

Message from the Principal



We have come to the end of a very busy first term, and we are extremely proud of the achievements of our learners.

Our Grade 8s have hit the ground running, and we are very excited to see what the year holds in store for them. They have found their feet quickly and are actively involved in activities around the school.

Our Matrics ended the term on a high note as we celebrated their Matric Farewell, a milestone many of them have been looking forward to. It is now, however, time for them to focus on the biggest milestone of their school journey and to finish the year with a quality pass. The Matrics have promised us a 100% pass rate, and they will only be able to achieve this with the support of their parents by ensuring that they give their best in preparation for their assessments.

Looking at the success of the summer programme and seeing how hard our Westeringers are working towards the winter season, the derby days promise to be very exciting. We are very grateful to our staff who are working tirelessly to help our learners achieve their best.

It is on a sad note that we end the term, as we bid farewell to four of our staff members. Mrs Solomon and Mr Maschaka are embarking on new journeys, and we thank them for the passion, dedication, and energy they have invested in our school community. Their impact in the classroom and beyond has helped shape the lives of many learners, and their presence will certainly be missed.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mrs Perring and Mrs Smith, who are retiring after years of committed service. Their experience, wisdom, and unwavering care have left a lasting legacy at our school. They have not only contributed to the academic growth of our learners but have also played a vital role in nurturing values and building a strong sense of community.

We know they will always remain proud Westeringers at heart.

To our extended Westering family, we wish you a beautiful break with your children. Rest well, as Term 2 will be a busy one, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new term.

Kind regards

Mr Mulder

NEWS FROM OUR PORTFOLIO HEADS



A final word from our Academic Head
Mrs Edith Smith

As I step down as Academic Head after eight years, and reflect on 18 years at Westering High School, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude.

To the staff — thank you. Your commitment to academic excellence, your willingness to embrace change, and the way you have carried increased demands with professionalism have not gone unnoticed. It is a rare gift to work among colleagues who are dependable, supportive, and consistently dedicated to doing what is best for our learners. It has truly been a privilege to walk this journey with you. To our learners: never underestimate your potential. You have no reason to see yourselves as anything less than capable in the academic space. While we have not yet achieved a 100% matric pass rate, it remains a goal worth striving for. Do not allow challenges or circumstances to define you. Rather, rise above them, and make full use of the support and intervention programmes provided to help you succeed.

We remain mindful that our Grade 8, 9 and 10 results require focused attention, as these years lay the foundation for future success. Together, we must continue to raise the standard and build a culture of accountability and excellence from the start.

As I take my leave, I do so with appreciation for the past and confidence in the future of Westering High School. Thank you for 18 meaningful years — years I will always value.

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” — Galatians 6:9



Staff News

We bid farewell to Mrs Solomon and Mr Maschaka who will be taking up a new educational adventures, Mrs Smith and Mrs Perring who have both decided to retire.

We wish each one all of the best in their new ventures.

Welcome

Ms Davids and Mrs Scott who joined the Afrikaans Department, Ms Heradien joining our Music department and Mr Harmse who joined the Sports Office. We are glad to have you on board.

From the Desk of Mrs Arendse Head of Culture

Term 1 has been nothing short of incredible for the Westering High School Steelband. From the very beginning, it was clear that this would be a term marked by growth, energy, and memorable moments. The band has continued to grow steadily, both in numbers and in musical strength, and it has been inspiring to see each member develop their skills and confidence.

Throughout the term, the steelband had the opportunity to showcase their talent at several exciting events. These included performances at the Interact Cake Sale, the Activities Fair, and the annual Westering High School Open Day. Each performance was a reflection of the hard work and dedication put in during rehearsals, and the learners represented the school with pride and excellence.

