

# *Saints* WEEKLY ROUNDUP

✦ SCC150

TERM 1 WEEK 8



# 150 years of *Faithfulness*

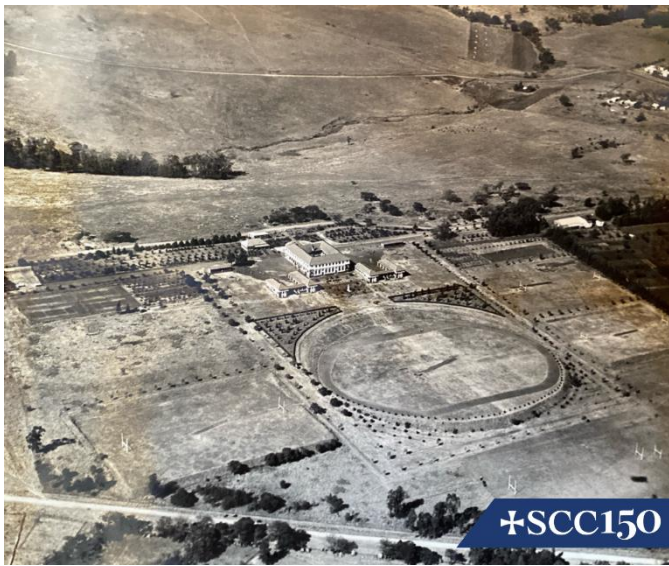
The countdown begins! Last week, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February we marked 150 days until St Charles College's 150th anniversary. On Monday, 26 July 1875, our story began when St Charles' Catholic Grammar School opened its doors.

Over the next 150 days, on our social media, we'll be taking you on a journey, celebrating the moments that have shaped us and honouring the enduring legacy of our school. Don't forget to log in daily to our Instagram or Facebook pages for exciting stories, memories and celebrations as we approach this monumental milestone!

As we look to the past, present, and future, we are reminded of the timeless truth in our motto:

***Fideli Certa Merces. To the faithful one, a certain reward.***

A few highlights from the past week of posts include a then and now of our campus, our first Scrummies class in 1998, our historical wavy cry blazer even one of the only girls to "attend" St Charles College!



# Summer Sport

## Wrap up



## BASKETBALL VS KEARSNEY

St Charles College travelled to Kearsney for the final fixture of the summer season for what was sure to be a tightly contested affair. With Kearsney having won the previous encounter at SCC during the fourth term, the visitors were very keen to show that they had improved with an away win.

The game was extremely tight, with the largest lead throughout the game being seven points. St Charles College had a few small runs behind their good defense; however, Kearsney were always up to the challenge and clawed their way back. Heading into the final period with a small lead, the Saints managed to open the gap to seven points, however, the home team was once again able to respond and pull the game within one point in the dying seconds. With both teams in full panic mode, neither team was able to score again, the Saints were able to hang on for a single-point victory 64 – 63.

– Mr Darren Holcomb (Head Coach)

## CRICKET VS KEARSNEY

The final summer sports fixture of the season was a gripping contest of achievement and heartbreak as St Charles College travelled to Kearsney College to compete on their picturesque oval in Botha's Hill. Opting to bowl first – an uncommon strategy in schoolboy cricket – St Charles College made the decision based on a week of heavy rains at Kearsney, hoping to capitalise on the conditions.

Opening bowlers Rowen Rajah and Caleb Sharp once again set the tone for a disciplined and controlled start, restricting Kearsney's scoring opportunities from the outset. Their relentless accuracy and tight lines ensured that Kearsney was effectively kept quiet in the first 10 overs, unable to gain any real momentum. This trend continued through to tea, with the entire bowling attack executing their plans superbly. By the halfway mark, Kearsney was under pressure at 65 for 3 after 25 overs – a testament to St Charles College's ability to build pressure and control the tempo of the game.



A standout performance with the ball came from Keegan Vermaak, who showed immense resilience by playing through an injury for most of the game. Despite the setback, he delivered a brilliant spell, picking up 5 wickets for just 35 runs in his 10 overs. His ability to break partnerships and keep the opposition under pressure was instrumental in restricting Kearsney's total.

