

# TYGER VALLEY COLLEGE

TERM 1 2025 APRIL

### NEWSLETTER



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#### From Mrs Michelle Livanos' Desk

#### **DEAR PARENTS**

The Pre-Prep has leapt into 2025 with energy and excitement! As we embark on this first term, we are delighted to share the incredible experiences and activities that have filled our days. This term, our focus has been on creativity, movement, and exploration, both inside and outside the classroom.

A standout moment this term was our heartwarming "Rooted in Kindness" Concert, where our young stars shone on stage! After weeks of dedicated practice, they delivered a performance that was nothing short of spectacular. We couldn't be prouder of their hard work and enthusiasm. Well done, Pre-Prep!

Beyond the stage, we have been enhancing our beautiful outdoor spaces, making the most of our stunning gardens and well-equipped playground. Outdoor play is a vital part of our daily routine, helping children develop social skills, physical abilities, and a deeper connection with nature. Our Sensory Garden continues to be a highlight, offering children the chance to explore through touch, smell, and observation of various plants and insects. A special congratulations to TVC for winning the CSG Campus Experience Trophy at the annual Principals' Conference—what an achievement!

Our Cottage classrooms have been buzzing with creativity and hands-on learning. As our youngest learners settle into their new environment, they've been actively engaged in sorting colours, show and tell, arts and crafts, sensory play, and early literacy and numeracy activities. From identifying big and small objects to interactive lessons that spark curiosity, our teachers are nurturing a love for learning in every child. We are incredibly proud of all our Bunnies and Squirrels!

We wrapped up the term on a high note as the matric class of 2025 joined the Pre-schoolers for a delightful Easter egg hunt. During their annual playdate, the matrics took on the role of the Easter Bunny, skillfully hiding a total of 221 eggs. They had a fantastic time guiding the little ones in their search, filling the day with fun, laughter, and joyful moments for all involved.

As we wrap up a fantastic first term, we wish all our wonderful families a safe and joyful holiday. We can't wait to welcome our curious little learners back for an exciting Term 2!

Regards,

Mrs Michelle Livanos

Principal: Pre-Preparatory



#### From Mr Langley's Desk

#### **DEAR PARENTS**

The theme of 'Back-2-Basics' has been central to all that we embarked on in the Preparatory School over the course of the first term of 2025. Our focus is directed at fostering friendship, the safeguarding of all who walk our campus daily, honouring ourselves and those who play important roles in our lives and developing self-management skills which will stand us in good stead as we navigate what life challenges us with every day. Having reflected on the first three months of this school year, I am confident that we are largely getting the basics right and that the Prep School has settled into a very good and steady rhythm for the year.

Enhancing our physical environment has been one of our objectives for this year, and I am satisfied that we are doing well. In the classroom, we have improved on the aesthetics of our teaching spaces, and beyond the class we are introducing new and modern playing equipment for the children. From a sporting perspective, we have added shaded areas alongside our tennis courts, an upgrade of the cricket nets is underway and our multi-purpose venue alongside the hockey astro will be available for use very shortly. Our magnificent campus, landscaped gardens and outstanding facilities was recently recognised by our Community Schools Group with an award as the best campus experience. Many visitors to our school regularly compliment us on our beautiful school.

The past term has presented many moments to highlight. In the classroom, our teachers and children consistently delivered their best. Although often challenged by the weather over the past few months, our extra-curricular offering has witnessed a remarkable level of involvement and commitment from our children. It is particularly pleasing to see the many young swimmers who have taken to the pool in the past year, and it bodes well for our continued swimming success as a school. Music and culture continues to grow across our three respective campuses. Very recently, I attended the Chess and Public speaking evening hosted by our Prep School. The excitement to be a part of such an event was almost tangible. Again, the number of children participating was most commendable and the standard of what was delivered by the students (and staff) quite outstanding. A proud occasion for Tyger Valley!

As the final week of the first term approaches we do look forward to a good and long April holiday. Ahead of that, our Under 12 & 13 netball girls will embark on tour, our soccer boys (Under 12 & 13) will compete in the Camp Discovery Tournament during the holiday and the Senior Prep pupils will receive their first reports of the year. I have no doubt that we will return to school on the 6th of May well-rested and prepared for the demands of the winter term.

Enjoy the holiday and travel safely if on our roads over Easter.

