

SEPT 2025

Q3 NEWS



NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2025



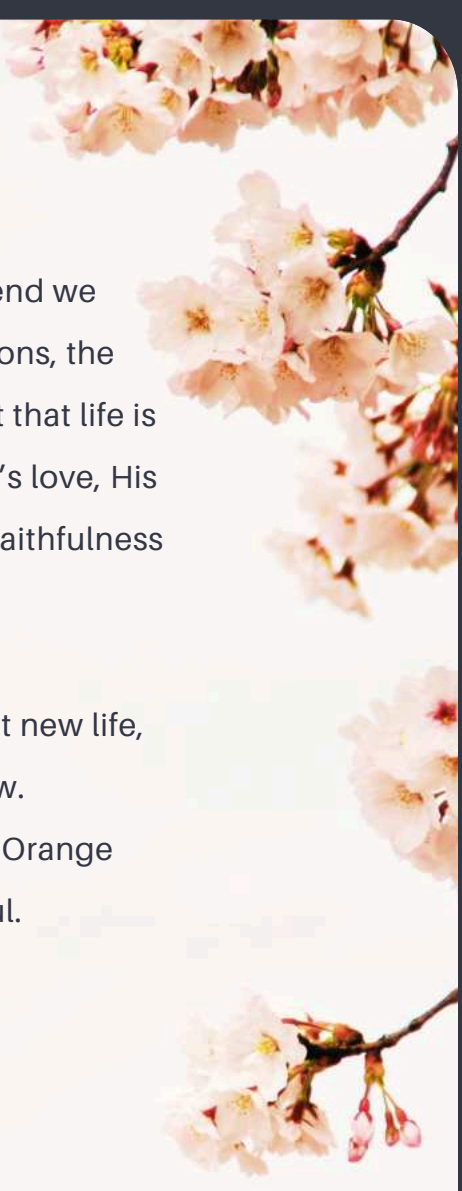
WELCOME FROM THE FOUNDER



As the term draws to an end we reflect on changing seasons, the chaos around us, the fact that life is short yet we revel in God's love, His peace and His unfailing faithfulness towards us.

Spring shouts to us about new life, growth and all things new.

That is how things are at Orange Grove and we are grateful.



C Phillips

Kitty Phillips

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Ithemba News **2**

Visitors **3**

Pre-school News **5**

Academic News **8**

Sports & Culture **10**

Outdoor News **12**

Back 2 Nature **13**

Archery **13**

Horse Riding **14**

Winterberg Visit **14**

Staff News **15**

ITHEMBA NEWS



Visitors



We were delighted to welcome international visitors to our school recently from the USA and Mexico! These guests brought with them their experiences, enriching us with diverse perspectives. Our students had the opportunity to engage with them, learning about different cultures and ways of life. The visitors were impressed by our school's inclusive environment and the enthusiasm of our students. We believe that hosting international visitors helps foster global understanding and prepares our students for an increasingly interconnected world. We're grateful for the opportunity to build bridges between cultures and look forward to future exchanges. Thank you to these visitors for taking time out from their safaris with Ezulu Adventures to visit us:

- *Jamie Hawks* from Texas
- *Erika Dudley & her daughter, Gracyn* from Florida
- *Yolette Safa* and her daughter, *Jenna* from Texas
- *Margarita Quintanilla, Raquel Garcia* and her daughter, *Balbina* from Mexico
- *Wendy Johnson* from Florida
- *Lynn Adams* from Arizona
- *Dondi Frisinger* from Arizona



"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6





PRESCHOOL NEWS

Preschool News

This term has been brief, but we are all so excited to see the arrival of spring. Everything is lush and green, allowing us to wear lighter clothing. During our road safety activities, we engaged with mini road signs and bicycles. For our transport theme, we painted a hot air balloon adorned with earbuds. In our fire safety sessions, we gathered small sticks, and with *Liya's* help, we built a fire. Aunty *Nandi* and Aunty *Aletta* roasted marshmallows for us to make delicious s'mores, which were a big hit!

