

Craighall

Primary School

17 August 2026

School Newsletter



Dear Parents

Four Weeks In... and What a Start It Has Been!

It seems almost impossible that we are already four weeks into Term 3, and only now is my "Welcome to Term 3" newsletter making its way to you! Perhaps that in itself says everything about the start we have had. We certainly did not ease gently into this term; we hit the ground running, and the weeks were filled with activity, achievement, celebration and plenty of Craighall spirit.

REMINDERS:

18/08 - Gr 7 's leave on tour
 21/08 - Gr 7's return from tour
 28/08 - Gr 1 & 2 Cake and Candy
 31/08 - Gr 7's Entrepreneur week starts
 04/09 - Gr 7's Entrepreneur week ends
 04/09 - Gr R - Spring Day
 11/09 - Cross Country Assembly; SP Athletics Assembly
 15/09 - Rugby & Hockey Assembly
 17/09 - FP Cross Country & Athletics Assembly
 21/09 - Heritage Day Civvies Parents Evening
 22/09 - Staff Strategic Planning Grade 7 Dance
 23/09 - Staff Strategic Planning

Week 1 – Ready, Set, Go!

There was certainly no gentle introduction to Term 3, with our first week culminating in our Interhouse Sports Day.

What a wonderful way to begin the term! From the first race to the last, the energy, enthusiasm and house spirit were evident. Our children competed with determination, supported one another enthusiastically and embraced everything that makes Sports Day such a special Craighall occasion.

It was equally wonderful to have so many parents joining us and adding to the atmosphere. A huge thank you must go to Coach B and our entire staff for the tremendous organisation and teamwork that went into making the day such a success.

And, of course, no Craighall Sports Day would be complete without our parent races! Thank you to the brave moms and dads who took to the track and provided a very entertaining end to a fantastic day.

Interhouse Sports Day Results:

4th Place: Duiker
 3rd Place: Kudu
 2nd Place: Impala
 1st Place: Springbok

Run/Walk for Life Trophies:

U12 Fastest Girl: 400m – Zoe Williams
 U12 Fastest Boy: 400m – Harry Watermeyer
 Fastest Girl: Open – Caitlyn Shaw
 Fastest Boy: Open – Keelan McLintock

Spirit Trophy - Kudu

Week 2 – Celebrating Growth and Having Some Fun!

At the end of our second week, we held our Senior “Up by 2% or More” Assembly, recognising those children who had worked hard during Term 2 and improved their results.

We often speak to our children about the importance of competing against themselves rather than always comparing themselves with others. Improvement, no matter where you begin, deserves to be celebrated. This assembly is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge those children who put in the effort, persevered and saw that hard work reflected in their results. Hopefully, it also provided some added motivation as they headed into Term 3.

And then came Fun Day, and what an incredible day it was!

It was filled with exactly what its name promises: fun, laughter and children simply enjoying themselves from start to finish.

A massive thank you must go to our PTA and all the parents who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organise the day, as well as those who gave up their time working throughout the event. Days like this simply cannot happen without an enormous amount of preparation and willing hands on the day, and we are incredibly grateful to every person who played a part.

Fun Day provides our children with a wonderful experience, but it is also an important fundraiser for our school.

It is worth remembering that every child ultimately benefits from the funds raised by our school community, whether those funds come through school fees, donations or fundraising initiatives. Participation and involvement in these events are therefore incredibly important. When we all contribute where we can, the responsibility is shared fairly and, most importantly, the benefit is enjoyed by all our children.

Week 3 – Quiz-a-thon, Soccer and Celebrating Women

Our third week brought another opportunity to celebrate our children with the Quizathon Prizegiving Assembly.

It was wonderful to acknowledge and thank our pupils for being such enthusiastic participants in this year’s Quizathon and, of course, to celebrate the phenomenal amount raised. The winning child was Summer Apter who raised an incredible R7360-00 and she won an i-pad A16 which was sponsored by Smartdatahub.

Together, our children raised an incredible R260 000!

That is a tremendous achievement and one of which they should be extremely proud. Thank you to our children for embracing the challenge and to our families and wider community for supporting their efforts.

The week ended on another high, with our U12 soccer players participating in the St David’s Soccer Festival on Friday and Saturday. It is always a privilege for our children to participate in events of this nature, enjoying competitive sport, representing their school and having the opportunity to play alongside and against children from other schools. We were delighted to be part of such a wonderful sporting occasion.