After the break, Kearsney managed to accelerate, using their wickets in hand effectively to push their total to 173. Despite the late surge, St Charles College's bowlers can take great pride in their ability to contain the opposition for much of the innings, showcasing disciplined line-and-length bowling and sharp fielding throughout.

Chasing 173, openers Thando Zama and Keegan Vermaak provided the ideal start for the visitors, forming a composed and confident partnership of 56 runs. Their positive intent and shot selection put St Charles College in a commanding position early on. Keegan Vermaak played with fluency and control, finding gaps with ease. However, to continue the attacking momentum, he fell after a well-played 20, caught at deep midwicket while looking to clear the boundary for a third consecutive time. This wicket triggered a brief period of instability, but the ever-reliable Rowen Rajah and the exciting young talent Ryan Clarke steadied the innings with a mature and composed partnership of over 60 runs. Their ability to rotate the strike and punish loose deliveries once again put St Charles College in the driver's seat, keeping the required run rate in check. As the chase neared its climax, the pressure of accelerating towards the finish line led to a few crucial mistakes, resulting in wickets falling at key moments. Despite the valiant effort, St Charles College fell just 10 runs short of the target.

Although the result was not in the Saints' favour, there are many positives to take away from this performance. The team demonstrated immense potential, with disciplined bowling, sharp fielding, and strong partnerships showcasing the depth of talent within the squad. Special credit must go to Keegan Vermaak, whose all-round performance – both with the ball and bat – was a testament to his determination and skill.

Congratulations to Kearsney College for their resilience and teamwork, and for playing the game in great spirit. As we wrap up the summer cricket season, we look forward to the challenges and opportunities that the Term 3 and 4 cricket season will bring. This group of players has shown they can compete at the highest level, and with continued growth and experience, the future of St Charles College cricket looks bright.  
– Mr Divan van Wyk (Sports Marketing)

## WATER POLO VS KEARSNEY

The St Charles College first team water polo squad travelled to Kearsney to take on their second side in what proved to be a gripping and hard-fought encounter. From the first whistle, it was evident that neither team would have an easy path to victory, as both displayed excellent defensive organization and unwavering determination.

St Charles College started the game with strong intent, pressing high and looking for early opportunities. However, Kearsney's defence held firm, forcing the Saints boys to work tirelessly for every scoring chance. The back-and-forth nature of the match saw both teams trading goals, with no clear dominance emerging.

By halftime, St Charles had managed to edge in front, holding a slender one-goal advantage. The tight scoreline only added to the intensity of the contest, as both teams knew that a moment of brilliance or a defensive lapse could prove decisive.

The second half continued in the same fiercely competitive manner, with neither team willing to give an inch. Kearsney fought back to level the score multiple times, showcasing their resilience and making life difficult for the Saints. The defensive work from both teams was outstanding, with key saves from the goalkeepers and crucial blocks keeping the match on a knife's edge. As the final whistle approached, the game remained locked at 6 – 6, setting up a dramatic finish. With only moments left on the clock, Robbie Cullis found himself in the right place at the right time, delivering a clinical last-minute goal to hand St Charles a thrilling 7 – 6 victory. The Saints boys erupted in celebration as they secured a hard-earned win, reflecting their grit, teamwork, and refusal to back down under pressure.

This match was a testament to the competitive spirit of both teams, and St Charles College can take great pride in their performance, overcoming a determined Kearsney side in a contest that had everything – tension, skill, and a dramatic finish.

– Mr Brett Croeser (Head Coach)

## Golf News

### A Legendary Day on the Course!

Wednesday was a special day for St Charles College golfers as they travelled to Bosch Hoek Golf Course to take on Michaelhouse. While our boys have already enjoyed a fantastic season, this match was made even more memorable with a once-in-a-lifetime moment - the legendary Gary Player sharing his wisdom, offering tips, and inspiring the team! A huge thank you to Mr Player for his time and encouragement and well done to our golfers for continuing to make the Blue and Gold proud! What a way to cap off an incredible season.



