



MARITZBURG COLLEGE

A REPORT ON ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN 2026

**An Addendum to the
Headmaster's Speech**

ACADEMIC

Our boys continue to excel in many different areas, and they have done themselves and their school proud. We are pleased to celebrate the success of many of our boys on the academic front, some of which are listed below. Our boys take part annually in a variety of national events, in which they test themselves against pupils from many schools across South Africa. Many boys have excelled in these national examinations and competitions:

1. MATRIC RESULTS 2025

Maritzburg College achieved a 99,6% pass rate, and 95,5% of our boys achieved entry into a degree or diploma course at a tertiary level.

10 distinctions	Daniel Brunkhorst and Michael Brunkhorst
8 distinctions	Christopher Mundell, Jiran Moneyvalu, and Saiushan Naidoo
7 distinctions	Cayden Gibbs and Andile Mkhize
6 distinctions	Hlulani Maluleke and Khayelihle Phungula

2. OLYMPIADS / QUIZZES / COMPETITIONS

Senior Afrikaans Olympiad

The Olympiad was written in May, with four Maritzburg College boys achieving places in the Top 20 in KwaZulu-Natal: M Venter, B Barnard, L Dreyer and I Lindeque

English Olympiad

Bronze awards:

D Jursa, R Mongoato, A Mhlanzi, A Thembela, L Phakathi, Y Budhu

Silver awards:

B Bryant, K Chetty, R de Beer, M Mtambo, L Myeza, M Msimango, A Dladla, K Moodley, S Bandu, J Luridsamy, L Sithole, D Swanepoel, J Smith, S Gumbi

Gold award: M Murekezi

Maths Olympiad

47 boys qualified for Round 2 of the Maths Olympiad.

A Naidoo qualified for the final round, round 3, and placed in the top 10.

Senior History Olympiad

Silver award: A Mhlanzi

SAICE National Aqualibrium Competition

J Smith, H Storm and M Clark took part in the SAICE National Aqualibrium, competing against 15 other schools representing the top schools from their regions across South Africa and Swaziland. Despite the difficulty of the challenge, the competition was fiercely contested, with second to fourth place separated only by technicalities after all three teams scored the same number of points. The Maritzburg College team finished fourth overall.

JSE Challenge:

Team Hudson House won the JSE monthly prize for May as the top performers.

Team members: L Sibobi, H Viljoen, J Lusso, Q Kosani (Grade 10 learners).

Economics Olympiad:

The following distinctions were achieved in Round 2, the final round:

Grade 10 – 11 distinctions

Grade 11 – 13 distinctions

Grade 12 – 15 distinctions

U Asmal, D Naidoo (both Grade 12) and B Zakwe (Grade 11) achieved 100%.

K Mkhwane (Fourth Form) entered the John Locke Essay Competition. He was shortlisted as a finalist and was awarded a Very High Commendation in the John Locke Institute Global Essay Prize, placing his essay in the top 1% of submissions worldwide. Along with this global distinction, Mkhwane has been awarded a funded merit scholarship to be used toward international academic summer programmes at Harvard, Oxford, or Princeton.

A Hampshire took part in the prestigious Acapella Vocal Academy course held in Los Angeles, America. This course is an intense 10-day event, where participants apply via online audition. Thousands of singers apply from all over world, and 85 to 100 go through to the final selection rounds. Hampshire was one of eight chosen for his voice group.

3. KHANYISA OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Seniors

The Khanyisa Outreach Programme, in proud partnership with Hulamin, continues its strategic mandate to uplift academic outcomes in under-resourced schools. Partnering closely with corporate leadership and district principals, the initiative provides high-impact weekend educational support to strengthen learner attendance and engagement.

To eliminate structural barriers to learning, Hulamin's foundational funding manages vetted transport networks that safely shuttle pupils from regional pick-up hubs directly to our campus. This infrastructure removes travel risks and ensures excellent morning punctuality. Additionally, the programme addresses vital human needs by serving balanced, wholesome meals during Saturday sessions to maximise cognitive performance.

Learners also receive foundational stationery packs alongside crucial psychosocial care. This includes the institutionalised monthly provision of sanitary pads to female students to preserve dignity, eliminate anxiety, and ensure consistent weekend attendance.

The programme's targeted model continues to yield exceptional, top-tier academic results. Numerous participants achieved distinction-level marks, with several ranking among the Top 10 in the District.

Notably, learner Mlotshwa Zenande received a prestigious award for the highest academic achievement in English First Additional Language at her school, scoring an extraordinary 92%. Through this shared corporate and educational network, Khanyisa successfully prepares its cohort to transition into universities and professional fields.

Juniors

The Junior Khanyisa Programme has enjoyed a year of growth and development in 2026. We welcomed five new primary schools to the programme, with each school having the opportunity to introduce 10 boys, five boys for the first two terms and another five boys for the second half of the year. This expansion has allowed us to reach more pupils and extend the impact of the programme in our community.

A significant change this year was the decision to introduce learners in Grade 5 rather than Grade 6. This will allow the boys to benefit from the programme throughout Grades 5, 6 and 7, providing a longer period of support and development before they transition to high school. We look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of this change in the years ahead.

Our primary focus has continued to be strengthening learners' skills in the core subjects of Mathematics and English, which remain the foundation of the programme. Recognising the growing importance of digital literacy, we also introduced computer lessons this year to equip learners with additional skills and broaden their educational opportunities.

We remain grateful to the teachers, mentors and schools who have supported the programme throughout the year.

CULTURE

The aim of this section of the addendum is to outline, briefly, the cultural and sporting activities in which the boys at College have participated during the past year.

1. AFRIKAANS SOCIETY

The Afrikaans Society experienced a year of discovery, growth and belonging. Traditionally held on Tuesday evenings as a space primarily for boarders, the Society moved meetings to Thursday afternoons, opening participation to boys across the College. This allowed Afrikaans culture to become not merely an expression of identity, but a means of belonging and connection.

The boys enjoyed several opportunities to celebrate their culture socially. The annual *potjiekos* competition was a highlight, with pupils from Epworth joining the boys for an evening of food, laughter and camaraderie. The Society also visited Rosewood, where the boys expressed their gratitude and respect to an older generation during lunch and presented residents with a poem written by an MC-Ink member.

The year culminated in *Spreekbeurt*, presented in a 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?' format. Approximately 20 boys participated, with teachers joining in the fun. The performance gave the boarders and wider Afrikaans community an opportunity to celebrate the language through humour, confidence and creativity.

In an increasingly globalised world, the Society seeks to remind our boys that understanding their cultural heritage helps them better understand their place in the wider world. The boys were encouraged not only to celebrate their culture, but to reflect on what it means to conduct themselves as young Afrikaans men.

The Society was led by captain T Boshoff and Mr S Eva. Special thanks are extended to Mrs Z Elder for her continued administrative support.

2. ART CLUB

The Art Club has continued to grow under the vision statement 'To cultivate brave, skilled, and supportive young artists who enrich our school and community through creativity and craftsmanship'.

This has been evident in the setting up of Portrait Drawing at large sporting events. Our talented boys have become a regular feature, boldly offering to draw portraits of member of the public, attracting spectators who have admired their skills and delighting the recipients of fresh, authentic portraits. This regular practice has honed the observation skills of these young artists, while they demonstrate the uniting of two great College traditions – sport and art.

In the second term, the club assisted in the creation of the set for the school production of *The Glass Menagerie*. Two workshops, one focusing on observation drawing, 'Drawing on the right side of the Brain', conducted by Mrs Osborne and another on painting 'Painting Glazes' conducted by Mr Dodd, further deepened the skills of members of the club.

Through dedication to artisanship, bravery, and community, the Art Club embodies the values of College and contributes meaningfully to the cultural life of the school.

