

23 January 2026

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of week two, and we are slowly getting into the rhythm of Term 1 2026.

Our extramural activities have started off very well with the rate of activity matched by the energy levels of our students, despite the searing Mahikeng heat.

We have put a system in place to ensure our students are properly hydrated during these activities by ensuring there is sufficient water and ice breaks in between.

Primary School Interhouse Athletics

We look forward to seeing you at the Inter-House Primary Schools Athletics event on Friday 30 January, weather permitting.

Our Primary School students are also attending an athletics cluster meeting in Goodwill Park on the 28th of January 2026. A cohort of athletes have been prepared in advance to ensure our students participate in this event.

Parents, it is prudent that I share this with you. Whilst we would like to encourage participation in our cluster and district events, it is only possible if we receive advance notice to support such events. It is almost impossible to participate as a school if we do not receive lead notice, because this can sometimes disrupt the smooth running of internal programmes. However, where possible we will try and support participation.

Top Achievers

On Monday we have our Top Achievers Assembly. This Assembly recognises those students that have moved up a notch in their Academic Achievement based on Term 3 marks, and those students who have maintained excellent achievement, and acts as a catalyst to inspire and motivate our students to maintain excellence at the beginning of our Academic Year. Parents are always welcome to attend if you are free.

OISESA (Office of Independent Schools Evaluations of South Africa)

As I briefly mentioned in my address to Senior Primary parents on Wednesday evening meeting, International School of South Africa will participate in a quality assurance survey this year.

The school has been selected by ISASA for a quality assurance evaluation from 26 - 28 May 2026. The evaluation will be conducted by OISESA. Part of the data collection process involves the administration of stakeholder surveys for parents, staff, students, and the board of governors.

However, we need feedback from parents and all stakeholders much earlier which will be informed and guided by OISESA as we begin compiling our self-study report. This must be done ahead of the



onsite school visit which will cover the **school's mission, governance, leadership, sustainability, culture and climate, communication, the education programme, staffing, student wellbeing, safeguarding, health and safety, facilities, infrastructure, and our boarding programme, to highlight but a few standards and indicators benchmarked against global standards.**

The school last participated in a similar programme in 2018. As an ISASA school we are obligated to participate in this whole school self-study to establish if our alignment is in line with that of ISASA's vision. *"Boldly leading the independent schooling sector in its pursuit to provide quality education."*

Part of the idea is to identify areas in which we do well, and to identify areas of improvement, as we work through a critical process of critical reflection and self-evaluation. It will assist our community to affirm and celebrate our strengths and identify areas of vulnerability.

We would really appreciate you taking the time to complete the parent survey. Your feedback will help us refine our focus on areas that need attention and ensure as we continue improving our offering. This is an exciting period for our school, and we look forward to your participation. Information regarding the stakeholder survey process will be shared within the next two weeks.

Conclusion

Thank you for what continues to be a positive start to the year. There is such a positive feeling of harmony within our community.

Let us maintain this positive engagement as we march into 2026 with great enthusiasm and optimism.

"If it matters to the child, it matters to us."

Yours sincerely

Bruce Wells
CEO/Headmaster
International School of South Africa