We had a fantastic time playing at the Outdoor Center, where we also crafted a fire picture using real sticks and flames. Additionally, we explored the concept of opposites, learning about big and small, as well as wet and dry. The Grade R students practiced drawing themselves in greater detail.

Last Wednesday, we celebrated Grandparents' Day, welcoming all the grandparents for an open day. We performed a special song for them and created personalized pictures for each grandparent. We had a blast making these using paste, peas, beans, fabric, beads, and glitter. Each learner took great pride in their detailed creations. Afterward, the grandparents enjoyed more entertainment in the hall, along with a delightful tea and snacks.

This term, we also built a boat, which we got to play on! We had so much fun sliding down and using the fireman pole. Overall, our playtime has been incredibly enjoyable!





OGS NEWS



ACADEMIC NEWS

Classroom News



The third term of 2025 has been a short but busy term. Following on from the last term, we are very proud to share that *Jonathan Hood*, Grade 6, qualified for the third and final round of the South African Mathematics Challenge, among only 159 Grade 6 students country wide. This is an amazing achievement for any student, and we eagerly await the final results, which will be released in November.

During the second week of the term, our Grade 11 Tutorial Centre students, studying through the Online School, travelled to Cape Town to attend Contact Sessions. During this time, they had the opportunity to meet their online classmates and teachers face-to-face and to do various labs and practicals together. While in Cape Town, they enjoyed a hike on the Stellenbosch Mountains and visited the beach at Melkbosstrand.

The Grade 1 to Grade 7 classes wrote the National Curriculum Linked Assessment, which is a nationwide test of literacy and numeracy skills, designed to ensure that all South African students are on track in their educational progress. Historically, our students have done well in this test, and we look forward to receiving the results soon.

On the fun side of classroom life, the Grade 1 class enjoyed a "Movie Night" during the day, and the Tutorial Centre students hiked a nearby mountain, called Martha, for their Honour Roll trip. Mary and Martha are instantly recognisable landmarks of Tarkastad, being the only pair of butte or mesa shaped mountains in the area. And last, but not least, we will end the term with our first ever Grandparents' Day, where our Grannies and Grandpas will be treated to tea and cake, performances and plays from the Foundation Phase, as well as singing and worship dance from the Intermediate and Senior Phase students.



SPORTS & CULTURE





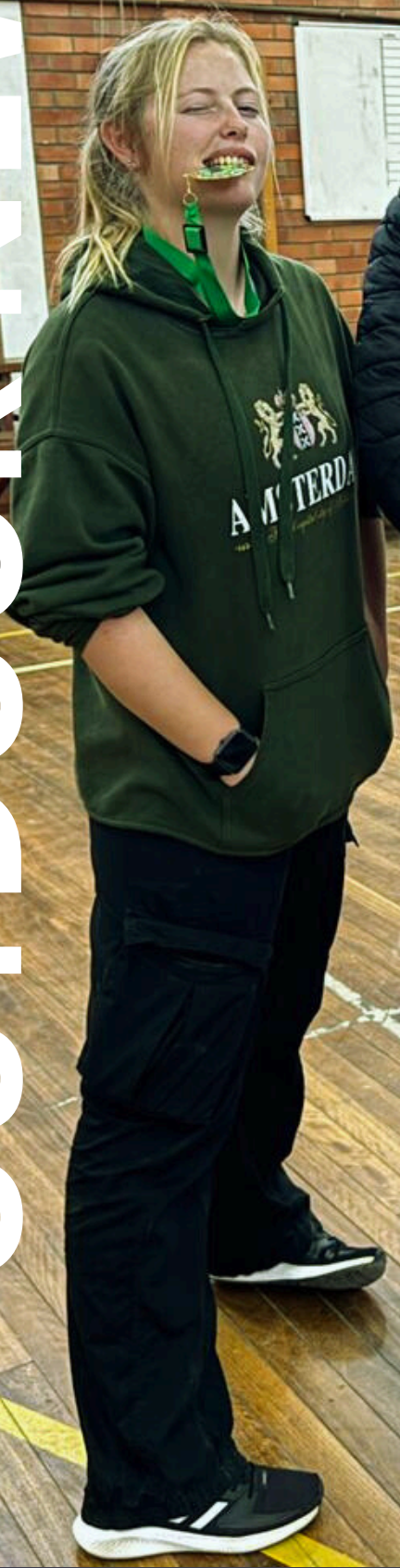
Term 3 started with a bang! Athletics was our main event for the term. We started off with our Interhouse athletics event. From this event a team of 21 was chosen to participate in the Regional Athletics event hosted in Gqeberha on 15 August 2025. Our athletes held the Orange Grove Schools name high achieving excellent results. We had a number of athletes who achieved National qualifying times or distances in a number of events. Orange Grove finished off the day with twice as many points as any of the other schools that participated. Well done to all of you! We wish our 7 athletes who are participating in the National event during the holidays everything of the best.