3. CAMERA CLUB

Camera Club has enjoyed a successful year, continuing to provide boys with opportunities to develop their creativity, technical skills, and passion for photography. On Athletics Day, six boys, three juniors and three seniors, captured the event, while a new mentoring programme paired younger members with experienced photographers. This initiative proved invaluable in developing skills and confidence.

The standard of photography was reflected in outstanding competition results. E Hunter-Smith and B Cele both earned placings in the February PSSA website competition, standing out among photographers of all ages. Members also expanded their experience through theatre photography, capturing behind-the-scenes moments and contributing to official Spotlight productions.

Club competitions provided opportunities for constructive critique and healthy competition. K Peter won the first competition of the year with a unique interpretation of the theme 'Maritzburg College'.

Another highlight was national recognition through PSSA, when club captain E van der Merwe and K Peter earned impressive results. The club hosted its first photography workshop, with professional photographer Jason Lisher and members of the Maritzburg Camera Club sharing valuable expertise and insights into photography beyond school.

Members continued to serve the school community by photographing events for social media and attending educational presentations, including a talk by Paul Naude on 'True Photography' which explored the journey from image capture to processing.

For the first time, the club entered the Eston Photography Competition, with eight boys participating. Notable achievements included H Jooste winning first place in the Junior 'Golden Hour' category and the award for Best Youth Photograph on Show, J Ward placing second in the same category, and J Planteau De Maroussem achieving second place in the Senior 'Splash of Colour' category. These accomplishments reflect the continued growth and excellence of the Camera Club.

4. COLLEGE CUES – DRAMA

This year saw members of College Cues Drama and Dance contributing to two school productions. Our captain, L Dlamini, displayed his versatility by singing and dancing in 'Spotlight', our review show. His singing covered several genres. Our other senior member, M Msimango, sang a self-penned song that was singled out as moving and expertly presented. Both gentlemen contributed their singing and musical expertise to enhance our production of 'The Glass Menagerie'.

P Desebrook a long-standing member of Cues capped his years at College playing the role of Tom in 'The Glass Menagerie'. He has contributed his singing and acting ability to a diversity of shows during his time at the school from Shakespeare to singing Jazz.

These senior boys have laid a solid foundation, and we look forward to working alongside the junior members of the society as they enhance their skills. It is pleasing to see that a few pupils who are not Drama students have expressed an interest in learning performance skills.

5. COLLEGE FOR CHRIST (CFC)

In 2026, College for Christ continued to develop as a Christ-centred fellowship at Maritzburg College, with boys from Second to Sixth Form engaging in opportunities for Christian faith, discipleship and leadership.

A significant feature of the year was the increasing role of boys in shaping the spiritual life of the College. Sixth Form captain S Wiggill provided notable leadership, initiating sermon series and staff and boy led preaching opportunities. A series on the Sermon on the Mount gave the school a sustained biblical focus and encouraged boys to consider the practical implications of Christ's teaching.

College for Christ Vitality, under the guidance of Mr Emerson, continued to provide worship, discipleship and fellowship within the boarding community. Mr Eva's Wednesday morning Bible studies, specifically aimed at school leaders, further strengthened the focus on Scripture, Christian character and servant leadership.

The ministry also maintained valuable links with the wider Christian community. Boys attended Sunday services at Linc Church as well as Unity Conferences, Encounter gatherings and other opportunities for Christian fellowship and worship. These engagements broadened the boys' experience of Christian community beyond the College.

The boy-led nature of College for Christ remains one of its key strengths. While staff continue to provide guidance and supervision, boys are increasingly taking responsibility for initiating and leading activities and encouraging younger pupils in their faith.

6. DEBATING

The 2026 debating season was one of remarkable achievement, with College debaters excelling locally, provincially, and internationally.

The annual PBHS – College exchanges once again exhibited strong debating talent. At home, the College senior team secured a victory over PBHS, with A Mhlanzi earning Best Speaker honours. The exchanges concluded in Pretoria, where College 2 defeated PBHS 2, while P Desebrook was named Best Speaker.

A standout achievement came from K Mkhwane, who was selected to represent South Africa at the World Schools Debating Academy in Slovenia. Competing as part of the Junior Red Team, he helped lead the team through an unbeaten tournament run, culminating in overall victory. This exceptional performance has seen him rise to 3rd in

the country. Gratitude is extended to the KZN Treasury and MEC for Finance, Mr Francois Rodgers (former College debater and OC), whose generous support made this opportunity possible.

In July, Mr Rodgers, returned to adjudicate a special debate held in his honour. In a spirited contest between College 1 and College 2, College 2 emerged victorious, with K Mkhwane once again receiving Best Speaker recognition. The MEC also inspired the debaters by inviting them to attend a parliamentary legislature debate.

College was strongly represented at the KZN Provincial Debating Selections, with four debaters attending selection from the Pietermaritzburg contingent. A Ngcobo, K Mkhwane, N Luvuno and S Gumbi. Following five rounds of competition, College debaters performed exceptionally well, with A Ngcobo's team winning the provincial final. He was also named Best Speaker of the championship debate.

Further honours followed when A Ngcobo, S Gumbi, and K Mkhwane were selected for the KZN National Squad, reflecting their dedication and excellence throughout the season.

College hosted the KZN Team Trial Session in September, reaffirming its commitment to developing future debating talent.

Special thanks go to Mrs Maryke Bailey for her unwavering support as coach and adjudicator.

The year concluded with several well-deserved awards: B Zakwe and S Gumede received Lapel Badges, J Padayachee and P Desebrook were awarded Debating Colours, and A Ngcobo earned Honours for Debating in recognition of his accomplishments.

7. HINDU SOCIETY

The Hindu Students' Society continues to instil values, beliefs and *Dharma* (the right way of life) in the lives of all the boys who are members of the society. This year has brought about much excitement and opportunities for the boys to learn and participate in their rich culture and traditions.

Term one was packed with activities including participation in *Holi* (the festival of colours) when the boys were invited by the Midlands Hindu Society. They volunteered to help the Food for Love organisation to prepare meals for the needy together with educators and the Headmaster. Another highlight was their participation at the GHS cultural evening where they performed a dance item.

The first fundraiser, our very first movie night was a huge success. Rehearsals for the annual Cultural Evening consumed most of the second term which also included a fundraising initiative at a sport fixture where the society sold samosas and chilli bites. The society was also involved in the Market Day held at the school.

Term three began with much excitement as the society reflected on another successful Cultural Evening which was enjoyed by all present. The annual excursion took us to Durban where the boys and educators visited the Sikh Temple and the Gowshala. The boys performed songs at the temple and enjoyed delicious vegetarian meals.

The society was involved in yet another outreach programme where the boys and educators collected *saris* and *punjabis* for those desperately in need in Nepal due to the disastrous flooding. The society will end the year with a Deepavali celebration just before the commencement of the final exams.

8. INTERACT CLUB

The Interact Club had a slow start this year, however we welcomed a few new members during the year. In Term 1 we organised an easter egg collection for the children at the Salvation Army Home as part of the school's Happiness Week and assisted with sandwich making for 'Bread Buddies'. Unfortunately, the club has not been able to do any outreach this year, but we are planning to do more of it in the coming year as we welcome more members to the club. We also bid farewell to our captain P Mncwabe who has been an exceptional leader and a dedicated member of the Interact club. The club has started the 'Paws for purpose' drive, and we are hoping to make a significant contribution to the three chosen animal welfare organisations.

9. MARKETING TEAM

It has been a busy and impactful year for the Marketing Club, with our boys continuing to play an important role in telling the Maritzburg College story and supporting the many events and activities that make our school community so special.