A definite highlight of the term was the band's performance at the Herald Cycle Tour, where they joined forces with the Marimba Band for a vibrant and energetic collaboration. This combined performance stood out as one of the biggest moments of the term, demonstrating not only musical ability but also teamwork and unity between the ensembles.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the members of the steelband for their commitment, discipline, and passion. Your enthusiasm and willingness to grow have been the driving force behind the band's success this term.

This term also marks a bittersweet moment for the steelband as we bid farewell to our dedicated and passionate teacher, Mr B. Maschaka. His years of service, leadership, and love for the steelband have left a lasting impact on every learner who has been part of the group. His contribution to building and shaping the steelband cannot be overstated. He will truly be missed, but his legacy will continue to live on in the music and spirit of the band.

As we look ahead, we are excited for what the future holds and are confident that the steelband will continue to grow from strength to strength.



Mrs Tarryn Nell

Head of Marketing

Our Marketing team had a productive and eventful first term. The term commenced with roadshows at Moregrove Primary School, Westering Primary School and Kabega Primary School, where our Head Prefects presented to Grade 7 students about the merits of Westering High School and encouraged them to consider it as their preferred choice for 2027.

On Saturday, 14 February 2026, we hosted an Open Day, inviting Grade 7 students from across the city to visit our school. Attendees were able to explore various activities and subjects offered, engage in experiments, and observe our different sports disciplines in action. We encouraged the students to participate in our various activities around the school which involved collecting stickers. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all and once they had collected all their stickers, they could enter a lucky draw to win a Baywest voucher.

Our Facebook and Instagram accounts have been actively updating our community on various activities and sports results, demonstrating our commitment to providing a diverse range of opportunities for every student. We were very excited to have reached 5 000 followers on our Instagram page this term, and we hope to continue growing and spreading our “blue blood” amongst more followers.

We look forward to a very busy Term 2 with plenty of action in all spheres of our school and we will continue to showcase all our amazing talent at Westering High School. Follow us on our social media platforms.



Mr Robinson

Head of ICT

It has been a productive end to 2025 and an energetic start to 2026 for our ICT department.

We are pleased to share that the school now has a fifth fully functional computer lab. Mr Coetzee's lab has been upgraded with brand new PCs, including five dedicated machines for Esports.

In addition, four extra computers have been installed in Mr Motsie's lab to further support digital learning. Our ongoing goal is to equip every classroom with its own WiFi access point to ensure reliable, high-quality connectivity across the school. We began this rollout with the English department, and all nine English classrooms now have individual access points, resulting in greatly improved WiFi performance. We have also made significant progress in the “F” block, where most classrooms are now fully connected.

Earlier this year, we encountered some challenges with the textbook server, which affected many learners using the miEbooks app. We are happy to report that these issues have been resolved and the system is running smoothly again. Optimi has removed the 'Analytics' feature from the app due to persistent bugs and minimal usage, which has helped improve overall performance.

As tablets remain an essential learning tool at our school, we ask parents and guardians to please continue encouraging learners to take good care of their devices. This includes avoiding drops, preventing physical damage, and not leaving tablets unattended in bags.

Mr. Rudman

Acting Head of Service & Pastoral

The Service and Pastoral structures at Westering High School continue to play a vital role in shaping a balanced, values-driven, and supportive school environment. Through a combination of outreach initiatives, learner development programmes, and co-curricular involvement, learners are consistently encouraged to grow as responsible and engaged members of both the school and the wider community.



A key highlight within the service portfolio has been the continued outreach work through Impact. Learners visited MTR Smit Children's Haven, where they engaged in meaningful social interaction, participated in praise and worship, and donated clothing. This initiative not only provided tangible support to the children but also reinforced empathy, compassion, and social responsibility among our learners. In addition, the Impact Youth Evening proved to be a significant success, with over 300 learners in attendance. The event created a platform for various youth groups to come together in fellowship, promoting unity, spiritual growth, and a strong sense of community within the school environment.

