



HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL

CIRCULAR 3 / 2026 – 2 MARCH 2026

**DREAM
BELIEVE
ACHIEVE**

HHS VISION

To be a leading co-educational **high school**, providing exceptional **physical** and **social** environments in which **all** learners have the **opportunity** to become the **best they can be**, academically, culturally, socially and in sport.

HHS VALUES

H-onour | **H**-ard work | **S**-ervice

IN THIS CIRCULAR:

1. **ACHIEVERS**
2. **CHAMPIONSHIP AND PRIMARY SCHOOL GALA**
3. **SPORTS' CAPTAINS**
4. **CIVIL DISTURBANCE DRILL**
5. **ASSESSMENT WEEK**
6. **AFTERNOON COLLECTION PROCEDURE**
7. **END OF TERM PROCEDURE**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This year we have chosen 3 main areas to focus on, namely:

- Punctuality,
- Improving our overall academic performance, and
- Classroom management.

For us to improve in these areas, some changes will need to be implemented.

Abraham Lincoln is attributed with saying, “You can please some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can’t please all of the people all of the time.”

I believe that is how some of our changes will be viewed. However, I do believe that they will have a positive impact on each learner as well as on the school. I am confident that I will be able to continue to rely on the support of the parents as we start to effect these changes.

1. ACHIEVERS

Congratulations to the following learners on their achievements:

MTB:

- Liam Jordan participated in the KZN Gravity Mountain Biking (MTB) Enduro Cup at Giba Gorge on Sunday 15 February. He finished in a time of 17m:33s in the Junior Category.
- Benjamin Dempers placed 25th out of 200 in the South African Mountain Biking Enduro Cup #1. This event is the SA Championship and took place on Sunday, 15 February 2026.

Figure Skating:

- Kaylee Whitaker is currently a Grade 3 Figure Skater through the South African Figure Skating Association. In November 2025, she took part in the Galleria Figure Skating Championships and placed 1st in her Grade in the Over 15 Category and was awarded the trophy for the Most Improved Skater for 2025.

KZN Triathlon:

- Bradley Leppan participated in the KZN Triathlon at Midmar. It was his first 750m swim, 20km cycle, and 5km run. He finished fourth overall and first in his age group, completing the event in a time of 1:11:37.

Indoor Hockey:

- Theresli Meyers was awarded the Goalkeeper of the Tournament at the TMC Summer Series Indoor Hockey Tournament.

Badminton:

- Jeriah Govender has been selected for the U19 National Squad for Badminton.

Swimming:

KZN Provincial Swimming Trials:

Congratulations to the following swimmers on these fantastic results and achievements on the 22 February.

Liv van der Heever – U15 Age Group:

- 50m Backstroke – 3rd
- 100m Backstroke – 2nd
- 200m Backstroke – 2nd

Annabelle van Heerden – U16 Age Group

- 100m Backstroke – 2nd
- 100m Butterfly – 3rd

Bradley Leppan – U16 Age Group

- 400m Individual Medley – 3rd
- 400m Freestyle – 3rd

Sienna Kidgell – U15 Age Group

- 100m Butterfly – 2nd

KZN Open Water Team

Congratulations to Heinrich Freitag and Bradley Leppan on being selected to represent KZN at the 2026 South African Open Water National Championships taking place from the 6th – 8th March 2026 at Marine Martinique, Jeffreys Bay.

2. CHAMPIONSHIP AND PRIMARY SCHOOL GALA

This was held on Friday, 13 February. Thank you to Mr White and Mrs Strydom, the Catering Committee, the Student Leadership Team, the AV Club, all the swimmers, the staff and parents who assisted as officials, and finally the Sports Department for a very well organised and entertaining gala.

Congratulations to the following learners:

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS:

- U14 Girls: Alyssa Coetzer
- U14 Boys: Ryan Compton-James
- U15 Girls: Sienna Kidgell
- U15 Boys: Christiaan Venter
- U16 Girls: Annabelle Van Heerden
- U16 Boys: Bradley Leppan
- U17 Girls: Rebekah Nel
- U17 Boys: Jamey Grobbelaar
- U19 Girls: Kayla Van Heerden
- U19 Boys: Heinrich Freitag

JUNIOR VICTRIX LUDORUM - Manson Family

Trophy:

Alyssa Coetzer and Sienna Kidgell

JUNIOR VICTOR LUDORUM - Selfridge Trophy:

Christiaan Venter

100m FREESTYLE

- Girls - Coull Trophy: Annabelle Van Heerden
- Boys - Debra Webb Trophy: Bradley Leppan

100m INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY

- GIRLS - Jacqui von Loggerenberg Trophy: Annabelle van Heerden
- BOYS - Grant Lloyd Trophy: Jamey Grobbelaar

VICTRIX LUDORUM - Ciara Butt Trophy:

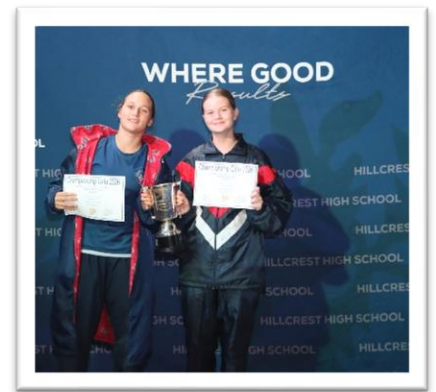
Annabelle van Heerden

VICTOR LUDORUM - Bresler Trophy:

Bradley Leppan

KINGFISHER TROPHY FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOLS:

Kloof Senior Primary



3. SPORT CAPTAINS: TERM 1



Congratulations to the following learners who were appointed as Sports' Captains for the Term 1 extra-curricular activities.