The Club gives boys an opportunity to gain practical insight into marketing and communications, while developing their creativity, confidence and understanding of how a school brand is represented. Throughout the year, members

have contributed to campaign ideas, created digital content, captured photographs and videos, and supported a range of College events and activities.

The team has also played an important role in recruitment initiatives, including Open days, campus tours, sleepover weekends, expos and roadshows, as well as supporting major school events and home fixtures. Their energy and willingness to get involved has been greatly appreciated.

The end of the first term also brought new faces to the Marketing team, with Mr Sithembiso Xaba joining as Marketing Assistant and Mr Lilitha Bodlani taking up the role of Head of Marketing in May 2026. Their arrival has brought fresh ideas, renewed energy and a strong focus on growing the way College communicates with its community.

A special word of thanks goes to our Marketing captain, N Moyo, whose commitment, diligence and leadership have been invaluable to the team. We also extend our sincere thanks to Deputy Headmaster MARC, Mr Ryan Kyle, for his continued support and encouragement of the Marketing Club.

The Marketing Club continues to provide a valuable platform for our boys to learn, contribute and play their part in shaping the story of Maritzburg College.

10. MC-INK

MC-Ink challenges the writers and poets of the College to move beyond writing solely about their own teenage experiences and to recognise the power of the written word to engage with the world around them. The boys explore social challenges at College and the wider community, giving voice to issues they themselves identified while experimenting with different forms and styles of writing. They wrote some poems for the Rosewood retirement village which were delivered by members of the Afrikaans Society.

The annual *Night of the Writer* brought approximately eight boys together with pupils from Epworth and Girls High. Through poetry exercises, conversation and an evening of fellowship, the event created an atmosphere of creativity and camaraderie.

In an age increasingly shaped by artificial intelligence, social media and rapid entertainment, MC-Ink encourages boys to rediscover writing as a means of understanding themselves and expressing their emotions. Writing remains a uniquely personal exercise: a space where boys can wrestle with ideas and experiences and give them a voice of their own.

The Society was led by captain S Maharaj and Mr S Eva. Special thanks are extended to Mr R Gutteridge, whose experience and enthusiasm continue to inspire the boys and remind them that words can become ‘scalpels of the soul’.

11. MEDIA CENTRE MONITORS

In January at the cultural assembly, our captain T Motsoeneng, presented an informative power point and did us proud in recruiting new members.

During Happiness Week in March, all our monitors took part in the Bread Buddy sandwich making initiative, displaying great teamwork. We visited Epworth’s media centre for an afternoon social with their team of monitors. The ratio of boys to girls was 1:3 and although initially shy, after a few icebreakers our boys interacted well, and enjoyed making new friends. They were also given a tour of Epworth’s very attractive media centre, and we extended our thanks to Mrs Morton and her team for their warm hospitality.

The second term concentrated largely on upskilling their shelf reading skills in both the fiction and non-fiction areas. Each boy is responsible for a set of shelves which they must maintain and keep in alphabetical order and Dewey sequence. Their commitment and energy are greatly appreciated especially as shelf reading is not a glamorous task and requires mental focus and attention to detail.

In mid-September, we extended a reciprocal invitation to Epworth and their media monitors. Our boys did us proud as they navigated the torrential afternoon rain carrying umbrellas to shield our visiting ladies. Despite the inclement weather, a wonderful afternoon was enjoyed with a delicious tea, and our boys are to be thanked for their superb manners.

12. MUSIC AT COLLEGE

This has been another good year for the Music Department. In addition to our annual music exchanges with PBHS and Affies, the Jazz Band joined forces with St John’s DSG to put on the ‘Stars over Broadway’ show, featuring classic

charts from the Big Band era. The show was an enormous success and featured at the Hilton Arts Festival. The band also performed at St Anne's College.

The Maritzburg College Choir has had an active year, giving a Valentine's concert together with Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School (GHS), and then taking part in the Choral Fusion event held at Thomas More College in Kloof. The boys distinguished themselves with their musicality and conduct. In the second term, the choir took part in the ATKV national choir competition, achieving a silver result. This was a good result given the number of new boys in the choir this year. Other notable events were the cultural exchange with Affies, the CCNF choir festival, and the first choir gala concert held together with GHS.

Several boys took part in the South African Society of Music Teachers music Eisteddfod during August, with solid performances by all who played.

The Jazz Ensemble continued to distinguish themselves, playing an active role in concerts in and around Pietermaritzburg and the Midlands, performing at Coffeeberry, Art in the Country, and a radio interview for uMgungundlovu FM. The Ensemble also featured on the stage at the Hilton Arts Festival, receiving a shout-out on social media from Sisonke Xonti who wrote the music. In addition to this, the Ensemble have gone through to the final round of the Stellenbosch National Ensemble Competition and will be competing for a placement in the schools' jazz category.

Gospel Choir

The 2026 Gospel Choir year has been one of remarkable growth, musical excellence, collaboration and service. The choir enjoyed an exceptional start to the year, welcoming over 30 new members.

Choir members have demonstrated outstanding dedication during rehearsals and performances. The choir actively participated in community outreach, including a memorable visit to the Isabel Beardmore Home for the Aged, where members performed for residents. The choir also participated in Happiness Week and represented the school with distinction at the St Nicholas Diocesan School and the Prestige Concert.

Collaboration was a significant feature of the year. Joint rehearsals and performances with Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, Russell High School and The Wykeham Collegiate (TWC) provided valuable opportunities for musical development and fellowship. The choir proudly participated in TWC and Carter High School Gospel Choir Evenings.

A major highlight was the annual Maritzburg College Gospel Choir Evening, which attracted a record audience of over 1,300 people and featured 13 schools, including three first-time participants. The event celebrated unity, diversity and the power of choral music.

13. MUSLIM STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Muslim Students' Association (MSA) has enjoyed a purposeful and productive year, with its activities consistently reflecting the values of service, compassion, faith and social responsibility. Throughout the year, the boys embraced opportunities to serve both the school and wider community while strengthening their understanding of their faith and its relevance to contemporary life.

During the blessed month of Ramadaan, the boys devoted their Saturdays to working alongside SANZAF, assisting with the distribution of food to vulnerable members of the community. They also undertook fundraising to assist families in preparing meals for Eid, ensuring that the joy of the occasion could be shared more widely. The term culminated in a memorable communal *iftaar*, attended by members of staff, which fostered a strong sense of fellowship and unity.

In term 2, the MSA engaged in meaningful discussions, talks and debates on matters relevant to young Muslim men, including good character (*akhlaq*), Islamic values in the digital age, respect for parents and teachers, responsible social media use, the importance of prayer and leadership through faith. The boys also demonstrated remarkable compassion through a humanitarian outreach initiative supporting foreign nationals displaced by xenophobic attacks. With generous donations of groceries and blankets from parents' businesses, they provided much-needed assistance to a temporary shelter for those awaiting repatriation. This initiative reinforced the principles of dignity, empathy and service, while reminding the boys that humanity transcends nationality, race and borders.

The highlight of term 3 was the highly successful MSA cake sale in support of CANSA and Mental Health Awareness. The boys worked enthusiastically to create an attractive display and were involved in every aspect of the initiative, from preparation and sales to the final clean-up. The proceeds will be donated to CANSA and the Mental Health Awareness Organisation.

The MSA can be commended on the initiatives which have provided the boys with valuable opportunities to translate their faith into action and to make a positive contribution to the lives of others.

14. NGUNI SOCIETY

The Nguni Society was established six years ago, and its rapid growth has been astonishing. Credit goes to the College boys who commit themselves fully to everything they do. The primary objective of society varies. It gives guidance to the young Nguni Society men and it reminds them of their roots. As the saying goes, 'the nation without its roots is a lost nation'. We have had wonderful speakers on the topic of the bringing up young men. The celebration of Heritage Month is always exciting as it allows our youngsters to brag about their culture.

