

Craighall

Primary School

22 June 2026

School Newsletter



REMINDERS:

25 June -Compulsory Interhouse
Cross Country
26 June – School closes
(10:30am)
21 July – School re-opens
24 July – Interhouse Sports Day
1 August – Fun Day

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to every member of our Craighall Primary community for the role you have played in making Term 2 such a successful one.

Term 2 is traditionally one of the busiest terms on our school calendar, and this year has certainly been no exception. Alongside the many sporting, cultural, and academic activities that take place each week, our pupils in Grades 4–7 completed their mid-year examinations. I would like to commend our children for the effort they put into their preparation and writing of these assessments, as well as our staff for the many hours spent preparing papers, marking, moderating, and ensuring that every child had the opportunity to demonstrate their growth and understanding.

As this newsletter goes to print, our Inter-House Cross Country event is still ahead of us. While the results are not yet known, I have no doubt that it will once again be a wonderful celebration of participation, perseverance, determination, and house spirit. What has been particularly pleasing this year has been the commitment shown by our children who have attended before-school cross-country training throughout the term. Their dedication and enthusiasm have laid a strong foundation for the season ahead and are a wonderful reminder that success is often built through consistent effort over time.

One of the highlights of the term was our annual Quizathon initiative. Thank you to every child who participated and to every family who supported the fundraising efforts. While the Quizathon may officially be drawing to a close, sponsorships may still be submitted during the holiday period, with final collections taking place during the first week of Term 3. We look forward to celebrating the achievements of our children and announcing the final totals at a special assembly early next term.

The Quizathon was closely followed by what can only be described as a spectacular PTA Quiz Evening. The event was exceptionally well attended and filled our school hall with laughter, friendly competition, camaraderie, and an incredible sense of community. It was wonderful to see parents enjoying an evening together and strengthening the relationships that make our school community so special.

A heartfelt thank you must go to our amazing PTA. From the planning and organisation to the execution on the evening itself, every detail was thoughtfully managed and contributed to a truly memorable event. The evening was a wonderful example of what can be achieved when people come together with a shared purpose and a desire to build community. Thank you for your continued commitment, enthusiasm, and support of our school.

As I reflected on the events of this term, I realised that one word seemed to appear again and again: **Inspiration**.

This week our country has once again rallied behind Bafana Bafana as they compete on football's biggest stage. By the time this newsletter reaches our families, South Africa will have completed two of its group-stage matches, with one game still remaining on 24 June.

While results always matter in sport, perhaps the greatest lesson for our children lies beyond the scoreboard. Bafana Bafana's journey to this World Cup has been one of perseverance, resilience, and determination. Since South Africa last appeared on this stage in 2010, there have been many campaigns, setbacks, disappointments, and near misses. Yet the dream remained alive, and the commitment to keep striving never disappeared.

For many of our pupils, this is the first time they have experienced South Africa participating in a FIFA World Cup. In fact, our current Grade 7 pupils were not even born when South Africa last competed in the tournament sixteen years ago.

During assembly over the last two weeks, I had the opportunity to dust off my old Zakumi mascot from 2010 and share some of those memories with our children. It served as a reminder that history is not simply something we read about in books. History is made up of moments, experiences, celebrations, disappointments, and dreams that people carry with them for years to come.

Whether the results have gone our way or not, Bafana Bafana have reminded us of something important: success is not measured only by victories. Success is also found in having the courage to keep trying, the resilience to learn from setbacks, and the determination to continue pursuing a goal even when the journey is difficult.

As a school, these are exactly the qualities we hope to nurture in our children. Not every test result will be perfect, not every race will be won, and not every dream will be achieved immediately. What matters is that we continue to show up, work hard, learn, grow, and keep moving forward.

As we celebrate this achievement, we also pause to acknowledge Youth Day, one of the most significant days on our national calendar. Youth Day reminds us of the courage, conviction, and sacrifice of young people who helped shape the South Africa we know today. It reminds us that young people are not simply the leaders of tomorrow; they are already making a difference today.