Principal: Preparatory School

Mr Gavin Langley

#### From Mr Schwartz's Desk DEAR PARENTS

The mid-term newsletter was a summary of what we have been up to at the high school up to the mid-term break on 20 February. It was truly amazing to see how active we were as a school. After the mid-term break, activities did not let up. Teaching and learning was at full steam, and I can attest to this first hand having been teaching a Grade 10 Physical Science class. Our extra curricular programme shifted focus to the winter sports offering of netball, hockey, rugby with some team tennis included, and the MAD department was actively involved in the school. While this took place, our ECO programme also continued which we are very pleased about.

I previously reported on our Bible reading at the first assembly of the year which was from Colossians 3:12-14 (NIV) which said:

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

I am grateful to the following staff members who helped me speak about the virtues in this reading. Mrs Honiball (humility), Mrs Vorster (gentleness) and Mrs Potgieter (patience) because these followed on from compassion and kindness. I would love these virtues to be evident in all that we do at the school, and for pupils, staff and parents to make them part and parcel of our daily lives. What an amazing school we will be attending if this is the case! This message tied into the content covered during our RDI lessons which include topics like the school code of conduct, self-love and bullying (what does it look like and how to report it).

As you walk around our campus, you will notice how amazing it looks. Sometimes we take it for granted. All three schools are in great shape, even with some addition being made. The high school campus reported on the solar panels in the last newsletter, and now we have our multipurpose surface which we are very pleased about. It is almost complete.

The opening and blessing of the space will take place at the start of the second term.





TVC is part of AdvTech, and within this, we are part of the Community Schools group, which comprises 12 schools. At a prize giving at the end of February, TVC won a trophy for the best campus experience. Mr Meyer and his team can take a bow for this award. Yes, our campus is beautiful.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Tyger Valley Community. Here is to dreaming for a full, safe school, where everyone can contribute to our success and it is cool to be involved. Thanks again for your support as we aim to grow Tyger Valley College High School.

Mr Michael Schwartz

Principal: High School

# Academic Pillar Pre-Preparatory

#### It's TIME to READ!

At Tyger Valley College Pre-Preparatory, the Time2Read programme is making a significant impact in the early development of language skills among young learners. Tailored for the specific needs of preschool children, this programme is designed to foster a love for reading while also enhancing foundational language abilities.

Time2Read focuses on developing age-appropriate auditory processing skills, which are essential for blending, segmenting, and coding words. These foundational skills play a crucial role in enhancing a child's reading and writing abilities. Our program incorporates physical manipulatives and interactive games to make learning engaging and effective. Additionally, the Time2Read books serve as valuable tools to reinforce and consolidate these skills.

One of the key reasons Time2Read is so effective is its emphasis on play-based learning. Children are naturally curious and learn best when they are actively engaged. Time2Read incorporates games, songs, and visual aids, which makes the learning process both fun and memorable. The programme also promotes confidence in children, allowing them to experience small successes that motivate them to continue progressing.

The beauty of Time2Read lies in its ability to cater to different learning styles. Whether a child learns best through visual, auditory, or kinesthetic activities, the programme adapts to ensure that each child is supported in their language development. Teachers are also able to assess individual progress and adjust the pace and level of instruction accordingly, ensuring that all children can succeed.

Overall, Time2Read provides young learners at Tyger Valley College Pre-Preparatory with a solid foundation in language skills, setting them up for academic success in the years to come. Through its playful and interactive approach, children not only gain essential language abilities but also develop a love for learning that will stay with them throughout their education.









Over the school holidays try to practise the sounds we have learnt this term!



#### **Academic Pillar**

#### **Preparatory Report**

#### **Junior Preparatory**

Our pupils made us very proud during our first Student Led Conference of the year, when sharing their goals for 2025 with their parents.

We have been focussing on self-management and honouring various aspects of our lives in Life Skills and through our RDI (Respect, Diversity and Inclusion) program; ourselves, our friends, our school and our environment.







#### Maths Week in the Senior Phase

Maths Week in the Senior Phase took place from the 10th to the 14th of March, and it was an exciting celebration of numbers, problem-solving, and creativity. Throughout the week, different grades participated in various challenges and engaging activities designed to make Mathematics fun and interactive.