The Nguni Society has resulted in the birth of *Amaponi*, a young team of boys who have established themselves and their focus is more on traditional songs. They educate each other about cultural models and the ways of growth. The Society has not yet reached its potential, and we look forward to further growth. A big thank you to our outgoing captain M Zulu and all the Sixth Form boys who have committed themselves to the society and contributed to its remarkable development.

15. SOUND AND LIGHTS

Sound and Lights continues to be an integral support component for the school's sound and lighting requirements. The day-to-day operations of the department were led by E Mpapa (captain) and the members of the Society. The team consistently demonstrated professionalism, reliability, and a positive attitude in their interactions with staff and learners.

The society experienced significant growth during 2026, increasing its membership to 50 members. This growth has enabled the team to independently manage smaller events without the direct supervision of the MIC, reflecting the increasing competence, confidence, and responsibility of its members. The crew has also actively pursued opportunities to develop and enhance their technical skills throughout the year.

The team successfully delivered the technical production for *Spotlight*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and numerous other school events, demonstrating exceptional commitment and professionalism. Their efficient backstage management, together with the seamless operation of sound and lighting systems, played a significant role in the success of these productions. Their contribution greatly enhanced the overall experience for both performers and audiences.

16. SPEAKERS' CIRCLE

Speakers' Circle has enjoyed a successful and rewarding year, marked by strong leadership, outstanding achievement and an unwavering commitment to excellence in public speaking and leadership development. Under the capable leadership of chairman K Moodley, supported by vice-chairman S Maharaj and secretary R Motshoane, the society continued to uphold the high standards established by previous generations while remaining firmly committed to its mission of empowering members through communication, leadership and personal growth.

Membership expanded following a rigorous recruitment and interview process, resulting in 14 new Fifth Form members joining, bringing total membership to 30. Throughout the year, members participated enthusiastically in weekly meetings, Happiness Week activities, Bread Buddies, Funky Sox Friday and the Open Day programme, where an engaging session of impromptu speeches attracted considerable interest.

A highlight of the first term was the International Cultural Exchange with Mayo College, Rajasthan, India. Members participated in an impromptu speaking forum exploring the themes of Planetary Boundaries and the impact of Artificial Intelligence on data privacy. The quality of speeches delivered by both schools reflected impressive preparation, insight and confidence.

Term 3 brought further success. Speakers' Circle added an additional meeting to ensure that every Sixth Form member completed the Toastmasters International Basic Course in Public Speaking. At the PBHS away sports and cultural exchange, the team achieved exceptional results, with A Mhlanzi securing first place, K Moodley placing fourth and all six competitors earning Gold Awards.

The pinnacle of the year was the Project 9 Finale held in the Victoria Hall on 4 September. In an unprecedented achievement, all fifteen Sixth Form members successfully completed the Toastmasters Basic Course in Public Speaking. The year concluded with the Passing of the Gavel Ceremony, where leadership for 2027 was entrusted to chairman J Baptista, vice-chairman S Gumede and secretary J Mumford.

17. TECHSQUAD

This year, the Tech Squad was led by A Dladla and assisted by P Desebrook. It has been a year in which we, as a Squad, have focused on becoming more professional through our interactions and the way we assist learners. This has involved examining what it means to be a TechSquad member, how we should conduct ourselves in the computer room, and the ways in which we interact with those we help.

Term 1 was a busy one as we took part in the school's first Puzzle Day. We also carried out a litter pick-up around the school grounds before Happiness Week, assisted with Bread Buddies, and hosted a typing competition which saw many Sixth Form boys visit the computer room and enjoy some friendly competition.

Term 2 was equally busy as we helped learners from different forms navigate the requirements of the computer room while working towards project deadlines. We also supported the Esports Society with their Games Night.

During Term 3, we have focused on reaching out to the wider school community and upskilling computer room users through training sessions. At the same time, we have explored the expectations required for obtaining awards and what these look like in practice. We are also in the process of selecting new leaders for next year and discussing the qualities of effective leadership. This has encouraged the boys to reflect on whether they are suitable candidates and to consider the characteristics that make a strong leader.

18. CULTURAL TROPHY RECIPIENTS

Robertson Trophy for Outstanding Service to the Audio-Visual Society.....	EM Mpapa
Mary-Ann Hartley Trophy for Most Outstanding Vocal Soloist.....	Z Vava
Douglas Comrie Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to the Choir	SS Shabalala
McGibbon Trophy for Best Stage Actor.....	L Dlamini
Roger Heslop Memorial Trophy for Overall Contribution to Drama	L Dlamini
Usher Cup for Outstanding Work in Creative Movement	MM Msimango
Cameron MacKenzie Trophy for Most Promising Musician	SN Dlamini
Conor Michael Larkin Memorial Plate for Most Improved Musician	NM Maluleke
Christopher Duigan Trophy for Excellence in Music Performance.....	J Knock
Music Revival Trophy for Contribution to Music.....	SN Dlamini
Lood Muller Trophy for Contribution to the Afrikaans Society	PN de Beer
Graham Holder Trophy for Best Debater	A Mhlanzi and K Moodley
Calder Trophy for Public Speaking.....	K Moodley
Dustin Stevens Trophy for Best Public Speaker	A Mhlanzi
Maritzburg College Speakers' Circle Trophy for Most Improved Speaker	BC Cook and IM Lindeque
Armstrong Trophy for Best Prepared Speech.....	S Maharaj

SPORT

1. ATHLETICS

The College inter-house meeting took place in the second week of term one. This year the champion house was Barns House.

Two Maritzburg College athletes B Mhlongo and L Makhoba, took part in the KZN Athletics Championships. Congratulations to Mhlongo who won gold at the championships.

B Mhlongo and C Sweetnam represented KZN Schools at the Interprovincial meeting.

Maritzburg College participated in the 5th aQuellé Summer Track and Field Series and delivered an outstanding performance throughout the competition. The team dominated the series, securing first place at all five events, thereby claiming the overall series title in emphatic fashion.

This achievement marks the fourth occasion in five editions of the series that College has been crowned overall champions, underscoring the consistency and strength of the athletics programme.

2. BASKETBALL

Basketball continued its remarkable rise at Maritzburg College in 2026, firmly establishing itself as one of the leading programmes in the country. It was a truly exceptional season for the Red, Black and White, with College achieving the No. 1 national ranking and producing outstanding results across all age groups.

The College programme claimed victory at two National Tournaments, further underlining its position at the forefront of school basketball in South Africa. At provincial level, College also dominated the KZN Top 10, with the U14A, U15A and 1st teams all finishing first in their respective age groups, an outstanding achievement and a reflection of the depth and quality throughout the basketball programme.

The 1st team enjoyed an exceptional season, recording an impressive 96%-win rate. Their consistency, competitiveness and ability to perform under pressure saw them establish themselves as one of the country's premier school basketball teams.

Our Junior age groups were equally impressive. The U14A team completed an unbeaten season, demonstrating exceptional talent and promise for the future. The U15A team also continued to perform at the highest level, contributing to an extraordinary year for College basketball and highlighting the strength of the programme across all age groups.

The success of the programme was further recognised at national level, with three College players selected for the South African U16 National Team: A Chauke, B Langa and S Tunzi. This is a significant achievement for the boys and a proud moment for Maritzburg College Basketball.

3. CANOEING

We have had an excellent 2026 season to date, with strong results in river racing, flat water sprints, slalom, kayak cross, canoe polo and marathon racing. The boys worked hard throughout the year and achieved success at school, provincial, national and international level.

