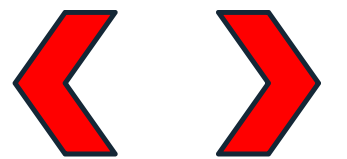


# OUR HISTORY

The Bergvliet High School badge was designed by the Reverend Jeffcoat, the man whose family farm became the land on which our school was built.

At the heart of the badge sits a dovecote – a nod to the Jeffcoat name itself, which traces back to an old English word for a small shelter for birds. The wavy line running through the design represents the mountain stream that gives Bergvliet its name. Finally, the elegant fleur-de-lis is drawn from the Hertzog coat of arms, honouring the family who shaped so much of this area's history.

Every time learners wear the badge, they carry with them centuries of Bergvliet's story.





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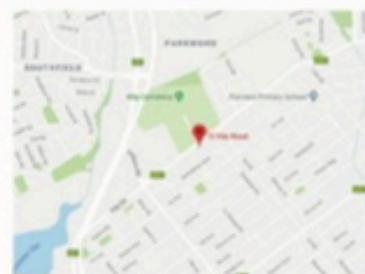
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## WCED Admissions Reminder: 10 March to 14 April

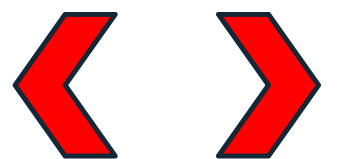


Western Cape  
Government  
Education

Please note that WCED admissions will be open from 10 March to 14 April.

- When applying for siblings, kindly ensure you include the sibling's CEMIS number (student number) on the WCED application and select "Yes" for siblings.
- We strongly advise parents to apply to at least 5 schools of their choice, as sibling placement is not guaranteed.

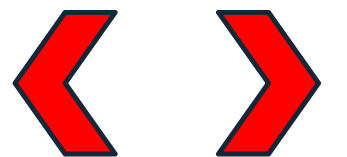
Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring applications are completed correctly and on time.





# Harper Halford our Biathle Champ

Congratulations to Harper Halford, who recently competed at the Cape Town Biathle District Championship and achieved an impressive third-place finish in the Girls Under-15 division. Biathle is a demanding multi-discipline sport in which athletes run 800 metres, swim 100 metres, and then complete a further 800-metre run. Harper's outstanding performance has earned her qualification for the Western Cape Championship, which will be held in George in May. We wish her every success as she represents our school at provincial level!



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Congratulations to the following students going into the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Maths Olympiad

Grade 8:  
Yaqeen Dollie  
Lisemi Iba  
Uzair Ismail

Grade 10:  
Liam Joubert  
Jesse Damoes  
Aaron Peterson

Grade 9:  
Matthew Graham  
Aaron Mitchell  
Hannah Adams  
Shylah Canham  
Caylah Diedericks

Grade 11:  
Samuel Graham

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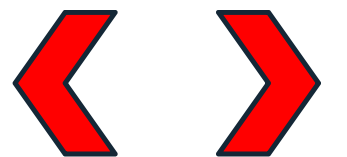
# Athletics

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Senior team captain Jesse Brooks represented Bergvliet with determination and pride at the South African Club Athletics Championships in Germiston. She delivered an impressive performance in her heat, finishing 3rd and securing her place in the semi-finals.

There, Jesse showed exceptional form, leading the race before an unfortunate injury forced her to slow down. Despite this setback, she chose to push through and continue all the way to the finish line, demonstrating true resilience and sportsmanship. Her perseverance is a powerful reminder that success is not only about results, but about character and effort.

Well done, Jesse, for making both yourself and your school incredibly proud.





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