Every act of kindness, every challenge overcome, every sporting achievement, every academic success, and every opportunity to stand up for what is right contribute to the future of our country. At Craighall Primary, we are privileged to witness this every day. We see it on the sports fields, in the classroom, in leadership opportunities, and most importantly, in the way our children care for one another.

This term, few stories have demonstrated that spirit more powerfully than the journey of Lilly Driemel and her family. Throughout her treatment and ongoing chemotherapy journey, Lilly and her family have displayed remarkable courage, positivity, resilience, and grace. While no family would ever choose such a path, they have inspired all of us through the way they continue to face each challenge with determination and hope.

Recently, Lilly's family shared the following message with our school community:

There are moments in life when words feel totally inadequate. This is one of them!

As our family continues to navigate one of the most challenging chapters of our lives, we have been carried by a community whose kindness, compassion, and generosity have touched us more deeply than we can ever express.

To Mrs Prout-Jones, the teachers and staff of Craighall Primary, THANK YOU for going above and beyond in every possible way. Your dedication to ensuring that Lilly remains connected to her education through homeschooling, your patience in helping her prepare for exams, your flexibility, encouragement, and unwavering support have made an immeasurable difference to her journey.

But our gratitude extends far beyond the school staff.

To the Learners of Craighall Primary, many of whom have never met Lilly, thank you. The kindness shown by the children of this school has been extraordinary. The incredible support for the Slip Slop Day fundraiser reminded us that compassion knows no boundaries of age, grade, or friendship group. Whether you know Lilly personally or simply chose to support a fellow learner in need, your generosity and kindness have wrapped our family in warmth during a very difficult time.

To the parents who contributed, encouraged, and stood behind these efforts, thank you for raising children who understand empathy, community, and caring for others.

Schools are often recognised for their academic achievements, but the true measure of a school lies in the character of its community. Craighall Primary has shown us what it means to live out values of kindness, humanity, and togetherness. Time and again, you have reminded us that we are not walking this road alone.

Every lesson adapted, every message sent, every accommodation made, every fundraiser supported, every prayer, thought, and word of encouragement has mattered more than you may ever know, you have lightened our load, lifted our spirits, and helped Lilly continue to feel connected to the school she loves.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for embracing not only Lilly, but our entire family.

Your kindness has left an imprint on our lives that we will carry with us forever.

With profound gratitude and appreciation,

The Driemel Family

(The Driem Team) 

We are deeply grateful to the Driemel family for allowing us to share their words. Lilly and her family remain very much in our thoughts and prayers, and we continue to pray for strength, healing, and encouragement for them in the months ahead. Their journey has reminded us all of the incredible power of hope, kindness, and community.

One of the final highlights of the term took place on Monday 22 June, when our Grade 7 pupils participated in the Rise Against Hunger initiative.

Working together as teams, our children packed thousands of meals destined for communities facing food insecurity. While the activity itself was energetic and engaging, it also served as an important reminder that even small acts, when multiplied by many hands, can make a significant difference in the lives of others.

The experience provided our pupils with an opportunity to move beyond the classroom and actively contribute to a global effort aimed at helping those in need. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, teamwork, and sense of purpose shown by our Grade 7 pupils throughout the initiative.

As we have seen repeatedly this term, whether through supporting Lilly and her family, fundraising through the Quizathon, or packing meals for those less fortunate, our children continue to demonstrate that kindness and compassion remain at the heart of what it means to be part of the Craighall community.

Our school community has also been keeping Mr Ngenda, our Grade 7N class teacher and EMS and Technology teacher, in our thoughts and prayers. Mr Ngenda has been hospitalised for an extended period and has been seriously unwell. We are grateful to Mr Dunton, who has stepped in to provide continuity and stability for our Grade 7 pupils during this time.