## Prep Sport News

### CRICKET VS CLIFTON NOTTINGHAM ROAD

It was another exciting weekend of Cricket fixtures as we played against Clifton NR and a few other schools. Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI showed a lot of grit and courage which earned them the Team of the Week. The big talking points in the prep, however, were reserved for our 6<sup>th</sup> XI, 7<sup>th</sup> XI and 8<sup>th</sup> XI teams who all managed victories against Merchiston and Cordwalles respectively. The boys were very excited and felt very proud. We congratulate these teams for their hard work, love for the game and willingness to improve.

There were some very exciting games played as well. Our U9As lost by 1 wicket, our U11As won in the very last over of the game, our 5<sup>th</sup> XI enjoyed a close 10-run victory and the 3<sup>rd</sup> team game was very high scoring with over 290 runs being scored.

Well done to our Prep 2<sup>nd</sup> XI who continue to play very good cricket. Losing the toss, SCC were asked to bowl and lead by Captain, Tristan Marlton with figures of 4-5 off 6 overs, Clifton reached 102 which SCC passed with 4 wickets down.

**Notable individual performances include:**

Thomas Ferrer, 1<sup>st</sup> XI, 4-19

Cameron Clark, U9A, 3-8

Tristan Marlton, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI: 4-5

Levi Werner, U10A: 6-5

Mikha'il Osman, U11A, 3-15

Khanya Nkosi, U11A, 3-15

Matthew Pedley, U11A 65 runs not out

Ndumiso Mncwabe, 5<sup>th</sup> XI, 3-10

Azariah Saka, 8<sup>th</sup> XI, 3-23

Kaelan Moodley, 8<sup>th</sup> XI, 47 runs not out

It has been an exciting and enjoyable Summer Season of cricket. We wish all our boys well as they finish the season this weekend against Highbury. – Mr Gregg Cole-Edwardes (Head of Prep Sport)

# Team of the *Week*

As the final weekend of combined summer sports fixtures wrapped up, our St Charles College teams delivered outstanding performances, showcasing exceptional attitudes and making significant contributions across the board.

One of the standout performances came from our Prep First Cricket Team, who travelled to Nottingham Road to face a strong Clifton side.

As expected, the opposition was fearless, relentless, and applied pressure throughout the match. But as we know, true diamonds are formed under pressure - and that's exactly what happened for our boys in blue and gold!

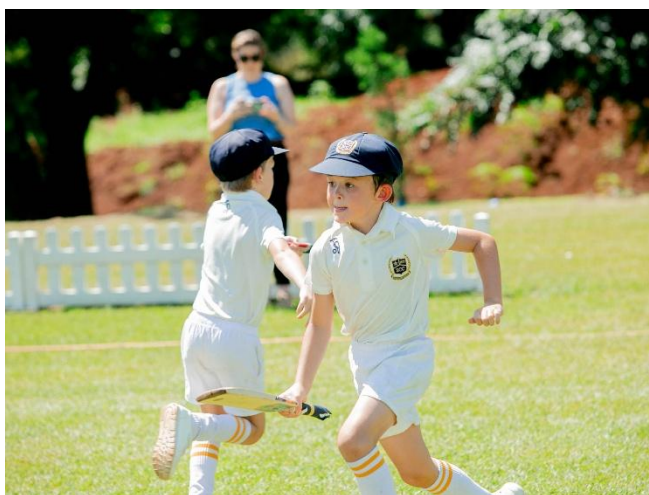
Despite injuries and setbacks, the team stepped up when it mattered most, displaying incredible perseverance, tenacity, and teamwork to secure a thrilling one-wicket victory. This win was a testament to their character and determination, proving once again that when challenges arise, Saints players rise to the occasion.

Well done to our *Team of the Week*! We look forward to seeing you finish the season strong against Highbury Preparatory School. - Mr Divan van Wyk (Sports Marketing)



# Mini Cricket

Our Junior Primary boys had a wonderful afternoon out on the Saints Oval playing in a mini cricket festival.