In between all of our athletics we also had a number of hockey, netball, soccer and even a rugby match or 2. Well done to all our teams and players on all your hard work during practices and on game days! You have made us all so proud with your excellent results. We look forward to an exciting final term 4 with Interschools Athletics, cricket, tennis and swimming. Well done to all the learners for working hard at sport this term and always trying your best .



OUTDOOR NEWS



Back 2 Nature



This term in B2N we covered a variety of topics from tracking to insects and how form and function relate to one another in the world of living things. We discussed the different types of rocks and how they form and we also talked about the difference between monocots and dicots and looked at microscope slides of some plants to illustrate the peculiarities of the different groups. Our older students all had an opportunity to demonstrate their laws of nature models to the grade 7's from the Winterberg school who came to visit. Finally, we finished off the term with a dreaded test and we're looking forward to our field trips next term.

Archery



During the third term, our focus was on indoor archery and preparing for the Eastern Cape Provincial competition. Some of our archers also continue to shoot the monthly league competition. A number of our archers got equipment upgrades and our younger archers are starting to get into the swing of things - it takes time with archery. We were also able to give the grade 7's from the Winterberg School an opportunity to try out a bit of archery during their visit to Orange Grove. In the middle of September, we went down to Grahamstown to shoot the provincial competition. *Alexa Mac Taggart* earned her provincial colours in U21 woman's recurve, which is indeed an impressive achievement. Our other archers also did very well and they all learned a lot, got inspired to practice harder and four of them are looking forward to attending the national indoor competition in the middle of October.



Horse Riding



This term was especially challenging for the kids, as it was their final chance to qualify for the top 5 teams. Securing a spot meant they would go on to compete together next term – with the ultimate prize being a once-in-a-lifetime trip away, where the winning team will get the incredible opportunity to ride horses elsewhere! Throughout the term, every rider worked hard to avoid losing points in the various team challenges. They practiced, memorized, and completed an obstacle course, a jumping course, a bareback game, a theory challenge, and finished it all off with outrides. Because this was the last chance to make the cut, all the teams took the competition seriously and gave it their all. We couldn't be prouder of their effort, determination, and the way they rose above expectations!



Winterberg Visit

We were privileged to host the grade 7's from another farm school in our area – the Winterberg school. They enjoyed learning about some of the laws of nature from our Back to Nature students and got to experience some of these laws as they all had a go on our new pirate ship fluffy slide. After cookies and hot chocolate at teatime, they broke into two groups that alternated between archery and our climbing wall. Not everyone was brave enough to tackle the climbing wall but a few did make it to the top. It was a short visit but an opportunity for our students to make new friends and we hope we will be able to do more together in the future.

Staff News



The second staff house is nearing completion. The operations manager's house was completed last year and *Rosie*, who has been teaching at the school for over 12 years, will be in her house before the end of the year. The Lord has been so faithful in the building of the staff houses. We have started each build without the finances to finish and the Lord has provided every time. Our goal is to build six houses for the first phase of staff accommodation. We thank our sponsors for their continuous support which makes this project possible. We hope that our staff have the freedom to grow old with us and that they always feel they have purpose. There's no retirement in the Kingdom of God.





IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN JOINING THE ITHEMBA SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM, PLEASE
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