We continue to pray for Mr Ngenda's recovery and well-being. While we are hopeful that he may be able to return at the start of Term 3, his recovery remains the priority and will ultimately determine the timeline. We know that many pupils, parents, and staff join us in wishing him renewed strength and a full recovery.

This term also brings the end of an important chapter in the history of Craighall Primary. Due to ongoing health concerns, Ms Liz Spann, our bursar, will not be returning to the school.

It is difficult to adequately express our gratitude for everything Ms Spann has contributed since joining Craighall Primary in 2010. Over the past sixteen years, she has been instrumental in managing the school's finances and has played a significant role in helping to build the strong and stable financial foundation upon which the school stands today. Her dedication, professionalism, knowledge, and countless hours of service have benefited generations of children, staff, and families.

While we are saddened by her departure, we are equally grateful for all that she has given to the school over so many years. We wish Ms Spann every blessing as she focuses on her health and well-being. We hope that the next chapter of her life allows her the opportunity to slow down, enjoy time in the sunshine, breathe fresh air, rest when she needs to, and appreciate the tremendous difference she has made in the lives of so many people. She leaves behind a legacy of service and commitment that will not be forgotten.

For any finance-related queries moving forward, parents are kindly requested to direct correspondence to **debtors@craighallprimary.co.za**. Mrs Debbie van Deventer is currently overseeing the school's financial administration and will gladly assist where needed.

Looking Ahead to Term 3

While we look forward to a well-deserved holiday, there is already much excitement surrounding the start of Term 3.

School reopens on **Tuesday 21 July**, and we look forward to welcoming all our children back refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting term.

One of the highlights of the opening weeks of the term will be our annual **Inter-House Sports Day**, taking place on **Friday 24 July**. This is always a wonderful celebration of participation, sportsmanship, and house spirit. The event is particularly spectator-friendly, and I would strongly encourage parents, grandparents, and family members to join us for the morning. There is always tremendous excitement and support from the sidelines, and as many families know, the day traditionally concludes with the much-anticipated Moms' and Dads' Race, which never fails to provide entertainment for all involved.

Please note that extra-mural activities will commence on **Monday 27 July**.

Looking slightly further ahead, our annual **Fun Day** will take place on **Saturday 1 August**. This event remains one of the highlights of our fundraising calendar and is truly not to be missed. Importantly, Fun Day is not only for Craighall Primary families but is open to the wider community as well. We encourage families to invite friends, neighbours, and extended family members to join us for a day filled with fun, entertainment, food, activities, and community spirit.

As we conclude this term, I am reminded that inspiration comes in many forms. We have seen it in the perseverance of Bafana Bafana, in the courage shown by Lilly and her family, in the dedication of Mr Ngenda as he continues his recovery journey, in the years of faithful service given by Ms Spann, in the compassion shown by our children through initiatives such as Rise Against Hunger, and in the countless daily acts of kindness that take place throughout our school community.

Youth Day reminds us that every generation leaves its mark on the world. Looking at the children of Craighall Primary, I am filled with optimism. Their enthusiasm, resilience, compassion, and willingness to care for others give us every reason to believe that the future is in capable hands.

Thank you to our children, parents, staff, School Governing Body, PTA, support staff, coaches, and the wider Craighall family for another successful and memorable term. Schools thrive because of communities, and we are incredibly fortunate to belong to one that continually lives out the values of care, commitment, kindness, and excellence.

I wish all our families a safe, restful, and well-deserved winter holiday and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 21 July for what promises to be another exciting and rewarding term.

Happy belated birthday to: Bethan Martell – 24 /05 (FP Drama Teacher); Miss Ncube – 28 /05 (Gr 2 Educator); Mrs Bowden – 4/06 (Deputy Principal); Coach Ruwayda – 18/06 (Physical Education Coach).