That weekend also saw us celebrating Women’s Day.

Women fulfil so many roles within our families, our workplaces, our communities and, of course, within our school. At Craighall, we are fortunate to be surrounded by incredible women, mothers, grandmothers, teachers, staff members and caregivers, whose strength, compassion, determination and care touch the lives of our children every day. We hope that all the wonderful women within our Craighall community felt celebrated and appreciated.

Week 4 – Winter Had the Final Say!

And then came Week 4... when Johannesburg reminded us that winter was not quite finished with us yet!

The freezing temperatures were certainly felt by everyone, but school must go on. Allowing the children to come to school in civvies hopefully allowed everyone to bundle up in something a little warmer and more comfortable while we waited for the cold snap to pass.

With the warmer weather hopefully returning, it provides a good opportunity to remind everyone about our school uniform.

Our uniform is an important part of our school identity, and we ask that children come to school each day wearing the correct school uniform and that it is worn neatly and with pride.

And, while we are talking about uniform, a plea from all of us at school:

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!

Jerseys, tracksuit tops, blazers, hats, sports clothing, shoes, lunch boxes, water bottles and bags seem to have an extraordinary ability to separate themselves from their owners!

If an item is clearly labelled, we can return it. If it isn't, there is very little we can do to identify where it belongs. Please take a few minutes to check your child's belongings and ensure that every item is clearly marked with their name and surname.

Extra-Murals – Passion, Participation and a Little Help from Home

Running alongside all of these events has been an exceptionally busy extra-mural programme, with a huge number of fixtures across Cross Country, Athletics, Hockey and Rugby.

I absolutely love the passion and enthusiasm that our children, coaches, staff and parents bring to our sporting programme. Seeing our children representing Craighall, being part of a team and taking such pride in their participation is an important part of school life.

There is, however, one area in which I would really appreciate our parents' assistance.

Behind every fixture is a considerable amount of organisation, and our staff is finding that they are spending an increasing amount of time chasing outstanding reply slips and indemnity forms.

These forms are not simply paperwork. Reply slips are essential in confirming that a team has the correct number of players available for a fixture, while indemnity forms are vital when transport is involved. Without these being returned timeously, staff are unable to finalise teams, transport and the many other arrangements necessary for our children to participate safely.

Please can I therefore ask parents to assist us by returning reply slips and indemnity forms as soon as they are received. It may seem like a small administrative task, but it makes an enormous difference behind the scenes and helps to make the organisation of our very busy sporting programme considerably less stressful.

We want our staff and coaches to be able to focus their energy where it belongs, on our children, their teams and creating the wonderful sporting opportunities that we all value so highly.

Thank you for helping us make that possible.

Week 5 – Grade 7s on Tour

And so, we arrive at Week 5, which sees our Grade 7s heading off on tour.

This is always a part of the year that I thoroughly enjoy. Taking children outside of the classroom and placing them in an environment where they need to work together, challenge themselves and sometimes move beyond their comfort zones provides learning of a very different kind.

Tours require teamwork, resilience and grit. It allows us to see different sides of our children as they encourage one another, solve problems together, take on challenges and discover that they are often capable of far more than they realised.

I look forward to sharing this experience with our Grade 7s and watching them embrace all that the tour has to offer.

Looking Ahead – Parent Evening and Strategic Planning

As quickly as these first few weeks have passed, the remainder of the term is likely to move just as rapidly, so I would like to give parents advance notice of an important arrangement towards the end of September.

Our Parents' Evening will take place on Monday, 21 September. This provides an important opportunity for parents and teachers to connect and discuss each child's progress as we move towards the final part of the academic year.

Our annual Strategic Planning will then take place on Tuesday, 22 September and Wednesday, 23 September.

We therefore ask parents to please make arrangements for children to remain at home on Tuesday, 22 September and Wednesday, 23 September.

Strategic Planning has become an important part of our annual school programme and has worked extremely well for us. These two days provide our staff with dedicated time to work collaboratively and strategically as we begin our detailed preparation for 2027. By using this time effectively, we are able to complete a considerable amount of planning ahead of the new year and alleviate some of the inevitable pressure that comes with January.

A Very Special Grade 7 Evening

On the evening of Tuesday, 22 September, our Grade 7s will celebrate their much-anticipated Grade 7 Farewell Dance.

