



WOODRIDGE PREPARATORY

MORE THAN A SCHOOL, AN EXPERIENCE...



AUGUST 2026 / ISSUE #10

WWW.WOODRIDGE.CO.ZA





**PARENTS,
WE NEED YOU!**

Are you an avid birder?
Do you simply love birds?
Or are you a digital designer who could help us?

Our Grade R–3 pupils are compiling a book:

**BEAUTIFUL BIRDS
OF WOODRIDGE**

We would love your help in bringing it to life.

Keen to get involved?
Contact Mrs Louw
jenna.louw@woodridge.co.za



“ *le* **”**

**EXCITING THINGS
ARE COMING!**

LITERACY WEEK

7–18 SEPTEMBER

Two weeks of stories, imagination
and a celebration of reading.

Lots to look forward to!

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR EMAILS

THIS ISSUE

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE PREP SCHOOL

- 03 HEADMASTER'S MESSAGE**
Reflection and ending on a high note
- 04 ART, MUSIC & DRAMA FESTIVAL**
*Celebrating our budding artists,
musicians, and actors*
- 06 SPRING DAY**
Bring an indigenous plant to school

EXCLUSIVE! WE NEED OUR PARENTS

- 07 BEAUTIFUL BIRDS OF
WOODRIDGE BOOK**

Contact Mrs Louw
jenna.louw@woodridge.co.za

- 08 EQUESTRIAN NEWS**
Featuring our newest rider!
- 09 STAFF NEWS**
- 10 ECO-COMMITTEE NEWS**
Foraging hike
- 11 STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN**
*Grade 7s race to qualify for the
Eco-Adventure*
- 12 LITERACY WEEK TEASER**
Look out for Grade specific comms
- 13 GRADE R INQUIRY IN ACTION**
Using Jelly beans
- 14 LOOKING AHEAD**
Term 3 Calendar
*Outdoor Education Events : Grade 1s to 7s
Save the Dates*
- 15 IN THE NEWS**
- 15 OUTDOOR EDUCATION DAY**
- 16 MERRELL MTB & TRAIL RUN**



FROM THE HEADMASTER

LOOKING BACK...LOOKING FORWARD

As another memorable term draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the wisdom of not being so sure of things and never take for granted.

School life moves at such a remarkable pace, and yet when we pause for a moment, we realise just how much has been achieved, experienced and celebrated together.

Firstly, to our incredible parents and families, thank you. Thank you for the countless kilometres travelled, the early mornings, the weekends spent on the side of sports fields, and for the unwavering encouragement you continue to show your children. Your presence, support and partnership mean more than you may realise. Together, we create something truly special for our children.

Our winter sports season has once again been a wonderful celebration of commitment, courage and community. I want to acknowledge our outstanding Sports Department, our coaches and every member of staff who has invested so generously in our pupils this term. Their patience, expertise and genuine care continue to shape not only better sportsmen and sportswomen, but young people of character.

To our pupils, thank you for representing Woodridge with such passion and determination. There have been memorable victories, hard-fought contests and, inevitably, a few disappointments along the way. Yet some of our greatest lessons are learned through those moments of challenge. What has stood out most is the resilience, sportsmanship, and pride with which our children have worn the Woodridge colours.

Beyond the sports fields, there is an unmistakable energy building within our Arts, Music and Drama programme. The excitement surrounding our upcoming production of *The Little Mermaid* is infectious, and we cannot wait to see months of hard work come to life on stage.

Our recent AMD and Knock on Wood Festivals were both resounding successes, with more than seventy pupils confidently sharing their gifts through music, drama and performance. These events were a wonderful reminder of the depth of talent within our Prep school and a testament to the passion and dedication of our Arts, Music and Drama team. From our Prep Rock Band performances during assemblies to outstanding individual musical achievements, beautiful artwork being displayed, and the growing enthusiasm surrounding Art Club, the creative heartbeat of our school continues to grow stronger each term.

Perhaps what I have appreciated most this term, however, has simply been the atmosphere around our school. There is a genuine warmth within our community, a place where children are known, encouraged and celebrated, and where families contribute so positively to the life of the school.