Yours sincerely

Mrs Prout-Jones
(Principal)



Sports News:

RESULTS

19th May - Chess vs Randpark - Well done to all the kids

20th May - Soccer vs Robin Hills

U9 - Won 1 and drew 1

U10 - Lost 1 and won 1

U11 - Lost 1 and won 1

U12 - Lost 1 and drew 1

Open - Won both

21st May - Mini Soccer vs Cliffview - Won all games

22nd May - Girls Soccer vs Greenside - Won both games

25th May

- U11 Round 3 Girls Soccer Discovery Cup vs Bedfordview - Won 7-1
- U14 Round 3 Girls Soccer Discovery vs Rembrandt - Won

26th May - U11 Playoffs Netball - Well done to the girls

27th May - Soccer vs Bordeaux

U9 - Lost both

U10 - Won 1 and lost 1

U11 - Lost both

U12 - Won 1 and lost 1

Open - Lost 1 and drew 1

28th May - Grade 1 and 2 Soccer vs Blairgowrie - Well done to all teams

29th May - Girls Soccer vs Sharonlea - Won both

1st June - Quarter Finals of Discovery Cup - Girls U11 vs Yeshiva - Lost 3-1

3rd June - Quarter Finals of Discovery Cup - Girls U14 vs Bryandale - Lost 4-1

3rd June - U9 Netball Festival - Well done to all the girls

10th June - U9 Netball Festival - Well done to all the girls

We are excited to announce that the Craighall Cavaliers academy has been launched, you can look forward to sending your children to the holiday clinic that is coming up. We hope that our academy can become successful and raise our sport to an even better standard.

It's been a busy term but a successful one, well done to all children that participated throughout the season, as well as the teachers for your support.

We have cross country, athletics and rugby next term, please make sure you familiarise yourselves with the extra mural timetable for term 3 as well as make sure you are on the right whatsapp groups.

Inter House Sports Day - 24th July

Extra Murals Start 27th July

Traci Brest (Sports Co-Ordinator)

ADVERTS:



House of Cuddles

Morning Day care in Bordeaux South,
Randburg

Operating hours: 07:00-12:00

A safe, caring and stimulating
environment for your baby or toddler
(3 months – 3 years)

For more info: Whatsapp 0842512423

Email adritreatz1@gmail.com



COUCH & CO.

MIKE BISNAT

TAILORED FURNITURE
MANUFACTURERS
REUPHOLSTERY
INTERIORS



CONTACT INFO

084 727 3548

082 645 0605

INFO@COUCHANDCO.CO.ZA

356 JANS SMUTS AVE - CRAIGHALL PARK

CELEBRATING 67 YEARS

Ballet & Contemporary at Craighall Primary



Kim Taylor & Ipeleng Merafe
are your team of passionate
Royal Academy of Dance
teachers offering Ballet &
Contemporary at CPS.



Grow with us...

Whatsapp Kim 0829099079

Visit @[bloomdancestudio sa](https://www.bloomdancestudio.co.za)

Bloom
dance studio



ALPHA SNACK PACKS

BIG VALUE • BIG FLAVOUR • BIG SAVINGS!

Perfect for

SCHOOLS | EVENTS | OFFICES | FUNCTIONS

24 PACK - R250	48 PACK - R450	72 PACK - R585	96 PACK - R700
✓ 6 Juices	✓ 12 Juices	✓ 18 Juices	✓ 24 Juices
✓ 6 Biscuits	✓ 12 Biscuits	✓ 18 Biscuits	✓ 24 Biscuits
✓ 6 Chocolates	✓ 12 Chocolates	✓ 18 Chocolates	✓ 24 Chocolates
✓ 6 Chips	✓ 12 Chips	✓ 18 Chips	✓ 24 Chips