Swimming

Kayla van Heerden

Shawna Creed

Cricket

Kienan Sawyer

Indoor Hockey – Girls

Akwande Sikhakhane

Touch Rugby

Boys – Sibusiso Mapotse

Girls – Thingo Dlamini & Kayden Carson

Chess

Team: Juan-Diego Naidoo

Vice: Joy Mackenzie

Club Captain: David Mackenzie

Vice: Terania Govender

Golf

Riley Nicholas

4. CIVIL DISTURBANCE DRILL

On Thursday during Period 6 we conducted a Civil Disturbance Drill. These drills are required to be done periodically to ensure that all learners and staff know what to do in the event of a real emergency.

I am pleased to report that the entire drill took 12 minutes from the moment the alarm was sounded until the school were given the all-clear and could return to the lesson. I commend the learners for conducting the drill maturely and with minimal disruptions.

The success of this drill is a good indication that the signage in the classrooms is effective, and that the staff are aware of the procedures to follow. The School Management Team will have a debriefing this week so that any minor issues can be resolved.

5. ASSESSMENT WEEK

The introduction of a 5-day Cycle Timetable consisting of 6 lessons of 1 hour each has resulted in the need for us to introduce an Assessment Week during Term 1 to ensure that all subject departments can meet the requirements of the curriculum.

There will be two sessions each day. Learners who are not writing in a particular session will be allowed to study for their upcoming assessments or do work that has been set for them by their subject teachers.

After the 2nd session there will be another short break before the learners return to class for the last two lessons. We are doing our best not to waste valuable teaching time, and learners need to understand that attendance during this week is compulsory unless a doctor's certificate can be produced.

Please see the timetable below, followed by the time slots and **take note that Friday 20th March will NOT be an early closure but will follow the normal school times.**

ASSESSMENT WEEK TIMETABLE – TERM 1

DATE	8	9	10	11	12
16 March	ISIZULU [2] AFRIKAANS [1.5]	NS [1] ENG [1.5]	EGD [1] DRAMA [1.5]	LFSC [2] AFRIK/ISIZULU [1.5]	MATHS/MLIT [2] DRAMA [2]
17 March	MATHS [1] TECH [1]	EMS [1] CREATIVE ARTS [2]	BSTD [1.5] VISUAL ART [2]	ACCN [1.5] [ENG 1.5]	ENG [1.5] EGD [1] /ECON [1.5]
18 March	HISTORY [1] ENG [1.5]	MATHS [1]	LFSC [1.5] ENG [1.5]	ECON [1.5] DRAMA [2]	BSTD [1.5] VISUAL ART [2]
19 March	NS [1]	AFRIKAANS [1.5] ISIZULU [2]	ACCN [1.5] AFRIK/ISIZULU [1.5]	EGD [1] BSTD [1.5]	ACCN [1.5] TOUR [1.5]
20 March	EMS [1] CREATIVE ARTS [2]	TECH [1] HISTORY [1]	ECON [1.5] MATH/MLIT [1.5]	VISUAL ART [2] MATH/MLIT [2]	LFSC [2] AFRIK/ISIZULU [1.5]

ASSESSMENT WEEK– BELL TIMES

7:30 – 7:40	Registration
8:00 – 10:00/10:05	Session one [2 hours]
10:05 – 10:25	Break [20 minutes]
10:30 – 13:00	Session 2 [2 hours]
13:00 – 13:20	Break [20 minutes]
13:25 – 14:00	Lesson 5 [35 minutes]
14:00 – 14:35	Lesson 6 [35 minutes]

6. AFTERNOON COLLECTION

Learners are no longer allowed to sit on the wall opposite the Memorial Garden to wait for lifts in the afternoons between 3:00pm and 4:30pm. If they are not involved in the extra-mural activities, they should wait in the new Homework Area outside the MPC, or in the tiered seating on Main Field.

Parents, lift clubs and transport providers are reminded that the preferred pick-up point is from the Ridge Rd side of the school, as there is more parking, shade, two possible entrances and it is closer to the Homework area. The pedestrian gates will always be open so every learner will be able to get out when their lift arrives.

Please remember that for the children's safety we ask them to wait inside the school property and to only go out when their lift arrives. We do not want them to sit/lie on the pavements while waiting as this creates a terrible impression on the school, and as mentioned, it is not safe.

If parents are using the Shortlands entrance, especially after sport practices or matches – please be courteous and mindful of the neighbours who need to always have access to their property and driveways. Do not stop in the middle of the road to load up the children as this is causing unnecessary traffic congestion and tension. Please park on the verges. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

7. END OF TERM PROCEDURE

We have found that absenteeism is significantly higher on a break-up day, presumably because it is a short day with only a few lessons.

So it is for this reason that we will be running a normal school day on Friday 27 March 2026, closing at 13h25. Our Awards Assembly will take place on the last day of the term instead of at the beginning of term 2, and it will happen during the scheduled Assembly slot on a Friday morning.

IN CONCLUSION

We are starting to wrap up our summer sport and move into our winter sport season. Hopefully the weather will also start to cool down, as I am sure the long hot days have been as exhausting for the children as they have for the teachers. I trust that revision for the Assessment Week is well under way and wish all our learners well for the rest of the term.



Yours faithfully

D.P. KNIGHT
Principal