The season began with the Dusi Canoe Marathon, which was a K2 year. K Vogt and his partner finished tenth overall, while J Gotte and his partner reached the junior podium. N Curry, J Worthmann, M Rawson and J Craig also helped Maritzburg College win the schools' K2 trophy at the Dusi.

In flat water sprints, Vogt again performed very well in his K1 races. K Hogarty and Worthmann also gave steady performances, with Worthmann racing strongly in K2 with his partner. These results showed the depth and commitment of the squad.

Gotte was selected to represent South Africa at the Junior and U23 Slalom and Kayak Cross World Championships in Krakow, Poland, in July. This gave him valuable experience against strong international competition.

At the KZN Championships, Vogt won all his events, while Curry placed fourth in the U18 K1. At the SA Championships, Vogt won four gold medals, including three junior titles and one senior K2 title with H Lovemore. These results earned him selection for the ICF Canoe Marathon World Championships in Argentina. He also qualified for the South African junior ocean racing team, which will compete in Spain.

The canoe polo team consisting of Gotte, Curry, F Venniker, Worthmann, Craig and Rawson enjoyed success, winning the Interschool Canoe Polo Championships. Curry also completed the demanding four-day Berg River Canoe Marathon, covering 270 km and finishing first in the U18 category for the second year in a row.

There was pleasing growth among the Second Form boys, who took part in flat water paddling, the Tugela River Marathon and have learnt some canoe polo skills. J Cairns was the standout U14 paddler, finishing third at the inter-school river championships on the Tugela River.

The boys have shown courage, discipline and sportsmanship, and were well supported by dedicated coaches. With major events still ahead and a talented group of young paddlers developing, the future of canoeing at the school looks very promising.

4. CHESS

This has been a year of steady progress, competitive achievement and significant growth for chess at Maritzburg College. Under the continued guidance of our established coach, Mr Zondi, and the leadership of captain S Maharaj and vice-captain T Naidoo, the team has developed not only as individual players, but also as a disciplined and determined unit, building a strong foundation for the future of the game.

The team has participated in numerous tournaments and leagues, including competitions against strong schools from Gauteng. The Alexforbes Chess Tournament, together with the exchanges with PBHS and Affies, provided valuable experience and challenged our players to compete against a high standard of opposition. Our exchanges with Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School and other local schools have likewise contributed significantly to player development, exposing our boys to different playing styles while building confidence, adaptability and maturity over the board.

An encouraging aspect of 2026 has been the progress of our junior players. Several have stepped up to compete at a higher level, laying a strong foundation for the future of College chess. If this development continues through to matric, these players have the potential to form the core of a highly competitive team in the years ahead.

A highlight of the year was the outstanding performance of five players. T Naidoo, O Gengan, I Potgieter, Y Moodley and K Chetty excelled at the pre-district and district trials, earning selection to the Southern District trials. Chetty went on to win the U13 age group and will now represent the district at the KZN trials.

5. CRICKET

The 2026 cricket season was an exciting and rewarding time for Maritzburg College cricketers, highlighted by competitive fixtures, impressive performances, and enriching experiences across all age groups.

The year began with the 1st XI and U16A teams hosting preseason fixtures against Clifton and Ashton, and the U15A side attended a festival hosted by DHS. This provided early preparation for the term. The school recorded a successful first term. Across six full weekend fixture programmes, there were three weekends, against St Charles, Clifton and Glenwood, on which only one Maritzburg College team was defeated in the team-on-team fixtures.

In Term 3, the 1st XI participated in the One Insurance Eston Night Series. A young 1st XI side also gained valuable exposure at the CABS St George's T20 Tournament in Zimbabwe, where they impressed by reaching the final, unfortunately losing out in that match.

The holiday period saw all A teams attending prestigious festivals. The 66th Oppenheimer Michaelmas Cricket Week, hosted by Maritzburg College, is a highlight of the year. The 1st XI competed against some of the best schools in the country and did themselves proud. The U17s competed at Michaelhouse. This has been a great festival over the years to challenge our stayers. The U15A team at Pretoria Boys' High School played some superb cricket with some great individual and team performances. The U14A team playing at Hilton College had their first experience of festival cricket as a Maritzburg College boy. These festivals ensure that all levels of College cricketers are exposed to top-class opposition and festival experiences.

From remarkable individual achievements to impressive team displays, Maritzburg College cricketers enjoyed a year of success that both honoured the school's proud cricketing tradition and laid the groundwork for the future.

6. CROSS-COUNTRY

The 2026 Cross-country season had some sound results by key runners. The highlight this year was the strong performance of both our senior and junior teams, with each finishing first. The top 10 positions in the senior results were as follows. The senior results were L Makhoba 1st, BJ Fourie 2nd, J Lusso 4th, D Davies 6th and S Ismail 9th. Our top Junior boys were C Emerson 1st, D Marot 2nd, M Puddu 4th, B Khuluse and M Fredlund 8th. Many of our boys featured in the top 30.

Further, we were able to host a successful race attended by over 300 runners. The competition this year was strong against some of the best schools in the Midlands. However, in typical college fashion and led by C Wilson, the team was unstoppable. Our final highlight was L Makhoba coming 13th at the KZN Cross-country championships.

7. CYCLING

The Maritzburg College cycling team has enjoyed a remarkable year, building momentum through a series of outstanding performances. From the early season Classics and XCO provincial races to appearances at the SA National Champs in Bethlehem in the Free State and Thaba Trails in Gauteng, the team has consistently demonstrated skill and determination. These efforts culminated in four riders being selected to represent KwaZulu-Natal Schools at the Nationals in the Western Cape during the October holidays, a significant achievement that underscores the depth of talent within the squad.

One of the year's defining highlights was the Berg & Bush 2-day stage race, in which nine College riders took part. Their collective strength earned the school the prize for the most riders from a single school. Congratulations to K Searle and his cycling partner who secured a podium finish. The intermediate riders also impressed, proudly carrying the red, black, and white colours and showing promise for future success.

Beyond competition, Maritzburg College played host to the final race of the KwaZulu-Natal Schools Cycling Series. The event drew a record 619 entrants, setting a new benchmark for participation. The course itself was an example of creativity and challenge, featuring ramps, floating bridges, single tracks, and even a section routed through the school's historic 163-year-old buildings. The atmosphere was electric, reflecting both the growth of school cycling and the College's commitment to fostering the sport.

With achievements spanning podium finishes, national representation, and record-breaking events, the Maritzburg College cycling team, supported by our dedicated parents, has firmly established itself as a force to be reckoned with. The year's successes point to a bright future, as the riders continue to grow from strength to strength and inspire the next generation of cyclists.

8. ESPORTS

This year has been an important development year for our Esports programme. We were able to take part in a number of matches, giving our players valuable exposure to competitive Esports and the opportunity to test themselves against more experienced opposition.

Results did not always go our way, with many of our matches proving challenging. This was due largely to the fact that we had a relatively young and inexperienced team this year. For many of the boys, this was their first real experience of structured competitive gaming, and they were still learning how to deal with pressure, communicate effectively and work together as a team.

Despite the results, the season provided valuable lessons. With every match the boys gained more experience improved their understanding of competitive play and became more aware of the level required to compete successfully.

It is encouraging that we now have a young group of players who have been exposed to competitive Esports and can continue to develop together. The focus moving forward will be on building consistency, improving teamwork and communication and giving the boys more opportunities to practise and compete.

9. FIRST AID

The winter season has been a particularly demanding and active period, with several notable achievements and successes. We would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of Mrs Singh, Mr Ntenezi, Ms Maniram, Mrs Ramdeen and Mrs Thornton-Dibb, whose support and involvement have assisted greatly in the successful running of the winter sports programme.

The boys have shown exceptional dedication and responsibility throughout the season. Their commitment has ensured that first aid services and operations have continued to function effectively during this busy time.

