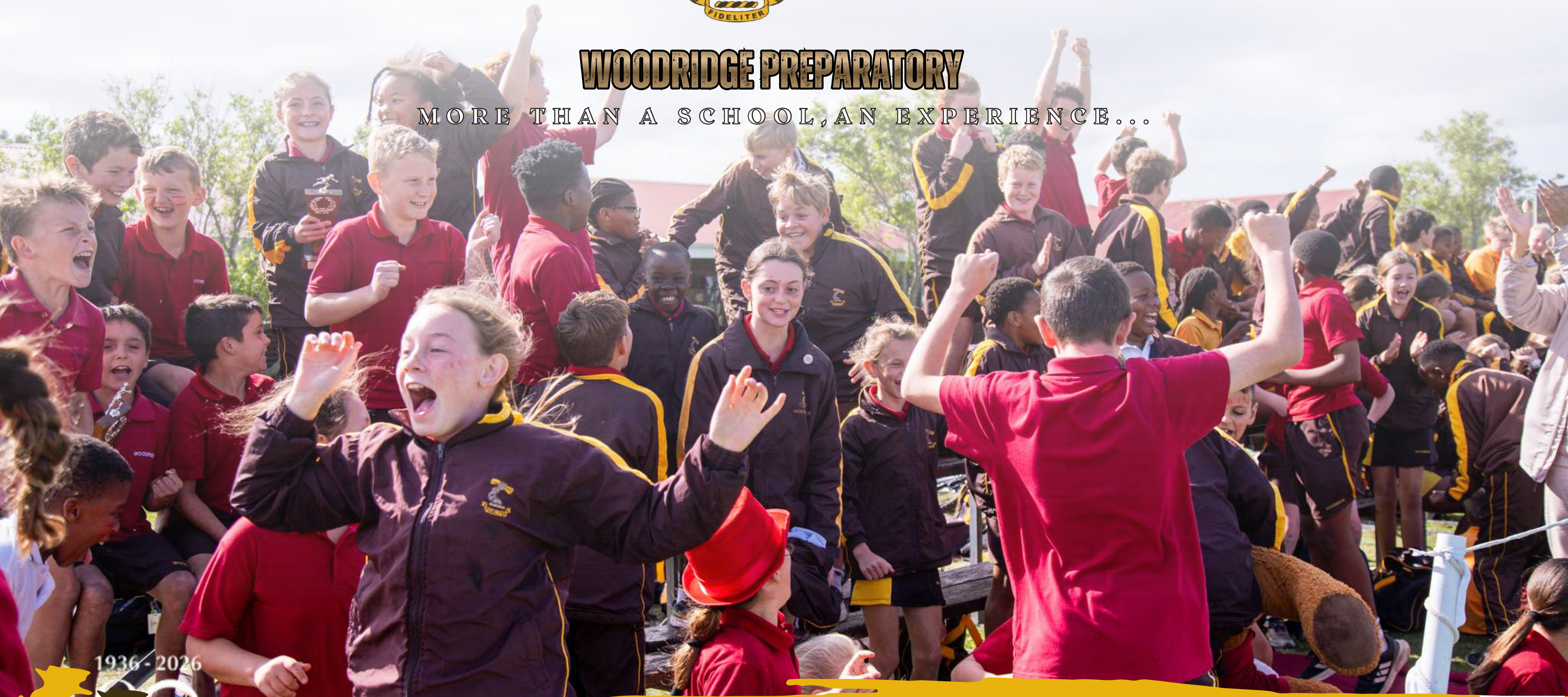




WOODRIDGE PREPARATORY

MORE THAN A SCHOOL, AN EXPERIENCE...



1936-2026



SEPTEMBER 2026 / ISSUE #11
WWW.WOODRIDGE.CO.ZA



ADVENTURE OUTDOORS



IN THIS ISSUE

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE PREP SCHOOL...

- 03 HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE**
Welcome back families!
- 04 KING & QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN**
*Grade 7s race to qualify for the
Eco-Adventure*
- 05 INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS**
Go Loeries, Kingfisher and Hoopoes!
- 06 PYJAMA DAY**
- 07 STAFF NEWS**
- 08 IN THE NEWS**
24SumMore+
- 08 MERRELL MTB & TRAIL RUN**
- 09 ADVENTURE SEASON BEGINS**
Grade 1 boys
- 10 RECCE - ECO ADVENTURE**
- 11 ARBOR DAY COMMEMORATION**
Tree Planting
- 12 ROCK CLIMBING**
Grade 7s
- 13 LOOKING AHEAD**
Term 3 Calendar

*Outdoor Education Events : Grade 1s to 7s
Save the Dates*

FROM THE HEADMASTER

ADVENTURE AWAITS...

A very warm welcome back to all our Woodridge families, and welcome to Term Three. I hope that everyone enjoyed a refreshing break and is ready for what is undoubtedly one of the most exciting times of the year at Woodridge Prep. Happy Spring!