As we head into the August holiday, I hope every family finds time to rest, reconnect and enjoy some well-earned time together. We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting chapter.

When we return, our focus shifts to one of the defining features of a Woodridge education—our adventure season. From the beginning of next term until half-term, our pupils will immerse themselves in experiences that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom. Whether it is mountain biking, rock climbing, archery, fishing, camp cooking or the many other outdoor challenges that await, these experiences develop resilience, teamwork, confidence and independence in ways that last a lifetime.

Outdoor Education remains one of the pillars that makes Woodridge so distinctive. In a world where childhood is increasingly lived behind screens, we remain deeply committed to giving children real adventures, real challenges and real opportunities to discover who they are.

We are incredibly grateful to Mr Boreham and the Outdoor Education team for the enormous amount of planning, preparation and passion that goes into creating these unforgettable experiences for our children. We also thank our families in advance for the wonderful support they continue to show throughout this busy season.

Finally, schools are built by remarkable people, and this term we have been incredibly grateful to Mrs Maryna Walker, who so capably stepped into Mrs Tanya von Berg's maternity post. Maryna has become a valued member of our team, and we sincerely thank her for the professionalism, warmth and enthusiasm she has brought to our Prep school community. We are deeply appreciative of the contribution she has made during her time with us.

Thank you once again for your continued trust, encouragement and partnership. It is a privilege to share in the education and upbringing of your children, and we look forward with great anticipation to all that awaits us in the term ahead.

I wish every Woodridge family a restful, safe and joy-filled August holiday.

As we often say at Woodridge, we are preparing children not simply for school, but for life, and it is a privilege to walk that journey alongside you.

YOURS SINCERELY

Clifford Reed





ART, MUSIC & DRAMA FESTIVAL

Our Arts, Music, and Drama Festival was a vibrant celebration of creativity, highlighting the exceptional talents of our pupils and the dedication of our Arts, Music, and Culture Department. Throughout the week, our pupils delighted audiences with inspiring performances on a variety of musical instruments, beautiful vocal presentations, expressive poetry recitals and an impressive display of artwork.

Opportunities such as these are invaluable, giving children the confidence to perform, create and share their unique gifts in a supportive environment. The festival not only showcased the incredible talent within our school but also encouraged perseverance, courage and a love for the arts.

We are especially grateful to our adjudicators, whose warmth, encouragement and constructive feedback ensured that every child felt valued and inspired to continue growing in their artistic journey. It was a truly memorable celebration of the arts and of the remarkable potential of every Woodridge Prep pupil.



”

**Art, and
creativity,
undoubtedly
makes the
world better ...
~ Hilana Marais
Prep Art
Teacher**





Access the
photographs here:
Flic.kr



Spring Day BLOOM for WOODRIDGE

Bring an **indigenous plant** to school this Spring Day and help our gardens **flourish** for generations to come.

CLICK HERE
FOR THE LIST
OF PREFERRED
PLANTS TO
BUY

01 SEPTEMBER 2026

Let's celebrate and grow
OUR INDIGENOUS HERITAGE



Aloe ferox
Bitter Aloe
Common in the
Woodridge area



Protea cynaroides
King Protea Our
national flower
and a local
treasure



Polygala myrtetolia
September
Flower A
beautiful fynbos
favourite



Arctotis venustus
Cape Daisy
Brightening our
gardens in every
season



Erica vestita
Fynbos Heath
Perfect for our
fynbos gardens



Leucospermum cordifolium
Pinchouston A
showstopper in our
gardens



Every plant helps
our gardens bloom.

Thank you for helping
Woodridge grow!





PARENTS, WE NEED YOU!

Are you an avid birder?
Do you simply love birds?
Or are you a digital designer who could help us?

.....

Our Grade R–3 pupils are compiling a book:

BEAUTIFUL BIRDS OF WOODRIDGE

We would love your help in bringing it to life.