# Dads and Lads Cricket in *Grade 0*

On Saturday morning, while many people were still sleeping, our Oval was already abuzz with excited chattering, patient encouragement and whoops of delight. Mr Joel Barron, our Head of Junior Sport, and his very capable team shared some fun and age-appropriate ideas with our parents to develop their boys' early cricket skills. Cool terms like "eagle claw",

"see-saw arms", and "making a basket" were taught and our boys made their dads sweat with their ever-improving batting skills! There was an air of new-found camaraderie as our boys and their families enjoyed a doughnut and something to drink after all the action! – Mrs Liesl Meter (Head of Pre-Primary)



[CLICK HERE TO WATCH OUR REEL](#)

# Subject Music Concert

On Thursday evening, St Charles College proudly hosted our first Subject Music concert of 2025, as well as our first official concert in the College's 150th year. Held in the acoustically pleasing St Charles Chapel, the event provided a wonderful opportunity for our eight Subject Music students to deliver their first solo performances of the year. This performance was formally assessed and served as their practical mark for Term 1. We were also delighted to welcome the Matric Subject Music students from Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, who joined us for an evening of exceptional musical talent. The concert was met with a warm and enthusiastic audience, making it a truly memorable start to our 2025 concert programme. – Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)



ST CHARLES COLLEGE HOSTS A PICNIC-STYLE

+SCC150

# MIC NIGHT

FEATURING BANDS & SOLOISTS BY ST CHARLES COLLEGE, THE WYKEHAM COLLEGIATE,  
ST JOHN'S D.S.G. AND EPWORTH GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

## SAMUKELE KHUMALO ARENA



ENTRANCE FEE R30, CARD PAYMENT ONLY

### WED 26 MARCH • 18:30 - 20:00

Join us for an unforgettable evening at Mic Night 2025 on Wednesday, 26 March, in the SKA! Come and support our talented young musicians as they take the stage for a spectacular night of music. The event will feature performances by the St Charles College High School Bands, along with incredible solo and band performances from St Charles, St John's D.S.G., The Wykeham College, and Epworth High School. Don't miss out on this fantastic celebration of musical talent! – Mr Pierre Frenzel (Head of Music)



# World Book Day

## IN THE JUNIOR PRIMARY



Celebrating World Book Day is a valuable way to foster a love of reading and learning in our boys. It encourages imagination, broadens knowledge, and exposes students to diverse cultures and ideas through literature. Mr van Blerk shared a favourite story with the Junior Primary boys earlier this week. It was a fun and engaging way for the boys to connect with their Principal, as he highlighted the importance of books in Education.

In return, the boys presented Mr van Blerk with a book created by them about life as a Principal of St Charles College, titled, '150 years of Excellence'. The content of this book was a collaboration of ideas from a young boy's perspective, alongside the cold hard facts gleaned directly from Mr van Blerk himself, through interviews with the boys.

The boys' understanding of the world, and life of a Principal in particular, is less clouded by the complexities that come with age and experience. Their deeply appealing innocence offers a fresh perspective and views characterised by curiosity and optimism. – Mrs Lauren Riley (Head of Junior Primary)



## IN SCRUMMIES

In the famous words of Dr Seuss, "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax all you need is a book"

Our Scrummies Lads brought their favourite book characters to life this international book day and shared treasured stories with their friends and Junior Primary boys.

Watching the boys become engrossed in the pages of a book really captured the joy and wonder of reading. - Ms Candice Berridge





## The IIE's Varsity College invites you to a Water Security Conference

**Date:** 19 March 2025

**Time:** 08:30 to 15:00

**Venue:** The IIE's Varsity College (PMB Campus),  
Harwin Road, Scottsville,  
Xhawula Precinct

[Lngcobo@varsitycollege.za](mailto:Lngcobo@varsitycollege.za) by 14 March 2025

Please see alongside an invitation to **Ripples of Change**, a Water Security Conference to be held at Varsity College (PMB Campus).