Our annual First Aid Course, held in May, was once again successfully presented and received a positive response from participants. We also extend our sincere appreciation to the staff members who willingly gave up their weekends to support both the First Aid and SAN activities.

During the sporting exchanges with PBHS and Affies, the first aid teams provided essential assistance and care to boys who sustained injuries. They dealt professionally with a variety of cases, ranging from minor injuries to more serious situations that required additional medical and hospital support.

The efforts of both the boys and staff are highly commendable. Their willingness to serve, support others, and work as a team reflects the true spirit of servant leadership and continues to make a meaningful contribution to the College.

10. GOLF

The 2026 golf season was one of challenge, growth and renewed optimism for Maritzburg College. While results did not always fall College's way, the season was marked by a pleasing increase in interest among the younger boys, particularly those in Second Form. This encouraging growth at junior level provides an important foundation for the future and suggests that the programme is well placed to build greater depth, experience and consistency in the coming years.

College's interschool results showed signs of improvement, with the team recording four wins and five losses. This progress can be attributed to the increasing experience within the side, as well as the commitment of several boys who took part in junior tournaments during the school holidays. Continued involvement in tournament golf and regular club competition will be vital if the team is to keep moving forward next season.

A notable highlight was the selection of two first-team players, S Watson and C Nelson, for the KZN Schools A team. This is a commendable achievement and reflects the dedication, perseverance and ability of these boys. They are congratulated on their selection and will have the honour of representing the province at the ITP in Nelspruit during the September holiday.

The annual golf tour to the South Coast during the July holiday was another highlight of the season and provided an excellent opportunity for the boys to grow both as golfers and as a team. Competing in four KZN Foundation tournaments, the players gained valuable tournament experience and delivered several pleasing individual performances. Just as importantly, the tour strengthened team spirit, built confidence and gave the boys a clearer understanding of the standards required at competitive junior level. The enthusiasm shown throughout the tour was encouraging. With continued commitment, regular practice and a growing group of young players coming through, the future of Maritzburg College golf looks bright.

The winners of the main trophies for the year were as follows:

Strokeplay champion: S Watson

Matchplay champion: D Naidoo

Most improved player: J Pembridge

11. HOCKEY

The school prides itself on maintaining the highest standards, whether in the 1st team or the U14E team. Across all levels, there is a shared commitment to excellence: the desire to win, to perform at our best and to enjoy the game we love.

This season has been marked by notable growth across every age group. Consistency in results reaffirmed Maritzburg College's position as the leading hockey school in Pietermaritzburg and KwaZulu-Natal. The depth of talent within the programme is evident, and we are encouraged by the potential of our players to continue building on this success.

While results remain an important measure of achievement, the true hallmark of this season has been the way the boys approached the game. Their discipline, sportsmanship and commitment reflect the values instilled by Maritzburg College, values that extend beyond the hockey field and into all aspects of their development.

At the National and Regional Hockey Tournaments, Inland Hockey selected nine teams across three age groups. Impressively, 59 Maritzburg College boys were chosen to represent Inland, accounting for more than 40% of all

selections. In addition, four staff members contributed to coaching and managerial roles during IPT, underscoring the expertise and dedication within our hockey department.

These achievements highlight not only the talent and determination of our players but also the collective effort of the entire Maritzburg College hockey community.

Congratulations to the following players who were selected for provincial and national teams:

Inland U14A:	S Tshabalala, C Abrahams, C Abrahams, L Ncube, L Dennis, S Ndlovu, Z Greaves
Inland U14B:	J Royston, J Johnson, Z Bruyns, Y Chetty, W Khumalo
Inland U14C:	A Hsu, E Green, J Wang, R Stegen, S Naidoo, S Stewart, V Kassen
Inland U16A:	T Addison, N Ntshingila, J Smith, M Xaba, T Fakude, C Emerson, Mr P Gonlag (manager)
Inland U16B:	L Mpisane, S Mthiyane, S Tsaulwayo, B Lusso, B Zitumane, A Mukono, J Spilsbury, J Greaves, O Magangane
Inland U16C:	M Layden, B Nkosi, N Sikhakhane, J Lusso, R Rogers, E Gwala, T Polo, Q St John Ward, Mr C White (coach), Mr S Makhathini (manager)
Inland U16D:	L Mduba, R Watermeyer, M Puddu, R Havemann, G Mlambo, S Ndlovu
Inland U18A:	V Ndlovu, M Smith, A Lembethe, E Fabre, C Francis, S Mchunu, Mr M Sanders (assistant coach)
Inland U18B:	R Schirge, L Shelembe, I Mahomed, L Sishi, K Mngwengwe
SA U16B:	N Ntshingila
SA U17A:	S Mchunu
SA U18B:	A Lembethe
SA U18A:	V Ndlovu

12. RUGBY

Maritzburg College rugby enjoyed a highly successful 2026 season, characterised by commitment, competitive spirit and exceptional depth, across all age groups. The school fielded more than 25 teams each weekend, reflecting the strength of the programme and the outstanding level of participation among our boys.

One of the season's standout moments came on Reunion Day, when College faced an unbeaten Hilton College side. The 1st XV produced a memorable 14-9 victory in front of a large and enthusiastic home crowd.

Across the season, the younger age groups – particularly the U15 division – impressed with their skill, discipline and consistent performances, providing great confidence in the future of the programme. The two Pretoria exchanges not only exposed players to high-quality rugby but also played an important role in developing resilience, teamwork and camaraderie.

As the season draws to a close, attention now turns to an intensive and purposeful pre-season. The focus will be on building on this year's successes while continuing to improve consistency, strengthen squad depth and enhance match composure. With solid foundations firmly in place, Maritzburg College Rugby looks ahead with confidence and ambition as preparations begin for an even stronger 2027 campaign.

Provincial and National selections:

Sharks U18 Craven Week:	T Boshoff, D du Toit, O Kosani, Mr F Malinga (coach)
Sharks U18B	R Stanton, D Colenbrander, R Chikukwa, L Tsoko
Sharks U17 Academy Week:	S Jansen, Mr K Elder (coach)
Sharks U17 AFGRI Week:	K Lubbe, M Mogale, A Mini, L Dladla, B Smith
Sharks U16 Grant Khomo Week:	J Badenhorst, L Mfekayi
Sharks U16 Grant Khomo Week:	A Linde, J Lindeque, L Bezuidenhout, S Buthelezi, S Msibi
Sharks U15 AFGRI Week:	M Lujabe, J Kanyinda, H Harding, J Venter, K Kappes
Sharks U15B:	B Fourie (did not play due to injury)
SA Schools:	T Boshoff, O Kosani
SA Schools A:	Mr F Malinga (coach)

13. SHOOTING

Shooting this year started relatively slowly, with a decrease in the number of boys participating in the sport. Part of the reason for this decline was the increased demands placed on pupils by their first-choice sports, which created additional pressure on their already limited time. However, we are grateful to the boys who committed themselves

to shooting. As the year progressed and some seasonal sports came to an end, we saw an encouraging increase in participation.

We continue to enjoy competing in both league and provincial shoots. It has been heartening to see several of our newer senior shooters producing impressive scores, providing strong competition for the more experienced boys.

Shooting captain, N Naidoo, once again earned his SAARA KZN Colours. P Khumalo and W van Dyk received Colours and Colours and Scarf respectively, with W Parker achieving his Large White Badge. N Mitchell received the school award for Most Promising Junior Shotist.

N Naidoo, P Khumalo, S Raju, and E Hunter-Smith participated in the KZN Open and acquitted themselves admirably, producing commendable performances against strong competition.

Sincere thanks to Mr D Hoyle, who once again joined us as shooting coach. His wealth of knowledge and experience has been invaluable, and the boys have benefited immensely from his expertise. They have responded positively to his coaching methods and style, and we look forward to seeing continued improvement in their performances and scores.