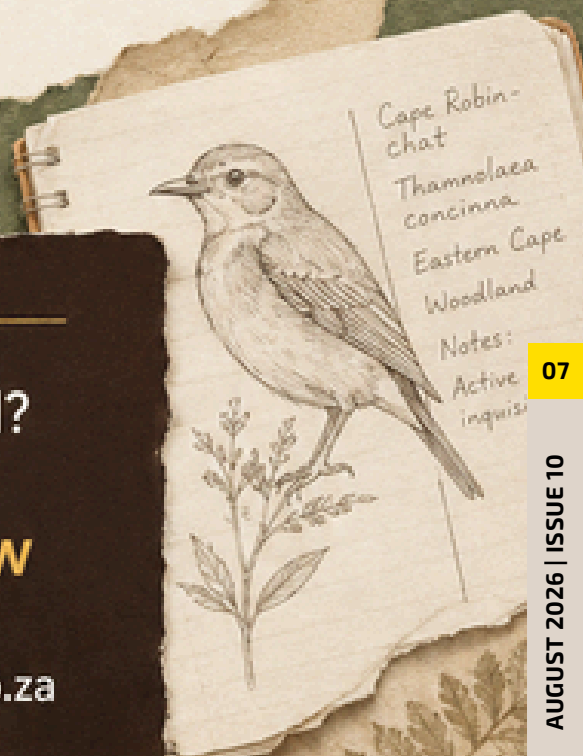


Keen to get involved?

.....

Contact Mrs Louw

jenna.louw@woodridge.co.za



EQUESTRIAN NEWS

We are delighted to welcome our newest rider, Christina Georgiou (12 years old), and her horse, Foot Soldier, to the WEC team this term.

Christina is currently competing in the 90 cm showjumping division and is progressing well toward moving up to the 1 m level. Congratulations to Christina and Foot Soldier, we look forward to following your continued success and wish you all the best for the season ahead!



STAFF NEWS

Congratulations, Manesha and Daniel Boreham, on the arrival of your beautiful baby girl, Lyla!

A special congratulations to proud big brother Levi, who is already keeping a close eye on his little sister. May Lyla always know how lucky she is to have such a caring big brother.

Wishing your family a lifetime of love, laughter, and unforgettable memories together.



Our hearts just got a little bigger!



ECO-COMMITTEE NEWS - FORAGING HIKE



Grade 7
Eco-Committee 2026



A sincere thank you to Graeme Pienaar for once again sharing his incredible knowledge and passion for nature with our enthusiastic Woodridge Eco-Committee during a guided foraging hike on campus.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed discovering the fascinating world of edible, medicinal, and indigenous plants while learning the importance of responsible and safe foraging. Graeme's wealth of knowledge, engaging storytelling, and emphasis on conservation inspired many thoughtful questions from our eager Eco-Committee members.

We are incredibly grateful to Graeme for giving so generously of his time and expertise. Experiences like these deepen our pupils' appreciation for the natural world and reinforce the importance of protecting our unique biodiversity.

#WessaSchools

#ProudlyRoundSquare





STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

The Grade 7s completed the strenuous hike up to Trig Beacon to qualify for the Eco-Adventure.

It was a day filled with fun, excitement, and great sportsmanship as they reached the top of the mountain.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils for their determination, resilience, and positive attitude throughout the challenge. Well done, Grade 7s! What an outstanding achievement!





EXCITING THINGS
ARE COMING!

LITERACY WEEK

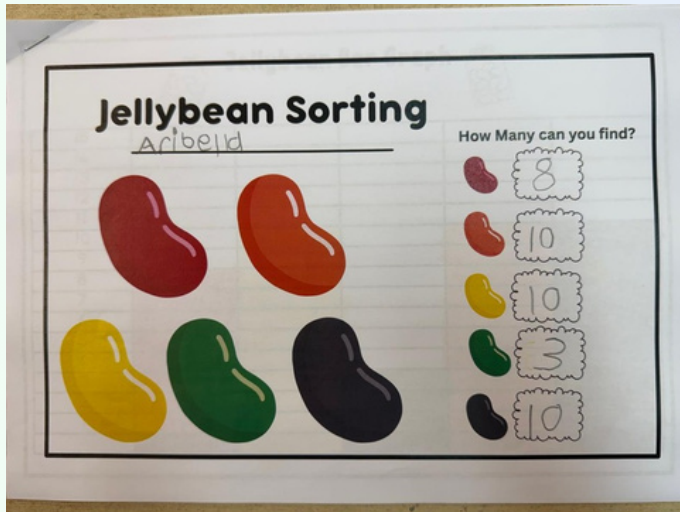
7-18 SEPTEMBER

Two weeks of stories, imagination
and a celebration of reading.