Our Grade 6 Dance Committee puts an enormous amount of time, creativity and effort into transforming the school for this very special occasion. Having the children at home on Tuesday allows the team to work freely throughout the day, setting up the outside area on the field as well as the quad outside the Drama Room.

Wednesday then provides the opportunity for everything to be dismantled and the school grounds returned to normal, while our staff continues with the second day of Strategic Planning.

This arrangement has worked particularly well for us over the years. Our Grade 7s are given the beautiful farewell celebration they deserve, our Grade 6 team has the space and time required to create it, and our staff has two valuable days in which to focus on planning and preparation for the year ahead.

We thank our parents in advance for accommodating these arrangements and for your continued support and understanding.

Four weeks may already have disappeared behind us and Week 5 may be well underway, but judging by what we have managed to fit into the term thus far, there is certainly plenty still to come!

Thank you to our staff, parents and children for the energy, enthusiasm and support that continues to make these busy weeks possible.

Happy belated birthday to: Ms Bracey – 02/07 (FP Afrikaans Educator); Mrs Coetzee – 14/07 (Gr 5 Educator); Mrs Rudman – 18/07 (Gr R Educator); Mrs Martell – 31/07 (Drama/Art Educator); Mrs Mthembu – 03/08 (Deputy Principal); Mrs Makhubela – 05/08 (Groundstaff); Miss Scherwitz (Gr 5 English Educator).

Yours sincerely

Mrs Prout-Jones
(Principal)

Sports News:**RESULTS**

This term has kicked off with a bang and a huge variety of sports and fixtures on the go. We hosted our successful sports day on the 24th July. Well done to all the athletes who celebrated their victories on the day. News came in that our swimming team has been promoted to the A League for Term 4 2026 and Term 1 2027. WELL DONE SWIMMERS!!

We have already had 2 cross country meetings, in which we co-hosted a successful one with Bryanston Primary at Bryanston Country Club. Our first athletics meeting took place on 5th August. We are competing in the A League so competition is tough. We came 4th and are looking to improve each week.

Our first hockey fixtures were against Bryanston Primary on 6th and 7th August. We are privileged to have the children play on astro as often as possible at Parktown Girls and Parktown Boys High Schools. We had a mixed bag of results but are looking to improve.

The U12 Soccer boys competed in the St Davids Soccer Tournament over the weekend of 7th/8th August, the boys showed fight and grit and ended the tournament with a win over Pridwin to round the weekend off. The boys got the opportunity to wear Adidas boots for the day and some even got the opportunity to go to a clinic on Sunday 9th August hosted by Orlando Pirates.

The rugby boys came out with resounding wins over Jeppe and Alberview on 7th and 8th August. Good start to the season.

Hockey results vs Buccleuch: U9 Girls and Boys won, U10 Girls lost 3-1, U10 Boys won 4- 1, U11 Boys lost 4-0. U11 Girls drew, Open Boys won 1 and drew 1 and Open Girls won 2-1.

Upcoming Fixtures:

26th August Wed - Athletics Meet at FDR

26th August - Cross Country Districts

28th August Fri - U9 - Open Girls and Boys Hockey

28th August Fri - Rugby U10 and U11 at St Declans

29th August Sat - Rugby Opens at St Declans

2nd September Wed - Athletics Meet at Trinity Randpark

4th September Thurs - U9 Boys and Girls Hockey vs Crawford Sandton

5th September Fri - Open Girls and Boys Hockey vs Crawford Sanfton

5th September - U10 and U11 Rugby at Reddam Bedfordview

6th September Sat - Open Rugby at Reddam Bedfordview

Traci Brest (Sports Co-Ordinator)

ADVERTS:



FIRST IN AFRICA



ATOMIAN

Korean Skincare & Wellness Center - Parkhurst

AI Skin & Scalp Analysis + Premium Facial

R1200 (120min)
per person

AI Skin Analysis Only + Premium Facial

R900 (90min)
per person

What You Get:

- ◆ Korean Specialist
- ◆ AI Skin Analysis & Full Report
- ◆ Up to 12-Step Customized Facial
- ◆ Award-Winning Luxury Korean Cosmetics
- ◆ Follow Up Care
- ◆ Product Guidance
- ◆ advanced payment required for booking

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
CLICK HERE TO BOOK



81 6th Street, Parkhurst
WhatsApp 079 578 6877
www.atomian.co.za



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