The Peer Promoter programme has also started the year on a positive note, with the first blood drive yielding 124 donors. This level of participation is commendable and reflects the willingness of learners to contribute meaningfully to causes beyond themselves, reinforcing a culture of service and awareness. Learner development remains a central focus within the pastoral framework. The Mr and Miss Westering Pageant is a prime example of this, extending beyond a traditional event to focus on leadership, confidence-building, and personal growth. Learners are being guided by experienced mentors, ensuring that they develop not only in presentation but also in character and responsibility as ambassadors of the school. Across all grades, a consistent emphasis has been placed on learner well-being, discipline, and support. Through ongoing engagement, early identification of challenges, and structured intervention, learners are supported both academically and emotionally. The strength of the pastoral system lies in the relationships built between staff and learners, fostering an environment of trust, accountability, and mutual respect.

Co-curricular structures, including sport and house activities, continue to play a significant supporting role in the pastoral space by offering opportunities for mentorship, teamwork, and leadership development. Despite the wide range of opportunities offered at Westering High School, the service and pastoral programmes continue to flourish, driven by committed staff and actively engaged learners. There is a clear shift from passive participation to active learner ownership within service and pastoral structures, indicating a maturing school culture aligned with the values of Westering High School.

The school extends its sincere appreciation to all staff members involved in these initiatives. Your continued dedication and willingness to invest in the holistic development of our learners ensure that Westering High School continues to uphold its standard of excellence.



SPORT REPORT

Mr. Howe
Head of Sport

This has been a very busy term with the summer sport and winter sport festivals and tours starting.

Cricket- our boys and girls teams all fared well through the season with many notable victories and achievements by our players and teams.

Athletics- our athletes have been in fine form on the track this season. Many of them set new records and also attained their own Personal Best times. Tyshawn Banda, Aasif Lagardien, Dylan Kluyt and Jordan Agnew have been selected for EP Team to attend the ASA National Championship in Germiston.

Rugby, Hockey, Netball, Futsal- our teams have been in full mode and have attended various pre- season festivals to assist with preparations for the upcoming season.

Judo- Ayabulele Gwama was selected for the SA Judo team that participated in the African Youth Games in Angola in December 2025. She also had the added privilege of been selected at the flag bearer for the team.

Lifesaving- Keelah Plaatjies was selected as part of the SA Lifesaving team that represented South Africa in New Zealand in November 2025.

Jiu- Jitsu- Shahla Jogie was crowned EP Champion at the EPNMA ISKA Classic Championship.

Cycling- Shasmeen Botha came 1st in the u17 category at the Herald Cycle Tour.

We will be hosting the Westering Junior festival for various sporting codes at the end of March. We congratulate all our sports teams on the achievements and results and look forward to a bust winter season.



SOARING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE



SOARING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

Mr Jordan Head of Leadership

Junior City Council Society (JCCS)

The Junior City Council had a busy term. Their stationery drive continued into 2026, dropping off stationery at several schools across the metro. The Youth Development Portfolio of the JCC also visited the SOS and Mosaic Children's home. The council organised a movie night at Linkside High School and made over R10 000.

It was a busy Saturday at Save-A-Pet, with the JCCS assisting the NPO with maintenance at the premises. Our Society donated bags of dog snacks and food and made dog toys to keep our furry friends busy.

Clint Gumede, our junior councillor, is growing from strength to strength and won best speaker at the council meeting. Both Olisa Tom, our Junior Mayor and Clint Gumede are great ambassadors for Westering High School and we are proud of the work they do.



Representative Council of Learners (RCL)

The RCL hosted a Leadership Workshop early in March. Eight schools (including WHS) and just over 70 learners attended. The very successful Leadership Workshop was facilitated by Global Leadership Consultants. Positive feedback was received from all the schools that participated.



The RCL had an Eagle Easter Egg Hunt on Tuesday, where learners were treated to lovely Easter Eggs to celebrate this important event on the Christian calendar.





Happy holidays to all.

