

26 June 2025

Dear Parents

As we conclude Term 2, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to our boys, staff, and parents for their unwavering commitment and enthusiasm throughout what has been a busy and demanding term. Our winter sports programme has been in full swing, with our boys showcasing the grit, teamwork, and school spirit that defines our school. Their efforts on the field have been matched by a commendable focus in the classroom, particularly during the mid-year examinations, where many have demonstrated maturity and academic growth.

Beyond the sports fields and exam venues, our cultural life has flourished. The choir and jazz band has continued to impress with their performances, and our boys have excelled in a range of cultural pursuits. A particular highlight was our school production of *Oliver!*, which brought together talent, creativity, and dedication in a truly memorable way.

Sadly, this term has also been marked by the tragic loss of one of our 5th Form boys. Daniel Janneker was beautifully remembered by his 5th Form brothers in a moving tribute by the boys in the 5th Form quad. We thank and commend the boys involved in the arrangements, and we hope that all who knew and loved Daniel, gain strength and comfort from those who stand in unity with them.

After 21 years of distinguished service to his beloved College, we bid farewell to Mr Matthew Marwick, a colleague, an exceptional teacher, a mentor, and a loyal friend. Mr Marwick takes up the mantle of 13th Principal of Pietermaritzburg Girls' High. Whilst we share in the happiness of our sister school GHS in gaining an exceptional leader, we are parting with someone who will be greatly missed at Maritzburg College.

<u>TERM THREE – TUESDAY 22 JULY TO FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER</u> AT A GLANCE: please take note of the proposed important dates for Term 3.

Monday 21 July:	Boarders return [15:00 – 19:00]
Tuesday 22 July:	Term 3 starts with a Dedication Assembly to welcome Mr Redfern
Friday 25 July:	Buses depart for Affies. Affies cultural exchange.
Saturday 26 July:	Inter-School Exchange: Affies [A]
Saturday 2 August:	Inter-School Exchange: PBHS [H]
	Club 1863 End of Season Function
Saturday 9 August:	Winter sport vs Glenwood [A]
Saturday 16 August:	Gospel Choir Evening
Friday 22 August:	Matric Leavers' Function
Saturday 30 August:	Rugby 7s DHS Tournament and Soccer vs DHS [Raw Cup]
Tuesday 2 and	
Wednesday 3 September:	Giving Day

Saturday 6 September: Thursday 25 September: Family Day – Nashua 7s Rugby Festival and Soccer vs Northwood Sport and Cultural Awards Ceremony

Full details regarding the **Co-Curricular Fixtures and Events** can be found in the term calendar published on Edana, the College App and our website.

MID-YEAR SCHOOL REPORTS

Full mid-year reports will be published on 18 July 2025.

PARENTS' MEETINGS

The Meetings will be held in the Alan Paton Memorial Hall from 17:30. All boys are expected to attend with their parents.

- Monday 28 July: 6th Form Parents Evening
- Monday 4 August: 5th Form Parents Evening
- Monday 11 August: 4th Form Parents Evening

3RD FORM SUBJECT CHOICE INFORMATION EVENING - TUESDAY 29 JULY - 17:30 ALAN PATON MEMORIAL HALL

Important information regarding subject choices for 3rd Form boys has been sent to all parents and this is also available on EDANA. In addition, detailed information on the subjects offered is to be found on our website. Mrs Dos Santos, our Career and Tertiary Advisor, is available to guide parents and boys. Please contact her directly on <u>santosl@mcollege.co.za</u>. The final date for the submission of the subject choice forms is **Wednesday 13 August**. Submission of subject choices must be made on the link provided in the letter mailed to parents.

TRIAL EXAMINATIONS - MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER TO THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

During this time, the 6th Form dayboys will be required at school only when they write an exam, for cultural or society requirements and sport practices and matches. 6th Form boarders have their normal routine.

STAFFING

2025 Term 2 Appointments			
1. Locum: Creative Arts	Ms Grace Mahogo		
2. Locum: English Educator	Mr Raichand Ramdeen		
3. Music Educator/Choir Master	Mr Thabang Tshale		
4. EO Intern	Mr Ashish Badhur		
5. EO Intern	Mr Luthando Mtolo		
2025 Term 2 Internal Promotions/Restructure			
1. Procurement Office	Mrs Vanessa Kanavathy		
2. Deputy Head: MARC	Mr Ryan Kyle		
2025 Term 2 Exits			
 Acting Headmaster (promotion GHS) 	Mr Matthew Marwick		
2. Technology & Mathematics Educator	Mr Joash Naidoo		
2025 Term 3 Appointments			
2025 Term 3 Appointments 1. Headmaster	Mr Alan Redfern		
	Mr Alan Redfern Mr Sibonokuhle Duma		
1. Headmaster			

6th FORM FINAL MUSIC CONCERT - WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST – 18:00 VICTORIA HALL

The 2025 matric music students will present their final music exams, the culmination of their hard work and dedication to music at Maritzburg College. This exam is free of charge and open to members of the public. It showcases the hard work and talent of the matric music class of 2025.

PRESTIGE MUSIC CONCERT - THURSDAY 21 AUGUST – 18:00 VICTORIA HALL

The music department will host its annual Prestige Music Concert on Thursday, 21 August. This will take place in the Victoria Hall from 18:00. This concert will showcase the best performers of the Music Department as well as performances by the Jazz Band, Jazz Ensemble and Maritzburg College Choir.

HOUSE DRAMA

The House Plays have formed an integral part of the House Cultural Competition for over 12 years. This year the boys will be challenged to create their own script based on a well-known fairy tale and present it as a pantomime. This competition will take place on 26 August in the Olivier Cultural Centre.