**CLICK HERE FOR  
DETAILS ON  
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS  
AND TOPICS.**



**ST CHARLES COLLEGE  
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION**

**\*SCC150**

# CORPORATE GOLF DAY

**21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2025 | VICTORIA COUNTRY CLUB**

**4 ball alliance 2 scores to count**

Prizes / cash donations welcome

10am Shotgun Start

**ENTER A FOUR BALL - R3000**

Includes R50 Halfway House Voucher & light supper

Cart to be booked directly with the Club - R440

**SPONSOR THE PRACTICE GREEN - R3000**

**SPONSOR A TEE-BOX OR A GREEN - R1000**

**SPONSOR A TEE-BOX AND A GREEN - R2000**



**CONTACT GILL SHEPPARD: OLDBOYS@SCC.CO.ZA OR 084 505 6664**

*Blazer*

## Cupboard Notice

2025 fittings are in full swing, and it is vital that appointments are made should you need any uniform items. Alternately, you can purchase via the online store.

**Make your online purchases here.**

**Make your appointment here.**

**Boys are still permitted to come in at break-times or before school.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT  
SHANNON SIMPSON  
C: 082 821 7831



## Mothers Who Care 2025

MWC IS A CHRISTIAN  
GROUP WHO PRAY FOR OUR STAFF, BOYS & THEIR  
FAMILIES.

WE MEET WEEKLY IN THE GR 8 BOARDING LOUNGE ON A  
WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 AM.  
PLEASE JOIN US IN  
PERSON, PRIVATELY  
OR ON A WHATSAPP CALL.

MATTHEW 6:33  
BUT SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM  
AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.  
AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE  
GIVEN TO YOU AS WELL.



# ST CHARLES COLLEGE

S O U T H A F R I C A

## TERM DATES 2025

TERM 1	
Administration, Managers, Housemasters and Support Staff Return	08 January (Wednesday)
Teaching and Boarding Staff Return (Staff Development)	09 January (Thursday)
Senior School Boarders Return (Grade 8 - Grade 12)	14 January (Tuesday)
<b>Senior School Lessons Commence</b> (Grade 8 - Grade 12)	<b>15 January (Wednesday)</b>
Prep School Boarders Return (Grade 4 - Grade 7)	14 January (Tuesday)
<b>Prep School Lessons Commence</b> (Grade 000 - Grade 7)	<b>15 January (Wednesday)</b>
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	21 February - 24 February
Human Rights Day (21 March)	21 March (Friday) School Day
<b>End of Term</b>	<b>28 March (Friday)</b>
TERM 2	
<b>Easter Weekend 18 April - 21 April (Friday - Monday)</b>	
Staff and Boarders Return	22 April (Tuesday)
<b>Lessons Commence</b>	<b>23 April (Wednesday)</b>
Freedom Day (27 April)	27 April (Sunday)
Freedom Day Public Holiday (28 April)	28 April (Monday) School Day
Workers' Day (01 May)	01 May (Thursday) School Day
<b>OLD BOYS' REUNION WEEKEND</b>	<b>09 - 10 May (Friday and Saturday)</b>
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	23 May - 26 May
Youth Day (16 June)	16 June (Monday) School Day
<b>End of Term</b>	<b>27 June (Friday)</b>
TERM 3	
Staff and Boarders Return	21 July (Monday)
<b>Lessons Commence</b>	<b>22 July (Tuesday)</b>
<b>FOUNDERS DAY (26 July)</b>	<b>26 July (Saturday)</b>
Women's Day (09 August)	09 August (Saturday)
Mid-Term Exeat (Thursday, Friday and Monday No School)	07 August - 11 August
Senior School Speech Night (6pm)	18 September (Thursday)
<b>End of Term</b>	<b>18 September (Thursday)</b>
TERM 4	
Staff and Boarders Return	29 September (Monday)
<b>Lessons Commence</b>	<b>30 September (Tuesday)</b>
Mid-Term Exeat (Friday and Monday No School)	31 October - 03 November
<b>End of Term (Pre-Primary and Junior Primary)</b>	<b>26 November (Wednesday)</b>
<b>End of Term (Senior Primary and Senior School)</b>	<b>27 November (Thursday)</b>
Grade 6 Open Weekend	28 - 29 November (Friday and Saturday)
Teaching Staff Leave	04 December (Thursday)
Management and Support Staff Conclude	12 December (Friday)