Term Three marks the official start of our Adventure Season, a season that truly celebrates what makes Woodridge so unique.

There is something incredibly special about walking around our campus during our co-curricular afternoons at this time of year. Everywhere you look, there is activity. Pupils are fishing, rock climbing, mountain biking, canoeing, practising archery, learning camp craft and camp cooking, and embracing opportunities that simply aren't part of the everyday school experience for most children.

It is wonderful fun, but there is also a very intentional purpose behind it.

At Woodridge, we believe deeply in providing our children with opportunities to step outside their comfort zones, try something new, experience challenge and discover what they are capable of. Adventure provides a wonderful classroom for this. It creates authentic opportunities to practise resilience, courage, teamwork, perseverance and responsibility. These are not character traits that can simply be taught from a textbook. They need to be experienced and practised.

That is the why behind our adventure season.

Our beautiful environment gives us an extraordinary platform from which to do this, but it is our people who bring it to life. I would like to pay special tribute to our staff for the enthusiasm, energy and willingness with which they embrace this season. There is tremendous buy-in to what we do and, more importantly, why we do it. Their willingness to get involved, learn new skills, lead activities and create these experiences for our pupils is what makes this programme possible.

And there is plenty of adventure still to come!

Our Grade 6s will soon depart on their Xterra adventure, while our Grade 5s will tackle the Rietfontein Rampage later in September. Our Grade 7s have their Eco Challenge to look forward to, alongside the many other adventure events and experiences that will fill the weeks ahead.

And there is plenty of adventure still to come!

To our parents, thank you once again for your continued support and for embracing what we are trying to achieve. These opportunities would simply not be possible without your willingness to support your children, our staff and the broader Woodridge experience.

To our pupils, *my challenge is simple:*

Take hold of every opportunity with both hands.

Try something new.

Get involved.

Be prepared to be uncomfortable.

Encourage someone else.

Get muddy. Get wet.

Laugh. Learn. And perhaps discover something about yourself along the way.

There is a lot of adventure waiting for us this term, and I look forward to adventuring alongside many of you as we continue to support our amazing Woodridge Preppies.

Here's to a wonderful Term Three and an unforgettable adventure season.

”

There is more in us than we know. If we could be made to see it, perhaps, for the rest of our lives we will be unwilling to settle for less.

~ Kurt Hahn



YOURS SINCERELY

Clifford Reed



KING & QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN

The Grade 7s annual cycle up the back of the Lady Slipper was a tremendous success, with 52 of our pupils taking on the challenge.

The trail was strenuous and demanding; however, our pupils showed incredible grit, determination and resilience throughout the race. They pushed themselves to the limit as they raced to qualify for a place in the Eco Adventure, giving it their all from start to finish.

We are incredibly proud of all our Grade 7s for their perseverance, courage and commitment. Well done, Grade 7s!



INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS

It was an exciting day for our Kingfishers, Loeries, and Hoopoes, as they competed in a variety of races, earning valuable points for their respective houses.



Access the
photographs here: 
[FLIC.KR](https://www.flic.kr)

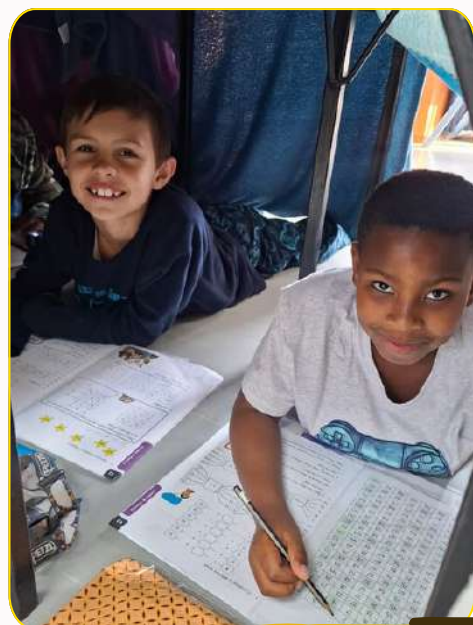
It was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to challenge themselves, build team spirit and enjoy quality time with friends, while making the most of the beautiful outdoors.



PYJAMA DAY

The Foundation Phase pupils ended off last term in the cosiest way! Dressed in their favourite pyjamas and wrapped up in blankets, the children built cosy blanket forts, shared lots of giggles, and

enjoyed a fun-filled day together, as we said a warm farewell to winter. It was the perfect way to end the term, filled with laughter, friendship, and plenty of cosy memories!



STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Danielle and Patrige Chimwendo on tying the knot! Wishing you both a beautiful journey filled with love, laughter, happiness, and countless wonderful memories.

May you continue to choose each other, support each other, and grow together through every season of life.

Here's to a lifetime of love and happiness together!