The highlight of the week was Pi Day, celebrated on Friday, the 14th of March—fittingly, as the date represents 3.14, the value of Pi. To mark the occasion, pupils embraced their creativity by dressing up as something mathematical. The school was filled with imaginative costumes, from human calculators to famous mathematicians, adding to the festive atmosphere.

A thrilling competition was also held to test who could recite Pi to the furthest decimal point from memory. The competition was fierce, but Ané Bezuidenhout emerged victorious, astonishing everyone by reciting an incredible 94 decimal places of Pi!

Maths Week was a resounding success, proving that Mathematics can be both educational and entertaining. Pupils enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the subject in new and exciting ways, making it a memorable experience for all.











#### Academic Pillar High School Report

#### **Academic Benchmarking & ADvLEARN**

As the term draws to a close, we reflect on a dynamic and productive few months in the academic sphere.

We successfully completed the first round of MAP testing for Grades 8 to 11. This international benchmarking assessment in English and Mathematics provides valuable insights into pupils' strengths and areas requiring further support. By identifying these key focus areas, we can implement targeted interventions, ensuring both teachers and parents can better assist each pupil's academic journey.

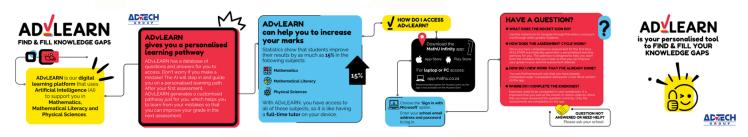
Our pupils also showcased their skills in various academic competitions, including the English, Mathematics, and Computer Applications Technology Olympiads. A standout moment this term was our Escape Room Mathematics Week, which challenged pupils to apply problem-solving and logical thinking in an engaging and

interactive way.



To support effective learning strategies, we hosted a Study Skills Workshop, equipping pupils with valuable techniques to enhance their study habits and academic performance.

We continue to encourage the use of the ADvLEARN platform for Mathematics and Physical Sciences. This invaluable resource provides real-time feedback, highlights problem areas, and offers concept videos to aid revision. By reinforcing classroom learning in an interactive manner, ADvLEARN remains an essential tool for academic support and extension.



To ensure our teaching remains aligned with the latest educational developments, all our teachers attended the IEB regional and national conferences this term. These sessions provided valuable insights and updates, ensuring that the newest information from the IEB is effectively implemented in our classrooms.

#### Maths Week in the High School

This year our theme for Maths week was Escape Room where pupils had to solve the puzzles to escape the room to make it to the next round. Our second breaks were jam-packed with fun activities which needed intense brain activity as teams applied their mathematical skills. On Pi Day, the last two remaining teams solved a murder mystery using a few Maths formulae. Congratulations to Team Sigma, the champions of 2025! We are also super proud of all the pupils who participated in the Maths Olympiad during the busy Maths week.



#### Academic Pillar High School Report

#### Human Rights Day 2025 talk in assembly

Good Morning school. I am Nikhil and joining me today is Lefa. Today we will be providing valuable insights on Human Rights Day. In South Africa, Human Rights Day is observed annually on March 21st, commemorating the 1960 Sharpeville Massacre and the fight for liberation from apartheid. It's a day to reflect on the sacrifices made and the ongoing pursuit of human rights.

In the South African Context: Human rights day commemorates the Sharpeville Massacre, where peaceful anti pass laws protesters, majority of whom were school pupils, were shot and killed by police, highlighting the apartheid government's human rights abuses. The importance and origin of Human Rights Day stems from its roots in the Sharpeville Massacre, serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made and the fight for a more just and democratic South Africa. It is a day to reflect on the progress of human rights, to ensure that human rights are protected and strengthened for future generations, and to promote a culture of human rights. The 2025 theme for Human Rights Month is "Deepening a culture of social justice and human rights". But, what are human rights? Human rights are fundamental freedoms and rights that are inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.

South Africa recognizes a broad set of human rights in its Constitution, particularly in the Bill of Rights (Chapter 2 of the Constitution), which outlines 27 fundamental rights.

A few of these Human rights in South Africa include:

Freedom of speech,

Freedom of peaceful assembly,

Freedom of peaceful movement,

Rights to basic education, housing, water and sanitation

Other rights include the right to privacy, Human dignity, religious freedom, no slavery, citizenship, and children's rights.

Each of us can enhance human rights by standing up against injustice, amplifying the voices of the marginalized, and committing to equality and dignity for all, every day. With every human right comes a responsibility. And Lefa will now discuss the responsibilities that are associated with these human rights.