3rd TERM SPORTING EXCHANGES AND HOSTING

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to our College community for their support during this very busy winter season. We did notice towards the end of the second term, and after Reunion weekend, that some boys felt that their commitment to the sporting programme was done. This is most definitely <u>not</u> the case, and we ask that we have your support in encouraging your sons to see their commitments through until the end of the season, which is on 9 August when we play Glenwood.

Maritzburg College has traditionally, for many years, played out-of-province fixtures against some of the country's top schools. These are wonderful, festive exchanges that include more than just the main winter sporting codes. I have outlined the details below for the first three weekends next term.

Affies Exchange 25 - 26 July

On the first weekend of next term, on 25 - 26 July, we will be travelling to Affies. The details of the exchange to Affies have been communicated via correspondence earlier in the week.

PBHS Exchange 1 - 2 August

The second weekend back next term we will be hosting PBHS and are set to play a full set of exchange fixtures against our friendly rivals from Pretoria. Part of these exchanges is that when our opposition travel, we ask parents to open their homes to host our visitors. We encourage parents, if possible, to **host at least 2 boys** from a school as it makes it more comfortable when boys have a friend from their own school with them in their new surroundings. Our boys and staff were hosted very warmly by PBHS earlier this year and we must ensure that we reciprocate this when they come to us.

We ask that you provide a meal and a place for our guests to stay on the Friday night and breakfast on Saturday morning. On Saturday we ask that you drop them off at College in time for their fixture. College will provide lunch for them when they are back on the campus as well as a pack for their trip home.

We also ask that if there are boys **who are not taking part in the exchange**, but their families are able to host, this would be appreciated. In this case only, please ask your son to report to either Mr la Marque or Mrs Emerson at the sports office to note the details of your hosting availability. Boarders who host will be allowed to have a "free Friday night" at home and more details will be sent out on the first day of next term.

More details regarding the hosting will go out next term. We just want parents to be alerted to the busy few weekends we have coming up in term 3.

We thank you once again for your support.

LEADERSHIP SELECTION PROCESS FOR PREFECTS

The Leadership selection process for Prefects started at the end of the 2nd Term with the first vote taking place in the last week of term. The process will continue from the start of next term in preparation for announcing our new school leadership team towards the start of the 6th Form trials examinations.

TOURS, LEADERSHIP CAMPS AND HIKES - MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER TO FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER

The following tours, hikes and camps are proposed to take place:

- ➢ 5th Form Economics Tour
- ➢ 5th Form Work Experience
- 2nd Form Leadership Camp Shongweni Dam
- 3rd Form Leadership Hike Roselands
- 4th Form Leadership Berg Hike Cobham

N.B. The Leadership Camps are compulsory and part of the overall holistic education of your sons and will be supervised by our staff and professional instructors. Please do not request for your son to be excused.

BASIC CONDUCT AND APPEARANCE

At Maritzburg College, we pride ourselves on the manners and behaviour of our boys. Parents and boys are reminded that all boys are required to adhere to the College Credo:

- To live out the Core Values of the school
- To always remain loyal and true to his school and our "Band of Brothers"
- A College boy is loyal to his family, friends, school, community and country
- A College boy is honest and tells the truth
- A College boy thinks of others first
- A College boy always gives his best and never gives up
- A College boy is respectful to and of others
- A College boy always owns up
- A College boy is always immaculately turned out and displays good manners at all times

A formal appearance inspection (blazer, basher, shoes, hairstyle, shaving etc.) will take place on the first day back next term. All boys who fail this inspection, will face an <u>immediate</u> punishment.

COLLEGE COMMUNICATION UPDATE

From Term 3 there will be a few changes with regard to our communications with parents.

These are designed to improve efficiency and effectiveness, while accommodating the majority of issues.

- We will be making all the official Form WhatsApp groups broadcast only, with a couple of parents per Form having admin rights along with the Marketing Director and the official Maritzburg College cell phone (082 736 5945).
- Please remember your main point of communication with the school regarding your son is always his mentor teacher, day housemaster; BE housemaster or subject teacher
- Please also try to read and save important information shared, so that it doesn't need to be reshared repeatedly e.g. Edana login codes and Headhunter photo access info.
- We will still use these groups, and the College Information group to share relevant information.
- Please ensure you are accessing Edana/ EdAdmin which is our main school management tool.
- If you are unsure of anything or have a question, perhaps ask another mom privately or contact the school via the landline or the official Maritzburg College cell phone (082 736 5945) after hours.

We are excited to announce that from Term 3 we will also launch our new Maritzburg College App – which will be available for free download from your App stores (Apple and Google).

You will need to login to the App with your personal details (email address) to access information.

The App is designed to be a 1-stop place to access all relevant Maritzburg College information, including links to other apps and portals, so one place to go to get what you need.

It does not replace the website, our main repository for all College information, but provides shortcuts and speedy access to relevant content.

We will provide more details on accessing and using the new College App from the start of Term 3.

SCHOOL FEES

I again appeal to all parents to pay the school fee to enable us to continue to provide an uncompromised educational service to your sons. Please make paying school fees a priority.

It has been an honour to lead this school as Acting Headmaster, albeit for a short period of time, and we look forward to the arrival of our 16th Headmaster Mr Alan Redfern on 1 July. We warmly welcome Mr Redfern into our community, and we are confident that under his leadership, our school will continue to flourish not only as a centre of academic excellence but as a place where boys become men of character, courage, and compassion.

JK FINNIE Acting Headmaster