



Dear Parents

As we come to the close of the third term, I want to reflect on what has been both a long and incredibly busy period for all of us. On a personal note, it has been something of a baptism of fire for me in my first term as Headmaster of this fine school. I have, however, been greatly encouraged by the warm support I have received from staff, parents, old boys, the governing body, and the wider College community. It has also been inspiring to see, first-hand, the efficiency with which College operates and, perhaps most importantly, the manners and conduct of our boys, which continue to make us proud.

The academic programme has been in full swing, the focus has been especially intense for our matric class, who have been hard at work preparing for and writing their trial examinations. I am confident that the intensity of this period will hold them in good stead as they enter the final preparations for their Matric examinations. Alongside this, our cultural programme has been exceptionally vibrant. A few highlights include our choir reaching the finals of the ATKV Schools Choir Competition hosted in Pretoria, our jazz band members performing with distinction at the Grahamstown Festival of Arts, with Ebenezer Mitewu and Siyamthanda Dlamini being selected for the National Schools Jazz Band, and the concluding meeting of the Speakers' Circle. Each of these moments has demonstrated the depth of talent and commitment within our College family.

On the sporting front, our boys have once again excelled. The rugby season concluded on a high note, the soccer programme was as competitive as ever, and full fixtures for the summer codes are already well underway. We also celebrated individual achievements of the highest order: Keegan Vogt represented South Africa at the World Canoe Marathon Championships, earning a silver medal, while Wasi Vyambwera was selected for the SA Schools rugby team, a remarkable honour that reflects both his skill and character. The accomplishments of our musicians and sportsmen, not only highlight the calibre of our boys but also serve as an inspiration to the entire College community, reminding us of what can be achieved through dedication, discipline, and passion.

A personal highlight for me this term was attending the Sports and Cultural Awards Ceremony, which so beautifully showcased the wide range of achievements and the spirit of excellence that defines Maritzburg College.

What has struck me most clearly this term is how academics, culture, and sport all complement one another in shaping well-rounded young men. It is this balance of intellectual growth, creative expression, and physical endeavour that lies at the heart of a truly holistic education, and it is a balance that continues to thrive here at College.

**Important dates in the fourth term:**

Monday 13 October:	Term 4 starts – Dedication Assembly
Friday 17 October:	Speech Day and Valedictory Service at 11:00 [Alan Paton Memorial Hall] (Special routine and compulsory attendance for 6th Form) 6th Form Old Boys' Induction Ceremony at 18:00 [Alan Paton Memorial Hall]
Wednesday 22 October:	Special Assembly: Passing of the Drum (Confirmation of the 2026 leaders and the announcement of the senior prefects)
Friday 31 October:	Parents' Annual General Meeting and Presentation of the 2026 Budget
Tuesday 11 November:	Remembrance Day Service at the First World War Memorial
Wednesday 19 November:	College Christmas Carols [Olivier Cultural Centre]
Friday 21 November:	End of Year Dedication Assembly Term 4 closes for pupils in 2nd to 5th Form

**2024 Final Examinations:****National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations:**

Thursday 23 October: NSC final examinations commence.

Wednesday 26 November: NSC final examinations end.

**Please note:**

6th Formers are expected to attend school as usual in the first two weeks of the 4<sup>th</sup> Term when teachers will be engaged in going over the Trials exams and further NSC revision. Thereafter, the 6th Form teachers will be available to the boys during their usual 6th Form lessons in their classrooms for a week, while the boys await the start of the NSC examinations, and the boys are welcome to engage individually with their subject teachers, should they require academic assistance.

**End-of-year examinations for 2nd to 5th Forms:**

Monday 27 October: End-of-year examinations commence.

Wednesday 19 November: End-of-year examinations end.

**Absence from any formal assessment task, including all examinations, requires that a medical certificate is submitted within 48 hours of the missed assessment task. The hard copy, original certificate must be submitted to the Pupil Office.**

We note with grave concern, that some fraudulent medical certificates have been submitted in support of absence from a formal assessment task. Please be advised, that we do check and follow up on the documents submitted. In the event of fraudulent documentation, boys will receive zero for the task missed, and further disciplinary action will follow. We view this in a very serious light, and we trust that both our parents and boys will support us in ensuring that our assessment process remains ethical.

Please note: It is compulsory for boys to check their scripts on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November, as no mark changes will be made after this date.

**Term 3 school reports:**

2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Form reports will be published on Ed admin Multi Portal app on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Reports will be emailed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Parents are encouraged to update their sons' medical details and other contact details on the Ed admin Multi portal app to ensure access to their sons' report.

6<sup>th</sup> Form Trials reports will be emailed to parents on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

**Textbook returns:**

Please ensure that your son returns all his textbooks to his subject teacher on the mark check day, i.e. Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Books are not to be dropped off anywhere other than being handed personally to your son's subject teacher on that day. Books not returned in this manner, and returned after this deadline, will be charged to your account. Please impress on your sons the importance of this instruction.