We often talk about human rights, but what we don't discuss enough are the responsibilities that come with these rights. Having rights doesn't mean we can do whatever we want without consequence. It means we must respect the rights of others. If we have the right to free speech, we also have the responsibility to use our words wisely, without spreading hate or misinformation. If we have the right to education, we have the responsibility to learn, to grow, and to contribute positively to society. If we have the right to freedom, we must ensure that our actions don't take away someone else's freedom or dignity.

Every right we enjoy comes with a duty to uphold those same rights for others. We cannot demand equality while treating others unfairly. We cannot expect justice while turning a blind eye to injustice. True human rights are not just about what we deserve—they are about how we treat others, how we uplift those around us, and how we build a society where fairness and respect are the norm. A fair and just world isn't created by demanding rights alone but by actively upholding the responsibilities that come with them. It starts with us—our actions, our choices, and our willingness to protect not just our own rights, but those of others.



## **Sports Pillar** Pre-Preparatory

#### Why Monkeynatix?

Monkeynastix is an innovative physical education program designed for young children, combining fun, movement and developmental milestones. Its inclusion at Tyger Valley College highlights the school's commitment to fostering holistic development in children, ensuring they grow not only academically but physically, emotionally, and socially.

One of the core reasons Monkeynastix is so important is its focus on developing essential motor skills. The programme incorporates activities like jumping, balancing, and climbing, which help young children enhance their co-ordination, strength, flexibility, and balance. These fundamental skills form the foundation for future physical activities and sports, contributing to better overall health and fitness.

Furthermore, Monkeynastix supports cognitive and social development. Through engaging group activities, children learn teamwork, turn-taking, and communication, which are vital social skills. As they work through fun challenges, they also improve their problem-solving abilities and spatial awareness.

At Tyger Valley College, Monkeynastix is an integral part of the curriculum because it aligns with the school's belief in developing well-rounded individuals. The programme complements academic learning by offering children the opportunity to be active, explore new movement patterns, and cultivate a positive attitude towards physical activity from a young age.

By introducing Monkeynastix, Tyger Valley College ensures that children not only develop physically but also build a strong foundation for emotional well-being and social skills, making it a key component of their early education journey.









# Sports Pillar Preparatory Sports Report

#### **Swimming**

Our swimmers put in incredible effort throughout the season, with early morning team sessions that were key to our preparation. Their hard-work and dedication paid off as we saw a steady improvement in their times throughout the season. Our A-League gala team swam their hearts out at the A-League gala on Monday, 3 March and successfully retained our spot in the A-League. It's encouraging to see our younger swimmers performing so well and shaping a bright future for the team.



#### Swimming Marathon

The Swimming Marathon is a true test of fitness and endurance, with swimmers, parents, and staff taking to the pool to do as many laps as they could in 30minutes. It's always a season highlight and a fantastic way to wrap up the year. A huge congratulations to everyone who participated and took on the challenge!













#### Cricket

It's been exciting to see our cricket program grow, now fielding two full teams for U9, U10, and U11, along with three teams in the Opens age group. Despite mixed results and several matches being cancelled due to weather, it was inspiring to witness some players reach personal milestones. Congratulations to Dylan Tarr, Nathan De Wet, Stavros Gerolemou, and Timothy Buck for achieving their respective 50+ scores this season!











#### **Tennis**

The tennis season was significantly impacted by rain, with many fixtures cancelled due to weather conditions. However, in the matches we did play, our teams showcased strong performances, with the U11A girls emerging as the standout performers of the season.

















#### **Mountain Biking Family Fun Day**

Our Prep School and Grade O pupils, along with parents and staff, had a blast during the Mountain Biking Family Fun Ride at Hazeldean Valley Farm on Sunday, 9 March. It was a fantastic morning out on the trails, and the event was such a success that we look forward to making it a regular activity in the future.









#### **Mountain Biking**

Our TVC Mountain Bikers competed in the Gauteng Schools Mountain Biking League Event #1 at De Damhuis in Bronkhorspruit on Saturday, 22 March. On a quick and windy course, our riders performed exceptionally well, with some of our top performances being Joshua Van Niekerk (10th out of 219 in the Nipper Boys) and Nathan Prinsloo (35th out of 239 in the Sprogs Boys). We're excited to see more riders joining the team and look forward to even more great performances at the next event!