14. SOCCER

2026 has been another busy year for College soccer.

In the 2nd term, both our U14 and U15A teams performed admirably in all their fixtures, losing only two matches throughout the term. College again co-hosted the Inland U19A League and the U19C League on Barns and AB Jackson fields respectively. The 1st team participated in the Kearsney Tournament for the first time this year and finished in 3rd place overall.

In the 3rd term full school season, College fielded a record 22 teams in total. We had 12 boys selected for the PMB District teams. College also had five boys and four staff members selected for the KZN Provincial teams.

Overall, College soccer teams played a record total of 176 fixtures throughout 2026, winning 86 and drawing 23.

15. SQUASH

College squash had a relatively successful year. Although the side did not reach the heights of last season, they still gave a good account of themselves on the court. Our 1st team participated in the annual St Andrew's Squash Festival, where they won two of their five fixtures against strong opposition. This was followed by the traditional head-to-head fixtures against local rivals. The College first team played eight fixtures recording seven victories. Although they did not repeat last year's unbeaten run in KZN, the boys competed hard and showed admirable character both in defeat and victory.

The team went on to participate in the KZN Inter-Schools' Tournament at the end of term 2 to qualify for the prestigious South African Top Schools Squash tournament. After some stiff competition, and one hard-fought victory from three matches played, College placed 3rd overall in KZN. Narrowly missing out on an invitation to the South African Top-Schools' Squash Tournament was a disappointment, but it is one that has given the boys a clear target to work towards in the seasons ahead.

Encouragingly, our Junior team showed a marked improvement in ability this year, with several younger players playing their way into the top twelve. The future looks bright for the next few years, and with consistency and hard work, we look forward to seeing what lies ahead for squash at College.

The boys put in a tremendous amount of hard work throughout the year, securing 11 victories from 19 matches, with two boys earning themselves KZN representation. Special congratulations to our captain, B Mahaye, who achieved the no. 1 ranking in KZN at U19 level, finished 4th in South Africa at U17 level, and qualified for the South African Growthpoint Open, where he finished 7th in the U19 section. Congratulations to all the boys and coaches on another successful season for College squash.

16. SWIMMING

Swimming remained a well-supported summer sport at College in 2026. The team competed in three major term 1 galas, finishing fourth at the Top Ten Schools Gala, eighth at the Alan Burt Gala and eleventh at the Nestor Pierides Gala hosted by Westville. The fourth-place finish at Top Ten was a highlight of the season.

C Potgieter captained the swimming team and set a strong example through his commitment and leadership. Six College swimmers participated in the KZN swimming trials: C Bloxham, C Potgieter, R Potgieter, J Mumford, K Ramos

and L Freeman-Smith. Although no College swimmers were selected for the KZN Schools team this year, reaching the trials was a pleasing achievement for these boys.

Across the season, the swimmers represented College with determination against strong opposition. Their efforts at training and in competition contributed to another positive year for College swimming.

17. TABLE TENNIS

Table tennis, as an official school sport, continues to grow in popularity. Our 1st team remains very competitive in the school exchanges, recording convincing victories over a strong Pretoria Boys team twice and Affies.

Highlights for the year to date:

- U Patel, K Pillay and A Arbee (U15A), T Royappen (U19A team), S Bandu, A Bagirathi and S Ince (U19B team) were selected to represent Umgungundlovu district at the South African Junior Table Tennis Championship in July.
- T Royappen (U18), U Patel and K Pillay (U15) were invited to South African Trials selection.
- District Rankings : U18 – T Royappen (1st); U15 – U Patel (1st), K Pillay (2nd) and A Arbee (3rd).

Our boys have posted good results at the various tournaments this year. The following achieved at district and national level:

Umgundlovu District P2

U19 Singles – T Royappen (silver)

U15 Singles – U Patel (gold), K Pillay (silver)

SA Juniors Inter Provincial Championship

U19 T Royappen - Team event (silver), Doubles (silver), Mixed doubles (gold)

U15 Team event - K Pillay, U Patel and A Arbee (silver)

Singles - U Patel (bronze)

Junior table tennis champion: U Patel

Senior table tennis champion: T Royappen

18. TENNIS

Maritzburg College Tennis enjoyed a highly successful 2026 season, with significant growth and encouraging results across all levels of the programme.

Tennis is an all-year-round sport at College, and our players continued to train consistently. We participated in the Midlands League during the first and third terms, with all our junior teams ending the year on a high note with an impressive victory over St Charles.

We also participated in the St Stithians Tournament where our boys competed against some strong opposition and performed exceptionally well. L Puddu was particularly impressive, winning all his singles matches. His performance extended beyond his results as he was awarded the Sportsmanship Award.

For the second consecutive year, the top two senior players in the Midlands came from College. K Dube finished in first place, while L Puddu was placed second. Both players represented the Midlands U19A side at the Inter-District Tournament, where they helped the team secure the championship title.

For the first time, every Midlands team included at least one or two Maritzburg College players, highlighting the tremendous depth and growth within our programme. D Davies and L Mackay-Leslie were selected for the U19B and U19C sides respectively. M Puddu finished third in the trials and was selected for the U15A side. His team finished as runners-up in the Inter-District Tournament, narrowly missing out on the title after finishing level on points with eThekwin and losing by just 69-71 on games. S Naidoo and A Hsu were selected for the U15B side.

Our players also excelled beyond the district trials, with several boys performing exceptionally well at the KZN Minis and various unofficial school tournaments throughout the year. These opportunities have provided valuable competitive experience and have contributed significantly to the development of our players.

19. VOLLEYBALL

The 2026 volleyball season was a highly successful and competitive one for the Maritzburg College 1st and 2nd teams. Both teams demonstrated commitment, resilience and a strong competitive spirit throughout the Westville Boys Volleyball League, producing performances that reflected positively on the school and the continued development of the volleyball programme.

The 1st team competed in Pool A, consisting of nine teams, and finished in an impressive 4th position. The team showed considerable improvement throughout the league, competing strongly against some of the leading volleyball schools. Their consistent performances earned them qualification for the Top 4 Tournament in Pool A. In the semi-final, they faced Westville Boys in a closely contested encounter. Despite displaying determination and fighting hard throughout the match, the team was narrowly defeated. The 1st team responded positively in the third-place play-off and secured third position in the Tournament, concluding the season on a strong note.

The 2nd team enjoyed an equally successful campaign in Pool B, competing against seven teams. They produced a series of disciplined and determined performances to finish in an excellent second position. This result secured their place in the Pool B Top 4 Tournament. In the semi-final, the team faced the Orient Islamic 1st team in another closely fought encounter. Although the match ended in a narrow defeat, the players demonstrated tremendous character and competitiveness. The 2nd team subsequently secured third position in the Top 4 Tournament.

Overall, the 2026 season highlighted the depth and potential within the Maritzburg College volleyball programme. The results are a testament to the players' dedication, the support of the school community and the ongoing commitment of the coaching staff. The season provides a strong foundation for further growth and success in the years ahead.

20. WATER POLO

Water polo remained a popular and well-supported sport at College in 2026. The school fielded 12 teams: three each in the U14 and U15 age groups, and six open teams. This gave boys regular opportunities to develop and compete. M Lock captained the 1st team.

The first term featured a demanding tournament schedule. The 1st team competed at the Grey College Tournament, the Pretoria Boys High School 125th Tournament and the Reef Cup at St Stithians, finishing fifth at both Grey College and the Reef Cup. The U15A team attended the Dallas Hutton Tournament at Northwood and the Indigo Tournament at Parktown, while the U14A team competed in the Ken Short Tournament at Jeppe. The 2nd team took part in tournaments at Northwood and St Charles.