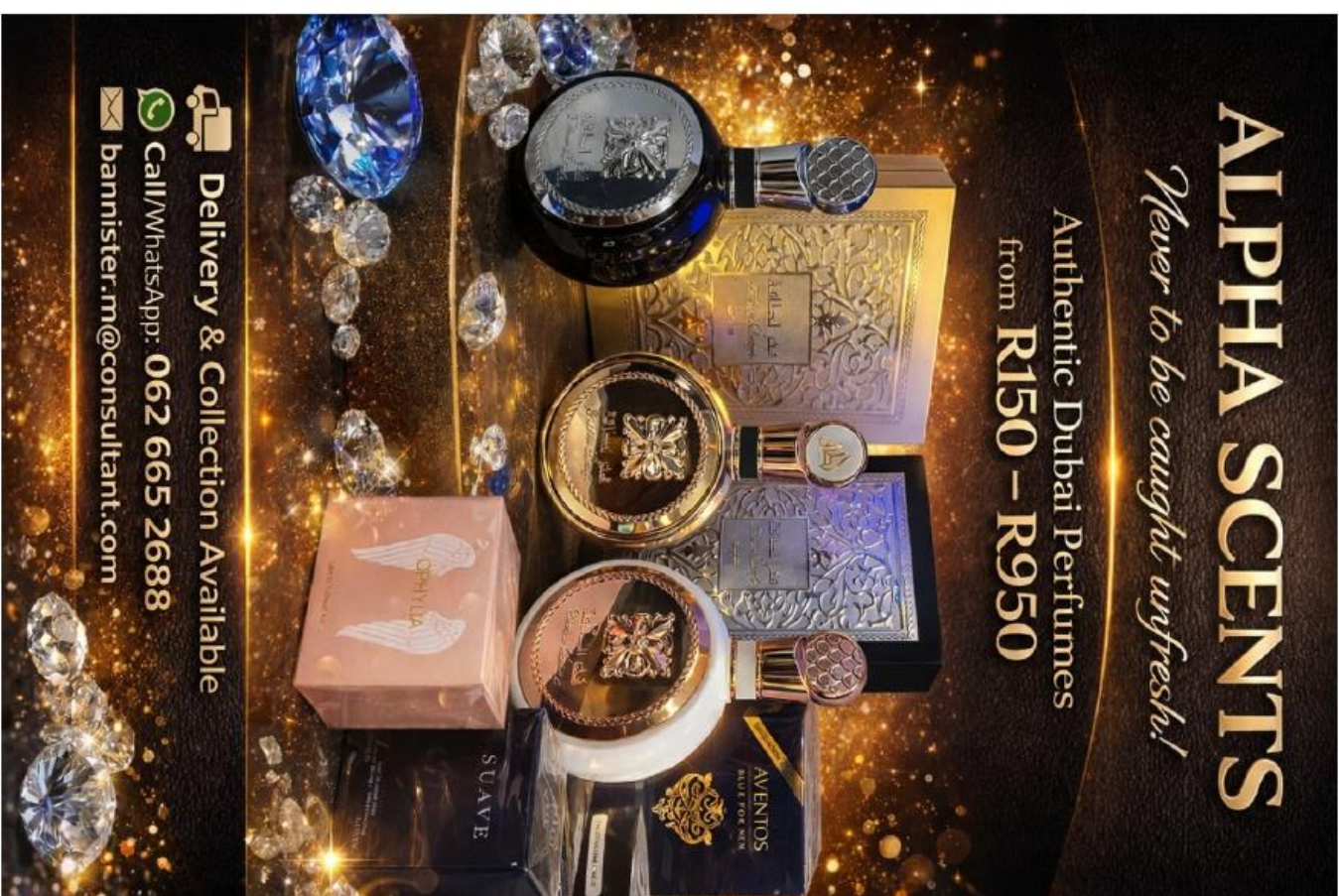
DELIVERY & COLLECTION AVAILABLE

Call/WhatsApp: **079 799 3159**

✉ bannister.m@consultant.com

Bulk Orders Welcome!

PERFECT FOR PARTIES, SCHOOLS & GIVEAWAYS!



ALPHA SCENTS

Never to be caught unfresh!

Authentic Dubai Perfumes
from **R150 – R950**

Delivery & Collection Available

Call/WhatsApp: **062 665 2688**

✉ bannister.m@consultant.com