#### **High School Sports Results**

#### **Boys Hockey vs Rietondale**

U14 won 4-0 U16 won 3-0 1st Team won 4-0

#### Girls Hockey vs Höerskool Tuine

U14 won 6-0 U15 won 1-0 2nd Team drew 0-0 1st Team won 5-0

#### **Eduplex Hockey**

Girls U/15 lost 0-2 Boys U/15 won 2-0 1st Girls won 6-0 1st Boys won 2-1

#### **Eduplex and SA College Netball**

U/14 results:

TVC 10 - 9SA College TVC 10 - 15 EduPlex

Netball U/15 results:

TVC 14 - 8 SA College TVC 14 - 18 EduPlex

Netball U/16 results:

TVC 21-9 SA College

TVC 18-12 EduPlex

1st team:

TVC 26 - 5 SA College TVC 12-23 EduPlex

#### **Eduplex and SA College Rugby**

Junior:

TVC 21-9 SA College TVC 18-12 EduPlex

1st team:

TVC 10 - 12 SA College

TVC 40-0 EduPlex

























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#### The Arts Pillar

#### **Pre-Prep - Rooted in Kindness**

Our concert message carried the message that love is the force that unites us, making us feel safe, happy, and valued. When we express love to our family, friends, and even strangers, we spread warmth and joy, strengthening the bonds that connect us.

Kindness, like magic, costs nothing but holds immense power. A simple smile, a kind word, or a small gesture can brighten someone's day. By choosing kindness, we not only uplift others but also bring light into our own lives. A world filled with kindness begins with us—through the small, everyday choices we make. When we train ourselves to see the good in every situation, we cultivate positivity and contribute to a better world.

Let's choose kindness, spread love, and work together to create a brighter, more compassionate world—one kind act at a time.

















#### **Matric & Pre-Prep Playdate**































#### The Arts Pillar

#### **Prep Arts Department report**

#### **Cultural Highlights**

Term 1 was filled with cultural activities, bringing together students from TVC and beyond. Our chess players honed their skills at a workshop and competed in two tournaments, including a friendly event hosted by TVC with three visiting schools. Public speakers showcased their talents at two events, including the TVC festival. Both the Senior and Junior Choirs enjoyed engaging and productive Saturday morning workshops, while private music pupils had the opportunity to perform for their parents at intimate studio concerts. The term concluded on a high note with a spectacular Choir, Ensemble, and Dance evening—undoubtedly the highlight of the term! We look forward to more enriching cultural experiences in the coming terms.























#### High School: Arts Department report High School Ensemble Evening

The High School Music department in tandem with the High School Art department hosted a cultural evening on the 13 March 2025. We had originally planned to have a lovely evening outdoors, but the weather chased us inside. The event cosily took place in the passage between the EGD and Art classes. The walls were lined with Art and the Grade 11 Art pupils were painting during the course of the event, which created a colourful atmosphere for the music.

We had the following music groups performing during the course of the evening: Resonance Band (a group run by 5 matric pupils), the Ukulele Club, Ukulele Society, Junior Marimba Club, Marimba Band, Guitar Ensemble, and Acapella group. The evening was painted with a variety of styles of music and created a beautiful space for our pupils to showcase their talents and hard work from the first two months of school. The standard of music was high and the energy grew as the evening went on.

We thank our parents, pupils and teachers for their involvement and attendance at such an event. It is a special way to build community around the arts. We hope to make this an annual event. "It's not only music, It's not only art. It's a community. It's a sense of having a place to belong" Jared Leto







#### Toastmasters!

12 pupils had the opportunity to hone their public speaking skills under the tutelage of the Toastmasters International organisation, spear-headed by two Strelitzia Toastmasters: Robin Lunt & Jacobus Erasmus.

These pupils went through six sessions of training, and on their seventh session they had a gala dinner (24 March 2025). Over the course of six Monday evening sessions, they honed their abilities, practising both impromptu and prepared speeches. Their hard work culminated in an seventh session, where they confidently delivered their speeches in front of an audience, demonstrating impressive growth in their communication and presentation abilities. The gala dinner was a celebration of their dedication and the progress they had made throughout the program.