**Co-curricular commitments:**

Fixtures are indicated in the term calendar. This is a firm reminder that all boys are expected to follow through with their full sport and cultural commitments until the end of the season or term. Sports and cultural practice times will be amended during the exam period, to accommodate the finishing times of exams and the logistics for parents and staff. This detail will be communicated prior to the final exams commencing.

**2026 Budget Meeting – Friday 31 October at 14:00 in the Victoria Hall:**

Legislation requires that parents be informed of the parameters used for the preparation of the budget, the proposed school and boarding establishment fees for the next year and the equitable criteria and procedures for the total, partial or conditional exemption of parents who are unable to pay school fees. The SA Schools Act requires that parents be invited to attend a meeting to discuss and vote on the fees for the coming year.

Parents are urged to attend the Budget Meeting as the new amendments to the SA Schools Act have imposed a quorum requirement for this Budget Meeting, meaning that should insufficient parents attend the meeting the meeting will need to be postponed to a later date.

In accordance with the 30 days' written notice, and to ensure that as many parents as possible are able to attend the Budget presentation, you are cordially invited to attend such a meeting which has been scheduled to be held on: Friday 31 October 2025 at 14:00 in the Victoria Hall.

E-voting and/or on-line meeting attendance: Parents will receive an email from: [noreply@electionrunner.com](mailto:noreply@electionrunner.com) on behalf of Maritzburg College, which will provide you with your Voter ID and Voter Key.

### **Speech Day and Valedictory Ceremony – Friday, 17 October at 11:00 in the Alan Paton Memorial Hall:**

This is the final farewell to our 6th Form boys, and the highlight of our academic calendar. Attendance at this event is **compulsory** for all boys (2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Form). All 6<sup>th</sup> Form parents/guardians have been emailed an invitation to attend this ceremony. A light lunch for 6th Formers and their parents will be served at the conclusion of this function. All boys are required to wear number ones.

### **Admissions 2026:**

If your son will not be returning to Maritzburg College in 2026, we would like to remind you that you need to give a term's notice, failing which you will be liable for a term's fees in lieu of notice. The correct procedure is to notify Mrs R Ramdeen in the admissions department on [admissions@mcollege.co.za](mailto:admissions@mcollege.co.za), on or before the first day of term 4. In turn, she will inform the relevant staff members.

### **Appearance:**

Please ensure that your son returns to school at the start of the new term clean shaven and with his hair cut. Boys who fail the hair and shaving inspection that will take place on the first day (and, where they have slipped through that check, in the days that follow), will not only have to immediately take care of the issue but will receive an immediate Friday detention. 6th Form boys writing the NSC examinations are reminded that they must wear their full school uniform, and as a result are expected to abide by the school regulations in terms of hair, dress and shaving. There will be a hair inspection in the BE on the first night when the boys return. If a boarder's hair is not to standard he will be punished, it will be cut and his sundries account will be charged.

### **Dress:**

Day scholars are also reminded that:

- A dayboy walking to and from school is required to wear a blazer and basher.
- A boy who wears full school uniform (no. 1s) to school may not arrive at school or leave from school without a blazer. A school jersey does not suffice.
- School uniform (greys or no.1s) worn in a public place is requires a blazer
- Boys are to wear the appropriate tie. Boys who wear a tie for the inappropriate Form are in breach of the dress code.
- The "stove-piping" of grey longs is not allowed, please do not allow your son to take his trousers in.

### **Vaping, nicotine and other substances**

The letter sent earlier this term is worth noting. Please support your son in avoiding the use of these products and have an open and honest conversation with him about his potential exposure to them at school or elsewhere. Cotinine/nicotine tests are readily available at Dischem, Clicks or other suppliers. If you are unsure consider a home test.

### **General discipline:**

We sincerely ask for your support, as we continue to ensure that the high standards set at College over 160 years continue to be reinforced. Our Core Values are actioned through our Code of Conduct and we are particularly concerned with the level of dishonesty displayed by some of our boys when confronted about behavioural issues. Please encourage your sons to be honest in order that matters are effectively dealt with and don't need to be escalated unnecessarily.

**School fees:**

I again appeal to all parents to pay their son's school fees, to enable us to continue to supply an uncompromised educational service to your sons. Please make payment of your school account a priority. The Finance Committee has instructed that all fees outstanding at the end of November will be handed over to our attorneys for collection. To avoid the unnecessary costs involved in this process, kindly settle your account prior to this date.

As we now look ahead to the holidays, I encourage our boys to use this time wisely: to rest, to reconnect with family, and to recharge for the challenges of the final term. To our matric class in particular, I extend every good wish as they prepare for their final examinations may they finish their College journey with determination and pride. Thank you once again to every member of the College family for your continued support and commitment. I look forward to the term ahead with great optimism.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'A Redfern', written over a horizontal line.

**MR AM REDFERN**  
**Headmaster**

3 October 2025