Lots to look forward to!

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR EMAILS

GRADE R INQUIRY IN ACTION... using jelly beans!

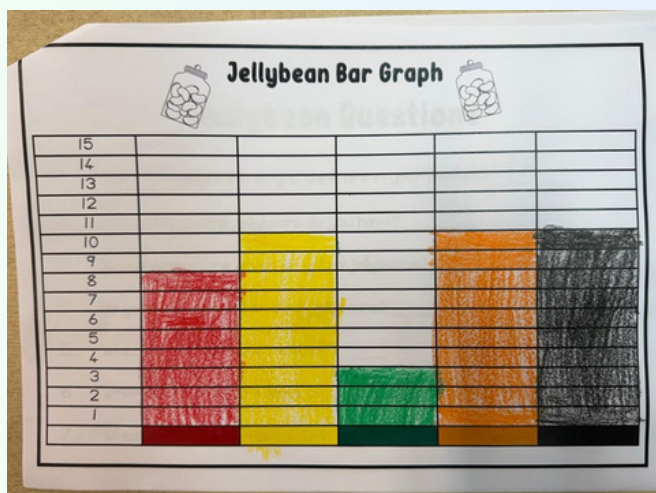


Our Grade R pupils recently enjoyed an exciting jelly bean lesson that turned into an incredible learning experience!

Through one fun (and delicious!) activity, they explored and developed a range of essential skills, including estimation, sorting, counting, planning, mapping, graphing, and interpreting bar graphs.

The level of curiosity, critical thinking, and understanding that emerged was truly remarkable. Who would have thought that a handful of colourful jelly beans could spark such rich and meaningful learning?

This is inquiry-based learning at its finest, and exactly why we love what we do.



Estimation  Sorting



 Counting

Planning



Mapping

Graphing



LOOKING AHEAD

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

[Click here for 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	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Pre-Primary Concert	25	26
27	28	29	30			

“—
| Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. |
—”
- Romans 12:12



IN THE NEWS



**Amila
Faltein**



**Jo-Mari
van Rooyen**

Congratulations to Amila Faltein and Jo-Mari van Rooyen on your selection to represent Eastern Province at the Inter-Provincial Indoor Netball Tournament.

Your outstanding performances, exceptional skill, and unwavering dedication on the court have truly set you apart. This achievement is a testament to your hard work and commitment, and we are incredibly proud of you.

Well done, and keep flying the Woodridge flag high.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION DAY



Our Grade 7 pupils joined the College during Reunion Weekend for their very first Outdoor Education Day. This special experience marked an exciting milestone, giving them a glimpse of what lies ahead as they prepare to join the College next year.

The day was filled with fun, learning, and adventure as they fully immersed themselves in every activity, embracing the experience with enthusiasm and confidence. It was wonderful to see them already feeling part of the College community.

Well done to all our boys and girls for making the most of this memorable first experience.



MERRELL TSITSIKAMMA MTB & TRAIL RUN



The Merrell Tsitsikamma MTB & Trail Run takes place on 5 & 6 September 2026.

We encourage parents and pupils to take part in the event, which promises to be a fun, safe, and exciting day out for the whole family!

Whether you're an experienced rider or just love being outdoors, it's a great way for parents and pupils to enjoy quality time together, get active, and create lasting memories on the trails.

On 6 September, look out for the Woodridge water point and gazebo, a shaded meeting point where families can gather, connect, and enjoy the experience together.



Entries are open!

Scan the QR Code to enter



OR click here to enter