#### Impromptu Speech Winners:

1st place- Mpho Mophatlane 2nd Place- Jorge Zwennis 3rd Place- Lehlohonolo Letswalo

#### **Prepared Speech:**

1st place- Taropafadzwa Kapayapundo 2nd place- Tshegofatjo Makhafola 3rd place- Faith Olateju





#### **High School: Arts Department report**

#### **Talent Show 2025**

























**Grade 8 and Matric Picnic** 













#### OutreachPillar

Tyger Valley College have been granted with a Diamond award for our 10 year involvement with the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA). Our various Eco and Outreach initiatives centred around helping those communities less fortunate than ourselves is one of our four pillars of our school. We take pride in being an Eco-School, caring for the environment and reducing our carbon footprint. Thank you to all our TVC parents and community members for always supporting us in this journey.







#### **High School Tutor Programme**

On the 4th of March our pupils tutored decimal fractions and parts of speech to approximately 150 Gr 7 pupils at Boschkop Primary School. Under the guidance of Mrs Toohey and Mr Nontshinga, our Gr 11s prepared their lessons and fun games to help pupils understand the work and consolidate their knowledge. It was a heartwarming experience for both our Gr 11s and the Gr 7 children at Boschkop Primary School.







Towards the end of March, the school collected blankets and marshmellow Easter Eggs for the Boschkop School and delivered them to the school before they started their Easter Holiday. Thank you to everyone who donated to support our drive.







# CLOTHES 2 GOOD WC Outreach Collection

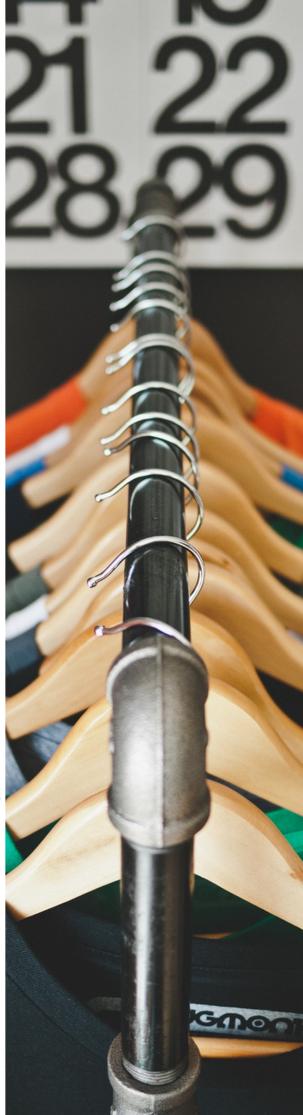
# Collection dates: 6 MAY TO 6 JUNE

#### What to donate:

- Any old clothes that are cluttering your wardrobe
- Place the items into the C2G bags together with the consent form.

### **Drop off:**

 The clothes cages will be located in the parking bays at Pre-Prep and Prep. The High School cage will be outside the STEAM Hub

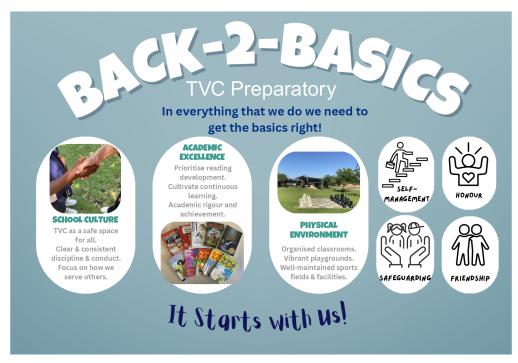


# NPS SURVEY REFLECTIONS

#### **Pre-Prep School Parents - feedback**

Early morning class - the Pre-Preparatory school has opened the early morning class at 06:55. We trust that this has assisted in a small way with the traffic congestion in the mornings.





# Welcome to the STASY online portal Please select the applicable option on the left. You will be directed to a separate page on which you will be required to also will not you will be required to also will not you will be required to also will not you or orderands. Have you downloaded the STASY Mobile App? Download it before App Store App Store Download it before Download it before Download it before App Store Download it before Download it before

#### **High School Parents - feedback**

Parents: If your child gets below 50% for a formal assessment, you should be notified. Marks are entered after two weeks from the date of the formal assessment. Please contact the teacher if you have concerns.

### High School Pupils - feedback

Our pupils asked for more fun at schoolsometimes this happens in lessons, other times outside the classroom, even a social or dress up. We had a Valentine's Social and a onesie and fluffy toy day