THE WEDDING PICS

Patrige and Danielle Chimwendo

IN THE NEWS



Ndinawe Zakumba



Oliver Horner



Alexander Hancke

During the school holidays, Alexander Hancke represented the Sporting Supermen at the LPL Cricket Tournament in Johannesburg. He delivered an outstanding all-round performance against the Mzansi Hawks, scoring an unbeaten 51*, taking 1 wicket for just 6 runs in 2 overs, and pulling off a brilliant match-turning catch. His fantastic performance earned him the well-deserved Player of the Match award! Well done Alex!

24SUM MORE+

After months of preparation, a school qualifying round, and the regional championships, Ndinawe Zakumba has emerged as a Regional Champion! He will now represent us at the National Finals in Johannesburg next month.

Well done, Ndinawe! We are incredibly proud of this achievement. Keep working hard and keep flying the Woodridge flag high! ❤️

Congratulations to Oliver Horner on securing a Top 6 spot in the 24 Sum More Competition! We are incredibly proud of this achievement. Keep up the great work Oliver! ❤️



THE MERRELL TSITSIKAMMA MTB RACE



NUTRITECH
NUTRITION TECHNOLOGY

A huge thank you to our Marketing Department, Head of Sport, and the boys from Kingfisher Residence for manning the water point at the Merrell Tsitsikamma MTB Race on Sunday, 6 September.

It was an incredible day out, cheering on our fellow Woodridgeans as they took to the trails in the true spirit of adventure. What a fantastic way to kick off our outdoor adventure season at Woodridge!

A special thank you to all our families who accompanied their children on this adventure. Your partnership, encouragement, and continued support are truly appreciated.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Jaco Serfontein and Nadya van Niekerk of Nutritech, Anneli Young, and Deon van Jaarsveld from Kwaggaskloof Citrus for their generous sponsorship of race fuel for competitors. It really helped to make the day such a success. Your support contributed to an unforgettable experience for our Woodridge community.

Here's to many more adventures, challenges, and unforgettable experiences together!



ADVENTURE SEASON BEGINS....

Our Grade 1 boys have eagerly embraced the start of our outdoor season. With curious minds and a wonderful sense of adventure, they are discovering the joys of being outdoors by building forts and fishing, learning through exploration and hands-on experiences. There have been plenty of muddy knees and grubby hands along the way, because getting a little messy is all part of the fun of growing up!



RECCE - ECO ADVENTURE ~ROUTE SCOUT



With the Grade 7s penultimate Eco Adventure looming, our staff and parents have been hard at work behind the scenes to ensure that the adventure will be safe, well planned and enjoyable for all our pupils.

Our logistical team recently completed a 'Recce' of the route, carefully checking the terrain, safety considerations and overall manageability of the trail.

A special thank you to Mr Daniel Boreham for his time and patience in arranging the Recce. It was a great adventure in itself and, thankfully, everyone made it back in one piece!

We are equally grateful to the staff and parents who have volunteered their time to support the adventure. Their commitment to preparing the route, considering the safety of our pupils, and giving their time so generously is a wonderful reflection of the care our staff & parents have for our children.

A huge thank you to everyone involved — your dedication behind the scenes helps make these experiences possible and ensures that our pupils can enjoy their Eco Adventures safely and confidently.



ARBOR DAY COMMEMORATION



Grade 7
Eco-Committee 2026



Friends of Van Stadens
Education and conservation

Arbor Day was commemorated with a wonderful tree-planting initiative. The Eco-Committee, together with Mr Reed and our dedicated estate staff, came together to plant trees and celebrate the importance of caring for and protecting our environment.

It was heartwarming to see the children's enthusiasm and excitement as they took part in this special day. Their involvement highlighted the importance of teaching our children about sustainability and the positive impact we can make by caring for nature. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of Van Stadens Flower Reserve for their generous donation of three well-established indigenous trees to Woodridge.

Arbor Day was a meaningful reminder that, together, we can nurture our environment and leave a greener, healthier world for future generations.



**Access the photographs
here: [FLUC.KR](https://www.fluc.kr)**



#WessaSchools
#ProudlyRoundSquare



ROCK CLIMBING

The Grade 7s had an exciting lesson in rock climbing, embracing the challenge and enjoying a fun day outdoors. It was wonderful to see them encouraging one another, building confidence, and making memories while spending quality time with friends.

A day filled with adventure, laughter, teamwork, and plenty of time enjoying the great outdoors!



LOOKING AHEAD

[Click here for the Prep school monthly planner - 'subject to change'](#)

[Click here for a summary of the outdoor events per Grade for Term 3](#)

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	31 Boarders Return	1 School Commences	2	3	4	5
6	7 Grade 3s-7s OE Prog begins - Bicycles at school	8 Literacy Week begins	9	10 Independent Schools Athletics Day	11 Grade 7 Cake Sale	12
13	14	15	16 Lapa Book Fair	17	18 Sancobb Civvies Day - Grade 1s-7s	19
20	21	22	23	24 Pre-Primary Concert	25	26
27	28	29	30			

“Above all else, guard your heart. for everything you do flows from it |
- Proverbs 4:23”