In the third term, the 1st team played in the Westville Winter League and attended the Clifton Tournament. The U15A team finished sixth at the Snow Cup hosted by Michaelhouse. The U14A team travelled to the Rondebosch U14 Tournament and also attended the Hilton U14 Tournament, while College participated in the DHS U16 Tournament.

The fourth term begins with the Top Schools Tournament for the 1st, U15A and U14A teams. College is also scheduled to attend the Northwood Stayers Tournament and the Inspired Cup Stayers Tournament at Reddam Helderfontein, alongside its regular fixtures. KZN trials are still to take place, giving our players another opportunity to test themselves and seek provincial selection.

21. SPORT TROPHY RECIPIENTS

Hayden St John Ward Memorial Trophy for Top Achiever in a Non-Official School Sport	DG Martin
Tregarthen Memorial Cup for U14 Athletics Champion.....	S Ngubane
John Geekie Cup for U15 Athletics Champion.....	RS Slade
JH Snow Cup for U16 Athletics Champion.....	L Bezuidenhout
H Johnson Cup for U17 Athletics Champion.....	M Mogale
DJ Berry-Jennings Cup for U18 Athletics Champion, College Shield & Victor Ludorum.....	BZ Mhlongo
Greenhalgh Cup for Most Valuable Basketball Player	CN Fynn
Arnold Moseya Trophy for Best Defensive Basketball Player	TJ Lekhobo
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Improved Basketball Player in the 1st Team.....	LA Mukorera
Ron Jury Trophy for Best All-Round Basketball Player	LZ Tukayi
'Slow' Ngcobo Memorial Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to Basketball	ML Askham
Lance Dobeyn Trophy for Junior Champion Canoeist	JD Cairns
Maritzburg College Trophy for Most Promising Canoeist	JS Gotte
Oscar Servant Trophy for Highest Placed Junior in the Dusi Canoe Marathon	KH Vogt
Lance Dobeyn Trophy for Senior Champion Canoeist	KH Vogt

Maritzburg College Trophy for Chess Player of the Year.....	S Maharaj
Natal Witness/Maritzburg Old Boys' Cricket Club Trophy for Most Improved Player in the 1st Cricket XI	DE Jursa
Oscar Servant Trophy for Best All-Round Cricketer in the 1st XI	RG Willson
Leon Haarhoff Memorial Trophy for Most Promising Junior Cross-country Athlete	CR Emerson
Darrol Day Cup for Junior Cross-country Winner	CR Emerson
Stalker Cup for Senior Cross-country Winner.....	L Makhoba
Ryan Clive-Smith Trophy for Highest Placed Senior in the Midlands Cross-country League	L Makhoba
Hattons Cycles Trophy for Most Promising Junior Cyclist	JM Cunningham
Maritzburg College Trophy for Champion Cyclist	K Searle
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Improved Golfer.....	JAJ Pembridge
Johnstone Trophy for Strokeplay Champion in Golf	SJ Watson
Beck Cup for Matchplay Champion in Golf.....	D Naidoo
Shrives Trophy for Most Committed Player in the 1st Hockey XI	RM Schirge
Oscar Servant Trophy for Fellowship in Hockey.....	SMA Mchunu
Dieter Schlosser Memorial Trophy for Most Improved Player in the 1st Hockey XI.....	RG Willson
Carr Trophy for Player of the Year in the 1st Hockey XI.....	VU Ndlovu
Ian Rogers Trophy for Most Competent Rugby Referee	TR Kruger
Craig Joubert Trophy for Most Improved Rugby Referee	CL Bowyer
Skonk Nicholson Pin for Most Improved Player in the 1st Rugby XV.....	JG Thompson
Skonk Nicholson Trophy for Most Committed Player in the 1st Rugby XV.....	R Stanton
Olivier Trophy for Player of the Year in the 1st Rugby XV.....	DS du Toit
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Promising Shottist	NM Mitchell
Frank Lambert Cup for Best Overall Shottist.....	N Naidoo
Shaun Olley Cup for Most Consistent Shottist	N Naidoo
MacLean Trophy for Best Shottist in the Standing Position	N Naidoo
Luyanda Ntshangase Memorial Shield for Most Improved Player in the 1st Soccer XI	L Ndwalane
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Committed Player in the 1st Soccer XI.....	TJ Lekhobo
Reece Tifflin Trophy for 1st Soccer XI Player of the Year	AA Mkhize
Aidan Nugent Trophy for U14 Squash Champion.....	E Mbabane
Dan Smith Trophy for U16 Squash Champion	B Abraham
Smythe Trophy for Most Improved Squash Player.....	B Abraham
Oscar Servant Trophy for Senior Squash Champion.....	BLA Mahaye
Tut Marwick Trophy for U14 Swimming Champion	KA Ramos
Warren Shuttleworth Memorial Trophy for U15 Swimming Champion	CR Bloxham
Jimmy Anderson Memorial Shield for U16 Swimming Champion.....	C Barnard
Dudley Forde Trophy for U17 Swimming Champion.....	JR Mumford
Bill Hendry Trophy for Open Swimming Champion.....	CB Potgieter
Maritzburg College Trophy for Junior Table Tennis Champion	UM Patel
Maritzburg College Trophy for Senior Table Tennis Champion.....	TS Royappen
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Committed Tennis Player in the 1st Team	LJ Puddu
Lucinda Lang Trophy for Junior Singles Tennis Champion	MV Puddu
Grant Morrison Trophy for Most Improved Tennis Player	Y Aheer
Derek Howard Trophy for Senior Singles Tennis Champion.....	KAN Dube
Maritzburg College Trophy for Most Valuable Volleyball Player	OB Samuel

Roy Foster Memorial Trophy for Most Improved Water Polo Player in Fifth Form..... SN Mhlongo
Matt Kemp Trophy for Most Improved Water Polo Goalkeeper AK Mncwango
Sean Burgoyne Fellowship Trophy for Water Polo.....MR Lock
Oscar Servant Trophy for Most Committed Water Polo Player CJ Mackay-Leslie
Justin Joubert Trophy for the Most Valuable Water Polo Player KH Vogt

Kean Hemingway Memorial Trophy for Emerging Leadership and Peer Fellowship B Abraham
Wayne Lofthouse Memorial Prize for Courage and Tenacity in Sport DS Colenbrander
Headmaster’s Award for the Highlight of the Year 1st Team Basketball 2026
Headmaster’s Award for the Best All-Round Sportsman TJ Boshoff
Graham Holder Trophy for the Best Overall Contribution to Culture at College MM Msimango
Headmaster’s Award for the Sportsman of the Year TJ Boshoff, VU Ndlovu, KH Vogt

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION

This year's House competition has looked quite different with us concentrating mainly on full school competition items to count towards the Forder cup. This year there were six items, all hotly contested. It is the first time we have ever run a full school General Knowledge Quiz which went off well. The lead changed a few times but towards the end the overall winner for this year was clear. Congratulations to Barns House for coming out with a well-deserved win for 2026.

House	Gala	Athletics	Singing	House Spirit	General Knowledge Quiz	Academics	OVERALL POINTS
<i>Barns</i>	28	34	24	14	34	13	147
<i>Nicholson</i>	22	22	34	13	12	8	111
<i>Lamond</i>	24	20	16	17	22	11	110
<i>Commons</i>	10	16	28	12	18	17	101
<i>Strachan</i>	20	24	22	6	16	9	97
<i>Calder</i>	16	14	20	9	28	10	97
<i>Pape</i>	18	18	18	9	14	14	91
<i>Fuller</i>	14	28	10	7	20	12	91
<i>Forder</i>	34	10	12	11	10	6	83
<i>Snow</i>	12	12	14	11	24	7	80